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PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147

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VOLUME 110 — NO. 14, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2017

National Wrestling Hall of Fame announces Michael Martinez as 2018 Medal of Courage recipient

By Lincoln Mansch
Special to The SUN

The National Wrestling Hall of Fame announced on Dec. 21 that former University of Wyoming and Pagosa Springs High School (PSHS) wrestler Michael Martinez will be honored as the organization's 2018 Medal of Courage recipient.

The Medal of Courage is presented each year to a wrestler or former wrestler who has overcome what appear to be insurmountable challenges and provides inspiration to others.

"Michael epitomizes our Medal of Courage," said Lee Roy Smith, executive director of the National

Wrestling Hall of Fame. "He is a young man who has used his background in wrestling to overcome adversity on multiple occasions. Like those of our previous Medal of Courage recipients, Michael's story is truly inspirational, and we are so happy to share it."

Martinez will be honored with Distinguished Members Stephen Abas, Lee Allen, Henry Cejudo and Kristie Davis, Meritorious Official Gary Kessel, Order of Merit recipient Nancy Schultz Vitangeli and Outstanding American Randy Couture at the 42nd annual Honors Weekend on June 1-2, 2018.

Martinez, who received the Medal of Courage from

■ See Courage A9



Michael Martinez (wearing yellow)

Photo courtesy gowyo.com

San Juan Water Conservancy District: Case moves to Colorado attorney general

By Terri House
Staff Writer

It's been a tough couple of years for the San Juan Water Conservancy District (SJWCD), with issues concerning an "inappropriate" contract, an oath of office, misrepresentations to the court, violations of the Colorado Open Meetings Law (COML), questionable executive sessions, and appointments to the board, as described below.

Colorado attorney general investigation

Some of those issues remain unresolved, including a case that sits in Colorado Attorney General Cynthia Coffman's office pertaining to SJWCD Board Chairman Rodney Proffitt's contract with the district while under a sworn oath of office not to have an interest in a contract with the district.

Archuleta County Sheriff Rich Valdez confirmed last week that the case was forwarded to the district attorney and then on to the attorney general.

Last week, Colorado Department of Law and Office of the Attorney General Public Information Officer Annie Skinner declined to comment on the status of the investigation.

Vacancy announcement

Another issue The SUN discovered involves Proffitt's request for reappointment to the board for his term, which was set to expire on Jan. 6.

Colorado Revised Statute 37-45-114(1)(a) requires a district to publish notice of a board member's expiring term and acceptance of new applications for the vacancy "not more than 60 days and not less than 45 days prior to the expiration of a director's term." The statute further states that applications may be accepted by the court "until 30 days prior to the expiration of the director's term."

The district advertised the open-

■ See SJWCD A8

Courts, county meet to discuss options

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

Both temporary and long-term fixes for county facilities have been the topic of discussion in recent weeks, with county and court representatives meeting Wednesday, and the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) discussing next steps during a Dec. 19 work session and executive session.

On Wednesday, Commissioner Ron Maez and County Administrator Bentley Henderson traveled to Durango to meet with Sixth Judicial District Chief Judge Jeffrey Wilson and District Administrator Eric Hogue.

Following the meeting, the group was slated to issue a joint statement regarding the meeting's outcome, though that statement had not been received by The SUN as of press time Wednesday.

That afternoon, Henderson explained that the groups are continuing to look for solutions and working together toward "mutual, agreeable solutions."

The meeting followed another letter between the two entities, with the most recent coming just before Christmas.

That Dec. 21 letter from Wilson to Steve Wadley, chair of the BoCC, called into question comments made by Wadley that were printed in The Durango Herald. It also indicated that representatives of the courts and county were scheduled to meet to attempt to resolve the situation.

"Based upon your statements that were reported in the Durango Herald

■ See Courthouse A8

Screening to save lives

Who We Play For coming to Pagosa

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

As student athletes know, winning, individual stats and championships are often barometers for success.

However, what can often be lost in the shuffle of student-athlete life is making sure the most important component of your success, your body, is ready for each athletic challenge.

For Ralph Maccarone, making sure student athletes are aware of their health is important.

Ralph calls attention to this sentiment when he talks about his late son, Rafe Maccarone, who collapsed on Nov. 30, 2007, during soccer practice, a week before his 16th birthday.

"He was an all-county soccer player. His sophomore year of high school he was leading the league in scoring, had no symptoms," Ralph said in a phone interview with The SUN on Dec. 14.

"I got a call from the coach that afternoon that he had dropped on the field," Ralph said.

Initially, Rafe could not be revived, Ralph added.

Although EMS personnel were able to find a pulse on Rafe when they arrived on the scene, Rafe passed away at the age of 15 on Dec. 1, 2007, at Arnold Palmer Children's Hospital in Orlando, Fla., Ralph added.

The cause of Rafe's death was determined to be hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, otherwise known as HCM, Ralph clarified.

According to the American Heart Association's (AHA) website, HCM is very common and can affect anyone.

ing to a report issued on Dec. 14 by Archuleta County Finance Director Larry Walton.

The town and county each received \$401,096.14.

"The month of October 2017 was about 14.8% (\$103,671) higher than the month of October 2016," reads Walton's report. "The 2017 year to date revenue (January through October) was about 6.55% (\$503,499) higher than the same period in 2016.

The report lists the following categories as being up for the same period in 2016.

Revenue generated by accommodations and food service increased 8.6 percent, up \$116,704.

Retail increased 6.4 percent, or \$253,610. Real estate and rentals increased 12.1 percent, or \$25,018.

Information increased 3.1 percent, or \$8,025.

It is rare, but HCM can cause sudden cardiac arrest during rigorous physical activity, AHA's website notes.

After Rafe's passing, his friends went on to begin a movement in memory of their fallen friend.

"Rafe's friends, when they went away to college, started a nonprofit called 'Play For Rafe,'" Ralph explained.

"They made it their mission to make sure that other student athletes didn't have the same problem," Ralph explained.

The students utilized electrocardiograms (EKGs) to make this happen, Ralph said.

A few years later, a nonprofit based out of Texas called Cypress EKG saw what the students were doing to honor their late friend and decided to merge the two nonprofits together, Ralph explained.

The nonprofits, merged together, became known as Who We Play For, Ralph added.

"They've done screenings in seven states. They have screened over 95,000 kids and they've found 71 who have, or had, life threatening cardiac issues," Ralph explained.

Evan Ernst, the screening director for Who We Play For, was asked by Ralph why so much energy was being put

into this.

"And he looked at me and said 'Mr. Maccarone, we were there when it happened. We saw it. And we don't want another family to have to go through that tragedy,'" Ralph said.

■ See Screening A9



Ralph Maccarone, back, and son Rafe Maccarone, front, enjoy a moment playing soccer together. Rafe passed away on Dec. 1, 2007, after collapsing at soccer practice due to an undetected heart condition. An organization called Who We Play For, which provides heart screenings for student athletes, will be coming to Pagosa Springs High School on Jan. 2, 2018, from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. and is open to the public. The cost for the screening is \$20, and funding will be provided for those who need it.

HCM occurs when the heart's muscle cells enlarge and cause ventricle walls to thicken, which can block blood flow out of the ventricle, the AHA website goes on to explain.

AHA's website states that some people with HCM have no symptoms and the disease does not affect their life, but others can have severe complications.

Sales tax collections 6.55 percent ahead of last year

By Marshall Dunham
Staff Writer

Sales tax collections for October 2017 were 14.8 percent higher than sales tax collections in October of 2016, with the year-to-date collections for 2017 being 6.55 percent higher than the same period last year.

The total sales tax collections in October for Archuleta County was \$802,192.28, accord-

Construction increased 4.8 percent, or \$6,740.

Manufacturing increased 1.2 percent, or \$4,546.

The following categories were down over the same period in 2016.

The "other services" category was down 3.4 percent, or \$4,372.

Professional, scientific and technical services decreased 20.3 percent, or \$4,546.

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Opinion

EDITORIAL

Choppy waters for district

Just as the San Juan Water Conservancy District (SJWCD) prepares to pick a general manager and set the future course for the organization, SUN staff discovered a long list of issues that may just sink the ship. We uncovered mistakes the board has made over the past couple of years — bad mistakes that you can read about in an article on the front page of this week's SUN.

Just how many times can a board make misrepresentations to the District Court before one would consider those egregious and purposeful actions? During this time, Rodney Proffitt has been at the helm of the ship for the district as the board president.

How could this board have possibly managed building a \$60 million reservoir with taxpayer money?

It was no surprise that the Dry Gulch project, which was renamed as the "San Juan Headwaters Project," officially sank at the polls with the voters resoundingly defeating the effort to soak the community with additional expenses related to construction of a reservoir east of town.

The name of the project was really renamed to be the San Juan River Headwaters Project, but the district didn't even get the name right when Proffitt sent out a news release last June announcing it had dropped the "Dry Gulch" name.

That same month, The SUN made a Colorado Open Records Act (CORA) request to which one board member responded, "I am deeply offended by this request. I feel that you tried to use me to get inside information on Board actions."

All we had asked was if the board had voted by email outside of a public meeting. We explained, "There should be no 'inside' actions of the board. All decisions should be made in public with proper notice given. Voting by email violates state law."

From what we uncovered this past year and this past week, there clearly were "inside board actions" that the public deserved to know.

Once the board's emails and financial documents had been made public and Proffitt's "inappropriate" contract with the district had been called out publicly, we were clearly wrong in expecting the board to steer the ship to smoother waters.

And, to top it off, Proffitt's actions to enter a contract for services while under his sworn oath of office not to do so was swept under the rug by the board. Proffitt holds a juris doctor from the University of Kansas School of Law. He knows what a sworn oath of office means.

The actions of the district appeared to be charting a course from bad to worse. After the board terminated the services agreement, they replaced it with a general manager contract position.

Proffitt told The SUN that he was avoiding a conflict of interest in recusing himself from board discussions pertaining to the general manager position that he would be applying for.

All he had to do was leave the room. Walk away. Let the board talk about the position without him being present. But, no, he sat at the table on more than one occasion and played an active role in thrashing out the job description and compensation where he would be paid double what he made. Yes, he stands to make \$200 per half day instead of \$100 per half day that he was paid before, if he is hired.

And all for what? The board already has a paid person who performs support services for the volunteer board. The SJWCD doesn't need a general manager.

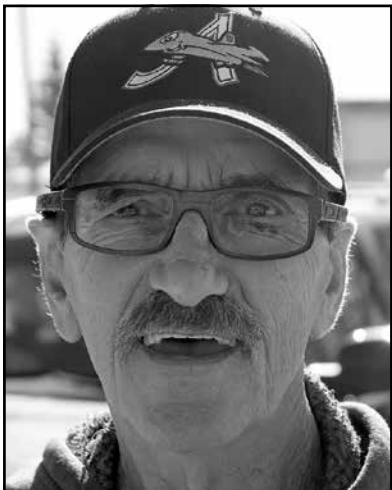
It is time for this board to do the right thing and set sail in another direction. Put someone else at the helm. If not, this is one ship that is destined to capsize.

We have found these board members to be civic-minded in other aspects within the community. We hope that they would do the same with their own board.

Terri Lynn Oldham House

WHADDYA THINK?

Are area roads in good shape for the winter?



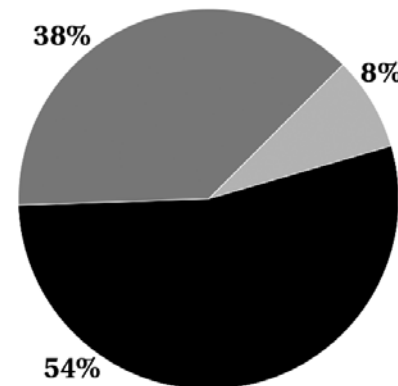
Louis Mannara
"No, not really. The roads are always an issue."



Jordan Rivas
"Some spots."



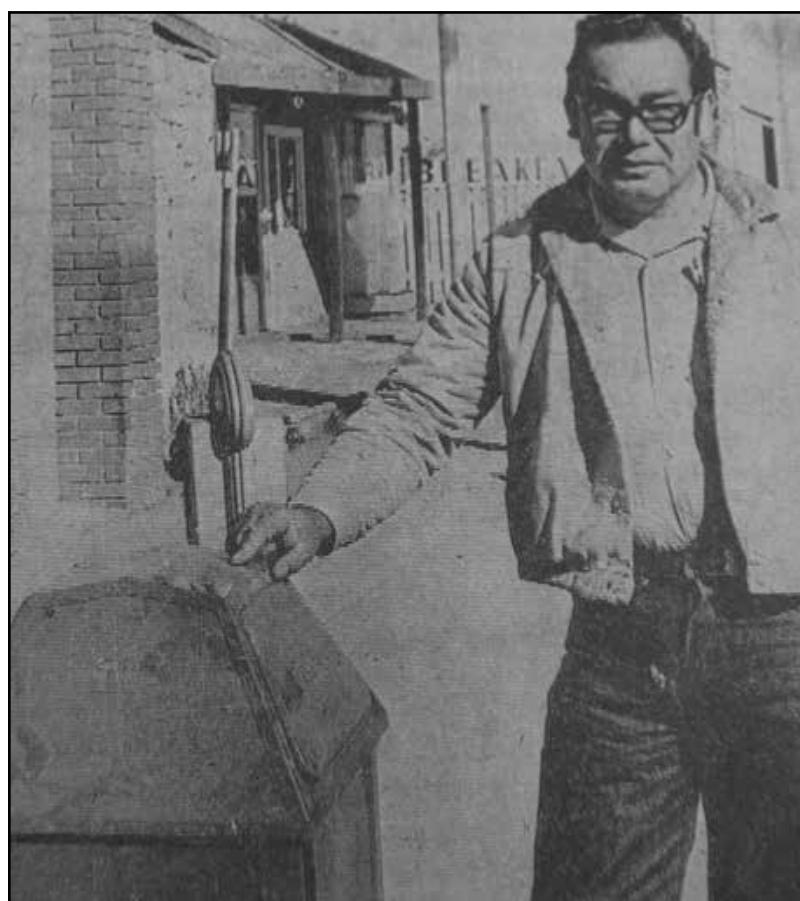
Suzanne Bowker
"I think most of them are."



Poll results (131 Votes)
Yes, they have been well prepared — 8 percent
No, they are in poor shape — 54 percent
As long as they are plowed, I am happy — 38 percent

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

LOOKING BACK



From the November 26, 1970, Pagosa Springs SUN. **NEW CONTAINERS** — Modesto Montoya, street commissioner for the town, is shown examining one of the new trash containers placed in the business section. These containers are placed close together and only a very stupid or a very feeble person would have any trouble carrying trash or litter from one to the other. The containers are not for trash in large quantities but rather for gum wrappers, candy wrappers, cigarette packages, cans, bottles, etc., that usually litter the main drag.

LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

90 years ago

Taken from SUN files of December 23, 1927
With the thermometer hovering around 40 degrees below zero two mornings the first of the week, residents of Pagosa Springs needed no almanac to tell them that winter had officially arrived here.

The local train, while preparing to make the return trip from Pagosa Junction Tuesday, was derailed. The wrecker had to be obtained from Chama and it was three o'clock Wednesday morning before the train reached Pagosa Springs.

Wm. Warr entrained Monday for Venice, California, to visit at the homes of his three daughters during the winter.

Jas. Jones has sold 480 acres of his extensive ranch southeast of town to Chas. T. Hazelwood, who has been farming the tract for Mr. Jones for several seasons.

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of January 1, 1943
Charles Hazelwood announces this week that he purchased a nice herd of registered Hereford cattle last week on the Florida from J.W. Martin. There were 40 head in the bunch and Mr. Hazelwood is wintering them on the Florida.

Brown Bros., are in charge of the West Side Grocery and Market, taking over on Tuesday of this week, after invoicing Monday. Mr. and Mrs. Fortney are moving to their ranch near Bayfield. The Brown Bros. will continue their work at the Dunagan Motor Company and Mrs. Frank T. Brown will be manager of the newly acquired business.

Mr. and Mrs. Fitzhugh Havens, their children and C. C. Fitzhugh will be New Year's guests of Mr. and Mrs. George H. Young.

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of December 28, 1967
The aftermath of last week's snow storm is still with the area. Snow is deep everywhere and temperatures have been a bit on the frigid side. Total snowfall for the storm here in town amounted to 69 inches. It has since settled to a depth of about 30 inches. The snow that fell contained little moisture, for the most part, but some wet snow fell the last day of the storm. It snowed at least part of every day for nine straight days and a 20 degree below zero reading followed the snow storm.

Wolf Creek Pass was closed for almost 48 hours, due to slides, and Christmas mail was stacked pretty high on the other side of the mountain. School was closed for one day because of deep snow and drifting winds.

25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of December 31, 1992
The storm that began in the early morning hours Monday dumped significant amounts of snow in parts of Archuleta County, and the major snowfall occurred just where it was needed — in the high country and at Wolf Creek Ski Area, just in time for the peak vacation ski week. The ski area received 37 inches of snow during a four-day period, with 27 inches falling on Monday and Tuesday. The snow depth at midway was reported to be 66 inches on Wednesday. Powder and packed powder conditions prevailed as 100 percent of the area was open and skiers began to arrive for the New Year's week. The area averaged approximately 1,600 skiers per day over the last weekend, with 2,600 skiers on Monday, and approximately 3,500 skiers on the slopes on Tuesday.

The Pagosa Springs SUN

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Best Classified Page(s) or Section(s) Best Newspaper/House Ad Promotion Best Use of Color in an Ad Best Web-Weekly-Content Best Photography Portfolio Best Feature Photograph Best Small Space Ad | |

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Date	High	Low	Precipitation		
			Type	Depth	Moisture
12/19	45	14	-	-	-
12/20	44	14	-	-	-
12/21	39	5	S	1"	.06"
12/22	29	0	S	1.8"	.11"
12/23	35	5	-	-	-
12/24	39	14	-	-	-
12/25	48	22	S	T	T

Pagosa Springs
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Please join us as we celebrate 10 amazing years with an
Open House
Thursday, January 18, 5:00–7:00 pm

Over the years your community medical center has evolved
to provide more healthcare services than ever.

We invite you to be a part of this special occasion to:

- Experience advances in healthcare at PSMC
- Meet local physicians and care team providers
- Take a tour and see inside the PSMC operating room

At 6:00 pm

CEO Dr. Rhonda Webb will share her vision of the future of PSMC
and introduce Dr. Bill Jordan DO, FACOI and the team that will oversee



If you are unable to attend and would like to hear more about
The Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders at PSMC
Tune in to KWUF 102.5 fm or 1400 am at 6pm or join us on Facebook Live.

PAGOSA SPRINGS
Medical Center

Light appetizers will be served throughout the
evening by Pagosa Peaks Volleyball Club.



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.

Real extremists

Dear Editor:
Once again language has been weaponized to label the majority of Americans as "extremists" of one variety or another. In reality, the term has been turned on its head to call those who hold to traditional beliefs in accord with Judeo-Christian values to be extreme when, in fact, it is those who have rejected those same values, who are the real extremists. Let's see how this has worked out:

If you believe that human life begins at conception, then the left says you're an "extremist." But if you believe that unborn children can be murdered in the womb (or in the birth canal), then you're "progressive" and "mainstream." Which position is more extreme?

If you believe that the genitalia with which you are born determines your gender, then the left insists that you are an "extremist." But if you believe that your subjective perception of your gender (regardless of your God-given genitalia) determines whether you are male, female, or something inbetween; then you are "progressive" and "mainstream." Which position is more extreme?

If you believe that the free enterprise economic system (Capitalism) under which this nation has become the most prosperous country on the planet is the economic system that we should stick with, then the left considers you to be an "extremist" or a "fascist." But if you believe that the demonstrably failed systems of socialism or communism should be installed in this nation, then you are "progressive" or "mainstream." Which position is more extreme?

If you believe that our nation's colleges and universities ought to be places where all ideas and political viewpoints ought to be openly discussed and considered, then the left considers you an "extremist" or a "fascist." But if you insist that only those who hold a socialist or communist view be permitted to be heard on campus, then you are "progressive" or "mainstream." Which position is more extreme?

If you believe that we are a nation operating under the rule of law and that immigration ought to be regulated for the security and benefit of the country, then the left considers you an "extremist." But if you believe in totally open borders, a complete disregard for our laws and our national security, then you are "progressive" or "mainstream." Which position is more extreme?

If you believe that a good federal government ought to only spend the money it receives in revenue, then you are considered by the left to be an "extremist." But if you believe it's OK to borrow \$.40 of every federal dollar spent, or have a national debt of nearly \$20 trillion, or have \$225 trillion in unfunded federal liabilities, then you are "progressive" or "mainstream." Which position is more extreme?

Black seems to have become white. Down seems to be the new up. Logic has been abandoned. Reason and common sense have departed. This "Brave New World" will destroy us as a people and as a nation if we cannot understand who the real extremists among us are.

Richard Bolland

More industry

Dear Editor:
This winter in Pagosa tourism is suffering without skiers and not too long ago Pagosa suffered due to huge forest fires all around us. Isn't it about time we have a second industry besides tourism in this county? And isn't it about time to clean up and protect our forests from fires and bugs? And isn't it about time that we no longer have to buy Canadian lumber?

Either Congress must act to change the laws regarding forest management and lumbering or we will have to do some forest management ourselves. The House passed a bill for better forest management and sent it to the senate. Check out this link (<https://www.votervoice.net/Shares/BAAAAAB-cACXgNAXSjZr7FAA>) to get on board and send letters to Bennet and Gardner to pass the bill in the Senate. Click on the Resilient Forests Act to read a summary of the bill. It only mentions "forest management", not "lumbering." You can add to the prepared email, so insist on a lumber industry.

or
If enough people go into the forest with chain saws to cut damaged trees and haul them out along with the tinder box brush, what will the Forest Service do? Arrest 1000 people? Maybe so, but I think it's worth a little time in jail to get this done. Pagosa needs more industry.
Lyn Dryburgh

Butcher response

Dear Editor:
In the 12/14 SUN letters to the editor, Dave Butcher, in a screed attempting to denigrate Republicans, claims the tax policies of the 1920's caused the great depression. Newsflash: The great depression was caused by a collapsing stock market and had nothing to do with tax rates which are about the same today as they were in the 1920's. Mr Butcher then claims that Reagan's tax cuts didn't pay for themselves. Newsflash: Reagan's tax cuts more than payed for themselves by lowering the unemployment rate of 8%, under Democrat Carter, to 5.5%. Additionally Reagan's policies created 16 million new jobs. Claiming President Trump is "the Liar in Chief," Mr. Butcher remained silent on the former occupant of the White House who told some whoppers. I'm still waiting for my medical costs to go down \$2500 as Obama promised. Next claim is that the Republican tax plan benefits only Congress and rich Republicans. We'll see about that come February when everyone's pay check is bigger because less tax is taken out. Lastly, Mr. Butcher laments that conservatives (I assume he means Republicans) were concerned about spending under Obama, but not under Trump. I suggest Mr. Butcher look up Republican Senator Rand Paul (Ky) who constantly expresses concerns about spending just as other Republicans do.
Charles Newton
Highlands Ranch, Colo.

Peace wreath

Dear Editor:
Way back in 2006, a Pagosa area couple put up a Christmas wreath. Fir boughs were tied to a plastic hoop and decked out with those little multi colored lights and a big red ribbon. It was shaped a little differently than the ones most folks

were used to. It was fashioned to look like the peace symbol. Somehow or another, this caused quite a stir. The homeowners association ordered that the "peace sign" be taken down and began to levy a daily fine when the wreath makers decided to leave it up. Well, to make a long story short, the story of the Pagosa Peace Wreath became international news. The parents of that particular wreath had their ten days of fame (or infamy in the eyes of some), but pictures of that wreath spread around the globe and generated positive responses and support from troops on active duty in Iraq, grandmothers in Ohio, children in California and people who cared about and have fought for peace throughout the world.

Peace is so much more than the absence of conflict. It is not a stable state of contentment. It is an active endeavor. Peace requires compassion for our enemies. This is not a simple thing to do and it takes effort on everyone's part to foster peace.

Thoughts of peace aren't just for the holiday season, but this time of year does seem to remind folks about the importance of peace. As yet another reminder, the Pagosa Peace Wreath has been put up every year since 2006 and is up and shining again for 2017.

Bill Trimarco

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ADVERTISING DEADLINES

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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Flu vaccine is a safeguard for personal and community health

By Claire Ninde
Special to The SUN

December through February is the typical peak for the influenza virus and with the vaccination taking effect after about two weeks, now is the time to protect your health, as well as the community's health. We are each interlaced in a community dependent on others being flu free.

Loved ones, co-workers, neighbors, even strangers on the street all stand to benefit from you being healthy and vaccinated.

The flu virus is transmitted by droplets (infected people sneezing, coughing, talking) and can even survive on surfaces. Those sick with the flu may be able to infect other people beginning one day before symptoms develop and up to five to seven days after becoming sick. Some folks do not display symptoms when infected and easily spread the highly contagious illness.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) FluView report this week, seasonal influenza activity continues to in-

crease in the United States. During the week ending Nov. 18, several flu activity indicators were higher than is typically seen for this time of year. The first and most important step in protecting yourself this season is with the flu vaccine.

The CDC recommends a yearly vaccine for everyone 6 months of age and older. This boost will not only decrease the severity and duration of any illnesses you may encounter this winter, but it'll give all of those around you a better chance at being healthy, as well.

