



PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147

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VOLUME 109 — NO. 11, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2016



Pagosa Springs Elementary School kindergarteners take to the stage for the Kindergarten Christmas Program Tuesday afternoon. All of the classes performed several musical numbers together, while individual classes presented a variety of holiday poems.

SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Fairway to fight county jail site

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

Through a letter between attorneys representing the two parties, Fairway Land Trust has indicated it plans to challenge the county's use of eminent domain to build a jail and justice center on county-owned land on Hot Springs Boulevard.

The letter also expresses discontent with the county's recent decisions and public statements.

After the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) made the decision on Nov. 15 to exercise eminent domain to remove deed restrictions attached to the parcel in order to build a jail and justice center, the county's attorney received a letter from Fairway Land Trust's attorney in-

■ See Jail A9

Public hears findings of 5th Street bridge traffic and economic studies

By Jim Garrett
Staff Writer

Presentations on traffic and economic impacts of the proposed 5th Street bridge in downtown Pagosa Springs were received by an attentive audience of interested community members at the Ross Aragon Community Center Monday evening, Dec. 5.

If built, the bridge would link a proposed 27-acre development to be located south of the San Juan River and west of Hot Springs Boulevard to U.S. 160 at 5th Street. It would also provide a new connection to carry north/south traffic between the boulevard and the highway, relieving congestion at the busy intersection of those two downtown arteries.

The proposed mixed-use development — to include a hotel, retail space and townhome/condos — is a project of Springs Partners LLC. The partnership entered into an agreement with the town in 2012, vesting rights to develop the property for 10 years.

As written in 2012, the agreement authorizes development of the 27-acre site under two alternative scenarios: with or without construction by the town of a new bridge at 5th Street.

If the town were to choose to build the bridge, the developer would provide easements for access roads connecting to Hot Springs

Boulevard, but the full cost of construction would be borne by the town. The agreement calls for a decision by the town by 2017.

However, as Mayor Don Volger explained at a public meeting last month hosted by the Archuleta County Republican Women, town council decided in fall 2015 that it "would not be fair" for the town and taxpayers to pay the full cost for the bridge and the connecting roads.

Consequently, he said the town decided to undertake to renegotiate the provisions of the agreement with Springs Partners relating to the bridge, to satisfy concerns that cost of the bridge and connecting roads "is not going to be just on us," and that "assurances" were needed that if a bridge is built, development will actually occur.

In March 2016, after the effort to renegotiate the agreement came to light, concerns expressed by members of the public over the need for and estimated \$7.5 million cost of the bridge led to the decision to retain experts to evaluate its traffic and economic impacts.

The studies were jointly paid for by the town and the Springs Partners. Findings were presented to the public for the first time Monday evening (although files of the findings were posted on the town's website late last week).

■ See Bridge A8



Photo courtesy David Smith

A Rotary program will provide a solar-powered pump to supply water to the fields in the village of Gueriguindi, Niger. At this time, the solar panels have been installed and the pump is expected to be delivered soon.

Local Rotary club works to raise farmers out of poverty in Africa

By David Smith
Special to The SUN

The Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs is recognized locally for its many programs that support and enhance the quality of life in Pagosa Springs. Current projects include scholarships for advanced studies, organization of the Fourth of July parade, the Feed Our Children Program, providing dictionaries to third-grade students and more.

The Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs is also helping to improve the quality of life in some of the poorest countries in the world. It has recently joined with Rotary clubs in

■ See Poverty A8



Photo courtesy David Smith

Planting moringa trees. A nursery for starting onions and moringa trees has been established in the village.

County selects consultant to update housing assessment

By Marshall Dunham
Staff Writer

On Tuesday, Dec. 6, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) voted to select Economic & Planning Systems (EPS) as the entity to update the 2008 Archuleta County Housing Needs Assessment.

"Over the course of the past few months, Archuleta County and the Town of Pagosa Springs have been engaged in conversations regarding affordable housing issues, and actually set up a task force to have further conversations on those issues," explained County Administrator Bentley Henderson to the BoCC. "One of the results of those conversations was an agreement between the town and the county to pursue contracting a consultant to update our existing housing needs assessment."


Continued Henderson, "Recently, the town has facilitated the request for proposals for those consultants, and I believe we received three proposals with the selected firm being Economic Planning Consultants."

Henderson went on to explain that EPS was the firm that did the original housing needs assessment in 2008.

"We felt that their experience and history with our county made them a leading candidate," said Henderson. "As you can see from the information provided, the county will be obligated for \$17,490, roughly, for our share of that assessment."

Henderson stated that those funds had been budgeted for 2017, and that the Town of Pagosa Springs would also match with the

■ See Housing A9

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Opinion

EDITORIAL

Strengthening bridges

Monday night's public meeting pertaining to the proposed 5th Street bridge was cordial and respectful.

The purpose of the meeting was to present the traffic and economic impact studies performed by consultants who were hired by the town and the developer, Springs Partners LLC.

Concerned citizens asked questions and provided valuable input.

Prior to the meeting, the town made good on its promise to post the studies on its website and even scheduled time for the media to interview the consultant who performed the economic study.

The following are a few observations we had:

- The public gathering of somewhere between 75 and 100 people was an incredible turnout for a local public meeting, but when you consider possibility that the town could spend \$7.5 million on a bridge to benefit a private developer's currently vacant property, we hoped that more citizens would show interest.

- When one looks at the traffic study, it takes into consideration the "probable" full buildout of not just the Springs Partners' property, but "other key future development parcels within the downtown area." Those key parcels cited actually extend south of Pagosa Springs down Light Plant Road quite a way. In the 125 years the town has been incorporated, those areas haven't experienced much, if any, development. We ponder why they would experience full buildout in the next 20 to 30 years.

- Interestingly, the study basically showed inadequate levels of service for area intersections whether a bridge is built or not. We question the need for the town to invest \$7.5 million for a bridge that doesn't bring better solutions to our traffic challenges.

- The economic viability of a walkable community was stressed during the meeting. We already have three pedestrian bridges that cross the river. How far could \$7.5 million go toward improving area roads and sidewalks to make a more inviting and walkable community?

- We learned that perhaps the efforts to start a downtown development authority (DDA) on a different scale than what was attempted earlier this year by a group of concerned citizens should be reconsidered.

- We also discovered that a metro district could be beneficial for a development such as the one proposed by the Springs Partners.

The consultants will be continuing their work in the community and we are certain there will be additional concerns and solutions that arise from future community conversations.

There's tremendous potential economic benefit for the town and community from a development that is done right.

This week, the Town of Pagosa Springs also started a six-month process to update its Comprehensive Plan. Consultants and staff met with 12 groups of stakeholders within the community to discuss the town's strengths, weaknesses, concerns, goals, opportunities and overall vision that each person would like to see for Pagosa Springs. There will be additional opportunities to get involved, including several public open houses, public meetings and surveys.

Pagosa Springs is our community. We need to all step up and participate in the Comprehensive Plan update process so that we don't look back someday and find that costly decisions were made that we don't agree with.

One interesting suggestion that came from the Monday night bridge meeting was that it might be best for the 10-year vested rights agreement with the Springs Partners to be torn up and that we start over from scratch to make it a win-win agreement.

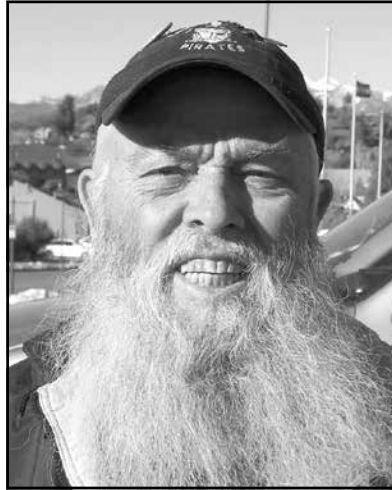
Terri Lynn Oldham House

WHADDYA THINK?

What gift would you like most this holiday?



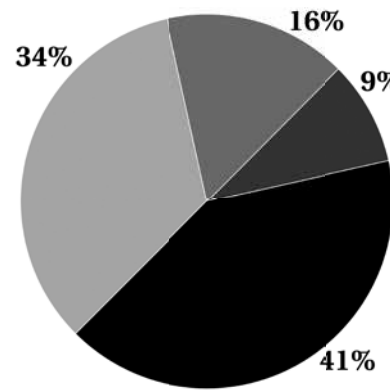
Sandra Hill
"I'd like to see my family ... but I could also use a puppy."



Joe Bob Leake
"To see all of my family together in one place."



Mary Webb
"Peace, happiness and good health for everyone."



Poll results (109 Votes)
My two front teeth — 9 percent
World peace — 41 percent
Time with friends and family — 34 percent
A Hatchimal — 16 percent

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LOOKING BACK



From the Dec. 21, 1967, Pagosa Springs SUN. CHRISTMAS RUSH — The local post office was just about snowed under the first of the week by the deluge of mail, both incoming and outgoing. Over 300 bags of parcel post were received in about four days and a great many bags of first class mail. In addition the outgoing mail was also heavy. Dick DeVore, postmaster, left and Chuck Woods, right, are shown sorting some of the parcels. In addition Mrs. Melvin Sorrels and Mrs. Tony Gallegos, postal employees, helped with the overflow mail.

LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

90 years ago

Taken from SUN files of December 3, 1926

Six violations of the game laws came to the attention of the forest office this year. Of this number four resulted in convictions. Forest officers serve as game wardens without pay. The country is too large to cover by forest officers alone, however. The state should have wardens in this section, Mr. Hutton believes.

Apparently the heavy snow storm of last week has closed for the winter both the Cumbres and Wolf Creek Pass highways. We understand that cars can get out by way of Lumberton, Chama and Espanola, however.

The Pagosa Springs High School basketball team left early this morning, in charge of Supt. V. H. Rowland, for Silverton, where they will engage in a game with the school team of that place tonight.

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of December 12, 1941

Less than a dozen volunteers were out to help install the new ski tow on the north side of Rubideau Hill last Sunday. However this was enough to get the job done as well as test out the new machine. Joe Hersch and his big black team featured the day by pulling the 1200 foot of heavy ropes into place after which the team was used for clearing both courses of logs.

Wartime need of the American Red Cross brought an appeal to Archuleta county Tuesday to raise a special fund of \$700 immediately, in addition to the money already raised through the annual roll call of the organization. The appeal came in a telegram received by Ernest E. Smith county Red Cross chairman.

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of December 8, 1966

A big change in the weather hit this area Saturday morning when a storm moved in that dumped plenty of snow and more than enough rain. Here in town it started snowing at about six a.m. Saturday morning and has continued intermittently since that time. The snow turned to rain at times and a large amount of precipitation has been recorded. The Tuesday night reading at the U.S. Weather Observation Station showed that a total of 3.16 inches of moisture had fallen up until 5 p.m. that date. Another .75 inches had been recorded at press time late Wednesday.

The strains of Christmas carols will echo through the streets of Pagosa Springs on the evening of December 14th as County 4-H members, parents and leaders get together for the annual County 4-H Christmas Party.

25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of December 12, 1991

School District 50 Joint Board of Education adopted a transitional fiscal year (January to June 1992) budget Tuesday totalling \$5,979,617. The need to adopt a six month budget was produced by recent legislative decisions regarding statewide school funding. Superintendent Terry Alley said Wednesday that changes in school funding law will be one likely outcome of the upcoming session of the Colorado Legislature and said "school funding after June 30, 1992 is pretty much an unknown right now."

Archuleta County Commissioners cleared lines of communication between local law enforcement, public service entities and county sheriff Tuesday before relinquishing management of the Archuleta County Communication Department to the sheriff department.

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12/2	34	10	-	-	-
12/3	37	16	S	T	.01"
12/4	39	8	-	-	-
12/5	41	14	-	-	-
12/6	34	13	-	-	-

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TO TEACH OR NOT TO TEACH

YOU CAN ORGANIZE A STRESS WORKSHOP FOR THE TEACHERS...

Barry

Letters

Election process

Dear Editor:
The debate has started again as to whether the U.S. Constitution should be amended in order to change the presidential election process.

Some promote eliminating the Electoral College in favor of a direct popular vote for president while others believe the Electoral College should remain unchanged. Just as compromise solved the initial problems of the framers so it is that compromise can solve this problem. The solution is to change the electoral votes to electoral points and reward each candidate a percentage of points based on the percentage of popular votes received in each state.

This would eliminate the "winner take all" system thus allowing for all the votes to count. A voter is more apt to believe their vote counted when a percentage of popular votes are taken into account rather than the "all or nothing" system currently in existence. Further, this new system would integrate the desire for a popular vote for president with the need for the individual states to determine who actually gets elected.

As for political primaries, the number of delegates awarded in each state should be determined by the percentage of votes won by each candidate.

For 2016, multiplying the percentage of votes each candidate received (in each state) times the number of electoral votes (in each state) results in the following: Clinton 256.985 and Trump 253.482.

Joe Bialek
Cleveland, Ohio

Going backward

Dear Editor:
If we want to make America great again, ideology can only live in the past. Look the on-going left/right fight has been over philosophical human challenges. Our founding fathers wrote the American charters not to reflect their owning slaves but whether future generations could overcome the contest between thousands of years of tribalism vs. a new form of democracy where everyone could pursue ... life, liberty and

happiness. Some thought however fuzzily that mankind could achieve this goal.

Why so, let's just look at the biggest driver for immediate change, which is Artificial Intelligence (AI) whose capability is boundless. AI's most immediate threat is taking the jobs we see as labor, specifically, low paying and mid-level programable jobs. How so, well programming is literally at the point of human dexterity. Combine that with their accelerating intelligence and humans lose jobs. That means three things: the work ethic as an ethos for the majority fades along with its ladder to success; corporations will stop chasing low-wage countries and will seek low-cost renewable energy; finally economic immigration dives as wage opportunity declines. With these changes, a very significant number of Americans, mostly in the "rust-belt/red states" will move into a state of "welfare existence" (lots of free time and guess what, those folks will want a free single-payer medical cover. When these changes occur, we're not going to care whose left or right, our fear will be who controls AI. That fear will boil down to who do you trust ...?

Next, simultaneously with climate change, global competition will ramp up dramatically for dwindling resources; regional wars could make dramatic demands on national funds. The developments in AI will only increase the "power-of-one," thus terrorism will pose an ever-greater threat, driving our fear factor to take away all levels of citizen privacy. When given a choice mankind almost always chooses security over the challenge of freedom, so the right is intuitively our default position ... wala (sic), Trump wins the election.

