



The Pagosa Springs

SUN

50¢

PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147

www.PagosaSUN.com

VOLUME 109 — NO. 15, THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 2017

Option for proposed 5th Street bridge rejected by town council

By Jim Garrett
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs Town Council voted unanimously against building a new bridge over the San Juan River at 5th Street at the town's cost at its meeting Tuesday night.

Whether the vote marks the end of the proposed bridge remains to be seen.

The vote came on the question whether to exercise an option for the town to build the bridge. The option is included in a 10-year vested rights agreement executed in 2012 by the town and Springs Partners LLC.

The agreement confirms the Partners' rights to develop during its 10-year term 27 acres downtown south of the river and west of Hot Springs Boulevard in accordance with one of two alternative sketch plans.

Sketch Plan A provides for construction of a bridge at 5th Street and a connection road linking it to Hot Springs Boulevard through the planned development, at the town's expense. Sketch Plan B provides for the development to proceed without any bridge.

If built, the bridge would enhance access to the development site, and provide a new connection between the area south of the river and U.S. 160, at 5th Street.

The alternative to include a bridge in conjunction with the development was added to the 2012 agreement because the town was concerned about increasing traffic congestion south of the river, and especially at the current highway intersection.

But since fall 2015, complaints have been voiced by many, including Mayor Don Volger, that the imposition of the full cost for the bridge and the connection road on the town would be unfair. Attempts to renegotiate those terms as early as September 2015 have been publicly confirmed.

However, a clause in the 2012

■ See Bridge A9

Powder Paradise



Photos courtesy Rosanne Pitcher/Wolf Creek Ski Area
Wolf Creek Ski Area experienced the third-busiest day in the ski area's history on Wednesday, Dec. 28, with 6,006 skiers hitting the slopes. The ski area reported 34,008 skiers enjoyed skiing the fresh powder over the eight days beginning with Christmas Day and ending on New Year's Day. On Wednesday morning, the ski area reported receiving an additional 23 inches of fresh snow over the previous 72 hours, bringing the season-to-date total to 175 inches, with up to 24 more inches in the forecast through Thursday night.

Judge to review county's 2015 executive session

By Marshall Dunham
Staff Writer

A recording of an executive session that occurred in September 2015 will receive an in-camera inspection because of a complaint that was filed by a local resident.

The order for the in-camera inspection was signed on Jan. 3 by 6th Judicial District Court Judge Greg Lyman.

The complaint was originally filed by Archuleta County resident Greg Giehl and his attorney, Matt Roane, regarding an executive session recording that took place Sept. 22, 2015.

The executive session, held by the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC), pertained to the resignation of County Attorney Todd Starr.

The complaint was filed against Archuleta County Clerk and Recorder June Madrid because she did not release the recording of the executive session to Giehl and Roane when they requested it.

The complaint was filed on Dec. 15, 2015.

In January of 2016, the BoCC voted to defend Madrid in the case, and authorized the legal firm Rose, Walker, Starr LLP (who holds the county's legal services contract, and a firm in which Starr is a partner) to represent Madrid in her defense.

The complaint argues that, for various reasons, the executive session wasn't conducted correctly and therefore deserved to be public knowledge.

The complaint alleges the following reasons:

- That the agenda documentation could have been more descriptive regarding the executive session instead of just listing "personnel matters."
- That the BoCC discussed other topics in the executive session, instead of only discussing the "personnel matters" stated on the agenda.
- That the BoCC reached a deci-

■ See Judge A9

Taking a look back at the year 2016

2016 was a busy and interesting year in Pagosa Country. There was no want for controversial issues, no lack of interesting news events to keep SUN readers focused on local events, situations and personalities.

This week, we review some of those events, selected by SUN staff writers from the first three months of the year.

January

• The matchup between the Pagosa Springs High School (PSHS) Lady Pirates basketball team and the 4A Durango Demons was a highly anticipated battle, with both teams walking onto the court undefeated.

Prior to the Jan. 5 game, Durango boasted a perfect 5-0 record, rivaling that of the Lady Pirates' im-

maculate 6-0 season.

The Demons ultimately fell to their opponents with a final score of 55-18.

• The PSHS wrestling team finished sixth out of 14 teams at its home tournament, the Rocky Mountain Invitational, on Jan. 9.

• On Jan. 11 and 12, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) held several work sessions to discuss the location of a new justice center facility.

Architectural consultants from Reynolds Ash and Associates and Reilly Johnson Architecture presented several possibilities to the BoCC concerning possible justice center locations.

These possibilities included the

■ See Review A8

Above and beyond the call of duty

Pagosa Springs Police Officer Logan Gholson receives a certificate of appreciation from Mayor Don Volger during Tuesday evening's meeting of the town council. Gholson was recognized for "providing dedication and professionalism, over and above the call of duty, to the citizens of Pagosa Springs. During the early morning hours of Saturday, Oct. 22, Logan went beyond the call of duty at the unprecedented and unique fire at the Adobe Building. His professional demeanor and organizational skills were instrumental with taking command of the situation, and evacuating the building in a timely and coordinated manner."



Photo courtesy Town of Pagosa Springs

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Opinion

EDITORIAL

WHADDYA THINK?

Building a bridge to the future

Springs Partners LLC received their answer Tuesday when town council unanimously voted not to proceed with the option to build a proposed vehicle bridge at 5th Street.

Council statements and public comment before and after the vote pretty much summed up that the Springs Partners 10-Year Vested Rights Agreement, as written in 2012, isn't perceived as equitable.

What began over a year ago as conversations in closed-door executive sessions, one of which was deemed inappropriate by a judge, ended with an open meeting of the council inviting public comment.

Those who spoke during the meeting talked of lessons learned and wanting to keep communication open with the developers.

One councilperson attributed pushback from the community as being due to an anti-growth agenda. A citizen assured the council that the issue was more about the town having a public process in place to include community input and negotiating a fair and equitable agreement with the Springs Partners, which didn't happen under the leadership of the town in 2012.

Others voiced that they weren't trying to stymie growth, but challenge the manner in which the matter of the 5th Street bridge had been handled. In challenging the process, the public pushed for traffic and economic studies, which, after being done, raised additional questions and concerns about future growth of the town. It was acknowledged that we do have a problem and that problem isn't going to go away.

It is imperative that a task force be established to address the issues that came up as a result of the traffic studies. We have to face the problems of the future and put a plan in place to solve the challenges as described by the traffic study.

At Tuesday evening's meeting, there was talk of appreciation for the vision and forethought of the Springs Partners as developers in our community.

Assuming a negative vote by council, Springs Partners, which includes longtime community members Bill Dawson, Matt Mees and Jack Searle, provided a statement accepting the decision and considering it a final one. They indicated they would modify and implement their development plan.

We would hope that the developers, being as community-minded as they have been described, would ensure that any modifications to their plan provide the biggest benefit to the community as a whole.

There is no doubt that Pagosa Springs is changing. You will find some who will fight it every step of the way, and you will find some who will embrace it. But, we must always be careful to examine the price we are willing to pay for progress.

Let the conversations continue.

Terri Lynn Oldham House

What would you most support an increase in school funding for?



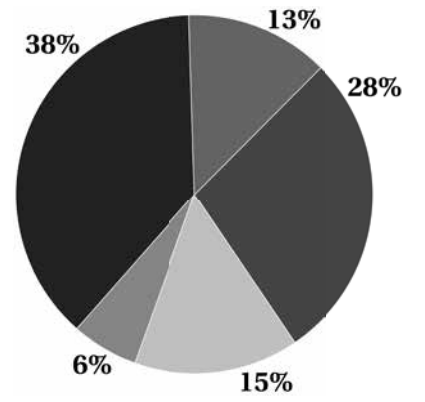
Patty Tillerson
"Just educational purposes: schooling."



Ron Jyleen
"I know they need more, mostly in the academic part, so kids will go further in life."



Joe Steele
"I would probably put it into more teachers, to lower the student/teacher ratio. More emphasis on the 3 Rs."

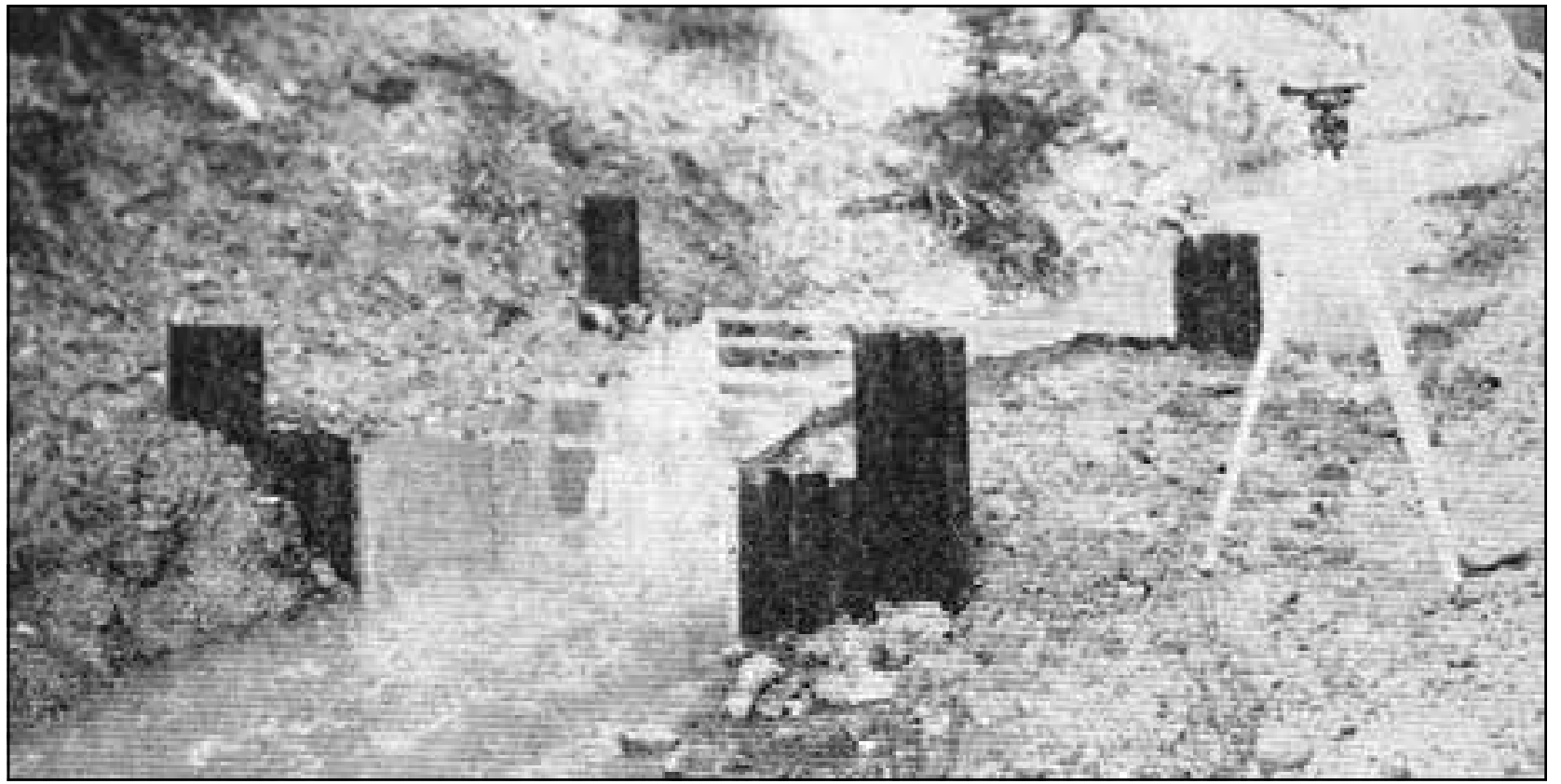


Poll results (163 Votes)

- Class-size reduction — 28 percent
- Facilities — 15 percent
- Full-day kindergarten — 6 percent
- Teacher salaries — 38 percent
- Technology — 13 percent

This week online: What is your best advice for dealing with the snow? Vote at www.pagosasun.com

LOOKING BACK



From the Nov. 30, 1967, Pagosa Springs SUN. THE NEW MEASURING — The new measuring flume, all steel construction, installed in the Four Mile Ditch.

Your Representatives

Pagosa Springs Mayor Don Volger, ddvolger@gmail.com
Pagosa Springs Town Council
 John Egan, jegan@pagosaspings.co.gov
 Rebecca Anderson, randerson@pagosaspings.co.gov
 Tracy Bunning, tbunning@pagosaspings.co.gov
 David Schanzenbaker, dschanzenbaker@pagosaspings.co.gov
 Nicole DeMarco, ndemarco@pagosaspings.co.gov
 Mat deGraaf, mdegraaf@pagosaspings.co.gov

LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

90 years ago

Taken from SUN files of December 31, 1926

St. Joseph talent will figure largely in a book which deals with the pony express which is to be published in the early spring, says a St. Joseph (Mo.) paper. The book is "The Youngest Rider," written by Mrs. Louis Platt Hauck and illustrated by Fred Harman, a St. Joseph artist who has prepared four paintings in oil and a cover design for the book, which is a juvenile novel of historic interest.

Mrs. Minnie Mote, teacher of the Juanita school, spent Christmas at her home in Pagosa with her husband and son Francis, the latter coming over from the Fort Lewis school.

Miss Arlene Reynolds, Pagosa teacher who has been in quarantine for diphtheria, was released this morning.

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of January 9, 1942

Federal officials have ordered all citizens of Germany, Italy and Japan now in Colorado to turn over to local police all cameras, short wave receiving and sending sets, firearms, ammunition and similar articles. United States District Attorney Thomas J. Morrissey says all the articles will be returned to their owners after the war but that permission for continued use of the items will not be granted. Morrissey warns that wilful failure to turn over arms and cameras will result in heavy punishment. The district attorney also pointed out that all aliens who wish to travel outside their localities must apply to his office for permission. Sheriff Earl Crouse already has received two cameras, and one radio from an Archuleta county alien.

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of January 5, 2017

The Wolf Creek Pass Ski area is now in its eleventh year in the present location and use is increasing each year. The ski tow and ski operations were moved to their present locations from the top of the Pass in 1956. The use of the area has skyrocketed the past few years. The heaviest week in the history of the area was recorded during the first week of Christmas vacation when 1423 skiers used the area. There were 742 skiers this past weekend. The increasing popularity of the ski area is due to several factors. One, of course, is the fact that it generally has snow earlier than other areas and also has it later in the spring. Another very important factor is the quality of the skiing snow which is superior in every respect.

25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of January 9, 1992

Area residents were saddened last Thursday to learn that Archuleta County had lost a long-respected friend. Emmett L. Martinez died at home, while asleep, during the early morning hours of Thurs., Jan. 2, 1992. Known by more recent county residents for his friendly service at Jacksich Drug, Emmett spent many of his 89 years engaged in ranching and a variety of business endeavors in Pagosa Springs.

Logistics involved with displaying The Moving Wall in Pagosa Springs will be discussed Fri., Jan. 10 at a 7 p.m. public meeting at the County Commissioner's meeting room. A half-scale replica of Vietnam Veterans Memorial, The Moving Wall will be in Pagosa Springs June 2 through June 8, Veterans Service Officer Ernest Yamaguchi announced.

The Pagosa Springs SUN

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			Type	Depth	Moisture
12/28	38	10	-	-	-
12/29	41	13	-	-	-
12/30	41	9	-	-	-
12/31	32	17	S	T	T
1/1	32	25	S	2.9"	.26"
1/2	31	28	S	.05"	.10"
1/3	32	21	S	1.7"	.10"

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PUBLIC MEETING IN SESSION ...