Our most vulnerable populations bear the burden of the flu season. In recent years in the U.S., it was estimated 80 to 90 percent of the flu-related deaths were 65 or older and more than 20,000 children 5 years or younger were hospitalized due to flu complications.

While the flu vaccine cannot give you flu illness, some people will experience mild symptoms such as soreness at the injection site, aches or a low-grade fever. These will be short-lasting.

Persons with a history of egg aller-

gy who have experienced only hives after exposure to egg should receive the flu vaccine. Anyone who has previously experienced a severe allergic reaction to the flu vaccine, regardless of the component suspected of being responsible for the reaction, should not get a flu vaccine again.

This season, treat yourself and our community to the gift of health with the safeguard of a flu vaccine. San Juan Basin Public Health (SJBPH) has a limited supply of specialized flu vaccines including high-dose flu shots for seniors and preservative-free vaccines for pregnant women. Additionally, SJBPH can provide flu shots for eligible children and adults who qualify for federally supported vaccines if they are unable to receive them from their primary care provider.

Appointments in Pagosa Springs are available the first Thursday of every month and during special flu clinics offered in December. Call 264-2409 to schedule.

Appointments in Durango can be scheduled Tuesday through Thursday by calling 247-5702.

Wishing you the **merriest Christmas** and happy holiday season!

Check our website for updates on holiday pickup schedules.

At Your Disposal

970-731-4892

128 Bastille Dr. atyourdisp.com




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www.rgsla.com

LEGISLATURE

Giving rural Colorado the same opportunity for financial success

There are many challenges facing hardworking families trying to maintain their way of life in rural America, but one of their greatest obstacles may be lack of access to a physical bank or credit union.

Bank accounts are an important tool for financial stability for Americans of all income levels in all parts of the country. Having a bank account helps families save money securely, pay bills in a timely fashion and better plan for their future financial needs.

While many of us can drive a short distance, walk into a bank and open an account, there are rural communities across our state and the country where physical

bank locations are few and far between. Luckily, mobile banking is increasingly improving access to financial services and has become especially important for customers in rural areas.

Unfortunately, however, access to mobile banking products is not equal across the United States, as some state driver's license laws prevent



Rep. Tipton's Report

imaging of driver's licenses, which in turn prevent banks and credit unions from offering their mobile account products in those states.

Fortunately, last week the House Committee on Financial Services passed my Making Online Banking Initiation Legal and Easy (MOBILE) Act of 2017, which creates equal opportunity for every American to open a bank account on a mobile device.

This bill passed the committee with broad bipartisan support. The MOBILE Act will allow customers — if they so choose — to authorize a financial institution to make a scan or copy of their driver's license or identification card in order to open a bank account on a mobile device. Simply stated, this legislation will level the playing field across the United States for anyone who wishes to open a bank account online.

Additionally, this legislation is careful to protect consumer privacy information by requiring a financial institution to delete all copies of a driver's license and personal identification after having used them for the permitted purpose.

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) estimates that as many as 67 million adult Americans are unbanked or underbanked and at heightened risk of exposure to monetary loss, fraud and the high costs associated with alternative financial services. However, the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston found that 59 percent of unbanked individuals have access to mobile

phones (50 percent of which are smartphones) and that 90 percent of underbanked individuals have access to a cellphone (56 percent of which are smartphones). By allowing those with smartphones to essentially have their bank accounts in their pocket, there are increased opportunities to improve access to bank accounts for customers across the United States and, by proxy, more opportunities to help families in rural America gain and sustain financial stability.

Evidence from the Federal Reserve shows that mobile banking use is rising in the United States at relatively fast rates. In 2016, when the Federal Reserve studied mobile banking use, it found that 43 percent of all mobile phone owners with a bank account had used mobile banking in the past 12 months, up from 39 percent in 2014 and 33 percent in 2013. Following this trend, the use of mobile banking will continue to rise at a quick pace, and that access is only further supported by the MOBILE Act.

All families should have the tools they need to achieve financial stability and prosperity. The MOBILE Act will help bring these tools to communities that, by virtue of being located in a rural area, may not have access to the traditional brick-and-mortar bank that many of us take for granted. I'm glad this bill has gained the attention and support of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle and I look forward to seeing it considered in the full House soon.

Public Meetings

The following meetings are subject to change.

Thursday, Dec. 28
Pagosa Peak Open School finance committee meeting. Board members will be attending to discuss grant budget revisions. 11 a.m., 7 Parelli Way.

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

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

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

Pagosa Peak Open School Community Outreach committee meeting. 5:30 p.m., 7 Parelli Way.

Thursday, Jan. 4
Archuleta School District Board of Education special meeting. 5 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium, 800 S. 8th St.

San Juan Water Conservancy District special meeting. 7 p.m., 46 Eaton Drive, Suite 5.

Tuesday, Jan. 9
Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners work session. 8:30 a.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St.

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

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

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

Town of Pagosa Springs Planning Commission. 5:30 p.m., Town Hall council chambers, 551 Hot Springs Blvd.

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

Wednesday, Jan. 10
Town of Pagosa Springs Historic Preservation Board. 5:30 p.m., Town Hall front conference room, 551 Hot Springs Blvd.

Thursday, Jan. 11
Pagosa Peak Open School work session. 4 p.m., 7 Parelli Way.

Tuesday, Jan. 16
Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners work session. 8:30 a.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St.

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

Archuleta School District Board of Education work session and regular meeting. 5 p.m. work session, 6 p.m. regular meeting, Pagosa Springs High School au-

See Meetings A6

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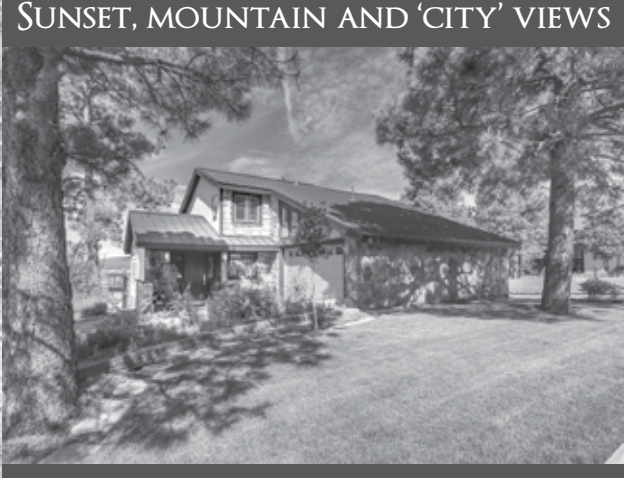
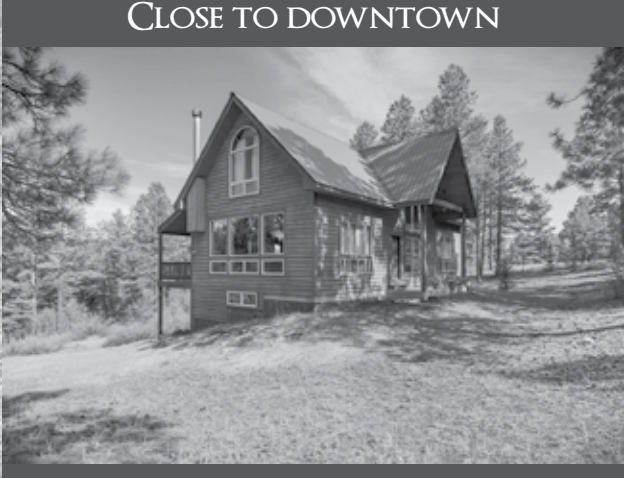
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Assessor Natalie Woodruff announces re-election bid

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

Archuleta County Assessor Natalie Woodruff has thrown her name in the hat for a third term in office.

"I feel that I am not quite done yet!" Woodruff stated in an email to The SUN about her decision to run for re-election. "Since I started we have been making progress with trying to accomplish more with fewer people and trying not to be right up against deadlines with our work. There are always ways to improve, and we are still working on that."

In terms of what she has accomplished in her current term, Woodruff touched more on not being up against deadlines.

"Well for the first time we actually had our certifications out to the taxing entities prior to Thanksgiving," she explained. "The deadline, by statute, is December 10th, but with the entities having to turn around and have them back to the



Natalie Woodruff

county by the 15th or so, it doesn't leave anyone very much time. Last year we had them out the 1st week of December. This is just one area where we are trying our best to provide statutorily required infor-

mation in the most timely manner possible."

And she hopes to do more of the same in a third term if re-elected.

Her goals, she wrote, are: "Continue streamlining our work processes to work smarter with what we have. Provide taxpayers with information regarding their value in the easiest terms possible. Valuation isn't the easiest thing to understand in the 1st place. Trying to find the best way to explain mass appraisal to the general public is challenging. For example, a new appraiser to our office has over 150 hours of education required before they can even take the licensing test. Finding a way to explain that knowledge on a flyer or even in person in 1/2 hour, leaves many property owners even more confused than when they started. In the end we hope to be able to assure them that all property owners are being treated as equally as possible, and show evidence as to how we came to our mass appraisal values."

But, Woodruff noted, if elected, her next term would be her last.

"If re-elected the term beginning in 2019 will be my last," Woodruff wrote. "My husband will be 83 at the end of the next term, and he would like to be somewhere a little warmer, with less snow and a longer growing season! Hopefully with me here for the next term and a new Clerk and Treasurer, we can all make sure the transitions are smooth and Archuleta County residents feel assured of continued good service by their elected officials."

Archuleta County Clerk and Recorder June Madrid and Treasurer Betty Diller have both announced that they will not seek re-election in the 2018 election.

Up for grabs at the county level in the 2018 election will be commissioner for District 3 (currently held by Michael Whiting), assessor, treasurer, clerk, coroner, surveyor and sheriff.

randi@pagosasun.com

County increases voter precinct limits due to population growth

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

At its Dec. 5 meeting, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) approved a resolution increasing the active voter population of the county's election precincts to 2,000 per precinct.

Per state statute, the resolution explains, the county clerk and recorder is to divide the county into "as many election precincts for all general, primary and congressional vacancy elections as is convenient for the eligible electors of the county..."

Further, the resolution states, "C.R.S. 1-5-101(3) designates counties that use electronic or electro-mechanical voting systems, with approval of the Board of County Commissioners, are to establish at least one precinct for every one thousand five hundred active eligible electors..."

However, two precincts in Archuleta County are above the 1,500 cap due to population growth, with 1,906 in Precinct 6 and 1,774 in Precinct 8, Archuleta County Clerk and Recorder June Madrid explained at the meeting.

The same statute that sets the cap of 1,500 voters per precinct "al-

lows for the Board of County Commissioners to increase the precinct limit of active eligible electors, by resolution, to two thousand," the resolution explains.

The resolution, explained Madrid, is raising the limit until precinct lines can be moved, with Madrid stating earlier in her explanation of the topic that she will be coming back to the BoCC next year for help changing the precincts.

At the same meeting, the BoCC also unanimously approved a letter of support regarding the possibility of Colorado Mountain College operating within Archuleta County. That letter, which is from BoCC

Chair Steve Wadley, states: "The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners believes that choices in education at every level from Pre-K to post-secondary should be available and affordable to all. The Board strongly support the establishment of a community college within Archuleta County."

"The Board of County Commissioners further believe that the Colorado Mountain College model is an outstanding fit for our community. The Board supports an application to Colorado Mountain College for annexation into the Colorado Mountain College District."

randi@pagosasun.com

Public Meetings

Continued from A5
ditorium, 800 S. 8th St.

Wednesday, Jan. 17

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

Pagosa Springs Town Council, Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners, Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District, Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association, San Juan Water Conservancy District joint special growth meeting. 5 p.m.,

Ross Aragon Community Center, 451 Hot Springs Blvd.

Thursday, Jan. 18
Archuleta School District Board of Education community engagement. Noon, location to be determined.

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

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

Archuleta School District Board of Education community engagement. 6 p.m., location to be determined.

Thursday, Jan. 19
Pagosa Peak Open School board meeting. 4 p.m., 7 Parelli Way.

Monday, Jan. 22
Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation (CDC) work session. 11 a.m., First Southwest Bank conference room, 249 Navajo Trail Drive.

Tuesday, Jan. 23
Joint town/county work session. 8 a.m., Town Hall, 551 Hot Springs Blvd.

Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners work session. 9:30 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.

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

Wednesday, Jan. 24
Town of Pagosa Springs Historic Preservation Board. 5:30 p.m., Town Hall front conference room, 551 Hot Springs Blvd.

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

Rocky Mountain Health Foundation opens grant cycle for 22 western Colorado counties

By Kim Lewis
Special to The SUN

The newly established Rocky Mountain Health Foundation recently announced its first grant cycle, which began Dec. 22. It is anticipated that \$1 million will be distributed in 2018 throughout quarterly grant cycles.

Rocky Mountain Health Foundation improves the health of western slope Coloradans by being a catalyst and collaborator for innovative health care approaches, and promoting the health and well-being of Western Slope communities. "Well-being" includes not only physical and behavioral health-related issues, but the factors that can affect one's health — or the social determinants of health.

Grants will be awarded to organizations and programs that address:

- Access to health care, including telehealth.
- Preventive care and services.
- Behavioral health services.
- Case management.
- Population health (including

integrating social service programs and health systems).

Community-based projects. The foundation is dedicated to being both a funder and a partner to community groups, keeping the grant-making process as simple and impactful as possible and learning solutions along the way with grantees. For 2018, Rocky Mountain Health Foundation will consider general operating and programmatic requests.

Applicants must be a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization serving in the 22 counties defined in the traditional maps of Colorado's Western Slope.

The first quarter deadline is Jan. 24, 2018. To apply, visit rmhealth.org. Volunteers along the most-capitalized Western Slope counties will review applications and make funding recommendations. Organizations that have submitted grant applications will be notified by March 15, 2018.

Prospective grant applicants may inquire with questions to Kim Lewis, grant manager, at (970) 697-1038 or kim@rmhealth.org.

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Business

CHAMBER NEWS

Voting for new Chamber directors closes Jan. 5

By Mary Jo Coulehan
SUN Columnist

The deadline for voting for the incoming Chamber board of director nominees is Jan. 5. Chamber businesses have until this date to cast their ballot for up to three of the six nominees.

This year's candidates are: LeAnne Goebel, manager, Lantern Dancer Gallery and Gift Shop; Jim Hayes, co-owner of The Hub; Jesse Hensle, marketing and communications manager, Pagosa Springs Medical Center; Mary Hunt, owner

of Mary Hunt USHealth Advisors; Dan McPherson, co-owner of Sunetha Property Management; and the Rev. Leighton Mekeal, pastor, Community United Methodist Church.

It is important for our businesses to get involved and help select the individuals that will represent the business community. Each year, the Chamber board loses three members and three new members come onto the board. This keeps the board fresh, vibrant with new ideas and diversified.

Each Chamber business can

cast one ballot. Your membership must be in good standing. With each ballot, you will vote for up to three candidates. Should you vote for more than three candidates or your business votes multiple times, your ballot will be invalidated.

To cast your ballot, there is a "Click Here" button on the email that you received from the Chamber; you can go to the Chamber website, www.pagosachamber.com to vote; or you can still come by the Chamber offices and manually cast your ballot through the paper system.

Chamber businesses — please cast your ballot by the close of business Jan. 5 and be involved. It takes just a few minutes to read the bios of the candidates and cast your ballot. Thank you for helping to select the next group of board member additions.

Community award nominations closing

The nominations for Citizen, Volunteer, Non-Profit and Small Business of the Year awards also close on Jan. 5.

In this season of thanksgiving and reflection, have you thought about someone, a group or a business that you feel is worthy of being thanked publicly for the work they do in this community? We know dozens of people, but do we take the time to thank them?

Just take a few minutes and send your nominations to the Chamber at admin@pagosachamber.com.

For all of the awards, the person, persons, business or group must have been a resident or in business for at least three years.

The work that Volunteer and Citizen of the Year nominees perform must be outside of their normal scope of work or job and the nominees can be an individual or a couple.

The Citizen of the Year must have impacted the community in one of the following ways: philanthropic, lifestyle, economic or cultural.

Small Business award nominees must have a reputation of quality service and employee

care; demonstrate excellence and a reputable business image; consistent and friendly attitude to customers, clients, employees and other businesses; support the local community with goods, services and time; have fewer than 20 employees; and be a leader in the business community.

The Non-Profit agency of the year must be a 501(c)3, provide a necessary service, have a positive image in the community and serve the community with distinction and excellence.

Forms are located on the Chamber website at www.pagosachamber.com on the homepage. Just click on the link to access the form. We can also email or fax you a form or stop by the Chamber to pick one up. Give the gift of recognition to those who contribute so much to this community.

Membership news

We have not necessarily a new business as a member, but a new owner of an existing business. We welcome Teri Peterson, the new owner of Smoke n' Moes Restaurant.

We also have a plethora of renewals this week, just in time to close out 2017. We welcome back KWUF — AM and FM stations, Goodman's Department Store, Alley House Grille, Pagosa Brewing and Grill, Liberty Theatre, Design a Sign, Good Earth Meds, Budget Blinds, and two musicians: Lisa Saunders Music and Steve Blechschmidt. Our nonprofit agencies renewing are St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, CrossRoad Christian Fellowship, Curtains Up Pagosa and the San Juan Outdoor Club.

Remember that the Chamber offices will be closed Jan. 1.

If you are a group hosting an event in 2018 — have you entered your event onto the Chamber's event calendar yet? It is never too early. Happy new year to all and we look forward to a prosperous one for our community.

Biz Beat



Hometown Insurance is proud to announce the expansion of their services with the addition of agents Kaitlyn Talamante and Marissa Talamante. Kaitlyn Talamante joins Angelene Talamante in servicing life and health insurance needs. Marissa Talamante provides assistance with home, auto, builder's risk, workers' compensation and business owners' policy insurance, and Emily Vega assists with all billing needs.

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SJWCD

■ **Continued from front**
ing on Jan. 5 and 12 for Proffitt's board seat seeking applications for the expiring term. The SJWCD failed to comply with the notice deadline as 45 days prior to Jan. 6 would have been Nov. 22, 2016, and the advertisement was published after that date.

In a letter dated Dec. 15, 2016, Proffitt requested reappointment to the board. This request failed to comply with the application deadline, which should have been Dec. 7, 2016.

Oath of office

Prior to being reappointed to the board, Proffitt made a sworn oath of office for the SJWCD on Feb. 13 stating, "upon which I am about to enter, and I will not be interested directly or indirectly in any contract let by the San Juan Water Conservancy District."

At the time that oath of office was executed, Proffitt already had a contract in place with the district for which he was being paid.

Motion to the court

On Feb. 17, attorneys for the district filed a Motion for Reappointment of Director in Archuleta County District Court on behalf of Proffitt.

In its motion, the board claimed that it had acted at its Dec. 12, 2016, meeting to recommend such appointment. That motion was signed and submitted by legal counsel for the district, Austin Rueschhoff with Holsinger Law LLC.

Rueschhoff withdrew as legal counsel of record for the district on Dec. 21. Holsinger Law LLC remains active in representing SJWCD.

The SUN found no documentation of any vote that took place to reappoint Proffitt in the Dec. 12, 2016, minutes of the district, as submitted by Proffitt himself.

Also, the motion to the court states that Proffitt's letter requesting reappointment was submitted prior to Dec. 12, when it was actually dated Dec. 15, after the date the board claimed it voted for his reappointment.

On Feb. 19, Sixth Judicial District Chief Judge Jeffrey R. Wilson granted the district's Motion for Reappointment of Director based on incorrect information provided by the district.

On Feb. 23, Proffitt filed his previously executed Oath of Office with the court and continued receiving payments from the district under his contract until the legality of the contract was brought into question in September.

Courthouse

■ Continued from front

on December 21, 2017, there appears to be some confusion as to the Sixth Judicial District's position on your offer to use the county administration building as a temporary courthouse," Wilson's letter begins.

In The Herald, Wadley indicated that efforts to work with the courts to find a temporary location to relocate the courts in Pagosa Springs have broken down, with the two parties no longer speaking to each other face to face.

Wilson's two-page letter then outlines events, beginning with Wadley's Nov. 2 offer of the county's administration building as temporary court space and continuing through the Dec. 12 school board meeting in which Commissioner Michael Whiting declared that the county's offer was no longer on the table.

"By early December, the Sixth Judicial District had reached the conclusion that there was no other suitable building that could be used as a temporary courthouse," the letter states. "At the same time, we learned that the BOCC had not reached out to the school board to gauge their opinion of our use of the administration building."

The court then attended the Dec. 12 school board meeting, with the letter noting that the courts had informed the county of the meeting.

"After speaking to the school board for about 20 minutes, the chair recognized Commissioner Michael Whiting, who informed everyone present at the meeting that the BOCC would no longer offer the administration building as a temporary court facility. Commissioner Whiting explained that because the court had rejected their previous offer, the BOCC had 'moved on' and that the BOCC was no longer offering the use of the administration building as a temporary courthouse" the letter states. "Commissioner Whiting did not offer any further explanation as to the manner in which the BOCC had 'moved on.' This was the first and only time that anyone in the Sixth Judicial District has been informed that

Executive session decision

While no action was taken at the Dec. 12, 2016, meeting as presented to the district court, The SUN found that the details of a Feb. 13 executive session had been transcribed in the minutes of the board's Feb. 13 meeting.

Those executive sessions minutes read, "The next topic discussed was the reappointment of board members, specifically Chairman Proffitt's position. There were no applications that came in so it was decided to submit for Proffitt's reappointment to the board."

The SUN noted two violations of COML in this portion of the minutes.

First, COML does not allow for executive session discussion of a "member of a public body," which is what Proffitt is considered as a member of the board.

Second, it is a violation of COML for decisions to be made in executive session.

No mention was made in the minutes of any discussions or decisions concerning the reappointment of Proffitt to the board in an open public meeting.

Email vote

On July 6, The SUN reported that the SJWCD board of directors voted via email to change the name of the Dry Gulch water storage project.

On June 21, The SUN received a "news release" from Proffitt announcing that the district had decided to change the name of the project to the "San Juan Headwaters Project."

"The board of directors started this process at its regular February meeting, and reached out to the community for input. The board of directors officially decided to change the name at its regular board of directors meeting on June 12th, and then chose the name from a list that had circulated for the last several months," the email stated.

However, while the board did agree to change the name at its June 12 meeting after discussing it at previous meetings, it did not vote on the name. Instead it discussed how the final choices would be decided and that the board would vote on the name at its August board meeting.

Upon receipt of the news release, The SUN filed a Colorado Open Records Act (CORA) request seeking emails between members of the board regarding the project.

The SJWCD's response to the CORA request revealed that the board voted via email on the name

change, despite stating its intent during the June 12 meeting to vote on the name change at the board's August meeting.

Contract details

Proffitt billed SJWCD \$800 for four days of his time in researching and fulfilling The SUN's CORA request even though the scope of his contract with the district was specifically for "seeking Partnerships for the Dry Gulch Project and providing marketing services related to the same."

Proffitt's services agreement with the district was not for administrative matters such as researching and fulfilling CORA requests.

The services agreement with Proffitt was entered into in October 2012 and renewed on an annual basis.

Proffitt was compensated \$100 for each half-day of services performed.

Research shows that payments were made to Proffitt in the amount of \$71,139.27 between January 2015 and August 2017.

Additionally, he was compensated for travel in the amount of \$11,778 and for training in the amount of \$2,777.20.

Some checks written in 2015 were not broken out into detail on the SJWCD check register.

Termination of contract

On Sept. 8, the SJWCD voted unanimously to terminate the services agreement with Proffitt during a special meeting.

Following that meeting, Rueschhoff explained, "It was recently brought to the attention of the SJWCD that the services agreement might not be appropriate," Rueschhoff wrote. Rueschhoff's firm was then asked by Proffitt to review the terms of the services agreement.

"After our review, and in consultation with the SJWCD Board of Directors, the Board of Directors determined that Rod and the District would be best served by terminating the services agreement," he wrote.

With the termination of the services agreement, the SJWCD began looking for a general manager.

On Sept. 21, Proffitt emailed SUN staff stating, "I am hopeful to continue to work on moving the project forward so I will probably apply for the GM position when it comes up, and will resign from the board to take that position if it is offered to me."

Conflict of interest

At the board's meeting on Oct. 9, the general manager position search was a main point of discussion.

At that meeting, Proffitt stated,

require infrastructure.

"One of the things that I believe we're going to have to do is either find a way to go a little bit small or a little bit more in there," Wadley said, noting the possibilities of having dispatch or social services included. "Initially, I was against the dispatch thing ... but the more I look at it, the better I think the idea is, and also if you're looking at something ... right now, we're paying rent, and we could be in the position of collecting rent ..."

Adding social services, Henderson said, would be adding 5,000-6,000 square feet.

Whiting suggested that would only work within the same budget, plus inflation, if the sheriff's office were smaller.

The courts, Whiting later noted, were something different.

If the county wants a victory in November 2018, Whiting stated, it needs to work backward, asking how much the county would have to cut to be successful.

County Attorney Todd Starr then suggested that the county form a citizen's group to make recommendations to the board, with that group then becoming the election group that could endorse the county's process — an idea the board then discussed.

Further discussion included what, if any, concessions would have to be made on design of the facility in order to be successful at the polls.

The topics of the courts and additional county facilities were further discussed later that day, during the board's regular meeting, when an executive session was held.

