



PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147

www.PagosaSUN.com

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CDOT awards town \$815,000 for Town-to-Lakes Trail

By Jim Garrett
Staff Writer

The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) announced the award to the Town of Pagosa Springs of a grant in the amount of \$815,000 for work on the Town-to-Lakes Trail on Monday, Dec. 12.

The money will fund construction in 2018 of the Harman Hill phase of the trail, running westward from the Harman Park/Piedra Road area. The funding is federally provided, under the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), administered in Colorado by CDOT.

According to the CDOT announcement, the town will provide matching funds of nearly \$204,000 for completion of the construction.

An earlier TAP grant was made to fund design for the same Harman Hill phase of the trail. The design work is currently in progress.

Town Manager Greg Schulte told The SUN on Dec. 13 that the town "has been very fortunate to receive the TAP grants, for which we compete throughout all of southwest Colorado."

The town is within CDOT Region 5, which includes 15 counties in southwest Colorado.

Matt Muraro, regional planner for CDOT Region 5, based in Durango, confirmed to The SUN on Dec. 14 that TAP grant applications from regional communities are evaluated competitively.

Muraro said that ranking of grant applications is based on fac-

■ See Trail A8



Top: A fox pounces on its prey while hunting on the flats below the golf course Monday morning. Bottom: An eagle searches for its next meal from its vantage point in a cottonwood tree above the Navajo River about a mile west of the Oso Dam last week.

Photo courtesy Janet Ford



Photo courtesy George Hunyadi

County facility: Eminent domain no longer imminent

By Marshall Dunham
Staff Writer

After an executive session on the afternoon of Dec. 7, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) voted to reverse its decision to use eminent domain on the Hot Springs Property, and instead file for a quiet title action.

The move came after the county's attorney, Todd Starr, came to the opinion that the deed restriction at the center of the eminent domain issue is not valid.

"I move to authorize the county attorney, based on the facts and the law, to pursue a quiet title action for other claims concerning the Hot Springs Property and that he not pursue eminent domain at this time," said Commissioner Clifford Lucero.

Commissioner Steve Wadley seconded the motion, which pro-

ceeded to pass unanimously. Previously, the BoCC voted to use eminent domain to overcome a deed restriction on the parcel the county owns on Hot Springs Boulevard after an earlier vote to use that parcel for the construction of a new jail and justice center.

The deed restriction, which prohibits "the Property from being used for any justice system purposes such as jails, law enforcement or Sheriff's Department," was signed by Stanley Levine, a trustee of the Fairway Land Trust, which originally sold the county the parcel of land in 1999.

The warranty deed from 1999 makes no reference to a restrictive covenant. The restrictive covenant is dated 2006 and is also signed by Levine.

"Basically, a quiet title action is

■ See County A8

Pipeline work complete, no 2017 rate increase

By Jim Garrett
Staff Writer

Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District (PSSGID) Supervisor Gene Tautges advised The SUN on Tuesday this week that all work under the contract for construction of the PSSGID sewage treatment pipeline has been completed.

Tautges said the completion of the pipeline work had recently been the occasion for "one of the shortest reports I've ever given" to Pagosa Springs Town Council in its capacity as the PSSGID board: "We're done."

The long-running project was initiated in 2012.

The pipeline transports sewage from the town for treatment at the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) Vista Treatment Plant, west of town. It has been in operation since late spring this year,

but wrap-up activities continued until November.

The final significant step was the removal of sludge from the old treatment lagoons that the town had used prior to the completion of the pipeline.

Tautges said that one of the emptied lagoons will remain usable for approximately the next year. Potential use would be only in event of temporary need, such as might occur if pipeline flow had to be interrupted for repairs.

During the course of 2017, an emergency storage tank to meet any such needs will be constructed by PSSGID with the aid of a Small Community Grant obtained through the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.

Tautges said the design for the new storage tank is currently under-

■ See Pipeline A8

PAWSD: Lewis resigns, Ramsey named acting district manager

By Marshall Dunham
Staff Writer

District Manager Renee Lewis announced her resignation during the regular meeting of the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) Board of Directors on Thursday, Dec. 8.

"It is with deep regret that I am leaving PAWSD as Pagosa Springs is a wonderful community and I am so thankful for the opportunities I have been afforded here," wrote Lewis in an email to The SUN.

Lewis became interim manager for the district in January 2015 and was named to the position perma-



Lewis



Ramsey

nently in July 2015.

Lewis' resignation letter is dated Dec. 5 and addressed to PAWSD Chairman Mike Church.

■ See PAWSD A8



Photo courtesy Jeff Laydon

The Pagosa Springs Girls Choir entertains the crowd during its holiday concert, "Sing with the Angels," on Dec. 6 at the Community United Methodist Church.



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Letters

First placebo

Dear Editor:
Seems there's more to the "cloud" than the idle user might have thought.

Right-wing populism is a global trend ... except in China and Russia. China blocks most western digital information but still the quality of life is "leaping" forward. Russian youths are, to a lesser degree, experiencing much the same improvements and access to info. Both countries are emerging from far-left regimes (in fact there's little difference between the extremist left and right). One could say the East is going to meet the West in the middle of their respective ideologies.

But that's just one of several drivers for the scope of current retro thought. Another is the stress of the speed of racial/social/cultural change. Any society lives on similar myths and mysteries; we all use them every day. Add or delete too fast and our subconscious sense of loss/fear/frustration becomes social pain. Mix in the increasing

loss of the old "glue" of religion and our secular selves crave to be part of something ... bigger. Keep in mind, that not too far below the surface of our "civil" thought, everyone is still a nativist and tribalist. Hillary's losing presidential pitch was "I'm with her" vs. Trump's resounded more like, I'm with you. The Obama voters who switched to Trump wanted respect, recognition, loyalty appreciation and still desired change. This election cycle really brought out the racist crowd. Definitely a threat but at this time still a minority within the Trump coterie.

"Creative destruction" where new pushes out old is pure Republican dogma (except where their lobbyist's need tariff protection). Inherent in this process is a fluid labor market. Any humanism, empathy, sympathy and social economic floor for the indigent is missing. Next time you see/hear a person spouting right-wing dogma, seek out the face ... tell me you don't see a robot? The disconnect in this philosophical chain of entitlement is the IT industry. Entrepreneurial creativity personified, yet the vast majority of the IT folks are on a planet far far away from right-wing dogma.

There are multiple theaters we use to live in at the same time. The theatre of belief, expectations, promises ... and placebos. If an Alpha figure makes a promise and presents it in a pattern of familiarity of symbols/slogans/cues, regardless, we want to believe so we will likely "choose" the lesser best option. Herbert A. Simon described it as decisions on "bounded rationality." What the heck is that, it means we choose the least negative impact on our individual persons, not the best option for us, community or nation. I think Trump is a result of all the above. Astoundingly, his first (un)official act was to ask the CEO of Carrier what the financial difference was in moving the 1,000+ jobs in Indiana to Mexico ... answer less than \$5 million ... offer \$7 million over 10 years in local tax cuts (remember Pence is VP) ... result local taxpayers fund those jobs staying home (how Karl Marx is that). Repeat this decision all over the U.S. and guess what we still don't care. In this theatre, his promise was kept and our expectations have been met. Folks we just got our first placebo.

Dave Blake

Christmas spirit

Dear Editor:
The Christmas spirit is alive and

well in Pagosa.

My grandmother, Lucille Alley, and I would like to send out a big thank you to a "perfect" stranger.

When shopping at Walmart on Wednesday, Dec. 7, for a few items, we noticed a gentleman standing in our checkout line swiping his credit card to pay for grandma's items.

It happened so fast, leaving us a bit confused and we didn't even have a chance to say "thank you."

Two days later, I received a phone call stating that a Secret Santa had paid off a gift I had in layaway at Walmart. This means so much to us ... thank you for being so kind and selfless, whoever you are. It is very much appreciated and we will be paying it forward by donating to the local food bank.

Again, our thanks.

Kelcie Candelaria and Lucille Alley

Downtown deer

Dear Editor:
On Friday evening, Nov. 25, I was in the Humane Society Thrift Store parking lot when I heard a loud thud and saw a buck sliding down the street in front of me. I went over to the deer and saw that he was still breathing.

I stood in the street signaling to east bound traffic so he wouldn't get hit again. He tried getting up a few times but to no avail.

I called the police immediately, while watching the deer suffer. An officer arrived about 10 minutes later. I asked the officer to put him out of his misery and he stated the deer would have to be dragged to the back of the lot. This was done and he was finally put down.

The time I spent with this injured deer, and not being able to help him still remains in my mind as a nightmare.

The following week I emailed CDOT asking if they could place flashing signs stating "Watch for Wildlife" in this area facing both incoming and outbound traffic. I received a call from CDOT in a couple of days. The man told me that unless there have been five reported hits in a year in that area nothing could be done and that they have not had any reports this year. I know for a fact that there have been wildlife hit in this area this year. As a matter of fact, a neighbor told me a deer was hit this morning in the area, Dec. 7.

Last week's Pagosa Springs SUN even had a report from the one I saw, "Animal/Wildlife" in The

Blotter.

These deer, as we know as "The Downtown Deer" are to me a special part of Pagosa Springs. I care about all animals, and never want to see this happen again.

I have a concealed carry permit and now carry whenever I go out. I realize that shooting a weapon in town is unlawful but I don't want to see a suffering animal again.

Please people, slow down and pay attention, there are deer crossing every day downtown. Next time it may be a human.

Gerry Cepon

Gift of humanity

Dear Editor:
As most of us celebrate the holidays, please be mindful of those who are struggling. Last December, I was a person with little hope.

My husband, Rick, and I had lived in Colorado most of our lives, riding horses, growing hay on our ranch and enjoying all the outdoor activities Colorado has to offer. We decided to start a new life, move to a place warm and free of our Gunnison County winters. We sold our ranch in Colorado and moved our belongings, horses, and lives to Prescott, Ariz. We wanted to retire and ride our horses into the beautiful canyons and open spaces in Prescott.

Not quite two years after we moved, Rick died. What was I going to do without my loving husband, seven horses, too much property and a house with so many memories? I decided to move back to my beloved Colorado and on Dec. 1 of last year I closed on my new home in Pagosa Springs. I didn't know a soul.

No holiday celebrations for me. I hated the world. My husband had died. But around Dec. 22, I made an effort to celebrate the way we used to, with the foods we always prepared together. I filled my basket at City Market with many of the goodies we used share on Christmas Eve.

While going through the checkout line a man walked up to me and said "I would like to pay for your groceries." I was speechless, which, if you know me, doesn't hap-

■ See Letters A4

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Letters

The SUN welcomes letters from readers.

Please submit to:
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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.

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Obituaries



Clarissa Rizal

Renowned northwest coast artist and local Pagosa Springs resident Clarissa Rizal died Wednesday, Dec. 7, after a most courageous battle with cancer. She was 60.

Born in Juneau, Alaska, in 1956, Clarissa was a highly respected cultural leader and a multi-talented artist who contributed to the revival and perpetuation of Chilkat and Ravenstail ceremonial blanket weaving. She educated scores of students in Chilkat, Ravenstail and button robe techniques. Clarissa was also a painter, printmaker,

fashion designer, collage artist, sculptor, illustrator, musician and landscaper. Earlier this year, she was the recipient of the 2016 National Endowment for the Arts National Heritage Fellowship. Rizal's weavings received Best in Show at the Heard Museum Indian Art Fair, the Santa Fe Artists Market, the Anchorage Museum All Alaska Juried Art Show and the Sealaska Heritage Invitational Art Exhibit.

She leaves behind children Kahlil Hudson and his wife, Mikiko Ellis, along with their daughter, Violet; Lily Hope and husband Ishmael Hope and their children Elizabeth, Louis, Mary and Ella; Ursala Hudson and husband Chris Haas and their daughters, Amelie and Simone. She is also survived by her siblings, Richard, Tim, Irene and Deanna Lampe.

A potluck to honor and celebrate Clarissa will be held on Saturday, Dec. 17, from 4 to 7 p.m. at a friend's residence. Please visit Clarissa's blog, www.clarissarizal.com/blog/, for venue address and further event details. A large celebration of life in Juneau, Alaska, will take place in the summer of 2017.

Katherine V. Essley

Mom was born in Dyer, Ark., to Claude and Eula Peevy on June

10, 1921, and was the fifth of seven children. She finished high school and married her first husband, Allen Clack, in 1941.

In 1946, they moved to Phoenix and Allen opened a used car business. Their son, Bruce, was 2 at that time and then along came Barbara in 1947. Mom was a homemaker and later a beautician. Allen passed away in 1952 and she married Dace Essley Jr., a cotton farmer in Glendale in 1959. In 1973, they moved to Pagosa Springs and in 2000, they returned to Phoenix to be near their daughter, Barbara, as they were at the point of needing her assistance.

Dace passed away in 2002 and Mom became a widow once again. Due to her physical limitations, she moved into a beautiful care home in 2008 and lived there until her passing on Nov. 10. Mom was in her 53rd year of being a breast cancer survivor. In 1963, she had a double mastectomy and at the age of 95, she was still cancer-free at the time of her passing.

Mom is survived by two of her three children, Bruce Clack (Barbara Carleen) and Barbara Gaston (Tom, deceased), three grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. Bruce and Barbara wish to thank Sidonia Groza for the loving care of their mom. We also want to

acknowledge the excellent care by the staff of Geriatric Solutions, Desert Oasis Hospice and Hospice of The Valley.

Our hearts are sad, but we are at peace in knowing that Mom is in heaven with her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We all share the desire, really a deep down yearning, to be in that glorious home forever. It is a place of indescribably bliss and the supreme blessing will be the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ Himself.

There was a visitation at Best Funeral Home in Peoria, Ariz., on Friday, Nov. 18. Internment was at Phoenix Memorial Park, with Katherine's son, Bruce, sharing a few words in honor of his mom.

Obituaries

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

PO Box 9
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
e-mail: editor@pagosahun.com

fax: (970) 264-2103

Deadline is 1 p.m. Tuesday for the following Thursday's edition. The SUN reserves the right to edit all submissions.

Letters

Continued from A3

pen often. I looked at the cashier for confirmation who nodded his head yes. The man took out his credit card and ran it through the machine. Grateful tears surfaced. The world was a cruel place over the holidays but beside me was this generous person, smiling. I cried, I hugged, I thanked.

To say he saved my life that night sounds a bit dramatic. He saved my spirit, the spirit of Christmas, and a spirit of giving. I drove home on the icy December streets feeling warmth. After storing the groceries, I went to the garage and pulled out boxes, boxes of decorations. As I stood back, looking at the beautiful lights sparkling my heart was full. I actually smiled for the first time in a very long time.

Mark and Wanda, how do I ever thank you for the gift you bestowed upon me? Not the monetary gift, but the gift of kindness, the gift of humanity and the true gift of yourselves. I will never forget.

Merry Christmas.

Darlene Ponczek

That time of year

Dear Editor:

Let's we forget ... yes, it's that time of the year when, once again, we celebrate the miracle birth of Jesus Christ, the only son of God, who lived "among us," bringing God's love and forgiveness into our lives while promising that he would never leave us, even in

death.

Beautiful Christmas music will inspire us and bring forth childhood memories. The true joy of this celebration renews our faith in mankind and sets all on a trail of devotion to goodness for the coming year.

This is a time to reflect on fond memories and "soak in" the love that God through Christ continues to fill our souls and lives with hopefulness and true guidance through our personal prayers.

Yes, a very Merry Christmas to all.

Patty Tillerson

Popularity

Dear Editor:

Our president-elect has done a few things since his election which ought to inspire critical thought about what we expect of a president. I present them as two oppositions: popularity versus process, and person versus policy.

Election is the validation of an office-holder. The vote of the people gives a president-elect the clear mandate to focus on the work of governance. Our president-elect, however, continues to hold rallies with the central purpose to build popular support. (Though billed as "thank you" events, they feature the president-elect announcing his future plans.) The process of election, it seems, is not enough for him. He continues to seek greater popularity. What are we citizens to

make of this pursuit of popularity over democratic process?

Furthermore, our president-elect has used his position to intervene personally in business transactions — with Boeing and Carrier, to name two. Presidents certainly have the responsibility to work with Congress to shape economic policy. However, our president-elect is setting himself up as the personal benefactor of factory workers and taxpayers. Working on nationwide policy is not enough; he seeks to be the person in charge of the big deals. What are we to make of his focus on personal power over policy work?

These are not questions of party. These questions go deeper than categories of Democrat and Republican. We're looking at the difference between democracy ("rule of the people") and autocracy ("rule of an individual"). The office of president exists to serve the people. This president-elect seems to want to rule and make lots of "big deals."

I am concerned that the president-elect wants the presidency to contribute to his personal "brand." His ultimate ends may be popularity and personal power. His actions so far can be reasonably explained as efforts to show that he is better than the system. If so, he is not assuming the presidency, as our constitutional system intends, but he is replacing the presidency with something better: himself. The presidency may be, for him, not a

position of public service requiring careful thought and humble action, but a device by which he can become greater in notoriety and — sooner or later — wealth.

Why should we care about the behavior of this president-elect? Two reasons. First, good leaders must make decisions that are better for a nation but go against personal popularity. I am not confident that this future president will be able to do that. Second, if personal power is his "bottom line," then citizenry who don't support him politically will be a threat. And our nation depends on the ability of elected leaders to accept and value great numbers of citizens who don't support them. This is the nature of democracy.

I believe that the success of our government needs democratic process and good policy rather than the power or popularity of any single person. I am watching to see which is more important to our president-elect. I hope you will watch with me, and see if I am wrong.

Emrys Tyler

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Business

CHAMBER NEWS

Perk up your holiday gift giving

By Mary Jo Coulehan
SUN Columnist

Oftentimes we struggle with the right gift to give someone. The Chamber has the answer for you — leave the gift choice up to the recipient by giving Pagosa Perks local shopping dollars.

Pagosa Perks checks have been around for over 15 years and the purpose is to keep your dollars local. Perks come in various denominations starting at \$10 and over and they are wonderful gift ideas to say “thank you,” “here’s a little something extra” or “you get to choose what you want to spend your money on.”

While we may not think that going to the grocery store is really a great gift — for someone, it may be a great gift. Maybe someone can use the check at a restaurant or the movie theater or to pay a bill. The choice is theirs.

Pagosa Perks are guaranteed checks — they are just like a cashier’s check. Even if the store doesn’t take checks, they should take Pagosa Perks because they are guaranteed. They spend just like cash.

The business recipient deposits the Perk just like a check and they get credited the full face value of the check. It’s that simple. The gift giver is a hero because now the recipient can make the choice of where to spend that money.

Pagosa Perks also make great employee gifts any time of the year. They are great for that yard crew, house cleaner, hairdresser, teacher or pet sitter.

As the Chamber emphasizes shopping local at this time of year, naturally we also promote Pagosa Perks and the giving of Perks during the holiday season. It takes the guesswork out of gift giving as to whether the present is the correct size or color or style.

You can purchase Pagosa Perks at the Chamber located on Hot Springs Boulevard. We accept cash, check or credit card for the purchase. Think about leaving the gifting decision up to the recipient this year while keeping your shopping dollars local.

Please contact the Chamber should you have any questions about the Pagosa Perks program.

Board of directors voting

The voting for the 2017 incoming Chamber board of directors is

occurring at a fast clip this year. Chamber members have been voting online regularly every day since the voting opened.

This time of year, the Chamber membership casts a ballot for three of six nominees that will serve a three-year term on the Chamber board of directors. This year, the candidates are: Jenelle Syverson, The Choke Cherry Tree; Christie Spears, Wolf Creek Broadcasting; Jennifer Pitcher, PLPOA; Dan McPherson, Sunetha Property Management; Jim Hayes, The Hub Bike Shop; and Leanne Goebel, Lantern Dancer Gallery. All of these candidates have varied business backgrounds with valuable contributions to the Chamber board.

We encourage you to read their bios included in the voting invitation email. When you receive your email from the Chamber, please click on the link to either view the bios or the link to go directly to the ballot. There is only one ballot per business that is allowed. Additional ballots or voting for more than three candidates will invalidate your ballot.

If you would like to cast your ballot in person, you may do so by visiting the Chamber of Commerce.

We appreciate the input of the membership on this important yearly task. The results will be announced at the annual Chamber Membership Gala, this year to be held at the PLPOA Clubhouse on Saturday, Jan. 21. Tickets will go on sale soon for a night of great food, great music and great celebration.

Recognizing our nonprofit agencies

This is the time of year when we get the opportunity to recognize people and organizations that make an impact in our community through the annual community awards.

An important aspect of our community is the nonprofit agencies. With well over 60 active nonprofit agencies in Pagosa Springs, these organizations offer opportunities for people to volunteer, pursue their passions and help others out in the community.

Nonprofits serve the community in ways that government or religious organizations cannot. Nonprofit agencies are businesses with their organizations having a specialized tax status; however, many often run their organizations better than for-profit businesses. Past winners

of the Non-Profit of the Year award have been Seeds of Learning, Chimney Rock Interpretive Association, the Archuleta County Victim Assistance Program and GECKO (Giving Every Child Knowledge of the Outdoors). Since the award is fairly new, this leaves a lot of room for other nonprofit agency nominations to be submitted.

The forms for all the yearly community nominations are available online on the Chamber’s website at www.pagosachamber.com or at the Chamber offices. The link for the forms will also come to your business email account via the Chamber’s weekly “Updates and Reminders.” Please take time to nominate an agency that consistently makes an impact in our community.

The community awards will be given out at the Chamber’s annual Membership Gala on Jan. 21, 2017.

Membership news

As you work on your business budget for 2017, did you know that you can set up monthly, quarterly or yearly recurring billing for your Chamber membership? Plug this value into your accounting system

■ See Chamber A6



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Open house and tours at the Education Growing Dome

By Leslie Wustrack
Special to The SUN

The Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership (GGP) is hosting an open house and tour at the Education Growing Dome every Tuesday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. through Dec. 31.

The public is invited to stop by at their leisure; the tours are informal. They'll view volunteers at work and learn about the plants, the systems that enable the dome to thrive and what's next for the GGP.

In the midst of its annual membership drive, an organization volunteer will provide information about how to get involved.

The Education Growing Dome, the first of three greenhouses to be

built at the site, will host programming for K-12 beginning this winter. Several of the interior beds will be used to teach students planting, growing and the principles of sustainable agriculture.

In addition, the organization's member volunteers will work other interior beds to grow vegetables to produce revenue for sustainability. The GGP nonprofit, whose mission is "to grow food and community using local renewable energy," began as a dream of former Mayor Ross Aragon.

Furthered by dedicated locals, the project has received major support from the Town of Pagosa Springs, the local community and the state.

Here's an update on the progress at the dome:

- Planting: greens, herbs and root vegetables are fully planted in amended soil. The center bed contains an experimentation of frost-sensitive plants (beans, tomatoes, cilantro, basil, etc.); the geothermal energy allows growing of crops not normally possible in cold, winter weather. Starts will be available when students begin their planting.

- Hydronic heating system: installed in the pathways; the floor heating system is operating successfully.

- Water tank heating system: the system is installed and the goldfish should come out of hibernation as soon as the pipes are connected.

- Stained raised beds: an environmentally friendly, no-odor, zero VOC stain has been applied.

- Utility room: shelving has been added to serve as storage.

- Water: the dome is now plumbed for domestic and irrigation. Next up — the automatic irrigation system.

- Bathrooms at Centennial Park: the bathrooms, heated by geothermal energy, are now open.

Saturday, Dec. 17's workshop will be a special open house (10 a.m.-2 p.m.); it will commemorate the transformation of a workshop into a beautiful garden. For more information, visit pagosagreen.org and facebook.com/geothermalgreenhousepartnership.

The Education Growing Dome is located at the GGP site in Centennial Park, off 5th Street on the San Juan River, in downtown Pagosa Springs.

Public Meetings

The following meetings are subject to change.

Tuesday, Dec. 20

Archuleta County Board of County

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

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

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

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.

Thursday, Dec. 22

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

Tuesday, Dec. 27

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

Town of Pagosa Springs Planning Commission, Board of Adjustments and Design Review Board. 5:30 p.m., Town

Hall council chambers, 551 Hot Springs Blvd.

Wednesday, Dec. 28

Town of Pagosa Springs Historic Preservation Board. 5:45 p.m., Town Hall front conference room, 551 Hot Springs Blvd.

Thursday, Jan. 5

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.

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



Photo courtesy Rebecca Aucoin

Pagosa Springs Middle School student council representatives pose with over 1,600 nonperishable items collected by students for local food banks.

New study identifies economic drivers and hurdles for success to recovery

By Jenifer Doane
Special to The SUN

The University of Colorado Leeds School of Business and the Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT) recently released a new study that cites community visions, leadership pipelines and public-private partnerships as factors that are essential to being an economically resilient community.

The study conducted a comprehensive statewide analysis of factors that affect a community's economic resiliency to understand what makes some communities in Colorado thrive while others fail to retain population and sustain economic growth.

"While our state as a whole has experienced an incredible economic rebound over the last several years,

we know that the rebound has been uneven across the state," said Gov. John Hickenlooper. "This study provides information that can support communities in building a diverse economic base and sound strategies to achieve economic resiliency."

The study found that communities with a diverse economy, strong leadership, investment in education and health care, access to transportation, and quality of life are more resilient than others with similar demographics, educational attainment or geographic location.

Researchers conducted focus groups with community leaders and evaluated economic metrics such as population and demographics, employment and industry diversity, value add, educational attainment, and natural and man-made assets for 13 rural Colorado communities in Chaffee, Crowley, Garfield, Kiowa, La Plata, Las Animas, Moffat, Montrose, Morgan, Ouray, Rio Grande, Routt and Washington counties.

Researchers also performed in-depth studies of Salida and Durango

to further understanding of the perceived drivers of economic resiliency in a rural community.