Baldy

Letters

Bell ringers

Dear Editor:
I want to thank all of the organizations and their members who gave of their time to be red kettle bell ringers for the Salvation Army during December.
I hope that their fundraising goal was greatly exceeded.
I do know that they all spread Christmas cheer to everyone entering and exiting City Market, no matter the weather. In fact, when I mentioned the cold, everyone dismissed this completely.
Their "Merry Christmas" wishes, smiles and bell ringing and, yes, the piñatas, were really a special addition to my holiday experience.
I confess that my favorite volunteer didn't actually ring a bell

but accompanied its owner, who confided that he always collected more when he brought his dog.
I bet that participating in this campaign brought each volunteer a lot of joy and cheer as well.
Thank you.

Tozi Rubin

Mouth vs. brain

Dear Editor:
OK, the holidays are over, we need to settle down to "business." America first means working together for what is best for our country without prejudice against anyone — only goodness makes things possible.
I believe it is important for everyone within all areas of government to heed the following quote of Pope Francis from his little book,

"The Name of God is Mercy."
"Corruption is not an act but a condition, a personal and social state in which we become accustomed to living. The corrupt man is so closed off and contented in the complacency of his self-sufficiency that he does not allow himself to be called into question by anything or anyone. The self-confidence he has built up is based on a fraudulent behavior: he spends his life taking opportunistic shortcuts at the cost of his own and others' dignity. The corrupt man gets angry because his wallet is stolen and so he complains about the lack of safety on the streets, but then he is the one who cheats the state by avoiding taxes."
Hopefully, as the new administration learns the many truths and many

demands of governing, a political cleansing will occur in all and our government will return to one that is truly "by the people and for the people."
The Book of James, chapter 3, verse 13: states it clearly: "Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show it by the good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom." And, I must add that true wisdom comes from our daily relationship with God through our prayers — he gives to all who ask.
Our very wise and loving village priest of a few years ago said this to me regarding good folks who make damaging comments: "Their mouth got ahead of their brain." So, think on these things as we move forward.
Know you are loved.
Patty Tillerson

Letters

The SUN welcomes letters from readers.
Please submit to:
PO Box 9, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
e-mail: editor@pagosasun.com
or fax: (970) 264-2103
All letters must:
be 500 words or less
be signed by the author, unless emailed
include the author's phone number and address
be received by The SUN by noon on Tuesday (deadline may move up due to a holiday)
If necessary, only one letter in support of a political candidate or issue will be printed each edition. Letters printed will be at the discretion of The SUN.
Letters quoting other people must contain proper attribution.
There is no guarantee letters will be published.
The SUN reserves the right to edit letters.

PLPOA will allow 400-square-foot modular homes in Vista subdivision

By Jim Garrett
Staff Writer
The Pagosa Lakes Property Owner's Association (PLPOA) announced on Jan. 2 that modular homes of as little as 400 square feet will be allowed on lots within its Vista subdivision.
The Vista subdivision is roughly bordered by Vista Boulevard to the east, Lake Forest Circle to the north, and U.S. 160 to the south.
The so-called "tiny homes" will be allowed on the subdivision's MH50 lots, which in the past have been limited to mobile or manufactured homes.
According to PLPOA General

Manager Allen Roth, the lots carrying that designation generally are .25 acre or less in size.
The homes will be required to be installed on a permanent foundation meeting requirements of the Archuleta County Building Code. In addition, they will require a 32-square-foot covered entry, and a 60-square-foot freestanding storage building.
The zoning change was approved by the PLPOA Environmental Control Committee in December, according to Roth. That committee has the primary responsibility for administration of the Declaration of Restrictions

within the Pagosa Lakes community, which sets forth restrictions on the manner of using property within its borders.
Roth said that the change was encouraged by interaction between the PLPOA staff and the affordable housing work group sponsored by Archuleta County and the Town of Pagosa Springs.
"We all need to work together to improve the community," he explained.
The PLPOA decision to allow modular homes "did stem from affordable housing concerns in the community," Roth said. He added, that even prior to the recent action, Vista had already been "geared to affordable housing," and "modular homes provide another alternative."
Roth told The SUN that he is not aware as yet of any plans to take advantage of the recent change in the restrictions for affected Vista lots. However, he does "expect a lot of people" will do so.
He predicted that prospective homeowners may be looking at costs in the range of \$80,000-\$100,000 for a home complying with the new provision.
jim@pagosasun.com

Card of Thanks

Martinez

A special thank you to all who made the chili supper benefit for Marty Martinez successful: Dorothy Griego, Dorothy's Restaurant, Frances Griego, Liz Martinez, Emily Martinez, Alexa Martinez, Patricia Daniels, Darlene Martinez, Reyes Rivas, Dottie Wade, The Pagosa Springs SUN, all who allowed us to post fly-

ers, all who came to enjoy dinner, all who gave donations, all who bought tickets for a genuine Dooney and Bourke handbag, and for all who have prayed and continue to pray for Marty's good health. If we forgot anyone, please forgive us. May you all have a happy new year filled with family, friends and abundant health. Lenore Martinez, Maria Martinez-Gallegos

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Kermit and Sharon Case	Mike Hill and Morgen Hickey	Aaron and Shannon Singh
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Business

CHAMBER NEWS

Grants available for expanding child care capacity

By Mary Jo Coulehan
SUN Columnist

Happy New Year. This is the time when many of us reflect on what we have been through this past year and what is in store for us. We look at how we run our lives, what good things do we want to focus on and what can we change.

Last year, the Chamber talked about community infrastructure concerns and issues that are affecting many of us and our jobs. While work groups and organizations continue to look and work on the problems, I would like to suggest some viable and necessary job opportunities for persons who may be able to work out of their home or are looking for a new career.

Child care grants

One of the bigger concerns in the community is available and affordable child care. The unavailability of this necessity greatly affects the workplace and the employee. Recent survey analysis

shows that Archuleta County is grossly underserved in the child care arena.

Through a grant made possible by the El Pomar Foundation, the Early Childhood Council of La Plata County (ECCLP) has money available to assist child care homes and licensed centers or facilities in the works that are interested in and can expand their infant and toddler capacity in southwest Colorado including Archuleta County.

Licensed homes and centers, licensed exempt programs and licensed pending programs are all eligible. Applicants could receive between \$750 and \$1,000 for each new infant/toddler slot created. This money could assist the provider in purchasing new equipment or toys, making physical additions or renovations to their facility or other ideas.

Kimberlie Brown at ECCLP is coordinating the grant and fielding any inquiries. If you already have a child and are interested in opening

a child care home, Brown can also assist you in this process — which can be cumbersome. Assistance funds may become available for new homes and centers as well.

The grant is open until April 7 on a first-come, first-served basis. The infant and toddler slots must be available by April 28.

This grant is a wonderful opportunity to make even a small dent in the child care crisis that faces our community. Please take advantage of this offering by contacting Brown at kimberlieb@ecclaplate.org or 247-0760, or Mary Jo Coulehan at the Chamber at 264-2360.

Cottage industry

Another business opportunity that the Chamber has been asked to investigate and cultivate involves reputable designers in our community who do not send their products out of the United States to be produced. Moreover, they would like to create a viable production industry in our own community.

This design and production in-

dustry takes on all forms of creativity including design, sample sewing and mass production.

If you are interested in finding out more about this industry, please contact Coulehan at the Chamber at 264-2360.

Membership news

To ring in the new year, we welcome new members Cabe's Collision and Customs along with The Cabins at Hartland Ranch. Angie and Ken Gayhart have joined the Chamber as individual members.

Our renewals include the San Juan Headwaters Forest Health Partnership, The Alley House Grille, Sunset Ranch Cabins, Summit Ski and Sports, Wayne's Wild West Guns and CDC Janitorial.

If you are interested in starting your new year off right by joining the Chamber of Commerce, please stop by our offices located at 105 Hot Springs Blvd., inside the Visitor Center, to see how Chamber benefits can help your business.

2016 town budget amended at year-end

By Jim Garrett
Staff Writer

"A budget is just a plan," Town Manager Greg Schulte told the Pagosa Springs Town Council last Thursday, and as in a military operation, "may only last five minutes" after the battle (or budget period) starts.

The remark came at a special meeting held by council on Dec. 29. The purpose of the meeting was essentially to close the 2016 budget year in compliance with Colorado law governing municipal expenditures.

Council did so following a public hearing, by formally approving an amendment of the 2016 budget with respect to expenditures it had authorized during the year, but which were not originally included when the budget was approved last fall.

The action dealt only with finalization of expenditures for the year, as required by law, and did not address revenues. Town revenues derived from taxes paid in 2016 are still being collected, especially sales taxes, which are remitted through the Colorado Department of Revenue, and are received subject to a

two-month time lag.

The town's revenues during the year have been higher than projected in the 2016 budget. The most recent data, presented by Schulte to council during its regular meeting this week on Jan. 3, is that year to date (through October), "we are ahead of budget by approximately \$123,194, or 8%" in sales tax collections.

A lengthy list of 2016 expenditures which had been authorized by council during the year was reckoned by last week's budget amendment. An example is expenditures on the town's summer youth program, approved by council on March 1, 2016.

The program was approved as a replacement for the closed youth center, to ensure the availability of summertime activities for community youth. The town's Parks and Recreation Department oversaw the program.

At the time of its approval, council was told by department director Darren Lewis that the 11-week program would require four full-time and four part-time employees, in order to supervise up to 45 children. A total anticipated budget of approximately \$40,000 for the summer was

approved by council. The amount had not been included in the original 2016 budget.

During the meeting last week, Councilor David Schanzenbaker noted that even though he recalled council's earlier approval of the numerous expenditures involved in the proposed amendment, the lengthy recap of transactions throughout the year was difficult to follow, and wondered whether it would be possible to amend the budget for individual transactions as they occurred, rather than collectively at year end.

Schulte confirmed that would be possible, but noted that a budget amendment requires legal formalities, making it prudent to defer that action to year-end.

Schulte also pointed out to The SUN following the special meeting that, in some instances, it may be difficult to know the ultimate budget impact when a transaction is initially authorized, referring to the summer youth program as an example.

Schulte noted that although the summer youth program had a budget of \$40,000, fees were charged for attendance and grants to help meet costs were received. When

the receipts were tallied against the expenses at the close of the program, the actual cost to the town was only \$4,000. The latter figure was thus the sum for the summer youth program that was included in the year-end budget amendment, but it would have been impossible to know that amount last March.

As remarked by councilor Tracy Bunning in connection with the proposed year-end amendment during the meeting last week, the fact that there are "changes in both directions" throughout the year supports the prudence of a final amendment, rather than piecemeal amendments throughout the year.

In total, the amendment reckoned increase expenditures (and reduced reserves) in the town's general fund, capital fund, geothermal enterprise fund and conservation trust fund. The amendment had the opposite effect on the town's trust/fund impact.

As noted by Mayor Don Volger during the hearing, regardless of the amendment, the town's financial reserves remained well over the minimums necessary.

jim@pagosahun.com

New cost share opportunities for organic producers and handlers

By Patti Finke
Special to The SUN

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) recently announced that starting March 20, 2017, organic

producers and handlers will be able to visit over 2,100 USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) offices to apply for federal reimbursement to assist with the cost of receiving and maintaining organic or transitional

certification.

"USDA reimburses organic producers up to 75 percent of the cost of organic certification, but only about half of the nation's organic operations currently participate in

the program," said FSA Administrator Val Dolcini. "Starting March 20, USDA will provide a uniform, streamlined process for organic producers and handlers to apply for

■ See Opportunities A5

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Public Meetings

The following meetings are subject to change.

Thursday, Jan. 5

Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District special meeting. 4 p.m., PAWSD administrative offices, 100 Lyn Ave.

Town of Pagosa Springs community meeting. 5:30 p.m., Ross Aragon Community Center, Hot Springs Boulevard. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the possibility of extending the Riverwalk along Hermosa Street to the 1st Street bridge. This would close the gap in the sidewalk network off of U.S. 160 between 1st Street bridge and Town Park. The potential addition of this segment would allow residents and visitors to go from the River Center all the way to Town Hall without being on the highway for a prolonged period of time.

Monday, Jan. 9

Pagosa Area Geothermal Water and Power Authority meeting. 5 p.m., Town Hall, 551 Hot Springs Blvd.

ACRW meeting: county emergency management, search and rescue

By Julie Church
Special to The SUN

On Tuesday, Jan. 10, the Archuleta County Republican Women will be hosting Mike Le Roux, the director of emergency operations for Archuleta County.

The Archuleta County Sheriff's Office Division of Emergency Management is responsible for coordination of the county's emergency management function. The division is also responsible for the coordination of search and rescue throughout the sheriff's response area and is responsible for wildland

Tuesday, Jan. 10

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 commissioner swearing in. 11 a.m., Archuleta County Courthouse, 449 San Juan St.

Archuleta School District Board of Education work session. 5 p.m., Pagosa Springs Middle School library, 309 Lewis St.

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

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

Pagosa Fire Protection District Board of Directors meeting. 6:30 p.m., Station No. 1 training room, 191 North Pagosa Blvd.

Wednesday, Jan. 11

Town of Pagosa Springs Historic

Preservation Board. 5:30 p.m., Town Hall front conference room, 551 Hot Springs Blvd.

Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation (CDC) work session. 11 a.m., Borde Rio, 356 East Pagosa St.

Tuesday, Jan. 17

Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners and Pagosa Springs Town Council joint work session. 8 a.m., Town Hall council chambers, 551 Hot Springs Blvd.

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.

Town of Pagosa Springs public meeting: Art in Pagosa Springs. 5 p.m., Ross Aragon Community Center. Regarding art in our community including topics such as public art displays, creation of an art district, forming an artist organization, etc.

Wednesday, Jan. 18

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

Thursday, Jan. 19

Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District work session. 4 p.m., PAWSD administrative offices, 100 Lyn Ave.

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

Tuesday, Jan. 24

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

Archuleta School District Board of Education retreat. 9 a.m., Sunset Ranch, 4186 East U.S. 160.

Archuleta School District Board of Education special meeting. 5 p.m., Pagosa Springs Middle School library, 309 Lewis St.

Dr. Mary Fisher Medical Foundation regular board meeting. 5 p.m., Pagosa Springs Medical Center main building conference room, 95 S. Pagosa Blvd.

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

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

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

Wednesday, Jan. 25

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.

Tuesday, Jan. 31

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

Town of Pagosa Springs comprehensive plan update community open house. 5 p.m., Ross Aragon Community Center. The first opportunity for public comments regarding Pagosa Springs' vision and goals for the next 10-20 years.

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

fire response in unincorporated areas of Archuleta County.

Le Roux is also the vice chairman for Upper San Juan Search and Rescue (USJSAR). His aim is to let you know who they are, what they do and how to activate help in an emergency. He also hopes to bust the myth that their services are charged for.

This meeting will take place at Boss Hogg's Restaurant on Jan. 10 at noon, with doors opening at 11:30 a.m. Every one is invited to attend. Lunch will be offered for \$12. For more information, email acrwpagosa@gmail.com.

Opportunities

Continued from A4

organic cost share assistance either by mail or in person at USDA offices located in almost every rural county in the country."