The first portion of the executive session was at the request of Sheriff Rich Valdez and was to discuss either the purchase or lease of space for the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office.

The second purpose was to discuss the status of the dispute with the courts and various legal options County Attorney Todd Starr said he may present to the board.

No decisions or comments were made following the executive session.

"I did the initial draft (of the job description)."

He explained that he then ran it by an attorney experienced in employment law.

Board vice president John Porco voiced his concern over a section of the job description that stated, "However, the Board of Directors shall neither have, nor exercise, any control or direction over the methods by which the general manager performs the services, its only requirement being that such services are performed in a competent, efficient and satisfactory manner."

"For the record, that was not in my initial draft," Proffitt said.

That particular section of the job description was added by SJWCD's legal counsel, Proffitt noted.

The job description was crafted by legal counsel in a way so that there would be no semblance of employee status by the potential general manager, Proffitt said.

In The SUN's editorial of Oct. 12, it was asked, "Why didn't Proffitt recuse himself from the process of creating the position and hiring a general manager when he has indicated that he is going to apply for the position? How is this not a conflict of interest?"

Following that editorial, Proffitt noted that further participation from himself in the revision of the general manager job description might be perceived as a conflict of interest.

Proffitt wrote in an email to The SUN on Oct. 16, "Since I might eventually have a conflict of interest anyway since I may apply for the GM position, I stepped out of the process."

He also explained that Porco was taking the lead for the board on the position and the process.

However, at the November board meeting, Proffitt participated in the discussion of the general manager position.

At that meeting, the board also discussed compensating the general manager \$200 per each half day worked, which is twice the amount that Proffitt was paid under his "inappropriate" service agreement.

Additional motion to the court

A Motion to Amend Organizational Decree was filed in District Court in Archuleta County on behalf of the SJWCD on Oct. 18.

Attorneys representing the district filed the motion to allow the board of directors to reduce the number of directors to "no less than three (3) nor more than nine (9) directors."

The motion states, "The District's Board acted at its meeting on October 9, 2017 to move this Court to amend its Organizational Decree to reduce the required number of Directors in order to facilitate the maintenance of a fully-seated board and to ensure the presence of a quorum at Board meetings, and to amend its Bylaws accordingly."

However, the SJWCD did not act on the matter at its meeting on Oct. 9.

During that meeting, Proffitt brought up the possibility of reducing the number of board members, stating, "but that's not before you tonight."

The only bylaw change that was acted on at the Oct. 9 meeting concerned contracts between the board and board members to bring the district into compliance with statute.

Wilson granted the motion to amend the organizational decree on Oct. 19, allowing for the reduction in the number of directors on the board based on information provided in the motion that was inaccurate.

Executive sessions

On Dec. 11, the SJWCD board held a meeting that included two executive sessions.

On Dec. 14, The SUN submitted a CORA request for the recordings of the two executive sessions.

Numerous reasons were cited for obtaining the executive session recordings pursuant to the COML, C.R.S. 24-6-402, with some of those reasons being:

- There was no public announcement of the specific provision of subsection (4) authorizing the body to meet in either executive session. The legal basis for an executive session must be cited.

- Failure to identify the particular matter to be discussed in as much detail as possible without compromising the purpose of the executive session.

- Updates from legal counsel on pending litigation does not constitute a proper topic of conversation in an executive session. General updates do not constitute "receiving legal advice on specific legal questions."

- One of the executive sessions included interviewing two applicants for the general manager posi-

tion, which the board defined as an independent contractor and not an employee. The SUN noted that interviewing potential contractors does not constitute a proper topic of conversation in an executive session. The hiring of a contractor is not a personnel matter as that category of permissible discussion concerns employee matters, not contractor matters.

- The interview of Proffitt was not a permissible topic of conversation in an executive session as the interview constituted a "discussion concerning any member of the local public body" which is expressly prohibited by C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(f)(II).

- The district violated its own bylaws concerning executive sessions, which requires the board to announce the topic for discussion and the authorizing statute "in a motion," not as part of a general, prefatory discussion or in a written agenda.

On Dec. 18, attorney Kent Holsinger provided the following certification concerning record of the two executive sessions held on Dec. 11:

"I hereby certify that it is my opinion that the entire discussion held during the two executive sessions convened during the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the San Juan Water Conservancy District ('Board') held on December 11, 2017 at 7:00 p.m., constituted privileged attorney-client communication and therefore no record or electronic recording was required to be kept for such portions of the two executive sessions pursuant to Section 24-6-402, C.R.S. I further certify I was in attendance at the executive session and participated in the discussions. In accordance with Sections 24-6-402(4)(b), (e), and (f), C.R.S., the privileged discussions were for the purposes of receiving legal advice on specific legal questions of counsel; developing strategy for negotiations, instructing negotiators, and determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations; and discussing personnel matters."

"The discussions held during the first executive session were in regard to updating the Board as to pending water court litigation and to receive legal advice on the hiring process for the General Manager position. During the second executive session, the Board conducted the interviews for the two General Manager finalists. Additional discussions held during the second executive session were in regard to the terms of the proposed General Manager agreement, and discussing negotiations related to the appointment of an interim General Manager."

The SUN followed up with questions to the entire board and Holsinger:

- For the record, are you claiming there never was a recording made of the two executive sessions? Are you saying that no portion of either executive session was ever recorded?

- Do you contend the executive sessions were properly announced in compliance with the requirements of C.R.S. sec. 24-6-402(4)?

- For clarification, did the board not record the portion of the executive session concerning the interviews with individuals because you believe it was protected by attorney-client privilege?

Holsinger's response is quoted in the next section of this article.

Paying the money back

On Dec. 19, The SUN sent an email to Proffitt asking, "For the record, have you paid back any of the money you received from the San Juan Water Conservancy District while you were under contract with the district in violation of your oath of office and in violation of state law? If so, can you describe what you have paid back? If you have not paid the money back in whole or part, can you explain why not?"

Holsinger responded to those questions with Proffitt being copied on that email: "It is common for water conservancy districts across the state to have an individual serve in a paid general manager role for the district. ..."

Holsinger went on to explain the history behind Proffitt's role with the district.

"In 2012, the SJWCD Board of Directors concluded that Rod should receive compensation for the extraordinary efforts and time he expends on behalf of the SJWCD. Rod, of course, abstained from that discussion and vote to avoid any conflict of interest. At the advice of the SJWCD's former counsel, Rod entered into a Services Agreement with the SJWCD to continue his efforts on behalf of SJWCD while being compensated for his time. The existence of the Services Agreement was fully disclosed to the public and the Colorado Secretary of State. It was recently brought to the

attention of SJWCD that the Services Agreement may not be appropriate. Our firm was asked to review the Services Agreement in light of the work being done by Rod on behalf of the SJWCD. After our review, and in consultation with the SJWCD Board of Directors, the Board of Directors determined that Rod and the District would be best served by terminating the Services Agreement," wrote Holsinger. "The SJWCD also decided to explore hiring a District Manager and has two finalists for the position; one of which is Mr. Proffitt. Rod remains on the Board of Directors and in his position as Chair but will be recused from any decisions relative to hiring for this position."

"The SJWCD will discuss these matters further at its next board meeting on January 4."

The SUN followed up with questions to the entire board and Holsinger:

- Are the paid general managers you mentioned in other water districts across the state also board members who have a sworn oath of office to not enter a contract with the district they represent?

- Doesn't Rod's contract violate his sworn oath to the District to not enter into such contracts, regardless of whether such contracts are legal or illegal?

- You explained the history behind Rod contracting with the district. Can you tell me since it was determined that contract was inappropriate, has Rod paid the district back the funds he was paid? Does he intend to pay the money back?

Holsinger responded via email, writing, "I'm waiting to hear back from the board in terms of responses to your questions. I can tell you the board has acted in conformance with Colorado's open records and sunshine laws."

"As you can imagine, many folks are away for the holidays."

"No doubt SJWCD will be glad to discuss these issues at its next board meeting."

Board appointments

Looking back even further into actions of the district, on Jan. 28, 2016, it advertised for three expiring director positions allowing for applications to be made until Feb. 20, 2016.

Directors Raymond Finney, Porco and Sue Walen had terms that were expiring on March 21, 2016.

According to documentation provided to the District Court, prior to that Feb. 20 deadline for the board to receive applications to fill the expiring director's terms, the board took action at its regular meeting of Feb. 8, 2016, to reappoint directors Raymond Finney and Porco.

Motion to court, voting by email

The SUN discovered yet another motion to the District Court on behalf of the SJWCD dated March 10, 2016, which stated, "The Board was polled via email February 28, 2016, and recommends the appointment of Mr. Secrist for the four-year term that will expire on March 21, 2020, or until his successor has been duly appointed and qualified. This recommendation will be ratified by the Board at its next regular meeting which is scheduled to be held April 11, 2016."

The court motion was made by Holsinger.

Voting by email is a violation of the COML.

Based on the information provided to the court, on March 16, 2016, then Sixth Judicial District Chief Judge Gregory G. Lyman granted the district's motion in appointing Finney, Porco and Secrist to the board.

However, the illegal email vote to recommend Secrist's appointment to the board was not ratified at the April 11, 2016, meeting according to the official minutes signed by Proffitt and as represented to the courts.

Next meeting, job finalists

Proffitt and Stacy Thompson have been named the two finalists for the position of general manager.

Public comments regarding the finalists will be accepted by the board until the next board meeting, which is set for Jan. 4, 2018, at 7 p.m., at 46 Eaton Drive, Suite 5.

According to Proffitt in an email to The SUN dated Dec. 14, "I anticipate there were will be a very short agenda consisting of 3 action items — a decision on selection for a General Manager; election of District officers for 2018; and setting of a special meeting for 1/17/2018."

The agenda link on the district's website for the Jan. 4, 2018, meeting was linked to the December meeting agenda as of press time.

Screening

Continued from front

The idea was then proposed to bring the clinic to Pagosa Springs.

Ralph found out on Rafe's birthday, Dec. 8, that the screening was going to be allowed to take place at Pagosa Springs High School (PSHS).

Even if the screening had not been approved to take place at PSHS, Ralph explained that the event would have still taken place, just at a different venue.

"We're still going to do it. If we got to do it at a church as opposed to at the high school, we're going to do it because these kids are committed to doing it," Ralph explained.

"At first, there was a little reluctance in doing that because there were some questions that came up," Ralph said.

One of the questions raised was the protocol if a student has an abnormal reading, Ralph explained.

Ralph then went on to explain that he met with Pagosa Springs Medical Center (PSMC) staff and concluded that students who show abnormalities in their EKGs can be referred to the cardiologist at PSMC.

The cost of the screening will be \$20, Ralph noted.

If a student cannot afford the screening, Ralph has committed to putting money into a fund to pay for any student who can't afford the screening.

"It's a five-minute test. We've got volunteers who come in and will do the screening. At that point the test information is sent to a staff of cardiologists," Ralph explained.

The cardiologists review the EKGs and if there is anything abnormal,



Photos courtesy Ralph Maccarone

Rafe Maccarone and his family pose for a family photo. Pictured, left to right, are Rafe's sister Jaime Maccarone, Rafe Maccarone, father Ralph Maccarone, grandmother Jane Maccarone, grandfather Ralph Maccarone and mother Valerie Maccarone. After Rafe passed away suddenly at the age of 15 due to a heart condition known as hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, Ralph has pressed for student athletes to receive heart screenings to detect unknown heart problems.

they report back within three days to let the student know if they need further testing, Ralph added later.

According to a pamphlet provided by Who We Play For, a simple cardiac screening can help detect problems before major medical issues occur.

The test is noninvasive, and easy, and involves placing electrodes on the student's chest around the heart to record its signals.

By doing this, Ralph hopes to prevent further tragedies from happening to other families.

"You know, if I had known what I know now, I certainly would have had my child screened," Ralph said.

The pamphlet also states that, on average, 97 percent of all student athletes have a normal EKG and are considered "low risk" for cardiac

issues.

The other 3 percent of athletes can receive results that are inconclusive, or results that suggest something that requires further testing, the pamphlet also states.

Ralph has also gotten into contact with the Pagosa Peaks Volleyball Club and the Pagosa Lakes Porpoises to spread information about the screening.

"So, we're trying to screen as many as we can. I don't know what the response is going to be. I'm hoping that we screen 100 kids, but I don't know how the community, what the reception is going to be," Ralph said.

Ralph has also stated that his ultimate goal is to also screen the kids who will be coming to high school next year and keep the screening

going for each additional ninth-grade class.

"It's too important not to do it," Ralph said.

Who We Play For is scheduled to come to Pagosa Springs on Jan. 2, 2018, from 3:30 to 6:30 pm., Ralph said.

The event will be held at PSHS in room B12 (the fifth door on the right past the main office) and the event will be open not just to student athletes, but the entire community.

Who We Play For has also provided a link online for those who would like to sign up for a screening electronically.

The online sign-up link can be found at bit.ly/2DhQSPm.

To learn more about Who We Play For, visit the website at whoweplayfor.org.

Courage

Continued from front

the Hall of Fame's Colorado Chapter in 2016, was a two-time Colorado state champion for PSHS.

He won his first state title as a junior despite wrestling an abbreviated schedule due to a compound ankle fracture. In December of his senior season, the Martinez family's home burned to the ground; yet he won another state championship.

After enrolling at the University of Wyoming in 2008, Martinez posted a record of 116-43, won three Western Wrestling Conference championships and qualified for the NCAA Division I Wrestling Championships four times. Earning a degree in range ecology and watershed management, he also wrestled in the 2012 Olympic Trials, falling to eventual Olympic team member Sam Hazewinkel.

On April 2, 2013, while working on his family's 236-acre ranch, located outside Pagosa Springs, Martinez chose to stay in a motor home on the property, eliminating a 40-minute drive and giving him an opportunity to begin work early the next day. During the night as he lit a match, the propane stove burst into a fireball that covered his body.

Martinez drove to the home of his uncle, who called 911, but due to the home's location and the roads,

the ambulance took 30 minutes to arrive. Due to second- and third-degree burns over 80 percent of Martinez's body, the EMTs summoned a medical helicopter to transport Martinez 45 minutes to the University of New Mexico Hospital burn unit in Albuquerque, N.M..

Martinez's parents, Barbara and Jody, were told that he could be in the hospital for up to three months, as patients typically stay one day for each percent of their body that was burned. Martinez underwent surgery to graft skin onto his hands while beginning to achieve benchmarks on his way to recovery.

Two weeks after the accident, Martinez's high school coach, Dan Janowsky, visited the hospital. Janowsky recounted that he didn't see the usual spark that was always present in Martinez's eyes, so he showed Martinez a video of Janowsky's son wrestling, and Martinez's eyes lit up. Following the coach's visit, Martinez seemed revived and continued his rehabilitation, surprising medical professionals when he left the hospital to return home after only 21 days.

Martinez stayed at his parents' house and, after needing assistance for the first few weeks, he became more self-sufficient. Doctors said that he would need physical therapy,

particularly for his hands and fingers. Martinez had no health insurance, so he became his own physical therapist and began playing his guitar. Six weeks later at a follow-up visit, the doctor commended him on his recovery.

Once given clearance, he began light exercise and resumed running. His body continued to heal, and by the summer of 2013, Martinez was surveying land and working again on the family's ranch. Janowsky invited Martinez to help him with the wrestling team at his alma mater, and Martinez soon was working on the mat and began holding open mat workouts attended by a number of wrestlers. In the spring of 2014, Pagosa Springs won its first individual state championship since 2009.

Martinez married his wife Kathleen in February of 2017. They have four children — Ethan (14), Chandler (12), Olivia (11) and Hudson (9). He continues to work for Davis Engineering as well as helping on the family ranch and assisting with the high school wrestling team.

National Wrestling Hall of Fame and Museum

America's shrine to the sport of wrestling, the National Wrestling Hall of Fame and Museum was founded as a nonprofit organization in 1976 to honor the sport of wrestling, preserve its history, recognize extraordinary individual achievements and inspire future generations.

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Sports

WRESTLING

Pirates exorcise Durango Demons with 75-0 win

By Marshall Dunham
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate wrestling team fought the Durango Demons in a dual on Dec. 20, with the Pirates winning 75-0.

"Durango kind of has a young and developing team," commented Pirate coach Dan Janowsky. "We've just got the edge on them with experience and that kind of stuff. I'd say it was a solid performance. I feel like Durango wrestled us as hard as they could, and they're going to get better, but our guys are in a really good spot right now."

Janowsky went on to explain that the wrestlers' confidence is growing, and that they're becoming more confident with their techniques, as well.

"They're hitting holds and finishing, and they're having a good time with each other," commented Janowsky. "It was a real solid performance throughout."

In the 106-pound division, freshman Erik Wyman pinned his opponent, gaining six points for the team.

In the 113-pound division, freshman Trevor Torrez gained six points for the team due to a forfeit.

At 120 pounds, freshman Dillon Tressler pinned his opponent, gaining six more points for the Pirates.

In the 126-pound division, freshman EJ Monterroso pinned his opponent and gained six more points.

"One of the matches that I thought was one of the better matches of the evening was EJ Monterroso," Janowsky said. "He's one of our freshman who's kind of done some swing time between junior varsity and varsity, but he's clearly getting better, and he had a really solid match against a good opponent. He's a freshman, so he's trying to work his way in there, and he's doing a nice job."

At 132 pounds, junior James Thomas gained six points for the Pirates, pinning his opponent in under 30 seconds.

In the 138-pound division, freshman Cameron Lucero gained six points on a forfeit.

At 145 pounds, senior Tate Hinger



Photo courtesy Stacia Aragon

Junior Connor Aragon sweeps his opponent off his feet during a dual against the Durango Demons on Dec. 20. Aragon, who wrestled in the 195-pound division, got a pin on his opponent and gained six points for the team. The Pirates won 75-0.

gained six points for the Pirates by pinning his opponent.

Sophomore Tay Barker, in the 152-pound division, gained six points due to a forfeit.

At 160 pounds, senior Trevor Bryant pinned his opponent in under two minutes, gaining six more points for the Pirates.

"I thought Trevor Bryant wrestled one of (the Demons') better guys, and he wrestled him extremely well," said Janowsky. "He scored a lot of points in the first period, and then got a pin."

In the 170-pound division, senior

Dalton Lucero won his match in a 11-7 decision, scoring three points for the team.

At 182 pounds, senior Colton Castro pinned his opponent and gained six points for the Pirates.

At 195 pounds, junior Connor Aragon pinned his opponent and gained six more points.

In the 220-pound division, senior Nolan Stretton pinned his opponent and gained another six points for the Pirates.

Janowsky commented that who wrestles in what weight class isn't set in stone, and the roster could see

some changes in January.

"You've got to wait and evaluate them after the break to see where they've ended up," said Janowsky. "We still don't have our final lineup."

On Jan. 5, 2018, the Pirates will host a dual against the Monticello Buckaroos beginning at 5 p.m.

Then, on Jan. 6, the Pirates will host the Rocky Mountain Wrestling Invitational, with action starting at 10 a.m.

Janowsky explained that 20 teams had signed up for the Jan. 6 tournament.

marshall@pagosasun.com

BASKETBALL

Lady Pirates end year with tough loss

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirates will be looking to turn over a new leaf in the new year following the team's loss to Colorado Springs Christian on Dec. 21.

The Lady Pirates fell to the Lions 40-19 in the affair in Colorado Springs, moving to a 5-2 record on the season.

As of Dec. 18, the Lady Pirates were ranked fifth in the state in 3A basketball, while the Lions were ranked third.

"We played very poorly," coach Wes Lewis said.

The Lions took an early lead in the game, scoring seven in the first quarter while limiting the Lady Pirates to three, and expanded that lead to 20-10 by halftime.

The Lions continued to outpace the Lady Pirates in the third, 9-4,

and 11-5 in the fifth, leading the home team to a 40-19 victory.

"I thought our defense was decent. I thought we did a really nice job on their two leading scorers," Lewis said.

One of the Lions' leading scorers, Lewis said, was averaging 28 and was held to 10, while another was averaging 18 and was held to seven.

"They had some other kids step up and hit some shots and make some baskets," he said, "and we didn't do a very good job defending their other players."

Offensively, things didn't go as well for the Lady Pirates.

"We were really, really bad offensively. ... We shot the ball about as poorly from the field as possible," Lewis said. "We'd give up offensive rebounds and we'd turn the basketball over. And, you know, if we're going to play like that against any

good team in the state, we're not going to win. So, we've got to do a lot better job if we want to move on in the playoffs when they get here."

While acknowledging the Colorado Springs Christian defense was good, Lewis said he didn't feel it was good enough to hold the Pirates to 19 points.

"We missed a lot of open opportunities, and it's just a lack of focus, it's a lack of concentration," he said. "We're going to have to change some things."

To begin changing things, the Lady Pirates can partake in voluntary practices Dec. 28-30, and will return to regular practices on Jan. 2, 2018.

"We want to be balanced — inside, out," Lewis said, explaining that the guards need to get the ball into the post better than they did in Colorado Springs.

He added that the team also

Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of your time, because the days are evil. Ephesians 5:15-16

The Greek word for "making the most" of your time carries with it the idea to "buy back" the time. Some versions translate it as "redeem the time". We cannot really "buy back" time after it is lost. To redeem or buy back time is to use it wisely when we have it. The wise use of time involves walking in wisdom and doing God's will. If we are not working to make good use of our time, we can get caught up in evil.

Because every person is given the same amount of time, the way we use each moment is most important. One day our time will end. When we stand before God in judgment, we will be asked whether we used our time in living life for good or evil. Let us strive to make good use of time with our family, our job, our spiritual life and duty, and our leisure activities and recreation.

Dorman Diller, minister



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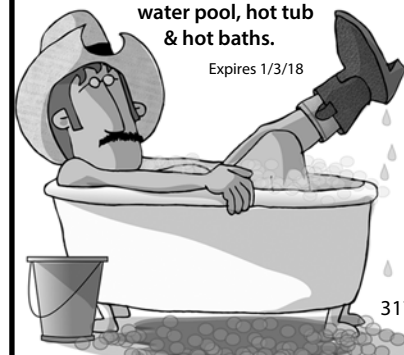
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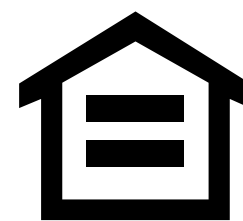
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This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



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Education

Early childhood work group looks to merge with education center

By Marshall Dunham
Staff Writer

On Tuesday, Dec. 19, an update was given pertaining to the Early Care and Education Work Group (ECAEWG) during the joint meeting between the Pagosa Springs Town Council and the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC).

Jan Santopietro, coordinator for the ECAEWG, explained that the group was hoping to get on both the town and the county's next meeting agenda "to request consideration of a merger between our work group and Archuleta County Education Center."

She explained that the main goal of the work group had moved from collecting and distilling data to implementation.

Santopietro explained that there were two key components for the ECAEWG's 2018 action plan.

The first key component is to establish a "voucher system to supplement costs for a childhood preschool program."

The second component is to "open a child care center, targeting 15 to 35 young children ... and preschoolers."

She went on to explain that, due to allocations in both the town and the county's 2018

budgets, the group was moving forward with the child care center.

"Now that the town and county have approved the allocations for our work group, one of the next steps is to secure additional sources of revenue, specifically grants," Santopietro said. "That will help adequately fund our project."

She went on to explain that, in order for the group to apply for grants, the work group would need to function as a 501(c)(3), or nonprofit group.

"To that end, discussions have recently been held between the education center, which is a functioning 501(c)(3) educational organization, and our work group regarding a potential merger between the two groups," Santopietro explained. "Both groups agree the move is a good idea, and have approved the merger."

Santopietro went on to explain that the Archuleta County Education Center was in its intentional phase of contraction, meaning it isn't looking to expand any of its programs.

"Our work group is in its intentional phase of expansion, and the timing is perfect," Santopietro said. "The education center would continue its mission to offer educational programs to residents of Archuleta County, and once again expand its offerings to include a much-needed program, in this case early childhood educa-

tion." She went on to explain that, upon approval of the merger, the work group would "blend into being the Archuleta County Education Center board, and begin functioning as a nonprofit organization.

Members of both the education center and the ECAEWG would populate the board of directors, explained Santopietro.

That new board of directors would then "review and revise the governing documents and mission statement as necessary."

Santopietro said that, if everything went to plan, the Archuleta County Education Center would be the organization that will provide updates to the town and county regarding the early childhood project, as well as request funding from both entities.

She asked if it would be possible for the item to be placed on the agenda for the BoCC meeting that was happening later that afternoon, but BoCC Chairman Steve Wadley explained that agenda items need to be noticed 24 hours in advanced.

Santopietro said that she'd be in touch and attempt to schedule a meeting to get the issue on both the town and county's agendas in the future.

marshall@pagosasin.com



Photo courtesy April Rossetti

Retro Metro Kids, Archuleta School District's Safe Routes to School Coalition, provides opportunities for the youth of Pagosa Springs to walk and bike to school safely. Join them every Wednesday, no matter the weather, to walk to school.

Join Retro Metro Kids on Walk to School Wednesdays

By April Rossetti
Special to The SUN

Remember walking or riding your bike to school?

"American kids don't walk and bike to school much anymore. Even after some modest progress in recent years, only about 20 percent of 5- to 14-year-olds walked or biked to school in 2012, compared to 48 percent in 1969, according to the National Center for Safe Routes to School," Streetsblog USA notes.