The study found that successful strategies for achieving economic resiliency in Salida and Durango included creating a vision for the community, investing in community assets, taking risks, empowering and engendering leaders, investing in education and health care, identifying infill and annexation options, and collaborating regionally.

The study also identified housing availability and supply, labor market, youth and family retention as potential hurdles to economic resiliency.

"This study reaffirms that having strong sense of place, engaged community leadership and a clear vision for the future is key to having a resilient community," said Fiona Arnold, executive director of OEDIT. "It is a great compass for our office to align our programming with leaders around the state as they work toward providing high quality of life and economic opportunities for their communities."

OEDIT recently established the Colorado Blueprint 2.0 initiative, building on the original Blueprint, which is targeted at partnering with local communities to address economic development challenges by supporting the creation of community visions, leadership pipelines and public-private partnerships.

The information from the study will be used to inform strategy going forward. For example, leadership is an important driver for community resiliency, so OEDIT will explore opportunities to support leadership development efforts through its work, said Meridith Marshall, health and wellness champion and senior regional manager for regional development.

The full study and economic resiliency guide can be found online at www.choosecolorado.com.

Chamber

Continued from A5

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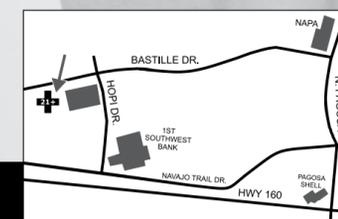
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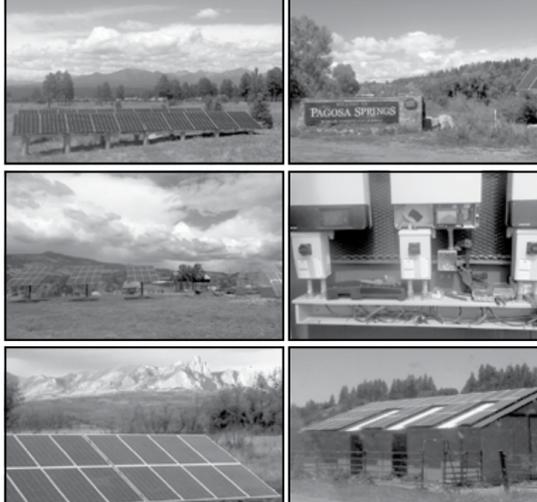
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LEGISLATURE

Brown warns school districts to beware

One of my responsibilities as your state representative is to attend the Joint Budget Committee (JBC) hearings for state departments for which my committees have oversight. That has made December a very busy month for me as I finish up my term in the legislature.

Gov. John Hickenlooper has presented his proposed 2017-18 budget which the JBC will consider. After having hearings on requests from state agencies, the JBC will adopt a state budget. It will then be presented to the General Assembly for amendments and adoption. Unlike the federal government, the Colorado legislature must adopt a balanced budget.

My priorities have always been K-12 education and highways, among other things. There is never enough money for all requests and the governor and legislature are tasked with prioritizing

those requests. The governor is proposing a \$28.5 billion total budget, of which \$10.9 million is the general fund, equating to a 3.7-percent increase over the previous year. There is a \$500 million shortfall between spending requests and revenue.

The big-ticket requirements in the general fund budget, the governor's request, and my comments are as follows:

1. Increases in K-12 funding as required by Amendment 23 for each school district are: new enrollment plus inflation for a total increase of \$243.5 million. The governor is proposing to cut the



Rep. Brown's Report

school districts and increase the "negative factor" by \$45 million. Colorado has shorted K-12 education by almost \$1 billion since the "negative factor" was initiated by the Ritter administration in 2009. I believe that we must not increase the negative factor by one dime.

2. Senate Bill 228 requires that \$164 million be spent on transportation and capital development. (I was unsuccessful in running a bill last session to mandate that \$200 million for five years be spent on highways, as was the original intent of SB 228.) The governor proposes to cut this budget by \$100 million. We cannot afford to continue to put highways on the back burner.

3. A TABOR tax refund of \$195 million is anticipated because the hospital provider fee, a federal subsidy, is counted as revenue in the general fund budget. To offset the refund, the governor is proposing

to cut the hospital provider fee by a corresponding \$195 million. The hospital provider fee is designed to backfill hospital costs required by the feds. Hospitals must serve, free of charge, anyone who comes to the emergency room and must serve all Medicaid patients at approximately 60 percent of the real costs. Making these cuts will hurt hospitals. The solution is to make the hospital provider fee a separate enterprise. In my opinion, the hospital provider fee should never have been in the general fund. Making it an enterprise would help to simplify a very complicated process.

Not being discussed and the only long-term solution to a sustained budget is the need to repeal or modify the expansion of Medicaid. This is critical for funding K-12 education and other departments. The democrats passed the expansion in 2013 with no plan to pay for it. School districts beware.

Facing educational challenges: 'Go big, go bold'

By Joyce Rankin
Special to The SUN

"Go big, go bold!" That was the message I heard at the Excellence in Education conference (Excellined) that I attended in Washington, D.C., last week.

I passed that inspirational word along to local school board members at the Colorado Association of School Boards (CASB) meeting in Colorado Springs this past weekend. We don't know the details of the direction that the new federal administration will take, but local school boards should be ready and take advantage of every opportunity to better serve their students and taxpayers.

The state board of education will confront several challenges in the upcoming year including: choosing a new commissioner, evaluating schools and districts that need dramatic academic improvement, revisiting state academic standards, and swearing in two newly elected state board members and electing a chair and vice chair of the state

board. In order to better serve the students in Colorado, I hope we "Go big, go bold!"

Our K-12 system may need more funding, but great districts in western Colorado with great leaders are accomplishing amazing things with the funding they have. I've enjoyed getting to know and represent them. I'm inspired by ideas that I hear about at national and state-level conferences, but I'm

even more excited to hear about the successes that some of our local schools are achieving.

Local school boards are improving their academic goals and achievements by learning from those districts that are experiencing great success. One of the districts in western Colorado that recently received the highest district rating, Accredited with Distinction, was Hinsdale County School Dis-

trict led by Superintendent Leslie Nichols. Her school in Lake City has only 110 students. The 2016 designation has continued since 2009. What is this small district doing that might be duplicated in other, larger school districts?

As we look forward to upcoming educational challenges, let's not forget the opportunities that will present themselves in 2017. Let's embrace the change and "Go big, go bold!"

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Daleske

It's with much gratitude that I thank the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship for secretly planning a large celebration/party with Tim Sullivan's music at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts in honor of my 90th birthday.

Phyl Daleske

Leist

Thank you, Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library.

I would like to thank our library staff and its volunteers for the free weekly Tuesday morning tech time class and its availability to help me operate my iPhone. I am a new user and with volunteer Kit Carson's expert knowledge, I am becoming more aware of the social media world around me and my life.

Mercedes Leist

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Holiday Family Night

Photos courtesy Sanya Peterson
Holiday Family Night
 at Pagosa Springs Elementary School included two performances by Lisa Hartley's after-school music group, Santa, a pie auction, crafts and a food drive.



County

■ **Continued from front**
 an action asking the court to decree that you own the property," said Archuleta County Attorney Todd Starr in an interview immediately following the meeting. "The best way to think about real property is a bundle of sticks. Right now, we own all of the sticks. There's an allegation that the Levines own one stick, a restrictive covenant. I don't think they have that restrictive covenant, so I'm asking the judge to say, 'You're right, you do own all the sticks, there is no restrictive covenant and you can build.'"
 "Right now, there is no restrictive covenant against the property, and the county owns the property, free and clear," explained Starr in a separate phone interview. "We're going to ask the court to declare that that is the fact, and we'll proceed accordingly."
 Starr added that he planned

to file the quiet title action on the afternoon of Wednesday, Dec. 14.
 "There may be other avenues available to us without having to use eminent domain, and we're going to explore those. I'm still committed to the location, but there may be other processes available to us other than eminent domain," said Commissioner Steve Wadley in a phone interview.
 "We should not let any of this distract from the core issue that this location for a jail is the worst and most expensive of all of the many alternatives we could have picked. Commissioners Lucero and Wadley are strong-arming a landowner because they think they can (legally), without asking the more important question of whether they should (morally/ethically)," wrote BoCC Chairman Michael Whiting in an email to SUN staff. "My only comfort comes from knowing that the

voters will kill this unaffordable and irresponsible project when it comes before them. But not before my fellow commissioners will have wasted a couple of years, and millions of dollars, and completely eroded the credibility of the County and the BoCC."
 Commissioner Clifford Lucero also commented on the matter, saying, "We wanted everybody back at the table, and we wanted to make sure that we're doing the right thing for the community. The commission did not want to file eminent domain. That was not our goal, ever. We know that Fairway Trust wants to do the right thing for the community and that they believe in Archuleta County, and we hope to God that they're willing to work with us to move forward in the right direction for what's best."
marshall@pagosasun.com

PAWSD

■ **Continued from front**
 "Although I have very much enjoyed working with the PAWSD staff and for the Board of Directors, personal reasons necessitate that I vacate my position and focus on family matters for the coming year," reads the letter. "I deeply appreciate all of the opportunities you have afforded me during my employment here and the tremendous amount of support you have provided through the years."
 Lewis' letter goes on to state that she will do whatever is needed for a smooth transition, and that she had developed "a very strong staff that is fully capable of succeeding in my absence."
 After Lewis announced her resignation at the meeting, the board went into executive session to discuss how to proceed.
 "Upon returning to Open Session,

the PAWSD Board voted unanimously to appoint Justin Ramsey, PAWSD District Engineer, to the position of PAWSD District Manager contingent upon the successful negotiation of an employment contract," wrote Lewis in the email. "Negotiations between Mr. Ramsey and the PAWSD attorney are to begin immediately."
 Lewis went on to explain that, assuming an employment contract could be reached between Ramsey and the PAWSD board, Ramsey will act as both the district manager and district engineer.
 Lewis also said that she didn't anticipate the PAWSD board advertising for either position.
 In a Tuesday email to SUN staff, Ramsey went into more detail about what had transpired.
 Ramsey explained that the board asked him two questions: if he would be interim manager after Lewis

leaves, and if he would entertain the idea of being the permanent manager.
 Ramsey stated that he answered "yes" to both questions.
 "The board unanimously voted to do an in-house search for the permanent manager. They then instructed the PAWSD council to put together a contract for me as the permanent manager," wrote Ramsey. "This contract will be the basis for negotiations for the board to offer, and me to accept the permanent position. At this time I have not been offered the position, thus I have not accepted the position."
 Ramsey went on to explain that Lewis will continue to be the acting district manager until she leaves sometime in January, at which point he will be appointed either the interim or permanent manager.
marshall@pagosasun.com

Trail

■ **Continued from front**
 of transportation. A strong point for Pagosa's Town-to-Lakes Trail, he said, is that it is a "puzzle piece," supplying an element in a regional transportation plan.
 He added, "we work with Pagosa on a number of projects and have a great relationship."
 Schulte said the town hopes the design and permitting process for the Harman Hill phase of the trail will be completed next year, so the

contract may go out for bid in time for completion during the 2018 construction season.
 The next part of the trail to be addressed by the town, Schulte said, will be the phase running down Put Hill from Harman Hill to downtown.
 He said the town is working on acquisition of the necessary property easements to supply the route.
jim@pagosasun.com

budget for PSSGID last week, on Dec. 6. As earlier predicted by Town Manager Greg Schulte at a town council work session on Oct. 18, Tautges confirmed that there will be no rate increase to the district's rate payers in 2017.
 Tautges added that there is a likelihood that the PSSGID's expenses may actually decrease next year, because it will not have the extra

Pipeline

■ **Continued from front**
 going review. He expects the project to go out for bid later this winter, with construction to follow in the spring.
 Overall, Tautges said, the "pipeline is running quite smoothly."
 He noted there have been some complaints of odor near one of the pump stations, which the PSSGID is working to resolve.
 The town approved the 2017

expense of treating waste removed from the old lagoons as occurred during much of 2016.
 However, he could not say if that might ultimately yield a rate decrease since charges owed to PAWSD for treatment of the town's sewage at its plant are subject to adjustment annually, based on total costs of plant operations.
jim@pagosasun.com

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Town development impact fees explained, questioned at work session

By Jim Garrett
Staff Writer

The Town of Pagosa Springs adopted impact fees in 2009, in chapter 10 of its Land Use and Development Code (LUDC).

The fees are imposed on new development projects as they occur, to fund enhancement of community-wide infrastructure to keep pace with growth. But, as previously reported by The SUN, some contend the fees burden development and may instead impede growth.

Impact fees are computed by the town in accordance with a schedule of rates established for specific classes of land uses, including residential and commercial activities categorized by type. The schedule is set out in the town's list of land use fees, which also includes charges for various permits and fees associated with building and development.

Impact fees are to help pay for infrastructure improvements in public facilities ranging from roads and fire protection to parks and schools, among others.

The LUDC provides that the fees for an individual development are to be collected at the time of "the earliest development activity."

But, in recent years, outright full or partial waivers of impact fees have been granted by town council to some developments, like the ongoing expansion of the Pagosa Springs Medical Center, and the Axis Health Systems facility under construction on Village Drive.

Such waivers have recently drawn public attention to impact fees. Attention has been drawn as well by council's decision in a divided vote last September to deny another developer "deferral" of impact fee collection.

The developer's request was based on a provision of the LUDC allowing deferral for up to 10 years for developments that "provide public benefit." In denying deferral on that occasion, council was divided over the meaning of public benefit.

In light of renewed local interest in impact fees, consultant Andrew Knudtsen of Economic and Planning Systems (EPS) was asked by Town Manager Greg Schulte to provide a briefing on the fees to current town council members at a work session held Tuesday morning, Dec. 6.

It was a study by EPS undertaken in 2006 that originally provided the basis for the town's action to implement the fees in 2009.

Knudtsen told council last week that the imposition of impact fees by municipal and county governments was approved by Colorado statute in response to the question "what's the best way to fund infrastructure," as growth happens.

Knudtsen explained that the fees are required to be based on enhancements of infrastructure planned in a community to respond to anticipated growth. Fundamentally, fees are based on a ratio between the cost of planned new community facilities and the share of use of those facilities expected to be attributable to new growth (measured by square footage of new buildings) in proportion to total use.

Fees should not "overburden new growth," he said. New growth "should pay for its share, but not any more."

Knudtsen emphasized that a potential problem with impact fees is the risk of developers playing one jurisdiction off against another, based on the existence of fees, or their amount.

"A level playing field is a home run," he said.

He added that EPS's 2006 study preceding the town's adoption of impact fees had evaluated fees then existing in what he referred to as Colorado "peer communities," consisting of a broad range from Fort Collins and Montrose, to Rifle, Bayfield and Gunnison.

Knudtsen said the fees ultimately adopted by the town fell within the span of fees found by the study in those peer communities.

However, Knudtsen commented that, ideally, impact fees should be jointly adopted in communities by both the town and county governments, but such full coordination is, unfortunately, rare.

Knudtsen recalled that EPS had been retained for the 2006 study by both the town and Archuleta County, and was surprised to learn during the work session that, unlike the town, the county had not moved forward to adopt the suggested fees.

Councilor David Schanzenbaker remarked that as a result, as Knudtsen anticipated, "we struggle" with "developers playing off the town and county."

Schulte, who was Archuleta County administrator at the time of its decision not to implement impact fees, recalled that the county had backed off because by 2008 the local economy "was terrible and getting worse," and the commissioners at the time "didn't want to have that as another barrier ... to doing development."

During the work session, Mayor Don Volger asked Knudtsen if impact fees are likely to deter development.

In times of recession, he responded, yes, and in the last decade during the national recession, some communities suspended their fees. Town Planning Director James Dickhoff affirmed that Pagosa Springs had been among those communities.

But Knudtsen suggested that with bad times largely behind us, the concern that impact fees may impede development is at least diminished.

As evidence, he said impact fees "have stood the test of time." And he suggested that experience shows that communities that have high land values often are also communities that impose impact fees on development, and have high-quality community infrastructure and amenities.

However, Knudtsen's hedged his response to Volger's question by acknowledging the possibility that the frequent association between impact fees and high community property values may simply reflect that quality infrastructure and amenities can enable communities to impose impact fees without adverse effect on development.

Knudtsen said he did not have information to resolve the issue of causality posed by the perception of linkage between impact fees and high property values, which he analogized to the question whether it was the chicken or the egg that came first.

Knudtsen did address the possibility of what he called development "outliers," or very unusual projects

in the contest of the normal impact fee structure based on standardized categories of commercial land uses, like restaurant, office or retail — the structure that exists in Pagosa Springs.

Knudtsen noted that commercial impact fees are based on square footage of development.

For some unusual, or one-of-a-kind businesses, he said, square footage needed to operate may be higher per customer than usual for standard retail activities, leading to the imposition of comparatively much higher impact fees.

He suggested that in such cases, it may be appropriate to review fees calculated per schedule against the "fair share" yardstick, and perhaps make adjustments.

But, he noted, too many exceptions for such outliers, and waivers of fees in other special cases, may tend to "undermine" the justification for impact fees, which he had earlier outlined must be based on anticipated infrastructure facilities needed, versus the expected share-of-use analysis.

The distinction between impact fees imposed on development to support community infrastructure and the common requirements that developers provide infrastructure needed to accommodate specifically their projects was also explained by Knudtsen.

The former, he said, had a purpose to help fund community-wide, not "local" needs.

He illustrated the distinction by citing the contrast between an arterial road running through the community, including alongside a development site, and an access road within the site, or connecting it to the artery.

In the illustration, Knudtsen said, it is only the arterial road that is to be benefited by a community's impact fees. In light of the distinction, he added, there is no trade-off: a developer who pays for internal infrastructure does not normally get a credit for that reason against impact fees.

Considerable attention was devoted during the work session to the issue of deferral of impact fees for a period of time after the commencement of a development project. Several members of the community in attendance endorsed the principle because of their perception that deferral could be an encouragement to development. That perception is at least partially consistent with the previously mentioned provision of the town's LUDC allowing deferral of up to 10 years in cases of community benefit.

However, the current provision received some criticism from council members.

Volger noted it raises the question "should the town be getting into the finance business for these deferrals," which he said are "almost like a loan" to the developer.

And Schanzenbaker commented that the public benefit standard was problematic.

"We need to tighten that up," he said. "It's not workable ... to have that broad of a definition because

it throws it all in our [council's] lap."

Knudtsen made the point that most provisions for deferral of impact fees in Colorado communities are for a much shorter period than 10 years. Often, such provisions have been enacted to incentivize affordable housing, and allow builders to defer payment for the duration of the construction period, perhaps 18 months.

Then, he said, when the completed dwelling is sold to a buyer, the fee can be collected, and paid for by the buyer's long-term mortgage financing rather than out of the builder's construction financing.

Knudtsen suggested that pattern might be applied to commercial development as well, if construction financing is generally "taken-out" by long-term financing in commercial development following completion of the construction and issuance of a certificate of occupancy.

But at least one developer in the audience said that such a financing take-out was not common in commercial projects, which typically are not constructed for sale but for the developer's use.

In light of the discussion, Volger raised the question at the end of the work session what the peer communities considered by EPS in the 2006 study are doing currently on waiver and/or deferral of impact fees.

Knudtsen acknowledged he did not have current information sufficient to answer, but Schulte offered that town staff would make appropriate inquiries to obtain that information for council's use.

Subsequent to the work session, The SUN asked Schulte on Dec. 13 what additional steps might be taken to follow up on the significant discussion that had occurred.

He responded that he felt it was council's wish "to revisit and refine what public benefit means," as well as to "look into and refine [administration of] the deferral aspect of the impact fee program."

He added, town staff would formulate some responsive proposals for council's consideration.

With regard to commercial development, he pointed specifically to the issues of deferral length, and if financing take-outs following completion of construction are common, as they are in residential development.

On the question of whether or not impact fees may impede development, Schulte commented that the fees "are not weird or strange," but exist widely throughout Colorado communities.

Schulte affirmed he was "not dismissive" of the concern for adverse affect on development, but, "impact fees are just one element in the development equation, in which there are many variables."

The question is complicated, he added, in recognition of the possibility that if commercial development is deterred in the town, the public may use its roads to patronize businesses developed elsewhere, but the impact fee mechanism adopted to help fund improvements in the community's roads to meet growing need will be ineffective.

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SUN photo/Randi Pierce

With the last of the windows being put in, the Pagosa Springs Medical Center's expansion is well underway. In addition to housing the center's primary care functions, the expansion will also allow for a centralized registration desk for the entire facility, seen on the left, near the entrance to the new wing. Construction is on track for the anticipated May 2017 opening of the facility.

New scam surfaces in county

By Tonya Hamilton
Special to The SUN

A new scam has surfaced in the community that has been investigated by Archuleta County Sheriff's Office and verified to be a scam.

Several citizens have reported that they have received frightening calls from someone identifying themselves as an EMT and/or paramedic, stating that one of the citizen's family members has been involved in an accident of some type; usually a car accident. The caller will use the name of someone in your family (child, sibling, parent, etc.).

After they get you "hooked" into the conversation, they request that money be sent via Western Union to help with medical expenses.

Sometimes, another individual will get on the phone who will then claim to be a "gang member"

and tell you that if you don't pay a certain dollar amount (usually in the thousands) they will kill your loved one. Sometimes, they simply start the conversation that way and forgo the EMT/paramedic ruse.

What makes it believable is that they will use just enough information about your loved one that you can't help but believe them. This information, however, can usually be found easily on the Internet through Facebook and other social media accounts.

Some of the alarming remarks that people have heard are: 1) The caller said they kidnapped my brother and wanted \$600; 2) The caller said that my daughter had been rear-ended and then another caller got on the phone and said that they were in a gang and would harm my daughter if I didn't pay \$3,500; 3) The caller threatened

to kill my brother if I didn't pay \$1,000; 4) The caller said he had my girlfriend and was requesting that I pay his son's medical bills for her safe return; 5) The caller said they had my husband and would kill him if I didn't pay \$3,500; or 6) The caller said my brother had been in an accident and needed money.

The phone number that has been appearing on people's caller ID is (970) 363-9927, out of Frisco, Colo. When you try to call the number, no one answers.

If you receive a call similar in nature, please do not send money to anyone under these circumstances. To put your mind at ease, call your loved one to make sure they are alright and immediately report this incident to the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office through Archuleta County Combined Dispatch at 731-2160.

PFPD responds to accident

By Marshall Dunham
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Fire Protection District (PFPD) responded to a vehicle accident on the morning of Monday, Dec. 12.

According to Karn Macht of the PFPD, the accident occurred around 8:40 a.m. near mile marker 16 on U.S. 84, near the green bridge.

PFPD units were dispatched at 8:43 a.m., with the first unit arriving at the scene at 9 a.m.

Macht explained that a rescue vehicle and three fire engines were dispatched, with 10 personnel responding, four of whom were volunteers.

Macht went on to explain that, upon arriving to the scene of the accident, they found a truck that had gone off the road, near the green bridge.

The driver was still in the vehicle when responders arrived, explained Macht, adding that, due to a shoulder injury, the driver couldn't exit the vehicle.

PFPD units assisted Pagosa Springs Medical Center EMS in getting the driver out of the car and into an ambulance.

There was no fuel leakage for the PFPD to clean up, explained Macht, adding that the PFPD units cleared the scene at 9:50 a.m.

Macht pointed out that, at the time of the accident, there was a lot of black ice on the road.

The Blotter

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

Archuleta County Sheriff's Office

Dec. 5 — Information only, Gerhard Circle.

Dec. 5 — Crimes against at-risk adult/juvenile-theft, identity theft-uses financial device, San Juan Street.

Dec. 6 — Agency assist, Antero Drive.

Dec. 7 — First-degree criminal trespass-theft from vehicle, Inspiration Drive.

Dec. 7 — Theft, identity theft-uses financial device, second-degree criminal trespass, Prospect Boulevard.

Dec. 8 — Harassment-stalking-misdemeanor, domestic violence, third-degree assault-simple assault, Alamosa Place.

Dec. 9 — Information only, Rainbow Drive.

Dec. 9 — Sexual assault on a child-fondling, San Juan Street.

Dec. 10 — Child abuse knowingly or recklessly, reckless endangerment, Great West Avenue.

Dec. 10 — Information only, Colo. 151.

Dec. 10 — Criminal mischief, County Road 700.

Dec. 11 — Two counts of warrant arrest, U.S. 84.

Dec. 11 — Warrant arrest, Talisman Drive.

Dec. 12 — Information only, Woodland Drive.

Dec. 12 — Information only, Butte Drive.

Town of Pagosa Springs Police Department

No report.

Pagosa Springs Municipal Court: Judge William Anderson

No report.

Archuleta County Court: Judge Justin P. Fay

Dec. 12 — Michael J. Daughety, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs — \$193.50.

6th Judicial District Court: Judge Greg Lyman

No report.

Thanks

Parade of Stores

I would like to thank the Pagosa Springs Chamber of Commerce and the Pagosa Springs merchants who participated in the Parade of Stores.

It was such a great time having a "girl's" day, shopping and enjoying the extra perk of having a discounted lunch at one of the participating restaurants.

I highly encourage any of the merchants who did not participate this year to think about participating next year. The Parade of Stores encouraged us to visit stores we had not been to before and we will definitely visit again. This is the fifth year my girlfriends and I have participated and it has become a yearly tradition. Thanks again and looking forward to next year.

A very special thank you to Terry's Ace for the most generous gift I received when winning one of the drawings in the Parade of Stores. It truly is a pleasure to shop local.

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Outdoors

Pagosa Nordic Club events this weekend

By James Dickhoff
Special to The SUN

The Pagosa Nordic Club is hosting a learn to cross-country ski clinic this Saturday, Dec. 17. Never-ers, beginners and intermediates are encouraged to come on out and learn some great tips from cross-country ski instructors, for skate skiing or classic cross-country skiing techniques.