USDA is making changes to increase participation in the National Organic Certification Cost Share Program (NOCOSP) and the Agricultural Management Assistance Organic Certification Cost Share Program, and at the same time provide more opportunities for organic producers to access other USDA programs, such as disaster protection and loans for farms, facilities and marketing.

Producers can also access information on nonfederal agricultural resources and get referrals to local experts, including organic agriculture, through USDA's Bridges to Opportunity service at the local

FSA office.

Historically, many state departments of agriculture have obtained grants to disburse reimbursements to those producers and handlers qualifying for cost share assistance. FSA will continue to partner with states to administer the programs. For states that want to continue to directly administer the programs, applications will be due Feb. 17, 2017.

"The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) and the National Organic Program look forward to this exciting opportunity to leverage the Farm Service Agency's rural footprint to reach more organic producers and handlers," said AMS Administrator Eleanor Starmer. "At the same time, it is important to recognize and continue the valuable partnerships with states that

remain at the core of the program."

Eligible producers include any certified producers or handlers who have paid organic or transitional certification fees to a USDA-accredited certifying agent. Application fees, inspection costs, fees related to equivalency agreement/arrangement requirements, travel/per diem for inspectors, user fees, sales assessments and postage are all eligible for a cost share reimbursement from USDA.

Once certified, producers and handlers are eligible to receive reimbursement for up to 75 percent of certification costs each year up to a maximum of \$750 per certification scope — crops, livestock, wild crops and handling. The announcement also adds transitional certification and state organic program fees as additional

scopes.

To learn more about organic certification cost share, please visit www.fsa.usda.gov/organic or contact a local FSA office by visiting <http://offices.usda.gov>.

To learn more about USDA support for organic agriculture, visit www.usda.gov/organic.

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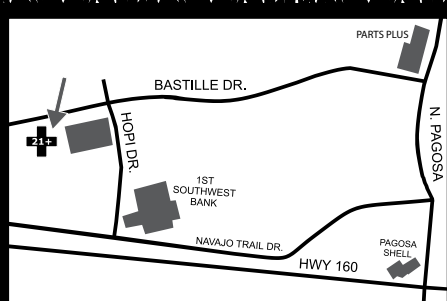
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Education

San Juan Conservation District announces poster contest winners

By Cynthia Purcell
Special to The SUN

The San Juan Conservation District hosted its annual poster contest for fifth-grade students.

This year's theme was "We All Need Trees." The students were given a presentation on the importance of conservation and using natural resources wisely.

They created a poster depicting between one and three conservation practices. District supervisors judged the posters and awarded cash prizes to the top five entries. Additionally, each student who participated in the contest received a temperature key tag.

The top winner was sent on to the state competition at the Colorado Association of Conservation District's annual meeting earlier in November.

This year's local winners are Electra Ulloa (first place and \$30), Bradley Lamoreaux (second place and \$25), Marie Smith (third place and \$20), Jeidy Moreno Echavarria (fourth place and \$15) and Yvette Rubio (fifth place and \$10).



Photo courtesy Cynthia Purcell

Winners of the San Juan Conservation District's annual poster contest for fifth-grade students are, from left to right, Jeidy Moreno Echavarria (fourth place and \$15), Electra Ulloa (first place and \$30), Marie Smith (third place and \$20), Bradley Lamoreaux (second place and \$25) and Yvette Rubio (fifth place and \$10).

2016 fall assessment shows mixed bag of results for district students

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

A report on the fall 2016 NWEA assessment for Archuleta School District (ASD) students shows that ASD students exceed the national norm at the upper grade levels for both reading and math, but are behind the national norm at the lower grade levels.

The NWEA (Northwest Evaluation Assessment) assessment is taken by students in the fall and spring.

The fall 2016 reading and math results were presented to the ASD Board of Education during the Dec. 13, 2016, regular meeting by Assistant Superintendent David Hamilton.

"We want to be above the norm from kindergarten through high school on everything," Hamilton noted.

The assessment results presented by Hamilton were compared to the national norm, or the national normative results.

Hamilton explained during the meeting that the norm is based on a scale score and is a way of taking the data and putting it into a form that can be compared from one group to another.

An August 2015 document titled "NWEA 2015 MAP Norms for Student and School Achievement Status and Growth" describes: "When educators and parents speak of improvement, progress, or growth in learning, normative performance is probably not the first thing that comes to mind. It is always important to hear about what, and how much more of the curricular content, a student has learned; but knowing how much a student has learned compared with the attainment of the student's peers

is probably a close second. For meeting this purpose, norms are critical. Norms indicate the levels of achievement and growth that are attainable for identifiable populations of students or schools."

Hamilton noted that, while ASD students were behind, they were not behind by large margins, but rather were only a "smidgen behind."

Hamilton also presented one-year growth figures to the board, later explaining to the board that, as educators, you like to see how much a child grows while in a classroom, whereas, at the federal level, the focus is on achievement.

He also broke the data down by segments, including for minorities and students with individual education plans (IEPs).

Reading

The fall 2016 NWEA results for reading showed that, until eighth grade, ASD students are falling below the norm, with the exception of second-graders.

Figures are based on a scale of 250. Seventh-graders locally were very close to the national norm, with a 214 locally and a 214.4 as the norm.

ASD eighth-graders score 219.6, versus the norm of 217.2.

Local ninth-graders scored a 223.4, versus the norm of 220.

ASD 10th-graders, the highest grade to take the assessment, scored 226.2, versus the norm of 220.4.

Math

Similar to reading, ASD students fell behind the national norm in the lower grades, but exceeded it in 10th grade.

The largest gap between the local score and the norm comes in first grade, with a local tally of 156.8 versus the norm of 162.4.

By 10th grade, ASD students scored a 233.5, ahead of the norm of 230.1.

Growth

Hamilton's presentation listed the following conclusions on growth:

- In reading, ASD students "Outgrow the national norm from seventh grade through tenth grade."

- In math, the students "Outgrow the national norm from eighth grade through tenth grade."

- Minority students are behind ASD growth, but ahead of national growth, from the seventh grade forward. They are at or above ASD growth from the sixth grade on in math.

- There is high variance for students with IEPs, though those students are generally behind the norm and their ASD peers in the lower grades in reading, but pull ahead in the higher grades, with the same true for math.

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

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Obituary

Tom Seifert

Tom Seifert passed away on his 83rd birthday, Dec. 30, 2016, which he celebrated with his wife, Evelyn, family and friends.

He is survived by: his wife, Evelyn; son Tomas Seifert; daughter Patricia Ann Burton; stepson Troy Ray; stepdaughter Julia Pitts; grandchildren; great-grandchild.

dren and a great-great-grandchild.

Visitation will be held on Thursday, Jan. 5, from 4 to 8 p.m. at Hood Mortuary Chapel, 1261 E. 3rd Ave., Durango.

There will be a service on Jan. 6 at 11 a.m. at the Allison Community Presbyterian Church, with burial to follow at the Allison-Tiffany Cemetery.

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Outdoors

Plumtaw Ultra Nordic Ski Race this Saturday

By James Dickhoff
Special to The SUN

The Pagosa Nordic Club is hosting the fourth annual Plumtaw Ultra Nordic Ski Race this Saturday, Jan. 7.

This is a freestyle Nordic ski race with your choice of a 30-km or 60-km course along the base of Pagosa Peak on Fourmile Road and Plumtaw Road.

The races begin promptly at 8:30 a.m., so plan on arriving early enough to sign in, gear up and be ready to go. The starting and finish line is located 7 miles up Fourmile Road (CR 400), where winter road plowing ends. The race is held on public lands in the San Juan National Forest.

Racers can skate ski or classic ski (no set tracks) on their course choice. The event is a self supported race with limited aid stations. Race registration fee is donation-based and you can sign up at PagosaNordic.com under the events tab. There will be awards and prizes for top finishers.

Volunteer course monitors are still needed; if you are interested in helping out, please contact us at PagosaNordic@gmail.com.



2016 Plumtaw Ultra Nordic ski racers make their way along the 60-km course (that's 36 miles, folks) from Fourmile Road to McManus Road and back. The 2017 races are set for this Saturday, Jan. 7.

Photo courtesy James Dickhoff

Proof of ownership required to register boats, OHVs, snowmobiles with state

By Colorado Parks and Wildlife
Special to The SUN

Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) reminds resident owners of boats, OHVs and snowmobiles that they must provide proof of ownership before they can register their vehicles.

Providing proof of ownership is a new regulation enacted by the Colorado Legislature. The purpose of the regulation is to assure that stolen vehicles are not being bought and sold.

The following can be used for proof of ownership:

- A bill that includes the date of sale, the names of the seller and buyer — printed and signed,
- The vessel/vehicle identification number — if known,

- The vessel/vehicle make, model and year — if known,
- Previous registration certificate issued by a governmental entity that lists the applicant as registered owner.

- Manufacturer's certificate of origin (MCO)/ manufacturer's statement of origin (MSO).
- Certificate of title.
- Any court-issued document proving ownership.

If an owner does not have any of these documents, the boat or vehicle can be taken to any CPW office where it will be inspected. A law enforcement officer will check the identification number to make sure it hasn't been altered in a way that might indicate the vehicle or boat had been stolen. Documentation of the inspection

will be provided to the state and the owner.

If you need an inspection, please call the CPW location first to make sure that a law enforcement officer is available. An officer is usually available at park offices, but officers are not always available at wildlife offices.

If you are planning to make a purchase this year from a private party, CPW recommends that you obtain a bill of sale with the appropriate information. For convenience, CPW provides a template for a bill of sale on its website.

Dealers are required to complete the registration application for customers and to collect the registration fee.

For additional details, go to CPW's registration website: cpw.state.co.us. You can also call CPW's registration office at (303) 791-1920.

DUST2 to host Pagosa Springs' first fat bike race

By Annie Sewell
Special to The SUN

DUST2 is excited to announce that it will be hosting Pagosa's first fat bike race on Sunday, Jan. 8, from 9 a.m. to noon at Turkey Springs trailhead, off Piedra Road.

This will include three races: a 14-mile loop, 7-mile loop and kids mile.

For those of you who may not want to race, there is plenty of groomed trail for Nordic skiing

and snowshoeing across the road at Coyote Park.

Parking is limited at the event site. Please meet one of the shuttles at Pagosa Mountain Sports, 162 Pagosa St., or in the City Market parking lot 162 Country Center Drive.

Proceeds to benefit DUST2 and its urban single-track trail initiative.

To register and for more information, go to www.dustx2.com or call 507-7886.

San Juan National Forest accepting project proposals for Title 2 funding

By Ann Bond
Special to The SUN

Project proposals are now being accepted for natural-resource projects that benefit the San Juan National Forest and rural economies of southwestern Colorado counties, through funding available under Title 2 of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act.

The purposes of the act include making investments and creating employment opportunities through the maintenance of existing infrastructure, implementation of stewardship objectives, and restoration of land health or water quality. Examples include projects that restore watersheds, maintain or decommission roads, manage noxious weeds, or otherwise improve forest health on or adjacent to the national forest.

Project proposals that meet

the intent of the legislation will be reviewed by the San Juan Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) this spring.

The RAC, which is made up of local citizens representing a wide range of interests, provides recommendations to the Forest Service on which Title 2 projects should be funded. Prior to online submission, potential applicants must coordinate their proposal with the affected county and ranger district.

To be considered, project proposals must qualify under the purposes of the act and be posted online no later than March 17. Applicants are advised to coordinate submissions with Ann Bond, San Juan RAC coordinator, at 385-1219 or abond@fs.fed.us.

To access the San Juan Title II Project application form, go to: <http://cloudapps-usda-gov.force.com/FSSRS/CreateNewProjectPage?rac=001t0000002JcvFAAS>.

Horsemen: Exploring historic tree carvings

By Kathy Sherer
Special to The SUN

The Four Corners Back Country Horsemen will hold their monthly meeting on Thursday, Jan. 12, at 7 p.m. at the La Plata County Fairgrounds. Nonmembers are always welcome to attend.

Ruth Lambert will discuss the San Juan Mountains Association's recent study of the historic Hispano tree carvings, or arborglyphs, found along the Pine-Piedra Stock Drive-way in the San Juan National Forest.

In the early 1900s, the driveway was used for seasonal migrations of sheep between summer and winter pastures. As herders camped along

the route, they carved names, dates and images to mark their passing.

The study included archaeological documentation of camps, historical research and conversations with descendants of herding families. Together, the history and traditions behind these carvings provide a glimpse into the lifeways of early Hispano settlers.

The Four Corners Back Country Horsemen work to perpetuate commonsense enjoyment of public lands by horsemen and pack stock users. To learn more, go to: www.4cbch.org or contact Cathy Roberts, chapter president, at 749-0316 or cathyroberts08@gmail.com.

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From all of us at the Humane Society of Pagosa Springs, our heartfelt THANK YOU to everyone who adopted an animal from our animal shelter or supported the shelter animals by volunteering time, shopping at our thrift store, attending our fundraisers, or making a financial gift in 2016.

The success of our mission to provide a safe haven for animals in need would not have been possible this past year without you!

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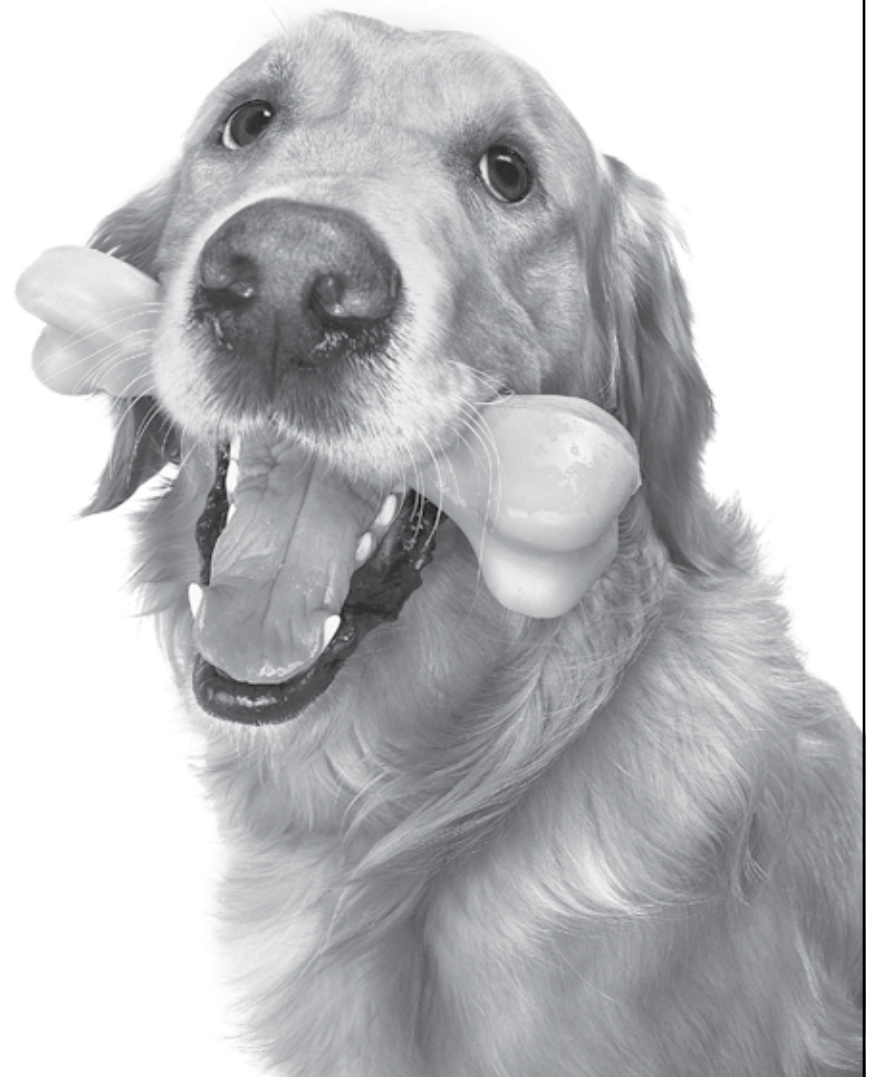
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For more information visit www.humanesociety.biz

The shelter and thrift store are open 7 days per week.