Retro Metro Kids (RMK), Archuleta School District's Safe Routes to School Coalition, is trying to provide opportunities for the youth of Pagosa Springs to walk and bike to school safely.

RMK hosts Walk to School Wednesdays for Pagosa Springs Elementary School students each week, beginning at South Park (8th Street) at 7:25 a.m. We walk (or sometimes skip) our way to school, enjoying the fresh air and waking up our bodies. Walk to School Wednesdays takes place throughout the entire school year,

no matter the weather. Participants earn miles toward The Hundred Mile Club and earn an invitation to the end-of-the-year celebration.

Join us Wednesday, Jan. 3, for some fun walking to school.

RMK aims to create safe, convenient and fun opportunities for children to bicycle and walk to and from schools. The goal is to get more kids walking and biking to school, increase kids' safety and reverse the alarming nationwide trend toward childhood obesity and inactivity.

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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.

DUST2 to host second-annual winter fat bike race

By Annie Sewell
Special to The SUN

Get ready for an action-packed bike- and ski-filled winter weekend in Pagosa the weekend of Jan. 6 and 7.

DUST2 is excited to announce that it will be hosting its second-annual winter fat bike race at

Cloman Park in Pagosa Springs on Jan. 6, 2018, followed the next day by the Pagosa Nordic Club's skate-classic ski combo ski-athalon.

The fat bike race course, groomed by the Pagosa Nordic Club, will wind through the beautiful rolling hills and ponderosa forest of Cloman Park, giving racers a

fun 8K or 16K challenge. There will also be a Kids 1K race.

In true DUST2 form, this race offers plenty of fun for all ages and abilities. Entry is \$20 adults, \$10 for racers under 18. All proceeds benefit DUST2, Pagosa's urban single-track trail building and youth cycling team nonprofit.

Races begin at 9 a.m. sharp.

Registration and check in are at 8:15-8:45 a.m. Please arrive early enough to sign in, gear up and warm up.

For more information and to register, visit, www.dustx2.com. Please check the Facebook page and/or website for updates should we choose to postpone the race or change the venue.

RECREATION NEWS AND COMMUNITY CENTER NEWS

Artists invited to join open paint sessions

By Darren Lewis
SUN Columnist

There will be a free open session for artists to bring their own supplies and work on their current projects at the Ross Aragon Community Center on Thursday afternoons from 1 to 4 p.m. beginning Jan. 4, 2018, and

running through Feb. 22.

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

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

Youth basketball

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 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.townofpagosaspings.com.

County's unemployment rate increases to 3 percent

By Marshall Dunham
Staff Writer

The unemployment rate for Archuleta County increased to 3 percent in November, with 6,766 people in the labor force and 201 of those claiming unemployment.

In October, there were 6,885 people in the county's labor force, with 189, or 2.7 percent, claiming unemployment.

The total workforce lost 119 people over the month of November while the number of unemployed people increased by 12, causing the unemployment rate to increase to 3 percent.

In November 2016 there were 6,359 workers in the county, of which 172, or 2.7 percent, were unemployed. November 2017's rate is up .3 percent by comparison.

Looking at this November's employment situation for the rest of the state, San Miguel County had the highest unemployment rate for the month at 6.1 percent, while Phillips County had the lowest rate at 1.5 percent.

According to the survey of households, the unemployment rate for the state increased two-tenths of a percentage point from October to November to 2.9 percent.

The number of people actively

participating in the labor force increased 14,300 over the month to 3,035,100 and the number of people reporting themselves as employed increased 8,700 to 2,948,200.

In comparison, the national unemployment rate was unchanged in November at 4.1 percent.

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

However, nonfarm payroll jobs estimates are based on a survey of business establishments and government agencies, and are intended to measure the number of jobs, not the number of people employed.

The business establishment survey covers about seven times the number of households surveyed

and is therefore considered a more reliable indicator of economic conditions.

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

Over the year, nonfarm payroll jobs increased 45,300, with an increase of 45,000 in the private sector and an increase of 300 in government.

The largest private-sector job gains were in professional and business services, leisure and hospitality, trade, transportation, and utilities.

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

In November, the average workweek for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls was unchanged, staying at 33.3 hours, and average hourly earnings increased from \$26.96 to \$27.85.

marshall@pagosasun.com



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Public Notices

COMBINED NOTICE - PUBLICATION CRS §38-38 FORECLOSURE SALE NO. 2017-421

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 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) 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 ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS TRUSTEE FOR THE RMAC TRUST, SERIES 2016-CTT

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.) 20090372

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. 97010052, COUNTY OF ARCHULETA, STATE OF COLORADO.

Also known by street and number as: 1014 PIEDRA ROAD, PAGOSA SPRINGS, CO 81147-0167. THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCMBERED 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 12/28/2017
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 38-103.1 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.

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Iowa City, Iowa 52244
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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 Weisserman, LLP 1199 Bannock Street,
Denver, CO 80204 (303) 351-3711
Attorney File # 0000008806624

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 12/015
Published November 30, December 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2017 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Estate of CHARLOTTE LABORDE aka CHARLOTTE ANN LABORDE aka ANN REEDY LABORDE aka CHARLOTTE ANN REEDY LABORDE, Deceased
Case No. 2017 PR 030073

All persons having claims against the above-named estate are required to present them to the Personal Representative or to the District Court of Archuleta County, Colorado on or before May 18, 2018, or the claims may be forever barred.

David B. Kirkpatrick
Attorney for Personal Representative
PO Box 2747
Durango, CO 81301

Published December 28, 2017, January 4 and 11, 2018 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

Public notice:
The Town of Pagosa Springs is in the final phase of reviewing its Draft Comprehensive Plan (Plan). All members of the public are invited to review the document and provide comment or ask questions on the Plan. A copy of the Plan is available for review on the Town's website: www.pagosaspings.com, and at Town Hall 551 Hot Springs Boulevard. Reference copies are also available in various locations in the community (Ruby Sisson Library, Ross Aragon Community Center, Senior Center).

The comment period will close on February 21, 2018; however, we encourage your comments before January 31, 2018. You may contact the Planning Department for more information or to provide your comments at 970-264-4151 x221 and cschultz@pagosaspings.co.gov.
Published December 28, 2017, January 4 and 11, 2018 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF LIEN SALE PURSUANT TO STORAGE LIEN

Notice is given that, pursuant to Colorado Revised Statutes Sections 38-21.5-101, et seq. (2014), a public sale will be held on January 5th, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. at 357 Park Ave, Pagosa Springs, Colorado. A list of the unit where property is stored, address of storage, name of occupant, last known address and a brief description of the contents follows. If no market value or if no bids

are received the goods will be otherwise disposed of. #33 - 357 Park Ave, Pagosa Springs, Colorado - John Rivera, PO Box 3965, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

-- Furniture, tools, toys, exercise equipment, various boxes and totes.
Published December 28, 2017 and January 4, 2018 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

The Town of Pagosa Springs is now accepting bid proposals for construction services for the stabilization of the Historic Rumbaugh Creek Bridge. The Invitation to Bid (ITB) packet is available upon request. Requests for ITB packets may be requested by emailing jdickhoff@pagosaspings.co.gov or calling 970-264-4151 x225. This project has an expedited schedule, so all interested parties are encouraged to request a ITB packet asap.
Published December 28, 2017 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

VENDOR NAME	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
AAA PROPANE, INC	R&B PROPANE	6.24
AFLAC	INS PREMIUMS	1,817.72
AGRITEX FENCE & RANCH SUPP	FAIR FENCE RENTAL	2,112.50
AIRGAS USA, LLC	FLEET CYLINDER RENT	319.39
ALL CLEAN	COMM MTG RM/ADMIN CARPET CLEAN	555.00
ALPINE BANK	EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTIONS	600.00
ALPINE PORTABLE TOILETS	CLOMAN PARK NOV RENTAL/SVCS	110.00
ALSCO	R&B/FLEET/B&G UNIFORMS	517.66
AMEC FOSTER WHEELER ENVIRO	HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN	6,327.79
ANNIE GIAN	CLERK MILEAGE POST OFFICE/BANK	37.40
ANTON COLLINS MITCHELL LLP	2016 AUDIT SVCS FINAL BILL	46,625.00
ARCH CO SHERIFF'S DEPT PC	ACSO OFC SUPP/POSTAGE/MISC	98.48
ARCHULETA COUNTY 4-H	LIVESTOCK TAGS & TATTOOS	3,168.68
ARCHULETA COUNTY VCTM ASST	DHS 3RD QTR VICTIM CONTRACT	7,100.00
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BUCKSKIN TOWING & REPAIR	FLEET TOWING CHARGE	170.00
CAE4-HA	CAE4-H DUES-JACOBSON	95.00
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CANDACE WOLFE	REIMB CONF FEE-COSAR GRANT	100.00
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CARL NEVITT	OCT MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT	82.91
CAROLINA SOFTWARE	Q4 2017 WASTEWORKS SOFTWARE	250.00
CARQUEST	FLEET PARTS	3,342.88
CASS ELECTRIC	AIRPORT ELECTRIC REPAIR	912.00

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COUNTY CLERK PETTY CASH	911.44	
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CROSSFIRE, LLC	288,364.68	
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FOUR STATES TIRE AND SVC	4,230.84	
FREDRICKZINK & ASSOCIATES	2,508.12	
G&I SANITATION	190.00	
GMCO CORPORATION	16,065.74	
GREG WYNN	147.08	
GREYSTONE ABBOTT	300.00	
HEIDI MARTINEZ	80.00	
HONNEN EQUIPMENT	644.31	
HUMANE SOCIETY OF PAGOSA	4,166.67	
ID NETWORKS, INC	7,250.00	
INLAND KENWORTH, INC	8,025.82	
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	131,647.80	
INTERSTATE BATTERIES	467.80	
JAMES C NELSON	4,425.00	
JANIS L. SMITH	100.00	
JASON HIBBERT	300.00	
JEANIE PIONKE	32.74	
JIM BOODH	300.24	
JITA CONTRACTING, INC	103,377.66	
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KIMBERLY DOMINGO	76.50	
LA FLATA COUNTY DHS	400.00	
LA PLATA COUNTY SHERIFF	30,829.54	
LA PLATA COUNTY TREASURER	3RD QUARTER 2017 DA FEES	64,727.00
LA PLATA FAMILY CENTERS	DHS ACS SEPT CONTRACT	2,440.69
LA QUANTA INN #630	OWA TRAVEL	148.00
LABCORP	DHS CHILD SUPPORT TESTING	114.00
LACY BROWN	DHS CARNIVAL SUPPLIES	125.01
LEDS, LLC	ELECTIONS 2017 TABOR/POSTAGE	2,947.48
LEGAL SHIELD	INS PREMIUMS	130.58
LET ER RIP ALTERATIONS	ACSO UNIFORM ALTERATIONS	153.00
LEXISNEXIS RISK SOLUTIONS	TREASURER/SHERIFF SEPT/OCT SUB	200.00
LIL RASCALS CONCRETE PUMP	R&B CONCRETE	500.00
LOREN FOSTER	W&P-REFUND OVER PAYMENT	16.67
LPEA	OCTOBER COUNTY ELECTRIC	3,645.78
MARCIA LEA JURY	CORONER ON CALL 10/17	300.00
MATTHEW DODSON	DHS CW CONFERENCE PER DIEM	390.22
MICHAEL F. ARNALL, M.D.,	CORONER AUGUST & SEPTEMBER	7,800.00
MICHAEL SCHROEDER	REIMB. R&B SUPPLIES	1.25
MICHAEL WHITING	TRAVEL PER DIEM CCI CONF	356.56
MIKE ALLEY	VOLUNTEER MILEAGE REIMB.	176.56
MISTI SMYTH	FAIR LIVESTOCK BBQ SUPPLIES	238.70
MITCHELL & COMPANY, LLC	IT/PHONE SYSTEM/SOFTWARE FEES	17,126.65
MOBILE RADIO COMM SERVICE		

'What can I do?': Working together to prevent suicide

By Claire Ninde
Special to The SUN

As area communities continue to struggle with an ever-increasing rate of suicide, the question of "why?" is the resounding response for many of us each time this tragedy occurs.

When a youth dies by suicide, our questioning becomes more desperate, and the need for an answer feels more urgent. Our human nature seeks a singular solution to this question, one thing to point to that can become the focus of our response. However, suicide is complicated and there isn't one reason to explain why someone, especially a youth, would choose this path.

Suicide is the second leading cause of death among persons aged 10-14, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention estimates that 12 people harm themselves for every reported death by suicide.

The Jason Foundation reports that more teenagers and young adults die from suicide than from cancer, heart disease, AIDS, birth defects, stroke, pneumonia, influenza and chronic lung disease, combined.

Regional Healthy Kids Colorado Survey responses from high schoolers in La Plata, Archuleta, San Juan, Dolores and Montezuma counties reveal similarly alarming data.

Approximately 14 percent of the students surveyed responded that they had made a plan about how they would attempt suicide in the previous 12 months. This percentage translates into 213 students.

In attempting to get to the "why" of these distressing statistics, some factors have been identified that at least help us better understand this phenomenon.

According to the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI),

research has found that about 90 percent of individuals who die by suicide experience mental illness.

The American Psychological Association defines mental illness as all diagnosable mental disorders — health conditions involving significant changes in thinking, emotion and/or behavior, as well as distress and/or problems functioning in social, work or family activities. According to NAMI, one in five youth ages 13-18 live with a mental health condition.

Jean Twenge, a professor at San Diego State University, has spent decades studying generational differences and reports that in the five years between 2010 and 2015, the number of U.S. teens who felt useless and joyless — classic symptoms of depression — surged 33 percent in large national surveys. Teen suicide attempts increased 23 percent. Additionally, the number of 13- to 18-year-olds who committed suicide jumped 31 percent.

Twenge notes that the increase in depression and suicide among teens is across the board, with teens from all socioeconomic backgrounds, from all races and ethnicities and from every region of the country.

In her research to answer the "why" to these troubling statistics, Twenge identified a major change in teens lives compared to previous generations: the use of smartphones. Conversely, today's teens are spending much less time interacting with friends in person.

Research indicates that socializing and being around friends and family members creates dopamine, affecting the brain's neurotransmitters by increasing self-confidence, happiness and focus. Isolation contributes to depression. Sadly, even when teens get together, they are often not interacting, but completely absorbed with their phones or

tablets. Feeling isolated is one of the risk factors for suicide. Twenge found that, overall, suicide risk factors rose significantly after two or more hours a day of time online.

Additionally, Twenge also found that teens who spend more time on their phones tend to get less sleep — a major risk factor for depression.

Twenge gives advice for a happy adolescence based on her research: "Put down the phone, turn off the laptop, and do something — anything — that does not involve a screen."

Another factor that may contribute to the increased rate of teen suicide is the presence of adverse childhood experiences, or ACEs. ACEs are stressful or traumatic events that occur in childhood that include physical and emotional abuse, household mental illness, neglect, witnessing domestic violence, and others.

ACEs are strongly related to the development of a wide range of physical and mental health problems throughout a person's lifespan including an increased risk of depression and suicide.

ACEs are identified through screening, and individuals are given a score based on how many ACEs they have experienced.

According to the CDC, experiencing even one ACE increases the risk of attempted suicide up to five times, and children and adolescents with an ACE score of seven or more have a 51-fold increased risk of suicide attempts.

There can be many causes of depression and suicide including a family history of mental illness, the presence of ACEs, too much screen time, bullying and trauma. Studies have even indicated that living at high altitude may play a role.

Given what we know about youth suicide, there are some things that can be done in response. San Juan Basin Public Health (SJBPH) and a wide spectrum of organizations and individ-

uals realize the dire need for action on this issue and are working in a number of ways to reduce suicide in the region.

After close to 800 individuals attended the Suicide Prevention Community Summit in Durango, SJBPH initiated two immediate response efforts, launching the Let's Talk campaign encouraging supportive communication with people struggling with mental health issues and providing Brief Suicide Intervention Trainings. As part of a longer-term process, SJBPH is forming community work groups to address various aspects of suicide prevention and response. In these work groups the community-based actions will be identified and implemented by those agencies and individuals representing many sectors of the community.

In response to those asking, "What can I do?" SJBPH believes that suicide prevention is everyone's obligation. We encourage all community members to familiarize themselves with the Let's Talk Campaign and to spread the word about ways to start the conversation around mental health. Also, any individual or organization can receive the Brief Suicide Intervention Training — just call SJBPH to see when the next session is offered.

Additionally, the agency will be looking for individuals and organizations to get involved in the community-based suicide prevention process through the work groups being formed. Call Gordon South at SJBPH, 335-2091, for more information.

Most importantly, anyone can reach out to a friend, family member or stranger who appears to be struggling. If there is one thing that is apparent, it is that connection is the key. Reach out, connect, save a life.

See SJBPH's website for more information on suicide prevention: sjbpublichealth.org/sim/.

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Saddle bronc rider with area ties finishes second in the world

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

A Wyoming saddle bronc rider with family ties to Pagosa Country finished second in the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association's world standings on Dec. 16.

Brody Cress, 21, is the son of Lannette and Tommy Cress, formerly from Archuleta County and now living in Hillsdale, Wyo., and grandson of Betty Shahan, of Chromo.

Brody Cress scored 86 points on Frontier Rodeo's Delta Force, which placed him at fourth in the 10th and final round at the National Finals Rodeo, which took place in Las Vegas.

According to Wyosports.net, Brody Cress earned \$11,000 for that

ride, and also received 841.5 points on 10 rides which also put Brody Cress on top of the National Finals Rodeo's aggregate standings.

By being atop of the aggregate standings, Brody Cress earned an additional \$67,286, Wyosports.net mentioned.

Brody Cress has finished the season with more than \$262,286 in earnings, Wyosports.net added.

Brody Cress is currently living in Stephenville, Texas, and attending college at Tarleton State University. He graduated while at the National Finals Rodeo with his bachelor's in agriculture business and will start his master's in agriculture and consumer science next month.

chris@pagosasun.com

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Saturday-Sunday (beginning Jan. 1) from					
Wilderness Journeys	Alpen Haus	Quality Inn	Ski & Bow Rack	Wolf Creek	
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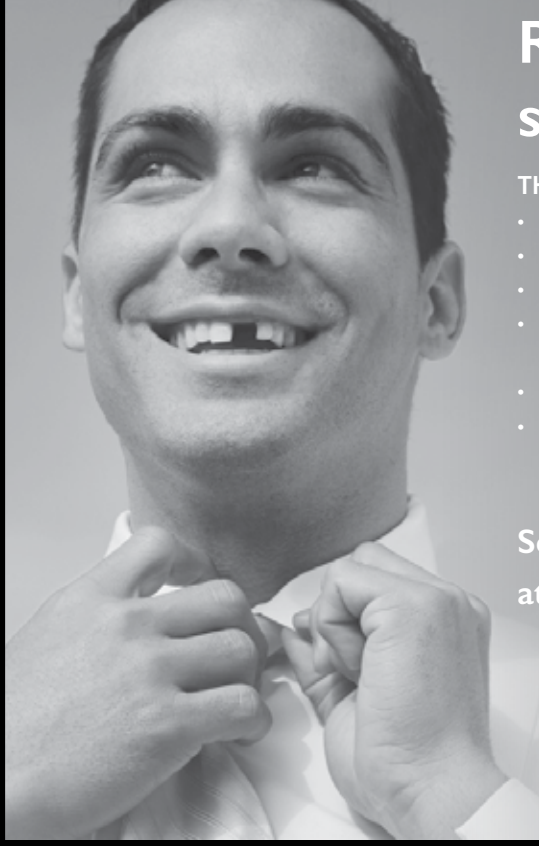
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State Patrol cadet posthumously awarded with purple heart

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

The Colorado State Patrol cadet trooper who was killed on May 23, 2015, was posthumously honored on Dec. 15 of this year with the Military Order of the Purple Heart.



Taylor Thyfault

Taylor Thyfault was also posthumously made a trooper at the ceremony.

Thyfault, 21, was investigating a separate crash with fellow trooper Clinton Rushing when a high speed chase began to head their way.

According to a USA Today story on the incident, both Thyfault and Rushing attempted to use "stop sticks" in order to puncture the suspect's tires.

The suspect of the high speed

chase then crashed into the unrelated accident, hitting both Thyfault and Rushing.

While Rushing was critically injured, Thyfault died at the scene.

According to reports, Thyfault yelled a warning to a tow truck driver on scene, a warning the tow truck driver believes saved his life.

Thyfault was set to be a new trooper in Pagosa Springs and Archuleta County following his training.

The suspect driving the car, Christopher Gebers was sentenced to life in prison plus an additional 342 years on Nov. 24, 2016, according to a Denver Post article.

At a ceremony on Dec. 15, Thyfault's mother, Carole Adler, accepted the Military Order of the Purple Heart on behalf of her son.

According to an article published in the Fort Collins Coloradoan, the honor is awarded to any officer or trooper who is injured or killed while on duty.

The ribbon would have been pinned to Thyfault's uniform had he survived.

chris@pagosasun.com

County approves equipment-sharing agreements with town

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The relationship between Archuleta County and the Town of Pagosa Springs was further solidified on Dec. 19, with the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) approving two intergovernmental agreements (IGAs) that formalize current practice regarding the sharing of equipment between the two entities.

Archuleta County Public Works Director Susan Goebel-Canning explained that, prior to the IGAs, the agreements had been very informal, with the IGAs helping to remove some liability from the county.

The two agreements are reciprocal agreements, with one stating that Archuleta County agrees to

allow the town temporary use and possession of trucks and mobile equipment on an as-needed basis, free of charge, while the other states that the town allows the county to do the same.

Both agreements state that the borrowing party agrees to appropriately maintain and repair equipment while in their possession, and agrees that all operators are competent and possess all required operation licenses and/or certifications.

At its Dec. 5 meeting, the Pagosa Springs Town Council approved the IGA concerning the town's use of county equipment.

Documentation used at that meeting notes, "In the past, the occasional borrowing of equipment between the town and county has

been done through verbal agreement. The County's insurer requested that the two entities formalize the sharing of equipment through an intergovernmental agreement."

The town council is anticipated to consider the reciprocal agreement at its Jan. 18 regular meeting, Town Manager Andrea Phillips said Wednesday.

At the same Dec. 19 meeting, the BoCC:

- Recognized Barbara Hendricks for her 15 years of service to the Archuleta County Department of Human Services prior to her retirement.

- Granted extensions to the Western Heritage Events Center for a variance and a conditional use permit for its project to construct a large indoor covered arena.

The one-year extension, agenda documentation notes, is to allow time for the nonprofit "to conduct outreach and fund-raising for the project."

- Approved a resolution supporting the reauthorization of the Colorado Lottery Division by the Colorado General Assembly.

According to agenda documentation, when Colorado voters approved a state lottery in 1980, the General Assembly created a Lottery Division within the state's Department of Revenue to administer that program.

"The Lottery Division is set to expire in 2024 unless extended by the General Assembly, which will consider the extension during the 2018 session," the agenda notes.

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Man trespasses, breaks window to father's house

By Marshall Dunham
Staff Writer

The Archuleta County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) arrested a man on Dec. 24 after he trespassed on his father's property and used a rock to break a window in his father's residence.

Carl Matthews Jr., 32, was arrested on charges of criminal mischief and second-degree criminal

trespass.

According to ACSO Undersheriff Tonya Hamilton, the reporting party was Carl Matthews Sr., who is the father of the suspect.

Hamilton explained that a call came in reporting an incident at 12:58 a.m. on Dec. 24.

She added that the incident occurred in Aspen Springs.

"Matthews Sr. reported he was asleep in his residence when he

heard someone attempting to open the front door," Hamilton explained. "He reported that the door was locked, and alleged that Matthews Jr. walked around the residence and broke a window to Matthews Sr.'s bedroom."

Matthews Sr. explained to deputies that there had been an incident several hours before, with deputies responding to that disturbance.

During the course of that distur-

bance, Matthews Jr. was told not to return to the residence by deputies.

"Because of the broken window and returning to a location after having been told not to come back, Matthews Jr. was arrested that evening for trespassing and criminal mischief," Hamilton said.

She added it was unclear why Matthews Jr. returned to the residence.

marshall@pagosasun.com

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 — Missing property, Pinon Causeway.

Dec. 11 — Theft, Haley Place.

Dec. 12 — Warrant arrest, County Road 335.

Dec. 12 — Agency assist, Parelli Way.

Dec. 12 — Information only, Holiday Drive.

Dec. 13 — Violation of restraining order, Alpine Drive.

Dec. 13 — Open burning in unincorporated Archuleta County, Doc Adams Road.

Dec. 15 — Theft, criminal mischief, U.S. 160.

Dec. 15 — Animals/nuisance, Pompa Drive.

Dec. 15 — Criminal mischief, harassment-strikes/shoves/kicks, throwing missiles at vehicles, Indian Land Road.

Dec. 16 — Unlawful ownership of vicious dog, Carino Place.

Dec. 17 — Information only, South Pagosa Boulevard.

Dec. 17 — Violation of restraining order, Pines Club Place.

Dec. 17 — Information only, River Run Drive.

Dec. 18 — Agency assist, U.S. 160.

Dec. 18 — Warrant arrest, County Road 600.

Dec. 18 — Second-degree burglary, theft, Colo. 151.

Dec. 19 — Warrant arrest, Tom's Place.

Dec. 20 — Drove vehicle without insurance, expired license plates, San Juan Street.