Americans are globally unique in denying climate change. Like it or not, our most important immediate choice to avoid much of this chaos impacting the U.S. depends on accepting climate change and shifting significant resources, private and public, into continued innovation for renewable energy. To incent all levels of GDP and thus benefit our economy may well totally depend on tax incented energy innovation: example, coal is the cheapest energy but nationally only employees 75,000, renewable energy employees' 550,000 in California alone at a near comparable price point.

The most likely time frame for these changes to begin to impact is in the next five-15 years. Ideology and retro energy will only retard any effort to win this competition. After Trump's election, the world instinctively turned to China and Germany, guess who's no longer at the leadership table. Really want to make America great again or were you just part of a fearful crowd going backward?

Dave Blake

Hospital care

Dear Editor:
Unfortunately, my husband has spent five days in our local, hometown hospital due to pneumonia, cancer and the effects of strong chemotherapy.

He was taken to the Pagosa Springs hospital by efficient emergency medical technicians. In the hospital he had the most thoughtful and excellent care possible.

When his blood was dangerously low the very professional nurse Phil and Dr. Wisneski jumped into emergency mode and brought Norm back from passing.

While he was being cared for, I saw nothing but experienced and concerned professionals attending to his every need. Everyone from the diet technician Kim, to the

doctors and nurses who attended to him, are people that you could call friends. The staff truly did their very best for Norm, even though he was a bit grouchy.

I wish to thank them all and encourage our community to support our hospital in every way.

Janet (Meyer) Karn

Progressive mold

Dear Editor:
Some time ago, I asked that my liberal acquaintances describe for me their principles. What guides them? In what do they believe? I've had no response.

After more contemplation I have arrived at some conclusions and understand why those acquaintances don't care to answer.

I believe that the modern liberal, perhaps neo-liberal as they are certainly not the classical liberals of the time of the Founders; or today's progressives if you will, are possessed of a terrible narcissism in that they believe that they know best for all of the rest of us. They know best how we should live, what we should drive, what we should eat and they certainly know best how we should spend our money. They seek to bestow the blessings of their omnipotent brilliance upon you and me. They believe that the state is superior and through the application of their brilliance the state will take from us all that we have and then give it back as they, in their beneficence, deem appropriate. The only way to accomplish this is through control of the masses and to control requires power.

That is what they believe. The end result is power and, to achieve that end, any means is justified. There is no lie too big. In their case, the end does justify the means. They are willing to proceed without restraint or conscience. The only constraint on falsehood is fear of backfire; therefore, the grievous lies told about J. Paul Brown.

To claim that J. Paul sought to give Western Slope water to the Denver area is absurd on its face. For crying-out-loud, J. Paul is a rancher who understands the importance of water better than most. His efforts have been focused on storage of East Slope water, to which they already have rights, so they will quit diverting water from the Colorado River Basin.

In working J. Paul's campaigns, I know that he would not permit such egregious, false advertising as that which was used against him.

I also thought Barbara McClachlan was better than this. I guess she fits the progressive mold.

George Thompson
Durango

Health care

Dear Editor:

In the 1800s, folks were given "recipes" to use for all kinds of illnesses — had to go out and purchase several different roots, cook them, prepare them, etc. Then during the early 1900s, things got better as meds came in tablets and pills already prepared for us. But, things were still pretty worrisome. The elderly continued to die from the flu, the horrors of polio were a threat, and during the five years, 1950-1955, I lost both of my parents to cancer, my three little ones all suffered through chicken pox, measles, mumps and one even had scarlet fever, a truly bad one — docs put the whole neighborhood on sulfa drugs to keep it from spreading. Thank goodness, I didn't have to deal with whooping cough, small pox and diphtheria — there were vaccines for those.

Today polio has nearly been defeated, cancer is being controlled and in many cases, cured. Parents no longer have to fear those hor-

rible childhood diseases, and the elderly are protected from the flu. Great primary care is where your health care begins — preventive care through vaccines and annual checkups. Soon our new facility will be dedicated and our physicians, nurses and staff who have "hung in there" through the construction period, will continue to provide our community with "top notch," easily accessible health care to all, regardless of age, right here at our back door.

Blessings to all.

Patty Tillerson

Slow Internet

Dear Editor:
I was thrilled to read in the Dec. 1 SUN about the Smart Growth America (SGA) award coming to Pagosa Springs. Especially for a town of our size, this kind of recognition and assistance are a tremendous blessing. In this moment, when no small amount of anticipation rises on the coming partnership with SGA, I see an important opportunity.

I am employed by a small not-for-profit business in Archuleta County. Though we are located outside the bounds of the town, we are dependent on the infrastructure and economic engine of Pagosa Springs for much of our work. Like so many of our friends in the town, we depend on CenturyLink for our Internet access.

We have had a poor experience with this Internet provider. Like many anecdotes told to us by friends and businesses in Archuleta County, we have slow Internet speeds and frequent, unexplained outages. These difficulties cost us precious time and money. But at present there is no other viable option for internet service available to us.

In Jim Garrett's Dec. 1 article, Mayor Volger is quoted saying that Pagosa has "many infrastructure and community enhancement projects underway," and that SGA's work will help "continue this trend." I hope so. I also want our community to recognize something about

■ See Letters A4

SEASON'S GREETINGS



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Letters

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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.

Christmas Specials!

Two great offers back by popular demand - just in time for the holidays ...

Happy Feet

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This is a relaxing, clothes-on treatment that focuses "solely" on overworked feet.

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C. Milwaukee Sawzall Reciprocating Saw
238156

\$199.99
D. Milwaukee M18 Compact Driver & Impact Driver Combo Kit
Includes 2 lithium-ion battery packs, charger and tool case. 238156

\$49.99
E. Greenlee Rotary Tool Kit
238156

\$89.99
F. Craftsman 127 Pc. Mechanic's Tool Set
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\$149.99
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Obituaries



Alva Ann Council Williams

Alva Ann Council Williams was the youngest of five children born to the late James Russell Council and Estella Webber Council in Boley, Okla. Her late father, James Russel Council, was the first black county agriculture agent in the state of Oklahoma. Alva was born April 22, 1926, and departed Nov. 29 at Pine Ridge Extended Care in Colorado.

Alva attended Boley schools and graduated from Langston University in Langston, Okla., in 1948. She got married in 1950 to Herman Williams. The union produced a son, Daryl C. Williams.

She taught first and second grade for 33 years in the Kansas City School District. It was one of the passions of her life. She was also a member of Allen Chapel A.M.E. Church in Kansas City for 57 years and held several positions.

She leaves in mourning her son, Daryl Williams, and her daughter-in-law, Lisa Williams; grandson Daryl E. Williams; nieces Brenda Mercomb and Staci Seely; and three great-grandchildren.

James Peter Carey

James Peter Carey, resident of Pagosa Springs for 18 years, passed away on Nov. 21 in California. Jim was born in 1938 in Detroit, Mich., grew up in southern California and attended Santa Monica High School. He was a pilot for Flying Tiger Line and Federal Express Airline before retiring in 1998.

Jim leaves his wife, Pat; daughter Eleanor; son Peter; sister Jean; grandchildren Jennifer, Rachel and Zac; and nieces Sarah and Laura.

Richard Warren Rogers

Richard Warren Rogers, 82, of Pagosa Springs, died on Nov. 5 at home surrounded by his family. He was born Dec. 5, 1933, in Bayard, N.M., to William Coleman and Bessie (Hayes) Rogers. On July 28, 1953, he married Dora La Vonne Kelley in Telluride, Colo. Richard enjoyed fishing, hunting, logging and being in the mountains.

Papa will be missed and lovingly remembered by his family: daughters Loretta (Mike) Stisher, Ellen (Roy) Jensen and Tammy (Kenny) Hatfield; son David Rogers; sister Julie (Gerald) Wareham; grandchildren Brett (Haley) Larson, Kandra Sosa, Mandy (Bryan) Roberts, Corey Larson, Allysynn Stisher, Daniel Sosa, Krista (Jonathan) Goss, Aimee Stisher, Renee (Hugo) Lopez, Jason Rogers, Alicia

Rogers, Nathan Rogers and Valerie Rogers; many great-grandchildren; as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father, William Rogers; mother Bessie Rogers; son Gary Rogers; brothers William "Bill," Jimmy "JC," Preston "Doc" Rogers; and sisters Amy Boggs, Emma McCoy, Mildred Clevenger and Ginger Fuller.

Cremation has taken place. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to St. Jude in Richard's name.

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@pagosasun.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.

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Letters

Continued from A3

21st-century infrastructure: A community with excellent roads, affordable power, and bad Internet access is doomed to fail.

I dream about municipal wireless access in Pagosa (like Akron, Ohio; El Paso, Texas; or Lawrence, Kan., to name just three). This may be beyond the horizon at which our town board is gazing. But at very least, as SGA begins its work with us, I hope that better options for Internet access will be in the center of the conversations. The "smart growth and stronger economies for generations to come" that SGA speaks of depends on it.

Emrys Tyler

Pagosa puzzle

Dear Editor:

I want to thank the two presenters from Monday night's Town Council Work Group regarding the proposed 5th Street bridge and the hotel/spa/condo development of the 27-acre parcel: it was very informative.

Our community needs growth and investment to keep us viable. Without growth, we lose our tax dollars to other communities with better amenities; without tax dollars, we can't create projects that improve the lives of all of our citizens. So developer and community investment is critical. I appreciate developers who want to invest in our town. However, I feel this proposal is only one piece in the Pagosa puzzle. While building a new hotel, spa and residential areas will bring in new dollars to our community we must match it

with community amenities, experiences and support services to keep visitors happy and returning.

The obvious problem is limited resources for the town to invest their share to get maximum impact. The bridge itself would cost between \$5 million and \$7 million and could be necessary as the town develops and builds out projected areas south of U.S. 160, but I'm not sure the timing is right now. I feel improvement and development of a central retail and housing district is equally important. Visitors want a walking/shopping/dining district to complete their experience. With that expansion comes new jobs, and with that is a further requirement for affordable housing for those people that make those amenities work. A vibrant shopping district behooves all parties. A creative plan could be drawn up that incorporates nearly abandoned Lewis Street with main street and central parking in the alley between. These are the other pieces to the Pagosa puzzle.

I would like to encourage our town council to consider a broader community plan that incorporates these ideas, along with the 27-acre development, giving guests and residents a total Pagosa experience.

Lynne Vickerstaff

Great again

Dear Editor:

Typically, Mr. Blake (letters 12-1-16) again skews political facts. Democrats claim that Hillary Clinton lost the election because of the Russians or neglecting the middle class. Truthfully, before the election, the populace overwhelm-

ingly rejected Obama's socialism and establishment politicians and craved an outsider.

Along came Donald Trump, a desperately needed proven innovative leader, who outlasted 17 rivals in debates and Hillary Clinton in three despite her having received the debate questions in advance.

The street riots were perpetrated by Mr. Soros who paid participants \$1,500 apiece and over 75 percent of whom did not vote.

Trump has already helped the economy by preventing Ford Motor Company's relocation to Mexico and influencing Carrier's retention of 1,100 workers in Indiana. Too, he is legally transferring company ownership to his family (no conflict of interest).

As Trump avers truthfully, the No. 1 priority of Democrats for costly remediation, global warming, is a hoax. Recently a scientific graph was published demonstrating steady global cooling over the last 200 years, and today many scientists are denying the veracity of the claim. Also, some tourist cruises have been canceled because of increased ice.

Contributing to Hillary's defeat was her deceitfulness such as claiming that she had no confidential material on her one personal server. Actually, she illegally had many which the FBI verified had top secret and classified items. She also claimed memory loss (lies?) 47 times at her FBI hearing.

Trump's claim of voting irregularities is correct. Many voters in Texas, Pennsylvania, Nevada, and elsewhere, experienced their

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Business



Free book aimed at enriching main street

Special to The SUN

When you travel on streets bustling with people and activity, you tend to see lively storefronts and sidewalk cafes with people walking their dogs, kids on bicycles and friends conversing. Even though you're on the street, you sense it's a special place. It might be a main street that also serves as a highway, or a neighborhood street. But you feel the energy of the community by the activity around you.

These types of great streets are the subject of the new publication "Colorado Downtown Streets." Produced by the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA), the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) and the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), the book is a tool for communities, planners and engineers and is intended to help move the conversation around designing down-

town streets as special places, while balancing transportation needs.

Main streets often reflect a community's identity since that is where people live, shop and visit. But they also often provide a center for activity that can improve a city or town's economic and physical health.

"The preservation of local main streets is critical to the economic growth and stability of a community's central business district. DOLA is proud to collaborate with agency partners to help streamline the planning and execution of vital downtown streets" said Irv Halter, DOLA executive director.

"Colorado Downtown Streets" is a resource to help guide downtown street design. It provides the reader with common language, elements and colored illustrations of great streets, as well as examples and case studies that are specific to Colorado. In addition, the book provides tips

and strategies to understanding transportation planning, design and funding.

"Typically, great streets provide options for all users," said CDOT Executive Director Shailen Bhatt. "We have many communities in Colorado that rely on a state highway to be its main street. This book helps communicate the fine balance in designing to move people as well as goods into and through a community."

"Communities that provide safe, easy access to walking and biking are investing in the health of all Coloradans," said Dr. Larry Wolk, CDPHE executive director and chief medical officer.

"Colorado Downtown Streets" is available as a download by visiting the DOLA Main Streets Program website at <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/dola/main-street-resources>. In addition to the book, there are four animated videos that provide an interesting and entertaining way of presenting main streets information.

CHAMBER NEWS

2017 Chamber board of director candidates announced

By Mary Jo Coulehan
SUN Columnist

The 2017 slate of Chamber board candidates has been announced. After the submitted forms were reviewed and accepted, the following candidates will be running for the Chamber board: Leanne Goebel, manager of Lantern Dancer Gallery; Jim Hayes, co-owner of The Hub Bike Shop; Dan McPherson, co-owner of Sunetha Property Management; Jennifer Pitcher, community lifestyle director at Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association (PLPOA); Christie Spears, co-owner of Wolf Creek Broadcasting; and Jenelle Syverson, owner of The Choke Cherry Tree.

Three of these candidates will be selected by the Chamber membership to fulfill a three-year commitment as a board member representing the business community.