Call the shelter at 731-4771 or the thrift store at 264-6424.



Sports

BASKETBALL

Lady Pirates ring in new year with fifth win

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirates rang in the new year with another win, bringing their record to 5-1 on the season.

The win came Tuesday evening over the 4A Durango Demons, with a 36-23 final score.

"Obviously glad to get a win against a good team in Durango," coach Wes Lewis said following the game. "They're well coached, a big school, and they've got some good players, and so I guess any time you can get a win against a quality opponent, you're glad about that."

Going into the game, the Demons held a 6-3 record.

The game was very close in the first quarter, with the Pirates outscoring the Demons 5-4, but pulled away a little in the second quarter, ending the first half up 15-10.

The team "did a nice job in the third quarter creating some separation," Lewis said, and traded baskets with Durango in the fourth.

With a 16-point lead with about four minutes to go, Lewis noted the team went into a delayed game until the final buzzer, which left the Pirates with a 13-point win.

Twelve of those points came from Devin Wilson, who chalked up three 3-pointers, as well as landing three of five shots from the free-throw line and logging three assists.

"Devin Wilson had a nice night shooting the basketball for us," Lewis said.

Despite limited playing in the first half due to early foul trouble, Morgan Lewis tallied 11 for the Lady Pirates, including a 3-pointer.

"Hailey Griego came in and did a really nice job for a freshman. Got us some big minutes there, and then we brought Morgan back in the second quarter with about five minutes to go and she was able to play the rest of the game and stay out of foul trouble, so that was big for us," the coach said.

Griego put up two points for the Lady Pirates in the game.

And while Morgan Lewis "didn't have a huge night" offensively, the coach noted, "She just creates a lot of attention, which opens up a lot of other kids."

Megan Farrah also put up points in the game, tallying seven, which the coach noted was "great to see." Farrah added a team-high five assists in the game.

"That was nice to have those three kind of balancing our scoring," Wes Lewis said of Wilson, Morgan Lewis and Farrah.

Keena Murphy also added four



SUN photo/
Randi Pierce

Morgan Lewis scrambles for a loose ball Tuesday evening with the help of Zoe Strohecker. The Lady Pirates defeated the Durango Demons 36-23 in the game to improve to a 5-1 record.

to the team's total.

Morgan Lewis was the team's top rebounder on the night with nine, followed by Wilson's seven. Four other Pirates pulled down rebounds, as well.

The coach was also pleased with the team's defense and number of turnovers.

"I thought our defense was really good," he said. "Early in the first quarter we gave up five offensive rebounds, and from then on, I think we gave up three the rest of the game" and did much better not giving the Demons second and third chances to score.

With eight, the coach noted, ■ See Lady A12

DO I NEED TO HAVE A TRUST FOR MY ASSETS?

Whether you should put your assets in a trust is not a question with a simple answer. Unless you have assets more than \$5.45 million (\$10.9 million for a married couple), there are no federal estate taxes for 2017. Colorado does not have an estate tax nor are there any taxes on any asset you may inherit, called an inheritance tax. These laws can change any time Congress or the General Assembly meets.

A trust can be used to protect assets for a child, someone that is mentally or physically disabled, or someone that simply cannot manage money. Some taxes, like capital gains taxes, can be delayed but eventually the tax collector will want to be paid.

A candid discussion with an attorney and your tax preparer will help you decide what will work for you and your potential heirs and whether you may need further advice from other advisers.

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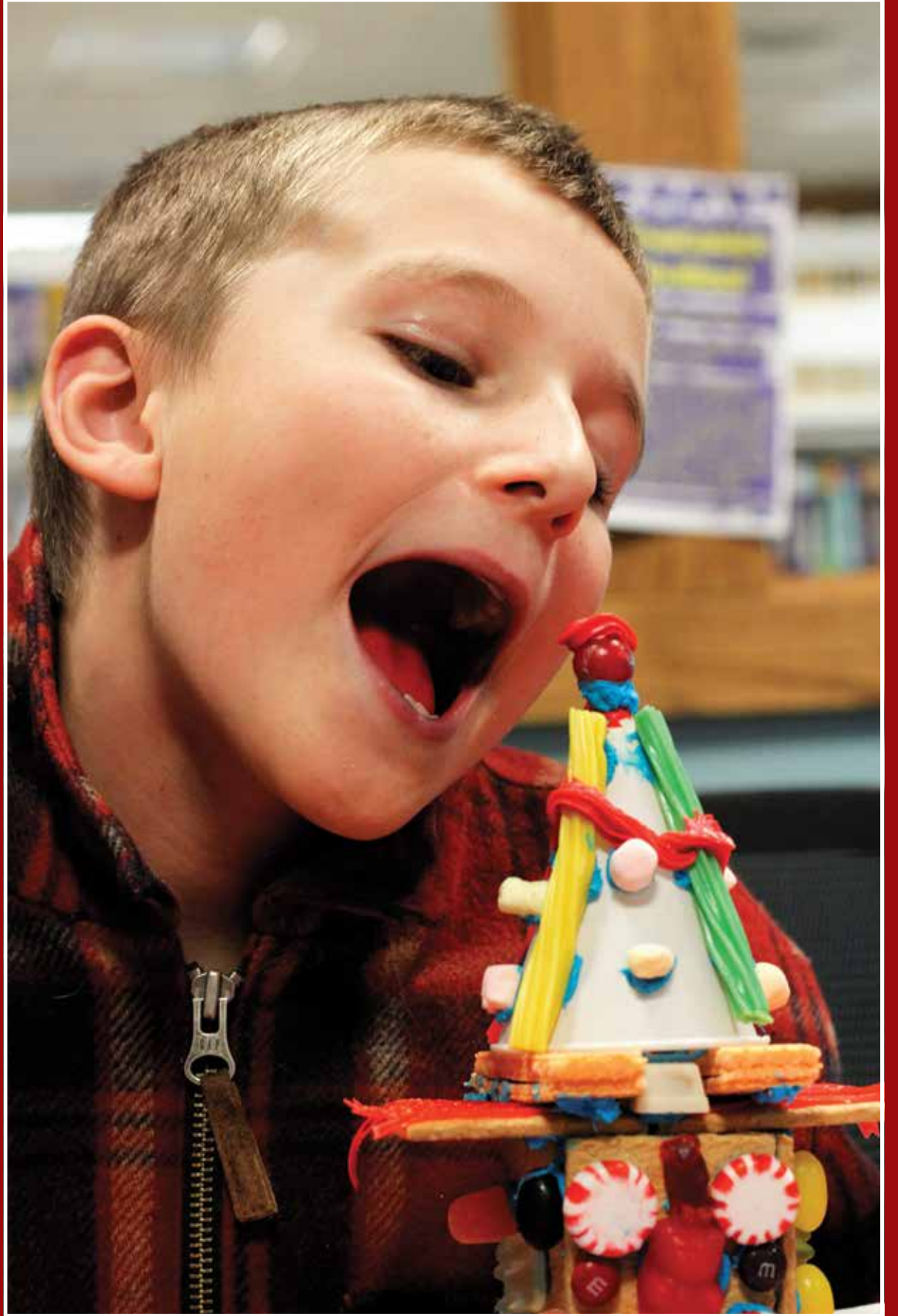
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Hot Chocolate Hullabaloo

Photos courtesy Rachael Perry

Families and friends gather at the Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library for the Hot Chocolate Hullabaloo on Dec. 22. Despite the snowstorm, the library was packed with families drinking hot chocolate and making gingerbread houses.



Navigating Medicare can be complicated: Take this free class

By Christina Knoell
Special to The SUN

Medicare is complicated. It is important that you know your rights, options, deadlines, possible penalties and where to find the information you need.

Did you know that assistance is available in Pagosa Springs through the nationwide State Health Insurance Program (SHIP)?

Trained and certified Medicare counselors are available by appointment to guide you when dealing with Medicare enrollment, questions and problems.

One of the San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging (AAA) volunteer Medicare counselors, Katy Deshler, will offer a free Medicare 101 class on Jan. 19 at the Ruby Sisson Memorial Library to help you get started. The class will start at 10:30 a.m. and will run until around noon.

Please call Kay Kaylor at AAA at 264-0501, ext. 2, to reserve your spot because spaces are limited. Medicare help has been avail-

able in Archuleta County at the Senior Center for almost 15 years. AAA is the sponsoring agency for free Medicare counseling services on Mondays at the Senior Center (the west end of the Ross Aragon Community Center on Hot Springs Boulevard). Please call the phone number above for basic questions and to make an appointment.

Medicare eligibility begins at age 65. Three months before your birth month, and three months after, you can enroll in Medicare and start making decisions about your options. Some of the questions you need to consider follow:

- Are you eligible for Medicare Part A and Part B? Do you need both?
- Do you have a retirement plan that will work with Medicare?
- Do you want a Medicare supplement (also called Medigap)?
- Would you prefer coverage through a Medicare Advantage plan or cost plan?
- Do you want a Part D drug plan? If so, which plan would work best for you? This varies depending

on which drugs you take.

Generally, you can enroll in Medicare online at www.ssa.gov or by calling the Social Security Administration. If you are already receiving a Social Security check, you will be automatically enrolled in Part A and Part B, but you will need to enroll in Part D yourself. You can also find valuable information at www.medicare.gov.

If you are already on Medicare and have a Part D drug plan, you need to review that plan each year during the Open Enrollment Period, Oct. 15 through Dec. 7, because plan premiums and coverage of drugs change each year.

Medicare counselors at AAA are available extra days to help you during that time, or you can go to www.medicare.gov to review your plan. If you are receiving Social Security disability, you will probably be eligible for Medicare starting 24 months after your disability begins and will have a limited time period to enroll in a Part D drug plan. It is important to know all enrollment deadlines to avoid penalties.

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ARTS & LIFE

Americana Project

Featuring singer/songwriter Nathaniel Talbot • Wednesday, Jan. 11 • 7 p.m.



January 5, 2017

Americana Project to present singer/songwriter Nathaniel Talbot on Jan. 11

By Bob Hemenger
Special to The PREVIEW

The Americana Project class at Pagosa Springs High School is proud to present singer/songwriter Nathaniel Talbot as the special guest in our concert series.

The Americana Project is an elective class that has been offered for the past seven years. Twice a year, a professional musician is brought in to work with the students on songwriting and performance. The experience provides them with a connection to what it takes to be a professional, touring musician and brings excitement and inspiration to the class.

Students also open the concert and join the artist for

the closing song. This school year, the class is expanding this program to add this winter special guest concert.

Talbot is a powerful natural force with a warm voice reminiscent of James Taylor. He writes thought provoking, powerful lyrics and plays the guitar in a way that is both unique and masterful. His connection with the land and nature adds a depth to his music and performance that people in Pagosa Springs will appreciate.

It's a busy life for Talbot, who runs an organic vegetable farm on Whidbey Island, in Washington state's Puget Sound.

"I work on the farm 60 hours a week between March and October. An average week during the busy season

■ See Americana on next page

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

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By Fred Harman



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1-5
 FRED HARMAN

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Americana

■ **continued from previous page** has two harvest days, one market day and three days of weeding, planting and everything else,” he explained.

In addition to farming, he’s just released his fourth album, “Swamp Rose and Honeysuckle Vine” on Portland, Ore.’s, Fluff and Gravy Records. The album marks the harvest of a different sort for Talbot, who has also spent over two decades tending to the crafts of songwriting and guitar playing. His songs on the new album are intimately tied to the lush farmland and windswept vistas of Whidbey Island, deeply rooted in the earth and American traditionalism.

“The folk music and big trees that surrounded my childhood were hugely impactful,” said Talbot of his upbringing just a few hundred miles south of his farm in the foothills just southeast of Portland.

“I spent most of my free time running around the forest and making up adventures with the neighbor kids,” he said. “The natural setting certainly imprinted on my sense of self and how I make music.”

Raised on the music of Paul Simon and Eric Clapton, Talbot began playing music at a young age, learning piano at 7 and turning to guitar around 13, later steeping himself in the sounds of local artists like Soundgarden, Elliot Smith and Kelly Joe Phelps.

Produced by Talbot, along with Rob Stroup, “Swamp Rose and Honeysuckle Vine” marks a big step forward in Talbot’s evolution as a lyricist and a storyteller.

“If you listen to my previous albums, there’s a lot of songs of log-

ging, botany and even soil erosion, photosynthesis and the deep beauty of hiking at night,” said Talbot. But, upon becoming a farmer, he began to dig deep into our most human trait — storytelling. “There was all of a sudden all this raw, untapped material to write about. Stuff that people used to sing about — stories about farmers wrestling the landscape, loving it, abusing it, old tractors getting stuck in the wetland, kids leaving the farm, soil blowing away in the wind, long hard days of work and the amazing sense of reward and connection with the land.”

Talbot’s music has dirt under its fingernails, the product of decades of hard work and crafting — retuning, replanting and retelling.

“Challenging what folk music is capable of,” says Seattle Weekly, “Talbot’s powerful, uplifting voice harnesses a country twang complemented by lush acoustic finger-picking and a violin that feels like it was birthed next to a babbling brook in the mountains.”

Channeling the lyrical prowess and gritty charm of Anais Mitchell on tracks like “As the Way,” and the concrete characterization in the work of Elliott Smith on tracks like “Able Man,” Talbot stands on the shoulders of generations of folk musicians and Americana singer/songwriters before him. His approach to music feels like that of someone who treats it as a craft handed down and honed, like the tilling of soil or the carving of wood.


Talbot’s music has dirt under its fingernails, the product of decades of hard work and crafting — retuning, replanting and retelling. The result is true American roots music, combining the soulful edge of tradition with the Pacific Northwest’s legacy of freedom and innovation.

The show starts at 7 p.m. at Pagosa

Springs High School on Wednesday, Jan. 11.

The cost is \$10 (12 and under are free). Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Students from the Americana Project class will open the show.

Please mark your calendars and help spread the news. This is going to be a great night of music and community.



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Photo courtesy Carla Roberts

Nine recently graduated as part of the Wild West Squares introduction to square dancing class. Front row, left to right, are Luann Ormonde, Eileen Day, Susi Mays, caller Carla Roberts, Val Beaudry, Karen Swain, Sharon Parker and Tom Parker. In the back are Peter Beaudry and Bruce Swain.

Nine Wild West Squares graduate

By Carla Roberts
Special to The PREVIEW

After months of learning, nine students graduated from the Wild West Squares square dance program's mainstream level on Dec. 21.

Receiving their mainstream credentials means they have learned at least 69 calls and will be eligible to dance at square dance clubs and events anywhere in the world.

Mainstream is the first level of modern western square dance and plus is the second level. The Wild West Squares teaching program strives to work with dancers at the level they need to progress.

Today's standardized dance programs make it possible for someone to dance at any dance at their level throughout the country, or the world. Yes, square dancing is done in other countries and most people don't know that the calling is always done in English.