The clinic will be held at the West Fork Nordic Trail, located 15 miles east on U.S. 160; look for the sign. It is recommended that four-wheel-drive vehicles only should drive down the West Fork Road. Others should park in the plowed area off of the highway at the top of the road and walk down. Please RSVP at PagosaNordic.com under the events tab.

The Learn to Cross-Country Ski Clinic begins at 10 a.m. sharp, so please plan on being early so you have time to park, gear up and be ready to go by 10 a.m. Check in begins at 9:30 a.m. You will need to bring your skis, boots and poles, and dress appropriately.

All local ski shops offer a discount on rentals for the clinics; just mention you are attending. The clinic is free, however, we recommend a \$5-\$10 donation or annual Nordic Club membership.

Dog Harness Clinic

Also, the Pagosa Nordic Club is hosting a free Dog Harness Clinic on Saturday, Dec. 17, at 9 a.m. in Yamaguchi Park, located downtown at 684 S. 5th St.

This sport is really taking off. This is a dryland clinic to show you the basic gear and techniques and to get you and your dog off and running.

Canine ski-joring, snowshoe-joring, bike-joring and hike-joring are great ways to take your dogs out while they pull you along.

Please RSVP at PagosaNordic.com under the events tab.

Trails open for season

Groomed Nordic ski trails are open for the season. Trails are groomed wide for skate skiing with set tracks for classic cross-country skiing.

Alberta Park has been groomed recently by Wolf Creek Ski Area. Access from the east end of the parking lots. Trail access is a ski down to Alberta Park with 10 km when fully groomed.

West Fork has just been opened with the recent snows and offers up to 10 km of trails. Follow the directions above under the learn to ski clinic information.

Fall Creek on Wolf Creek Pass has been groomed recently by the Pagosa Nordic Club. Two miles east of the scenic overlook on Wolf Creek Pass, Road 39. The Fall Creek trail is a 5.5 km — 7 percent grade up and back trail for 11 km of great skiing with excellent mountain peak views.

Check out PagosaNordic.com for all this information and more.

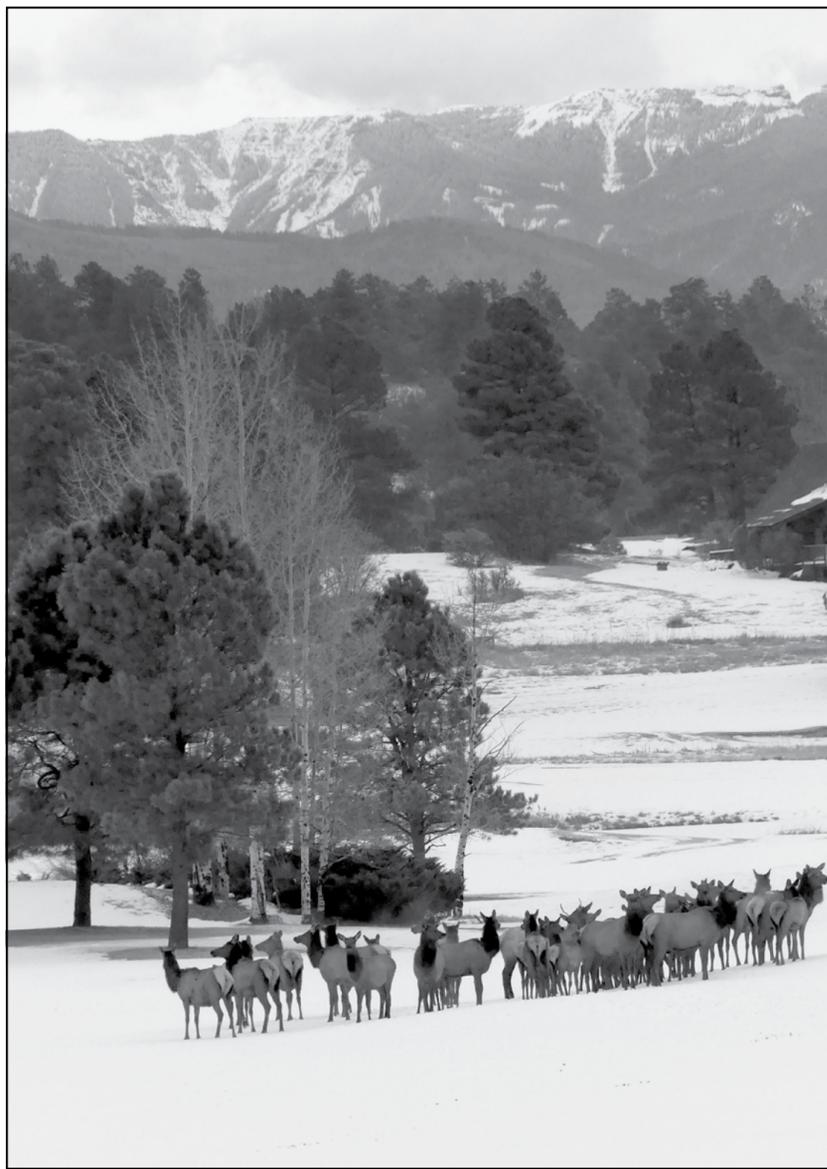


Photo courtesy Janet Ford

Golf, anyone? An elk herd works on their putting skills Monday morning on the golf course.

Holiday Read with a Ranger program at the library Dec. 20

By Brandon Caley
Special to The SUN

How will you be spending your winter break? The library is open with lots for kids to do including a special holiday program.

Join Ranger Brandon from the U.S. Forest Service as we make fun tree cookie decorations and read nature-themed books. Recommended for

6- to 10-year-olds.

The program will take place in the Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library meeting room from 2 to 3 p.m. Parents/caregivers are not required at these programs. There is no need to sign up; just show up. This program is free.

For further information, call Brandon Caley at 264-1503 or 264-2268, or email bjcaley@fs.fed.us.

Thanks

Pitcher, Lewis

We would like to appreciate and thank Old Town Market for providing a space for us to do our East Coast fundraiser. Thank you also to the community who came and bought goodies. It was a huge success.

River Pitcher and Mitchell Lewis

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Sports



WRESTLING

Pirates take first at Columbine Tournament

By Marshall Dunham
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Pirates did extremely well wrestling in the Columbine Tournament on Saturday, Dec. 10, placing first out of 17 teams.

"They were solid and aggressive, and wrestled all day long," said coach Dan Janowsky. "They were building leads ... and when you build leads, you get more practice and you get in better shape, because you're pushing yourself. Even though you could probably win the match, you're still going hard."

Janowsky pointed out that the team was able to fill two weight classes with wrestlers that they were not able to fill the previous weekend, which helped to improve the team's score.

Janowsky also explained that he has several younger wrestlers who are currently wrestling for the junior varsity team, and that he will probably move them to the varsity team after Christmas.

"They'll fill out some other weights and make our team, as a whole, stronger," said Janowsky.

In the 126-pound division, senior Owen Severs went 3-4.

In the 138-pound division, junior Tate Hinger placed second, scoring the team 22 points and having a win-loss record of 5-2.

At 145 pounds, junior Trevor Bryant scored 28 points and placed first, going 7-1.

In the 152-pound division, junior Dalton Lucero scored 26 points, and came in first place, going 3-0.

At 160 pounds, sophomore Caleb Janowsky came in third place, scoring the team 17 points and going 7-1 in his matches.

In the 170-pound division, junior Colton Castro placed second and scored the team 22 points, going 8-1 in his matches.

At 182 pounds, sophomore Connor Aragon placed second and scored the team 22 points, going 6-3 in his matches.

At 220 pounds, junior Nolan Stretton placed first, scored the team 20 points and went 7-0 in his



Photo courtesy Lori Lucero

The Pagosa Pirate wrestling team poses with its plaque after placing first in the Columbine Tournament held last Saturday, Dec. 10. Top row, from left to right, are Tate Hinger, Dalton Lucero, Trevor Bryant, Connor Aragon, Caleb Janowsky, Colton Castro and Nolan Stretton. Bottom row, from left to right, are coach Dan Janowsky, Owen Severs and coach Michael Martinez.

matches.

"I'm very pleased with the way we've been emphasizing our mat wrestling, especially from the bottom position," said Janowsky. "It's been a problem for us in the past few years, but we were very good there."

Janowsky stated that even though they had a good tournament, the upcoming tournament, the Warrior Classic, is even more difficult.

"This tournament we're going to, it's tougher to place in than it is our state tournament," said Janowsky. "The best 2A, 3A, 4A and 5A schools are there. Sometimes, you'll have eight state placers in one weight."

Janowsky also talked briefly of

the state tournament, and the potential the team is showing for the state tournament.

"All of those kids that placed at this tournament, I think they should start seeing themselves as state qualifiers and state placers," said Janowsky. "Your wins should build your confidence and they should make you more excited about your training and practices, because you can see the hard work pay off."

Janowsky also added that he once coached a kid named Coe Branch in the 1990s, and that Branch went to the state tournament on two different occasions for the Pirates.

"He teaches calculus and physics there at Columbine, and he

was the tournament director," said Janowsky. "So, it was really cool to have an alumni run that tournament and present the trophy to our team."

Janowsky said that, to have a former student that he coached present the trophy to his current team was "the icing on the cake."

This Friday and Saturday, Dec. 16 and 17, the Pirates will travel to Grand Junction to participate in the Warrior Classic.

"It's a tough challenge for us, but we put it on the schedule for that very reason," said Janowsky, later adding, "They're good kids, and they're tough, and I think they're going to win a lot."

marshall@pagosasun.com

BASKETBALL

Lady Pirates start season 2-1, more tourney play ahead

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The No. 4-ranked Pagosa Springs High School (PSHS) Lady Pirates are in unfamiliar territory to begin the 2016-2017 basketball season, owning a 2-1 record after the first week of the season.

It is the first time since the 2013 portion of the 2012-2013 season the Lady Pirates have recorded a regular-season loss.

But the team, which features only one senior, saw a number of younger players garner varsity experience for the first time over the course of the first three games.

"We just don't have a lot of players coming back with much varsity experience," said coach Wes Lewis.

Salida

The Lady Pirates opened the season on Dec. 8 with a decisive win over the Salida Spartans, 47-26, despite starting the game and season "a little bit rusty," according

to Lewis.

In the game, the Pirates outscored the Spartans in every quarter, building up to the 21-point victory, but Lewis noted it wasn't until the second half they "finally got going a little bit."

The Pirates led at the end of the first quarter 9-5, building a 17-9 lead by halftime despite battling foul trouble that allowed some of the team's younger players, including freshmen, to chalk up playing time in the first game.

In the third quarter, the Pirates outscored the Spartans 12-6, and 18-11 in the fourth quarter.

Junior Morgan Lewis led the Lady Pirates in scoring with 20 points, followed by eight each from junior Keena Murphy and sophomore Devin Wilson.

Senior Megan Farrah notched six points for the team, freshman Teagan Stretton put four on the scoreboard, and freshman Taylor Lewis added one.

Eleven of the team's points came

from the free-throw line in 23 attempts, for a free-throw percentage of 48.

Morgan Lewis led the way from the line, making six of nine shots.

Morgan Lewis also led the team in rebounding with nine, including six defensive.

Murphy followed with seven rebounds, Farrah had six, and a handful of other Lady Pirates contributed to the team total of 33.

The Lady Pirates turned the ball over 21 times in the game, and stole the ball six times.

"We need to do better not turning the ball over," the coach said, adding that the team also missed some shots they should have made.

Colorado Academy

The following day, the Pirates took on the Colorado Academy ■ See Pirates A13

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RECREATION NEWS

Registration open for youth basketball ages 9-12

By Darren Lewis
SUN Columnist

The Pagosa Springs Recreation Department is currently accepting registrations through Dec. 30 for youth basketball for ages 9-12.

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

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

Please call the recreation department with any questions at 264-4151, ext. 232.

Online registration

Through the use of Xpress Bill Pay, the Town of Pagosa Springs Recreation Department offers online registration for most youth programs, including tee ball, baseball, soccer, basketball and volleyball.

To register for programs online or learn more about Xpress Bill Pay, visit the parks and recreation department page at www.townof-pagosasprings.com.

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

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BASKETBALL

With 2-1 record, Pirates look to keep improving

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirates started the season on a positive note last weekend, going 2-1 over three days.

The team also saw good play from the team's veterans and younger players, which coach Randy Sorenson indicated will be key this season.

"Overall it was a pretty good weekend for us," Sorenson wrote in an email to The SUN. "The kids did a lot of nice things. We got some good minutes from some of the younger kids and it was good experience for them. We are gonna need these kids as the season goes along. Our veteran players played well and that was good to see."

Salida

The Pirates opened their season with a four-point win against the Salida Spartans Thursday evening.

The game started even, with both teams scoring 15 in the first quarter.

The Spartans took the lead in the second quarter, however, outscoring the Pirates 18-7 to take a 33-22 lead into the second half.

"In the first game against Salida we got down by 18 points with about 5 minutes to go in the third quarter, but the kids never quit and we were able to pull out a four

point win. We outscored them 22 to 9 in the fourth quarter," Sorenson wrote.

Pagosa also outscored the Spartans in the third quarter, 17-15.

"We are really proud of the kids for responding and finding a way to win," Sorenson noted.

The coach indicated that defense was a negative factor in the game, writing, "Our defense was not very good which was a disappointment as we had been working hard on defense the entire year."

Isaiah Griego led the team with 28 points in the game, also notching nine rebounds and six assists.

Ty Kimsey also chalked up double-digit points with 10, as well as three rebounds and two assists.

Keaton Laverty followed with nine points, six rebounds and three assists.

Additional stats were not available by press time.

Gunnison

The next day, the Pirates took on the Gunnison Cowboys at the Buena Vista Tournament, this time finishing with an 11-point victory, 44-33, despite losing a key player to injury and having another absent to take the ACT.

"Against Gunnison we were able to build a lead early and hold onto the lead the entire game," Sorenson noted, further explaining, "We lost Ty to an ankle injury in the second

quarter and we were missing Ethan due to taking the ACT test but the other kids stepped up for us. It was a good win for us being short handed."

Griego again led the Pirates on the night, scoring 17, pulling down six rebounds and notching three assists.

Zach DeVooght had eight points in the game, as well as a pair of rebounds and a pair of assists.

Lane Schaaf added six rebounds. Additional stats were not available by press time.

Buena Vista

Saturday, the Pirates took on the tournament host, falling to the Demons by four points, 56-52.

"The Buena Vista game was a tough game against a good and well coached team. It was close throughout," Sorenson pointed out.

And, indeed, the teams traded leads in the game, with the Demons holding an 11-9 lead at the end of the first quarter, but the Pirates holding a 21-19 lead going into halftime.

The Pirates built on that lead in the third quarter, outscoring their hosts 18-12.

"We were able to build a 12 point lead at one point in the third quarter and led by 8 at the end of the third. Unfortunately we were not able to hold onto the lead and lost by 4," the coach wrote, adding, "Give the Buena Vista kids credit for fighting back and finding a way to win. We

lost our composure a little bit in the fourth quarter and that hurt us."

Griego again led the Pirates, scoring 13, pulling down 11 rebounds and tallying three assists.

Laverty scored 12, adding four rebounds and three assists.

Schaaf also put up 12 points for the Pirates in the game.

Additional stats were not available by press time.

Upcoming action

The Pirates are now in Palisade for the Palisade Tournament, where they will play three games in three days.

The first will come at 7:30 p.m. this evening, when the Pirates take on the Coal Ridge Titans, who are 3-1 on the season.

Friday at 4:30 p.m., the Pirates will take on the Montrose Indians, who own a 1-6 record.

At 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, Pagosa will take on the South High School Bison from Cheyenne, Wyo., with the tournament being the season-opener for the Bison.

"As I said before we are going to have to improve each and every week to have a chance," Sorenson wrote. "This weekend will be another tough test for us. All three teams that we play are well coached and they have talent. We will have to play our best basketball each game."

randi@pagosasun.com

Pirates

Continued from A12 Mustangs as part of the Buena Vista Tournament, recording a 23-point win.

Colorado Academy led early in the game, with the Mustangs holding a 13-10 lead at the end of the first quarter, but that lead dissipated as the Pirates held the Mustangs to single digits in the remaining three quarters while scoring double digits — 14-4, 20-7 and 10-7.

Wes Lewis contributed the deficit early in the game changing to a zone defense, versus the team's man-to-man defense it later reverted to.

"I take credit for making the decision," the coach said.

After the team fell behind 6-0, Wes Lewis said he called a timeout and called for the team to go back to playing man-to-man, and it didn't take long for the Pirates to catch back up.

The team's younger players also garnered minutes in the game, with the coach noting the Mustangs were able to score some late layups

in the game against the younger Pirates.

Morgan Lewis again led the Pirates in scoring, breaking out for 33 points in the game, including 16 field goals.

Seven other Lady Pirates added to the team's total of 54.

"We've got to have a lot of different people scoring," Wes Lewis said. "Everybody has to be a threat."

Two points came from the charity stripe, out of eight attempts.

Morgan Lewis also led the team with 15 rebounds, with seven others contributing to the team total of 31.

The team turned the ball over 13 times in the game, compared to the Mustangs' 24 turnovers, and the Pirates stole the ball 10 times.

St. Mary's

Saturday, however, was a different story, with the PSHS Pirates falling short of defeating the No. 2-ranked St. Mary's Pirates, 54-35.

Going into this week, St. Mary's holds a 4-0 record and trails Ster-

ling in the state rankings, with the Tigers holding a 6-0 record this season.

Pagosa fell behind early in Saturday's affair with St. Mary's, chalking up a 16-9 deficit by the end of the first quarter.

"It's unfortunate we had such a poor start," Wes Lewis said, adding that Pagosa was down 12-0 to start the game.

Pagosa, however, outscored St. Mary's in the second quarter, 12-10, and pulled to within five points by halftime.

Pagosa stayed even with its Pirate counterparts with six points each in the third quarter, with Wes Lewis highlighting the second and third quarters, saying that, in those quarters, "I would feel confident saying that we outplayed them."

Pagosa's Lady Pirates also found themselves within reach in the fourth quarter — being at the free-throw line while down by three with 6:48 left in the game.

"We made it a one-possession game," the coach noted.

But Pagosa wasn't quite able to catch up, instead finding themselves missing free throws and shots and being outscored 22-8 in the game's final period.

"We just did not start the game very good," the coach said, adding the team then "ran out of gas" in the fourth quarter.

The team, he said, missed scoring opportunities and turned over the ball, but not all was lost.

"There's a lot to be learned from that game," Wes Lewis said, adding, "We didn't play to our potential."

The coach also complimented St. Mary's.

"They're a good basketball team," he said, highlighting that St. Mary's has a number of seniors, good size, and can shoot well, adding, "They shot the ball very well."

Still, he said, he wouldn't have

expected more than a five- to seven-point loss.

Two Pagosa athletes scored double-digits in the game, with Morgan Lewis putting up 13 points and Murphy adding 10. Wilson followed with eight, including a pair of 3-pointers, and Farrah added four points.

Five of the team's points came from the free-throw line, out of 14 attempts, for a success rate of 36 percent.

Morgan Lewis recorded 13 of the team's 22 rebounds, with four others also notching rebounds.

Pagosa turned the ball over 22 times and stole the ball eight times.

Upcoming action

This weekend, the Lady Pirates will again partake in tournament action, this time at Lutheran High School in Parker.

At 7:30 p.m. Friday, the Lady Pirates will take on the Manitou Springs Mustangs, who are 1-2 on the season.

Wes Lewis said he doesn't know much about Manitou Springs this year, with the team having a new coach, but said the team does have an "outstanding guard" the Pirates will be looking to contain.

"We're going to walk in defensively and that's what we've got to do each and every night," the coach said, noting the team has to focus on doing the things it does well in the upcoming games.

The Lady Pirates will also play Saturday, but won't know who they play until after Friday's action.

Pagosa will play either the Lutheran Lions, who are 2-2 on the season, or the Olathe Pirates, who are 2-3.

The coach explained that the tournament will also be good for the team's younger players, with a JV tournament running at the same time.

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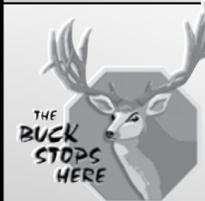
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FOOTBALL



SUN photo/Marshall Dunham

Juniors Ty Kimsey (left) and Keaton Laverty (right) were recently honored for their work as part of the Pagosa Springs High School football team this season. Kimsey was named First Team All Conference for football, with Laverty garnering an honorable mention.

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BoCC approves 2017 budget

By Marshall Dunham
Staff Writer

The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners approved the county's 2017 budget in a special meeting on Friday, Dec. 9.

County Administrator Bentley Henderson presented the budget to the BoCC.

"Today is, essentially, the culmination of the last four and a half months of work between Archuleta County staff, elected officials and the Board of County Commissioners," began Henderson. "The work that we have before you today is a result of those efforts."

Henderson's presentation began by outlining the general parameters for developing the budget, explaining that budget forecasting is conservative, with no reliance on speculation.

"The county has three main areas of revenue generation, and those are property tax, sales tax,

and intergovernmental revenue," said Henderson, adding that examples of intergovernmental revenue included things such as the Conservation Trust Fund and payment in lieu of taxes (PILT) dollars.

Essentially, intergovernmental revenue is revenue that comes from another government source.

"Normally, people view property tax as being a fairly stable source," said Henderson, who then pointed out that the recession in 2007 greatly impacted said stability and resulted in a great decrease of revenue for the county during that time.

Henderson's presentation lists the revenue from 2016 property tax at \$5,584,481, and estimates 2017's revenue to be \$5,424,956.

"2017 will reflect a slight downward trend as the Natural Resources property class realized an almost 50% decrease in value," reads the presentation.

■ See Budget A15

INC., A COLORADO NON-PROFIT CORPORATION, U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO FIRST TRUST OF NEW YORK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO MORGAN GUARANTY TRUST COMPANY OF NEW YORK, AS SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO GUARANTY TRUST COMPANY OF NEW YORK, BETTY DILLER IN HER CAPACITY AS ARCHULETA COUNTY PUBLIC TRUSTEE, AND ALL UNKNOWN PERSONS WHO CLAIM ANY INTEREST IN THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THIS ACTION, Defendants.

Kenneth J. Miller, #32909
Attorney for Plaintiffs
P.O. Box 1020
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Telephone: 970-264-2460
Electronic: kjmillerlaw@hotmail.com
Case Number: 2015CV030085

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION
THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT(S):

You are hereby summoned and required to appear and defend in the Court in the complaint filed with the Court in this action, by filing with the Clerk of this Court an answer or other response. You are required to file your answer or other response within 35 days after the service of this summons upon you. Service of this summons shall be complete on the day of the last publication. A copy of the complaint may be obtained from the Clerk of the Court.

If you fail to file your answer or other response to the complaint in writing within 35 days after the date of the last publication, judgment by default may be rendered against you by the Court for the relief demanded in the complaint without further notice.

This is an action to quiet the title of the Plaintiffs in and to the real property situate in Archuleta County, Colorado, more particularly described as follows and by this reference made a part hereof:

A tract of land lying and being in the NW1/4SW1/4 of Section 15, Township 35 North, Range 2 West, N.M.P.M. Archuleta County, Colorado, and being more particularly described as follows, to-wit:

BEGINNING at the Northeast corner of said tract, whence the E1/4 corner of said Section 15, Township 35 North, Range 2 West, N.M.P.M. bears North 79 degrees 32 minutes East, 4860.0 feet;

Thence running from said point of beginning South 33 degrees 58 minutes East, 208.0 feet, to the SE corner; Thence running South 56 degrees 02 minutes West, 208.0 feet, to the SW corner; Thence running North 33 degrees 58 minutes West, 208.0 feet, to the NW corner, from said NW corner, a Colorado Department of Highways concrete RW marker on the West boundary line of said Sec. 15 bears North 65 degrees 55 minutes West, 316.09 feet; Thence running from said NW corner, North 56 Degrees 02 minutes East, 208.0 feet, to the NE corner, the point of beginning.

DATED this 10th day of November, 2016.
Published in the Pagosa Springs Sun
First Publication: November 17, 2016
Last Publication: December 15, 2016/Kenneth J. Miller
Kenneth J. Miller, #32909
Attorney for Plaintiffs
Published November 17, 24, December 1, 8 and 15, 2016 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO
Court Address: 449 San Juan Street, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Phone Number: (970) 264-8160
Attorney for Plaintiff:
Daniel L. Fiedler, #44915
PO Box 5633
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
970-317-4779
E-mail: daniefiedler@gmail.com
Case Number: 2016CV30067

PLAINTIFF MARY STRADFORD
TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS AND ALL UNKNOWN PERSONS WHO CLAIM ANY INTEREST IN THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THIS ACTION
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to appear and defend against the claims of the Complaint to Quiet Title Pursuant to Rule 105 filed with the Archuleta County District Court in this action, by filing with the clerk of this Court an answer or other response. You are required to file your answer or other response within 35 days after service of this summons upon you. Service of this summons shall be complete on the last day of publication. A copy of the Complaint may be obtained from the clerk of the court.

If you fail to file your Answer or other response to the Complaint in writing within 35 days after the date of the last publication, judgment by default may be entered against you by the Court for the relief demanded in the Complaint without further notice.