Voting for these candidates is open to the Chamber membership both online and in person. Voting will continue until Jan. 3, 2017, and the winners will be announced at the Chamber annual Membership Gala on Jan. 2.

If you would like to vote online, you will need to click on the link sent to you through the email you received from the Chamber. Since voting is only for Chamber members, please read and open one of the many reminders you will receive. Ballots are also available at the Chamber if you would like to vote in person. Remember, there is only one ballot per business allowed.

The candidates' bios are listed with the voting form. Please look at their bios and select the candidates not just because you know the person, but also vote for the talent

that can enhance the depth and breadth of knowledge representing the business community on the Chamber's board.

If you have any questions concerning the voting process, please contact the Chamber for assistance.

Community Award nominations

The 2016 Community Award nomination forms are now available for Citizen, Volunteer, Non-Profit and Small Business of the Year.

Every year, we ask community members to stop, take a look around you and thank another community member for their efforts in making Pagosa Springs a better place to live through their business, organization, volunteerism or community contribution. People in Pagosa Springs continue to give back to our community in so many ways and they do so without expectation of reward or recognition. This is the time that residents should say thank you for all the gifts we reap.

Some common requirements of the awards is in every category: The person or business must be in Pagosa for at least three years. The work that Volunteer and Citizen of the Year nominees perform must be outside of their normal scope of work or job and the winners can be an individual or a couple. The Citizen of the Year must have impacted the community in one of the following ways: philanthropic, lifestyle, economic or cultural. Small Business award nominees must have a reputation of quality service, employee care, have under 20 employees and be a leader in the business community.

It is often hard to take the time to

sit down, write and submit something about a person or business. But, because you perform this effort, the recipients are often more grateful because someone actually did take the time to thank them for the "work" they do in their community. Please take that time this year to say thank you to a person, couple or organization.

Forms are located on the Chamber website at www.pagosachamber.com on the homepage. Just click on the link to access the form. We can also email or fax you a form or stop by the Chamber to pick one up. Community Award forms are due at the Chamber by the close of business Tuesday, Jan. 3. Don't keep saying, "I'm going to do it or I should have nominated so and so" — do it.

Last week for Economic Outlook Survey

This is the last week that the 2017 Economic Outlook Survey will be available. The survey closes on Dec. 15. The survey is located on both the Chamber and Community Development Corporation's websites, with it being located on the home page of the Chamber site and on the blog page of the CDC site.

The questionnaire takes about three minutes to complete and gives survey takers the opportunity to comment both positively and on ways we can improve the way we do business in Pagosa, the region and in the state.

The results will be compiled and areas of interest or concern reported to various agencies in the attempt to improve business practices in our community. Let your voice be heard. Please take a few minutes to weigh in on doing business in Pagosa, or starting or growing your business in Pagosa.

Membership news

As we round out 2016, the Chamber has lots of exciting plans for 2017. We will really be challenging our businesses to look at their Chamber benefits. Most businesses underutilize the Chamber benefits and these are benefits that could help your business gain exposure through marketing efforts, exposure and business connectivity. Don't let your benefits go to waste, make them work for you through your Chamber membership.

Tickets for the 2017 Chamber Membership Gala, slated for Jan. 21 at the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association Clubhouse, will go on sale soon. Don't miss out on a fun night and lots of celebration.

This week, we welcome Mind of Megan. Renewals this week include La Plata Electric Association, Adobe Abodes, Good Earth Meds, Homespun Comforts, Pagosa Ski

■ See Chamber A6

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Soria, Dodson to speak at Republican Women's meeting

By Martha Peacock
Special to The SUN

Featured speakers on Dec. 13 at the Archuleta County Republican Women's monthly meeting will be Christine Soria and Matt Dodson.

Soria moved to Pagosa Springs in May of this year and is currently working with the Archuleta County Victim Assistance Program. She brings experience to her position from work in the social services field ranging from the Texas Na-

tional Guard, a rape crisis center where she provided therapy to victims and perpetrators, and service in the Peace Corps.

During her two years of service in the Peace Corps in Moldova is where Soria began her work with human trafficking. While there, she helped design curriculum and making presentations throughout the country to educate youth and community members about risk and prevention.

Dodson, the second speaker, is the director of the Archuleta Coun-

ty Department of Human Services (DHS) and is on the Colorado Initiative regarding human trafficking.

With over 18 years experience in human services and social services, he heads up the department's assistance programs designed to focus on families and individuals toward financial self-sufficiency. The department's focus is a community-based program that is culturally responsive, strength-based and a client-focused approach.

In addition to his duties as direc-

tor of DHS, Dodson is a member of several other boards and represents southwest Colorado in numerous child welfare committees and work groups that influence policy development and reform.

The Archuleta County Republican Women will be meeting at Boss Hogg's Restaurant on Dec. 13 at noon, with doors opening at 11:30 a.m. Everyone is invited to attend. Lunch will be offered for \$12. For more information, email acrwpagosa@gmail.com.

Public Meetings

The following meetings are subject to change.

Friday, Dec. 9

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

Monday, Dec. 12

Pagosa Area Geothermal Water and Power Authority meeting. 5 p.m., Town Hall, 551 Hot Springs Blvd., or commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St.

San Juan Water Conservancy District regular bi-monthly meeting. 7 p.m., district offices, 46 Eaton Drive, Suite 5.

Tuesday, Dec. 13

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

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

Archuleta School District Board of Education regular meeting. 6 p.m., Pagosa Springs

Middle School library, 309 Lewis St.

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

Wednesday, Dec. 14

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

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

Tuesday, 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.

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

BoCC appoints Lisa Jensen to planning commission

By Marshall Dunham
Staff Writer

Lisa Jensen has been appointed to serve on the Archuleta County Planning Commission by the Board of County Commissioners (BoCC).

The appointment was made during a regular BoCC meeting on the afternoon of Tuesday, Dec. 6.

"The Archuleta County Planning Commission bylaws provide for staggered three-year terms of membership with the next term available for one seat to expire Nov. 1, 2019," explained Archuleta County Planning Manager John Shepard.

Shepard went on to explain that the person who currently holds the seat on the commission, Peter Adams, wasn't interested in renewing his seat.

"Two local residents have expressed interest in serving," said Shepard. "At their meeting on Nov. 16 of this year, the planning commission recommended 3-0 the appointment of Lisa Jensen effective Jan. 1, 2017."

The other applicant was Pagosa Springs resident Bill Hudson.

During the planning commission's meeting on Nov. 16, Jensen attended, but Hudson was not



Lisa Jensen

there due to being in another meeting.

The chair of the planning commission, Michael Frederick, asked why Jensen wanted to serve on the planning commission.

"I've lived here for 16 years, and built a house when I first moved here," said Jensen, adding that, when she first moved to Archuleta County, she was very impressed with how the planning commission conducted itself.

"I have been impressed and

inspired by the efforts of Archuleta County's Planning Department and Board of County Commissioners to plan for growth, taking into consideration the views expressed by all residents, while preserving our beautiful landscape, wildlife habitat and rural lifestyles," wrote Jensen in her letter of interest. "If accepted as a member of the Planning Commission, I would look forward to learning more and being part of this critical planning process."

Frederick expressed concern over having Hudson serving on the planning commission.

"I'm concerned about Mr. Hudson's application, but not because it's Mr. Hudson. I think, frankly, he's very qualified to be on this commission," said Frederick. "I'm concerned about the conflict between his position as a journalist and membership on this commission. I think it would require that he change, considerably, what he's been doing in The Daily Post ... So I have some reservations about recommending Mr. Hudson."

Planning commissioner Betty Shahan echoed Frederick's concerns.

Planning commissioner Anita

Hooton made the motion to recommend appointing Jensen, with Adams seconding the motion.

Frederick and planning commissioner David Parker abstained from the vote, and Hooton, Adams and Shahan voted in favor of the motion, causing it to pass 3-0.

After Shepard presented the agenda item to the BoCC on Dec. 6, BoCC Chairman Michael Whiting stated, "I think we should take the recommendation of the planning commission, as we try to do."

Commissioner Clifford Lucero then made the motion to appoint Jensen to the planning commission, with Wadley seconding the motion.

Whiting, Lucero and Wadley all voted in favor of the motion, causing it to pass 3-0.

When asked how she felt about her appointment, Jensen said, "I'm really looking forward to it and I think I have a lot to learn. I've lived here 16 years, and I've seen the county grow and implement more planning guidelines and land use regulations, and it seems like something really important to get involved in. I'm looking forward to learning all of those technical details."

marshall@pagosasun.com

Prescribed pile burns planned for Porcupine and Nipple Mountain areas

By Ann Bond
Special to The SUN

The Pagosa Ranger District plans to burn several slash piles resulting from the Rito Blanco Timber Sale over the winter on the San Juan National Forest east of Pagosa Springs.

The piles are located off the Nipple Mountain and Porcupine roads. Burning may occur throughout the winter; however, piles will only be burned when there is sufficient snow on the ground to prevent fire spread.

The actual dates of operations will be dependent on weather and permitted smoke conditions. The burns will be conducted by district personnel.

For additional information,

please contact Fred Ellis, assistant fire management officer (fuels), Pagosa Ranger District, at 264-1541.

Smoke from wildfires and prescribed fires may affect your health. For more information, please go to: <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/wood-smoke-and-health>.

Pagosa Bible Church cancels Christmas play

Special to The SUN

The Pagosa Bible Church regretfully announced Wednesday morning that the Dec. 8, 9 and 11 performances of the

Christmas drama "If Christmas Came Today" have been canceled.

All other Christmas programs and services will be held as advertised.

Christmas at Pagosa Bible Church

209 Harman Park Dr. (behind Wells Fargo)
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Christmas Choir

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Christmas Eve Candlelight Service @ 5pm

Christmas Day "Unplugged" - 9am



Chamber

Continued from A5

and Snowboard Rentals, Toner Mountain Copiers, Lee Riley — I Sell Pagosa and United Way of Southwest Colorado.

Thank you to all the stores and shoppers that supported the annual Parade of Stores Shopping Extravaganza. We will announce the winners of the Super Prize packages in next week's article. Just because the Parade of Stores is over doesn't mean you can't still shop local. Visit one of our many fantastic retail stores for a present for any occasion.

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Town council approves \$11 million 2017 budget, acts on other matters

By Jim Garrett
Staff Writer

At its regular meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 6, the Pagosa Springs Town Council approved the town's 2017 budget at the conclusion of a public hearing. The budget calls for total spending of \$11,281,445 for all town activities in 2017.

The action came at the end of a series of discussions by council of aspects of the budget during earlier meetings throughout the fall, most recently on Nov. 17, when funding for public service organizations was considered.

One change was made to the 2017 budget before its approval Tuesday night: council agreed to add \$25,000 to line items in the Parks Department portion of the capital improvement fund. The money will buy equipment and pay for two part-time employees to provide maintenance of common areas of Hilltop Cemetery.

Before approving the funding, council was informed that much of the cemetery is badly overgrown, with brush obscuring tombstones and even creating a fire hazard.

Approximately 80 percent of the plots in the cemetery have been sold to private individuals, who have responsibility for maintenance of their plots. Council emphasized that the new maintenance would not intrude on the choices of individual plot owners to maintain plots as preferred.

Housing study approved

Pursuant to the earlier recommendation of the commu-

nity's affordable housing task force, council Tuesday night authorized the award of a contract for a community housing needs assessment to consultant Economic Planning Systems (EPS).

The nearly \$35,000 cost will be shared equally by the town and Archuleta County. The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners also committed to fund its share of the contract at a meeting held earlier Tuesday.

The town's expenditure will come out of its 2016 budget.

The housing assessment will update an earlier assessment by EPS made in 2008. The new work is expected to take 16 weeks.

Foothills project concept approval

Council gave conceptual approval during its meeting to the proposed Foothills project, which would construct 55 affordable housing units on land between the Pagosa Springs High School and Yamaguchi Park, on parcels including both private property and land owned by Archuleta School District and the town (currently the site of the town's shop).

The prospective builder, San Juan Builders LLC, also received conceptual approval for the project from the school district last summer.

Town Manager Greg Schulte reminded council that although the town shop is important, it was previously decided to evaluate its site. Funds are appropriated in the town's 2017 budget to pay for the

evaluation.

The town's approval of the concept will not bind it to allow its land to be used for the project, according to town attorney Bob Cole.

But as noted by councilor David Schanzenbaker before the unanimous vote to approve the concept, it fits the current interest in the community of steps to improve the local supply of affordable housing.

Personnel policy approved, standards on drug use loosened

The town adopted a new personnel policy Tuesday night, on third consideration of the proposed draft.

In earlier meetings on Sept. 22 and Nov. 1, council members questioned the broad wording of the "zero tolerance" drug policy in the draft, because of concerns it would conflict with the legal right of employees under Colorado law to use marijuana on personal time.

As ultimately revised by Cole, the personnel manual will be worded to prohibit use of or impairment by marijuana by town employees during work hours or in the workplace.

The manual specifically states, "off duty use of marijuana in compliance with Colorado law shall not be deemed illicit use of drugs."

However, it also states that "any employee who reports to work impaired by or under the influence of drugs [including marijuana] shall be relieved of his or her duties immediately and without pay, and may be subject to additional

disciplinary action."

The proposed manual was approved by a vote of 4-2, over dissents by Mayor Don Volger and councilor Tracy Bunning.

Bunning and Volger said they were concerned by the potential liability of the town if an employee involved in an accident was found to have been under the influence of marijuana.

Bunning pointed out the difficulty for the town of determining whether an employee reporting for work was impaired or under the influence of the drug.

Schulte given merit raise

Town policy provides for annual performance reviews of employees. In the case of the town manager, the review is to be made by town council. Merit increases of salary may be awarded to employees based on the outcome of the review.

The practice is for the performance review of the town manager to be made by council in executive session, as authorized under the Colorado Open Meetings Law for personnel matters. Accordingly, council entered executive session Tuesday night to undertake a review of town manager Schulte's performance during 2016.

The specifics of the review were not disclosed when council returned to public session. However, council immediately considered the matter of a merit salary increase and unanimously approved granting Schulte a maximum increase of 3 percent.

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Flu vaccine is a safeguard for community health

By Lauren Pope
Special to The SUN

December through February is the typical peak for the influenza virus and with the vaccination taking effect after about two weeks, now is the time to protect your health as

well as our community's health.