Why square dance is standardized worldwide


All square dancing is based on one or more "squares" made up of eight dancers (four couples), who start in a "squared up set," with one couple facing each wall. The "caller" gives directions to the dancers, who must follow the directions (calls) as given.

In the early days of square danc-

ing, there was little standardization of what calls were used. It varied from caller to caller, and from region to region. This created prob-

lems for people traveling around the country who may not know the calls being used when they danced

■ See Squares on next page

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Join PSHS students for a 'Jolly Holiday' of a bake sale Saturday

By Becca Postma
Special to The PREVIEW

Lately, there seem to be some strange goings-on at Pagosa Springs High School — students have been gathering in the band room at lunch, spontaneously breaking out into dance, muttering strange words like “supercalifragilisticexpialidocious” and singing about being chimney sweeps.

Of course, these tell-tale signs can mean only one thing: the annual PSHS spring musical is on its way. This year's production of choice? “Mary Poppins.”

The production staff, led by Musical Director Dan Burch and newcomer Director/Choreographer Becca Postma, is anticipating a large and wonderful turn out for auditions, which begin Thursday, Jan. 5, after school.

But, the hard work of the students and staff is not the only thing that will be needed to bring the magic of Mary to the stage. Mary just isn't her own, wonderful self without her grand entrances and exits, creating the iconic image of the beloved nanny flying through the sky with her trusty umbrella. But, for the PSHS production, Mary needs a little help getting off the ground.

In 2007, PSHS mounted a production of “Peter Pan” and relied on a professional company to provide the flying effects needed for the show. Working with that same company is something that the high school is excited about and hopeful to implement again for “Mary Poppins.” The only way the production will attempt

this type of effect is with a professional company that will keep the safety and well-being of the student performers and technical crew at the forefront of the work.

Arranging this type of technical enhancement to the show, and doing it right, comes with a fairly large price tag. However, the students and staff are determined and undeterred. So far, between money allocated in the production budget and generous donations from community groups and members, the students have collected and raised over \$3,000, reaching the halfway mark. And, the efforts continue in full.

This Saturday, Jan. 7, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., student performers and staff will be outside of Walmart hosting one “Jolly Holiday” of a bake sale, complete with the possibility of more spontaneous song and dance. All proceeds will go towards the production and helping Mary, and a few other favorite characters, take to the sky this March. Whether you use your purchased “Spoonful of Sugar” to “Feed the Birds” or just to help the medicine go down, all contributions directly support our Pagosa Pirates and performing arts in our community.

If you can't make it out on Saturday but would like to support the production, donations can be made by contacting Burch at the high school or Postma (pshsmp@gmail.com). Donations can also be made online at www.GoFundMe.com/PSHSMP. All donations are tax deductible and donors will receive a special “Thank You” in our show program. Cheers.

Squares

■ continued from previous page to a new caller. This situation has been remedied by the adoption of standard dance programs set by an association of square dance callers known as Callerlab.

The levels of square dance programs

Mainstream: The level taught in most beginners classes and danced by many square dance clubs across the country. It is a fun level, easily mastered in less than a year. Most people who dance this level enjoy the activity as a fun way to meet and socialize with other people.

Plus: A slightly more difficult level for experienced dancers. Many people move up from mainstream to plus after dancing for a year or so. There are probably more square dance clubs dancing at the plus level (or offering both mainstream and plus dances) than

there are at mainstream only.

Advanced: Consisting of two levels, A1 and A2, advanced dancing is for those who are more serious about the activity and want to improve their dancing skills beyond what is needed for just a social activity. Advanced dancing is lots of fun, but you have to be willing to study and work at it a little harder.

Challenge: Consisting of five levels, C1, C2, C3A, C3B and C4, challenge-level square dancing is for those who want to see how far they can go. There is absolutely no end to how hard it can get and only a very few dedicated souls ever make it all the way to C4. But, however far one progresses, there is always something new and, well, challenging, to learn.

Stay healthy this winter with square dance. Call Carla Roberts at 903-6478 to find out about Wild West Squares.

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SCENE . . .

Photos courtesy Carole Howard

Scene... Stars of Thingamajig Theatre Company's two Christmas productions – "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" and "The Santaland Diaries" – performed Dec. 19 at the home of Robin and Bob Brobst. The event was a house concert fundraiser to benefit the new 24-bedroom actors' house now under construction. The nonprofit Thingamajig Theatre, in residence at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, hosts about 75 artists every year who come from across the country to perform in highly acclaimed musicals, comedies and dramas year-round.



DO I NEED TO HAVE A TRUST FOR MY ASSETS?

Whether you should put your assets in a trust is not a question with a simple answer. Unless you have assets more than \$5.45 million (\$10.9 million for a married couple), there are no federal estate taxes for 2017. Colorado does not have an estate tax nor are there any taxes on any asset you may inherit, called an inheritance tax. These laws can change any time Congress or the General Assembly meets.

A trust can be used to protect assets for a child, someone that is mentally or physically disabled, or someone that simply cannot manage money. Some taxes, like capital gains taxes, can be delayed but eventually the tax collector will want to be paid.

A candid discussion with an attorney and your tax preparer will help you decide what will work for you and your potential heirs and whether you may need further advice from other advisers.



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Photo courtesy Tim Moore

New York actor Andrew Start returns to Pagosa Springs as Alex More in Jonathon Tolins' Broadway hit, "Buyer and Cellar," showing Jan.13-29 at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts.

One-man Streisand comedy to hit PSCA stage Jan. 13

By R. Eli Townsend
Special to The PREVIEW

Thingamajig Theatre Company is ringing in the new year with one of Broadway's most recent beloved comedy hits, "Buyer and Cellar."

The show is a crowd-pleaser and it doesn't take long to figure out why: most audiences are reacting to its charming narrative surface. But there's more going on than that.

In this one-person, 95-minute, intermission-less piece, Andrew Start plays Alex More, a hopeful young actor who's left New York for Los Angeles, where he hopes to establish a career as a performer.

After getting fired from a menial job at Disney, More secures another position as the keeper of the strange underground stores that Barbara Streisand actually built in her home: a doll shop, movie

theater, costume shop and more. One day, the lady herself comes downstairs to play. It feels like real bonding in the basement, but will their relationship ever make it upstairs?

"Buyer and Cellar" is an outrageous comedy about the price of fame, the cost of things and the oddest of odd jobs.

In celebrating More's imagination and recollection, the show reminds us, without being strident, that it's the person within that counts. Come out this January to see the show The New York Times called "the most talked-about comedy of the year."

Thingamajig Theatre Company presents "Buyer and Cellar," rated R. Directed by Melissa Firlit. Playing Jan. 13-29 at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. For tickets and information, visit pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW (7469).

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The Pagosa Springs SUN

A new kind of normal

I was in charge. It was my day to lead the teaching session in our writers' group and I was prepared. My lesson was to explain how to take our characters from normal to a new kind of normal in a fictional story. So much for plans.

I planned to support the lesson by giving an example from a movie I recently watched. It would show how characters drive the story and how the story changes when they encounter obstacles.

The characters in a story are either putty people or pebble people. By throwing them against problems, they will act differently. If they are putty, they will be different at the end than at the beginning. If they are a pebble, they will hit the wall with a thud, roll on the floor and not be changed.

I began. I asked if anyone had seen the movie. Four writers raised their hands. Two minutes into the lesson, I made the statement that the male character was a pebble.

One of the writers said, "No, he's putty, not a pebble." That blew my evaluation all to pieces. I couldn't argue. I wanted to, but thought better. I wanted participation from the group. I let it go; I didn't want to shoot down their enthusiasm. I wanted them to be as excited as I was over the lesson.

I proceeded with the lesson and asked, "Who cried at the end of the movie?" Four hands waved. The same writer, Jan, said, "Don't tell the ending."

Sorry, I have to tell the ending because it's about how the characters react to their problems and how the story ends according to how they act.

As we continued with the movie, all 14 writers began crying. One of the writers who saw the movie said, "If you don't cry at the end, you don't have a heart."

I responded, "I didn't cry." Oh, the feathers ruffled and flew. "You didn't cry?" Why not?"

I said, "No, I didn't cry. My Sweet

Artist's Lane

Betty Slade



Al cried; does that count?"

For support that I indeed had a putty heart, I looked to Mike, the logical one, the tough guy who watches football in the other room while his wife cries over Hallmark.

No response. Now he was crying and was no help to me at all. He'd gone from pebble to putty.

I was now spitting feathers. I asked Hank, "You're my teacher; am I a putty person? I have a teachable spirit, don't I?"

He just stared at me and asked, "Really?"

I said again, "Hank, I'm drowning, throw me a buoy. I'm a putty person and I can change, I learn easily."

No answer from Hank.

The whole group was crying by now. No dry eyes, except for mine. Everyone had shriveled into a pool of tears. I was wading in their tears up to my neck and choking on ruffled feathers. They were weeping and talking among themselves.

This was not the reaction I wanted. I wanted them to say, "This is wonderful, you have taught us so much. Now, I can write my story."

In my Greek class later, I said to my teacher, "Hank, you looked like you were shot with a stun gun. You froze when I asked you as a teacher if I was teachable. What were you thinking?"

"I was thinking, you said I was your teacher, but I didn't think I was."

No, Hank, it wasn't about you, it was about me. I thought you were questioning whether I could be taught, not if you were my teacher. So, is it about the teacher teaching or the student learning? We all

have a lot to learn in this new kind of normal.

Final brushstroke: Is this the new normal? Did they get the teaching while I was drowning in their tears and spitting out ruffled feathers? I don't think so. But, I know one thing. These are writers who have a story in them and who need to get their story out. They wept, they bawled and whimpered. And I was a pebble among the putty. By the end, I was the only pebble still standing.

We have entered into our third year as writers of the Wolf Creek Christian Writers' Group. When we started our group, we all apologized to each other why we couldn't write, but we wanted to be writers. We still have 11 of our 12 original members and have added another 12 active writers. We have all grown as writers and hit a new kind of normal. If you want to write, this is where you want to be, crying and all.

Readers' comments

Send your comments to betty@bettyslade.com.



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Mercy to offer free education Jan. 6 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. 6, 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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St. Patrick's celebrating the Feast of the Epiphany tomorrow night

By Sally Neel
Special to The PREVIEW

Tomorrow evening at 5 p.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church will celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany with a very special service of beautiful music and Holy Eucharist.

The service will include incense, chanting, choral music, hymns, sermon and Holy Eucharist. Following the service, everyone will be invited to the parish building for a fun potluck dinner complete with king's cake.

The Epiphany is the celebration of the visitation of the Magi to the Christ child. The Magi were gentiles, probably astronomers, who were sent by King Herod to find Jesus so that "he, too, might worship him."

However, Herod was not intent on worshipping Jesus, but rather to destroy him. Herod was fearful of this new messiah and wanted him eliminated.

The Magi (or, traditionally, the three kings) followed the light of the star of Bethlehem that rested over the manger where Jesus lay. They brought gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh, traditional gifts given to kings or deity; precious metal and wealth, sweet perfume for use in worship and precious oil used for anointing.

It is speculated that Mary and Joseph, Jesus' mother and father, may have used the gold to get to Egypt to hide from King Herod. We are told that Mary and Joseph were warned in a dream that Herod would send forth his

edict to kill all the male babies in his kingdom when he realized the Magi had not come back to report to him.

The Gentile scientists recognized the importance of Jesus' birth and knelt before him to worship him. This served as God's sign that Christ came not only as the long expected Messiah for the Jews, but as the redeemer for the entire world.

The public is invited to attend this beautiful celebration as we give thanks to God and remember the visitation of the Magi to the Christ child. Bring a dish to share and join us for a night of joy.

St. Patrick's is located at 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. "In God's House, at God's Table, all are invited to be fed."



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UU topic: 'Poverty in Pagosa: Pagosa Outreach Connection'

By Julie Loar and Jean Smith
Special to The PREVIEW

The Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship (PUUF) invites you to attend a program titled "Poverty in Pagosa: Pagosa Outreach Connection," with Julie Loar and Jean Smith, this Sunday, Jan. 8.

Hidden beneath the outward beauty of the majestic mountains and running river that bless Pagosa Springs is a dark shadow of crippling poverty. Smith is the fellowship's representative with Pagosa Outreach Connection.

The group is a collaboration of local churches and nonprofits that offer onetime assistance to individuals and families facing financial crisis.

"The most disturbing fact about poverty in Archuleta County, is that despite all our wealth, there are people in Pagosa living in their cars and unheated trailers in the winter," said Smith. Smith will join Julie Loar for this service and share poignant stories she has heard in this crucial work in our community.

Loar is the author of several award-winning books and is currently the president of the PUUF steering committee. Smith also volunteers elsewhere in the community.

This presentation reflects the Unitarian Universalist principles of "The inherent worth and dignity of every person," "Justice, equity and compassion in human relations" and "The right of conscience and

See UU on next page



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Different seasons of our lives

By Jan Davis
Special to The PREVIEW

Summer lingers as the birds begin their migration south. The small animals of the forest store nuts and berries to sustain them through the long winter.

Mingled with early signs of fall, the trees display a colorful canopy of yellow, orange and red. Soon they will be bare and covered with a layer of white.

Hunters stake out their favorite spot for the new hunting season. The drop in temperature ushers in cooler nights and brisk mornings. The early snowfall in the mountains promises more will follow. As each season comes to an end, a new one begins.

My husband, Mike, and I are on the threshold of a new season. Our home is for sale and we will soon leave the beautiful mountains of Pagosa. The last five years have brought restoration and peace. We discovered God anew as we felt ourselves relax in the slower pace of a small town.

God displayed His rugged strength as we maneuvered through the rough terrains of the Alpine Loop. We stood in awe of His creation and took in the panoramic view.

We found rest on our hikes along the river banks of the Pie-



dra. Treasure Falls was a gentle reminder — we are His treasure.

We camped beside East Fork and laughed at the antics of our little campsite visitors. His care reflected in His provision for the creatures of the forest.

We found solitude as we kayaked Williams Lake. Adrift on the water, we felt the warmth of the sun penetrate our bodies and basked in His presence.

The peace and quiet didn't last long when we traversed the San Juan River on tubes and rafts. The rapids dumped us into the cold, rushing water. The mingle of screams and laughter filled the air. We knew His protection.

An ATV ride from Elwood Pass to Platoro reminded us of God's faithfulness. The early settlers trusted Him as they forced their way through the rugged mountain sides.

Wolf Creek Pass provided hours of winter fun. We celebrated Christmas on a snowmobile surrounded by family and a soft blanket of white. The snow provided a soft

landing as we slid down hills in tubes. Amid all the laughter, we felt His joy.

We love and appreciate all things Pagosa. The memories are packed in the recesses of our mind, where God will bring them to our remembrance.

What the approaching season holds for us, only God knows. Like the early settlers, we trust Him to prepare the way. We rest in the assurance of His continual guidance.

Because of Jesus we look forward with anticipation to a new season.

Ecclesiastes 3:1 states, "To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven."

I love you, but Jesus loves you more.

Writers' group

You are invited to write for "A Matter of Faith." Send your articles to betty@bettyslade.com.

If you want to learn more about writing, you are invited to become part of an exciting writers' group in Pagosa Springs.

The Wolf Creek Christian Writers Network Writers' Critique Group meets on Monday mornings at 9 a.m. at CrossRoad Christian Fellowship.

For further details, email betty@bettyslade.com.