This is an action to quiet the title of the Plaintiff in and to the real property situate in Archuleta County, Colorado, more particularly described as follows:

ASPEN SPRINGS SUB 4 Block: 13 Lot: 8 AS 4 Sec: 11 Twn: 34 Rng: 3W
Respectfully submitted this 10th day of November, 2016.
/s/ Daniel L. Fiedler
Daniel L. Fiedler

First Publication: November 17, 2016
Last Publication: December 15, 2016
Published November 17, 24, December 1, 8 and 15, 2016 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO
Court Address: 449 San Juan Street, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Phone Number: (970) 264-8160
Plaintiff:
SHARÉE GRAZDA

Defendants:
NATIONAL RECREATIONAL PROPERTIES OF PAGOSA SPRINGS, LLC; and ALL UNKNOWN PERSONS WHO CLAIM ANY INTEREST IN THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THIS ACTION.

Submitting Attorney: Paul Kosnik, #38663
E-mail: paulkosnik@k-law.com
556 Main Ave.
Durango, CO 81301
Phone Number: (970) 403-1580
E-mail: paulkosnik@k-law.com
Case Number: 2016CV30077

SUMMONS (BY PUBLICATION)
PLAINTIFF SHARÉE GRAZDA
TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS AND ALL UNKNOWN PERSONS WHO CLAIM ANY INTEREST IN THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THIS ACTION
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to file with the Clerk of this Court an answer or other response to the attached Complaint. If service of the Summons and Complaint was made upon you within the State of Colorado, you are required to file your answer or other response within 21 days after such service upon you. If service of the summons and complaint was made upon you outside of the State of Colorado, you are required to file your answer or other response within 35 days after such service upon you.

If you fail to file your answer or other response to the complaint in writing within the applicable time period, judgment by default may be entered against you by the court for the relief demanded in the complaint without further notice.

This is an action to quiet the title of the Plaintiff in and to the real property situate in Archuleta County, Colorado, more particularly described as follows:

Lots 27 and 28, Chris Mountain Village at Pagosa Unit 20, according to the plat thereof filed June 4, 1973, as Reception No. 77868, in the office of the Clerk and Recorder, Archuleta County, Colorado.

Respectfully Submitted this 10th day of November, 2016.
Published in the Pagosa Sun
First Publication: November 17, 2016
Last Publication: December 15, 2016

Eggleston Kosnik LLC
/s/ Paul Kosnik
Paul Kosnik, #38663
556 Main Ave.
Durango, CO 81301
(970) 403-1580
Published November 17, 24, December 1, 8 and 15, 2016 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

District Court, Archuleta County, Colorado
449 San Juan Avenue
P.O. Box 143
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
(970) 264-8160

In the Matter of the Estate of: GEORGIA V. BAILEY Deceased

Kenneth J. Miller, #32909
Attorney for Co-Petitioners
P.O. Box 1020
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Telephone: 970-731-2460
Electronic: kjmillerlaw@hotmail.com
Case Number: 2016PR030058

NOTICE OF HEARING BY PUBLICATION
INTERESTED PERSONS AND OWNERS BY INHERITANCE

PURSUANT TO § 15-112-1303, C.R.S.
To All Interested Persons and Owners by Inheritance (List all names of interested persons and owners by inheritance):

Kathy Wagner, f/k/a Kathy Deanna Bailey Kil, f/k/a Kathy Kil (Co-Petitioner)
Vernon Bailey, a/k/a Vernon Anthony Bailey (Co-

Petitioner)
A Petition has been filed alleging that the above Decedent died leaving the following property located in Archuleta County, State of Colorado:

Lot 81, REPLAT TO MORGAN GUARANTY TRUST COMPANY OF NEW YORK, AS SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO GUARANTY TRUST COMPANY OF NEW YORK, AS SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO GUARANTY TRUST COMPANY OF NEW YORK, BETTY DILLER IN HER CAPACITY AS ARCHULETA COUNTY PUBLIC TRUSTEE, AND ALL UNKNOWN PERSONS WHO CLAIM ANY INTEREST IN THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THIS ACTION, Defendants.

Date: February 7, 2017 Time: 10:30 a.m. Courtroom or Division: Archuleta County District Court Address: 449 San Juan Ave., Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

The hearing will take approximately one (1) hour.
Note:

• You must answer the Petition within 35 days after the last publication of this Notice.
• Within the time required for answering the Petition, all objections to the Petition must be in writing and filed with the Court.

• The hearing shall be limited to the Petition, the objections timely filed and the parties answering the Petition.
/s/ Kenneth J. Miller

Date: December 1, 2016
Kenneth J. Miller, #32909
Attorney for Co-Petitioners
P.O. Box 1020
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
(970) 264-2460

Published December 8, 15 and 22, 2016 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

County Court,
449 San Juan St.
Archuleta County, Colorado
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Case No. 16C86

PUBLIC NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME
Public notice is given on December 2, 2016, that a Petition for a Change of Name of an Adult has been filed with the Archuleta Court.

The Petition requests that the name of Mia Marjie Maluchi be changed to Mia Marjie Maluchi-Elser.
/s/ Suellean Loher
Deputy Clerk

Published December 8, 15 and 22, 2016 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

DISTRICT COURT, WATER DIVISION 7, WATER RESUME
TO: ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN WATER APPLICATIONS IN SAID WATER DIVISION NO. 7

Pursuant to C.R.S. 37-92-302, you are notified that the following is the resume of all water right applications filed in the Office of the Water Clerk during the month of November, 2016, for Archuleta County.

16CW25 Castle Smith, 16650 County Rd 500, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, **Whiskey Ditch**, San Juan River; **Archuleta County**; Easting 315657, Northing 4105458; SE1/4NW1/4, Section 28, T33N, R2W, NMPM; 1612 feet from North, 2553 feet from West; San Juan River; Date of appropriation, 6/11/16; Appropriation was initiated by contacting NRCS for planning; Conditional 1 cfs; Enhance riparian habitat, wet land development; Create a point of diversion with a small rock levee, headgate and sluice structure, and length of pipe to deliver the water into an existing floodplain stream channel, the purpose is to enhance the riparian wildlife habitat; Number of acres proposed to be irrigated, 10-15; See application for more information. Application for Conditional Water Rights (Surface) (10) pages

16CW3034 Bootjack Ranch, LLC, 12500 E. Hwy. 160, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, Telephone: (970) 264-7280. Please send all pleadings and correspondence to Applicant's counsel Wayne F. Forman and John A. Helfrich, Brownstein Frenkel & Lee, LLP, 17th Street, Suite 2200, Denver, CO 80202. Phone number: (303) 223-1100; Fax number: (303) 223-1111; Email: wforman@bfls.com; jhelfrich@bfls.com.

FIRST AMENDED APPLICATION FOR WATER STORAGE RIGHTS, SURFACE WATER RIGHTS, AND PLAN FOR AUGMENTATION IN ARCHULETA COUNTY, A. Water Storage Rights. 1. BFR Pond. A. Legal Description: The center of the dam creating BFR Pond is located in the SE 1/4 SE 1/4 of Section 12, T36N, R1W, NMPM. Located 703 feet from the south section line and 1,124 feet from the east section line of said Section 12, Archuleta County, Colorado. (UTM Coordinates: NAD83, Zone 13N, Meters, UTM X: 331948, UTM Y: 4137153). See Figure 1. **b. Description of BFR Pond:** (1) Area: 2.10 acres. (2) Active Volume: 0.0 acre feet. (3) Dead Storage: 21 acre feet. (4) Average Depth: 10 feet. (5) Dam length: 420 feet. (6) Dam height: 7 feet. **c. Sources of Water:** East Fork of the San Juan River ("East Fork") via the W.B. Turner Alternate Pumpsite No. 2. The diversion point is located on the south (east) bank of the East Fork of the San Juan River in the SE 1/4 SE 1/4, Section 12, T36N, R1W, NMPM, 1,017 feet from the South Section line and 1,257 feet from the East Section line, Archuleta County, Colorado. (UTM Coordinates: NAD83, Zone 13N, Meters, UTM X: 331948, UTM Y: 4137153). See Figure 1. **d. Appropriation Date:** February 29, 2016. (1) How initiated: Developing engineering plans for BFR Pond, filing notice of intent to construct a non-jurisdictional water impoundment structure and filing this application. (2) Date Water Applied to Beneficial Use: July 19, 2016. **e. Fill rate:** 4.0 c.f.s. **f. Amount:** 21 acre feet, Absolute, with the right to fill and refill in priority to keep the lake full throughout the year. **g. Uses:** Irrigation, piscatorial, recreation, fire-fighting. **h. Comment:** The BFR Pond is lined and will not intercept ground water. **2. WGA Pond. a. Legal Description:** The center of the operating dam creating WGA Pond is located in the SE 1/4 SE 1/4 of Section 12, T36N, R1W, NMPM. Located 468 feet from the south section line and 377 feet from the east section line of said Section 12, Archuleta County, Colorado. (UTM Coordinates: NAD83, Zone 13N, Meters, UTM X: 332212, UTM Y: 4136983). See Figure 1. **b. Description of WGA Pond:** (1) Area: 1.0 acre. (2) Active Volume: 0.0 acre feet. (3) Dead Storage: 9.0 acre feet. (4) Average Depth: 9 feet. (5) Dam length: 445 feet. (6) Dam height: Less than 10 feet. **c. Sources of Water:** East Fork of the San Juan River ("East Fork") via the W.B. Turner Alternate Pumpsite No. 2. The diversion point is located on the south (east) bank of the East Fork of the San Juan River in the SE 1/4 SE 1/4, Section 12, T36N, R1W, NMPM, 1,017 feet from the South Section line and 1,257 feet from the East Section line, Archuleta County, Colorado. (UTM Coordinates: NAD83, Zone 13N, Meters, UTM X: 331948, UTM Y: 4137153). See Figure 1. **d. Appropriation Date:** February 29, 2016. (1) How initiated: Developing engineering plans for WGA Pond, filing notice of intent to construct a non-jurisdictional water impoundment structure and filing this application. (2) Date Water Applied to Beneficial Use: N/A, conditional appropriation. **e. Fill rate:** 4.0 c.f.s. **f. Amount:** 9 acre feet, Conditional, with the right to fill and refill in priority to keep the lake full throughout the year. **g. Uses:** Irrigation, piscatorial, recreation, fire-fighting. **h. WGA Pond will be lined and will not intercept ground water. 3. Bootjack South Augmentation Pond. a. Legal Description:** The Pond is located in the SE 1/4 SE 1/4 of Section 12, T36N, R1W, NMPM, 88 feet from the south section line and 978 feet from the east section line of said Section 12, Archuleta County, Colorado. (UTM Coordinates: NAD83, Zone 13N, Meters, UTM X: 332026, UTM Y: 4136989). See Figure 1. **b. Description of Pond:** (1) Area: 2.0 acres. (2) Active Capacity: 16 acre feet. (3) Dead Storage: 0 acre feet. (4) Average Depth: 8 feet. (6) Dam length: 450 feet. (6) Dam height: less than 10 feet. **c. Sources of Water:** East Fork of the San Juan River ("East Fork") via the W.B. Turner Alternate Pumpsite No. 2. The diversion point is located on the south (east) bank of the East Fork of the San Juan River in the SE 1/4 SE 1/4, Section 12, T36N, R1W, NMPM, 1,017 feet from the South Section line and 1,257 feet from the East Section line, Archuleta County, Colorado. (UTM Coordinates: NAD83, Zone 13N, Meters, UTM X: 331948, UTM Y: 4137153). See Figure 1. **d. Appropriation Date:** February 29, 2016. (1) How initiated: Developing engineering plans for Bootjack South Augmentation Pond, filing notice of intent to construct a non-jurisdictional water impoundment structure and filing this application. (2) Date Water Applied to Beneficial Use: N/A, conditional appropriation. **e. Fill rate:** 4.0 c.f.s., Conditional, by pipeline from Pumpsite No. 2. **f. Amount:** 16 acre feet, Conditional, with the right to fill and refill in priority to keep the pond full throughout the year. **g. Use:** Augmentation, fire-fighting. **h. Comment:** The Bootjack South Augmentation Pond will be lined and will not intercept ground water. **B. Surface Water Rights. 1. W.B. Turner Alternate Pumpsite No. 2. Enlargement. a. Legal Description:** The diversion point is located on the south (east) bank of the East Fork of the San Juan River in the SE 1/4 SE 1/4, Section 12, T36N, R1W, NMPM, 1,017 feet from the South Section line and 1,257 feet from the East Section line, Archuleta County, Colorado. (UTM Coordinates: NAD83, Zone 13N, Meters, UTM X: 331948, UTM Y: 4137153). See Figure 1. **b. Prior Adjudication:** Case No. CA308A, December 19, 1961. Source: East Fork, Amount: 4.0 c.f.s., Absolute, for irrigation stock and domestic uses; Appropriation Date: July 24, 1954. **c. Source:** East Fork. **d. Appropriation:** (1) Amount: 1.78 c.f.s., Absolute. (a) Appropriation Date: July 19, 2016. (b) How appropriation was initiated: Developing engineering plans to construct the pump station and filing the application in this matter, filing the BFR Pond in priority. (c) Uses: To fill and refill BFR Pond. (2) Amount: 4.0 c.f.s., Conditional. (a) Appropriation Date: August 31, 2016. (b) How appropriation was initiated: Developing engineering plans to construct the pump station and filing the application in this matter. (c) Uses: To fill and refill WGA Pond, BFR Pond (2.22 cfs remaining as conditional), Bootjack South Augmentation Pond, recreation, piscatorial, fire-fighting. **C. Plan for Augmentation. 1. Structures to be**

Augmented: WGA Pond and BFR Pond, described above in paragraph B.1. and B.2. **Water rights that will be used for augmentation:** In-priority diversions from the East Fork stored in Bootjack South Augmentation Pond. **Plan for Augmentation:** The plan is to divert water from the East Fork to WGA Pond and BFR Pond (together, the "Ponds"), which will be used as trout ponds and for recreational and firefighting purposes. **B. Replacement Requirements.** The annual evaporative depletions from BFR and WGA Ponds will be approximately 10 acre feet. **c. Filling and Freshening Flows for the Ponds.** Water will be diverted from the East Fork under the Turner Enlargement No. 2 right as necessary to meet the call. **D. Name(s) and address(es) of owner(s) of the land on which structure is or will be located, upon which water is or will be stored, or upon which water is or will be placed to beneficial use:** Applicant: Bootjack Ranch, LLC; 12500 E. Hwy. 160; Pagosa Springs, Colorado 81147. Applicant requests a decree granting the new absolute and conditional storage rights, surface water rights and plan for augmentation described in Sections A through C. For any conditions, provisions, provisions, rights requested by this Application that are put to beneficial use during the pendency of this Application, Applicant seeks a decree awarding absolute water rights for those structures. (9 pages)

16CW3041 APPLICATION TO MAKE ABSOLUTE, Archuleta County. Applicant: Robert Girardin, P.O. Box 701, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. Direct all correspondence to Amy N. Huff, Colorado Water & Land Use Dept., Unit #113, Durango, Colorado, CO 81301 (970)403-1770. (1) Structure Name: Big Flat Ditch, (2) Legal Description of Point of Diversion: NW 1/4 SW 1/4 SW 1/4 Section 25, Township 36N, Range 1W, NMPM, at a point 780 feet from the South Section line and 450 feet from the West Section line of said Section 25 (3) Source: Unnamed tributary of Coal Creek, tributary to the San Juan River (4) App Date: Dec 5, 2006 (6) Amt: 0.55 cfs Absolute (7) Use: Irrigation of up to 11 acres on property currently owned by Applicant, and livestock water. Duty of Water is 1 cfs for 20 acres (8) Applicant owns the land on which the proposed point of diversion is located (9) See Application. (4 pages)

16CW3044 (08CW61, 00CW21) ALPINE CASCADE CORPORATION, c/o J. R. Ford, P.O. Box 4490, Pagosa Springs, Colorado 81157; Telephone: 970-264-5000; E-mail: pagosaland@pagosa.net. Attorneys: Douglas M. Snor and Michael A. Kopp, Trout Raley, 1120 Lincoln Street, Denver, Colorado 80203; Telephone: 303-961-1983. Email: msnor@troutrale.com and mkopp@troutrale.com. APPLICATION TO MAKE ABSOLUTE IN PART AND FOR FINDING OF REASONABLE DILIGENCE, IN ARCHULETA COUNTY. 1. Name, mailing address, email address and telephone number of applicant: See above. 2. Name of structure: West Mesa Storage System, consisting of Bridge Pond, Waterfall Pond, and Lodge Pond. 3. Description of conditional water right: A. Date of original decree: August 12, 2002, Case No. 00CW21. B. Source of water: West Mesa Storage System. C. Duty of water: 125 acre-feet. D. Source of water: (i) Bridge Pond: Inflow from an unnamed tributary on which Bridge Pond is located, local drainage tributary to Bridge Pond, and water pumped from the San Juan River via one or two pipelines from the points of diversion described in Paragraph 3.E. (ii) Waterfall Pond: Inflow from an unnamed tributary to Waterfall Pond, and water pumped from the San Juan River via one or two pipelines from the points of diversion described in Paragraph 3.E. (iii) Lodge Pond: The center of Lodge Pond dam is decreed to be located in the SW1/4 NE1/4 of Section 11, Township 34 North, Range 2 West, N.M.P.M., in Archuleta County, Colorado, at a point where the North 1/4 Corner of said Section 23 bears North 62°30' East, a distance of 370 feet. (i) Waterfall Pond: The center of Waterfall Pond dam is located in the SW1/4 SE1/4 of Section 14, Township 34 North, Range 2 West, N.M.P.M., in Archuleta County, Colorado, at a point where the South 1/4 Corner of said Section 14 bears South 30°30' West, a distance of 1,300 feet. (ii) Lodge Pond: The center of Lodge Pond dam is decreed to be located in the SW1/4 NE1/4 of Section 11, Township 34 North, Range 2 West, N.M.P.M., in Archuleta County, Colorado, at a point where the Northeast Corner of said Section 23 bears North 31°10' East, a distance of 2,880 feet. D. Source of water: (i) Bridge Pond: Inflow from an unnamed tributary on which Bridge Pond is located, local drainage tributary to Bridge Pond, and water pumped from the San Juan River via one or two pipelines from the points of diversion described in Paragraph 3.E and local drainage tributary to Lodge Pond. E. San Juan River points of diversion: The West Mesa Storage System, consisting of Bridge Pond, Waterfall Pond, and Lodge Pond, may be filled from the San Juan River by pumping pipelines from one or a combination of the following points of diversion: (i) San Juan River Intake: A point of diversion near the west bank of the San Juan River at a point South 61° 30' East, 2,900.0 feet from Northwest Corner of Section 12, T34N, R2W, N.M.P.M., in Archuleta County, Colorado. (ii) Pit Park Ditch Headgate: A point of diversion on the west bank of the San Juan River in the SW1/4 NE1/4 of Section 23, Township 34 North, Range 2 West, N.M.P.M., in Archuleta County, Colorado, at a point where the North 1/4 Corner of said Section 23 bears North 23° 41' East, a distance of 2,801.0 feet. (iii) Gazebo Park Infiltration Gallery: A point of diversion approximately 150 feet west of the west bank of the San Juan River in the SE1/4 NW1/4 of Section 12, Township 34 North, Range 2 West, N.M.P.M., in Archuleta County, Colorado, at a point where the Northwest Corner of said Section 12 bears North 40° 30' 26" West, a distance of 2,951.1 feet. F. Rate of diversion: 6.0 cfs from all points of diversion G. Appropriation Date: June 15, 1999 for all ponds. H. Amount: Case No. 95CW111. Legal description: To fill and refill in priority. Pursuant to the decree in Case No. 00CW21, water may be stored up to the decreed amount of 125 acre-feet in any combination of the three ponds as alternate places of storage for the West Mesa Storage System water right. Each pond was decreed with the following estimated capacities: (i) Bridge Pond: 42 acre-feet, conditional (ii) Waterfall Pond: 55 acre-feet, conditional (iii) Lodge Pond: 28 acre-feet, conditional. I. Applicant also intends to pump water on a direct flow basis to domestic uses associated with low-density residential development; recreational and fish and wildlife propagation uses associated with storage in Bridge Pond, Waterfall Pond, and Lodge Pond; and augmentation and exchange uses by release from storage. If necessary, water may be released from storage under a separately approved plan for augmentation for out-of-priority depletions to the San Juan River that may be caused by the use of wells associated with the low-density residential development, or for other augmentation purposes. Water stored in the West Mesa Storage System ponds may also be used to replace evaporative depletions associated with the underground water right decreed for the Pit Park Gravel Pit Well in Case No. 95CW110 in the event that there is a valid call on said San Juan River at the Pit Park Gravel Pit Well by a water right that is senior to the Pit Park Gravel Pit Well. (ii) Applicant also intends to pump water on a direct flow basis to the West Mesa Storage system ponds pursuant to the Applicant's ownership of a portion of the San Juan River Intake direct flow right decreed in Case No. W-1063-73 for the purposes of recreation and fish and wildlife propagation in and below the West Mesa Storage System ponds. Pit Park and Gazebo Park were decreed as alternate points of diversion for the Applicant's ownership interest in the San Juan River Intake water right in Case No. 95CW111. Legal description: To fill and refill the lands decreed to be irrigated pursuant to the decree in Case No. 00CW21: Approximately 55 irrigated acres on the west side of the San Juan River lying between Trujillo Road and the edge of the mesa overlooking the San Juan River canyon within the E1/2 of Section 11, and the W1/2 of Section 12, the NW1/4 of Section 13 and the NE1/4 of Section 14, Township 34 North, Range 2 West, N.M.P.M., in Archuleta County, Colorado. 4. Detailed outline of what has been done toward completion of the project: During the diligence period, the Applicant completed construction of Waterfall Pond at a cost of approximately \$7500. Bridge Pond was previously constructed. During the diligence period, Applicant has stored water in both ponds from the unnamed tributaries on which the ponds are located and local drainage tributary to each pond. B. The Applicant commissioned a survey of the capacity of both the Waterfall and Bridge Ponds during the diligence period, at a cost of \$1,940. Waterfall Pond has a decreed capacity of approximately 346,946 cubic feet, or 7.96 acre feet. The Bridge Pond has a decreed capacity of approximately 240,105 cubic feet, or 5.51 acre-feet. C. During the diligence period, the Applicant filled and refilled both Bridge Pond and Waterfall Pond in priority and on an annual basis. Applicant used water stored in the ponds for the decreed uses of irrigation; livestock watering; fire suppression; dust control; recreational and fish and wildlife propagation uses in and around the ponds. Applicant pumped water from the ponds for irrigation of the 55 acres described in paragraph 3.J.5. Claim to make absolute, in part: A. Date water applied to beneficial use: Approximately April 1, 2011. B. The Applicant has filled and refilled the Bridge Pond each year during the present diligence period. Water from the Bridge Pond has been pumped from the pond and applied to irrigation of a portion of the 55 acres described in Paragraph 3.J. on multiple occasions every

year during the diligence period. C. The Applicant has filled and refilled the Waterfall Pond each year during the present diligence period. D. Water from the Waterfall Pond has been pumped from the pond and applied to irrigation of a portion of the 55 acres described in Paragraph 3.J. on multiple occasions every year during the diligence period. D. Absolute amount and uses: Pursuant to C.R.S. § 37-92-301(4)(e), Applicant claims that water from unnamed tributaries and local drainage to the West Mesa Storage System in the amount of 13.47 acre-feet per year has been stored in Bridge and Waterfall Ponds and that the West Mesa Storage System therefore has been made absolute in the amount of 13.47 acre-feet, fill and refill, for all decreed purposes. E. Claim for finding of reasonable diligence in part: A. Applicant has not yet constructed Lodge Pond. Bridge and Waterfall Ponds may be enlarged in the future. Applicant seeks a finding of reasonable diligence for the remaining 115.53 acre-feet of the West Mesa Storage System to be filled by unnamed tributaries and local drainage to the Ponds. B. Applicant has not yet constructed a pipeline to pump water from the San Juan River to the West Mesa Storage System. Applicant seeks a finding of reasonable diligence for the West Mesa Storage System in the full amount of 125 acre-feet to be filled with water diverted from the San Juan River at the points described in paragraph 3.E. 7. Name(s) and address(es) of owner(s) or reputed owner(s) of the land upon which any new diversion or storage structure, or modification to any existing diversion or storage structure is, or will be constructed, or upon which water is or will be stored, including any modification to the existing storage pool: Applicant: (7 pages)

THE WATER RIGHTS CLAIMED BY THE FOREGOING APPLICATION(S) MAY AFFECT IN PRIORITY ANY WATER RIGHTS CLAIMED OR HERETOFORE ADJUDICATED WITHIN THIS DIVISION AND OWNERS OF AFFECTED RIGHTS MUST APPEAR TO OBJECT AND PROTEST WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY STATUTE, OR BE FOREVER BARRED.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT YOU HAVE until the last day of January, 2017, to file with the Water Clerk, a verified Statement of Opposition, setting forth facts to why a certain application should not be granted or why it should be granted only in part or on certain conditions. A copy of such Statement of Opposition must also be served upon the applicant or the applicant's attorney and an affidavit or certificate of such service shall be filed with the Water Clerk, as prescribed by Rule 5, CRCP. (Filing fee: \$158.00; Forms are available through the Office of the Water Clerk or on the Judicial site at www.courts.state.co.us; Danene M. Etz, Water Clerk Specialist, 1060 E. 2nd Ave., Room 106, Durango, CO 81301-5157; 970-247-2304, Ext. 6181)

Published: before December 31, 2016
Original Signature on file
Danene M. Etz, Water Court Specialist
Published December 15, 2016 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO
Court Address: 449 San Juan Street, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Phone Number: (970) 264-8160
Attorney for Plaintiff:
Daniel L. Fiedler, #44915
PO Box 5633
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
970-317-4779
E-mail: daniefiedler@gmail.com

Respectfully submitted this 6th day of December, 2016.
Case Number: 2016CV30080
Plaintiff:
KYLE WOODARD

Defendants:
CHARLES L. HERNAH AS INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR OF THE ESTATE OF PETER L. HERNAH, JR., DECEASED; THE TESTATE AND INTESTATE SUCCESSORS OF PETER L. HERNAH, JR., DECEASED.