Dec. 21 — Improper registration-registration rescinded, canceled, or issued for another, drove vehicle when license suspended, Eagle Drive.

Dec. 21 — Warrant arrest, North 6th Street.

Dec. 21 — Agency assist, U.S. 160.

Dec. 21 — Agency assist, Fawn Court.

Dec. 21 — Information only, Homestead Drive.

Dec. 22 — Animals/nuisance, Carino Place.

Dec. 23 — Domestic violence, harassment-strikes/shoves/kicks, Archuleta

County.

Dec. 24 — Criminal mischief, second-degree criminal trespass, Spruce Circle.

Dec. 24 — Agency assist, County Road 200.

Town of Pagosa Springs Police Department

Dec. 18 — Careless driving/hit and run, U.S. 160.

Dec. 19 — Trespass warning, Aspen Village Drive.

Dec. 20 — Trespass warning, Hot Springs Boulevard.

Dec. 24 — Traffic/weaving, U.S. 160.

Pagosa Springs Municipal Court: Judge Diane E. Knutson

Dec. 13 — Kirk Chipps, unsafe backing, two points, fines and costs — \$72.

Dec. 13 — Mathew Brown, careless driving, failed to notify police of an accident, left scene without providing required information, 28 points, fines and costs — \$602.

Dec. 13 — Jeremy Lister, shoplifting, six months unsupervised probation, fines and costs — \$1,795.97 (\$1,650 suspended).

Dec. 13 — Joey McGaugh-Allen, harassment, six months supervised probation, 50 hours community service, fines and costs — \$465 (\$50 suspended).

Dec. 14 — Robert Shorey, careless driving, four points, fines and costs — \$202.

Dec. 14 — Sarah Combs, failure to appear, 30 days jail with costs of incarceration (suspended).

Dec. 14 — Leeann Hersom, shoplifting, 12 months unsupervised probation, fines and costs — \$323.26.

Dec. 14 — Anthony Lucero, failure to appear, fines and costs — \$140.

Archuleta County Court: Judge Justin P. Fay

Dec. 14 — Gabriel August Medlin, driving under the influence, 90 days jail suspended imposition, 56 hours community service, two years probation, fines and costs — \$2,588.50.

Dec. 14 — Nicholas David Tesanovich, violation P/O-civil, 12 months probation, fines and costs — \$864.50.

Dec. 14 — Mario B. Dedios, driving while ability impaired, 15 days jail suspended imposition, 24 hours community service, 12 months probation, fines and costs — \$803.55.

6th Judicial District Court: Judge Jeffrey R. Wilson

No report.

ACSO discusses overdoses and getting help

By Marshall Dunham
Staff Writer

It's no question that the United States and Archuleta County has a problem with illicit substance use and abuse.

Documentation from the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) states that, in 2015, there were 33,091 deaths which were the result of opioid overdoses alone, and, of those deaths, 9,580 were caused by synthetic opioids.

In an interview with SUN staff, Archuleta County Undersheriff Tonya Hamilton explained that the community is seeing a large amount of overdoses in the area.

During the interview, Hamilton talked of what substances resulted in overdoses the most, how to report a suspected overdose, as well as the dangers fentanyl is posing to the nation.

Hamilton began by stating that the majority of overdoses typically involve heroin, methamphetamine and/or alcohol.

She added that a lot of overdoses aren't strictly from one substance, but rather a combination of several.

"It's what we call dual addiction, where a person is addicted to alcohol and drugs, and it's usually multiple kinds of drugs," said Hamilton. "Rarely do we see just one single source."

Hamilton explained that identifying the amount of overdoses the ACSO responds to is tricky, as incidents aren't labeled as "overdoses" through dispatch.

Instead, incidents that involve overdoses are usually labeled either as a medical case, a "threats" case or a death case.

Hamilton added that while some overdoses are accidental, many are intentional.

"We have a high suicide rate in this town," commented Hamilton. She added that a person can't get in trouble for reporting an overdose.

"We wouldn't do anything. If

they don't call, that person might die. If they do die, we find out that person didn't render aid, that's negligence," said Hamilton.

Fentanyl and Narcan

"Drug users need to be aware of fentanyl. It's becoming a huge problem," said Hamilton, later adding that the ACSO was going to start carrying naloxone, also known as Narcan.

Narcan is a drug that can be used to reverse an opioid overdose.

"Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid currently listed as a schedule II prescription drug that mimics the effects of morphine in the human body, but has potency 50-100 times that of morphine," reads a fentanyl briefing guide from the DEA. "Due to the high potency and availability of fentanyl, both transnational and domestic criminal organizations are increasingly utilizing these dangerous synthetic opioids as an adulterant in heroin and other controlled substances."

Hamilton explained that fentanyl is not only a concern for drug users, but for law enforcement officers, as well.

"Fentanyl-related substances are designed to be absorbed into the body by all means, including injection, oral ingestion, contact with mucous membranes, inhalation, and via transdermal transmission," reads the DEA report. "As such, accidental exposure by first responders is a real danger."

Hamilton explained that even super small amounts of fentanyl can be deadly, which is a huge concern for law enforcement.

"As a matter of reference it has been determined that it would only take 2-3 milligrams of fentanyl to induce respiratory depression, arrest and possibly death," reads the DEA report. "When visually compared, 2 to 3 milligrams of fentanyl is about the same as five to seven individual grains of table salt."

If an officer in Archuleta County

were accidentally exposed to fentanyl, Narcan would be able to reverse the effects of the fentanyl.

Hamilton pointed out that Narcan is mainly for opioid overdose, and would not work for someone overdosing on a stimulant, such as methamphetamine.

"However, if we administer it when somebody is overdosing on anything else, it's not going to hurt them," said Hamilton.

She added that she anticipated the ACSO getting Narcan sometime in 2018 and that it would be carried by all patrol and transport units.

"I am in the process of working with the state and our local EMS Director Jason Webb to get Narcan for all of our patrol deputies, our transport officers and ... for when we have people in our custody," Hamilton said.

Getting help

She went on to explain that, if someone suspects a friend or loved one of an overdose, the most important thing they can do is call 911 as quickly as possible.

"In a calm and concise manner, explain to the dispatcher what you're witnessing in terms of the person that's overdosing," explained Hamilton. "Are they sweating? Are they conscious? Are they seizing? What are their complaints, if they're

coherent enough to answer those questions?"

She added that it's important for reporting parties to be a good witness and stay on the phone with dispatch.

"What did that person take, and when did they take it? It's not a time to be deceptive and be afraid of getting in trouble," said Hamilton. "Now, our main concern is to save a life."

She again emphasized the importance of staying on the line with dispatch, explaining that, if the victim becomes unconscious, dispatch can explain to the caller what to do next.

"We have wonderful Alcoholics Anonymous meetings and Narcotics Anonymous meetings. There's help locally for people," said Hamilton. "Those two programs are the most successful drug and alcohol addiction programs for recovery. There's a lot of good treatment centers around, too, but this is free, and this is local. You can go as often as you want."

Concluded Hamilton, "There is help locally. Resources are provided for people who are interested in taking that step to recovery. It's a hard life to live, and if you continue doing it, you're playing Russian roulette, especially with fentanyl coming into play."

marshall@pagosasun.com

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— Fran Scheiber-Custer



Fran Scheiber-Custer, PA, has joined the care team at Archuleta Integrated Healthcare to provide primary care, along with Kristi Talamante, MA; Dr. Larry Slaughter, MD; and Calvin Newsome, FNP.

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preview

ARTS & LIFE



Jessica Peterson and Paul Roberts to perform Celtic and Renaissance music Jan. 5

By Jessica Peterson
Special to The PREVIEW

Jessica Peterson and Paul Roberts will perform Celtic and Renaissance music at the Pagosa Lakes Clubhouse on Jan. 5, 2018, at noon. The concert is free and open to the public.

Peterson will play flute, Native American flute, ocarina and drum. Roberts will play cello banjo, cittern, guitar, five-string banjo and drum. The program includes several colorful medleys that bring to life the ancient and powerful music of Ireland, Scotland, England and Brittany.

Setting tunes in a medley is not difficult. The tunes should have a little something to do with each other, of course, and key is a consideration. Mood and tempo can either match or contrast. It's fun to do, and usually everything is satisfactory. Every once in a while, though, a pairing of tunes turns out to be greater than expected. This is certainly the case with the pairing of the jaunty English tune "Over the Hills and Far Away" and the stirring Irish "Mo Ghile Mear." These tunes are more than musically compatible; it turns out they share a long and colorful history.

Most people are familiar with the English nursery song "Tom, Tom the Piper's Son," in which Tom steals food, is punished and runs off crying. Who would think this simple tune would grow up to become beautiful music as well as a recruiting ad, a poignant lament, a rebellious challenge and a coded political message?

As the song evolved, Tom (still a piper's son) was quickly promoted from thief to piper. Despite having learned to play in his youth, he knows only one tune: "Over the Hills and Far Away." This important phrase, and the music itself, form the backbone of the song as it grows and changes.

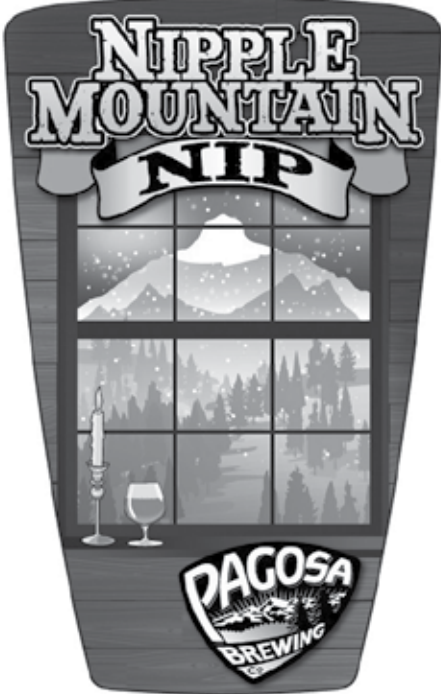
The earliest instance I know of the melody "Over the Hills and Far Away" being written down is in an English fiddler's manuscript that dates from the late 1600s, but whether the music is originally Scottish or English is unclear. An old Scots version has it written as a song and includes the phrase, "the wind has blown my plaid away." These words reappear in an interesting context a half-century later.

During the Napoleonic Wars, the song was altered for recruiting purposes and used to muster volunteers in the war against France. It became a great favorite

■ See Music on next page

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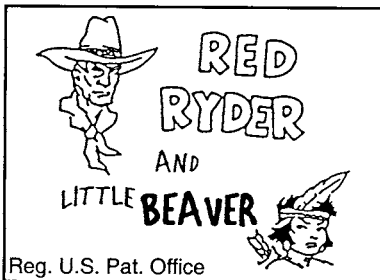
Friday
 Borde Rio: Bo Depena, 6 p.m.

Saturday
 Borde Rio: Brooks-i and the Refried Confusion, 6 p.m.
 Coyote Moon: Karaoke with Lisa Saunders, 9 p.m.

Sunday
 Rez Hill Grill: New Year's Eve DJ Dance Party, 9 p.m.

Wednesday
 Shooters and Shenanigans: Karaoke with Lisa Saunders, 7 p.m.

RED RYDER AND LITTLE BEAVER



Reg. U.S. Pat. Office

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

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By Fred Harman



ME SEE STAGE BOX! HIM MUST BE BANDIT! BETTER GO TELL MISTER LANG, PRONTO!

RED RYDER! YOU JUST IN TIME! ME SEE BANDIT GO IN BACK DOOR AT DARROW'S!

THANKS, LITTLE BEAVER... DARROW IS GONNA BE IN FOR A SURPRISE!

...THEN THIS DAME TAKES A SHOT AT ME! I GOT AWAY WITH THE GOLD, THOUGH!

GOOD WORK, RUSTY! NOW WE'D BETTER GET HIM AWAY FROM HERE, PRONTO!

RED HARMAN 3-9

© 1950 McNaught Syndicate, Inc.

Music

■ **continued from previous page** of soldiers from all over the British Isles, no matter the side they served. With a few changes, this version was recently popularized by the British television series “Sharpe.”

Even before “Over the Hills and Far Away” was used to recruit troops, it became political. Here’s how: In 18th-century Ireland and Scotland, the old Gaelic order was collapsing under English rule. The Roman Catholic King James II, bucking the Anglican establishment, strove for religious freedom for his subjects, but was exiled overseas. The words were modified to mourn his departure, and “over the hills and far away” became “over the seas and far away.”

Hope returned with James II’s grandson, Prince Charles Stuart, and Gaels fought to gain possession of the throne of Britain for their hero. These supporters of Bonnie Prince Charlie, as he was later known, were mainly from Ireland and the Scottish Highlands, but many were also found in northern England and Wales. Called Jacobites, they pinned their hopes on their Stuart Prince, hoping for relief from religious persecution and the outlawing of their cultural practices.

It was not to be. With hundreds of thousands of lives lost, the cause was defeated and Bonnie Prince Charlie made his legendary escape — you guessed it — over the seas.

Our humble melody continued as the vehicle of expression for the despairing Gaels. Seven versions of it can be found in published manuscripts of Jacobite songs. An early, graphic verse — “And cruel England ... doth hunt and cry for Scottish blood, to hack, and head, and hang, and draw” — shows how far it evolved from Tom’s peccadillo.

In an odd pair of incarnations of the song, defeated Jacobites lambast the British powers that be, prompting a verse-for-verse rebuttal by the Whigs. The Jacobite verse, “The loyal clans in honor’s cause ... came to retrieve our an-

cient laws,” was answered by the Whig response, “The rebel clans, in search of prey, came o’er the hills and far away.” Note the return from “over the seas” to “over the hills.”

A tragic version of the song tells the tale of the loss of a way of life in the Scottish Highlands. Here the old Scots verse, “the wind has blown my plaid away,” comes into play. Though the original meaning of the phrase is open to interpretation (and no more said about that), there’s no doubt how it is meant here.

In 1746, British Parliament passed The Act for Abolition and Proscription of the Highland Dress, also known as “The Disclotting Act.” It was a follow-up to the earlier “Disarming Act.” According to the “Disclotting Act,” any man or boy in Scotland wearing plaid, a kilt or other items of traditional Highland dress would be imprisoned without bail for six months. The second offense would earn a seven-year exile to one of England’s penal colonies, blithely referred to in the act as “His Majesty’s plantations beyond the seas.” In this version, the melody carried words grieving not only the loss of tartan plaid but of home, land and other possessions. Yet, hope was still alive. The wind (English rule) may have left the singer bare, blowing even the bonnet off his head, but there’s something hidden in the Highland hills: his broadsword.

Two more Jacobite-inspired variations of the song exist, one full of rebellion and the other, a later version called “The Aged Chieftain’s Lament,” full of despair. “Where is my clan?” It asks. “Where is my kin? They burnt my home on a bonny summer’s eve, and it’s woe with me when the sun goes down.” Starting with a simple phrase and melody, “Over the Hills and Far Away” developed great depth of political and cultural meaning along the way.

The final version that concerns us is the beautiful and cryptic song, “Mo Ghile Mear,” written by Irish poet Seán Mac Dhomhnaill.

“Mo Ghile Mear” is related to our

family of songs by its melody, which is similar, and by the familiar line (this time translated from the Gaelic), “Over the hills and far away.” Another Jacobite song, it hauntingly evokes the despair among the Gaels at the defeat of Bonnie Prince Charlie. At first glance it reads like any other love song. There was a reason for this. For the poet to express the true sentiments coded into it would have been considered treason.

■ **See Music on next page**

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Free old-time music concert and dance party Jan. 17

By **Carla Roberts**
Special to The PREVIEW

Start the new year with a Wild West Party featuring the Six Dollar String Band from Durango on Jan. 17 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the PLPOA Clubhouse in Pagosa Springs.

The Six Dollar String Band captures the exuberant, communal and unifying spirit inherent in old-time music. In their hometown — the mountainous and musically diverse micropolitan of Durango — they are widely regarded for their tight, driving and passionate sound.

The Six Dollar String Band is: Robin Davis, guitar; Jimi Giles, bass; Brendan Shafer, banjo; and Tony Holmquist, fiddle.

This family-friendly Wild West Party includes demonstrations of modern western square dance with caller Carla Roberts of the Wild West Squares, refreshments and a community “barn” dance with live music for anyone who would like to try very simple and fun square dance activities. No partner is necessary.

Jan. 17 is also the kick-off night for a new 2018 square dance class. Come and meet the students and teaching “angels” of the Wild West Squares who are part of an outstanding group of square dancers



Photo courtesy Tony Holmquist

The Six Dollar String Band will be helping to usher in the new year at a Jan. 17 Wild West Party at the PLPOA Clubhouse.

enjoying the camaraderie of learning and laughing together while dancing.

If you are interested in joining, new classes will continue enrollment through January of 2018. Call 903-6478 to register by phone or register in person at the Wild West Party on Jan. 17.

With live old-time music,

square dance demos and a community barn dance or general ruckus, the Wild West Party on Jan. 17 is a free evening of entertainment for the whole family to attend. The PLPOA Clubhouse is located at 230 Port Ave. in Pagosa Springs. Doors open at 6 p.m. For more information, call Roberts at 903-6478.

Music

■ continued from previous page

Those in the know realized that what appeared to be just another lovelorn lass was in fact Éire, goddess (and personification) of Ireland, singing of the exile of Bonnie Prince Charlie. Once a fair young maid, she has grown old and gray awaiting her bright hero's return. But her gallant darling is long gone, never to return. He is over the hills and far away.

Chances are, you will recognize both of these tunes. Both the lively “Over the Hills and Far Away” and the haunting “Mo Ghile Mear” have been performed and recorded of-

ten in the last decades.

Please join us at the Pagosa Lakes Clubhouse on Jan. 5 at noon for some great Celtic and Renaissance music.

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Hand-drumming class plunging into the new year with vigor

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, Jan. 2, 2018, 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.

Closing the year with 11 well-attended and enthusiastic sessions, the Pagosa drumming class plunges into the new year with vigor. Ranging in experience from complete novices to advanced players, participants are joining together in a joyful sense of community.

"I decided to join the hand drumming group, inspired by personal contact with Paul and by reading his articles in The SUN," said Jeff Heintzleman. "I enjoy how such a diverse group of people synchronizes together, feeling as if I am helping at times, being helped at other times, being part of a shared experience, with a feeling of harmony. That's what brought me back to the group the second and third time, and will continue to draw me into the group in the future."

Heintzleman began playing drum in the sixth grade, when he and several of his classmates were taught basic rhythmic patterns using drum sticks on practice pads. The next year, he joined the middle school band program, in which he played snare drum.

"It was a great experience to

work with other musicians who had varying levels of competency," he said. "For me, being part of an ensemble was a major life lesson about learning patience and working together with others. I enjoyed the inclusive feeling and the sense of harmony among the musicians through the music we were creating together."

During his high school years, Heintzleman's drumming took a quantum leap when he became the protégé of Chris Stovall, a professional percussionist.

"Chris inspired my personal growth through his abilities as a teacher and a player," said Heintzleman. "Through this opportunity, my learning curve quickly took a big swing upwards. As my abilities improved, my mentor opened doors for me to perform, professionally."

Continuing to participate in school concert and marching bands, Heintzleman began performing with other groups.

"My first professional music job was accompanying students for a guitar recital when I was 15," he said.

Throughout his high school years, Heintzleman played professionally in a wide variety of musical performances, including with the Omaha Symphony, jazz ensembles and rock bands. He also had the job of judging percussion students at local and regional music competitions, playing for the operetta HMS Pinafore, in jazz bands (in which the other members were school band directors), and with professional musicians performing jazz and big band music in Omaha's "Summer Music in the Park Series," and with polka bands and with various rock bands.

Later, Heintzleman studied electronics and began a career in audio engineering while continuing to performing with The Acorns,

a rock band based in the Midwest. Moving to Pagosa Springs in 2000, he has performed with many musicians and is a member of the community band.

He said, "Not only do I enjoy playing with the community band, I also enjoy other musical collaborations with some of the band members." He has also performed in concert with other musicians in Pagosa.

Since moving to Pagosa, Heintzleman's expertise as an audio engineer has served as the backbone of a myriad of concert and theatrical productions. Meanwhile, his interests in percussion continue to expand.

"I received my first hand drum, a cajon, in 2016," he said. "I really appreciate the portability and convenience of this instrument and how easy it is to just start playing at home, at a moment's notice, when inspired. I enjoy the hand drumming experience so much that I have followed up the cajon with a conga drum. I now wonder why it has taken me so long to discover the joy of hand drumming."

In a subtle manner that would make his childhood mentor proud, Heintzleman lends his strengths as an accomplished percussionist to the creative process of the hand-drumming class, which benefits by his presence.

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.

Mercy to offer free education to those with prediabetes

By David Bruzese
Special to The PREVIEW

People diagnosed with prediabetes are at a higher risk of developing type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular disease. Effectively managing prediabetes can help prevent diabetes.

In fact, studies have shown that the risk of developing type 2 diabetes can be significantly reduced through weight loss and exercise, which have been shown to be more effective in managing prediabetes than medication alone.

Anyone identified as having

prediabetes is invited to attend a free class by Sheena Carswell, CNS, BC-ADM, and Marge Morris, RD, CDE. Attendees will learn how to manage prediabetes and help prevent the onset of type 2 diabetes.

The class will be held Friday, Jan. 5, 2018, from 9 to 11 a.m. in suite 140 of the medical office building at Mercy Regional Medical Center.

To register, please call 764-3415.

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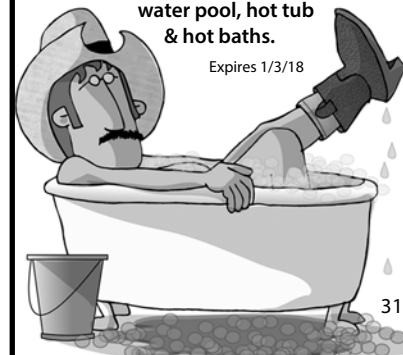
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Staying in touch with forever friends

By Richard Gammill
Special to The PREVIEW

In our highly mobile society, we are accustomed to making friends where we live and then move to a new place and start all over again with new friends. The advent of Facebook changed the nature of friendship. Now we can stay in touch with friends who no longer live nearby, as well as connect with friends we have not seen or heard from in years and begin anew.

My Facebook friends include people I knew 20, 40 or 50 years ago. I can still visualize them as they were back then, but new pictures have now replaced those old images.

Some of those old friends were quite close and had a major influence on my life. Others I remember only in part. My college classmates, like me, are well into their retirement years. Younger friends are engaged in successful careers. All seem very active.

Most of my friends made decisions early in their lives to live by faith in Jesus Christ. On their wedding anniversaries and birthdays, they rejoice in the blessings God has given them.

A few are dealing with significant illness or the limitations of

A Matter of Faith

advancing age, yet they testify that God's grace sustains them and keeps them engaged with life.

We all post pictures of children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. One friend just posted a picture of eight great-grandchildren with the comment that two more are on the way. Has any previous generation lived long enough and well enough to boast of such a long line of beautiful progeny? Even when our family is scattered across the country — or around the world — we can keep in close contact.

Facebook and emails — as well as phone calls — keep us in touch with friends in places experiencing disasters: "Are you guys OK?" Whether it is wildfires in California, winter storms in the northeast, flooding in Texas or hurricanes in Florida — we know how our friends are doing.

Prior to Facebook, we sometimes learned of the death of an old friend months or even years later.

Now, we might get the news within minutes. One morning, I sat down at a table at McDonald's while waiting for my wife, opened my iPad — and read of the passing of a friend the night before, posted by his wife. When Jan came to my table, my mind was whirling with the shock of that news. I immediately sent a message: "Send me your phone number so we can talk."

Another time I was at the gate between flights in Phoenix when I opened my iPad. I saw the name of an old friend I had just connected with after 35 years. Now his daughter posted that he had just passed away. While I processed this news, I didn't listen to what I thought was a boarding announcement. Then I discovered my flight was canceled.

A friend who was a professor at UC Berkeley learned he had only a few months to live. During the following weeks, he posted his thoughts as he approached his final days. After his death, several family members and friends posted their comments, including this one by his daughter: "I won the daddy lottery!"

Over the past 16 years, I have made eight trips to India, where my son works, enabling me to make many friends across that country.

■ See Faith on next page

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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/Comerstone/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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UU New Year's resolution: less judgement, more curiosity

By Dean Cerny
Special to The PREVIEW

On Sunday, Dec. 31, at 10:30 a.m., the Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship (PUUF) invites you to a novel New Year's service. This will be one of two services a year dedicated to asking the pastor any religious, spiritual or theological questions you may have.

What is it you have been curious to ask but have never been given the opportunity to do so? Bring your legible (anonymous or not) questions on a note card or piece of paper. Any and all questions will be entertained.

This will be a "dialogical" service

(you may want to ask what the heck that means) wherein truth will be sought through open questioning, not necessarily finalized answers. Let us set the intention for our new year together by honoring the unofficial PUUF motto: "More curiosity, less judgement."

Dean Cerny's interest in religious concepts has always been motivated by his passion to question religious orthodoxy. This reasoned approach led him to obtain an undergraduate degree in religious studies from Arizona State University and a master of arts degree in religion and theology from United Theological Seminary in Minnesota. Of prime interest to

Cerny is the relationship between religion and spirituality wherein religion serves as a language to articulate spiritual experience.