We are each interlaced in a community dependent on others being flu-free. Loved ones, co-workers, neighbors, even strangers on the street all stand to benefit from you being healthy and vaccinated.

Each season it is estimated that more than 200,000 people in the U.S. are hospitalized because of flu-related complications. Colorado has confirmed 22 hospitalizations already this flu season. Locally, public health officials have reported five positive cases out of 280 rapid flu tests and no hospitalizations.

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

when infected and easily spread the highly contagious illness.

The first and most important step in protecting yourself this season is with the flu vaccine. By now, chances are you've already been exposed to the virus and a vaccine will stimulate mild flu symptoms. A stigma with the vaccine, this experience is actually common and will usually last only one to two days. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends a yearly vaccine for everyone 6 months of age and older. This boost will not only decrease the severity and duration of any illnesses you may encounter this winter, but it'll give all of those around you a better chance at being healthy as well.

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

younger were hospitalized due to flu complications.

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

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

Lauren Pope is the assessment, planning and communications specialist at SJBH.

Bake sale to support Legion Auxiliary scholarships

By Carol Budde
Special to The SUN

The Pagosa Springs American Legion Auxiliary Post 108 is putting on a Christmas holiday bake sale and gift sale on Dec. 10 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the American Legion Post located at 287 Hermosa St.

Come and enjoy hot cider or coffee and treats and browse the Christmas bake and gift sale.

Funds raised will go toward scholarships for high school senior auxiliary members.

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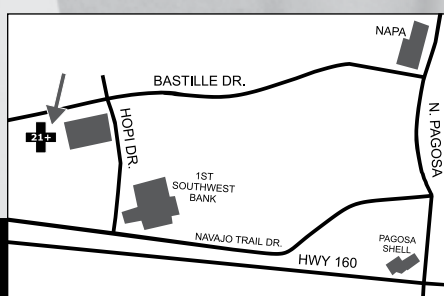
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Bridge

■ Continued from front

After Volger welcomed the audience in remarks emphasizing that the meeting was to provide public information, and no decisions would be made by the town until some yet to be determined future date, Jeff Hodsdon of LSC Transportation Consultants, which prepared the traffic study, was the first presenter.

Traffic study

Hodsdon's explanation of the traffic study was based on the presentation posted earlier.

The scope of the study was to assess the traffic impact of full buildout of undeveloped areas to the south of downtown Pagosa Springs over 20-plus years, which Hodsdon referred to as the "worst case scenario," from the perspective of future traffic volume.

The study thus assumed full development as planned on the Springs Partners' 27 acres. But in addition, for example, it assumed development of the proposed Reservoir River Ranch mixed-use plan, which would add 1,500 homes on 547 acres of land running from the southern part of Reservoir Hill south and east between Light Plant Road and U.S. 84.

Based on the assumed future traffic volume, the study compared the impact of the two options associated with the proposed Springs Partners development: construction with or without a new bridge at 5th Street.

Based on standard statistical data, the study projected "trips" to and from the study area and evaluated expected impacts at selected intersections on the various connecting routes between the intersection of Hot Springs Boulevard and Apache Street, and the intersection of U.S. 160 and 8th Street.

The study graded "levels of service" (LOS) at those intersections, based on peak hour, summertime traffic, with letter grades between A (less than 10 seconds of delay at a traffic signal) through F (more than 80 seconds of delay). Hodsdon stated that communities generally consider 35-55 seconds of delay at signals (graded D) as minimally acceptable.

Some key conclusions provided in the study regarding levels of service pertinent to the proposed 5th Street bridge were:

- That the overall LOS currently at the Hot Springs Boulevard/U.S. 160 (HSB/160) intersection is B (10-20 seconds of delay); for northbound traffic (showing the greatest delay) the LOS is C (20-35 seconds of delay).
- That the overall LOS in the future at the HSB/160 intersection with the new bridge would be C; for northbound traffic the LOS would be D (35-55 seconds).

- That the overall LOS in the future at that intersection without the new bridge would be E (55-80 seconds of delay); for northbound traffic the level would be F.
- For the U.S. 160/5th Street intersection, if a bridge feeding that intersection is constructed, the future overall LOS would be C; the northbound LOS there would be E.

- For the HSB/160 Apache Street intersection, future LOS at projected traffic levels will be F, with or without a new bridge at 5th Street.
- For the 6th Street/Apache Street intersection, with a new bridge, southbound LOS will be C.
- For the 6th Street/Apache Street intersection, without a new bridge, southbound LOS will be F.

Hodsdon suggested that the study showed the construction of a bridge at 5th Street would aid in the dispersal of southeast/northwest traffic flow, and comport with the town's comprehensive plan by reducing neighborhood traffic flow south of the river. Contrariwise, omission

to construct a new bridge would impose the burden of new traffic on existing streets in that area. He noted also the utility of a new bridge as a bypass of the HSB/160 intersection.

Various members of the public offered questions and/or observations. Among others, an unidentified audience member inquired how realistic it was to base conclusions on trips "projected 30 years into the future?"

Hodsdon responded, "we wanted to look at the full potential for planning," but noted that projections could be made for nearer-term intervals too.

The study projects a specific volume of 3,600 trips per day that would be generated by the Springs Partners' proposed development. That compares to a projection of a total of future 27,750 trips per day in the total study area. So, approximately one-eighth of the total projected future traffic volume is associated with that specific development.

The SUN also asked Town Manager Greg Schulte on Dec. 6 about the finding of the study that the future LOS at the HSB/Apache Street intersection would be F, with or without a bridge. Schulte said that conclusion suggested that particular intersection would eventually require significant improvement.

However, for the present, he said, the "salient" question is the LOS issue at the HSB/160 intersection.

On Monday night, J.R. Ford commented from the audience to Hodsdon that "you've shown a lot of problems" with the study, and continued, if the town has \$7 million to spend (potentially on a new bridge), it shouldn't put all of its "eggs in one basket," but should consider the best use of the money throughout the affected area.

Another comment was offered by Cappy White that "legacy decisions," such as whether to construct a new bridge downtown, should consider all issues including aesthetics and environmental impact.

White continued by suggesting that a new bridge over the river at 5th Street would create visual congestion along the scenic downtown riverbed. He urged consideration of the alternative of upgrading capacity of the Apache Street bridge, and 6th Street, as an alternative to carry traffic to and from U.S. 160 west.

Another comment was offered by Julie Church that the study seemed to show that future traffic volume would be onerous in many places downtown with or without a bridge, and questioned whether the bridge construction would have sufficient value to justify the cost.

Economic impact study

After Hodsdon's presentation on projected traffic impact, Andrew Knudtsen of Economic & Planning Systems (EPS) presented the economic impact study.

Knudtsen said that the scope of the study was simply to project the impact of the proposed Springs development.

The study assumed a new bridge would be constructed at 5th Street. In fact, Knudtsen commented, an "integrated traffic system" is beneficial to any community.

With reference to the proposed Springs development, he added that without a new bridge, "its an embedded site," and the value "just isn't there" to proceed without a bridge.

Knudtsen explained that the economic impact study assumed full buildout of the 550,000-square-foot development within 15 years (beginning 2018). It then projected or "modeled" revenue that would be realized by the town as a result of new residents, renters, hotel guests, restaurant and retail activity, and new office space. He



SUN photo/Marshall Dunham

Interested community members participate in Monday night's presentations on traffic and economic impacts of the proposed 5th Street bridge in downtown Pagosa Springs. The meeting was moved to the gym at the Ross Aragon Community Center when attendance exceeded the occupancy limit of the conference room.

stated the study did not consider the potential impact of new jobs for construction, or associated with new business activity.

The study was based on two development "options," which he said might be dictated by market factors. The main difference is that one option assumed new retail and office space would not be built, and would be replaced by a larger number of townhomes and condos in the development.

Both study options assume a new hotel/spa and a new restaurant. Knudtsen said a new hotel would be a key driver for the development. For information about the potential hotel, he relied on a separate feasibility study. He said the planned hotel would be "a notch up" from accommodations currently available in Pagosa Springs.

However, in response to a comment from the audience, Knudtsen conceded that the assumed 78 percent occupancy rate for the new hotel may be higher than realistic. He said it would be appropriate to rerun the models with lower rates.

Knudtsen observed that the anticipated residential development in the plan would involve a new concept in this market: small, comfortable units, in an urbanized, walkable setting in a community with a strong package of amenities. By contrast, he noted that the local residential real estate market remains heavily focused on large properties and ranches.

Similar developments have been successful elsewhere, he said, reflecting that the underlying concept is consistent with strong current market trends. The continued focus of this market on traditional properties thus provides an opportunity for success by a project responsive to present trends.

But, Knudtsen added, a significant marketing effort would be important to success, specifically in cities "where the Pagosa brand is strong" (e.g. Dallas, Albuquerque, Phoenix and Los Angeles).

The study models projected activities that generate public revenue, including the town share of new lodging taxes, sales taxes, property taxes and impact fees, computed at intervals of 10 years and 15 years, by which point the development is assumed to be complete.

The models also project revenues that could potentially be realized through creation of a new metro district, and/or a new downtown development authority (DDA), which create an "additive layer of property taxes" and/or sales taxes, through which users "pay into the community."

Knudtsen suggested that funding of a bridge and other infrastructure within the development through either or both the metro district and

DDA concepts would be authorized under Colorado law.

Present value of the 15-year revenue stream with a metro district imposing a 20-mill property tax on development within the 27-acre development is estimated by the study at more than \$7 million, which is close to sufficient to pay for the bridge and connecting roads at the most recent estimated cost.

At a 20-mill rate, Knudtsen suggested that experience shows the additional metro district tax burden on property within the development would be too small to impede its marketability.

A metro district dedicated to payment for public infrastructure, he said, "has little downside at moderate [mill] rates."

With a DDA, the present value of the 15-year revenue stream is estimated at a potential \$18 million. That sum includes new revenue from the DDA at much higher levels than the estimated amounts of potential revenue discussed in connection with a DDA considered for the existing downtown area last summer.

Knudtsen pointed out that the difference is because the full amount of both property and sales tax revenue in the future from the new development would be "incremental," in that there are no such revenues from that acreage at present.

By Colorado law, DDA revenues are limited to the incremental portion of tax proceeds, which in the existing downtown would inherently be much smaller than in a newly developed area.

Knudtsen told the audience that

Pagosa Springs has the sort of resources to build success on, and the community "can take the vision that you want for the future."

But, he had some suggestions that supported the town's 2015 undertaking to renegotiate the 2012 vested rights agreement so far as it relates to a bridge.

Among other comments, he noted there should be linkage between the commitment of public funds and progress on actual development, and "you win by linking your investment to commitments by developers."

He endorsed "broadening the discussion" relating to the potential arrangement with Springs Partners.

With regard to the public concern that the prior practice in the community of imposing all infrastructure costs on developers should be followed in this instance like others, expressed Monday night as on earlier occasions, Knudtsen suggested that consideration should be given to the likelihood of benefit to the community.

He urged the logic of the principle that "who benefits [and] who pays" should be connected.

Next steps

During the Monday night meeting, both Hodsdon and Knudtsen indicated they would supplement their reports to provide additional analysis on certain points.

The SUN asked Schulte on Tuesday what subjects might be included in that additional analysis.

He responded that the traffic impact study would be refined to address the likelihood that many of

the new homes expected to be constructed would be second homes, with only part-time occupancy, and also to consider in greater detail the expansion of Hot Springs Boulevard that would be needed to handle future traffic volumes in the absence of a new bridge.

With regard to the economic impact study, Schulte said projected lodger's tax and hotel occupancy rates would be recomputed.

In connection with the economic impact study, during an interview of Knudtsen on the afternoon of Dec. 5, prior to the public meeting, The SUN noted that the study did not evaluate revenue impacts of different levels of development realization, or the relationship between potential revenues and bridge funding at different cost and participation levels.

In response, Knudtsen acknowledged that, in the absence of a crystal ball, such "risk sensitivity" analysis could be informative in exercising judgment about proposed public investment.

Such analysis could be provided by EPS, he said.

However, Schulte told The SUN on Tuesday that in light of the potential, assuming concurrence of the Springs Partners, for use of a metro district and/or a DDA as a funding mechanism, EPS follow-up including risk-sensitivity analysis might not be needed.

In the event of agreement on these mechanisms, Schulte said, the potential additional town revenue resulting from the development would presumably not be a critical source of bridge funding.

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Poverty

■ Continued from front

Carbondale, Aspen, with three Rotary Clubs in Canada and with a Rotary Club in Niger to carry out a project in Niger.

The goal of this project is to lift subsistence farmers in Africa out of poverty by approaching farming as a business and not just a means of survival. This goal will be achieved by providing a solar-powered irrigation system and educating women and children to view farming as a business. The project is being implemented in the village of Gueriguindi, Niger, which is 30 minutes outside the capital city of Niamey.

Economic development in Niger has been slow. According to the UN Human Development Index statistics, Niger is the poorest country on earth. Seventy percent of the country lies within the Sahara desert. Its 17 million citizens are primarily

subsistence farmers, growing barely enough rain-fed crops to feed themselves. Drought conditions prevail in two years out of five. The general shortage of rain puts the food supply at constant risk. Farmers are trapped in a cycle of endless poverty. Feeling desperate to feed their families, they may try to migrate to Europe or they may join terrorist groups that offer hope and wages.

The Farmers of the Future Program introduces new agricultural concepts, encouraging farmers to think of farming as a business and not just a means of survival.

These new concepts and techniques are introduced simultaneously to two generations: to primary school students open and receptive to new ideas and to their parents, primarily mothers, who put new ideas immediately into practice. Working with students and parents

has a synergistic effect in creating change. Students learn that farming can be a good source of income. Mothers prove the point by significantly increasing household income.

This project is funded through Rotary clubs in Colorado and Canada, and through matching funds from The Rotary Foundation. The total budget for the project is \$54,315. The Rotary Club, Niamey-Gaweye, Niger oversees the entire project. It is responsible for dispersing funds; it visits the site regularly to monitor progress; and it is the main point of contact for the clubs supporting the project. Although the residents of this village have never heard of Denver, they have heard of Pagosa Springs and they know that there are people in Pagosa Springs who are helping them to improve their quality of life.

Town begins Comprehensive Plan update

By Rachel Novak
Special to The SUN

The Town of Pagosa Springs has just begun the roughly six-month process to update its Comprehensive Plan. The town has partnered with the consultant team comprised of SE Group, Alpine Planning and Fehr & Peers to complete this extensive undertaking.