SUMMONS (BY PUBLICATION)
PLAINTIFF KYLE WOODARD
TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS AND ALL UNKNOWN PERSONS WHO CLAIM ANY INTEREST IN THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THIS ACTION

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to appear and defend against the claims of the Complaint to Quiet Title Pursuant to Rule 105 filed with the

Budget

Continued from A14

"One of the other big components for our revenue pictures is sales tax," said Henderson. "As we have said before ... it's a highly volatile source of revenue, and we don't put a huge reliance on that source for ongoing growth or anything like that."

Henderson explained that 2017 sales tax revenue is forecasted to be \$4.6 million, as that is the expected figure for 2016's actual revenue.

The presentation then turned to "items of note" for the budget.

"The board has taken a very aggressive and prioritized approach towards road and bridge and capital improvements for both paved and gravel roads," said Henderson.

The presentation covered expected revenues and expenditures for 2017 for the county's different funds.

For the General Fund, revenue is forecasted at \$10.5 million, and expenditures are forecasted as \$11.1 million.

For the Road and Bridge Fund, revenue is forecasted to be \$5.7 million, and expenditures are forecasted to be \$7.7 million.

For all funds, revenue is forecasted to be \$24,558,767 and expenditures are forecasted to be \$29,793,487.

Henderson went on to explain that there were several reasons that the expenditures of 2017 are forecasted to exceed revenues.

Henderson explained that the 1A fund no longer has a revenue stream, but that the remainder of the fund, \$528,437, had been budgeted to be spent.

"As you've heard us say before, if we don't budget or appropriate it, we can't spend it," said Henderson. "When we say expenditures,

these are things we could expend the money on and have to allocate in our expenditure line item in order to be able to spend that money," said BoCC Chairman Michael Whiting, adding that the money must be budgeted in order to spend it later.

"It's like a not-to-exceed amount," said Archuleta County Finance Director Larry Walton.

Henderson pointed out that the expenditures for capital outlay for Road and Bridge is forecasted to be \$3.4 million.

"The lion's share of those dollars are coming out of the Road and Bridge reserves," explained Henderson. "However, that fund remains healthy even with those kind of expenditure dollars."

"What we're talking about right now is a total appropriations budget of just under \$30 million for Archuleta County for the year 2017 expended within each one of those funds, having been developed with the guidance of the Board of County Commissioners and support of our elected officials and I think that, again, our efforts reflect the priorities of the board, I feel like they reflect the needs of each one of our departments, and I feel like this is a very solid foundation for us to get started on for 2017," said Henderson.

Henderson's presentation then turned to the county's reserves and their target amounts.

The first reserve, the Taxpayer Bill of Rights (TABOR) reserve, will rest at \$272,080.

Henderson explained that this fund is statutorily required and is a fairly small "piece of the puzzle when we're talking about reserves

for Archuleta County."

The county's operating reserve will rest at \$2,350,378.

"That was established to ensure we have appropriate cash flow for the operations over the course of the year," said Henderson. "For the next few months, our revenues from property taxes will be almost zero. As a county, we still have to function, and that's where that operating reserve comes in."

The strategic reserve will rest at \$3,133,837.

"That's the bank account right there," said Henderson. "That ensures that, if we run into structural problems from a broader standpoint ... that we have enough money in the bank to ensure that we can continue to operate and have an opportunity, while we're operating, to start making difficult decisions if they need to be made, while we can ensure that the level of service that people have come to expect can be maintained for a certain period of time."

The last part of Henderson's presentation drew attention to the "Distinguished Budget Presentation Award" that was presented to the county's finance department from the Government Finance Officers Association for the 2016 budget.

"I think this is the third of these that you will have seen, and I have no reason to think they won't continue to roll in," said Henderson, who proceeded to compliment the finance department.

"These guys put together a phenomenal document on an annual basis," said Henderson, later adding, "I can't say enough good things about the work that they do. They always have the information neces-

sary for us to make good decisions, and they're always prepared with information necessary for us to put together the most effective budget document that we can."

Before making the motion to approve the budget, the commissioners made a few comments.

"I think it's important for the public to know that we're getting ready to approve a budget that's almost \$30 million, the three of us are. Yet, the three of us, individually, have the spending authority of not even one penny. One of us can not spend any money, and I think that's a good check and balance that's been put in," said Commissioner Steve Wadley, adding that the community is dependent on tourism, and that he thought the BoCC would like to see a more diversified economy.

"Larry, your staff, Bentley, everybody, you did a fabulous job. The budget looks great, but we've come to expect that. You're top shelf," said Commissioner Clifford Lucero, adding that the county really has come a long way with its finances since 2009 and 2010.

"We've done so much in such a short time," said Lucero. "For us to turn it around the way that we did, a lot of county officials and a lot of staff deserve a lot of credit."

"This is just the last budget in a series of great budgets," said Whiting, adding, "I'm proud of where we've come from as well, I really am."

"Mr. Chairman, I move to approve Resolution 2016-79, adopting the 2017 budget," said Lucero, with Wadley seconding the motion.

The motion passed unanimously. marshall@pagosasun.com

Wishing you a very joyous Christmas Season.

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Celebrations



Mark and Kathy Faber, of Pagosa Springs, are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Kari Beth, to Luke Cernek, son of Steve and Shelia Cernek, of Gratiot, Wis.

Kari Beth is a graduate of Arizona Christian University and is a first-grade teacher at Valley Academy School in Phoenix, Ariz. Luke graduated from Tri State Christian School and farms with Cernek Family Farms. They will be married on Feb. 18, 2017.



Photo courtesy Anne Kautzky

There are a few events in a person's life that they hold dear and will always remember — wedding day, a child's birth. For a pilot, the day he/she solos goes into that category. The morning of Dec. 6 will be such an event for Timm Smith.

Keep up on local happenings with The SUN.
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Classified line ads (regular categories): 10 a.m., Tuesday

Classified line ads (Too Late to Classify): 3 p.m., Tuesday

Legal advertising: 5 p.m., Friday

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(500 word maximum, email to editor@pagosasun.com)

Cards of thanks: Noon, Tuesday
(200 word maximum, email to editor@pagosasun.com)

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

Articles: Noon, Monday
(email to editor@pagosasun.com)

*Deadlines are earlier if there is a holiday.

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Kindergarten Christmas Program

SUN photos/Randi Pierce

Kindergarteners from Pagosa Springs Elementary School delighted their families and friends with a number of festive holiday tunes and poems at the Dec. 6 Christmas program, held in the Pagosa Springs High School auditorium. All of the students sang a number of songs, while individual classes recited poems.



Cards of Thanks

ACVAP

The Archuleta County Victim Assistance Program would like to sincerely thank Contra Fusion and caller Wendy Graham Settle for hosting an amazingly fun event, raising funds to help ACVAP rebuild after the Adobe fire. Thank you, Juanalee Park, for your hard work organizing and gathering such a great group of musical talent.

Also, many thanks to all who came and donated. While many left with sorer toes (I stepped on a few — sorry), I have a feeling Contra Fusion may have started a Contra Craze in Pagosa. We look forward to the next one.

The ACVAP team

Christmas Child

Dear Editor:

For the first time since Operation Christmas Child started in 1993, Pagosa Springs filled over 1,000 boxes — 1,075 to be exact. Each year people from Pagosa have generously given to children around the world by filling a shoe box full of toys, clothing, hygiene

items, games, stuffed animals, flashlights and more. Many people sent a Christmas card or a personal letter with the box, giving these children not only joy and love, but hope for a better world. Last year over 11 million boxes were distributed worldwide.

All of the children who receive boxes will have the opportunity to hear and read the gospel message of Jesus in their own language, and some will be able to continue learning through a discipleship program taught by the local village churches. Stories about about lives that are changed as well as whole villages, bringing hope and a new joy for life.

I wish to thank everyone in Pagosa Springs who has participated in Operation Christmas Child. It takes lots of willing hands to distribute the information and boxes to the locals, and return them to the relay center during collection week before Thanksgiving.

I sincerely appreciate all the helpers and those who have continued to support Operation Christmas Child. You are changing

lives forever.

Nancy Burke

Joy to Pagosa

Dear Editor:

I would like to state publicly my appreciation for the work of the Pagosa Springs Community Choir, whose brilliance my children and I enjoyed last Sunday (Dec. 4).

The musical selections were excellent, and the skill and energy of the choir impressive.

I was particularly moved by the latter pieces, performed “in the round,” which is more difficult from a choral perspective but so much richer for the audience.

As a final note of praise, I enjoyed the silent singing of Faith Richardson, who performed every song in sign language. Though I do not sign myself, I recognize the opportunity she provided for the deaf to enjoy the show. Her hands and face sung with as much joy and enthusiasm as the rest of the choir. What a blessing.

Thanks to all who make the Community Choir possible.

Emrys Tyler



Please Join Us in Welcoming

Dr. Rachel Chaney | San Juan Regional Heart Center

We are pleased to announce that Dr. Rachel Chaney has joined San Juan Regional Heart Center.

Dr. Chaney received her undergraduate degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque. She then went on to pursue her medical degree from UNM's School of Medicine, where she graduated in 1991. Dr. Chaney completed her residency in internal medicine at UNM, as well as fellowships in cardiology and research echocardiography in the University's Department of Cardiology.

Dr. Chaney has more than 20 years of experience as a cardiologist and is board certified in cardiology and internal medicine. She has a special interest in non-invasive cardiology and prevention and congenital heart disease. She most recently practiced in Durango and has been part of the Four Corners community for a long time, visiting the area every summer before moving to Durango permanently in 2013.

Dr. Chaney was born in Los Alamos and grew up in Albuquerque. She enjoys running, tennis, hiking, golf, and wildflower gardening. Dr. Chaney is looking forward to seeing patients at San Juan Regional Heart Center's Bayfield and Farmington clinics.



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preview

ARTS & LIFE

The Heralds of Christmas

Sunday, Dec. 18 • 3 p.m. • St. Patrick's Episcopal Church



December 15, 2016

The Heralds of Christmas concert this Sunday

By Heidi Tanner
Special to The PREVIEW

The Heralds of Christmas concert is this Sunday, Dec. 18, at 3 p.m. at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church.

This concert is presented by the Pagosa Springs Instrumental Music Society and will feature members of the Pagosa Springs Community Band. All of these musicians are local players, some of whom you already know and love, but some who may be new to your ears.

The audience will be treated to the Pagosa Brass Quartet, whose members are Larry Elginer and Larry Baisdon on trumpets, Dan Burch, music director at Pagosa Springs High School, playing trombone, and D'Ann Artis, member of the San Juan Symphony, on horn.

The quartet will create beautiful brass music in the sanctuary of St. Patrick's Episcopal Church that will stay with you through the holiday season.

Elginer and Baisdon are the Community Band's

primary conductors. These two gentlemen coach the Community Band and guide the group to its performances and they do so generously on a volunteer basis. They also each play a mean trumpet.

The Pagosa Brass Quartet will be joined on some pieces by Sally Neel, music director at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, who will be playing both the organ and piano. Neel is a gifted musician who gives of her talents generously and who works throughout the year on a variety of events to bring the arts to Pagosa Springs.

In addition to the Pagosa Brass Quartet, you will be treated to a sprinkling of brass instrument solos and small ensembles, a piano solo, and this year you will enjoy a flute quartet, an unusual ensemble for Pagosa Springs, whose members will present some lively and spirited Christmas melodies.

Last, but not least, elves within the Community Band are busy baking homemade cookies. The Community Band is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization

■ See Concert on next page

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Coyote Moon: Karaoke, 8 p.m.

Sunday
Borde Rio: Bob Hemenger, 4 p.m.

Tuesday
Pagosa Brewing Company: Open Mic Jams, 6 p.m.

Wednesday
Pagosa Brewing Company: Live Trivia, 7 p.m.



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

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By Fred Harman





Photo courtesy Heidi Tanner

Larry Elginer, left, and Larry Baisdon are both accomplished trumpeters who will be performing this Sunday as part of the Pagosa Brass Quartet at The Heralds Of Christmas concert at 3 p.m. at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church.

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Concert

■ continued from previous page and we will be selling festive boxes of delicious cookies that will make wonderful gifts for your friends and loved ones. The boxes will be sold for \$10 apiece directly after the concert ends. The Community Band will be accepting donations as well to assist in the operation of the organization throughout the year. Receipts will be available for

tax purposes at the event. Please join us this Sunday afternoon at 3 p.m. at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, which is located at 225 S. Pagosa Blvd., just south of Pagosa Springs Medical Center. This concert will bring joy and beauty to your Christmas holiday and members of the Community Band are looking forward to performing for you.

Centerpoint Church Christmas Eve Candlelight Service announced

By Jon Duncan
Special to The PREVIEW

Merry Christmas from our Centerpoint Church family to yours. We hope that your Christmas is filled with joy, peace and God's blessings.

We encourage you to join us this Christmas season and wonder at God's mercy to our world in giving us His Son, Jesus.

Our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service is always a favorite, with Christmas carols, scripture, the Christmas story and, yes, candles.

Please make plans to join us for that special night Saturday, Dec. 24, beginning at 6 p.m.

We will also have a very special Christmas morning service, beginning at 10:15 a.m., with special guest Geoffrey Andrews, who will be performing songs from his latest Christmas album.

Our church is warm and friendly, and we would love to welcome you into our family this Christmas season, encourage and bless you as you spend time with us. We hope to meet you soon.

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Photo courtesy Dan Burch

The Pagosa Springs High School Music Department will present its annual Christmas concert tonight at 7 p.m. in the high school auditorium. The concert will feature all of the performing groups in the music department, including the concert choir, jazz band, concert band and Piratones. Come enjoy our talented students and hear some of your Christmas favorites.

A push out of retirement

There are seasons in the year and seasons in life. My Sweet Al and I are entering into our winter season and I have no inclination to look for seasonal work.

Why is it everyone wants me to get a job? I have one. I'm a writer who is writing a book and my goal is to make it on the New York Times Best Seller's List. I know, it's a big goal, but why not?

I've told the family I have a job. They tell me I don't have a real one. Since I stay at home, I can do this and that for them. I tell them I don't have time.

So, what constitutes a real job? Apparently, the family thinks if I leave home at 8 a.m., stay away all day and make money, then I'm actually working.

When I was 15, my mother, a widow, said to my two brothers and I, "You're not going to lie around. You're going to get a job. You're going to make your own spending money. And it will keep you out of trouble."

She took me to an ice cream shop and did all the talking. She got me a job, I stayed out of trouble and she made sure I wasn't lying around.

Now 60 years later, I'm feeling like I've been through this before; I've become my mother. I decided My Sweet Al needed a job. He needs to get out more, meet people and feel productive. It's too cold for him to work outside this time of year. And I don't want him and his dog, Whiskey, lying around looking at the television all day. It's not good for either one of them.

He was an insurance salesman for years and never met a stranger. With sincere flattery, he made little old ladies swoon. He left them with

Artist's Lane

Betty Slade



a paid up insurance policy and the vapors. He's a perfect candidate for a greeter. Why should he waste all his charm on me? He could make others happy, make a little spending money, stay out of trouble and out of my hair.

So, I filled out an application online for him. We went to visit one store who employs greeters. It's a perfect part-time job for a perfect retired salesman who is trapped in the house during the winter months. I told My Sweet Al, "You'll have your own spending money and you can spend it any way you want."

He said, "Well, thank you for giving me permission."

I said, "You're welcome." I was still selling him on my idea. When I go to the store, the Coach gives me a basket and sends me shopping with a "Go get 'em." I feel like he's put a helmet, uniform and shoulder pads on me and sent me out on the football field with a game plan. He makes my day. I look forward to seeing him every time I go to the store.

"Al, you can make somebody's day, too. The little ladies will flutter around you and you can wear a nametag with Sweet Al on it. It's a win-win."

Since I filled out an online application for Al, I have been overwhelmed with emails and job opportunities. They must have sold my email address to hundreds of

job agencies. There are a lot of jobs out there if you want to work. But I don't need a job and I don't want a job; I have one.

Since Al isn't familiar with the computer, I told him I would go and help him and make sure the store got his application. I introduced myself and asked if they received Al's application. The man asked me, "Is this job for you?"

"No, for My Sweet Al." I went into my song and dance about how perfect Al would be working for their company. He'd make happy shoppers like the Coach have done for me. He's strong as a bull elephant and he can move those carts from outside into the store. He's a worker and he wants to work.

It's hard to get good help and people who want to work these days, but I've convinced My Sweet Al to come out of retirement and he wants to work. He's looking forward to his first real paycheck in a long time and has already spent it in his mind. Maybe he'll greet you the next time you go shopping and make your day, too. I'm optimistic.

Final brushstroke: My friend asked what Whiskey would do when Al goes to work. I told her, I'm going to send her to doggy day care. Those two need to be separated for a while and have a life outside of their little circle. I'm wondering if I could just put Whiskey to work. Let me think — I would put a service jacket on her. Everything looks good with black. She could sit next to a happy old guy. Apparently, she talks and has a lot to say. Does anyone have any suggestions?

Readers' comments

Send in your comments to betty@bettyslade.com.

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Photo courtesy Thingamajig Theatre Company

The cast of "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" wishes you all a very merry Christmas and a happy new year. "Pageant" runs in rep with "The SantaLand Diaries" at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts through Dec. 29.

'SantaLand' opens tonight at Center for the Arts

By R. Eli Townsend
Special to The PREVIEW

"The SantaLand Diaries" opens tonight at Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts at 6 p.m.

In 2011, Thingamajig Theatre Company had produced this sardonic holiday classic with actor Robin Hebert, who procured many laughs and offered a "stoner gone good" kind of finish to the story.

Five years later, enter actor James Scott, who brings his own brand of humor to the production.

"The SanataLand Diaries" has become a holiday favorite for those who want some biting satirical humor to get them into the spirit of the holidays.

David Sedaris' hilarious story

about a 30-something failed actor desperate for work who finds himself in one of Macy's elves in NYC. Scott's sarcastic tone fuels his self-deprecating story that produces many belly laughs and frequent snickers.

Directed by Tim Moore, the duo combines Sedaris' story, adapted by Joe Mantello, with smart, spontaneous ad-libs filtered with contemporary references throughout that not only get laughs, but make audiences relate to Scott's elf character, Crumpet.

For 80 minutes, Crumpet details the chaos, turmoil and adventures that can happen during Macy's Santa Claus in-store exhibit. This show is for those who don't believe in holiday traditions, or those who

do, but desire to peek behind the curtain and see the other side of season.

Be warned that the show is filled with raw language and it would probably be best to leave the kids at home. This is a razor-sharp, potty-mouthed comic show that features one of region's finest talents in Scott. Put this one on your list.

Thingamajig Theatre Company presents "The SantaLand Diaries." Rated R. Opening Dec. 15, running in rep with "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" (rated G) through Dec. 29.

For tickets and information, visit pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW (7469).



Photo courtesy Thingamajig Theatre Company

Chicago actor James Scott returns to Pagosa Springs to star in Thingamajig Theatre Company's "The SantaLand Diaries," opening tonight at 6 p.m. at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts.

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Wild West Squares recap recent events

By **Carla Roberts**
Special to The PREVIEW

Jerry Gilbreath, of Albuquerque, N.M., was the featured caller for a special pre-Thanksgiving dance/workshop for the Wild West Squares in Pagosa Springs.

Gilbreath is one of the top square dance callers based out of New Mexico and he provided quality “floor time” for students of all levels in the Wild West Squares teaching program at the PLPOA Clubhouse.

His wonderful voice and great skill at keeping everyone on the floor moving and smiling was much appreciated by all students.

Wild West Squares uses a multitrack teaching approach, with three levels of classes going continuously. The goal of this training is to maximize success in learning and enjoyment from day one of lessons.

Our highest level is DBD Plus — or Dance by Definition Plus. This is a challenging level that requires “thinking on your feet” and considerable teamwork. Two squares of DBD Plus dancers enjoyed a 90-minute workshop with Gilbreath, who consistently challenged everyone to stretch their abilities.

Afterward, Gilbreath said he was impressed with the Wild West Squares sophisticated knowledge of DBD Plus calls.

Wild West Squares demo at recent benefit dance

Last Saturday night, at the well-attended Archuleta County Victim Assistance Program fundraiser dance with contra caller Wendy Graham Settle, of Durango, the Wild West Squares performed a square dance tip during intermission with caller Carla Roberts.

Modern western square dance is the “kissing cousin” of New England-style contra dance, as well as the descendant of the “old fashioned” squares taught during the main portion of the benefit.

Contra also features live music — in this case, locals Randall Davis on fiddle, Juanalee Park on banjo, Ron Sutcliffe on mandolin and Clay Campbell on bass aptly playing old-time music.

Our demo square of DBD Plus-level dancers on Saturday included Teresa Bertin, Joan Schmitt, Dusty Bailey and Brian Hay, Hank Pantzar and Wanita Martin, Lois Dacus and Mike Saunders.

Graduation of nine mainstream dancers

Mainstream is the first level of



Photo courtesy Sue Hamlet

Jerry Gilbreath and Carla Roberts. Gilbreath was the featured caller for the Wild West Squares group’s pre-Thanksgiving dance and workshop.

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.

After months of learning, nine students will graduate at the Mainstream level on Dec. 21. Receiving their Mainstream credentials means they will be eligible to dance at square dance clubs and events anywhere in the world.

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

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Christmas Choir

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- ◆ **Christmas Eve @ 5pm**

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Service @ 5pm

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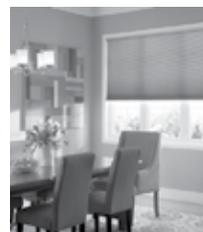
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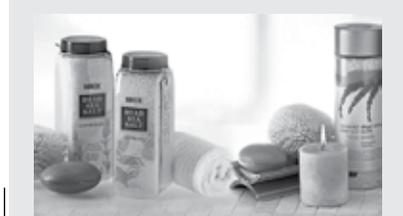
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Holiday Church Events



All events listed in December Church Events Calendar are free of charge unless otherwise noted.

Sunday, Dec. 18

Annual Celebration of Light. 10:30 a.m., Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Greenbriar Plaza. An opportunity to honor the celebration of light that happens all over the world and to enjoy some holiday music and food together. A potluck meal will follow the service, so please bring your favorite dish to share. For further information, visit pagosauu.org or call 731-7900.

Friday, Dec. 23

Pagosa Community of New Thought. 6:30-7:30 p.m., Pagosa Community of New Thought. Seasonal celebration service with the music team, selected readings and the blessings of

candlelight prayer.

Saturday, Dec. 24

Pagosa Community of New Thought. Noon-2 p.m., Pagosa Community of New Thought church. Holiday luncheon/potluck. Bring your favorite dish to share.

Christmas Eve Service. 5 p.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Traditional family-style service with Holy Eucharist. The service includes Christmas carols, a sermon that will be geared toward the children and Holy Eucharist followed by the singing of "Silent Night."

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. 6 p.m., Centerpoint Church. Christmas carols, scripture, the Christmas story and candles.

Lessons and Carols. 6 p.m., Trinity Anglican Church. Traditional service.

Sunday, Dec. 25

Christmas Morning Service. 10:15 a.m., Centerpoint Church.

Pagosa Community of New Thought. 10:30 a.m.-noon, Pagosa Community of New Thought church. A time of prayerful gathering, music and meditation.

Saturday, Dec. 31

Pagosa Community of New Thought. 6:30-8 p.m., Pagosa Community of New Thought. New Year's Eve candlelight vigil. A prayerful time to release 2016 and welcome 2017.

Sunday, Jan. 1

Pagosa Community of New Thought. 10:30 a.m., Pagosa Community of New Thought. New Year's Day service.

UU topic: 'The Annual Celebration of Light'

By Anna Ramirez
Special to The PREVIEW

The Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship invites you to attend a program titled "The Annual Celebration of Light," with Anna Ramirez, this Sunday, Dec. 18, for its regular service.

Here is an opportunity to honor the celebration of light that happens all over the world and to enjoy some holiday music and food together. A potluck meal will follow the service, so please bring your favorite dish to share. Instead of a white elephant gift exchange like last year, a Fellowship member will collect any donation you would like to give and send it on to the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC). The UUSC organizes Guest at Your Table and other activities and specializes in getting resources to Unitarian Universalist Association supported causes.

This presentation reflects the

Unitarian Universalist principle of "The goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all."

Due to the holidays falling on Sundays, the Fellowship will not be offering services on Christmas and New Year's Day.

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

Trinity Anglican to offer traditional Christmas Eve service

By Norma Harman
Special to The PREVIEW

Trinity Anglican Church will celebrate Christmas Eve with a traditional service of "Lessons and Carols" beginning at 6 p.m. in the church. Trinity Anglican is located at 246 Harman Park Drive.



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the Christmas Story

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Photo courtesy Bob Howard

Local Pi Beta Phi sorority alumnae gathered at the home of Carole Howard Dec. 7 for a Christmas potluck luncheon and angel gift exchange that also included contributing food to St. Patrick's Episcopal Church and the Community United Methodist Church for its food banks supporting people in need over the holidays. Special guests were James Scott and Jamie Finkenthal, stars of Thingamajig Theatre Company's Christmas plays this month. They led the ladies in a Christmas caroling sing-along and sang duets with Howard on the piano. Here, the Pi Phis pose with a tiny portion of the multiple bags and boxes of food they donated: Front: Jamie Finkenthal and Constance Clark. Second row: Mary Rothchild, Lisa Scott and Maribeth Hill. Top row: Penny Hart, Marilyn Chippis, Mary Bailly and Melissa McDonald. Standing: right, James Scott and Carole Howard.