Cerny lives with his partner of 39 years, John Ehlert, and their three dogs in an off-grid home in rural Kanab, Utah. Cerny serves as part-time pastor at PUUF, leading services twice each month and is a part-time resident of Pagosa Springs.

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

Winner of battles to offer solutions, peace of mind at New Thought on Sunday

By Constance d'Angelis
Special to The PREVIEW

Want to live, love and dream passionately? You can step into your confident and courageous self. Avoid living a life someone else designed. Transform from the inside out. Want to stop merely surviving or drifting?

Join Jason Groves as he shares his journey. Learn solutions to embracing divine masculinity, self-love and breathing with the rhythm of life. This gifted speaker outlines the formula to mastery through his recounting of personal experiences

that saved him from morbid obesity, depression, relational strife and near death.

Connect with Groves' passion and life's work. He guides people through issues relating to identity, love, intention and vitality through outdoor adventure and breath work. He and his partner, Wendy, fulfill their mission to inspire, encourage and motivate others to wholeness and perfection. Team up and engage in the motto: "I don't merely survive. I LIVE!"

Join us Sunday, Dec. 31, at 10 a.m. at the New Thought Center (Center for Spiritual Growth).

We believe in you. Live the life you've imagined. You can do it. Our trained practitioner partners are ready to serve you. Request a special affirmative mind treatment. It's free, our gift to you. Have your ideas taken seriously and confidentially. Call, leave a message and we'll call or text you back, 749-9020.

There is a new time for the movie/discussion group: 10 a.m. on the first and third Saturday of the month. Look for movies and discussions on Jan. 6 and Jan. 20, 2018. All are welcome.

■ See Winner on next page

Faith

■ continued from previous page
Between my first few trips, I could not stay in touch with my friends in that distant place. Today's technology keeps me engaged in their lives, watching their children grow up. When I make my next trip there, it will be easy to catch up with each other.

All this enlarges our experience of friendship. Over the course of our lives, many friends come and go. Now we can maintain a relationship with at least some of those

friends even when years and miles separate us.

An ancient promise in Proverbs says, "There is a friend who sticks closer than a brother." With or without Facebook.

The greatest of all friends "lay down his life for his friends" — John 15:16 (NIV).

No friendship is as meaningful as the one we have with Jesus. As the song says, "There is not a friend like the lowly Jesus. No, not one; no, not one."

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How about New Year's resolutions that work?

By John Lough
Special to The PREVIEW

New Year's resolutions might not seem like a great idea since few of us manage to keep them. But making a smart resolution can do a number of good things for you.

Making New Year's resolutions that you're sure to break is a bad idea. Broken resolutions can make you feel like a failure, someone who has fallen short of his or her goals. It can seem an example of weakness and can erode self-confidence and self-esteem.

Bad resolutions are resolving to do things that are going to be close to impossible to achieve. You won't lose 30 pounds in one month or won't suddenly look like an Olympic athlete just because you resolve to start visiting the gym again.

While such resolutions aren't really helpful, and possibly harmful when you fail at them, it doesn't mean that sensible resolutions are something to avoid. Resolutions usually mean positive changes. Well-planned resolutions can help improve parts of your life and provide a positive sense of accomplishment.

The key to successful resolutions is to set realistic goals. Usually that means breaking big tasks in to smaller, more manageable units. Take losing weight. Forget the total number of pounds you want to lose and, instead, make your goal small changes to a healthier diet that will naturally lead to weight loss. Instead of radical dieting, have a mini-goal of cutting out one high-calorie food each week and replacing it with a healthier fruit or vegetable.

If getting back in shape is your

Winner

■ continued from previous page

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We welcome local talent to share gifts, aptitudes and brilliance. Have a hand in making a difference. Participate, learn or contribute your insights, beliefs, knowledge and skills. Please be part of our special services, Sunday discoveries and/or come to our Saturday movie/discussions of higher consciousness and principles.

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

goal, start slowly with things you can certainly accomplish and then build on that as time goes by. Maybe it's just getting in a daily 15-minute walk, an easy goal and one that can be increased as your fitness improves.

Similarly, while stopping smoking is a common resolution, trying

to do it "cold turkey" is a difficult task. Instead, try an initial mini-goal of cutting by 10 percent the number of cigarettes you smoke each day. Or maybe your goal is to simply start the process by contacting your doctor or local hospital about smoking cessation programs

■ See Resolutions on next page



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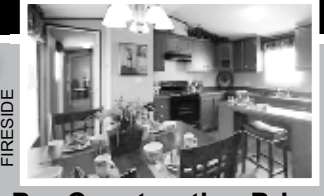


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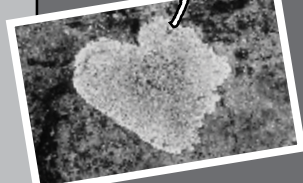


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2 acres (South Fork) \$60s (ESCONDIDA)

.51 acre (backs open space) 20s (HILLS)
.25 acre (water tap paid) \$20s (PARK)
.23 acre (MTN views) \$13,900 (FIRESIDE)
.20 acre (Build NOW, water IN) \$20s (CARPIN)
2.60 acres (in town/views) 100s (LAKESIDE)
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Books to help you keep your New Year's resolutions

By Carole Howard
PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

With so many people thinking about New Year's resolutions at this time of year, we wanted you to be aware of the wide variety of books available to help you turn your self-improvement goals into reality.

Some are right here in our collection. Many more are easily obtainable through a statewide consortium we belong to that gives you access to well over a million items.

• New cookbooks we've just added to our local collection include "Fat for Fuel Ketogenic Cookbook" by natural health expert Dr. Joseph Mercola and PBS Moveable Feast chef Pete Evans, "The Sioux Chef's Indigenous Kitchen" by Sean Sherman with Beth Dooley that uses food culture to celebrate and empower native people, "Keto Comfort Foods" by Maria Emmerich that makes family favorite recipes low carb and healthy, "The How Not to Die Cookbook" by Dr. Michael Greger with more than 100 recipes to help prevent and reverse disease, and "Sunday Suppers" by Southern Living contributor Cynthia Graubart that provides 52 menus, decorating and dining

Library News

ideas. Those are just five of 864 cookbooks here in your library. The consortium has another 12,119 for you to choose from.

• New self-help and self-improvement books include "The Power of Eight" by Lynne McTaggart to inspire you to harness the miraculous energies of a small group to heal others and yourself, "The Pocket Thich Nhat Hanh" that provides selections from the writings of this Zen Buddhist monk, "Resume Writing Secrets" by Frank Olash to help you stand out and get the job, "Chakras Beyond Beginners" by David Pond to help awaken the power of the life force within you, "The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up" by Marie Kondo that describes the Japanese art of decluttering and organizing, and "The Prime" by Dr. Kulreet Chaudhary that offers eating and lifestyle tools to help you lose weight. Those are just six of 141 self-help and

self-improvement books here in your library. The consortium has another 1,123.

• If you're interested in improving your home, we have 98 home and house repair books, with the consortium offering another 955. If you want to learn a new craft, we have 395 different craft books here and 5,474 available through the consortium. Or, if you'd like to take up a new hobby, thousands of books are available on myriad hobbies including knitting, photography, music, stamp collecting, scrapbooking and many more.

Library closures

Your library will be closed on New Year's Day.

All-ages gaming tomorrow

Join us tomorrow, Friday, Dec. 29, from 2 to 3:15 p.m. for a free all-ages gaming session where you can enjoy video gaming on Wii and Xbox 360 Kinect with your friends and family.

Spanish instruction

Join us for this free basic course next Wednesday, Jan. 3, 2018, from 4 to 5 p.m. to improve your ability to speak and understand Spanish. This session will cover the uses and types of Spanish pronouns. No registration is required.

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.

Kids storytime

Every Wednesday from 10 to 11

■ See Library on next page

Resolutions

■ continued from previous page or stop-smoking aids.

Creating realistic resolutions with attainable mini-goals is a means for developing a plan to reach your final goal. As you accomplish those mini-goals, it provides reinforcement to help motivate you to move on to that

next step. And that is what makes for a smart and successful New Year's resolution.

"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.

Wishing you the
merriest Christmas

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Library

■ **continued from previous page**
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.

Tech sessions

Drop in with your technology questions on Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to noon and Thursdays from 2 to 4 p.m.

Adult education

Our PALS program — Pagosa Adult Learning Services — takes place three days a week. Note there is no session today, Dec. 28.

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.

Nonfiction

"Apollo 8" by Jeffrey Kluger is the story of the first Apollo mission to the moon. "Hillary's America" by Dinesh D'Souza describes the author's highly negative views of

Hillary Clinton and the Democratic Party. "Three Weeks to eBay Profits/Third Edition" by Skip McGrath shows you how to successfully use this e-commerce website. "Swords into Plowshares" by Ron Paul is a memoir. "The New Case for Gold" by James Rickards defends gold as an irreplaceable store of wealth and a standard for currency. "Love Warrior" by Glennon Doyle Melton is a memoir of a writer whose husband reveals his infidelity.

CDs

"Hardcore Twenty-Four" by Janet Evanovich is a Stephanie Plum mystery. "Killing Season" by Faye Kellerman is a crime story about a serial killer. "Seven Days of Us" by Francesca Hornak follows a family quarantined together for a week over Christmas. "End Game" by David Baldacci is a Will Robie and Jessica Reed thriller. "Boosting Your Emotional Intelligence" by Professor Jason M. Satterfield helps you manage emotions in yourself and others.

Anthology

"In Sunlight or in Shadow" edited by Lawrence Block contains 17 stories by well-known writers inspired by the paintings of Edward

Hooper.

Programmed Nooks

We have nine free Nooks and three free tablets programmed for your e-reading pleasure. The eight adult e-readers contain either fiction or nonfiction bestsellers. The four youth e-readers contain books for children, juniors and young adults.

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Current New York Times best-seller downloadable e-books are being added regularly to our free 3M Cloud Library. Access them by clicking on the 3M Cloud Library icon on the home page of our website. While there, browse through a multitude of other adult, juvenile and children's books, both bestsellers and classics in many genres.

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■ **See Library on next page**

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All candidate packets are due January 22.

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The poinsettia: history and care

By Terry Schaaf
PREVIEW Columnist

They come in deep reds, light pinks, ivory and even purple. They have dark leaves, light leaves, bi-color leaves and curly leaves. They are the focal point of our holiday home decor, provide the perfect gift for the holiday host and adorn church altars. The poinsettia hasn't always been a holiday tradition, but today, they are sometimes called the Christmas flower.

The poinsettia, *euphorbia pulcherrima* willd., is a member of the family *euphorbiaceae*. The brightly colored bracts (modified leaves) of the poinsettia are often called flowers. But the true flowers of the poinsettia are very small and found in the center of the colorful bracts.

History of poinsettias

The poinsettia is a native plant of Mexico and originated in a rather limited region near present day Taxco. Long before the arrival of Europeans, the Aztecs of central Mexico cultivated the plant and called it *Cuetlaxochitl*. Because of its brilliant color, the

Extension Viewpoints

poinsettia was a symbol of purity to the Indians. It was highly prized by both King Netzahualcoyotl and Montezuma, but because of the high-altitude climate, the plant could not be grown in their capital, now known as Mexico City. The Indians used poinsettia bracts to make a reddish-purple dye. They also made a medicine for fever from the plant's latex.

During the 17th century, a group of Franciscan priests settled near Taxco. They began to use the poinsettia in the Fiesta of Santa Pesebre, a native procession. Juan Balme, a botanist of the same period, mentioned the poinsettia plant in his writings. He described it as having large green leaves and a small flower surrounded by bracts, almost as if for protection. The bracts, he said, turned a brilliant red. Balme also found the plant flourishing on

the slopes and in the valleys near Cuernavaca.

Poinsettias were first introduced in the United States in 1825 by Joel Roberts Poinsett. While serving as the first United States ambassador to Mexico, he visited Taxco and found the flowers growing on the adjacent hillsides. Poinsett, a botanist of great ability, had some plants sent to his home in Greenville, S.C. They did well in his greenhouse and he distributed plants to botanical gardens and to horticultural friends, including John Bartram of Philadelphia. Bartram, in turn, supplied the plant to Robert Buist, a nurseryman who first sold the plant as *euphorbia pulcherrima* willd. The name poinsettia, however, has remained the accepted name in English-speaking countries.

The modern era of poinsettia culture began with the introduction of the seedling cultivar oak leaf. This cultivar was reported to have been grown originally in Jersey City, N.J., by a Mrs. Enteman in 1923. From 1923 until the early 1960s, all of the principal cultivars

■ See Viewpoints on next page

Library

■ continued from previous page

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 our anonymous donors. For the generous monetary donation, we are grateful to Rice

Reavis.

Quotable quote

When older adults volunteered in the Baltimore Experience Corps — a program in which retirees serve as mentors for children — it not only stopped age-related shrinking of the brain of the retirees, but, also, some of their brains grew slightly in size, according to research from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health in Baltimore.

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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Viewpoints

■ continued from previous page of commercial importance were selections or sports from this original oak leaf seedling.

During the middle 1950s, poinsettia breeding programs were initiated at several institutions. With the introduction of the cultivar Paul Mikkelsen in 1963, poinsettias entered a new era. This cultivar, with stiff stems and foliage retention characteristics, provided the trade with the first longer-lasting cultivar of commercial importance. Annette Heggä Red was introduced in Norway in 1964. This cultivar was quickly followed by a number of sports. The Hegg cultivars introduced an entirely new type of multi-flowered plant to the trade because of their ability to produce from five to eight blooms from a pinch, and because of their ease of production.

Many more cultivars have been developed since that initial introduction. Today, poinsettias may be found in many different colors, as well as product forms from mini poinsettias to large specimen trees and every size in between. Testifying to its success and popularity, the poinsettia is not only the most popular holiday flower, it is the No. 1 flowering potted plant in the United States with over 65 million plants sold nationwide in 2000.

Care of poinsettias after Christmas

When kept in an ideal environment, poinsettias will hold their brightly colored bracts for months. In fact, newer poinsettia varieties have been bred to hold bracts on the plants for a longer "shelf life." With the poinsettias still looking good after the holidays, the big question for homeowners is whether to trash the poinsettia or keep it for next year.

Homeowners may choose to keep the poinsettia while the bracts remain colorful or just trash it after the holidays. For homeowners who are up for a real challenge, they may even attempt to rebloom their poinsettias for next Christmas.

Either way, poinsettias kept after the holidays will require attention on a regular basis. First, the poinsettia should be moved to an area where it will receive at least six hours of bright, indirect sunlight each day. Then, check the poinset-

tia periodically to make sure the plant has adequate water. Remove any decorative pot covers at each watering to prevent over watering.

Around the middle of April, pinch the poinsettia back to 6 to 8 inches in height and leave it growing in a sunny location. When new growth begins, a liquid houseplant fertilizer may be used. Once nighttime temperatures remain above 50 degrees F, the plant can be placed outside. Start by placing the poinsettia in a shady spot for a few days, gradually increasing its exposure to sunlight until it becomes acclimated to full sun. At this time, the poinsettia should be repotted into a slightly larger container.

Poinsettias that are grown for Christmas flowering should not be pinched (pruned) after Sept. 1. When the temperatures become cool (55 to 60 degrees) bring the poinsettia back indoors and place in a sunny location. Poinsettias require short day lengths to bloom, which means it needs a continuous long dark period each night to form its colorful bracts.

Starting around the first week of October (for an eight- to 10-week period), the plant must be kept in total and uninterrupted darkness for 14 continuous hours each night. During this time, the plant must also receive six to eight hours of bright sunlight daily.

Information for this article was taken from "Poinsettia: The Christmas Flower," written for The American Phytopathological Society, and "What Do You Do With a Poinsettia After the Holidays Are Over?," written by Millie Davenport of Clemson Cooperative Extension.

CPR and first aid classes

CPR and first aid certification



classes are now being offered monthly by the CSU Extension office on the second Monday and Wednesday of each month from 6-10 p.m. Anyone needing to receive or renew certification can register by calling the Extension office at 264-5931. We will also attempt to schedule classes on additional dates with five or more registrations. Cost for the classes is \$80 for combined CPR/first aid and \$55 for CPR, first aid or recertification. The type of first aid information provided will vary by the needs of the audience.

More on CSU Extension

Colorado State University Extension is your local university community connection for research-based information about natural resource management; living well through raising kids, eating right and spending smart; gardening and commercial horticulture; the latest agricultural production technologies and community development. Extension 4-H and youth development programs reach more than 100,000 young people annually.

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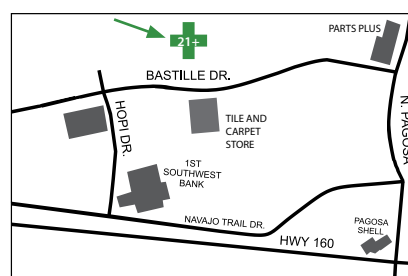


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PAGOSA SCENE . . .

LIBRARY FUN

PREVIEW photos/Chris Mannara and Randi Pierce

Scene ... having holiday-themed fun at the Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library recently. The library held a series of events in December to celebrate the holiday season, including Hot Chocolate Hullabaloo, featuring crafts and sweets, and Candy Creations, which focused on creative candy concoctions.



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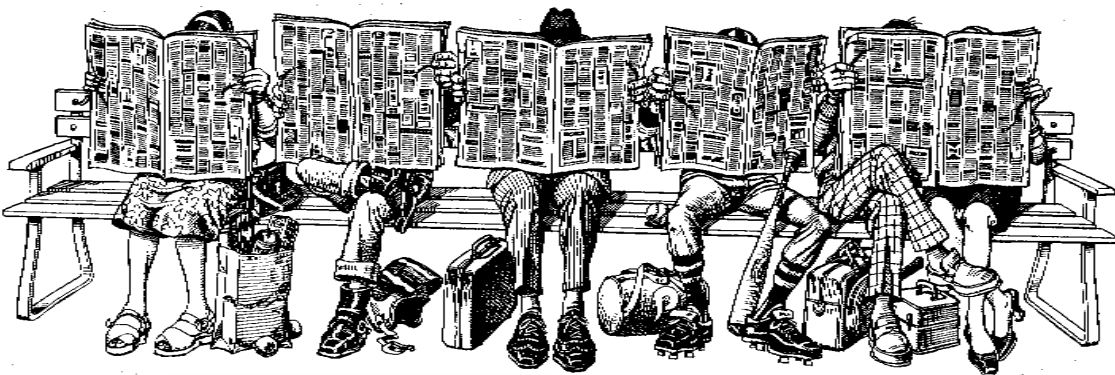


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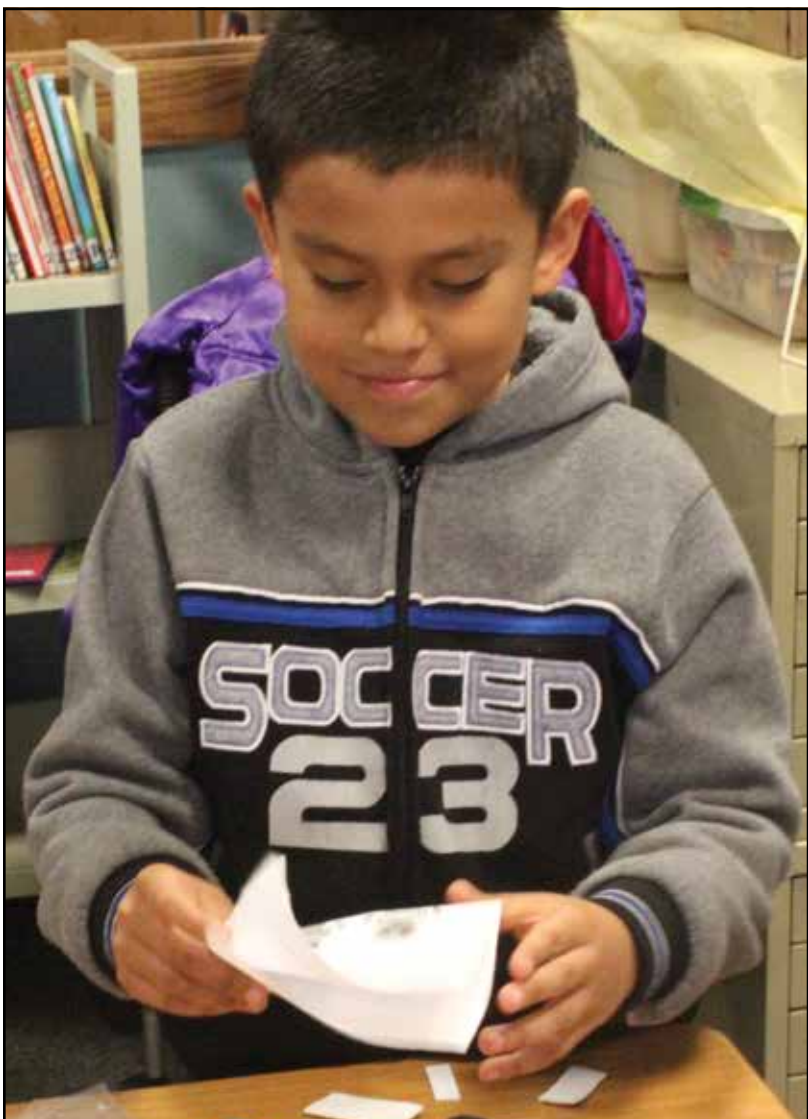
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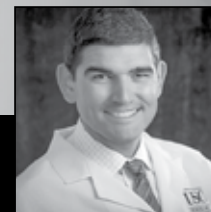
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'I'm coming home where I belong'

B. J. Thomas, solo artist, sang, "I'm coming home where I belong." Born in a Christian family, known for his hit songs in the '60s and '70s, he lost his way. I remember his struggle with drugs and alcohol. Step by step, he testified, his family's love, prayer and support helped him turn around and find his way home again.

Why does it take a lifetime to know where we belong? Our family members are travelers and have moved from the east to the west coast, to other states and overseas. They have kicked the stone down the road. One by one they have been coming home for the past 10 years.

My Sweet Al and I saw our family scattered from pillar to post — somewhere, anywhere, nowhere and everywhere. Someone needed to stand still for our wandering children. We made a pact 25 years ago we would stand still for them.

Pagosa Springs is home to our family. When our children call and say, "I'm coming home," those words are sweet to our ears. When they add, "And I'm bringing my dog or dogs," I can't lie, the fine Christian woman I am, I say, "Can't you leave them there, find a good home for them in the Philippines. Don't you have friends who will take care of them and love them?"

Our son, out of the country for 10 years, called last Christmas and said, "I'm coming home." In a faraway country, he had stopped running from God and came to himself. A faraway country was the only way he could be taught about home and where he belongs.

When I hung up the phone, I told my Sweet Al, "Those dogs are like his children. If they're not welcome, he feels like he's not welcome. We have to embrace them if we want our son home again. But, those golden retrievers shed like crazy and we will be spitting hair and sweeping the floors every day."

I took a big gulp of air, fortified my stance and counted. Two plus two equals four. Two more big dogs plus Al's two big dogs. "Lord, help me. I don't think I can remain with a civil tongue."

As a father, Al heard he was getting his lost son home again. Rightly so, Stephen came home to be a son to his dad. For the past year, he has made every opportunity possible to be here in Pagosa and has done everything to help his dad. If you ask Stephen, I think he'd tell you he's proud to be his father's son.

The scripture says the prodigal son came to himself. He rose up and came to his father. His father had been waiting for years, so had Al waited for his son for years.

As a mother, when I heard Stephen say he was coming home,

Artist's Lane

Betty Slade



I knew God had honored my prayers. I always contended that, however he came home, I wouldn't turn him away. Never. He's my son. I don't remember asking for more dogs, though. Next time I'll have to be more specific in my prayers.

When our youngest daughter comes home, she calls first, "I'm coming for the weekend and I'll stop by my house and pick up Daisy. I'll take Daddy shopping and help him."

I say to her, "Why don't you just come for the day and leave your dog at home." I roll my eyes and breathe deeply. It's one more dog in the mix, an alpha dog at that, who fights with the other dogs. I pray, "Oh Lord, I can't make a difference between these children. If Stephen's dogs are here, then I need to accept her dog." Then I add another dog. Four plus one equals five.

Our daughter's family lives 2 miles down the Blanco. Their dog, Deizel, gets lonely and knows there are play dogs across the river through the woods at Grandmother's house. So, she comes when the gate is left open. Five plus one equals six large dogs. We lost one of Stephen's dogs, so we are back down to five dogs.

Our grandson called from college and said, "Grandma, I'm coming home this weekend. I have an essay to write for my art class. Will you help me?"

"Yes, of course." I embrace our grandson and say, "Write it out and we'll look at it together. I'll be home." So, they all come for different reasons with different agendas, but they know where home is.

When our daughter and her husband call from Grass Valley, Calif., each year and say they are coming in June, we embrace them. They don't come with any agenda for themselves but with servant hearts to help us. They are rare and, besides, they don't have a dog. Why can't all our children be like them? I guess we can't pick and choose our children. They belong to us and call Pagosa home. We have made room for all of them in our hearts and home.

When members of the family come, they walk in the door and say, "What's your password? I need your Wi-Fi." Al and I have learned that part of loving our children is having hookups for all their devices.

There is something about coming back to one's roots and beliefs.

My heart was overjoyed when I heard this Christmas the nativity scene was brought back to our country's home, the White House. It had been discarded for eight years, when the former residents made no room for it.