This update to the 2006 Comprehensive Plan will be a group effort that encompasses the community as whole to create a "Community Vision" that will be the foundation of the newly updated plan. There have been many goals successfully completed from the previous Comprehensive Plan and this update will highlight those successes and build upon them.

On Nov. 29 and 30, town Planning Department staff and the consultant team representatives, Project Manager Chris Hawkins, AICP of Alpine Planning and Associate Planner Gabby Voeller, AICP of SE Group, met with 12 groups of stakeholders within the community to discuss the town's strengths, weaknesses, concerns, goals, opportunities and overall vision that each person would like to see for Pagosa Springs. The consultant team will be synthesizing this information, ideas and input from all future public meetings to ultimately be incorporated into the plan through updated community goals.

What is a comprehensive plan?

A comprehensive plan, also known as a general plan or master plan, is a document designed to guide the future actions of a community.

It presents a community vision for the future, with goals ranging from short-term to the long-term and well-thought-out strategies on how these goals can be successfully implemented.

The town, consultant team and general public will be working together to create a functional plan that will help shape and guide the community for the next 10 years and includes a true "community vision" that everyone can be proud of.

How can you get involved?

The comprehensive planning process has only just begun and there will be many opportunities to get involved. There are several public open houses, public meetings and surveys planned throughout this project's undertaking.

If you would like to stay up to date with the Comprehensive Plan project, please subscribe to the "e-notices" system on the town's website, watch the town's Facebook page and The SUN newspaper for project updates.

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Housing

Continued from front same amount.

"The nature of the agreement will be that we will sign a joint contract with the town to engage these consultants, and I believe they're ready to get started very soon," said Henderson, later adding, "Staff does recommend acceptance of that contract and to enter into a contract with the Town of Pagosa Springs."

Henderson explained that Town Planner James Dickhoff had done the majority of the work for this agenda item, and could answer additional questions the BoCC had.

"James, Bentley and I met with you and Greg, and I want to thank you for working with us," said Commissioner Clifford Lucero. "You guys are good partners and we appreciate that. Thank you."

Said Commissioner Steve Wadley, "This is just another example

of the collaborative work that the town and the county are doing together and I think it's important that we pool our resources and work together in as many endeavors as we can, and I think we've been doing that more and more."

"I agree," said BoCC Chairman Michael Whiting. "You put your money where your mouth is and we said a while back that our joint strategic priorities were broadband, early childhood and affordable housing, and this is just a demonstration... that we're actually going to try and get something done. I appreciate my fellow commissioners and everybody else keeping their paddles in the water on this one."

A memorandum addressed to Dickhoff from Andrew Knudtson and David Schwartz of EPS outlines the priorities of the study.

"Economic & Planning Systems

will build on its depth of housing experience for Archuleta County and will tailor this scope to the current needs and interests of the community. Specifically, the scope of work has been tailored to focus on 'going vertical,'" reads the memorandum. "The challenge that every community faces with the goal of constructing affordable housing is the need for subsidy and ability to close feasibility gaps. Subsidy can come in the form of federal, state, and/or local grants and subsidies. This study will document conditions in Archuleta County with sufficient detail to provide the basis for applications for these grants."

Agenda documentation used at the meeting cites the goals that EPS hopes to accomplish with the project, including:

- Understanding marketing con-

ditions and local housing needs.

- Documenting how trends compare to similar communities in Colorado.

- Identifying how the local need compares to other Colorado communities.

- Outlining the available actions that the town and county could take.
- Preparing to move forward with creating an affordable housing project.

"I move to authorize the chairman of the BoCC to execute a joint town and county contract with Economic Planning Systems updating the 2008 Archuleta County Housing Needs Assessment," said Lucero, with Wadley seconding the motion.

The motion then proceeded to pass unanimously.

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Jail

Continued from front

dication intent to fight the action.

That letter was sent to County Attorney Todd Starr on Nov. 22 and came from Jeff Robbins, representing Fairway Land Trust.

The letter begins by stating that Robbins' firm, Goldman Robbins Nicholson Mack, was engaged by the Levine family, who make up the Fairway Land Trust, "in connection with the covenants affecting the land sold by Fairway to Archuleta County in 1999."

The letter then makes reference to the deed restriction at the center of the county's decision to exercise eminent domain in order to build on the property: "Buyer hereby represents and warrants that the 4.87 acre tract shall be used only for administrative offices and meeting facilities, and agrees that a restrictive covenant shall be executed limiting the Property to such uses, and prohibiting the Property from being used for any justice system purposes such as jails, law enforcement or Sheriff's Department."

The covenant allows for office space for a district attorney or "personnel providing victim assistance."

"I do not believe the County can use eminent domain in this situation and also advise that the County (sic) that my clients will strongly defend any such litigation," Robbins' letter reads.

The letter goes on to state a bit of the history surrounding the

deed restriction, stating, "As to the historical circumstances surrounding the sale of the Property and implementation of the Restrictive Covenant, the sales contract and covenants were agreed to after extensive meetings, negotiations and consultations with private and public land planners. All involved agreed that the placement of a detention facility on the property was poor land planning and incompatible with the intended commercial and recreational nature of the area, which had been master planned as a community and government center."

The covenants, the letter explains, were "integral" to the Levine family's choice to sell the property to the county "at a significant discount."

It further notes that the county had determined the property was a good size for its administrative facility needs, and that the town and county had agreed to the master development plan, with the town following through on the plan by constructing the Town Hall and Ross Aragon Community Center across the street from the county's property.

Too, the letter points out that the Levines own property adjacent to the county's.

"As you know, my client's interests extend beyond sensible land planning for the community as the family has been a pivotal force in providing a vibrant community area," the letter states, further adding that the Levine's property is "intended for development of residential uses in accordance with the development agreement between Fairway and the County."

The main access road to Fairway's property, the letter explains, abuts the county's property, with the road providing access for a "high-end residential development."

"Quite frankly, Fairway would not have sold the Property to the County (and certainly not at a

discount) if there was ever the possibility of a jail being placed thereon and thus the County's commitments were a material and substantial inducement to Fairway."

The letter then states the family's dislike of the county's representations regarding negotiation of removing the restrictions.

"My clients find it extremely disturbing that the County would attempt to avoid its express representations and legal obligations through legal machinations, not to mention to disregard its moral and ethical responsibility to honor its agreements and the extensive and thoughtful planning that went into the planning process and original transaction," the letter states. "My client is also extremely disheartened to read substantial mischaracterizations in the Pagosa Sun as to the past discussions they have had with the County to try and reach consensus on this issue."

While the letter acknowledges "that preliminary discussions did take place" between the two entities, "it is inaccurate to state that Fairway agreed to release the restriction."

County Administrator Bentley Henderson explained in an email to The SUN that discussions with Fairway first started in June or July of 2015, with additional conversations in October 2015 "around the specific language that a release would contain."

"We were working off of the premise that we had some level of agreement as to the restriction," Henderson said in a phone interview. "So, based on that premise, we sent a release. They received the release and said ... it wasn't what they were expecting."

Negotiations, Henderson said, continued, and discussions took place regarding the discounted sale of the property.

It was then, Henderson noted, that the county formed the citizen group and hired Reynolds Ash As-

sociates and Reilly Johnson Architecture to begin the planning and programming phase.

"Given the uncertainty of a location, we did not reach back out to Fairway Trust again until this fall," Henderson stated in an email.

After the location was chosen by the commissioners, Fairway expressed an unwillingness to move forward, Henderson indicated.

He said there were only "casual conversations" about what the monetary consideration for the deed restriction would be in today's dollars.

The BoCC scheduled a special meeting with an additional executive session and possible decision regarding the property on Dec. 7, though the results of that meeting were unavailable by press time. Any decisions made at that meeting will be posted on www.PagosaSUN.com.

Eminent domain process

As explained by Starr, eminent domain proceedings require several steps.

Those steps, he explained, were that the BoCC made the determination that the property was necessary for the project and will advance the public purpose, that it was a necessity and that the parties involved failed to agree on compensation.

The general process, he explained, is, if no agreement is made, a complaint of eminent domain is filed with the courts asking the court for immediate possession of the property without restriction, then an appraisal would determine the appropriate compensation to be paid to Fairway.

No complaint had been filed as of Wednesday afternoon prior to the executive session.

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CATCH

Pagosa Springs Elementary School CATCH (Coordinated Approach to Child Health) is in its second year and would like to thank all of the wonderful, supportive folks in the community who have helped make it a success thus far: Old Town Natural Market, Joy's Natural Foods, City Market, Walmart, Growing Spaces, Mountain Express Transit, Pagosa Mountain Sports and Alpen Haus.

CATCH would also like to give a shout out and big thank you to Vitamix for recently donating two blenders for the CATCH programs at the elementary and middle school. The blenders will provide more opportunities for kids to create their own snacks using whole ingredients.

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Education



Robin Bayles' seventh-grade class gives a thumbs-up to the flexible seating provided through a FACE grant.

Photo courtesy Lynne McCrudden

FACE awards 16 grants to teachers

By Lynne McCrudden
Special to The SUN

The FACE (Foundation for Archuleta County Education) 2016 grant cycle has concluded and the directors are pleased to announce that requests have tripled this year.

In 2016, the foundation did a grant cycle in the spring and the fall. The fall cycle was enthusiastically supported by teachers in the community.

FACE has been awarding grants since 2013 and, in that time, it has awarded 34 grants, totaling \$24,264. Its mission is to provide grants that will enrich the educational experience in Archuleta County for teachers and educators in all educational settings.

This fall, FACE awarded two grants to Pagosa Springs High School, four to Pagosa Springs Middle School, seven to Pagosa Springs Elementary School, one to Pagosa Valor Academy and two to the Pagosa Family School.

The Pagosa Family School is an after-school program for both district children and home-school children. FACE directors were pleased to help this new program get started by supporting a music curriculum, a metal arts class and a Spanish class that is serving both second-graders and the after-school program.

This fall, the spectrum of grants included support for a classroom-level library for students in kindergarten through second grades at Pagosa Valor Academy, computer software and hardware to help improve student academic performance and to help reduce test anxiety at the high school and flexible seating at both the middle school and elementary school to support student collaborative learning and also to encourage posture, focus

and build core strength.

FACE also supported a middle school teacher who will be building her students Renewable Energy Resource kits. This science curriculum is one of the science standards for the district, but, in the past, the teacher was only able to show videos. These kits will be available for many years and will allow the 120 sixth-grade students to have actual hands-on activities and demonstrations so they can see the renewable energy resource in action.

The FACE board of directors is anticipating ever-increasing requests as educational options expand in the county. The foundation exists because of the generous support of the community.

FACE looks forward to future community support and suggests you just ask any school-age child or teacher how their school experience has improved since FACE has been giving grants. Donations can be mailed to FACE, P.O. Box 2051, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147.



Photo courtesy Lynne McCrudden

Andrew Guinn's science class uses webcams received through a FACE grant. By placing such technology in the hands of students, they are provided the chance to learn multiple ways of accomplishing an objective and reach their own educational summits in this area.

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Photo courtesy Lynne McCrudden
One of the students in Linda Lutomski's Pagosa Family School class shows off her creativity.

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After-school program seeking smoothie ingredients

By April Rossetti
Special to The SUN

CATCH (Coordinated Approach to Child Health) is an after-school program at Pagosa Springs elementary and middle schools that promotes healthier futures for our students.

CATCH employs a holistic approach to child health by targeting multiple aspects of the school environment: nutrition, physical activity, parents and the broader school community. This coordinated approach reinforces CATCH lessons and life skills and is a big part of what makes the program effective.

Two blenders were recently donated to the programs. The blenders will provide more opportunities for kids to create their own snacks using whole ingredients.

If any businesses or community members would like to donate smoothie ingredients to the CATCH programs, please email April Rossetti: arossetti@pagosa.k12.co.us.



Students celebrate the donation of new blenders for the CATCH (Coordinated Approach to Child Health) after-school program. The blenders will provide more opportunities for kids to create their own snacks using whole ingredients.

Photo courtesy April Rossetti



Photo courtesy Betty Schwicker

During its Christmas concert last weekend, the Pagosa Springs Community Choir presented three \$500 vocal scholarships to Pagosa Springs High School students. From left, they are Anika Thomas, Gavin Kiker and Kaya Knox, pictured with Music Program Director Dan Burch and Choral Society President Pattye Holton.

High school juniors invited to apply for trip to Washington, D.C.

By Indiana Reed
Special to The SUN

La Plata Electric Association (LPEA), in partnership with the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), is seeking high school juniors to be a part of the National Rural Electric Youth Tour to Washington, D.C., set for June 8-15, 2017.

The application deadline is Monday, Jan. 9, 2017. All high school juniors whose households receive electricity from LPEA are

eligible to apply.

"The Youth Tour to Washington, D.C., is unique to rural electric cooperatives across the country," said Mike Dreyspring, LPEA CEO. "Annually, LPEA and our sister co-ops select and sponsor high school juniors for this all-expenses paid experience. It's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and we encourage our local high school students to apply."

The Washington, D.C., Youth Tour features an intimate look at the federal government and the nation's capitol, including museum

and monument tours, as well as interaction with Colorado's elected representatives. Social activities are also part of the adventure.

Area high school students Jenna Engelken and Maizey Funk, of Durango; Miranda Talbot, of Bayfield; and Adeline Thompson, of Pagosa Springs, represented LPEA as part of Youth Tour in 2016.

"My Youth Leadership Tour to Washington, D.C., was a once-in-a-lifetime experience," said Talbot. "I met incredible friends and saw beautiful historical places. Visiting

D.C. gave me an entirely new respect for politics, as well as stimulate a renewed interest in American history. Learning about co-ops and their contributions to rural areas truly revealed how big of an impact our small areas can have as a whole in this country. I am eternally grateful for this opportunity and will never forget the people, the places and the memories."

LPEA endeavors to sponsor one student from each municipality within its service territory — Durango, Bayfield, Pagosa Springs and Ignacio. Home-school students are eligible.

"To be considered, students must complete the D.C. Youth Tour application and submit it to LPEA, along with an essay of 500 words or less about any aspect of the electric energy industry," said Jeannie Bennett, LPEA public relations coordinator overseeing the Youth Tour application process.

Applications are available on the LPEA website, www.lpea.coop, from high school counselors and at the LPEA offices in Durango and Pagosa Springs.