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Catholic youth hide reminders to do good deeds around town

By Anne McGarry
Special to The PREVIEW

The Catholic middle school youth of Pagosa Springs are hiding 200 small baby Jesus stones around town to encourage the community to do a good deed for others during the Christmas season.

"As the holiday season is upon us and we are all shopping for the perfect gifts, decorating our houses and preparing for special

holiday gatherings, the middle school youth want to remind us to give of ourselves simply," said Middle School Religious Education Teacher Augusta Happ. "The students are asking the community to stop for a moment to reflect upon the true meaning of the season and perform an act of kindness."

The river rock stones are decorated with a tiny baby Jesus in a manager and are hidden in grocery

■ See Deeds on next page



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The passing of time

By Gregg Heid
Special to The PREVIEW

Four of us got off the bus in front of the Motel Peringo in San Ignacio, Paraguay. When we checked in, we discovered that the motel manager knew Daniel Martinez.

Daniel was a student and close friend in my English class 40 years ago when I served in the Peace Corps. The manager dialed her cell phone and handed it to me.

"Daniel, como estas mi amigo?" "Gregorio eres vos? Where are you?"

"Aqui en San Ignacio, en el Motel Peringo."

"Esperame, I'll be there soon," he responded in his heavy accented English.

Fifteen minutes later, he drove up in his SUV.

"Wow, Daniel you have a car." "Si, Gregorio, now there are hundreds. San Ignacio is a city of over 50,000."

We hugged and I introduced my wife, her sister and husband.

We climbed into Daniel's little SUV. Our first stop was at the high school where I used to teach English. I encountered two of my students. They were teachers now and recognized me, even though I didn't recognize them.

Next, we found two of the farmer's sons I worked with on the outskirts of town. They were still very poor and didn't know me. When I told them about how their fathers put me to work picking cotton, we became instant friends.

The pension I had lived in for two years was gone and a new hotel was under construction in its place. Following the custom, Daniel clapped his hands to announce our arrival. When Keña appeared from behind the construction site, I cried bittersweet tears, happy to see her but sad to see she still had nothing. Forty years earlier, she served my meals, cleaned the rooms and did the wash by hand. We embraced each other. She told me about all the people who had been there with me that had died or moved on.

We sat with Sylvia and her fam-

A Matter of Faith

ily on her patio and talked about times past. She was a young lady when I worked with her at the Ag Extension office. She is now in her 60s with three sons and four grandchildren.

At the art museum in town, we encountered Felipe, who spends his days restoring the old paintings and statues. He talked about our involvement in the youth group and how influential Sister Graciela was in our lives, how her soprano singing voice would bring us to tears.

People told us my Ag Extension boss, Julio, had died a couple years earlier. But when we visited the church where I attended Mass, we saw him sweeping the sidewalk in front of his house across the street. After refreshing his memory, we shared stories of those bygone days working with the farmers around San Ignacio. It was hard to say goodbye to him and the people we saw that day. I knew I would not see them again in this lifetime.

Forty years is a long time. Everything changes. The town of 4,000 is now a city. Motorcycles and cars have replaced the horses and bicycles. Tractors have replaced oxen in the fields. Forty years ago, there were only a handful of phones in the entire town. Today, most people have cellphones. The highways are full of trucks and buses; before, there was only one paved road in the entire country.

The signs of time were also seen in the wrinkles on our faces and our gray hair. We don't walk as tall as we use to and most have put on a few pounds. But we remain the same, friends forever. We were together 40 years ago, we were together last month and we will be together in heaven.

One truth remains the same: Because Christ is our friend, we

will see each other again in eternity. "Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends." —John 15:13.

See you on the other side, Daniel, Keña, Sylvia, Julio, Felipe and my other Paraguayan friends.

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 am. 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/wolfcreekchristianwriter-network/>.

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Deeds

■ continued from previous page stores, retail shops, the library and around town. When a stone is found, the finder is to keep the stone as a gift and do a good deed.

The students suggest that the community make the deed simple like helping a neighbor, opening a door, brightening someone's day with a smile, picking up a piece of trash from the sidewalk or another way of giving.

"The students are hoping the community will fill the Christmas season with a multitude of kindness," said Happ, "and the students would love to hear from those finding stones and what good deeds they performed for others."

Notes can be sent Attention: REM (short for religious education middle school), IHM/JPII, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd. Pagosa Springs, CO 81147.

Christmas Eve at St. Patrick's to provide family, traditional worship

By Sally Neel
Special to The PREVIEW

By Christmas Eve, the presents have been purchased, the pre-Christmas parties have ended, the lights sparkle from neighboring houses with decorated trees adorning the windows. Family members have congregated for a family celebration. Christmas is here at last. We gaze from the warmth of our homes at the soft snow softly drifting from the sky.

There is only one thing left on our list before we awake on Christmas day and open gifts under the tree — to thank God for the greatest gift of all, to celebrate the birth of God's love incarnate through a baby named Jesus.

At 5 p.m. on Christmas Eve, St. Patrick's Episcopal Church (225 S. Pagosa Blvd.) will offer its traditional family-style service with Holy Eucharist. The service includes Christmas carols, a sermon that will be geared toward the children and Holy Eucharist followed by the singing of "Silent Night."

"This service is geared toward families with young children," said Fr. Doug Neel, rector of St. Patrick's. "It is delightful to see and experience the excitement and joy of the children and to hear their gleeful voices singing hymns such as 'Go Tell it On the Mountain' and 'Away in a Manger.' It is often slightly noisier than a typical Sunday morning service, but we take it in stride and enjoy the time together as a Christian family."

For those who seek the quiet solemn beauty of Christmas Eve, a classical Christmas Eve musical prelude will begin at 7:30 p.m. Musicians, directed by organist/choir director Sally Neel, will include flut-

ists Jessica Peterson and Kathy Wadenpfehl, violinist Heidi Tanner, vocal soloist Robert Neel, and the choir of St. Patrick's.

At 8 p.m., the grand procession of clergy and choir will lead the congregation in singing "O Come, All Ye Faithful," marking the beginning of the service of Holy Eucharist celebrating the Feast of the Incarnation.

Traditional Christmas hymns accompanied by organ and guest instrumentalists will inspire the spirits of worshippers throughout the service in adoration and praise of the newborn savior of the world. Doug Neel will deliver the Christmas sermon.

The climax of the service is the Holy Eucharist, the partaking of communion by all who wish to receive. An anthem sung by the choir along with hymns sung by the congregation will accompany the procession of believers to the altar of God, receiving the grace and love of Christ. Following the communion, lights will be dimmed, candles will be lit throughout the congregation, and the quiet singing of "Silent Night" will unite the congregation in prayerful thanksgiving for the precious gift they have received.

"This traditional Christmas Eve celebration is a favorite among many," said Doug Neel. "There are many visitors each year at both services and we welcome them all. It is our prayer that these services of worship will provide a beautiful reminder of the powerful significance of God's gift to the world through the birth of his son, Jesus Christ."

For more information about St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, call 731-5801.

"In God's House, at God's Table, all are welcome to be fed."

New Thought continues 'The Gift You Are' theme

By Carla Ryan
Special to The PREVIEW

The December topics and calendar of events for Pagosa Community of New Thought (PCNT) are in full swing.

This month's theme, "The Gift You Are," encourages everyone to acknowledge the wholeness of who they are and to share their gifts in some way — not just during the current holiday season, but in ev-

ery situation and every day. We are so much more than we sometimes give ourselves credit for. Let your inner light shine.

On Sunday, Dec. 18, guests will meet for a study group and discussion regarding this theme and more as they explore Lesson 7, Part 2 of the Religious Science Extension Series created by Dr. Ernest Holmes. The Rev. Mike Ryan will facilitate that day.

Following the group lesson, an

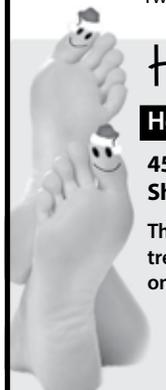
informal "open house" celebration will take place with fellowship and hospitality for all from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. The public is invited to attend. Information about the church will be available, as well as the opportunity to speak with members of the Core Council and the ministers.

As part of its community outreach and compassion ministry, PCNT has selected two local organizations

■ See Gift on next page

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A lesson in giving of self

By Daris Howard
Special to The PREVIEW

Christmas was fast approaching, and as I sat in church, all I could think of was the many things that I needed to do. The lesson was titled "Caring and Sharing," but I heard little of it.

Then the teacher said something that caught my attention. "As you rush through your busy life this time of year, remember what this season is all about. It is about giving. And the most important thing you can give is your time to those who need it."

I pondered that through the

rest of the lesson. As we got to the end, the class leader asked if there were any announcements or needs in our community. Dean, an old veteran, was sitting on the bench ahead of me. He slowly struggled to his feet.

"There's a Christmas dinner for those of us who are still living who served in the second World War. I would really like to go, but I can't drive. It's about an hour south of here, and I was wondering if anyone might be going down that way on Tuesday evening."

I thought of my father, also a World War II veteran. He had passed away, and I wished I could

take him to that dinner so we could visit again. The room remained quiet for some time, and Dean sadly sat down. As he did, he said, "I didn't think so, but I thought I'd ask."

I thought of my father again, and I patted Dean's shoulder, "I'll take you."

He looked up, and I could see a slight glimmer of tears in his eyes. "Really?"

"Sure," I replied. "I'd take my dad if he were here, so I'll take you instead."

The next day I worked as hard as I could. I also worked hard on **See Giving on next page**

Gift

continued from previous page to assist and serve going forward. It is collecting small-sized hygiene products for the Archuleta County Victim Assistance Program, as well as hats and gloves (all sizes) for Pagosa Springs Medical Center. Such items are useful to the organizations in serving their clients and providing comfort in stressful situations.

If anyone would like to contribute to these organizations, especially before Christmas, donations can be dropped off at the PCNT center, 2800 Cornerstone Drive, Unit 3, on Sunday morning, Dec. 18, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. during the open house or by arranging a time with the Rev. Carla Ryan to do so. See contact details below. PCNT intends to make at least one delivery to each organization before Dec. 24.

Other upcoming PCNT activities and events include:

- Dec. 23, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Seasonal celebration service with the PCNT music team, selected readings by the ministers and the blessings of candlelight prayer.

- Dec. 24, noon to 2 p.m. PCNT's holiday luncheon/potluck. Bring your favorite dish to share.

- Dec. 25, 10:30 a.m. to noon. The regular Sunday morning service will instead be a time of prayerful gathering, music and meditation.

- Dec. 31, 6:30 to 8 p.m.. New Year's Eve candlelight vigil. A prayerful time to release 2016 and welcome 2017.

- Jan. 1, 2017, 10:30 a.m. New Year's Day service (program to be announced).

PCNT honors all lifestyles, be-

lief systems, religious paths and people for who they are, children of the divine. NewThought 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.

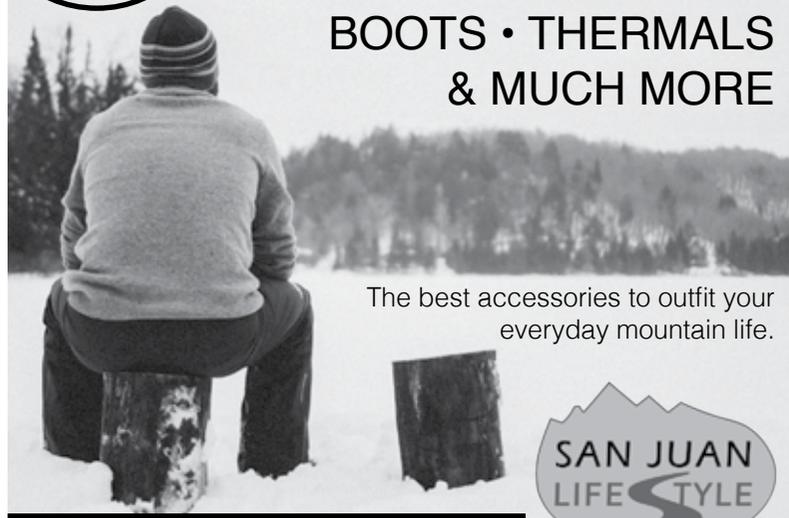
Weekly Sunday gatherings (10:30 a.m.) are held at the PCNT center at 2800 Cornerstone Drive, Unit 3 (across the parking lot from the Sears store).

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.

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Eagle's Nest Youth Ranch seeking donations, volunteers

By **Toni Tuller**
Special to The PREVIEW

The little girl approached the gray horse with apprehension, fear from her own past abuse making trust seem an unattainable goal. An hour later, laughing in exhilaration, she was urging her human mentor, "Again! Can we trot again?"

Another young girl, bullied at school to the point of wanting to move away, readily identified with a small, frightened mare who was at the bottom of the pecking order within the herd. By helping the little mare overcome her fears, this young lady gained confidence and courage to face her own.

A group of adult recovering alcoholics and drug addicts found common ground among a group of horses and ponies that were rescued from slaughter, reaching

out with great empathy to the frightened, traumatized equines.

These are some of the stories that come out of Eagle's Nest Youth Ranch right here in Pagosa. Eagle's Nest Youth Ranch is a nonprofit, 501(c)3 Christian organization that pairs horses and youth to bring growth, hope and healing. Although its primary focus is "at risk" or disadvantaged youth, they work with anyone who desires to participate. They operate entirely on donations — there is never any charge for their services.

ENYR's program is non-residential and consists primarily of two-hour sessions in which one child is paired with one horse and one leader for individual attention and mentoring. They address the specific needs and challenges of each child, showing complete acceptance and unconditional love along with

proper boundaries and expectations. The actual activities can vary widely depending on the child.

The secondary purpose of the ranch is to rescue abused or neglected equines. Through the interaction between these horses and participants, bonds are created that touch and heal both.

ENYR has recently rescued nine horses destined for slaughter in Mexico. They are currently trying to build winter shelters for these horses and are in need of building supplies and winter hay, as well as other onetime or ongoing needs. All donations are tax-deductible. Volunteers are also always welcome.

For information about ENYR, call 731-1775 or email eaglesnestyr@live.com. You can also find ENYR on Facebook and at eaglestneystouthranch.org.



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Giving

■ continued from previous page
Tuesday morning. It seemed that the harder I worked the more I fell behind. But the appointed time arrived, and I left work to pick Dean up. He was anxiously waiting.

He smiled as he climbed into my van. "I was afraid you might have forgotten."

"I didn't forget," I said. "I just had to finish up some things at work."

"It is so nice of you to take me. I haven't been for a while, and the guys I fought with on Okinawa are starting to pass away."

"You fought in Okinawa?"

He nodded. "It was bloody, and I lost a lot of friends. We paid dearly for every inch."

As we traveled, he told stories about the friendships he built during basic training. He shared what it was like to go home for one last visit before shipping out to the Pacific, knowing he may never see his family again.

He told me about crossing the Pacific. "Often the men would joke and act brave, but deep down we were all scared to death. As we ap-

proached Okinawa, everyone was quiet. It was impossible to joke and feel anything but scared for what lay ahead."

He was quiet for a brief time, and I just waited. When he started to speak again, his voice quivered. "While the fighting was going on, a person's mind was only on two things: doing your job and staying alive. Everything seemed to happen fast and slow at the same time. But the hardest part came after the fighting was over. I was assigned to help bury the dead. Some of them were men I had been talking to just days earlier."

Dean talked all the way to the dinner. I was invited to join the veterans as Dean's guest, and he introduced me to some great men. On the way home Dean, told more stories.

When I dropped him off, he said, "Thank you for taking time for an old man like me. I'm sure before the year's up some of those men will be leaving to join our fallen comrades."

Words could not express the honor I felt to take him, though I

tried. And I was glad I took the time to spend that evening with Dean, because only a few weeks later, I was paying honor to him, for it was he who left to join his fallen comrades.

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Photo courtesy John M. Motter

More than one fire ravaged the Citizens Bank building located on the northwest corner of San Juan and Pagosa streets. Following the fire pictured in this photo, which started in an apartment on the second floor, the two-story building was rebuilt as a one-story building.

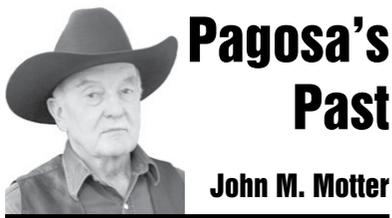
Pagosa's first bank fails and another opens

In 1908, Pagosa Springs' first bank, appropriately called The First Bank of Pagosa Springs, failed. The bank did not fail because of local mismanagement or because of lack of local support. The parent bank in Denver crashed. Consequently, Pagosa Springs was again without a bank.

An item in the January of 1908 "The New Era," an early Pagosa Springs newspaper, provided a clue as to the solution of the no bank problem.

The item read, "Fred Catchpole, formerly cashier of the First State Bank of Sterling, Nebraska, one of the soundest banks of that state, was here visiting his friends Dr. and Mrs. DeMotte and investigating conditions with a view to starting a bank at Pagosa if the place suits him and our people think he suits the place. Mr. Catchpole made the New Era a pleasant visit and assured us that he was not here to 'butt in' on any efforts of the home people to start a bank, but now since the agreement has done away with any probability of another bank being started on the assets of the first bank, he felt at liberty to start a bank with the cooperation of home people if he and they felt so generally inclined. Mr. Catchpole seems to be a man worth much to any community and The New Era hopes he will be encouraged to become one of us."

A new bank, called The Citizens Bank of Pagosa Springs, Colo-



Pagosa's Past

John M. Motter

rado, commenced business March 1, 1908. It still exists in Pagosa Springs, having survived even the Great Depression of the 1930s.

A.J. Nossaman was the first president, Fred Catchpole the first cashier and J.S. Hatcher the first vice president. Citizens Bank opened business in the building on San Juan Street formerly housing the defunct First Bank of Pagosa Springs. Mr. and Mrs. Catchpole lived in the rear of the bank building.

A two-story brick building was begun almost immediately on the northwest corner of the intersection of San Juan and Pagosa streets. Once completed in 1909, the building was occupied continuously until 1970, when it moved to a location it continues to occupy a few blocks west in the mall on San Juan Street. The building survived more than one fire. Following one of those fires, it was restored as a one-story building.

Informative.
The Pagosa Springs SUN
264-2101

The bank soon became a community landmark. The list of stockholders reads like a Who's Who of prominent Pagosa residents at the time it was built and throughout the many years to come until the present time.

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Colorado egg producers dish out the best high altitude baking tips for the holiday season

By Michele Worthington
Special to The PREVIEW

Believe it or not, the holiday season is upon us. For many, this time of year means festive family gatherings, unique traditions and, of course, all types of holiday treats.

Holiday baking is a favorite tradition for many families and the incredible, edible egg is a central ingredient in nearly every dessert recipe.

The Colorado Egg Producers (CEP) Association would like to share some helpful tips for baking at high altitude, a problem many Coloradans face during the holiday season.

"Locally produced eggs from Colorado can be used in holiday baking recipes," said Chef Jason Morse, CEP partner. "From gingerbread cookies to eggnog to Christmas-morning casseroles, eggs are very versatile and contain almost every essential vitamin and mineral the body needs. Including eggs in your holiday baking means your family is eating healthy, nutritional ingredients."

Baking in high altitudes here in Colorado can make a big impact on the end result of your dish. Why? Higher altitudes often have lower pressure, which leads to lower boiling points, faster evaporation of liquids and more rapid rising of batters when baked. Basic adjustments and a little experimentation can compensate for higher altitudes. Here are a few tips:

- Reduce the amount of baking powder the recipe calls for. For each teaspoon, decrease by one-eighth to one-quarter teaspoon.

- Reduce the amount of sugar the recipe calls for. For each cup, decrease by two to three tablespoons.

- Increase the amount of liquid the recipe calls for. For each cup, add three to four tablespoons. Eggs and butter are considered liquids.

- Fill baking pans half-full, not the usual two-thirds, as high altitude cakes may overflow.

Increase the baking temperature 15-20 degrees, unless using a glass pan, and reduce the baking time by up to 20 percent.

- For hard-boiled eggs, higher altitudes have a lower boiling

point, so eggs will need to cook longer in order to achieve desired doneness. Hard boiling at 9,000 to 10,000 feet in elevation may never fully cook through, so you may want to hard-boil your eggs before traveling to the high country.

Using these tips, along with locally produced eggs, will ensure your dish will be the hit of the holiday party. CEP suggests trying out these high altitude baking tips on this recipe for cranberry white chocolate cookies, with a bonus gift idea courtesy of the American Egg Board.

Cranberry white chocolate cookies*

Total time: 25 minutes

Servings: 40 cookies

Ingredients

- 2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1 cup white chocolate chips
- 1 package (6 ounces) dried sweetened cranberries

- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder

- 1/2 teaspoon salt

- 1/2 cup butter, softened

- 2 large eggs

- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Directions

For dry cranberry white chocolate cookie mix, combine all dry ingredients in a clear 2-quart container with a tight-fitting lid. Cover with lid. Store in a cool, dry place until ready to give as a gift.

To make the cookies right away, preheat oven to 350 degrees. Combine your container of dry cookie mix with butter in a large mixing bowl. Add eggs, one at a time,

mixing until well combined after each addition. Stir in vanilla until blended. Drop dough using a tablespoonful for each cookie onto ungreased cookie sheet. Bake for 10 to 12 minutes or until light golden brown. Let cool on cookie sheet on a wire rack for 1 minute. Remove, cool completely and enjoy.

To make a personalized gift, attach a hand-written recipe card with the ingredients and directions. The dry mix can be prepared and held in a container for up to two weeks before giving.

*Note: The measurements in this recipe are for an altitude of 5,280 feet. As you increase in altitude, please make the necessary adjustments to measurements and cooking times.

Find more holiday recipes and baking tips by following us on Facebook, Twitter and Pinterest. To learn more about CEP, please visit www.coloradoeggproducers.com.

The CEP is a membership organization representing six farms throughout Colorado.



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PAGOSA SCENE . . .

‘SING WITH THE ANGELS’

Photos courtesy Jeff Laydon

Scene ... at the Pagosa Springs Girls Choir’s holiday concert, “Sing with the Angels.” The choir presented the concert on Dec. 6 at the Community United Methodist Church and featured of holiday tunes. Joining the choir were soloists Darcy DeGuise and Jeanette Hill, the Quodlibet Handbell Choir and violinist Heidi Tanner.

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Preview Calendar

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

Thursday, Dec. 15

Dancin' and Movin' with Debbie. 9:30-10:30 a.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. What are you waiting for? Come have fun and get moving with us. For information, call Debbie Copple at 398-0606.

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.

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 any time. For teens in the 7th-12th grades. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'The SantaLand Diaries.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. What's the recipe for a hilarious Christmas season? David Sedaris' hilarious true story of working as a misguided elf at the Macy's flagship store in New York City. For tickets and more information, go to www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Pagosa Springs High School Christmas Concert. 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. The concert will feature all of the performing groups in the music department, including the concert choir, jazz band, concert band and the Piratones. Come enjoy our talented students and hear some of your Christmas favorites.

Friday, Dec. 16

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

Pagosa Stitching Group. 9:30-11:30 a.m., second floor of the Pruitt building, Pagosa Springs Medical Center. Bring your stitching project and enjoy coffee and camaraderie. All stitchers are welcome.

Musical Performance by Acoustic Picnic. 11:15 a.m.-12:45 p.m., Senior Center.

Mexican Train. 1 p.m., Senior Cen-

ter.

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

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'The Best Christmas Pageant Ever.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. When the Herdmans, the worst kids in town, somehow wrangle the leading roles in the local Christmas Pageant, it seems everything that is sacred will be lost; and yet, through this motley crew of rough and tumble kids, the true meaning of Christmas is movingly rediscovered. For tickets and more information, go to www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Saturday, Dec. 17

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 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 in everyday family life. 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.

Visit with Santa. Noon-3 p.m., Visitor Center. Get your photo taken with Santa and enjoy cookies and cocoa.

Geothermal Greenhouse Open House. 2-4 p.m., Centennial Park. The public is invited to stop by at their leisure, the tours are informal. For more information, go to pagosagreen.org.

Made to Give. 3-4:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Winter blooms — bulbs in mason jars. Materials provided. All ages. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Christmas Bird Count Wrap-Up Party. 4-7 p.m., Extension building. Participants are invited to attend the wrap-up party and chili dinner. For more information, go to www.weminucheaudubon.org or call Dottie George at 731-5759.