At this time of the year, when the angels sing, "Goodwill to men and peace on earth," God is announcing he has come to earth and will make his home in our hearts. Then one day, He will take us home to His home.

We are all travelers, moving through this life, but we are all drawn to a place we can call home. In one way or the other, we've all kicked the stone down the road and someone was willing to stand still for us.

Like the Father, he stood still at the gate looking for his son. He embraced his child beat up by the world, humbled and apologetic, willing to be a servant. Yet, he was his father's son.

Final brushstroke: Home is a place we take off our masks, where we know we belong and are loved. For my Sweet Al and I, when we hear our family say, "We're coming home," we know to keep a light on, our Wi-Fi paid up and 50 pounds of dog food on hand.

Readers' comments

Send your comments to betty@bettyslade.com.

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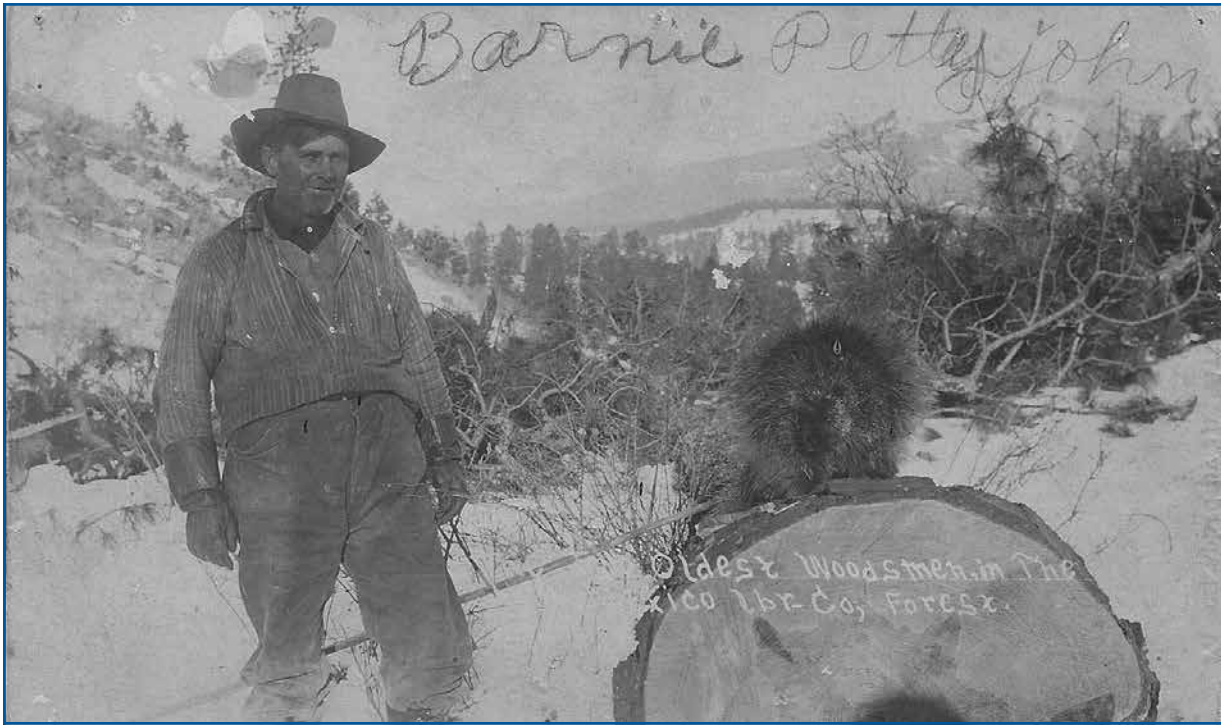


Photo courtesy John M. Motter

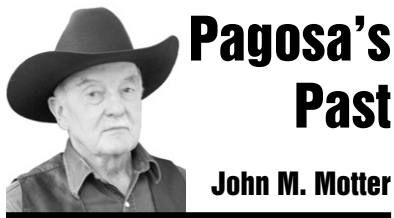
While we're reading about pioneers and old-timers, maybe its a good time to remember the oldest woodsmen in the area, and they're still around. There are some other pretty good woodsmen, those pesky beavers, who might challenge the porcupine for first place in engineering and craftsmanship skills.

Pioneer times on the East Fork: Jacob Lane and the Murphys

This week we're continuing with the Jacob Lane biography. He was one of the last persons to live year-round on the east fork of the San Juan River.

We quote from his biography as written in the Pagosa Springs Times-Observor in October of 1907: "Jacob Lane was the son of Jacob and Mary A. Lane and was born in Alleghany County, Penn., November 10, 1838. He had three sisters and eight brothers, two of whom died in infancy, the others grew to manhood and womanhood. He moved with his family to Mason County, Illinois in 1841. He enlisted in Company F, 51st Illinois Volunteer Infantry, in June, 1861, and after serving out the full three-year enlistment, re-enlisted as a veteran, serving about two years more. His only surviving sister, Mrs. Mary Baety, and a niece, Mrs. Hester Anderson, both live in this city. One brother, Eastman Lane, lives in this vicinity on the East Fork of the river. Two other brothers, David B., living in Montana, and Francis M., living in Salt Lake City, Utah, still survive him.

"Mr. Lane came to this vicinity in 1878 and has been a resident of the park on the East Fork of the San Juan River, just over the line in Mineral County, about twenty miles



John M. Motter

Pagosa's Past

83 years. "She was born in Clinton County, New York, and came to Denver See Past on next page

from this city for nearly thirty years. He had a ranch there and lived alone, following the occupations of farming, cattle raising, and mining. He was well and favorably known throughout the San Juan Country, having spent a good share of his time prospecting and developing mineral claims with considerable success.

"The burial was at Hill Top Cemetery in this city. Thus, ends the last chapter of a man who spent some of his best years in the battlefield and has lived a quiet, honest, and industrious life among the grand old mountains of Colorado."

Mrs. Mary Murphy may have been the last person to live year-round on the San Juan East Fork.

We read the following obituary in the Times-Observor of October 1907: "At her family home in North Durango, Tuesday afternoon, occurred the death of Mrs. Mary Murphy, beloved wife of Thomas Murphy, at the advanced age of

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Preview Calendar

All events listed in The PREVIEW Calendar are free of charge unless otherwise noted.

Thursday, Dec. 28

Paws to Read. 10-11 a.m., Sisson Library. For kids in grades K-5. 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.

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 infor-

mation. **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.

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'Tuna Christmas.' 7 p.m., Pagosa

■ See Calendar on next page

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Past

■ continued from previous page in 1868. In 1879, she married Thomas Murphy, and together they came to San Juan country, first settling in San Juan County, New Mexico.

"In 1902, she, with her husband, moved to East Fork, north of Pagosa Springs, having purchased the Joe Mann ranch. Here they lived for eight years, then moving to Durango, where they have since resided.

"Interment took place at Hill Top Cemetery in Pagosa Springs. A sister of the deceased, Miss Kate Grace, preceded her in death thirteen years ago.

"Except for the husband, there are no remaining near-relatives. The many friends of this pioneer family join us in extending sympathy to the bereaved husband in the loss of his wife."

"Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Murphy came down from East Fork the first of this week with the intention of going to the Durango Fair but

after arriving here they learned of the death of their neighbor, Jacob Lane, and remained to attend the funeral yesterday."

On Feb. 24, 1922, the following was printed in The Pagosa Springs Sun: "Word reached this city Monday that Thomas Murphy, Colorado Pioneer and old-time resident of the San Juan Basin, had passed away that morning at the Soldier's Home in Monte Vista from heart failure. He had been in the best of health and his sudden death was unexpected.

"... Interment took place at Hill Top Cemetery at the side of his wife.

"G.A.R. comrades and old-time friends comprised the pall-bearers, as follows: N.L. Hayden, W.C. Hylar, E.M. Taylor, F.A. Byrne, J.L. Laughlin, and Charles A. Day. John Clarke and sister, Miss Martha Clarke, were present from Durango to assist in the last sad rites of their deceased friend and neighbor..."

Thus, ends the last chapter of a man who spent some of his best years in the battlefield and has lived a quiet, honest, and industrious life among the grand old mountains of Colorado.

SUDOKU

6	4	8	7		1			
		3	2					
7				4				
		5		8			4	3
2			6					
			5					8
			1		7		9	
3		9				6		
	1							

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4	1	2	8	9	6	5	3	7
3	7	9	4	2	5	6	8	1
8	5	6	1	3	7	4	9	2
6	3	7	5	1	4	2	6	8
2	8	4	6	7	3	9	1	5
1	6	5	9	8	2	7	4	3
7	2	1	3	4	9	8	5	6
5	9	3	2	6	8	1	7	4
6	4	8	7	5	1	3	2	9

ANSWER:

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Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page**
 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.
San Juan Stargazers. 7-8:30 p.m., Chamber of Commerce Visitor Center. Our main program will be a video lesson using the great photos taken by the Hubble space telescope of Comet Shoemaker-Levy crashing into Jupiter. For more information, go to www.SanJuanStargazers.com, email sjstargazers@gmail.com or call 731-0186.

Friday, Dec. 29
Pickleball. 8 a.m.-noon, Community Center. Loaner paddles are available if you don't have one.
Pagosa Stitching Group. 9:30-11:30 a.m., second floor of the Pruitt building, Pagosa Springs Medical Center. Bring your stitching project and enjoy coffee and camaraderie. All stitchers are welcome.
Tai Chi. 11 a.m.-noon, Community Center. This is a slow, gentle exercise that improves balance, strength, flexibility and lung capacity while reducing stress and increasing an overall sense

of well-being.
Hand and Foot. 1 p.m., Senior Center.
Gaming. 2-3:15 p.m., Sisson Library. For all ages. Enjoy video gaming on the Wii and Xbox 360 Kinect with all of your friends and family. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Saturday, Dec. 30
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 family 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.

Sunday, Dec. 31
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.

Tuesday, Jan. 2
Veterans for Veterans. 9 a.m., Dorothy's Restaurant.
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.
Hand and Foot. 1 p.m., Senior Center.
Mahjong. 1 p.m., Senior Center.
Teen Gaming. 4-5:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Xbox 360 Kinect, Wii and snacks. For teens in the 7th-12th 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.
Let's Dance Pagosa. 7-9 p.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Join us this month as we begin West Coast swing. Call Wayne at 264-4792 or go

■ See Calendar on next page

One of the real joys of the holiday season is the opportunity to say thank you and to wish you a new year of happiness and prosperity.



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Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page** to <http://www.meetup.com/Lets-Dance-Pagosa> for more information.

Wednesday, Jan. 3

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.

Free Screenings. 10-11 a.m., Senior Center. San Juan Basin Public Health screenings on total cholesterol, triglycerides, blood pressure checks, referrals and translations for Spanish speakers.

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.

Red Hat. 11:30 a.m., Boss Hogg's Restaurant. Join us for the Red Hat meeting. Call 264-0826 for more information.

Hand and Foot. 1 p.m., Senior

Center.

Jelly Beans and Squiggly Things After-School Club. 3:30-5 p.m., Pagosa Springs Elementary School, room 9. For information, call 903-8104.

Spanish Instruction. 3-4 p.m., Sisson Library. Join to improve your ability to speak and understand Spanish. This session will cover the uses and types of Spanish pronouns. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Yoga. 4-5 p.m., Community Center.

Zumba. 5:30-6:30 p.m., Community Center. Open to all abilities and ages.

The 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.

Thursday, Jan. 4

Duplicate Bridge. 1 p.m., Senior Center.

Hand and Foot. 1 p.m., Senior Center.

Open Paint Sessions. 1-4 p.m., Community Center. Ideas and techniques can be shared and discussed in an atmosphere of social time. Sessions will be facilitated by local watercolor artist Jeanie Lemmo. Call 731-1590 for more information.

Tech Time. 2-4 p.m., Sisson Library. Drop in with your technology questions. 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.

Friday, Jan. 5

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.

Celtic and Renaissance Music. Noon, PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Jessica Peterson and Paul Roberts will perform. This program will include several colorful medleys that bring to life the ancient and powerful music of Ireland, Scotland, England and Brittany.

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.

Saturday, Jan. 6

Baby Storytime. 9:05-9:25 a.m., Sisson Library. For babies 0-12

■ **See Calendar on next page**

Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of your time, because the days are evil. *Ephesians 5:15-16*

The Greek word for "making the most" of your time carries with it the idea to "buy back" the time. Some versions translate it as "redeem the time". We cannot really "buy back" time after it is lost. To redeem or buy back time is to use it wisely when we have it. The wise use of time involves walking in wisdom and doing God's will. If we are not working to make good use of our time, we can get caught up in evil.

Because every person is given the same amount of time, the way we use each moment is most important. One day our time will end. When we stand before God in judgment, we will be asked whether we used our time in living life for good or evil. Let us strive to make good use of time with our family, our job, our spiritual life and duty, and our leisure activities and recreation.

Dorman Diller, minister



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Pagosa Springs Church of Christ

277 Lewis Street • 264-2552
www.pagosaspingscoc.com

Time of Services

Sunday	Bible Class	9:30 a.m.
	AM Worship	10:30 a.m.
	PM Worship	6:00 p.m.
Wednesday	Bible Study	7:00 p.m.

In Search of the Lord's Way, KWUF Radio, Sunday 8:00 a.m.

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ADVERTISING DEADLINES

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**
264-2100 • www.PagosaSUN.com

Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page**
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 family 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.

DUST2 Fat Bike Race. 9 a.m., Cloman Park. There will be 16 km, 8 km and kid km races. Entry is \$20 adults and \$10 for racers under 18. A fun fat-tire bike race on groomed snow trails. Great fun for all ages. Registration and check in 8:15-8:45 a.m. Arrive early enough to sign in, gear up and warm up. Call 507-7886 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.

Sunday, Jan. 7

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.

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, Jan. 8

Pickleball. 8 a.m.-noon, Community Center. Loaner paddles are available if you don't have one.

Wolf Creek Christian Writers Network. 9-11 a.m., CrossRoad Christian Fellowship. Writers are invited to hone their craft in fiction, nonfiction and poetry. For more information, email richgammill41@wolfcreekwriters.com or call 731-2040.

Line Dancing. 9:30-11:30 a.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Call Beverly for information at 264-2064.

Medicare Mondays. 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Senior Center, Area Agency on Aging office. For benefits, explanation, questions and assistance for enrollment regarding Medicare parts A, B, D and supplemental policies. Call 264-0501, ext. 1 to make an appointment.

Qigong. 10 a.m.-noon, Community Center. Maintain and improve health, strength and balance.

Yoga. 4-5 p.m., Community Center.
CPR Certification Training. 6-10 p.m., CSU Extension Office. Anyone needing to receive or renew certification can register by calling 264-5931.

Tuesday, Jan. 9

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.

American Legion Post 108 Ladies Auxiliary. 4 p.m., 287 Hermosa St.

Adult ESL Classes. 5-7 p.m., Community United Methodist Church. English as a second language class. Free child care is provided. Contact ACEC-manager@gmail.com for more information.

Let's Dance Pagosa. 7-9 p.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Join us this month as we begin West Coast Swing. Call Wayne at 264-4792 or go to <http://www.meetup.com/Lets-Dance-Pagosa> for more information.

Wednesday, Jan. 10

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

■ **See Calendar on next page**

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Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page** information, contact Frank and Connie Porter at (303) 901-5290 or email at CEFlittlekids@gmail.com.

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.

Jelly Beans and Squiggly Things After-School Club. 3:30-5 p.m., Pagosa Springs Elementary School, room 9. For information, call 903-8104.

Yoga. 4-5 p.m., Community Center.
Zumba. 5:30-6:30 p.m., Community Center. Open to all abilities and ages.

American Legion Post 108. 6 p.m., 287 Hermosa St. Veterans' group meeting.

First Aid Certification Training. 6-10 p.m., CSU Extension office. Anyone needing to receive or renew certification can register by calling 264-5931.

The Most Excellent Way. 7 p.m., CrossRoad Christian Fellowship Church, 1044 Park Ave. The Most Excellent Way offers Bible-based relief from addictions and compulsions, with men and women meeting separately for utmost confidentiality. Call 507-0123 for more information.

Thursday, Jan. 11

Open Paint Sessions. 1-4 p.m., Community Center. Ideas and techniques can be shared and discussed in an atmosphere of social time. Sessions will be facilitated by local watercolor artist Jeanie Lemmo. Call 731-1590 for more information.

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.

Friday, Jan. 12

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.

Saturday, Jan. 13

Fundamentals of Buddhism: A Practice and study with Debra Quayle. 10 a.m., Universalist Unitarian, Suite B-15, 70 Greenbriar Drive. 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.

Sunday, Jan. 14

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, Jan. 15

Pickleball. 8 a.m.-noon, Community Center. Loaner paddles are available if you don't have one.

Wolf Creek Christian Writers Network. 9-11 a.m., CrossRoad Christian Fellowship. Writers are invited to hone their craft in fiction, nonfiction and poetry. For more information, email richgammill41@wolfcreekwriters.com or call 731-2040.

Line Dancing. 9:30-11:30 a.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Call Beverly for information at 264-2064.

Medicare Mondays. 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Senior Center, Area Agency on Aging office. For benefits, explanation, questions and assistance for enrollment regarding Medicare parts A, B, D and supplemental policies. Call 264-0501, ext. 1 to make an appointment.

Qigong. 10 a.m.-noon, Community Center. Maintain and improve health, strength and balance.

Yoga. 4-5 p.m., Community Center.

■ See Calendar on next page

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Like Matchbox cars
- 8 Business goal
- 14 Word puzzle
- 16 Wolflike
- 17 Interim period
- 18 Monticello, for one
- 19 Bullfrog in a Three Dog Night song
- 21 One of the Bobbseys
- 22 Raise an objection
- 25 Advance
- 26 Nasty
- 27 Bread maker
- 28 In ____ (together)
- 29 Nursery purchase
- 30 Kind of year
- 32 Chemo target
- 34 Open railroad vehicle
- 36 Library transaction
- 40 Fix firmly
- 42 Bad-mouth
- 43 Clarinet's cousin
- 45 Scalp misery
- 47 Border
- 48 Start the bidding
- 49 Turkish bread
- 50 Inflict punishment
- 51 Cribbage piece
- 52 Permission holder
- 54 Hooded jacket
- 56 Desk item
- 60 Put a new handle on
- 61 Cut short
- 62 Boring tool
- 63 Unmoved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11	12	13
14							15		16				
17									18				
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	43	44				45		46		47			
48					49				50				
51				52				53					
54			55				56				57	58	59
60							61						
62								63					

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- 3 Victorian, for one
- 4 Partnership
- 5 Fall flower
- 6 Recipe instruction
- 7 Like some reminders
- 8 Ask in earnest
- 9 2013 Chris Hemsworth film
- 10 Withdraw, with "out"
- 11 Groom-to-be
- 12 Engine part
- 13 "Bopper" lead-in
- 15 Patio material
- 20 Rack up, as debt
- 22 Tip, as a hat
- 23 Malicious
- 24 Elevated ground
- 26 Disrespect
- 28 Generous serving
- 29 Dial follower
- 31 Zenith
- 33 Barely sufficient
- 35 Museum piece
- 37 Off the mark
- 38 Aquarium growth
- 39 Soup vegetable
- 41 Run the show
- 43 Can or letter follower
- 44 Dismissal order
- 46 Nasty rumor
- 48 Illusional work
- 49 Equate, in a way
- 50 Very small
- 52 Priest of the East
- 53 Campaign tactic
- 55 50 Cent piece?
- 57 Type of trader
- 58 Polished off
- 59 Spectrum color

Answers to Last Week's Crossword:

S	O	S	O		E	C	L	A	T		F	L	A	P	
E	P	I	C		N	O	O	N	E		R	I	P	E	
N	E	S	T		F	U	N	D	R	A	I	S	E	R	
A	N	T	E	L	O	P	E		S	W	A	T			
T	E	E	T	E	R			D	E	A	R	E	S	T	
E	R	R		A	C	U	T	E	L	Y		N	O	R	
				S	C	E	N	E	R	Y		M	E	N	U
S	M	I	T	H		S	E	A		L	A	R	G	E	
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A	C	T		M	E	A	S	L	E	S		I	M	P	
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				M	O	A	T		O	P	E	R	E	T	A
S	N	A	P	D	R	A	G	O	N			L	O	T	S
P	A	T	E		A	L	L	O	T			I	T	E	M
A	G	E	D		L	E	E	R	Y			C	O	D	A

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Creative ways to reuse Christmas cards

Special to The PREVIEW

Roughly 1.6 billion Christmas cards, including boxed cards, are purchased in a given year. That's quite a lot of cards to address and mail, and many festive greetings for recipients to read and display.

With so much money and effort put into sharing Christmas greetings, some people may wonder how they can prolong the merriment offered by these cards. Here are some creative ways to put Christmas cards to new use once this holiday season has come and gone.

- **Make your own gift tags.** Christmas card stock is the perfect medium to turn into gift tags for presents. Cut the cards into squares or rectangles or use a stencil to create whatever shape you desire. Then use a hole punch to create a space for ribbon or another tie. Use the tag to dress up gifts with something more unique than self-stick tags.

- **Get magnetized.** All it takes is a scissor, some glue and sheets of magnet for a decorative and fun craft project. Turn favorite Christmas cards into mementos that can be saved year after year, which also will dress up refrigerators or other magnetic surfaces. This idea works well for photo greeting cards as well.

- **Make Christmas card ornaments.** Use the cards to create uniquely shaped ornaments for the tree. Cards can be turned into block shapes and hung with ribbon. Another idea is to punch out circles or ovals from the cards and tile them on a foam egg to look like a multicolored pine cone. Explore



Holiday greeting cards can be recycled into gift tags, ornaments or even framed to stretch out their usefulness.

your creative side and decorate your tree at the same time.

- **Create greeting card garlands.** Display cards by stringing them together and hanging them from the mantle or another prominent area. If cards are too large, punch out large circles from the cards and then attach those disks to heavy thread.

- **Decorate your packages.** Instead of overspending on pre-printed gift bags, make your own. Buy plain bags in a solid color and then embellish them with cutout patterns or pictures from Christmas cards.

- **Frame favorite cards.** Make greeting cards a permanent part of holiday decor by framing the most decorative ones you receive. Use these frames year after year and put them on display with other holiday decorations.

- **Make a wine bottle gift tag.** Use

a 1 1/4-inch hole punch to create an opening for the neck of a wine bottle on a piece of folded card stock. Glue a greeting card to the portion of the card stock that will lay flush with the wine bottle and you have a decorative wine tag.

- **Shred older cards for confetti.** Fill gift boxes or bags with homemade confetti made from recycled Christmas cards.

Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page
Tuesday, Jan. 16

Veterans for Veterans. 10 a.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church.

Yoga. 10-11:30 a.m., Community Center.

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.

Submit your calendar items to editor@pagosasun.com; mail them to The Pagosa Springs SUN, P.O. Box 9, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147; or deliver them to The SUN office by noon Monday.

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264-2100

Classifieds

264-2100

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Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

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PAGOSA SPRINGS PROPERTY MAINTENANCE. (970)389-1591. Call for a quote and to discuss what your property needs. Look for our ad next week.

ELK PARK ANIMAL HOSPITAL is seeking a professional, hardworking individual to fill our kennel technician position. Job duties include janitorial cleaning, handling small and large animals, administering medications, keeping accurate medical information, assisting with some medical procedures and maintaining the kennel facility. Job is thirty to forty hours a week with flexible scheduling. Come work in a fast paced animal clinic with a team oriented atmosphere. Please send your resume to elkparkanimalhospital@gmail.com.

ROOM FOR RENT. Private room and bath in nice home between Lake Pagosa and golf course. \$575 includes all. (970)507-1652.

HAVE DEBT OR A HIGH mortgage interest rate? 2018 will be the year of mortgage refinances to pay off debt or shorten your pay off term. Get ahead of the rush and start your refinance today. Free loan proposal to review the numbers and see if it makes sense for you. Property values have gone up; take advantage of the savings. Local licensed Loan Officer Carrie Blue (949)683-4646 CBlue@afncorp.com (NMLS# 177666).

GREAT MASSAGE PRICES START @ \$79 All Messages include a Soak!



OVERLOOK HOT SPRINGS SPA
Downtown Pagosa 264-4040

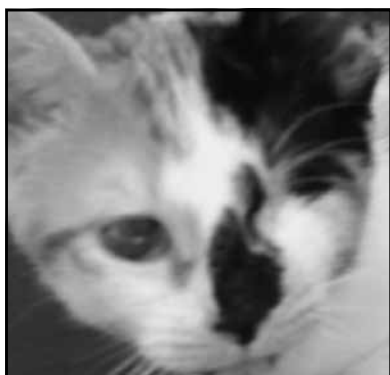
HUMANE SOCIETY OF PAGOSA SPRINGS. Thrift Store Help 4-5 days/ week (may include some weekends). In-store duties include stocking inventory, customer service, cash register and cleaning; frequent lifting- all successful applicants must be able to lift 40 pounds repetitively without limitation; includes helping with pickups and deliveries of furniture and other donated items; must be a team player and willing to be cross-trained; must have transportation, valid driver's license and Social Security Card; pre-employment background check is required. Applications available only at the Humane Society Thrift Store (279 Pagosa Street). **NO PHONE CALLS, PLEASE.**

MASSAGE WITH BECKY MCCRANIE. 264-2856.