For further information regarding the National Rural Electric Youth Tour to Washington, D.C., contact Jeannie Bennett, 382-3505 or jbennett@lpea.coop.

Cash prizes for creative ideas to protect bicyclists and pedestrians

By Meghan Dougherty
Special to The SUN

The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) has launched a challenge for cash prizes and is asking for creative ideas to protect bicyclists and pedestrians in Colorado.

The RoadX Bicycle and Pedestrian Challenge is open to anyone and in partnership with the Colorado Innovation Network (COIN)'s Imagine Colorado. The Challenge will award \$500,000 to entrepreneurs, ideators and communities who develop inventive technological solutions to protect bicyclists

and pedestrians in Colorado.

The RoadX Bicycle and Pedestrian Challenge consists of two tracks designed to not only solicit great ideas, but also actionable concepts.

Track One, Idea-thon:
• Encourages participants to submit a groundbreaking technological idea to improve bicycling and pedestrian safety.

• Up to five winners will be chosen with a prize of \$10,000 each.

Track Two, Do-athon:
• Prompts Coloradans to enter a unique and implementable idea and deploy the technology within eight months.

• Up to five finalists will be chosen and each will receive \$75,000 to build proof of concept.

• The team that deploys the best working technology over eight months will receive \$150,000 to continue the program. The runner-up will receive \$50,000 and third place will receive \$25,000.

All proposals are due Feb. 27, 2017.

For more information about the RoadX Bicycle and Pedestrian Challenge, visit roadxbikeped.codot.gov. To learn more about RoadX, visit <https://www.codot.gov/programs/roadx>.

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Sports



Photo courtesy James Dickhoff

BB Gun Biathlon action at the firing line last season. The fifth annual race is this Saturday at Alberta Park and offers fun for all levels of cross-country skiers.

Pagosa Nordic BB Gun Biathlon: Fun for all ages

By James Dickhoff
Special to The SUN

The Pagosa Nordic BB Gun Biathlon is set for this Saturday, Dec. 10, in Alberta Park at Wolf Creek Ski Area.

Registration is from 9 to 9:30 a.m. at the east of Tranquility parking lot with a 10 a.m. start.

There will be 16-km competitive, 6-km citizens' and KidK courses.

Cross-country skiers will have five shots at targets between each of four laps. Missed shoots are additions to the ski time for a total

score. This is a fun event for all levels of cross-country skiers. BB guns are provided. The cost of the race is based on your generous donation to the Pagosa Nordic Club (PNC).

Groomed trails open

Groomed Nordic ski trails are open for the season. Trails have wide corduroy for skate skiing with set tracks for classic cross-country skiing. Alberta Park has been groomed recently by the 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.

Falls Creek on Wolf Creek Pass has been groomed recently by PNC, 2 miles east of the scenic overlook on Wolf Creek Pass, road 39. The Falls 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.

Learn-to-ski days

PNC hosts three learn-to-ski days a year. The first one this season is on Dec. 17.

Never-ers, beginners and intermediates are encouraged to

come on out and learn some great tips from our cross-country ski instructors, for skate ski or classic cross-country skiing techniques. The clinic begins at 10 a.m. sharp, so please plan on being early so we can get everyone geared up and ready to go. The location will be announced based on snow conditions the week of the event.

All local ski shops offer a discount on rentals for the clinics; just mention you are attending. Please RSVP as space may be limited.

See PagosaNordic.com for all the information and more.

WRESTLING

Pirate wrestlers place fourth at Demon Dual

By Marshall Dunham
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs Pirates began their wrestling season on a good note, finishing fourth out of eight teams during the Buena Vista Demon Dual while not even using a full team of wrestlers.

Coach Dan Janowsky explained that the Pirates won the majority of their matches, but due to injuries and eligibility issues, Janowsky wasn't able to fill the entire team, which resulted in fourth place.

Janowsky explained that, if

the team didn't have the empty weights, the Pirates would have finished ahead of fourth place.

Finishing first place in the dual was the Woodland Park Panthers, with the Buena Vista Demons finishing second and the Salida Spartans finishing third.

In an email to SUN staff, Janowsky explained that the team had five open weight classes, meaning the team lost out on points because it didn't have any grapplers to wrestle in those weight classes.

At 126 pounds, sophomore Cody Caler won a match and lost

a match before withdrawing due to an injury.

At 132 pounds, senior Owen Severson won three matches and lost two.

At 145 pounds, junior Trevor Bryant won three matches and lost one, with Janowsky explaining that two of Bryant's wins were actually wrestled in the 152-pound division. Janowsky also explained that Bryant was sick, and that he really applauded Bryant's tenacity.

Wrestling in the 145-pound division, sophomore Tate Hinger won two matches and lost one.

In the 152-pound division, senior Bryce Raymond won two matches and lost one.

At 170 pounds, sophomore Caleb Janowsky went 4-0.

Sophomore Colton Castro wrestled in the 182-pound division and won all five of his matches.

In the 195-pound division, sophomore Connor Aragon went 3-2, with Janowsky explaining that he won a couple of big matches with last-second go-ahead points, and wrote that it was a "good start for him."

Junior Nolan Stretton pulled quite the feat in his matches, winning all five of his matches.

Weighing in at 220 pounds, Stretton wrestled four opponents

who actually weighed 285 pounds, and beat them all.

"He was undersized, but our opponents didn't have 220 wrestlers so he wrestled 'the big boys' and beat them all," wrote Janowsky.

"We won 30 matches and lost only 11, but we lost on team scores due to open weights," wrote Janowsky. "We will fill more and more of these as the season goes by, as guys get healthy and get down to their wrestling weights."

In an interview with The SUN, Janowsky stated that he thought the Pirates did very well going into their first dual of the season.

"From a technical standpoint, I thought we did well, and from a conditioning standpoint, I thought we were superior," said Janowsky.

He added that, even though the Pirates wrestled well, there was enough opposition to find the weaknesses on the team, and he hopes to expose and correct the weaknesses in the coming practices.

"I'm really excited about that," said Janowsky.

This Saturday, Dec. 10, the Pirates will travel to Littleton to partake in the Columbine Tourney, hosted by the Columbine Rebels.

marshall@pagosasun.com

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.

Navajo State Park boat ramp closed for the season

By Colorado Parks and Wildlife
Special to The SUN

Winter has set in at Navajo State Park and the boat ramp and aquatic nuisance species inspection and decontamination station are now closed for the season.

The ramp usually opens in

March, depending on the weather. Boaters can still go on the water, but they must call in advance to schedule an inspection. Call the park at 883-2208 to make an appointment.

Full hook-up camp sites remain open and three cabins are available for rent throughout the year at Navajo State Park. To reserve a camp site or cabin, go to the reservation section of the CPW website: <http://coloradostateparks.reserveamerica.com>.

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BASKETBALL

Lady Pirates opening season today in Salida

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

Despite battling injuries to start the season, the Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirate basketball team is set to start the season this weekend with a series of three games.

Last year, the team fell to the Centauri Falcons, a league rival, in the Great 8 round of the state playoffs, finishing the season with a 25-1 record and 10-0 league mark.

The team entered the 2016-2017 season as the No. 3-ranked 3A girls team.

"So far, so good," coach Wes Lewis said of the team's efforts this season, explaining, "We've looked pretty decent in our scrimmages."

Those scrimmages, he noted, brought to light both things that the team is doing well, as well as those things it needs to work on.

This year's varsity squad boasts only one senior, Megan Farrah, after the team lost three seniors last season.

"She's just a really good player and has been around a long time and knows the system," Lewis said, adding that Farrah is "a great leader."

The team is also expected to be led by the 5-foot-11-inch junior Morgan Lewis, with the coach stating that Morgan Lewis is a big post player and a good player for the team.

Morgan Lewis is one of four juniors on the roster, along with Keena Murphy, Zoee Strohecker, and Ada Peshlakai.

The coach noted that the juniors were "doing some good things."

Sophomore Devin Wilson is also returning to the team, having played "extensive minutes" on last year's varsity squad and "looking

strong in the early season," according to Wes Lewis.

Fellow sophomore Morgan Thompson is also again on the roster.

Four freshmen are listed on the roster — Hailey Griego, Amelia Peshlakai, Taylor Lewis and Teagan Stretton.

"We're going to be playing some freshmen again this year," Wes Lewis explained.

Missing from the roster, however, are two players who are out for the season due to injury — DeAnn Schaaf, who suffered a knee injury in preseason practice, and Diana Scott, who suffered a shoulder injury in volleyball.

"We've been bit by the injury bug," the coach said.

In addition to the pair of athletes out for the season, the team is fighting other injuries.

Thompson, Wes Lewis said, is "on the verge of coming back," and Ada Peshlakai, out following concussion protocol, may return next week.

But, despite the injuries affecting the team early on the season, the team has been preparing to start the season.

That has included bringing the team's freshmen up to date on the team's system before the refining can begin.

Too, the team will be looking to be successful in several different areas: limiting turnovers, creating scoring opportunities for post players, scoring and knocking down some shots.

And, again, the team will focus on defense.

"We need to be able to defend properly," the coach said.

Schedule

The following schedule was

accurate as of Wednesday, but is subject to change.

Following this weekend's three games against Salida, Colorado Academy and Saint Mary's, the Lady Pirates will head to Lutheran High School for a pair of games at the Lutheran Tournament Dec. 16 and 17.

On Dec. 22, the team will host Sangre de Cristo at 6:30 p.m. for its home-opener before taking a holiday hiatus.

On Jan. 3, 2017, the team will welcome the Durango Demons for a 5:30 p.m. affair.

The team will open league play at 5:30 p.m. on Jan. 13 in Monte Vista against the Pirates and the next day will host the Alamosa Mean Moose at 3:30 p.m., also for a league game.

On Jan. 17, the Lady Pirates will travel to Sanford for a 5:30 p.m. game and, on Jan. 20, will head to Bayfield for a league matchup with the Wolverines, also set to begin at 5:30 p.m.

The following day, the Lady Pirates will host the Montezuma/Cortez Panthers for a 5:30 p.m. league game.

On Jan. 27, the Lady Pirates will head to La Jara to take on the Centauri Falcons at 5:30 p.m. and the next day will welcome Monte Vista for a 5:30 p.m. tipoff.

On Feb. 3, Pagosa will jaunt to Alamosa to take on the Mean Moose at 5:30 p.m.

The Wolverines will come to town for a 5:30 p.m. affair on Feb. 7 and, on Feb. 10, the Pirates will head to Cortez, with that game scheduled to begin at 6:15 p.m.

The Falcons will come to Pagosa on Feb. 11 for a 5:30 p.m. game, and on Feb. 14, the Ignacio Bobcats will come to town for a 7 p.m. game to close out the regular season.

randi@pagosasun.com

Pirates to open 'tough' season tonight in Salida

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

After falling to the top seed in 3A basketball during the Sweet 16 round of the state playoffs last season, the Pagosa Springs High School Pirate basketball team is gearing up to start the 2016-2017 season with a series of three games between today and Saturday.

The season will start against the Salida Spartans this evening in Salida, with a 7:30 p.m. tipoff. Following that, the team will head to Buena Vista Friday and Saturday for the Buena Vista Tournament, where they will face the Gunnison Cowboys and the Buena Vista Demons.

The games will be the start of what coach Randy Sorenson dubbed a "tough" schedule this season.

"Our non-league schedule is tough and our league schedule is tough. We will have to play good basketball each and every night to have a chance," he wrote in an email to The SUN. "We are excited about getting the season started."

This year's squad, the coach explained, comprises a mix of veterans and younger players.

"We have a good mix of kids from seniors to freshman," Sorenson wrote. "We have some kids that have seen quite a bit of varsity action the last couple of years so we have some veterans and some good young kids."

What the team does need to work on, Sorenson explained, is depth.

"We are going to have to find some depth so we are going to need some younger kids step up and help us at the varsity level," he noted.

And while the team looked good in preseason scrimmages, the coach recognized, "We still have a lot to improve on and we are going to have to continue to work hard and improve each and every week."

This evening's foe, the Spartans, have already played three games,

going 1-2, including a 54-48 loss to the Centauri Falcons.

The Pirates went 14-9 overall last season, including a 5-3 league record.

Schedule

The following schedule was accurate as of Wednesday, but is subject to change.

Following this weekend's games in Salida and Buena Vista, the Pirates will head to Palisade Dec. 15-17 for the Palisade Tournament, where they will face Coal Ridge, Montrose and Cheyenne South.

The Pirates will welcome the Durango Demons on Jan. 3, 2017, for the home-opener, with tipoff scheduled for 7 p.m.

On Jan. 13, the Pagosa Pirates will be on the road for their league-opener in Monte Vista, and the following day will welcome league foe Alamosa to Pagosa for a 5:30 p.m. game.

Alamosa finished last season in second place at the 3A tournament.

On Jan. 17, the team will head to Sanford for a 7 p.m. matchup.

On Jan. 20, the Pirates will jaunt to Bayfield for a 7 p.m. league matchup.

The next day, the Pirates will welcome Cortez for another 7 p.m. league matchup.

Pagosa will head to La Jara on Jan. 27 for a 7 p.m. league matchup with the Centauri Falcons, and will welcome the Monte Vista Pirates to Pagosa at 7 p.m. the next day.

On Feb. 3, the Pirates will take on the Mean Moose in Alamosa at 7 p.m..

On Feb. 7, Pagosa will welcome the Bayfield Wolverines for a 7 p.m. tipoff.

On Feb. 10, the Pirates will play an 8 p.m. affair in Cortez against the Panthers.

The following day, the Pirates will welcome the Falcons for a 7 p.m. game.

The Pirates will close their regular season on Feb. 16 in Durango with a 7 p.m. game.

randi@pagosasun.com

Cards of Thanks

Adobe Fire Fund

On behalf of the Chamber of Commerce, I would like to thank those people who donated to the Adobe Fire Fund and the Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado which processed the donations. The grant was made possible through the Community Emergency Relief Fund. Although their main offices are in Durango, the Community Foundation serves southwest Colorado and this was an example of their outreach. Because of everyone's efforts and generosity, a few people were able to pay some bills and get some groceries even though many still do not have jobs. If you would still like to donate to the Adobe Fire Fund, visit www.swcommunityfoundation.org and you can make a PayPal donation. We would love to assist some people one more time. Thank you, Pagosa Springs, for stepping up to the plate again.