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'The Best Christmas Pageant Ever.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. When the Herdmans, the worst kids in town, somehow wrangle the leading roles in the local Christmas Pageant, it seems

■ See Calendar on next page

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Pepsi, e.g.
- 5 Hendrix hairdo
- 9 PR concern
- 14 Window sign
- 15 Makeup artist?
- 16 Amble along
- 17 Nitty-gritty
- 18 Put together
- 19 Chatter
- 20 Get one's goat
- 22 Kennel sound
- 23 NFL Hall of Fame city
- 24 Obesity
- 27 Fruit stand locale, often
- 30 Beat-heat link
- 31 Detailed account
- 34 Heated disagreement
- 36 Cell terminal
- 38 Jazz aficionado
- 39 Bustles
- 40 Poorly educated
- 43 After curfew
- 44 Food chewed again
- 45 Colleague
- 47 Mercury, for one
- 49 Coal, essentially
- 53 Musical sound
- 54 Game plan
- 56 Drop off
- 58 Chute opener?
- 59 Tread-bare
- 60 Cell alternative
- 61 Colored eye part
- 62 Served up a whopper
- 63 Sorority letter
- 64 Taunting remark
- 65 Whirling current

DOWN

- 1 Stand-up guy
- 2 Met production
- 3 Discover

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60						61					62			
63						64					65			

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- 4 Policy that concerns the WTO
- 5 Farmer's guide
- 6 Turin-based car company
- 7 Croupier's tool
- 8 It's found in banks
- 9 Powerless
- 10 Knucklehead
- 11 Indian spice
- 12 Part of a Don Adams TV show title
- 13 Artist's asset
- 21 Excessively
- 22 Stroll in the shallows
- 24 Tailor, at times
- 25 "Fiddlesticks!"
- 26 Brains
- 28 Temporary teacher
- 29 Eat greedily (with "down")
- 31 Booze
- 32 Invalidate
- 33 Comic book era
- 35 So-so
- 37 Series finale?
- 41 Voicemail prompt
- 42 Expire
- 46 Hightailed it
- 48 Bach composition
- 50 Cornrow component
- 51 Under the table
- 52 Simpleton
- 54 Draped dress
- 55 Corn container
- 56 Inclined
- 57 "Phooey!"
- 58 Arnold of 60's TV fame

Answer to Last Week's Crossword:

S	E	P	A	L		L	Y	E		S	L	A	T	
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Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

everything that is sacred will be lost; and yet, through this motley crew of rough and tumble kids, the true meaning of Christmas is movingly rediscovered. For tickets and more information, go to www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'The SantaLand Diaries.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. What's the recipe for a hilarious Christmas season? David Sedaris' hilarious true story of working as a misguided elf at the Macy's flagship store in New York City. For tickets and more information, go to www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Sunday, Dec. 18

Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe. 12:15 p.m., St. Peter-St. Rosa Catholic Church, 18851 Colo. 151, Arboles. Celebration with Mass and a fiesta dinner, raffle, silent auction and activities. Raffle tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5 and can be purchased from a member of the Carmelitas or by calling 883-3330.

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'The Best Christmas Pageant Ever.' 2 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. When the Herdmans, the worst kids in town, somehow wrangle the leading roles in the local Christmas Pageant, it seems everything that is sacred will be lost; and yet, through this motley crew of rough and tumble kids, the true meaning of Christmas is movingly rediscovered. For tickets and more information, go to www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

High Country Squares. 2-4 p.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Mainstream and Plus Squares dancing with Richard Berry calling. Contact person: Steve, 731-0044.

The Heralds of Christmas Concert. 3 p.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. This concert is presented by members of the Pagosa Springs Community Band. This year's concert will once again feature the Pagosa Brass Quartet.

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, Dec. 19

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

Wolf Creek Christian Writers Network. 9-11 a.m., CrossRoad Christian Fellowship. Writers are invited to hone their craft in

fiction, nonfiction and poetry. For more information, email richgammill41@wolfcreekwriters.com or call 731-2040.

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.

Otaku. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. If you are interested in anime or manga, this club is for you. Come and watch some anime with your friends and talk about your favorite manga. For youth in the 5th-12th grades. Call 264-2209 for further information.

Grinch-mas Party. 5:30 p.m., Mt. Allison Grange Hall. Come enjoy our annual community Christmas with a different twist. There will be a dinner with entertainment and games for the kids followed by a movie after dinner. For more information, go to mtallisongrange@gmail.com or contact Yvonne at 799-3064 or Shirley at 883-2483.

Tuesday, Dec. 20

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

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

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

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.

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

Read with a Ranger Holiday Edition. 2-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Join Ranger Brandon from the U.S. Forest Service as we make fun tree cookie decorations and read nature-themed books. Recommended for 6- to 10-year-olds. Call 264-2209 for further information.

Geothermal Greenhouse Open House. 2-4 p.m., Centennial Park. The public is invited to stop by at their leisure, the tours are informal. For more information, go to pagosagreen.org.

Winter Solstice. 3-8 p.m., Tara Mandala. Join us to center ourselves and open our hearts to begin the holidays, releasing our challenges from the past year and setting beautiful intentions for

the upcoming new year. Open to the public. For more information and to register, go to taramandala.org/winter-solstice.

Teen Gaming. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. X-box, Wii, board games and snacks. 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.

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'The Best Christmas Pageant Ever.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. When the Herdmans, the worst kids in town, somehow wrangle the leading roles in the local Christmas Pageant, it seems everything that is sacred will be lost; and yet, through this motley crew of rough and tumble kids, the true meaning

■ See Calendar on next page

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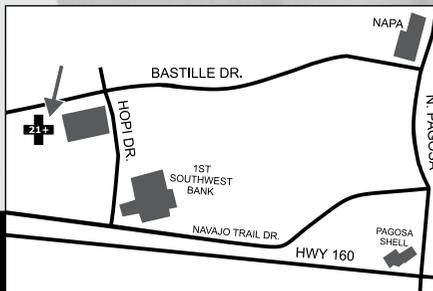
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Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page**
of Christmas is movingly rediscovered. For tickets and more information, go to www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Wednesday, Dec. 21

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

Wellness Clinic. 10 a.m., Senior Center.

Open Play. 10-11 a.m., Sisson Library. We've got plenty of fun toys, puppets, puzzles and such that will be available for this hour of open play. Socialize, pretend play, and pick up a few books while you are there. Call 264-2209 for further information.

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

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

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

The Spouses/Family of Veterans Group. 5:30-7 p.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Contact Sharon Carter, Ph.D., at 398-0883 or Charlotte at 731-1025 for further information.

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'The SantaLand Diaries.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. What's the recipe for a hilarious Christmas season? David Sedaris' hilarious true story of working as a misguided elf at the Macy's flagship store in New York City. For tickets and more information, go to www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Thursday, Dec. 22

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.

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

Hot Chocolate Hullabaloo. 4-5:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Celebrate the winter season with Hot Chocolate Hullabaloo! Design, build, and decorate your own gingerbread house, and have some hot chocolate. For all ages. Call 264-2209 for further information.

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Friday, Dec. 23

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.

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'The Best Christmas Pageant Ever.' 2 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. When the Herdmans, the worst kids in town, somehow wrangle the leading roles in the local Christmas Pageant, it seems everything that is sacred will be lost; and yet, through this motley crew of rough and tumble kids, the true meaning of Christmas is movingly rediscovered. For tickets and more information, go to www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'The SantaLand Diaries.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. What's the recipe for a hilarious Christmas season? David Sedaris' hilarious true story of working as a misguided elf at the Macy's flagship store in New York City. For tickets and more information, go to www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Saturday, Dec. 24

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.

Visit with Santa. Noon-3 p.m., Visitor Center. Get your photo taken with Santa and enjoy cookies and cocoa.

Geothermal Greenhouse Open House. 2-4 p.m., Centennial Park. The public is invited to stop by at their leisure, the tours are informal. For more information, go to pagosagreen.org.

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'The SantaLand Diaries.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. What's the recipe for a hilarious Christmas season? David Sedaris' hilarious true story of working as a misguided elf at the Macy's flagship store in New York City. For tickets and more information, go to www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Sunday, Dec. 25

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'The SantaLand Diaries.' 2 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. What's the recipe for a hilarious Christmas season? David Sedaris' hilarious true story of working as a misguided elf at the Macy's flagship store in New York City. For tickets and more information, go to www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Monday, Dec. 26

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

Wolf Creek Christian Writers Network. 9-11 a.m., CrossRoad Christian Fellowship. Writers are invited to hone their craft in fiction, nonfiction and poetry. For more information, email richgammill41@wolfcreekwriters.com or call 731-2040.

Medicare Mondays. 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Senior Center, Area Agency on Aging office. For benefits, explanation, questions and assistance for enrollment regarding Medicare parts A, B, D and supplemental policies. Call 264-0501, ext. 2 to make an appointment.

Caregiver Support Group. 10:30 a.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. The meeting is led by Elaine Stumpo, regional director of the Alzheimer's Association. For more information, call 259-0122.

Tuesday, Dec. 27

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.

Geothermal Greenhouse Open House. 2-4 p.m., Centennial Park. The public is invited to stop by at their leisure, the tours are informal. For more information go to pagosagreen.org.

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.

Wednesday, Dec. 28

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

Flow Yoga Class. 10-11:30 a.m., Ross Aragon Community Center. Please bring a mat and a towel. For more information, call Roz at

(281) 435-0563.

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

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'The Best Christmas Pageant Ever.' 2 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. When the Herdmans, the worst kids in town, somehow wrangle the leading roles in the local Christmas Pageant, it seems everything that is sacred will be lost; and yet, through this motley crew of rough and tumble kids, the true meaning of Christmas is movingly rediscovered. For tickets and more information, go to www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'The SantaLand Diaries.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. What's the recipe for a hilarious Christmas season? David Sedaris' hilarious true story of working as a misguided elf at the Macy's flagship store in New York City. For tickets and more information, go to www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

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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VA national cemeteries now offering pre-need eligibility determinations

By Raymond Taylor
PREVIEW Columnist

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) recently announced it now provides eligibility determinations for interment in a VA national cemetery prior to the time of need.

Through the Pre-Need Determination of Eligibility Program, upon request, individuals can learn if they are eligible for burial or memorialization in a VA national cemetery.

“MyVA is about looking at VA from the veterans’ perspective, and then doing everything we can to make the veteran experience effective and seamless,” said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Robert A. McDonald. “This new program reaffirms our commitment to providing a lifetime of benefits and services for veterans and their families.”

Interested individuals may submit VA Form 40-10007, Application for Pre-Need Determination of Eligibility for Burial in a VA national cemetery, and supporting documentation, such as a DD Form 214, if readily available, to the VA National Cemetery Scheduling Office by: toll-free fax to (855) 840-8299; email Eligibility.PreNeed@va.gov; or mail to the National Cemetery Scheduling Office, P.O. Box 510543, St. Louis, MO 63151.

The VA will review applications and provide written notice of its determination of eligibility. The VA will save determinations and supporting documentation in an electronic information system to expedite burial arrangements at the time of need. Because laws and personal circumstances change, upon receipt of a burial request, the VA will validate all pre-need determinations in accordance with the laws in effect at that time.

The VA operates 135 national cemeteries and 33 soldiers’ lots in 40 states and Puerto Rico. More than 4 million Americans, including veterans of every war and conflict, are buried in VA’s national

Veterans Corner

Raymond Taylor



cemeteries.

The VA also provides funding to establish, expand and maintain 105 veterans cemeteries in 47 states and territories including tribal trust lands, Guam, and Saipan. For veterans buried in private or other cemeteries, the VA provides headstones, markers or medallions to commemorate their service. In 2016, the VA honored more than 345,000 veterans and their loved ones with memorial benefits in national, state, tribal and private cemeteries.

Eligible individuals are entitled to burial in any open VA national cemetery, opening/closing of the grave, a grave liner, perpetual care of the gravesite, and a government-furnished headstone or marker or niche cover, all at no cost to the family. Veterans are also eligible for a burial flag and may be eligible for a Presidential Memorial Certificate.

Information on VA burial benefits is available from local VA national cemetery offices, from the Internet at www.cem.va.gov, or by calling VA regional offices toll-free at (800) 827-1000. To make burial arrangements at any open VA national cemetery at the time of need, call the National Cemetery Scheduling Office at (800) 535-1117.

For more information

The office of Archuleta County veterans service officer provides assistance to qualified military veterans, and their families, or a veteran’s survivors, in applying to and in obtaining VA program assistance, benefits and claims.

This assistance is provided within the guidelines, policies and procedures established by the Col-

orado Department of Military and Veteran Affairs. This is a mandated program of the state of Colorado.

For further information on VA benefits, please call or stop by the Archuleta County Veterans Service Office, located at the Senior Center in the Ross Aragon Community Center on Hot Springs Boulevard.

The best way to contact me is to set up an appointment, for either at your home or in the office, so I can schedule a specific time in order to answer and assist each veteran in Archuleta County.

The office number is 264-4013, fax number is 264-4014, cell number is 946-3590 and email is raytaylor@archuletacounty.org. The office is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Bring a DD Form 214 (discharge) for applications to VA programs or benefits for which the veteran may be entitled to enroll, and for filing in the Archuleta County VSO office.

Always leave me a message and phone number to contact you.

■ See Veterans on next page

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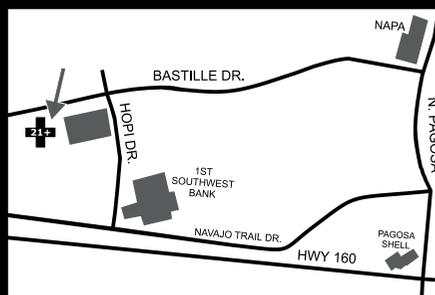
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Plants of the season part 3: the Christmas tree

By Roberta Tolan
PREVIEW Columnist

Long before the advent of Christianity, plants and trees that remained green all year had a special meaning for people in the winter.

Just as people today decorate their homes during the festive season with pine, spruce and fir trees, ancient peoples hung evergreen boughs over their doors and windows. In many countries it was believed that evergreens would keep away witches, ghosts, evil spirits and illness.

Germany is credited with starting the Christmas tree tradition as we now know it in the 16th century, when devout Christians brought decorated trees into their homes.

The first record of one being on display in America was in the 1830s by the German settlers of Pennsylvania. By the 1890s, Christmas ornaments were arriving from Germany and Christmas tree popularity was on the rise around the U.S.

The early 20th century saw Americans decorating their trees mainly with homemade ornaments, while the German-American sect

Extension Viewpoints

continued to use apples, nuts and marzipan cookies. Popcorn joined in after being dyed bright colors and interlaced with berries and nuts. Electricity brought about Christmas lights, making it possible for Christmas trees to glow for days on end. With this, Christmas trees began to appear in town squares across the country and having a Christmas tree in the home became an American tradition.

Care of cut trees

Whether you cut your own tree from the forest or buy one from the local tree lot, care should be taken to maximize the tree's freshness indoors. The following tips should help:

- Use a tree stand with an adequate water-holding capacity. A tree stand should have a water basin that

provides 1 quart of water per inch of stem diameter. For most Christmas trees, the stand should hold at least 1 gallon of water. A cut tree will absorb a surprising amount of water, particularly during the first week, so replenish the water daily.

- The tree stand should fit your tree. Some stands have circular rings at the top, so the ring must be large enough for the trunk to go through the hole. Avoid whittling down the sides of the trunk to fit a stand. The outer layers of wood are the most efficient in taking up water and should not be removed.

- If the tree is to be stored more than a couple of days before display, it is advisable to place its trunk in water and store it in a cool, shaded and protected area such as an unheated garage.

- If the tree has been cut within the past 12 hours, it will not be necessary to recut the trunk prior to display indoors. If it has been longer than 12 hours since harvest, the trunk should be recut to improve water uptake.

- Cutting off a disk of wood about

■ See Viewpoints on next page

Veterans

■ continued from previous page

Veterans' groups

The following veterans groups meet in Pagosa Springs:

- American Legion Post 108: second Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m., 287 Hermosa St.

- American Legion Post 108 Ladies Auxiliary: second Tuesday of the month at 4 p.m., 287 Hermosa St.

- Veterans for Veterans: Every Tuesday at 10 a.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church.

- Combat Veterans PTSD Group: Every other Tuesday at noon, Com-

munity United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Contact Kevin Kelly at (505) 699-0824.

- Women's Group of Spouses of Veterans: First and third Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m., Dr. Sharon Carter's office. Contact Charlotte at 903-9690.

Important numbers

- 799-VETS, www.Vets4VetsP-SCO.org.

- Durango VA Outpatient Clinic: 247-2214.

- Farmington VA Center: (505) 326-4383.

- VAMC Albuquerque, N.M.:

(800) 465-8262.

- VAMC Albuquerque, N.M., emergency notification: (800) 465-8262, ext. 5739.

- The Veterans Crisis Line offers free, confidential support to veterans in crisis, as well as their family and friends 24/7/365. Call (800) 273-8255, chat online or text 838255.

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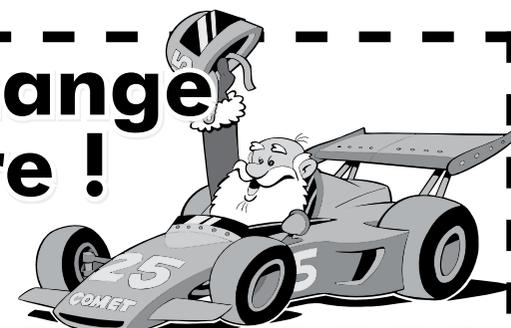
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Viewpoints

■ continued from previous page

one-quarter inch thick from the base of the trunk is all that is necessary before putting the tree in the stand. Make the cut perpendicular to the stem axis. Don't cut the trunk at an angle, or into a V-shape, which makes it far more difficult to hold the tree in the stand and also reduces the amount of water available to the tree.

- Keep displayed trees away from sources of heat (fireplaces, heaters, heat vents and direct sunlight). Lowering the room temperature will slow the drying process, resulting in less water consumption each day.

- The temperature of the water used to fill the stand is not important and does not affect water uptake.

- Check the stand daily to make sure that the level of water does not go below the base of the tree. With many stands, there can still be water in the stand even though the base of the tree is no longer submerged in the water.

- Drilling a hole in the base of the trunk does not improve water uptake.

- The use of IV-type devices to supply water directly to holes drilled into the sides of the tree trunk is not as effective as displaying the tree in a more traditional, water-holding tree stand.

- Adding water-holding gels to the stand is not beneficial and they can reduce the amount of water in the stand that is available to the tree.

- Do not use additives in the water, including floral preservatives, commercial tree preservatives, molasses, sugar, bleach, soft drinks, aspirin, honey and other concoctions. Clean water is all that is needed to maintain freshness.

- Monitor your tree for dryness. Run your fingers across the needles to determine if they are dry and brittle. If the needles break easily or fall off in your hand, the tree is dry and should be removed from the house. A well-cared-for tree should normally remain fresh at least three to four weeks before drying to an unacceptable level.

Planting live trees in the landscape

A living Christmas tree is an increasingly popular choice as they can be planted outdoors after the holidays. If this is your choice, be sure the tree and large pot will fit in your house and through the door

openings. Also consider the mature size of the tree. That cute little spruce can become a problem later if planted too close to the house or other trees.

It's best to purchase the tree a few days before Christmas, but, if you purchase it earlier, you may want to leave it in the garage for a few days before bringing it into the house. If you can, dig the hole for the tree in advance as the ground will likely be frozen when it is time to transplant. Dig the hole at least twice as wide but no deeper than the size of the rootball. Save the soil in the garage or outdoors in a black plastic bag so it is less likely to freeze. You will need this soil for backfill when transplanting.

The most important factor in the tree's survival outdoors is the length of time it is left indoors as a Christmas tree. Warmth received indoors may cause the tree to become less cold-hardy once it is moved outdoors. The less time the tree is inside, the better its chance of survival. Seven days is maximum; five is better.

Before bringing the tree indoors, give it a couple of days in the garage to ease the transition. Make sure the rootball doesn't dry out and water thoroughly a few hours before bringing it into the house. Indoors, place the tree in a cooler room, away from heat sources such as stoves, fireplaces and heat registers. If desired, you can decorate the container with foil or place it in an ornamental pot. You may want to protect carpeting from water, as the rootball probably will need water during the stay indoors. Decorate the tree with miniature lights, which develop less heat than larger lights. After five to seven days indoors, return the tree to the garage for a couple of days to ease the transition to the outdoors. Water the tree.

To transplant, remove the rootball from the container and place in the previously dug hole so the top of the rootball is slightly above ground level. Put some backfill in the hole. Remove any wire around the rootball and any burlap and rope tied around the trunk. Fill with the rest of the backfill. Water heavily to settle the backfill and be prepared to add more backfill soil if needed. Allow water to soak into the soil, and then apply a 3- to 5-inch thick mulch of straw, pine needles or wood chips over the planted area to help keep the soil moist.

Water the area at least monthly

through the winter, if we don't have snow cover. If you need to stake the tree for winter and early spring winds, remember to remove the stakes the following summer.

Information for the above article was taken from the following sources: "History of Christmas Trees," "Consider a Living Christmas Tree this Year," written by Robert Cox, CSU Extension agent, and care of Christmas tree guidelines provided by Rick Bates, Department of Horticulture at Penn State University.

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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Tree cookie decorations for kids and gingerbread house event for families

By Carole Howard
PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

On Tuesday, Dec. 20, from 2 to 3 p.m., youngsters ages 6-10 are invited to the free holiday edition of Read with a Ranger.

Join Pagosa Ranger Brandon Caley from the U.S. Forest Service to make fun tree cookie decorations and read nature-themed books.

On Thursday, Dec. 22, from 4 to 6 p.m., attend a free all-ages Hot Chocolate Hullabaloo, when you can design, build and decorate your own gingerbread house while enjoying hot chocolate. We hope you and your family will join us for this special holiday event.

Teen role-playing today

The ever-popular role-playing game for seventh- through 12th-graders takes place today, Thursday, Dec. 15, from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Use your imagination to go on adventures and battle monsters. You can join this group any time.

All-ages Christmas movie tomorrow

Enjoy a G-rated holiday movie with family and friends tomorrow, Friday, Dec. 16, from 2 to 3:30 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.

Made-to-give session

This Saturday, Dec. 17, from 3 to 4:30 p.m., adults are invited to the last of three Saturday made-to-give sessions, when you will create winter blooming bulbs in mason jars. No registration is required.

Otaku for teens

Fifth- through 12th-graders are invited Monday, Dec. 19, from 4 to 5 p.m. to come to watch some anime with your friends and talk about your favorite manga.

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.

Teen gaming

Teen gaming happens Tuesdays 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.

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 into 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 into everyday family life.

Special note about storytimes

Storytimes will be on a holiday break from Dec. 21-31, replaced by open play from 10-11 a.m. on Wednesdays, Dec. 21 and 28, for kids of all ages. We've got plenty of fun toys, puppets, puzzles and more that will be available for this hour of open playtime. Socialize, pretend, play and pick up a few books while you are here.

DVDs

"About Time" is a comedy about love and time travel. "Oklahoma!" is the Rogers and Hammerstein musical. "O Brother, Where Art Thou?" was nominated for two Academy Awards. "Pleasantville" stars Tobey McGuire and Reese Witherspoon. "The Story of Qiu Ju" is set in China. "Four Brothers" is an action drama. "Invincible" is based on a true story of a bartender who gets to play on an NFL team. "When The Game Stands Tall" is based on the true story of a football coach. "The Pilgrims" is a documentary by Ric Burns. "Free State of Jones" is based on the true

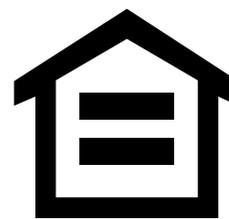
story of a defiant Southern farmer. "Game of Thrones" is the complete sixth season.

Large print

"Sex, Lies and Serious Money" by Stuart Woods is a Stone Barrington mystery. "Someone to Love" by Mary Balogh is an historical romance.

■ See Library on next page

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All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or an intention, to make such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

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

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

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San Juan Stargazers to watch video on the James Webb infrared space telescope Dec. 22

By Joan Mieritz
Special to The PREVIEW

The San Juan Stargazers will hold their regular monthly meeting on Thursday, Dec. 22, at 7 p.m. in the Pagosa Springs Visitor Center conference room, located on Hot Springs Blvd.

Refreshments will be in the form of a “birthday celebration” for one of our members, with coffee, tea

and chocolate-cherry birthday cake.

Then we will watch a video about the James Webb infrared space telescope, which will complement and extend the discoveries of the Hubble space telescope since it is considered its “scientific successor.” Orbiting through space nearly a million miles from Earth, the Webb will open up new expanses of the near and distant universe

to our view. It is scheduled to be launched October 2018.

This video will “blow your mind” when you learn the capabilities and possibilities of this telescope. I invite you to join our wonderfully curious group as we consider the future of astronomy.

We will be distributing the beautiful 2017 astronomy calendars. There may be one or two more
■ See Telescope on next page

Library

■ continued from previous page

Other novels

“Winter Storms” by Elin Hilderbrand is the conclusion to the Quinn family Winter Street trilogy. “Hero” by R.A. Salvatore is book three in the Homecoming fantasy series. “Today Will Be Different” by Maria Semple is a humorous look at motherhood, middle age and faith.

Programmed Nooks

We have nine Nooks and three tablets programmed for your e-reading pleasure. The eight e-readers with content for adults 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.

Downloadable films

For your viewing pleasure, we have 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 books and materials this week, we thank Diane Bower, Delia Ibele Mendoza Olivas, Robert Righi, Alan Saltzstein and several

anonymous donors.

Quotable quote

“The key to a happier world is the growth of compassion. We do not need to become religious, nor do we need to believe in an ideology. All that is necessary is for each of us to develop our good human qualities.” — The Dalai Lama.

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.

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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Senior Center offerings: wellness clinic, computer time, Medicare help and more

By Cheryl Wilkinson
PREVIEW Columnist

Senior News

The Pagosa Springs 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.

Computers 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.

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, Dec. 15 — Texas beef red chili, charro beans, zucchini, cornbread, salad bar and lemon bisque.

Friday, Dec. 16 — Salmon with rice pilaf, green beans, squash medley, salad bar and pineapple/orange cake.

Monday, Dec. 19 — Chicken pesto, zucchini, spinach with tomatoes, salad bar and crème

dessert.

Tuesday, Dec. 20 — Shrimp scampi, orzo, roasted eggplant, broccoli, nine-grain bread and salad bar.

Wednesday, Dec. 21 — Beef bourguignon, potatoes, carrots, green beans, mushrooms, baguette and salad bar.

Thursday, Dec. 22 — Pork baked ziti, roasted squash medley, broccoli, breadstick, salad bar and dessert.

Reservations and cancellations are required. You can make a reservation at 264-2167 by 9 a.m. the morning of the day you would like to dine in the Community Cafe at the Senior Center.

For your convenience, you can make your reservations in advance or have a standing reservation on days you know you will always attend. Please cancel if you cannot attend on your standing reservation days.

Your local news source since 1909.
The Pagosa Springs SUN
264-2101

Telescope

■ continued from previous page available for \$10. (They normally sell for much more.) Profits will go to our Scholarship Fund.