Meet the writers' group at http://bettyslade.com/BJS/Writers_Network.html. Visit our website at <http://www.wolfcreekwriters.com/> or our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/wolfcreekchristianwritersnetwork/>.

Pagosa Community of New Thought to consider 'New Beginnings with Faith'

By Carla Ryan
Special to The PREVIEW

The Pagosa Community of New Thought (PCNT) is continuing its January theme of "New Beginnings" with this coming Sunday's topic, "New Beginnings with Faith," at the 10:30 a.m. service. The music will also follow this idea.

In the Science of Mind philosophy, prayer is the key component. And faith is considered the power of prayer. Faith is defined

as "a mental attitude against which there is no longer any contradiction in the mind that entertains it."

Often (and unfortunately), we see a lot of faith in the idea of fear. Fear of loss of some kind (health, job, possessions, etc.). To replace fear with faith takes a conscious effort and sometimes a few tools to help along the way. That will be the focus of the Rev. Carla Ryan's message on Jan. 8.

PCNT also has announced its class schedule for the next few

■ See Thought on next page

UU

■ continued from previous page
the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large."

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. Enjoy refreshments and conversation after services, which are held Sundays at 10:30 a.m. in Unit B-15 of the Greenbriar Plaza. From North Pagosa Boulevard, turn onto Park Avenue, then turn into the Greenbriar Plaza, drive to the east side of the parking lot and look for the Unitarian Universalist sign, facing north. For further information, see pagosauu.org or call 731-7900.

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Stress-reducing art fun for all ages on Saturday

By Carole Howard

PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

Join us with your family and friends this Saturday, Jan. 7, from 3 to 4 p.m. for a special all-ages art session. Coloring and drawing zentangles are great ways to reduce stress and have fun making art.

What are zentangles? These simple, repetitive, easy-to-learn designs are meditative to make and beautiful to behold. Fans say drawing them increases focus and creativity and provides artistic satisfaction along with an increased sense of personal well-being.

All ages are welcome. No experience or registration are needed.

Start your happy new year with a chuckle and a moral

A librarian in New York handled an unusual book return a few weeks ago. According to an article in The New York Times, a retired woman, age 72, came into the Brooklyn library with a faded green copy of "Gone with the Wind" by Margaret Mitchell that belonged to the library. It was 57 years overdue. It had been due on Nov. 18, 1959.

Back then, the fee was 5 cents per calendar day for overdue books, which added up to a fine of \$1,042.10. The woman had checked out the book when she

Library News

was 15. Since then she had moved several times and the book went with her. She recently decided to reread it, at which time she noticed that it belonged to the Brooklyn library and immediately returned it. Of course, the library's records all are computerized now — and those records don't go back to 1959, so, technically, the woman did not owe any fine. In any case, she made a \$50 donation to the library. And her story reminds us all that honesty always is the best policy, even if a bit late.

Medicaid and Connect for Health session

Kevin O'Connor from the San Juan Basin Health Department and Renee Burch from the Archuleta County Department of Human Services discuss options and changes to Medicaid and Connect for Health, the Colorado health exchange, today, Thursday, Jan. 5, and next Thursday, Jan. 12, from 1 to 1:45 p.m. No registration is required.

Teen advisory board

Today, Thursday, Jan. 5, the teen advisory board meets from 4 to 5 p.m. Bring your fun and innovative ideas to help us plan teen programs. Share an idea to pick out a free book.

The board meets once a month, the first Thursday of the month. Teens are always welcome to stop by and share their ideas informally with Claire, teen services librarian.

All-ages movie tomorrow

Enjoy a PG-rated movie with family and friends tomorrow, Friday, Jan. 6, from 2 to 3:15 p.m. Our contract does not permit us to name the film title in the general media but you can find it on the activities calendars.

Tech sessions


Rachael is available for Tech Tuesday from 10 a.m. to noon and Tech Thursday from 2 to 4 p.m. Drop in with your technology questions. Note the Thursday sessions are an hour earlier now.

Tween gaming


Tween gaming happens Monday, Jan. 9, from 4 to 5 p.m. for fourth-through eighth-graders. Enjoy X-box

■ See Library on next page

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Thought

■ continued from previous page months; details can be found on the church website under Education. Workshops are being planned and will be announced as speaker arrangements and their schedules are finalized.

The fifth Sunday of this month will feature a "movie message" (Jan. 29) that supports the New Thought philosophy. The title will be announced soon. Thus, that day's service may run a little longer than usual.

PCNT honors all lifestyles, belief systems, religious paths and people for who they are, children of the Divine. New Thought is a trans-denominational philosophy and

draws from all the world's major religions to teach universal principles and concepts for a positive, joyful life. Everyone is welcome.

Weekly Sunday gatherings (10:30 a.m.) are held at the PCNT center at 2800 Cornerstone Drive, Unit 3 (across the parking lot from the Sears store).

For information about the church or New Thought in general, attend a Sunday service, send an email to PagosaCommunityNewThought@gmail.com, call 749-9020, or send mail to P.O. Box 1052, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147-1052. You can also find us on Facebook or at our website: www.PagosaNewThought.org.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year



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Library

■ continued from previous page

360 Kinect, Wii and snacks. We've had very limited attendance at this event, but we keep getting requests for it, so we'll try it again.

Teen gaming

Teen gaming happens every Tuesday from 4 to 5:30 p.m. for teen gaming fans in the seventh through 12th grades. Enjoy X-box 360 Kinect, Wii and snacks.

Book club for adults

The free book club for adults meets next Tuesday, Jan. 10, from 2 to 3 p.m.

We will not be reading a book for our January meeting. Instead, we will have a potluck and reveal the 2017 book choices for the group. Bring a dish to share and your current favorite book to recommend to others.

The book club meets the second Tuesday of each month to discuss alternating fiction and nonfiction titles. No registration is required.

Adult DIY

This month's adult DIY will take place Wednesday, Jan. 11, at 1 p.m. and features a soothing eucalyptus body scrub made with only three ingredients. You'll leave with a sweet-smelling body scrub. Materials will be provided and no registration is required.

Spanish basics

On Wednesday, Jan. 11, from 4 to 5:30 p.m., we will learn to count from 1 to 100 and express a person's age in this Spanish basics session. No registration is required.

Teen role-playing

The ever-popular role-playing

game for seventh- through 12th-graders takes place next Thursday, Jan. 12. Use your imagination to go on adventures and battle monsters. You can join this group any time.

Kids storytime

Every Wednesday from 10 to 11 a.m., join Michael for 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 Michael for a 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.

Toddler storytime

Every Saturday from 9:30 to 10 a.m., join Michael for 30 minutes of stories, songs and fingerplays with open play afterwards. Learn easy tips on how to include literacy skills in everyday family life.

Activities calendars

To be sure you don't miss any of the free activities available to you and your families at your library, we encourage you to pick up a copy of the events calendar each month. There are three versions — kids, tweens/teens and adults.

Large print

"Island of Glass" by Nora Roberts is book three in the Guardians Trilogy. "The Sleeping Beauty Killer" by Mary Higgins Clark and Alafair Burke is an Under Suspicion mystery.

CDs

"Moonglow" by Michael Chabon is based on reflections shared by the author's grandfather. "Cross the Line" by James Patterson is an Alex Cross thriller.

DVDs

"Northern Lights" is based in the Nora Roberts book. "Midnight Special" is a supernatural thriller. "The Christmas Shoes" is an inspiring holiday story. "National Velvet" stars Elizabeth Taylor and Mickey Rooney.

Thrillers and mysteries

"Seduced" by Randy Wayne White follows Hannah Smith as she investigates a 20-year-old murder in the Florida wild.

Programmed Nooks

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

Downloadable e-books

Current New York Times best-seller downloadable e-books are being added regularly to our 3M Cloud Library. Access these e-books 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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For your viewing pleasure,
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Wishing you a very joyous Christmas Season.

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Mary Fisher Medical Center	United Methodist Church of Pagosa Springs
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Kermit and Sharon Case	Mike Hill and Morgen Hickey	Aaron and Shannon Singh
Larry Cheesman	Shirley Iverson	Alexis Snider-Moore
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John Benson and Anne Daniels	Kristopher and Sarah Mashue	Carolyn Wilson
	Aaron and Emily Miles	Kris and Mark Wolverton

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Homemakers to present fascinating Alaskan travel stories

By Tozi Rubin
Special to The PREVIEW

Mountain View Homemakers member Arlie Swett and her husband, Brian, will be the speakers at the group's meeting on Jan. 12.

Brian Swett will describe his adventure to climb Denali in Alaska. Along with his five team members, Brian attempted to climb the 20,315-foot mountain (the tallest in North America) in 1991. He will tell the story with narration and a slide show.

Arlie Swett moved to Alaska in 1973, where her career in education included elementary and high school classroom teaching, special education and district level admin-

istration. After retiring to Colorado, she has been returning to remote Alaskan villages as a literacy coach and early education consultant. She will share her experiences with travel in remote Alaskan villages by small planes, snow machines and ATVs.

The meeting will begin at 11:30 a.m. at the Methodist Church on Lewis Street. We socialize before we enjoy a potluck lunch provided by members. First-time visitors are not expected to bring food.

Our meeting is taking place at the same time as Loaves and Fishes across the street, so parking will be at a premium. Everyone is encouraged to carpool.

Mountain View Homemakers is a 50-year-old women's service organization. We welcome all area women who are interested in bettering their lives, the lives of their families and the community as a whole. The monthly meetings include lunch and a speaker or activity. This is a wonderful opportunity to make new friends in Pagosa Country.

There are no dues or membership requirements to join this friendly, interesting and diverse group of women. We meet the second Thursday of every month. So-called homemaking skills are not required.

Please call Tozi at 731-3360 with any questions.

Library

■ continued from previous page
we offer IndieFlix, a 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 to our donors

For their generous monetary donations, we are grateful to Roger and Carol Sheets as well as Brian and Becky Savage.

Quotable quote

"My paternal grandmother gave me advice that I have used for 65 years: If the world puts you on a road you do not like, if you look ahead and do not want that destination which is being offered, and you look behind and you do not want to

return to your place of departure, step off the road. Build yourself a brand new path."
— Maya Angelou, poet, educator, historian and best-selling American author.

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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[THANK YOU]

From all of us at the Humane Society of Pagosa Springs, our heartfelt THANK YOU to everyone who adopted an animal from our animal shelter or supported the shelter animals by volunteering time, shopping at our thrift store, attending our fundraisers, or making a financial gift in 2016.

The success of our mission to provide a safe haven for animals in need would not have been possible this past year without you!

BEST WISHES TO ALL FOR A
JOYFUL AND FULFILLING 2017

The Humane Society thrift store is essential to keeping our animal shelter open and providing the necessary care for nearly 700 dogs and cats that enter the shelter each year. Please consider donating new or gently-used items you no longer need to our thrift store. All donations are tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law. *Thanks for donating, and thanks for shopping!*

A special *thank you* to all the local businesses that display our donations cans. A bit of T.L.C. ("Today's Loose Change") goes a long way to caring for the shelter dogs and cats! Please support our supporters and shop locally.

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of Pagosa Springs

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are open 7 days per week.

Call the shelter at 731-4771
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 SOLD 285 Chris Mountain Drive \$759,900	 SOLD 55 Monkshood Drive \$759,000	 SOLD 1647 & 1599 N. Pagosa Blvd. \$750,000	 SOLD 40 E Log Hill Road \$640,000	 SOLD 1005 CR 302 \$639,900	 SOLD 51 Little Beaver Place \$599,000	 SOLD 269 Hermosa Street \$595,000	 SOLD 1925 Shenandoah Drive \$500,000	 SOLD 39 Monkshood Drive \$499,000
 SOLD 211 Oxbow Circle \$499,000	 SOLD 714 S. Pagosa Blvd. \$435,000	 SOLD 156 Crockett Circle \$429,900	 SOLD 479 Big Valley Drive \$424,900	 SOLD 351 Blue Heron Circle \$399,000	 SOLD 450 Twincreek Circle \$389,000	 SOLD 339 Valley View Drive \$375,000	 SOLD 766 Dichoso Street \$373,000	 SOLD 152 Dutton Drive \$369,000
 SOLD 195 Granada Drive \$364,900	 SOLD 344 Carlee Place \$355,000	 SOLD 350 Mesa Drive \$350,000	 SOLD 359 Capitan Circle \$349,000	 SOLD 110 Jacobson Circle \$349,000	 SOLD 355 Handicap Avenue \$340,000	 SOLD 1135 Park Avenue #915 \$339,900	 SOLD 225 Pebble Circle \$339,000	 SOLD 304 Capitan Circle \$329,000
 SOLD 56 Trap Court \$324,900	 SOLD 47 Edinburgh Circle \$315,000	 SOLD 32 Northbay Circle \$312,000	 SOLD 432 Hatcher Circle \$300,000	 SOLD 404 Monte Vista Drive \$300,000	 SOLD 77 Fisher Court \$300,000	 SOLD 109 Lisa's Court \$299,900	 SOLD 249 Columbine Drive \$289,000	 SOLD 266 Pines Club Place \$275,000
 SOLD 247 Corral Court \$274,990	 SOLD 477 Pettitt's Circle \$274,900	 SOLD 220 Woodsman Drive \$269,000	 SOLD 157 Cimarrona Circle \$256,900	 SOLD 48 Midiron Avenue \$250,000	 SOLD X Terry Robinson Road \$250,000	 SOLD 178 Hidden Drive \$249,500	 SOLD 122 Fiesta Place \$247,500	 SOLD 16 S. Driver Court \$245,000
 SOLD 1681 E. Highway 160 \$243,000	 SOLD 515 Buena Vista Place \$239,900	 SOLD 276 Cactus Drive \$238,000	 SOLD 173 S. 8th Street \$235,000	 SOLD 567 Ute Drive \$229,900	 SOLD 185 Pines Club Place \$229,900	 SOLD 50 Scratch Court \$229,900	 SOLD 10 Pierce Street \$225,000	 SOLD 358 S. 8th Street \$225,000
 SOLD 761 Deer Trail \$224,900	 SOLD 60 Saddle Circle \$222,000	 SOLD 49 Scratch Court \$200,000	 SOLD 714 Pineview Road \$200,000	 SOLD 38 Jaunty Court \$200,000	 SOLD 1135 Park Avenue #602 \$199,900	 SOLD 278 Park Avenue \$199,000	 SOLD 265 Midiron Avenue \$187,000	 SOLD 145 Davis Cup Drive \$169,000
 SOLD 37 Jaunty Court \$169,000	 SOLD 219 N. 6th Street \$164,000	 SOLD 323 & 299 Summit Trail \$149,900	 SOLD 311 E Golf Place \$139,000	 SOLD 108 Meadowbrook Place \$119,900	 SOLD 160 Pinon Causeway #3038 \$119,900	 SOLD 119 Canyon Circle \$104,900	 SOLD 102 Valley View Drive \$92,500	 SOLD 363 Canyon Circle \$89,900

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Preview Calendar

All events listed in The PREVIEW Calendar are free of charge unless otherwise noted.

Thursday, Jan. 5

Overeaters Anonymous. 11 a.m., Centerpoint Church library. Open to everyone. For more information, call Leslie at 799-0775.

Duplicate Bridge. 1 p.m., Senior Center.

Mexican Train. 1 p.m., Senior Center.