Mary Jo Coulehan, executive director, Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce

Aspen House

The Aspen House Board of Directors would like to extend a whole-hearted thank you to friends and the community for the enormous show of support at and surrounding the 2016 Festival of Trees. And special appreciation is extended to Alex and Ramona Tschaar of Old West Press, who designed and created the tree, the Community Center staff, the Festival volunteers and, of course, the bidders and Tim Brown Construction, who all participated in the event far above and beyond any of our expectations. All of you have truly made a significant impact in the progress of making Aspen House (a local home for adults with disabilities) a reality. Thank you, Pagosa.

Patty Brown

Grinch-mas Party at Mt. Allison Grange Hall Dec. 19

By Larry Corman
Special to The SUN

Come enjoy the annual Mt. Allison Grange Community Christmas with a different twist.

We're serving a free dinner including roasted beast, Who mash, green fingers punch and coffee.

Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. with dinner being served at 6 p.m. "How the Grinch Stole Christmas"

will follow after dinner. Entertainment and games for the kids will start at 5:30.

More information can be found at: <https://www.facebook.com/mtallisongrange/> or by contacting either Yvonne at 799-3064, Shirley at 883-2483 or mtallisongrange@gmail.com.

Hope to see you on Monday, Dec. 19, for a fun-filled evening with good fellowship and food.

Public Notices

District Court, Archuleta County, Colorado
449 San Juan Avenue
P.O. Box 148
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
(970) 264-8160
EDWARD V. VANDERPOOL and JENNIFER L. VANDERPOOL, Plaintiffs,
v.
PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF COLORADO, A COLORADO CORPORATION, AS SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO WESTERN GAS SUPPLY COMPANY, A COLORADO CORPORATION, AS SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO WESTERN SLOPE GAS COMPANY, A COLORADO CORPORATION, PAGOSA AREA WATER AND SANITATION DISTRICT, PAGOSA SPRINGS SANITATION GENERAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT, HARMAN PARK OWNERS ASSOCIATION, 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.

This is an action to quiet the title of the Plaintiff in and to the real property situated 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. bears North 79 degrees 32 minutes East, 4860.0 feet;

This hearing will be held at the following time and location or at a later date to which the hearing may be continued:
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 in a timely manner.
/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.*

The Southwest Basins Roundtable is seeking persons interested in serving on the Roundtable. There is currently one at-large agricultural representative position vacant. Applicants should submit a letter with their qualifications to Laura Spann at lauras@swwd.org or Southwest Water Conservation District, 841 E Second Avenue, Durango, CO 81301 no later than Wednesday, January 4, 2017.

Elections will be held at the January 11, 2017 meeting at the Dolores Water Conservancy District Office in Cortez, CO at 3:00 pm, at which applicants will have an opportunity to address Roundtable members. Refer to the website <http://swwd.org/resources/southwest-basin-roundtable> for background on the Roundtable. Please contact Mike Preston, Roundtable Chair, at 970-565-7562 for specific questions.
Published December 8, 2016 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN.*

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Kenneth J. Miller, #32909
Attorney for Co-Petitioners
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Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
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Attorney for Co-Petitioners
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Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
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/s/ Kenneth J. Miller
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Attorney for Co-Petitioners
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Published December 8, 2016 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN.*

— AGED USDA CHOICE —

PRIME RIB

Holiday Sale

RIB ROAST CUT TO SIZE \$15.99 PER LB. **WHOLE RIB ROAST \$13.99 PER LB.**

Holiday Hours

Christmas Eve, Dec. 24 | 11am - 4pm
Closed Christmas Day

New Year's Eve | 11am - 8pm
New Year's Day | 11am - 4pm

Cocktails Made From Scratch • Colorado Spirits
Happy Hour 3 - 5 Pm

Fresh Market & Eatery

Call (970) 731-MEAT (6328) for pick-up
19 Navajo Trail Dr.
(At the corner of North Pagosa Blvd. and Navajo Trail Dr.)
Mon - Sat | 11am - 8pm • Sun 11am - 4pm

Bar D Wranglers Annual Christmas Jubilee

Dec. 14, 2016

Come join in the fun as the Bar D Wranglers sing songs, tell stories and celebrate the Christmas season at the Pagosa Springs High School.

Doors Open 6:30PM
Show Time 7:00PM

Tickets available at Chamber of Commerce & The Door
Adults \$17.00
Children 10 and under \$9.00

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: danielfiedler@gmail.com
Case Number: 2016CV30067
Plaintiff:
MARY STRADFORD
v.
Defendants:
ALBERT P. THOMAS, III, and All Unknown Persons Who Claim Any Interest In The Subject Matter Of This Action, **SUMMONS (BY PUBLICATION)**

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 Plaintiff 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 situated 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.*

Passion, societal taboo and selling a dream: shooting an indie film in Pagosa

By Marshall Dunham
Staff Writer

There's no doubt that creating a full-length movie is a daunting task. With all the moving parts, it's hard to understand how a movie can go from a simple idea to a full-length feature film.

SUN staff sat down and discussed what goes into creating an independent film with Director Jared Januschka and producers Tiffany Briels and Patrick Long, who were in Pagosa for several weeks to film scenes for Januschka's new film, "Shooting in Vein."

Before the interview began, Long explained that, that morning, the film crew had just finished their sixth night shoot of the week, with each shoot lasting from 9 p.m. to 9 a.m.

Long said that the production team for the movie handles a lot of the logistic and managerial work for the film, such as paperwork and finding locations to actually film.

"I have a nickname, and it's Paperwork Pat," he said.

When asked how the movie got to this point, Briels said, "Jared worked with his writer to make the script exactly what they wanted it to be. They worked over the course of three years to write the script, specifically gearing towards addiction and trying to start a conversation in regards to that."

Briels stated that one of the biggest goals of the film is to show people addiction without demonizing or glorifying it.

Januschka stated that the film

was originally his idea, and he later brought on a writer to help develop it.

"I feel like this is such a big thing, that having as many intelligent people to lean on is an asset in pulling it off," said Januschka. "Once we had a script in place that we really enjoyed, we submitted it to a couple screenwriting competitions, and it did well."

Januschka stated that the script was a quarterfinalist in the Blue Cat Screenplay competition, and that he used that, in addition to his past work on short films and commercials, to secure funding donated to the project before seeking out private equity.

"It's always a really amazing journey, when you have something that you've really put your life into connecting with people that resonate with that and see it and want to support it," said Januschka. "This is my first feature, and it's typically pretty hard to get people behind you."

Januschka compared the pre-production period of a film to "selling a dream."

"I think it's been a wonderful blessing to go through this process just for myself and inspiring my own confidence within me," said Januschka.

Januschka said that the film had been in the works for three or four years and that, originally, the film was going to be shot in Michigan.

"My parents had come to Pagosa Springs on one of their anniversaries and said I should check out the town and I came here and fell in

love with it," said Januschka.

The conversation then turned to how every job on the set meshes together and works, with Januschka stating that, if one crew member is having a rough day, that tends to have a ripple effect on other crew members.

"Film is highly collaborative, so even if the producers are on point and get everything set up, it's still a matter of the grip department moving all the equipment, the lighting department making sure all the lights are in place, your actors being on point, your director being able to communicate to the cinematographer, and the camera team working and providing the proper lenses and doing the proper set up," said Briels. "It's so insanely interwoven and collaborative."

"You realize that all of these are highly specialized fields that people have been spending literal years perfecting," explained Januschka. "While I might have a vision, someone who's been doing something for 10 years is going to have a much more profound understanding of their art form. For me, you have to respect that. Even though I've been with the project longer, it's still their vision, and it's still them putting energy into it and creating it with me."

Briels estimated that there were roughly 75 people involved in production, with Januschka explaining that that's not daily, and the crew scales up and down depending on the requirements for filming that day.

Januschka estimated another

10 to 15 positions would be added on when the film entered postproduction, which Briels described with examples such as editing film, adding special effects and selecting music.

When asked how long post-production took compared to the actual shooting, Januschka said it varies for each project.

"With this one, we've been fortunate with how we've been shooting in that I've been able to cut it as we go along, so I'm anticipating about five months," said Januschka.

The conversation then turned to distribution of the film, and how independent film distribution varies from dependent film distribution.

"It's a free market, so there's a billion different ways to go about it," said Januschka. "The most important thing, I think, is just making the movie that you want to make, and then trying to find the audience."

Januschka stated that while the team has put a lot of consideration about how they're going to distribute the film, he's mainly focusing on just making the best film he can right now.

With casting main characters, Januschka explained that it's a bit more complicated than an actor or actress reading from a script.

"We saw so much wonderful talent for the roles that it kind of came down to different versions of the character, as opposed to a better actor or anything like that," said Januschka. "From there it was a matter of doing chemistry reads and seeing how people interacted. For me also, it's a life experience. I was looking for people that had good, amazing souls that you want to be around and have that depth that isn't always found in Hollywood. I've been blown away by people who have chosen to be a part of our project when they're offered much bigger films."

When asked if Januschka searched specifically for cast members who were or are affected by addiction, Januschka stated that he preferred to judge a person on who they are as opposed to their past.

"It's more about the humanizing aspect of it versus the history and the past," said Briels.

Long commented that while they weren't specifically looking for people affected by addiction, many people have been directly or indirectly affected by it due to how common it is.

"It's definitely a passion piece for a lot of people that are on the crew," said Briels.

"I'd be really concerned if someone said that they haven't heard of addiction before," said Januschka. "The heroin epidemic is an interesting thing because so much of it is wrapped in shame, that unless you have had a personal experience or a family experience or something like that, people don't talk about it because it's so shameful."

When asked about the biggest challenges he faces with directing his film, Januschka said that his biggest challenge is himself.

"I think we've had an amazing crew and working with them has been a wonderful experience, but I feel that anytime you're jumping into another plateau of work and experience, there's unforeseeable stuff that you have to encounter and deal with and figure out," said Januschka. "We've had a great team to be able to cope with all of it, but it's the unknown unknowns that bite you in the butt."

Briels stated that the large majority of the film's crew isn't from Pagosa Springs and the location can feel foreign.

"We've uprooted 24 people's lives, and placed it in a small town with not a whole lot of film resources," said Briels. "It's a remote location that's on nobody's home turf." Briels went on to comment that, during the preproduction stage, one tends to be proactive. However, once filming begins, things tend to become more reactive.

Januschka stated that the film industry can encompass a broad spectrum, comparing a Hollywood superhero blockbuster to a \$10,000 micro-budget film.

Januschka also stated that his film's funding was somewhat overwhelming.

"It's more money than... I mean, I don't know why people are giving me this," said Januschka, with Long commenting, "I've seen the footage. I know why people are giving

him the money."

Januschka said that, when it comes to differences between independent films and "Hollywood-type" films, "It isn't so much different, I think it's just a lot of the people that are involved and what that film is actually being made for."

Januschka also stated that, with his film, it's his vision, and he doesn't have people above him tweaking what he wants to make.

"It's not like somebody tells me, 'We need a whole bunch of girls in bikinis running through.' I'm able to actually speak from my heart into a story, and I hope that translates," said Januschka.

When asked what the premise of the movie was, Januschka said, "I feel like a lot of films are easily summed up in one line, and what becomes interesting to me, especially looking at a piece of art, is what people take away from it."

Januschka said that he didn't want to pigeonhole the film.

"This film is different in a lot of different levels, and I think when people watch it, they'll be coming in from their own personal life experience, because it plays with timelines and memories," said Januschka. "I could give you a summary, but I wouldn't even want to give my perspective, because at a certain point, it's not up to me to dictate the film, it's a much more intimate thing between the audience member and what they're watching."

Continued Januschka, "To not cop out totally, it's a film that is connecting addiction with love and exploring human nature, and how we perceive memory and deal with trauma and relationships that have been lost."

When asked if the trio had anything they wanted to say to the people of Pagosa Springs, they all said, in unison, "Thank you."

"The support that we've had from the community, we wouldn't be able to make this film without Pagosa," said Briels. "Everybody has been so open and welcoming."

"The stars aligning for us has been a real blessing," said Januschka.

marshall@pagosason.com

PFPD responds to multiple crashes over weekend

By Marshall Dunham
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Fire Protection District (PFPD) had a very busy weekend, responding to many vehicle accidents that mainly occurred due to road conditions.

According to Capt. Will Clark of the PFPD, the first crash occurred on Friday evening when a car slid off the road behind the Giant gas station on Eagle Drive.

The original page reported entrapment, with Clark explaining that the PFPD assisted Pagosa Springs Medical Center (PSMC) EMS with forcing the door open to remove the driver.

Clark explained that no heavy tools were required for extrication.

He went on to explain that, on Saturday, Dec. 3, six car accidents occurred during the day, but he stated that the majority were minor accidents where cars slid off the road.

At 2:16 p.m., a single-vehicle accident occurred at Bienvenido Circle and Cemetery Road (County Road 411).

Clark explained that the driver, a young female, slid

off the road and was trapped in her car.

Clark said the accident required "light extrication" in that the windshield of the vehicle had to be removed.

Seven firefighters responded to the scene, said Clark.

Then, on Saturday evening, Clark stated that there was a head-on collision at the intersection of U.S. 160 and North Pagosa Boulevard.

Clark stated that the accident involved a truck and a car, and that he had to force the door of the car open for the driver to get out.

He went on to state that he believed the driver of the car was treated for light injuries, and that the three passengers of the truck refused treatment from PSMC EMS.

Clark put emphasis on the precautions one should take while driving in the winter, including slowing down and watching for black ice.

Additionally, Clark suggested making sure that a vehicle's tires have sufficient tread to be driving in winter conditions.

marshall@pagosason.com

The Blotter

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

Archuleta County Sheriff's Office
Nov. 28 — Warrant arrest, San Juan Street.

Nov. 30 — Failure to register as a sex offender, Dyke Boulevard.

Nov. 30 — County warrant, San Juan Street.

Nov. 30 — County warrant, San Juan Street.

Dec. 1 — Violation of bail bond condition-felony, violation of restraining order, San Juan Street.

Dec. 1 — Warrant arrest, Dyke Boulevard.

Dec. 2 — Violation of restraining

order, violation of bail bond condition-misdemeanor, Divot Place.

Dec. 4 — Warrant arrest, Bill's Place.

Dec. 5 — Theft, Justin's Road.

Town of Pagosa Springs Police Department

Nov. 29 — License suspended/expired plates/insurance, Town Park.