In January 2017, we will have a guest speaker who also is a Pagosa resident and solar astronomer, Stephen Keil. He has worked on the fabulous solar telescope at our National Observatory at Kitt Peak, Ariz., and he was in charge and still is a consultant on the newest solar telescope in Hawaii. We will learn

much about solar astronomy.

The San Juan Stargazers are part of the Astronomical League, which includes clubs from all over the U.S. We have a great website, www.SanJuanStargazers.com, as well as an email address, sjstargazers@gmail.com, and a club phone number, 335-8286, to help communicate with the public.

Anyone interested in learning more about astronomy is invited to come to all our events.

Deadlines*

Display advertising: Noon, Monday

Classified line ads (regular categories): 10 a.m., Tuesday

Classified line ads (Too Late to Classify): 3 p.m., Tuesday

Legal advertising: 5 p.m., Friday

Letters to the editor: Noon, Tuesday
(500 word maximum, email to editor@pagosasun.com)

Cards of thanks: Noon, Tuesday
(200 word maximum, email to editor@pagosasun.com)

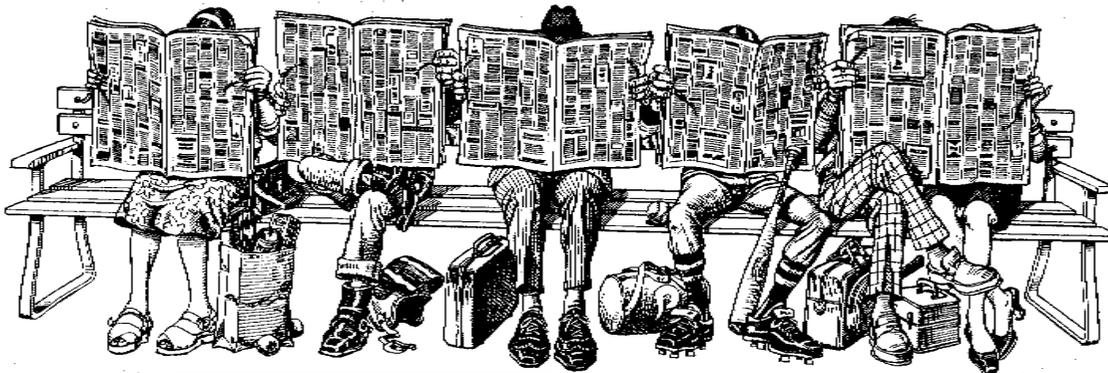
Obituaries: Noon, Tuesday
(We accommodate obituaries after this if at all possible.)

Articles: Noon, Monday
(email to editor@pagosasun.com)

*Deadlines are earlier if there is a holiday.

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264-2101

Classifieds

264-2101

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

CLASSIFIED ORDER FORM

Clip & mail with check or credit card number to P.O. Box 9, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 or bring in to the SUN office, 466 Pagosa Street. To place ad by phone, call (970) 264-2101 or 264-2100. Payment must be received by deadline. Classified deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

Name _____

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Ad: _____

INDEX

Too Late To Classify

Health Services

Services

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Lost and Found

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Wanted

For Sale

Recreational Vehicles

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PAGOSA SNOWBOARD MOVIE PREMIERE! Never Summer's 25th anniversary film featuring local talent. \$5 donation entry ticket gets you a free entry to win a NS snowboard, helmet, bindings and more. December 15 at Liberty Theatre, 7p.m.



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MEYER SNOW PLOW, 3 years old, 80"x22". Blade goes up, down and side to side. Smaller truck or SUV size, \$1,900. (970)946-3183.

PUBLIC HEARING. The Town of Pagosa Springs Town Council will hold a public hearing on Thursday, December 29, 2016 at 7:30a.m. in the Town Hall Council Chambers to amend the 2016 approved budget for the Town of Pagosa Springs. Copies of the proposed budget amendments are available for public inspection in the office of the Town Clerk in the Town Hall.

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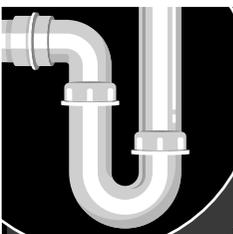
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LABORERS WANTED. Driver's license and transportation required. Call 731-1805.

SEEKING WEEKDAY NANNY FROM 10a.m.-2p.m., on Lewis St. You are welcome to bring your own child(ren). \$60 per day. Contact Lily (970)903-8386.

REPORTER- THE PAGOSA SPRINGS SUN is seeking qualified candidates. Must demonstrate aptitude for, and commitment to community newspaper journalism. Candidates must be prepared to handle deadlines, cover breaking news, report on sports and government and write features. Position is up to 30 hours a week. Send cover letter including salary expectations, resume, references and clips to Reporter Position, The Pagosa Springs SUN, PO Box 9, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, or hand-deliver them to the paper at 466 Pagosa St. Emailed submissions are acceptable (helpwanted@pagosasun.com). The Pagosa Springs SUN, Inc. is an equal opportunity employer.

HIRING EXPERIENCED AND LICENSED PLUMBERS, and plumber helpers. (970)946-7096, leave message.

REAL ESTATE CAREER. Hiring great or new talent to join growing successful team! Hourly and commission agent positions. Email resume: pagosaconnection@gmail.com. Keller Williams Realty SW Associates.

WOLF CREEK SKI AREA is seeking positions in food and beverage, lifts, retail, ski school and base ops. Send resumes and applications to wolfcreekski@wolfcreekski.com or PO Box 2800, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. See wolfcreekski.com/employment. All jobs are winter seasonal (November through April) with competitive wages.

INSTRUCTIONAL AIDE: Archuleta School District 50 Joint is accepting applications for a half-time Elementary School Special Education Instructional Aide. Job description and salary schedule information and application may be viewed and completed online through www.mypagosaschools.com.

CNA CLASS STARTING JANUARY 4. Full-time positions available. Alternating weekends off. Competitive wages and benefit package. Apply at Pine Ridge Extended Care, 119 Bastille Dr., Pagosa.

TELLER (FT), First Southwest Bank is seeking an individual that is customer and community focused, personable and team driven to join our team in Pagosa Springs. Cash handling and customer service experience is recommended. EOE. To apply, please visit our website at https://www.fswb.com/AboutFSWB/Careers.aspx.

NOW HIRING! DISTINGUISHED Automotive Mechanic- Lead position. Must have reputable experience. Certifications a plus. Please apply in person at 163 Goldmine Dr. Unit B.

DULCE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT is accepting applications for the position of Superintendent. The five-member Board of Education seeks a visionary and student-centered instructional leader who can serve as a catalyst to active learning for a diverse student population. The Board of Education is also seeking a strong leader who is able to demonstrate annual school improvement and progress for the Dulce Independent School District. **Salary:** Salary and fringe benefits negotiable and commensurate with experience. **How to apply:** Candidate must submit application documents using the online DISD AppliTrack System where all submission requirements are listed at https://www.appli-track.com/dulceisd/onlineapp/default.aspx. **Closing Date:** December 30, 2016 or until filled. For information on Dulce Independent Schools including more information on employee benefits, contact Debbie Manzanara at dfmanzanara@dulceschools.com; phone (575)759-2950; fax (575)759-3533, PO Box 547, Dulce, NM 87528.

HOMESPUN COMFORTS IS HIRING- Spa Service Technician. Responsible for addressing all facets of spa delivery and maintenance of multiple spa brands. Skills should include but not limited to knowledge of basic plumbing and mechanical skills. Applicant must possess skills necessary to perform service calls and have the ability to order parts and/or follow the inventory control system. Training will be provided to the ideal candidate. We are a drug-free workplace. Must possess a valid driver's license and verifiable work history. This is a full-time position. Please call (970)946-4673 for more information or come to the store and fill out your application, 301 N. Pagosa Blvd., B-6.

Shop the Classifieds

264-2101

Classifieds

264-2101

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HELP WANTED

LOOKING FOR AN EXPERIENCED kitchen cabinet sales person for custom kitchens, closets and garage cabinets. Must have experience with computer design software. Sales area is Pagosa Springs, Durango and Telluride. Email your experience and salary history to tim@tbcllc.net.

SEEKING RELIABLE CANDIDATES for part-time holiday and seasonal work. Must have positive attitude, no experience needed. Flexible scheduling, variety of opportunities. Call (970)264-4181 or send an email to info@highcountrylodge.com.

CUSTODIAN SUBSTITUTES: Archuleta School District 50 Joint is hiring for Custodial Substitutes. Applications must be completed online through www.mypagosaschools.com.

DELIVERY INSTALLER. EXPERIENCE PREFERRED, but will train the right person. Must be able to lift 75 lbs. Weekday work hours with weekends off. Apply in person at Pagosa Springs Sears, 2800 Cornerstone Dr.

LOOKING FOR CABINET SHOP foreman. Must have CNC router experience. Must be familiar with 32 mm dowel construction. Email your experience and salary history to tim@tbcllc.net.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

AL-ANON meets every Tuesday at 6 p.m. at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church. Saturday, 10:30a.m., 234 N. 2nd Street (CR200/ Snowball Road). www.al-anon-co.org.

PAGOSA SNOWBOARD MOVIE PREMIERE! Never Summer's 25th anniversary film featuring local talent. \$5 donation entry ticket gets you a free entry to win a NS snowboard, helmet, bindings and more. December 15 at Liberty Theatre, 7p.m.

NEW OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS meeting Thursdays, 11a.m., at Centerpoint Church, 270 Cornerstone Dr. Leslie, (970)799-0775.

STILL LOOKING FOR UNIQUE GIFTS? Local artist offers fine art, prints and other unique items online: www.juliegordon.gallery.

A.A. PRINCIPLES BEFORE PERSONALITIES GROUP meets at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Tuesday 7p.m. Big Book Study (closed); Thursday 7p.m. Discussion (open); Questions (970)245-9649, www.aa-westerncolorado.org or www.aadistrict18.org; Ken or Charlotte (970)903-9690.

A.A. PAGOSA SPRINGS GROUP. 234 N. 2nd St./ CR 200- Snowball Rd. Sunday 10a.m. (AM); 5:30p.m. open discussion; Monday 12p.m. (D); 5:30p.m. (BB); Tuesday 12p.m. (D); 5:30p.m. (M); Wednesday 12p.m. (D); 5:30p.m. (W); Thursday 12p.m. (D); 5:30p.m. (BG); Friday 12p.m. (D), 7p.m. (D); Saturday 7:30a.m. (AM), 5:30p.m. (D). (Last Friday of the month, 6p.m. potluck, 7p.m. birthday speaker meeting.) Questions, contact (970)245-9649, www.aa-westerncolorado.org or www.aadistrict18.org, or call: Ed K. 946-2606; Val V. 264-2685; Ben B. 264-0217.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS meets Saturdays at 9a.m. at 234 N. 2nd St., aka CR 200 or Snowball Road. Open meeting, various structure. Call Lyn, 903-0655, or Carl, 903-2346, to confirm we are meeting or for information.

NEW ALANON GROUP: Traditional AlAnon Group meets Fridays, 6-7p.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Dr. (325)669-9715.

PERSONALS

REPORT KNOWLEDGE OF CRIMINAL ACTS To Crime Stoppers, 264-2131. You may be entitled to a reward. Anonymity guaranteed.

HOSPICE CARE A special kind of caring. Call 731-9190.

IT CAN STOP! Let us help. 24-hour domestic violence or sexual assault hotline. Confidential. 264-9075.

PETS

CKC ADORABLE YORKIES. 10 weeks, shots, house broken and calm. Males \$800, females \$900. (970)731-2064 or (970)382-1808.

ADOPT FROM THE Humane Society. Stop by or call 731-4771. You'll be amazed at what we have to offer. www.humanesociety.biz.

DOGGY DAY CARE 81147.COM. Open 365 days of the year! Full day and half day doggy day care and overnight boarding. Conveniently located just 1 mile from downtown Pagosa. Call (970)264-9111.

LIVESTOCK

AG SERVICES: HAY LOADING- unloading, field pick up, ditch cleaning, box blade and front-end loader work. RWH Bale Handling Service. Ron, (970)264-5573.

FOR SALE: GRASS ALFALFA HAY. Barn stored, no rain. Delivery available. \$7 per bale, also 850 lb bales, \$95. (970)764-5999.

SMALL FARM HAS YEAR-ROUND or winter boarding available for 2 horses. Stall and pasture available. Personalized care for older horses. \$300 a month. Susan, 731-9333.

FOR SALE

FIREWOOD FOR SALE. SPLIT and delivered. \$175 per cord. Daniel Martinez (970)946-9201.

2013 SNOWSTAR SNOWMOBILE TRAILER. 2 custom Polaris covers, spare tire. \$950. 264-0519.

KOZI MODEL 100 PELLET STOVE. Insert model XL with gold door and trim, electrical starter, timer and more. \$500. Call (817)475-4283.

STUDDER TIRES 205/70R15, asking \$325 OBO. TV hutch, asking \$80 OBO. 2 lower arms for 3 pt. hitch, \$350. 946-2061.

MOVING SALE. RECLINER, RECLINING loveseat and couch set, \$550. Oak kitchen table with 6 chairs, \$250. All in very good condition. Studded truck snow tires, Cooper, 265/75/R16, like new. Cost new \$900, sell at \$450. (970)731-2994 or (970)317-0217.

FIREWOOD FOR SALE. SPLIT pine/ aspen/ fir mix, \$185 cord, \$110 half cord, delivered. L.S. Also pitch wood. 264-0913.

26" SNOW THROWER. Electric start, like new. 264-9118.

SIMPLY CLEAN HOUSECLEANING- Efficient and thorough! Call Erin in Pagosa (949)566-3906 to schedule a cleaning or for more information.

FOR SALE

TRIANGLE CUSTOM MILLING. All your custom milling and log needs. (970)398-0739, trianglecustommilling.com.

PREMIUM GRASS FED BEEF for sale! Order whole or half beef before December 15th for special pricing of \$1.85 per pound on live weight (plus processing fee). For details, call (214)600-5047 or email ventanadiosranch@gmail.com.

NEED FIREWOOD? Get a HUGE dump truck load of 2+ cords for \$375! Single cord loads for \$175. The wood is a pine/ spruce/ fir mix, all cut to 16" lengths and ready to burn! Contact FIRE&ICE, Firewood and Snow Removal Services, ask for Dan! (970)582-0006.

OTT'S MILL- SPECIALIZING IN hand peeled log siding and peeled logs. Rough sawn timbers and lumber. (970)533-7997.

SELECT INTERIOR GRADE BARN wood and beams. For details and pricing, (970)317-8591 or (970)563-6003.

BLACK JACK PINE SPLIT firewood. Full cord, \$170. Can cut your own rounds. (970)731-2010.

ELIMINATE HIGH HEATING BILLS. Central boiler wood, corn, pellet outdoor furnaces. Clean, efficient heat. Financing available. (575)756-2705.

SELL YOUR GUNS. Only 10% consignment fee. No hassle. Licensed, bonded, insured. San Juan Trading Post, 635 San Juan St. 731-PAWN (7296).

SHAW LAMINATE FLOORING, versalock (floating floor) style o333, color 00199, 21.12 sq. ft. to a box, 43 boxes (908.16 sq. ft.) new flooring. Paid \$1,651, will sell \$1,200. (970)731-4444.

REALLY GOOD ITEMS. NEW and almost new. One long women's wool coat, sheepskin jacket. Cashmere black suit, men's large. (970)731-2315, 965 Cloud Cap Ave.

ATTENTION CONTRACTORS AND HOME-OWNERS. Are you remodeling or tearing down? Call Durango Salvage, we buy and sell building materials. Tom, (970)749-2271, Mark, 749-8235.

ARE YOU READY FOR WINTER? Stock up that freezer now with locally raised 100% grass fed and grass finished beef and lamb, local pastured pork and free range organic chicken from GrassRoots Meats. Local pickup available on Mondays from 9:30a.m. to 3p.m. Check out our website, www.grassrootsmeats.com. For more information, call Lois at (970)582-0166.

MOVING SALE. SEARS 30" SNOWBLOWER with electric start, Toro Recycler lawn mower, 20' aluminum extension ladder, Black and Decker 20v leaf blower and weed eater, various lawn and garden tools. (970)903-0417.

AUTOS

1999 F150 V8 4X4 EXTENDED CAB. New starter, alternator, bushings, fuel pump, filter and plugs. Runs strong. Cooper tires, AC/heat work great. \$3,600 OBO. (970)264-2856.

WWW.SALSMOTORCORRAL.COM. Visit us online to view current inventory and pricing. (970)259-8170.

1997 SUBARU OUTBACK. AWD, good tires. \$1,200. (970)398-0305.

AUTOS

1999 DODGE RAM 2500. Utility bed, V-8, 4X4, good shape. \$2,500. Call (970)264-2981.

FOR SALE: 1997 DODGE 2500. Cummins diesel, 5 speed, engine has 60,000 miles, truck 180,000. \$8,000 firm. Dan Snow, 398-1212.

2013 SUBARU OUTBACK 2.5i PREMIUM, \$16,500 (Pagosa Springs). One owner, excellent condition, garage kept, automatic transmission, moon roof, heated front seats, heated mirrors, Harmon Kardon stereo, hands free phone and audio, rear camera, all weather floor mats, wheel locks and new all season tires. Call (505)263-2841.

2015 RAM 1500 BIGHORN CREWCAB. 5.7 Hemi, 33,000 miles, leveling kit, turnover gooseneck, remote start and more. Perfect except for light hail damage, save about 5K. (970)759-8032.

GUARANTEED CREDIT APPROVAL! 4X4 Auto Sales, 21698 Hwy. 160 West, Durango. (970)385-7940.

2012 GRAND CHEROKEE OVERLAND SUMMIT. 70,200 miles, hemi 5.7 engine, gold with leather interior, almost all options. \$26,000. 264-5114.

STUDDER COOPER 245/65/R17 tires. Like new on 6 bolt Chevy winter rims. \$900 value, \$700 firm. (970)903-9372.

16 FOOT FLATBED GOOSENECK. Dual axles, dove tail, ramps, new adjustable neck, new 16" rims. \$1,500 firm. Dan Snow, 398-1212,

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Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

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We are now accepting applications for 2-, 3- and 4-bedroom apartments.

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264-2195



620 LAKESIDE DR. #2. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath, large 2-car garage, furnished, water and sewer included, across from North Village Lake, walking distance to rec center and City Market. Asking \$1,450 plus utilities. Call 731-2262.

BEST VALUE IN PAGOSA. Excellent condition 1/1, 2/2 apartment homes. Convenient location, walk to uptown grocery store. 946-9187.

RENT: BEAUTIFUL 3 BEDROOM, 2-1/2 bath, two story, half duplex overlooking Lake Pagosa. Attached single garage, decks, view, hardwood floors, all appliances. Available now. \$1,250/ month plus utilities, Lease until August 1st. (970)946-1439.

NEW 3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH HOME. Open floor plan with vaulted ceilings, granite, custom cabinets, gas fireplace, high efficiency W/D, slate appliances. This is a great quality built semi custom home! Backs to open space. \$1,700 plus utilities. First, last and security deposit. (970)708-8125.

FULLY FURNISHED, INCLUDES UTILITIES, WiFi, TV. Cute 3 bedroom, 2 bath home for rent on 5 month lease starting January 1st. www.thepagosacabin.com for photos. \$1,350/ month, \$1,000 deposit. No pets, no smoking. (970)769-5075.

3 MONTHLY RENTALS AVAILABLE! 2 bedroom, 2 bath home on acreage \$1,250. 2 bedroom, 1 bath home in town \$1,200. 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with barn on acreage in town \$2,000. NextHome RMR (970)507-8655 www.NextHomeRMR.com.

STUDIO APARTMENT, PRIVATE RANCH. 12x12 storage, small fenced area for dog. \$700. 731-2010.

SADDLE MOUNTAIN TOWNHOMES. Lease available December 1st. \$1,400/ month includes water, snowplow and HOA dues. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath. Open floor plan with gas fireplace, oversize 2-car garage. Close to bike path, uptown City Market and rec center. Call Tim Fasenmyer (512)626-8499 for additional details.

MEADOWS GOLF VILLAS. 2,468 sq. ft. unit, 3 bedroom, 3.5 bath townhome, master with bath on first floor, open living area with fireplace, second floor has 2 bedrooms with baths and large loft. Close to City Market and rec center, attached 2-car garage, large deck off living room. Lease available December 1st. \$1,650 includes snowplow and HOA dues. Call Tim Fasenmyer (512)626-8499 for additional details.

2 BEDROOM, 3/4 BATH APARTMENT. Utilities included, asking \$900. Call 731-2216.

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

NEW ONE BEDROOM, KITCHEN/ greatroom/ dining/ furnished. Mountain views, no pets/ smokers. One occupant. Two miles to hospital/ shopping. First/ last month/ \$600 deposit. \$1,100 plus \$250. Includes utilities/ internet. 731-2728.

COMMERCIAL RENTALS

HIGH COUNTRY MINI STORAGE. Most sizes available. Paved, lighted, security. Behind The Outfitter. Call 264-9142.

STORAGE UNIT 10X15 IN TOWN. \$75/ month. Michael C. Branch (970)769-2036.

OFFICE/ RETAIL. LARGE PAVED parking, 2083 E. Hwy. 160. 1,500 sq. ft., reception and conference area, 4 offices, kitchen and bathroom. \$2,200 per month. 264-4210.

EXCELLENT RETAIL LOCATION. 1,500 sq. ft. Great visibility and plenty of parking in the very busy uptown City Market area. We are thriving; come and join us! Morgan, (303)475-6053.

BEST COMMERCIAL LOCATION, downtown Pagosa. Victorian building next door to Riff Raff Brewery. 1,000 sq. ft., \$800/ month. (318)347-6100.

STORAGE SPECIALS, DISCOUNTED RATES by the day, week or month. All sizes and we will beat anyone's price in town. Lets Store It. 731-0007.

AVAILABLE NOW: 2 ROOM office suite, 492 sq. ft., with all amenities including conference room, high speed WiFi. For more information, call (970)422-7161.

3 COMMERCIAL SPACES AVAILABLE at the curve at 1501 W. Hwy. 160, Put Hill, going out of town towards Durango. Asking \$1,000 plus utilities. Call 731-2216.

DOWNTOWN OFFICES IN HERITAGE building. Starting at \$200/ month, kitchen, utilities and WiFi included. 946-2728.

SUBLEASE/ SHARE THERAPY SPACE in a prime location. For further information, call (970)422-7161.

SHOP/ WAREHOUSE SPACE AVAILABLE. All or up to 4,000 sq. ft. Available January 1, 2017. Call (970)731-3046 or (970)946-5550.

EXECUTIVE ISUITES. Receptionist, conference room, Internet, utilities, paved parking, copy/ scan/ fax. 14x14 and 15x15. Office cubicle or conference room. Available hourly, 1/2 day, full day rates. Wen Saunders (970)903-0038. Keller Williams Realty Southwest Associates.

TWO ROOM OFFICE SUITE upstairs in downtown next to the Liberty Theatre in the Historic Metropolitan Hotel. \$300 per month plus deposit. Month to month rent available. Call Jacque (970)946-7636 or Nettie (480)349-1468.

PRIME DOWNTOWN RETAIL or office space. 1,000 sq. ft. high visibility storefront right on Main Street. Rare opportunity to rent this location. Great for new or expanding business. Could split into two areas. (970)264-2100, ask for Terri.

GREAT OFFICE OR SMALL RETAIL location. 650 sq. ft. Ideal for a clinic, massage, CPA or similar use. Great visibility and parking in the uptown City Market area. We are thriving; come and join us! Morgan, (303)475-6053.

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LOOKING FOR A FIXER? That's my specialty. Call me today! Sharon Crump with EXIT Realty Advantage Pagosa. (970)398-0215.

57 SETTLER DR. 3 BEDROOM, 2 bath, 2 car garage. Clean and well maintained. Fenced yard, \$234,900. See at zillow.com. (970)731-1340.

FOR SALE IN EXCLUSIVE Timber Ridge Ranch Development, with underground utilities and paved roads, beautiful log home and guest home. Over a 40- x34- over sized garage. Property has over 5,000 sq. ft. of living space. Go to cololuxuryhome.com or call (309)236-2122.

FIXER HOME- Meadows, 5 acres. Approximately 2,544 SF plus 2-car garage plus outbuilding. 4 to 6 bedroom, 2 bath. \$289,000 Details at www.SouthwestTrustInvestments.com then to "Residential Offerings."

HOUSE FOR SALE BY OWNER. 50 Woodsmen Dr. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. \$267,000. (970) 582-0305; (970)883-3127 after 5 or weekends.

BRIGHT COZY 860 SQ. FT. 2 bedroom, 1 bath cabin. 30x36, shop, electric. Room for RVs, toys. All face south. \$175K. (970)903-4410.

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INCOME PROPERTY INVESTING- passive or active. 10% to 100% returns. FREE 35 PAGE REPORT at www.SouthwestTrust.com then "services" tab.

10% SECURED ANNUAL RETURN. Seeking private \$52,000 loan on a Meadows 4, 5 acre lot. Value \$79,000. Will provide appraisal. 2 year term, interest only. Solid track record. Details from Scott, propertytrust@frontier.net.



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, or national origin, or an intention, to make such preference, limitation or discrimination."

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

PROPERTY

.31 ACRES BY OWNER. Must see. Great neighborhood. Utilities to site. Easy building site. Surveyed. Bob (970)903-7876.

RIVER FRONT PROPERTIES. Log cabin home, wells, water rights .5 cfs+, 9 acres. Against national forest, snow capped views of divide. \$479K, (970)769-3588, blancoretreat@gmail.com.

BUILD TO SUIT. Premier lot with view of Lake Pagosa. .31 acres, big trees, privacy, great neighbors. Bob (970)903-7876.

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