Medicaid and Connect for Health Session. 1-1:45 p.m., Sisson Library. Kevin O'Connor from San Juan Basin Health and Renee Burch from the Archuleta County Department of Human Services will discuss options and changes to Medicaid and Connect for Health. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Tech Time. 2-4 p.m., Sisson Library. Drop in with your technology questions. Contact the library at 264-2209 for further information.

Teen Advisory Board. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. For youth in the 7th-12th grades. Bring your fun and innovative ideas to help us plan teen programs. Contact the library at 264-2209 for further information.

Zumba. 5:30-6:30 p.m., Community Center. Open to all abilities and ages.

Friday, Jan. 6

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.

Mexican Train. 1 p.m., Senior Center.

Movie. 2-3 p.m., Sisson Library. All ages. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Saturday, Jan. 7

Pagosa Nordic Club Fourth Annual Plumtaw Ultra Nordic Ski Race. 8:30 a.m., 7 miles up Fourmile Road. This is a freestyle Nordic ski race with your choice of a 30-km or 60-km course along the base of Pagosa Peak. The race begins promptly, so arrive early to sign in. Race registration fee is donation based and you can sign up at PagosaNordic.com.

Baby Storytime. 9:05-9:25 a.m., Sisson Library. Twenty minutes of stories, songs and fingerplays for you and your little one. Learn easy tips on how to include literacy skills in everyday fam-

ily life. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Toddler Storytime. 9:30-10 a.m., Sisson Library. 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.

Zumba. 10-11 a.m., Community Center. Open to all abilities and ages.

Pagosa Springs High School Benefit Bake Sale. 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Walmart. All proceeds will be given to the production to support the students and the fees of renting a flying rig for technical effects.

Yoga: Laugh and Let Go. 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.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.

All-Ages Art. 3-4 p.m., Sisson Library. Coloring and drawing zentangles are great ways to reduce stress and have fun making art. What are zentangles? These simple, repetitive, easy to learn designs are meditative to make and beautiful to behold. All ages are welcome, no experience necessary. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Sunday, Jan. 8

DUST2 Fat Bike Race. 9 a.m.-noon, Turkey Springs Trailhead. Parking is limited at the event site. Please meet one of our shuttles at Pagosa Mountain Sports, 162 Pagosa St., or at the City Market parking lot, Country Center Drive. To register and for more information, go to www.dustx2.com or call 507-7886.

Bingo. 6 p.m., Parish Hall. Doors open at 5 p.m., bingo from 6-8 p.m. Concessions and cash prizes. No outside food or drink.

Monday, Jan. 9

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. 2 to make an appointment.

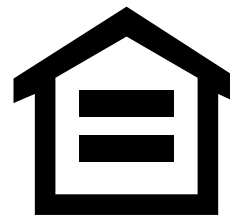
Bingo. 1 p.m., Senior Center.

Bridge for Fun. 1 p.m., Senior Center.

Tween Gaming. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. X-box 360 Kinect, Wii and

■ See Calendar on next page

HUD Publisher's Notice



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SUDOKU

1		8					6	
				3			9	2
		9						7
9	3				2			
	5	7			3	8	2	
					5			6
		5		4				
				7				1
4	8							

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5	7	9	1	2	3	6	8	4
1	4	6	8	7	5	3	6	2
8	3	2	6	4	9	5	1	7
6	1	3	5	7	9	2	4	8
9	2	8	3	1	4	7	5	6
4	5	7	2	8	6	1	3	9
7	8	5	4	6	1	9	2	3
2	1	9	7	1	3	8	4	5
3	4	6	9	5	2	8	7	1

ANSWER:

Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page**
snacks. For youth in the 4th-8th grades. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Zumba. 5:30-6:30 p.m., Community Center. Open to all abilities and ages.

Homebrewing Order of Pagosa Springs. 6 p.m., Coyote Moon. Learn about the art of brewing your own beer, wine and mead, or just learn more about craft beer and fermentation. Presentations on style, flavor and processes regularly given.

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. 10

Veterans for Veterans. 10 a.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church.

Yoga. 10-11:30 a.m., Community Center.

Tech Time. 10 a.m.-noon, Sisson Library. Drop in with your technology questions. Contact the library at 264-2209 for further information.

Archuleta County Republican Women. Noon, Boss Hogg's Restaurant. Mike Le Roux, director of emergency operations of Archuleta County and vice chair for Upper San Juan Search and Rescue, will be speaking on how they provide emergency assistance for citizens. Lunch will be offered for \$12. Email acrwpagosa@gmail.com for more information.

Men's PTSD Group. Noon-1:30 p.m., Community United Methodist Church. Focusing on resolving anger and conflict. Contact Dr. Kevin Kelly at (505) 699-0824 for more information.

Mahjong. 1 p.m., Senior Center.

Mexican Train. 1 p.m., Senior Center.

Book Club for Adults. 2-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Be a part of our book club. We discuss alternating fiction and nonfiction titles. We will not be reading a book for the month of January. We will have a potluck and reveal the 2017 book choices for the group. Bring a dish to share and your current favorite book to recommend. All are welcome. Call 264-2209 for more information.

American Legion Post 108 Ladies Auxiliary. 4 p.m., 287 Hermosa St.

Teen Gaming. 4-5 p.m., Sisson

Library. X-box 360 Kinect, Wii and snacks. For teens in the 7th-12th grades. Contact the library at 264-2209 for further information.

Night Yoga: YoGain. 6:30-7:30 p.m., Community Center. YoGain is a fast-paced blend of yoga asana and body weight exercises designed to raise your heart rate and increase strength and flexibility. Open to all levels and abilities. Call 264-4152 for more information.

Terrific Tuesdays. 7-9 p.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Learn to dance the night club two-step, a flowing romantic dance. Call Wayne at 264-4792 for more information or go to <http://www.meetup.com/Lets-Dance-Pagosa>.

Wednesday, Jan. 11

Pickleball. 8 a.m.-noon, Community Center. Loaner paddles are available if you don't have one.

Library Storytime. 10-11 a.m., Sisson Library. Join Early Literacy Librarian Michael for great stories, fun songs and plenty of reasons to get up and move. Storytime is a great way for kids to have fun while building the skills they need to become independent readers. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Flow Yoga Class. 10-11:30 a.m., Community Center. Please bring a mat and a towel. For more information, call Roz at (281) 435-0563.

Free Blood Pressure Checks. 10:30 a.m., Senior Center.

HELP (Healthy Eating Lifestyle Plan). Noon-1 p.m., Commu-

nity United Methodist Church. Weigh-in, support and more. Everyone welcome. Call Nancy Strait at 731-3427 for more information.

Movie. 1 p.m., Senior Center. Popcorn and beverages provided.

Do-It-Yourself (DIY) Eucalyptus Body Scrub. 1-2 p.m., Sisson Library. Join Rachael for this do-it-yourself soothing body scrub made with only three ingredients. You'll leave with a jar of sweet-smelling body scrub. Materials provided. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Coed Volleyball. 1-3:30 p.m., Community Center. Friendly, non-competitive games open to all ages.

Spanish Basics: Numbers. 4-5:30 p.m., Sisson Library. In this basic lesson, we will count to 100 and learn to express a person's age. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Zumba. 5:30-6:30 p.m., Community Center. Open to all abilities

■ See Calendar on next page

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Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page and ages.

American Legion Post 108. 6 p.m., 287 Hermosa St. Veterans group meeting.

Pagosa Springs Photography Club. 6 p.m., Community United Methodist Church. Join us for socializing followed by a brief meeting at 6:30 p.m.

First Aid Certification Training. 6-10 p.m., CSU Extension office. Anyone needing to receive or renew certification can register by calling 264-5931.

Americana Project Presents Nathaniel Talbot. 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Singer/songwriter Nathaniel Talbot concert. Students from the Americana Project class will open the show. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$10 (12 and under are free).

Thursday, Jan. 12

Overeaters Anonymous. 11 a.m., Centerpoint Church library. Open to everyone. For more information, call Leslie at 799-0775.

Mountain View Homemakers. 11:30 a.m., Community United Methodist Church. The program will feature fascinating Alaska travel stories. A covered-dish lunch provided by members. All area women are invited. For information, call Tozi at 731-3360.

Duplicate Bridge. 1 p.m., Senior Center.

Mexican Train. 1 p.m., Senior Center.

Medicaid and Connect for Health Session. 1-1:45 p.m., Sisson Library. Kevin O'Connor from San Juan Basin Health and Renee Burch from the Archuleta County Department of Human Services discuss options and changes to Medicaid and Connect for Health. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Tech Time. 2-4 p.m., Sisson Library. Drop in with your technology questions. Contact the library at 264-2209 for further information.

Role-Playing Game. 4-5:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Use your imagination to go on adventures and battle monsters in our ongoing RPG. This is a recurring program. If you want to be a part of the game but missed the last event, don't worry, you can join in anytime. For teens in the 7th-12th grades. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Zumba. 5:30-6:30 p.m., Community Center. Open to all abilities and ages.

Friday, Jan. 13

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.

■ See Calendar on next page

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Go to great heights
- 5 City in Arizona
- 9 Kind of fund
- 14 Crowning point
- 15 "Right on!"
- 16 Lake crosser
- 17 Bound
- 18 Hudson or Haynes
- 20 Respectful bow
- 22 Ostensible
- 23 Teen affliction
- 24 Dresser part
- 26 Plaster base
- 27 Cartoonish squeal
- 28 One of the Jonas brothers
- 32 Canyon edge
- 33 Viewpoint page
- 35 Insight
- 37 Missing a piece
- 39 Run over
- 40 World leader?
- 41 Limerick, e.g.
- 42 Fish story
- 43 Branch headquarters?
- 44 Cone bearer
- 45 Pizazz
- 47 Surface, e.g.
- 50 Horse or greyhound
- 52 "Nonsense!"
- 55 Memorial Day event
- 56 Native
- 59 White wading bird
- 60 Allegation
- 61 Aborted mission
- 62 Cream additive
- 63 For this reason
- 64 Cave, to poets
- 65 Campsite sight

DOWN

- 1 Lively Latin dance
- 2 Titanic, for one

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
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60							61				62			
63							64				65			

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- 3 Blend
- 4 Fine spread
- 5 Hat-tipper's word
- 6 Big bird
- 7 Arrange
- 8 Arctic jacket
- 9 Check (out)
- 10 Golden chain
- 11 Part of BTU
- 12 Seafood selection
- 13 Follow, as advice
- 19 Copy cats?
- 21 Where charity begins
- 24 Real-estate document
- 25 Wine choice
- 29 Relentless
- 30 "The Power of Love" singer
- 31 Deep ___ bend
- 32 Little squirt
- 34 Pricing word
- 35 "___ you sure?"
- 36 Leica product
- 38 Stump speeches, often
- 39 Cause for a lawsuit
- 41 Bakery buy
- 44 Type of saucer
- 46 Cowboy's rope
- 48 Some Japanese films
- 49 Seek change?
- 51 Furnace button
- 52 Handel contemporary
- 53 Accomplished
- 54 Student aid
- 55 Story element
- 57 Neither partner
- 58 Back, in a way

Answer to Last Week's Crossword:

L	O	G	E		L	I	L	A	C		F	R	E	T		
A	V	O	W		I	M	A	G	E		R	E	D	O		
C	E	L	E	B	R	A	T	E	D		O	P	E	D		
E	N	D		R	A	G	E		E	C	Z	E	M	A		
				E	R	A		I	R	E		R	E	L	A	Y
N	O	N	A	G	E	N	A	R	I	A	N					
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W	I	G	G	L	E					S	E	C	E	D	E	
T	O	E			O	C	T	A	V	E		A	R	E	A	
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A	S	L	E	E	P		M	A	R	E		A	P	T		
T	S	A	R			A	B	O	M	I	N	A	B	L	E	
C	U	R	E			R	A	D	I	O		F	L	U	X	
H	E	E	D			A	N	E	N	T		T	E	S	T	

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Preview Calendar

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Gaming. 2-3:15 p.m., Sisson Library. Enjoy video gaming on the Wii and X-box 360 Kinect with all of your friends and family. All ages. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'Buyer and Cellar.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. Alex More has a story to tell. A struggling actor in Los Angeles, he takes a job working for beloved megastar Barbra Streisand. Streisand does indeed have a mall, with shops and all, in her Malibu mansion's basement. One day, the lady herself comes down to play. It feels like real bonding in the basement, but will their relationship ever make it upstairs? For tickets and more information, go to www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Saturday, Jan. 14

Baby Storytime. 9:05-9:25 a.m., Sisson Library. Twenty minutes of stories, songs and fingerplays for you and your little one. Learn easy tips on how to include literacy skills into everyday family life. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Toddler Storytime. 9:30-10 a.m., Sisson Library. A half hour of stories, songs and fingerplays for you and your little one. Learn easy tips on how to include literacy skills into everyday family life. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Meditation and Recorded Dharma Talk. 10 a.m., Unitarian Universal Fellowship, Suite 15-B, 70 Greenbriar Drive. All are welcome.

Pagosa Piecemakers Quilting Guild. 10 a.m., CrossRoad Christian Fellowship Church, 1044 Park Ave. We welcome the new year with many new programs in our future for quilters and those who just want to see what it's all about. Come check out this group of talented ladies. There's always show and tell, fellowship, refreshments, new friends and old. Everyone is welcome.

Zumba. 10-11 a.m., Community Center. Open to all abilities and ages.

LEGO Club. 11 a.m.-noon, Sisson Library. Join us to build wonderful creations with LEGOs. We've got the LEGOs, just bring your imagination. For ages 6 to 13. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Yoga: Laugh and Let Go. 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.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.

Audiobooks and Ebooks: Installing and Using the Cloud Library. 3-4 p.m., Sisson Library. Did you know that with your library card, you have access to the library's digital downloadable materials? This includes many popular ebook and audiobook titles that can be accessed on your smartphone, laptop and many devices. If you would like help installing and using the Cloud Library, bring your device to this hands-on workshop. Call 264-2209 for further information.

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'Buyer and Cellar.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. Alex More has a story to tell. A struggling actor in Los Angeles, he takes a job working for beloved megastar Barbra Streisand. Streisand does indeed have a mall, with shops and all, in her Malibu mansion's basement. One day, the lady herself comes down to play. It feels like real bonding in the basement, but will their relationship ever make it upstairs? For tickets and more information, go to www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Sunday, Jan. 15

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'Buyer and Cellar.' 2 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. Alex More has a story to tell. A struggling actor in Los Angeles, he takes a job working for beloved megastar Barbra Streisand. Streisand does indeed have a mall, with shops and all, in her Malibu mansion's basement. One day, the lady herself comes down to play. It feels like real bonding in the basement, but will their relationship ever make it upstairs? For tickets and more information, go to www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Bingo. 6 p.m., Parish Hall. Doors open at 5 p.m., bingo from 6-8 p.m. Concessions and cash prizes. No outside food or drink.

Monday, Jan. 16

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. 2 to make an appointment.

Zumba. 5:30-6:30 p.m., Community Center. Open to all abilities and ages.

Tuesday, Jan. 17

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 Dr. Kevin Kelly at (505) 699-0824 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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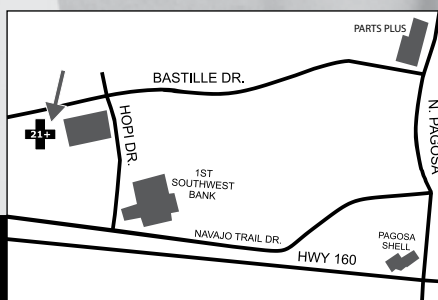




Photo courtesy John M. Motter

The 1911 flood washed out every bridge in Archuleta County, including the San Juan Street bridge, as viewed in this photograph. Townspeople rigged a cable-pulley arrangement enabling the movement of people and goods across the river until the bridge could be replaced.