DREAMING OF HOMEOWNERSHIP? Most loan programs offered including down payment assistance, get up to \$15K for first time homebuyers. If the program exists, we likely do it! Get your pre-approval quickly and start your home search today. Call even if you have been denied elsewhere; we have many programs other banks do not. If you do not qualify, you will get free counseling on how to improve your scenario so that you can qualify. Local licensed Loan Officer Carrie Blue (949)683-4646 CBlue@afncorp.com (NMLS# 177666).

LOCALS! FREE CBD UPGRADE for December, Tuesday- Thursday! www.hippiechickmassage.com 946-4578.

OPEN HOUSE: 12/30, 1P.M.-4P.M. 181 River Forest Dr. Perfect location minutes from town. 4,100 sq. ft. on 3 acres. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath. \$575,000. MLS 738625. Directions: From downtown, take Hwy. 84 south to River Forest Dr. (before Echo Lake), turn right. Food and beverages will be served. Brent Christians, Galles Properties, (970)759-6844.



MONICA: Love is not blind! Monica and Marlene came in with eye infections which have impaired their vision, but they get around just fine! We'd like this bonded pair adopted together, so they are a two for one fee! Adopt from the Humane Society 731-4771.

Holiday Special \$10 OFF

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FIREWOOD FOR SALE. Sawmill scraps- 6"x6" and smaller, 3' and under, \$40/ per pickup- you load. \$40/ ton- trailer load. (970)264-5000.

NEW TEETH IN ONE DAY. Are you tired of unhealthy or missing teeth, dentures that don't work? Would you like to start all over with a new healthy smile in just one day? Visit our site at pagosadentalimplantcenter.com and call today for a no charge consultation to see if this incredible treatment is right for you. 731-8282.

COUNTRY LIVING 6 miles south on Highway 84. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 stall garage, partially furnished, easy access, great view, no smoking. \$1,200 plus utilities. Minimum 6 month lease. Pasture for up to 6 horses extra. (970)946-0653.



TOVI: Sweet 9-year-old male looking for a cozy home and an understanding owner to reassure him the world is not a scary place. Adopt from the Humane Society 731-4771.



MARLENE: Love is not blind! Monica and Marlene came in with eye infections which have impaired their vision, but they get around just fine! We'd like this bonded pair adopted together, so they are a two for one fee! Adopt from the Humane Society 731-4771.

POSITION AVAILABLE- NAVAJO TRAIL Laundry. Part-time counter help needed. Please apply in person. 75 Navajo Trail Dr.

FOR SALE: 2006 JEEP Wrangler Rubicon 4WD. Automatic, 70K miles. Good condition. \$12,000. Call (970)264-5000.

SIMPLY CLEAN- EFFICIENT AND THOROUGH! Housecleaning services. Call Erin to schedule a cleaning. (949)566-3906.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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SEATCOVERS AND DASHCOVERS in stock! Sheepskin for RVs, class A, B or C! Trucks, vans, mini vans, SUVs, cars! www.blondiespitstop.com (970)946-6786. 1680 Main Ave., Durango, CO 81301. Free frost shade with purchase if you mention this ad!

DECEMBER 30TH, DANCE AT the IHM parish hall. Music by Variety Express. 8 p.m. \$20 a couple or \$10 single.

A.A. PRINCIPLES BEFORE PERSONALITIES GROUP meets at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Tuesday 7p.m. Big Book Study (closed); Thursday 7p.m. Discussion (open); Questions (970)245-9649, www.aa-westerncolorado.org or www.aadistrict18.org; Ken or Charlotte (970)903-9690.

WAITING FOR SNOW? COME try Aikido! Focus, fitness, fun. Traditional martial art. Mind- body integration. Visit aikidopagosa.org or call (970)264-0430.

TRADITIONAL ALANON GROUP: Traditional AlAnon Group meets Mondays, 6p.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Dr. (325)669-9715.

AL-ANON meets every Tuesday at 6 p.m. at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church. Saturday, 10:30a.m., 234 N. 2nd Street (CR200/ Snowball Road). www.al-anon-co.org.

A.A. PAGOSA SPRINGS GROUP. 234 N. 2nd St./CR 200- Snowball Rd. Sunday 10a.m. (OD); Monday noon (OD), 5:30p.m. (C-BB); Tuesday noon (OD), 5:30p.m. (CM); Wednesday 7:30a.m. (OD), noon (OD), 5:30p.m. (OD); Thursday noon (OD), 5:30p.m. (ON); Friday noon (OD), 7p.m. (OD); Saturday 7:30a.m. (OD), 5:30p.m. (OD). (Last Friday of the month 6p.m. potluck, 7p.m. birthday speaker meeting.) Questions, contact (970)245-9649, aa-westerncolorado.org or aadistrict18.org, or call Ed K. 946-2606 or Val V. 264-2685 or Ellen C. (214)566-5921.

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MOBILE RV SERVICE. We come to you. (970)398-9271.

SIMPLY CLEAN- EFFICIENT AND THOROUGH! Housecleaning services. Call Erin to schedule a cleaning. (949)566-3906.

NOW OPEN! Pagosa Springs Barber Shop next to downtown Subway. **Haircuts and Hot Shaves** Monday- Friday, 9a.m.-5:30p.m. Walk-ins welcome! Veterans discount! www.pagosaspingsbarbershop.com.

INTERIOR HOUSE PAINTING. Scheduling work now. Serving Pagosa for 30+ years. Insured, free estimates. A Shade Better Painting Service. Bill Manzanares, (970)749-4686.

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KRITTER GITTERS, SKUNK AND BAT Busters. We specialize in capturing and removing unwanted rodents and varmints. 50 years experience, lifetime resident. Dan Snow, 731-2498, (719)849-8873.

NEW TEETH IN ONE DAY. Are you tired of unhealthy or missing teeth, dentures that don't work? Would you like to start all over with a new healthy smile in just one day? Visit our site at pagosadentalimplantcenter.com and call today for a no charge consultation to see if this incredible treatment is right for you. 731-8282.

NOW OPEN! Pagosa Springs Massage Center next to downtown Subway. **Massages starting at \$25,** walk-ins and appointments. Wednesday, 11a.m.-7p.m., Thursday/ Friday, 5:30p.m.-8p.m., Saturday/ Sunday 10a.m.-6p.m. (970)903-5962.

SNOWBLOWING DRIVEWAYS EXCLUSIVELY in Lake Hatcher for absentee homeowners to keep driveway and propane open. Free quote. Arlie's Chimney Sweep 731-2543.

CHILD CARE: RELIABLE, SAFE and fun nanny, looking for awesome family in Pagosa. Over 10 years child care experience. CPR and first aid certified. Reviews on care.com. Part-time or full-time position. Child care references. Call Stacie at (719)822-3734.

SNOW REMOVAL FROM DRIVEWAYS, roofs, walkways. Tractor with blower and truck with plow. Call now for scheduling. 946-2061.

RIVERSTONE CARPET CLEANING. 25 cents/ sq. ft. and \$3 per stair. No hidden charges. Owner/ operator 20 years experience. Professional, trustworthy and punctual. Call Mike at (970)403-9222, www.riverstoneminerals.com.

HELP WANTED

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.

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.

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Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HELP WANTED

Pagosa Express Lube

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Friendly, neat appearance,
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Apply in person at 1985 Eagle Drive
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locally owned/operated

CNA CLASS STARTING JANUARY 15. Full-time positions available. Alternating weekends off. Starting pay, \$12 an hour and benefit package. Apply at Pine Ridge Extended Care, 119 Bastille Dr., Pagosa.

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.

GIVE YOURSELF THE GIFT of a caring career with Visiting Angels. Now hiring professional caregivers in the Pagosa area. Benefits, incentives and paid training/ mileage (some weekends required). Work for the #1 home care agency and LOVE what you do! Apply at visitingangels.com/southwestcolorado or call (970)264-5991.

LIFECARE IS IMMEDIATELY LOOKING for LPNs, CNAs and caregivers. Email lifecare@ftitel.net. Website: lifecare-inc.com.

HIRING C.N.A., L.P.N., R.N., P.T., O.T., S.T., P.C.H., in Pagosa Springs, Co. Apply at givenhomehealth.com, or call (970)882-4483.

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.

SPRINGTIME IS HERE so spring into action and start a new career. Become a dental care delivery assistant or a front office assistant. Will train the right person. Be a part of a growing profession and make a difference. Please send your resume to denprac@yahoo.com.

THE BACKYARD IS SEEKING qualified cooks to deliver quality food from diverse and dynamic menu. Apply in person Tuesday-Friday, 2-4p.m. at 2045 Eagle Drive.

CONSTRUCTION/ REMODELING MANAGER. All facets of construction experience required. Excellent pay. Call (970)403-5119.

CAREGIVERS NEEDED IMMEDIATELY. No experience necessary. Must be caring and compassionate. Visit us at www.peoplecarehs.com. Contact Connor at connern@peoplecarehs.com or (970)874-0136.

PERSONAL BANKER (FT). First Southwest Bank is seeking a personable and cheerful individual to join our team in Pagosa Springs. Must be able to multitask, have a strong attention to detail, and have excellent customer service skills. Experience in banking and consumer lending is preferred. To apply please visit our website at <https://www.fswb.com/AboutFSWB/Careers.aspx>.

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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.

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.

PAGOSA BROKERS IS NOW HIRING for an office assistant. The right candidate will be a dedicated, organized, outgoing individual with strong communication skills both written and oral. General knowledge of office equipment and computer programs a must, a fast learner is a plus. Flexible schedule and family work environment make this a great opportunity for the right person. Email your resume to Kerry@pagosabrokers.com.

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.

HIRING EXPERIENCED AND LICENSED PLUMBERS, and plumber helpers. (970)946-7096, leave message.

HOUSEKEEPING- HOLIDAY BONUS OFFERED. Sunetha Property Management is hiring part-time housekeeper(s). We will train. Compensation based on experience and quality of work with mileage reimbursement. Submit application/resume to sunetha@pagosaprinings.net, in person at 165 N. Pagosa Blvd., or call Sunetha Property Management, (970) 422-7164.

LIFECARE- PART-TIME AND FULL-TIME positions available for Personal Care Providers/ Homemakers. Working phone and reliable transportation required. Training provided to those seeking a rewarding position with our agency. Application/ information (970)516-1234, ext. 1. <http://www.lifecare-inc.com>.

HELP WANTED

DENTAL HYGIENIST: Established, busy dental practice is seeking self motivated Dental Hygienist to join our dental family. We look for individuals who exhibit the qualities of a team player, is hard working, and is passionate about educating and building relationships with their patients. Come and be part of our great dental team! Email resume to leslee.fcfd@gmail.com.

PAGOSA SPRINGS MEDICAL CENTER is looking for a **Medical Assistant.** The MA assists the Provider in delivering high quality patient care. Accurately document all necessary information within the patient's chart. Perform in-house lab tests, EKGs, and assist with basic procedures. Administer and document medications and vaccinations appropriately. Follow up with all outstanding patient orders and referrals. This is a full-time position. Applications may be picked up at hospital registration and the human resources office or downloaded from www.pagosapriningsmedicalcenter.org. Applications and resumes must be submitted to mitzi.bowman@psmedicalcenter.org or faxed to (970)731-0907. Pagosa Springs Medical Center is an EEO employer.

PAGOSA SPRINGS MEDICAL CENTER has an opening for a **Part-time Infusion Nurse.** The Infusion RN is responsible for outpatient infusions services. Must be proficient in IV insertions for all age groups, PICC line and Port-a-Cath management, Phlebotomy, blood transfusions, performing nursing H&P/ assessment, communication with ordering physicians and staff, etc. Responsible for patient teaching such as injections and all aspects of IV infusion therapy for all ages and disease processes. PICC Line and ONCC certification preferred. BLS, PALS, and ACLS required. 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.

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.

PAGOSA SPRINGS MEDICAL CENTER has openings for a **Clinic RN.** The Clinic RN assist the Provider in delivering high quality patient care. Accurately document all necessary information within the patient's chart. Perform in-house lab tests, EKGs, and assist with basic procedures. Administer and document medications and vaccinations appropriately. Follow up with all outstanding patient orders, referrals, and prior authorizations. Applicants must have CO RN licensure. 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.

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.

DISABLED MALE DESIRES CAREGIVER for personal care, homemaking, health maintenance. 7:30a.m.-2p.m. Monday through Friday. Wages based on experience, \$11-\$15 per hour. Nonsmoker. (970)903-7585.

HELP WANTED

PAGOSA SPRINGS MEDICAL CENTER has an opening for a Surgical Pre-admission Testing (PAT) RN. The PAT RN is responsible for the planning, coordination, screening and pre-procedure orientation for all of the patients undergoing a planned surgical/ procedural event. The PAT RN serves as the facilitator of communications within the multi-disciplinary team. The PAT RN will evaluate each patient to identify perioperative and intraoperative risks or problems, so that they may be avoided. In addition, the PAT RN will work directly with anesthesia providers and surgeons to determine necessary safety screening criteria and pre-op teaching standards. This role is required to perform the full pre-surgical history either over the phone or via a scheduled onsite PAT nurse appointment in conjunction with an anesthesia provider (as needed). The PAT RN helps to arrange medical consultations for patients, if necessary. All the pre-operative teaching and coordination of teaching with other departments in the hospital is managed by this position. Surgical prep instructions, including but not limited to, NPO requirements, medications to be taken on the morning of surgery, and anesthesia options will be covered routinely. The PAT RN will ensure that all ordered diagnostic tests and labs are completed by the patient in a timely manner. The PAT RN is a member of the Surgical Services team and will be expected to cross-train to other roles as assigned such as the PreOp/ PACU RN, Circulator RN or Infusion RN roles. Three to five years of previous experience in a relevant surgical RN role is a must. BLS, PALS, and ACLS required. 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.

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BOSTON TERRIER PUPPIES. READY January 10th. Only 2 males left. Shots, wormed. Black and white, \$600. (970)759-3455. In Cortez.

ADOPT FROM THE Humane Society. Stop by or call 731-4771. You'll be amazed at what we have to offer. www.humanesociety.biz.

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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 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.

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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).

NEW YEAR'S SPECIAL: Seasoned firewood, \$165 a cord, split and delivered. (970)317-3120.

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).

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.

LIKE NEW TREADMILL, Pro-Form XP550 "space saver." \$300 (was \$795 new). 264-5168.

20 CU. FT. REFRIGERATOR with top mount freezer. Runs good, \$125. 731-0715.

OTT'S MILL- SPECIALIZING IN hand peeled log siding and peeled logs. Rough sawn timbers and lumber. (970)533-7997.

NEED FIREWOOD? Pine mix \$185 per cord. Huge dump truck load of 2+ cords for \$375. Contact Dan with FIRE&ICE at (970)582-0006.

FIREWOOD, SPLIT PINE, \$170; outside core area \$25 extra. (970)731-2010.

ATTENTION CONTRACTORS AND HOMEOWNERS. Are you remodeling or tearing down? Call Durango Salvage, we buy and sell building materials. Tom, (970)749-2271, Mark, 749-8235.

SKIDSTEER 2014 CATERPILLAR 226 B3. Excellent condition, no leaks, runs great, new tires. Everything works, \$26,500. 264-0269, (520)241-1198.

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.

CLEARANCE MATTRESS SALE. UP to 50-80% off store prices. Sets starting at \$150. Call (970)335-8315.

HOT WATER SOLAR STORAGE tanks. 120 gallons each, stainless steel, foam insulated. \$1,000 for pair. Retail \$2,700 each. Used, but great shape. 946-3989.

YOU NEED TO TASTE IT to believe it! Grass-Roots Meats offers 100% grass fed and grass finished beef and lamb, Berkshire pork and free range organic chicken. Check out this month's special: www.grassrootsmeats.com. For more information, call Lois (970)582-0166.

TRIANGLE CUSTOM MILLING. All your custom milling and log needs. (970)398-0739, trianglecustommilling.com.

POOL TABLES- GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFT. Used, in good condition. Call (970)731-3005.

RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

2006 TRITON XT SNOWMOBILE trailer. 10 ft. two place with spare tire, aluminum, \$1,100. (970)731-8886.

264-2100

Classifieds

264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

AUTOS

2012 NISSAN PRO 4 XTERRA. Like new, original owner! Heated leather seats, WeatherTec mats, 4-wheel drive. Additional Blizzak winter tires and wheel set. Great for 2nd homeowner, student, 2nd car. \$18,700. (970)903-7252.

2005 JEEP WRANGLER UNLIMITED. 2 door, LWB, 4.0 L, inline 6 cylinder, automatic transmission. 90,000 miles, \$10,000. (970)946-0574 (James).

1993 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE limited. Runs good, needs TLC, \$1,000. Call or text (970)946-2632.

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.

GUARANTEED CREDIT APPROVAL! 4X4 Auto Sales, 21698 Hwy. 160 West, Durango. (970)385-7940.

1999 PONTIAC SUNFIRE. High miles, rebuilt engine runs great, 30 MPG. \$1,400 OBO. Text or call (970)749-4000.

WWW.SALSMOTORCORRAL.COM. Visit us online to view current inventory and pricing. (970)259-8170.

1999 CHEVY GEO METRO. 197,000 miles, new tires and battery, \$700 OBO. 264-1372.

HOUSES FOR SALE

HOUSES FOR SALE

HOUSES FOR SALE

HOUSES FOR SALE



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RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

SUNNY 1 BEDROOM 1 bath on 3rd Street in old town. \$900 per month. Water and sewer included. (970)819-2381.

334 E. GOLF. AVAILABLE January 15. 2 bedroom 1 1/2 bath townhouse. 1 car garage, lots of decks, basement storage. \$1,150 plus utilities. Call Ginni 731-2216.

3 BEDROOM, 2-1/2 BATH TOWNHOME. January 3- June 30. Sleeps 8. Gas fireplace, very nicely furnished, large garage. Utilities included, \$1,800/month. Call Ginni 731-2262.

NEW HOME 3 BEDROOM 3 bath. Available for rent on January 5th. \$1,600 per month. 264-0353.

HOUSE FOR RENT: 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2-car garage in good location. \$1,325 per month plus utilities, water and trash paid, \$1,325 deposit. No smoking or pets. House will be ready to move in January 15th. First month will be pro-rated, last month and deposit due at move in. Call (970) 398-1988 for more information.

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.

SHARE A COMFORTABLE 3 bedroom home: 1 bedroom for rent. No smoking, no pets, \$525 a month, includes utilities. 264-0826.

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.

LONG TERM RENTALS AVAILABLE: 1 condo, 10 houses. Starting at \$750. NextHomeRMR (970)507-8655 www.NextHomeRMR.com.

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS



HOMES for RENT

Cottage in Aspen Springs \$950. 2 Bed/1 Bath, furnished, use of 1 grow dome. Pet friendly, now available.



2 Bed/2 Bath house uptown. \$1250 Fireplace, pet friendly. Available immediately.



For more rentals go to:
www.NextHomeRMR.com
 (970) 507-8655

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

Affordable Rent Clean Apartments

Close to schools & bus lines. Call for information

We are now accepting applications for 2-, 3- and 4-bedroom apartments.

Archuleta Housing Corporation
264-2195

BEST VALUE IN PAGOSA. Excellent condition 1/1, 2/2 apartment homes. Convenient location, walk to uptown grocery store. 946-9187.

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.

577 E. GOLF. 2 BEDROOM 1.5 bath condo. Wood stove, patio. Water included. No pets. \$900 a month. Call Ginni, 731-2216.



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.

COMMERCIAL RENTALS

Great Office & Location

825 sq. ft., like-new office space. Three private offices with small reception area, large open room. Plenty of parking. **\$850 per month.**

Michael C. Branch
970-769-2036

Shop space in town

360 sq. ft. shop with electricity included. 9 ft. x 7 ft overhead door. **\$180 per month.**

Also, 10 ft. x 15 ft. unit with 15 ft. ceiling. **\$75 per month.**

Call Michael C. Branch
970-769-2036

220 SQ. FT. OFFICE SPACE in Talisman Plaza, next to City Market. \$225/ month, utilities included. (970)385-5547.

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.

HIGH COUNTRY MINI STORAGE. Most sizes available. Paved, lighted, security. Behind The Outfitter. Call 264-9142.

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.

HOUSES FOR SALE

LOOKING FOR A FIXER? That's my specialty. Call me today! Sharon Crump with EXIT Realty Advantage Pagosa. (970)398-0215.

SELLING OR BUYING? I am INDEPENDENT, I work for YOU! 15 years in Pagosa. Peggy Andrews, Independent Real Estate Broker (970)946-0473 www.peggyandrews.com.

OPEN HOUSES

OPEN HOUSE: 12/30, 1P.M.-4P.M. 181 River Forest Dr. Perfect location minutes from town. 4,100 sq. ft. on 3 acres. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath. \$575,000. MLS 738625. Directions: From downtown, take Hwy. 84 south to River Forest Dr. (before Echo Lake), turn right. Food and beverages will be served. Brent Christians, Galles Properties, (970)759-6844.

PROPERTY

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.

BEAUTIFUL PROPERTY FOR SALE by owner. 2 lots, 205 Sam Houston Trail. Full utilities. \$19,900. (505)414-1604.

6.3 ACRES, 582 MEADOWS. 100% useable. \$129,900. Beautiful mountain views. Dining, shopping and hospital nearby. (214)729-8724.

MOUNTAIN VIEWS, MEADOWS. Unique high elevation and complete privacy. 5.6 acres bordering national forest, (970)769-3588 blancoretreat@gmail.com.

Next health and wellness event Jan. 31

By Cheryl Wilkinson
PREVIEW Columnist

The Senior Center has a pilot program expanding health and wellness services to Archuleta County seniors. The program includes wellness and blood pressure monitoring, or allows individual area seniors to discuss two subjects of their choice.

The next health and wellness date is Jan. 31, 2018.

There is no charge for Medicare enrollees. Participant IDs will include Medicare card, photo ID and, if necessary, any supplemental insurances. No Medicaid is accepted at this time. Participants are encouraged to bring a list of their current medications.

Clinical assessment will be provided by Tabitha Zappone, FNP-C.

The goal of the outreach clinic is to provide care to those who are not able to travel

Medical alert system

Medical Alert monitoring systems are available for seniors. The Pagosa Springs Senior Center can help you get set up with a system and assist with the monthly service charges, or, if you already have a system in place, we can help supplement the monthly service fees.

San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging: The new survey process

By Kay Kaylor

I advocate for residents at Pine Ridge and BeeHive Homes as the long-term care ombudsman for Archuleta County. Federal and state laws protect residents for their safety and to promote quality of care and quality of life. The New Year begins with implementing the revised federal nursing home regulations, which include the new nursing home survey process mentioned in early December. As required, the annual recertification survey results are provided near the entrance at Pine Ridge and are published online at medicare.gov under "Nursing Home Compare."

The Colorado Department of

Senior News

Public Health and Environment in-person survey lasts for three days and survey team members arrive without notice. They observe and interview a sample of residents, particularly the most vulnerable, residents who have lost weight, new admissions, people who have complained or been part of an incident and active resident council attendees.

The survey team also observes the first meal and other meals if concerns arise. They investigate the adequacy and competence of nurse staffing and observe and assess whether the nursing home follows all the regulations. For example, "Each resident must receive and the facility must provide the necessary behavioral health care and services to attain or maintain the highest practicable physical, mental and psychosocial well-being," as defined in individual care plans. If a home is tagged with a violation, it is given a chance to respond and explain how it will remedy the situation.

For further information, you may call me at 403-2164 or send an email to ombudsman2@sjbaaa.org.

Memberships

Senior Discount Club memberships are offered Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Menu

Everyone is welcome to join us for lunch. If you are a senior (60 years and older), for only a \$4 suggested donation, you are eligible for a hot meal, drink and a salad prepared by our kitchen staff.

The guest fee for those 59 and under is \$10 and children 10 years and under can eat for \$5 each. Access to the salad bar is only \$6 for those under 60.

Lunch is served from 11 a.m.

to 1 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 28 — Southwest pork posole, whole-wheat tortilla, Mexican beets and salad bar.

Friday, Dec. 29 — Beef lasagna, spinach, roasted cauliflower with red peppers, focaccia bread and salad bar.

Monday, Jan. 1 — Closed for New Year's Day.

Tuesday, Jan. 2 — Pork and

black-eyed peas, collard greens, roasted potatoes and salad bar.

Wednesday, Jan. 3 — Sliced turkey, mashed potatoes, green bean casserole, dinner roll and salad bar.

Thursday, Jan. 4 — King Ranch chicken casserole, refried black beans, Mexican pickled beets and salad bar.

Reservations and cancellations are required. You can make a res-

ervation 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.

NEW YEAR'S EVE Bayou Bash

RING IN THE NEW YEAR AT SKY UTE CASINO RESORT, JOIN US FOR A NEW YEAR'S EVE BAYOU BASH!

December 31, 2017
Dinner 6PM-8PM | Dance 9PM-12:30AM

The ultimate New Year's Eve event, a Cajun Buffet Dinner and Dance hosted by Swamp People's Troy Landry and music by Creedence Clearwater tribute band Fortunate Son.

VIP Hotel Package | \$499
Dinner and Dance Package | \$100 per person
Dance only | \$25 per person

Purchase tickets online at skyutecasino.com, by calling 888.842.4180, at the Sky Ute Casino-Gift Shop or at the door.

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HAPPY NEW YEAR!

from The Pagosa Springs SUN staff