Mill Creek claims lives during 1911 flood

The flood of Oct. 11, 1911, was the worst natural disaster to hit the Four Corners since the beginning of recorded history. Two local men died in that flood and that is the subject of today's column.

A beautiful ranch spreads out a few miles up Mill Creek Road, just before the terrain turns into higher and more rugged country.



John M. Motter
Mill Creek Road branches just before entering the ranch. One

Pagosa's Past

branch turns to the right, ascends a small hill and then follows the Rito Blanco River on a winding, ever-climbing journey until it eventually dead-ends at a spot overlooking the magnificent meadow lands of the upper Blanco Basin drained by the parent Blanco River.

After entering what once was
■ See Past on next page

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Cards of thanks: Noon, Tuesday
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Obituaries: Noon, Tuesday
(We accommodate obituaries after this if at all possible.)

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

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Ring in the new year with dance

By Roberta Tolan
PREVIEW Columnist

A very happy New Year's from the staff at the CSU Extension office.

Many of us are starting out the new year with goals of losing weight, getting into shape and improving our overall well-being. Dieting and working out is always helpful, but we can also have fun along the way by including dance in our lives.

All physical movement can have fitness benefits, but movement while dancing improves more than your muscles.

Babies move to communicate their needs to parents, like stretching and yawning to show they are tired, or pulling their knees up to their chest to show they have an upset stomach. Young children are constantly moving to express themselves, to mimic something they have observed or just because it feels good.

When movement is combined with the rhythm of music, it becomes dance and the physical, emotional, social and cognitive benefits multiply.

Benefits of dance

- Physical benefits: Dance improves range of motion, muscle tone, bone strength, coordination, strength and endurance. Because dancing requires a pattern of

Past

■ continued from previous page known as Mill Creek Ranch, the road terminates at a two-story frame ranch house built in the 1890s by the same carpenter who built the E.T. Walker house once located at the eastern entry to Pagosa Springs where highways 160 and 84 come together. The E.T. Walker house has been moved to Holiday Acres, where it is being restored.

Surrounding the ranch house complex at Mill Creek Ranch are a barn and other buildings including a smaller house for a ranch manager where Pres Valdez once lived during my time in this part of the world.

Mill Creek runs through the building complex; normally a benign, welcome part of the peaceful home site smiling across acres and acres of rolling grassland used for hay and grazing. Historically, Mill Creek was called El Frio Creek on the earliest Pagosa Country maps. Speaking again historically, Mill Creek Ranch was homesteaded by John Dowell, a leader among the pioneers of Pagosa Country and the first mayor of Pagosa Springs. There can be little doubt that the Dowells cleared the land and planted the verdure surrounding the ranch house.

Extension Viewpoints

movements, it helps memory as well.

- Emotional benefits: Creative movement allows humans to express their emotions. Researchers at the Mayo Clinic have found that social dancing reduces stress and increases energy levels. Dancing can improve self-esteem, because it improves feeling comfortable in your own body and how it moves.

- Social benefits: We learn how to communicate and express ideas with others in a group setting. In dance, there is cooperation and interaction that helps us appreciate others.

- Cognitive benefits: Like other kinds of physical activity, dancing increases blood flow, which in turn brings more oxygen to the brain. Studies show that many of us learn the best by doing and dance is a wonderful way to learn. Learning while moving is called kinesthetic learning.

Dancing makes us smarter

A major study added to the growing evidence that stimulating

one's mind by dancing can ward off Alzheimer's disease and other dementia, much as physical exercise can keep the body fit. Dancing also increases cognitive acuity at all ages.

A New England Journal of Medicine report has the following to say on the effects of recreational activities on mental acuity in aging.

The 21-year study of senior citizens, 75 and older, was led by the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York City, funded by the National Institute on Aging, and published in the New England Journal of Medicine. Their method for objectively measuring mental acuity in aging was to monitor rates of dementia, including Alzheimer's disease.

The study wanted to see if any physical or cognitive recreational activities influenced mental acuity. They discovered that some activities had a significant beneficial effect. Other activities had none.

They studied cognitive activities such as reading books, writing for pleasure, doing crossword puzzles, playing cards and playing musical

■ See Viewpoints on next page

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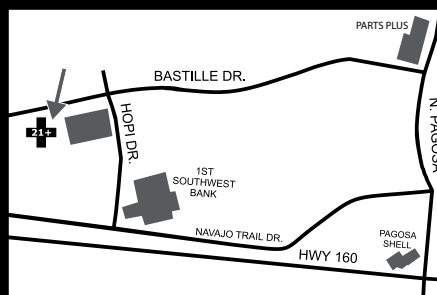
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Starting the new year by improving relationships

By John Lough
Special to The PREVIEW

Relationships come in many flavors. They range from very casual to quite close, such as those individuals we consider real friends, often people we have known for a long time. And, closest of all, as you might expect, is usually with someone with whom we are romantically and emotionally involved, a spouse or a significant other.

But what many of us fail to appreciate is that all good relationships require work and that's especially true as a relationship ages. While it may often feel that our associations with others simply "happen," these connections require thought and effort if we want them to endure and grow.

One important step in strengthening a relationship is simply being accepting. No two people are exactly alike and what often

helps establish a relationship is that each party brings something a little different to the association. However, over time, we may forget that some of those differences were what helped establish the initial relationship. We, instead, may unconsciously be trying to make the other person more like ourselves. It helps to step back, evaluate what makes that relationship special and refocus on the positive things rather than the differences you may have.

Good relationships also have to be able to survive disagreements. There are going to be times when friends or spouses are going to have differing opinions about a particular subject, with each going in quite an opposite direction. While it might seem nice (if boring), if everyone agreed all the time, for a relationship to thrive, it's necessary sometimes to accept the other person's thoughts and to simply agree to disagree.

Another basic element for a good relationship is being able to communicate with the other person. That sounds simple, but in our busy, often stressful world, it

■ See Relationships on next page

Viewpoints

■ continued from previous page

instruments. And they studied physical activities like playing tennis or golf, swimming, bicycling, dancing, walking for exercise and doing housework.

One of the surprises of the study was that almost none of the physical activities appeared to offer any protection against dementia. There can be cardiovascular benefits, of course, but the focus of this study was the mind. There was one important exception: the only physical activity to offer protection against dementia was frequent dancing.

Reading — 35 percent reduced risk of dementia.

Bicycling and swimming — zero percent.

Doing crossword puzzles at least four days a week — 47 percent.

Playing golf — zero percent.

Dancing frequently — 76 percent. That was the greatest risk reduction of any activity studied, cognitive or physical.

We immediately ask two questions:

- Why is dancing better than other activities for improving mental capabilities?

- Does this mean all kinds of dancing, or is one kind of dancing better than another?

That's where this particular study falls short. It doesn't answer these questions as a stand-alone study. Fortunately, it isn't a stand-alone study. It's one of many studies, over decades, which have shown that we increase our mental capacity by exercising our cognitive processes. Intelligence: Use it or lose it. And it's the other studies which fill in the gaps in this one. Looking at all of these studies together lets us understand the bigger picture.

The essence of intelligence is making decisions. The best advice, when it comes to improving your mental acuity, is to involve yourself in activities which require split-second, rapid-fire decision making, as opposed to rote memory (retracing the same well-worn paths) or just working on your physical style.

One way to do that is to learn something new. Not just dancing, but anything new. Don't worry about the probability that you'll never use it in the future. Take a class to challenge your mind. It will stimulate the connectivity of your brain by generating the need for new pathways. Difficult classes are better for you, as they will create a greater need for new neural pathways.

Then take a dance class, which can be even more effective. Dancing integrates several brain functions at once — kinesthetic, rational, musical and emotional — further increasing your neural connectivity.

The study made another important suggestion: do it often. Seniors who did crossword puzzles four days a week had a measurably lower risk of dementia than those who did the puzzles once a week. If you can't take classes or go out dancing four times a week, then dance as much as you can. More is better.

And do it now, the sooner the better. It's essential to start building your cognitive reserve now.

See you on the dance floor.

The above information was taken from the article "Dance ... A Way to Improve Fitness" written by Tracy Trumper, family and consumer agent for CSU Extension in Phillips County and "Use It or Lose It; Dancing Makes You Smarter," written by Richard Powers, full-time instructor at Stanford University Dance Division.

CPR and first aid classes

CPR and first aid certification classes are now being offered monthly by the CSU Extension office on the second Monday and Wednesday of each month from 6 to 10 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.

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Snowed in: Be prepared

By Daris Howard
Special to The PREVIEW

It was only a week before Christmas that year when the big snowstorm came. But once it started, it didn't stop for a long time. It snowed a foot of new snow that first night. The snow plows were out quickly and cleared it away, disappointing the children who had to go to school. But as the snow kept coming, the snow plows couldn't keep up, and the children eventually got a couple of extra days of Christmas break.

They were excited, but as the snow continued to come, the excitement wore off as people grew weary of shoveling. Some people out in the rural area where we live desperately tried to get out to do a last little bit of Christmas shopping. But most never made it far beyond their driveway before they had to turn back.

Once the snow had reached a depth of about 3 feet, a strong wind kicked up, blowing snow over the roads in drifts that were 10 feet high in some places. The county officials announced that all nonemergency road clearing would be discontinued until after the storm ceased. Authorities suggested that no one venture out unless it was an absolute emergency. Soon power went out and phone lines went dead.

Our family was quite comfortable. Though we usually used electric heat at night, we used a wood stove during the day. It became our whole source of heat and cooking, but we gathered around it and let the storms howl outside. Snow had

to be brought in and melted for drinking, washing, and bathroom use. The only real challenge was going outside and taking care of the animals who were all snug in their sheds. I took care of all outside work and would come in looking like a snowman.

We had already finished most of our Christmas shopping and decided that what we had done would have to suffice. We had a fun Christmas. We ate lots of candy, read stories, and enjoyed the family togetherness.

It was a few days after Christmas when the winds finally stopped. By then everyone had been snowed in for over a week. The power came back on intermittently, and we learned from the radio that roads were impassible everywhere. The snow was too deep for the conventional snow plows and would have to initially be cleared by the rotary ones. The problem was that the county had a limited number of rotary snow plows, and it would take over a week before all the roads could be opened.

Over the next few days the temperature dropped to well below zero. Our family continued on as we had, having limited contact with the outside world. Then one evening, just before New Year's Day, we heard a snow machine. Soon there was a knock on our door. It was totally unexpected that anyone would be out in this freezing weather, and everyone rushed to see who it was. There stood a neighbor who lived about a mile away.

He held out a \$20 bill. "Can I buy

a roll of toilet paper?"

I laughed. "A roll of toilet paper doesn't cost \$20."

He sighed. "I have already been to a couple of other neighbors trying to buy some, and it seems like everyone is on their last roll and doesn't want to part with it at any price."

"I grew up out in the middle of nowhere," I said. "And I learned to stock up for emergencies like this, so we have extra." I retrieved a whole package and brought it to him. "Keep your money and just replace the toilet paper when you get a chance."

He thanked me and left.

A few days later, after the roads were cleared, the neighbor came up to me at church. "I've got your package of toilet paper in my car," he said. "I'll get it for you right after church."

"What I gave you got you through all right, then?" I asked.

He nodded. "Yes, and I've learned my lesson. When summer comes, I plan to insulate my whole house with toilet paper. I'm not ever going to run out again."

Relationships

■ continued from previous page

can be easy to ignore someone you care about without really meaning to do it.

The key is to take time to focus on how well you are communicating with those you care about. And that doesn't just mean sharing all of your ideas and problems. It means making time for the other person, asking questions and really listening, especially when there are problem areas.

Improving your relationships is a wonderful resolution to make for the new year. And making it work isn't all that hard. It just requires paying more attention and making time to listen to and enjoy that other person.

"Counseling Corner" is provided by the American Counseling Association. Send your comments and questions to ACACorner@counseling.org or visit the ACA website at www.counseling.org.

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AURORA: This little girl is Arabella's sister and part of the group of four brought in. She is not quite as confident as her sister and will need loving reassurance in this big, new world. Although shy, she will make an excellent cuddle buddy. Adopt from **THE HUMANE SOCIETY**. 731-4771.



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Senior Center now offering computer help

By Cheryl Wilkinson
PREVIEW Columnist

A volunteer will be in the computer center of the Pagosa Springs Senior Center on Mondays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. to help with your computer issues. Bring your computer or use one of ours.

Health and wellness program

The Senior Center has initiated a pilot program expanding health and wellness services to Archuleta County seniors.

The program includes wellness, blood pressure monitoring or allows individual area seniors to discuss two subjects of their choice. 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. Zappone has been a nurse practitioner for six years and is a long-time resident of Pagosa Springs. She understands the difficulties obtaining health care in a rural area and how these obstacles can be greater for seniors. The goal of the outreach clinic is to provide care to those who are not able to travel.

Computer center

The Senior Center is now providing computer access to seniors who are members of the Discount Club.

Computer stations are available by the hour. If no one has signed up for the next hour, seniors may continue to use the computer for an additional hour(s). Computer and Internet access is available during business hours when staff is in attendance and classes are not in session.

Medical alert system

Medical alert monitoring systems are available for seniors. We can help you get set up with a system and assist with the monthly service charges or if you already have a system in place, we can help supplement the monthly service fees. Please call 264-2167 for more information or to sign up.

Medicare Mondays

Are you turning 65? Do you need some help with Medicare? The San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging has openings every Monday at the Senior Center to help you with your Medicare enrollment questions.

Here are some quick tips: If you are collecting Social Security, you will be automatically enrolled in Medicare parts A and B. We can help you pick a Part D Prescription



Drug Plan. If you don't enroll in a Part D plan, you could face penalties. If you are new to Medicare, you have an eight-month Special Enrollment Period to sign up for parts A, B and D around your 65th birthday. Medicare starts after your employment ends or the group health insurance plan based on your current employment ends, whichever happens first. You do not pay late penalties if you enroll within the eight-month Special Enrollment Period. COBRA and retiree health plans are not considered coverage based on current employment.

Important dates: General enrollment runs from Jan. 1 through March 31 each year and coverage starts July 1. Oct. 15 through Dec. 7 is open (or annual) enrollment for switching plans for Part D and a Medicare Cost Plan; coverage starts Jan. 1.

If you would like to talk to a Medicare counselor, please contact the Area Agency on Aging to make an appointment. Please call 264-0501, ext. 2. We will put you in touch with one of our talented and experienced Medicare counselors.

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, Jan. 5 — Ham, black beans, macaroni and cheese, Brussels sprouts, pumpkin muffin and salad bar.

Friday, Jan. 6 — Herb-baked chicken, mashed potatoes, gravy, roasted carrots and parsnips, whole wheat roll and salad bar.

Monday, Jan. 9 — Beef tacos, Mexicali corn, spinach with mushrooms and salad bar.

Tuesday, Jan. 10 — Baked potato bar, cheddar cheese, sour cream, chives, beef chili, cream of broccoli soup and salad bar.

Wednesday, Jan. 11 — Ham, whipped sweet potatoes, black-eyed peas, cornbread, salad bar and baked apples with pears.

Thursday, Jan. 12 — Chicken tortilla soup, three-cheese quesadilla triangle, steamed asparagus with lemon, black bean with mango salsa 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.

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