Nov. 30 — Obstruction of telephone service, South 9th Street.

Nov. 30 — License revoked, U.S. 160.

Dec. 1 — Agency assist, U.S. 160.

Dec. 2 — Harassment, Country Center Drive.

Dec. 2 — DUI, Eagle Drive.

Dec. 3 — Warrant arrest, South 5th Street.

Dec. 4 — Identity theft, Aspen Village Drive.

Pagosa Springs Municipal Court: Judge William Anderson

No report.

Archuleta County Court: Judge Justin P. Fay

Dec. 2 — Brenda K. Diller, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs — \$193.50.

Dec. 2 — Ira A. Douglas, speeding 20-24 over limit, fines and costs — \$339.50.

Dec. 2 — Carter Dean Raby, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs — \$193.50.

Dec. 5 — Melissa D. Ball, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs — \$193.50.

Archuleta County Court: Judge Samuel H. Cassidy

Dec. 2 — Juvet Berinyuy Fola, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs — \$193.50.

6th Judicial District Court: Judge Greg Lyman

No report.

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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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480 Wolverine Drive #12
Bayfield, Colorado 81122 | 970.444.0260

A Division of San Juan Regional Medical Center



preview

ARTS & LIFE

Breakfast with Santa

Saturday, Dec. 10 • 8:30 a.m. until 11 a.m. • Pagosa Springs High School





Photo courtesy Dan Burch

Breakfast with Santa is set for Dec. 10, offering a full breakfast, games, face painting for youngsters, songs from high school musicians and, of course, photos with Santa. Proceeds from the event benefit the high school music department's spring events.



Thursday
Riff Raff Brewing Company: Terry Rickard, 6 p.m.

Friday
Riff Raff Brewing Company: La La Bones, 6 p.m.

Saturday
Borde Rio: Nolan Redman, 5 p.m.
Riff Raff Brewing Company: Jack Ellis, 6 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.

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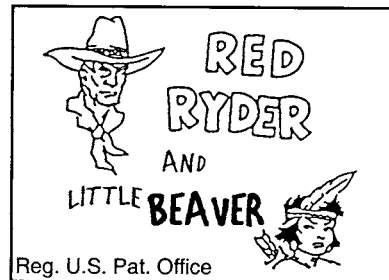


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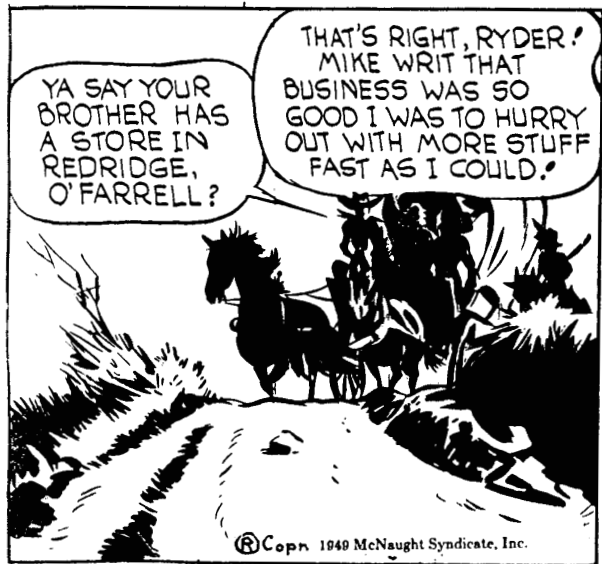
WEEKDAYS — LUNCH COMBOS & HAPPY HOUR!



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.

© Red Ryder Ent. Inc.

By Fred Harman



Breakfast with Santa set for Dec. 10 at high school

By Dan Burch
Special to The PREVIEW

Christmas is a time for family and tradition. The Pagosa Springs High School Music Department will once again host Breakfast with Santa at the high school. Many families have made this event a good way to start off the Christmas season with a great tradition.

This Saturday, Dec. 10, you and your family can come to the high school commons area and start

the morning with a full breakfast, enjoy games and face painting for the kids, hear inspiring Christmas songs from our high school musicians and complete the morning with a picture with Santa.

This event is a fundraiser for the high school music department. All proceeds go towards the music department's events in the spring, including the Music in the Parks competition.

There is a \$5 fee at the door and it covers all the morning's events.

There is a \$20 maximum per family. Breakfast will be ready at 8:30 a.m. and will go until 11 a.m. Make plans now to make this morning part of your Christmas season plans.

This 'Christmas Pageant' is the best

By Dale Scrivenger
Special to The PREVIEW

It's no secret that children and Christmas go together like peppermint and hot cocoa. Now, children and the stage?

W.C. Fields famously remarked, "I will never work with children or animals." Indeed, the Arvada Center, outside Denver, recently canceled their proposed production of "Christmas Story: The Musical" due to difficulties managing a cast full of kids and bloodhounds over the course of 120 minutes.

Thanks, both to the skills of director Laura Moore and to an innovative pairing of the children's division of Thingamajig Theatre Company, The Watchamawhozit's (the theater's educational arm), the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts is offering a Christmas-themed play, both by and for children, that is incredibly good.

Opening Thursday, Dec. 15, at 7 p.m., a strong cast and crisp, innovative directing, including some very funny physical comedy, make this worth watching on its own merits, beyond the obvious allure of cute kids. In this case, "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" lives up to its name.

The story involves a town that mounts a traditional, crèche-inspired Christmas pageant every year at the local church. The same

kids are always cast, but this year there's a hitch: the usual director, Helen Armstrong (Boni McIntyre), is in traction with a broken leg, and she reluctantly turns over the production to Grace Bradley (Jamie Finkenthal) and her comically grudging husband, Bob (James Scott). Much of the exposition is provided in the form of narration by their daughter, Beth (Olivia Craig.)

The naive Grace ends up casting the town delinquents, a gaggle of hardcore young bullies who are all siblings from the same welfare family. They scare off the "good" kids and grab all the lead roles. Things go from bad to worse, and havoc ensues.

Everything looks lost until the eleventh hour, when said bullies inexplicably and instantaneously transform into caring sweethearts once the curtain goes up on the play. The moral is that if we only accept them, the mean will turn kind and the selfish compassionate. Hey, it's a Christmas story; it's supposed to be miraculous.

Thingamajig Theatre Company presents "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" by Barbara Robinson. Directed by Laura Moore. Rated G. Playing Dec. 15-28. Playing in rep with "The SantaLand Diaries" weekdays at 7 p.m and Sundays at 2 p.m. For tickets and information, visit pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW (7469).

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Photo courtesy Heidi Tanner

Trumpet soloist Karen Mesikapp will be featured on Dec. 18 at 3 p.m. at the Pagosa Springs Community Band's Heralds of Christmas concert. The concert will be held at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church and will also feature the Pagosa Brass Quartet and Sally Neel on the organ and piano.

Make plans for The Heralds of Christmas concert on Dec. 18

By Heidi Tanner
Special to The PREVIEW

On Sunday, Dec. 18, at 3 p.m., members of the Pagosa Springs Community Band will present The Heralds of Christmas instrumental music concert.

With the mantle of snow and crisp temperatures that arrived in Pagosa over Thanksgiving weekend, Pagosa Springs is truly beginning to take on its picturesque Christmas dress. Members of the Community Band and St. Patrick's Episcopal Church will be celebrating the holiday season with beautiful brass music featuring the Pagosa Brass Quartet.

The Pagosa Brass includes Larry Elginer and Larry Baisdon on trumpet, Dan Burch on trombone and D'Ann Artis playing horn.

Sally Neel, music director at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, will be joining the brass quartet on some pieces playing the organ.

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church is well known in Pagosa Springs for its work presenting music of

many genres and also well-known for its wonderful acoustics. The concert will take place in the sanctuary, where the audience

will be delighted by the ambiance of the breathtaking view of the mountains through the cathedral ■ See Concert on next page

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Concert

■ **continued from previous page**
window and the beautiful stained glass punctuated by expansive timber framing. It will be a fine setting indeed for the talented musicians who will be performing an array of traditional Christmas carols.

The audience will be treated this year to a variety of brass solos.

Trumpeter Karen Mesikapp will be playing "O Come All Ye Faithful" accompanied by Neel on the organ. Mesikapp and her husband, Karl, who plays euphonium, have been faithful members of our band since its inception. Karen Mesikapp is an accomplished trumpet and trombone player who plays with the Durango Civic Winds as well as with the Pagosa Springs Community Band. She is also a seasoned string player who plays viola with the San Juan Symphony. She is a multitasking musician and we are pleased to feature her once again in this year's Heralds of Christmas

concert.

Baisdon and Elginer will be joined by Glynis Tanner, a recent high school graduate and longtime member of the Community Band, playing a trumpet trio arrangement of the delightful March from Tchaikovsky's "The Nutcracker." The concert will be sprinkled with other woodwinds such as a duet for flute and horn performed by Kathy Wadenpfohl and Artis. Grace Wiersma, student member of the Community Band's clarinet section, will be performing on her second instrument, the piano.

Admission to this concert is free. We do, however, appreciate donations which assist in keeping the Community Band operating during the year. Our organization presents four concerts annually and funds collected via donations allow the organization to continue operations and also to support music education in our local schools.

The Community Band is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and we will be able to provide you with a receipt in exchange for your tax-deductible contributions. This year, we will also be selling boxes of homemade cookies for \$10 each. These cookies will be delicious delectables that can be shared with company and will make great gifts for your friends and neighbors.

Come early for a good seat. Your local musicians are looking forward to playing for you and bringing joy to your holiday season.

The concert begins at 3 p.m. on Dec. 18 at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, located at 225 South Pagosa Blvd.

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♦ Christmas Eve @ 5pm

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service @ 5pm

Christmas Day "Unplugged" - 9am

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Saturday, December 10

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Jason Rose and Denise Chaney to sing for Sunday Night Unplugged

By Sally Neel
Special to The PREVIEW

The liturgical season of Advent is a time of waiting, a time to reflect on our lives, and a time to prepare to receive the mystery and joy of the Christmas miracle. This can be rather daunting when buying and mailing presents, decorating, baking special goodies, preparing for the arrival of family or special guests, and attending festive holiday activities seem to absorb all of our time and energy. However, just as rest is important to the body, the spirit requires us to stop, reflect and listen.

Sunday Night Unplugged will offer that opportunity this Sunday evening at 5 p.m. in the beautiful setting of St. Patrick's Episcopal

Church, located at 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Guest musicians will be Jason Rose and Denise Chaney, who will present us with a few of the lovely songs from their new Christmas CD, "Love has Come."

Sunday Night Unplugged is a music and meditation service that offers an atmosphere of peace and quiet, sounds of gentle music offered by local artists, the visual pleasures of the mountains and the woods as seen through the church's transept windows, and the soft glow of candles lit in prayer in front of a beautifully decorated altar. It is a unique setting that requires little more than your presence.

"Sunday Night Unplugged is not a typical liturgical Episcopal service of worship," said Fr. Doug Neel, rector of St. Patrick's. "We

have intentionally kept things simple to allow our guests to experience the presence of God in their own way. We offer a few readings that pertain to a particular theme of the evening, but the focus is on silence, music and prayer. Rose and Chaney have been frequent guests of Sunday Night Unplugged and their gift of music is always prayerfully and gratefully received."

Rose, pastor of worship and creative arts at Grace In Pagosa, and singer Chaney have collaborated their talents and songwriting skills for the past several years, bringing fresh sounds that envelope a variety of musical styles. Their blend has been described as "Musical medicine for the soul."

"Pagosa Springs is blessed with truly amazing musicians, professional in every way, and generously willing to give of their time and talent to benefit the community. Sunday Night Unplugged features these talented artists every month in a setting in which we are allowed to truly and deeply listen without distraction. Jason and Denise are wonderful artists who bring spiritually rich gifts of music. They will surely enrich and enhance this holy season with their beautiful voices," said Neel.

Sunday Night Unplugged is open to the public free of charge. Take this opportunity to stop and reflect on the holy mystery of the season; the most precious gift to all mankind, God made flesh, dwelling among us through the humble birth of the holy child, Jesus Christ.



Photo courtesy Anne McGarry

On Dec. 4, the second Sunday of Advent, 37 high school students visited with 11 homebound residents and Pine Ridge Extended Care Center residents, sharing smiles and a rose with each.

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‘This is Us’: It’s about family

The buzz is going around about a new television family show, “This Is Us.”

It’s a group of people with the same birthday. The broadcasting station promotes the show as “This is Real, This is Love, This is Us.”

What makes this program stand out above the rest? The writing is superb, the storyline is real and believable. It covers 30 years with flashbacks, which weaves in and out through backstories and characters at different times and ages.

Most publishers want little back-story, but this story needs the back-story to work. Three babies born on the same day are now 30 or so. Each struggles with his or her issues, such as weight, career and identity. As we have gotten to know them and their history, we see how they work as a family.

In the Thanksgiving episode, the Pearsons embarked on a six-hour road trip to Grandma’s house. A blown tire on their way changed their direction, which makes for a happy day for the children. They stay in an old motel and have furnace-roasted cheese dogs. They learn about Pilgrim Rick. The parents make the best of the situation and the family starts a new tradition. Now, the question is who will wear Pilgrim Rick’s hat?

A quote from the show’s promotional team says, “There are mixed moments of warmth, togetherness,

Artist’s Lane

Betty Slade



romance, humor with heartbreak, betrayal and confrontation. Two decidedly different interconnected Thanksgivings with the same family. It sounds like Grandma and Grandpa need some photo-taking etiquette lessons, based on Randall’s poignant comment. They always ask him to step out of frame so they can snap a twins-only shot.”

In the story, the mother and father make decisions as to what they think is best at the time. As parents, we also make decisions and find later they have unintended consequences. It’s the same dilemma, but different stories about different lives with the same real problems. It’s about family.

The things I have taken from this show is that three siblings all started out with well-meaning parents. They handled the past and present with the best intentions but they were dealing with three individuals with different personalities and different expectations.

Because we understand their struggles, we identify with how our own family became “This Is Us.” My

Sweet Al and I tried to do the best we could and we all ended up the way we did. We wanted the best for our family, so they would feel safe and loved. That was always our intent.

I’ve told friends over the years, our children are so different. They went to school together, rode the Pagosa bus every morning and rode home together every afternoon. They sat at the same table and lived in the same house. Three of them worked at the Hub in downtown Pagosa. Their lives ran parallel, but they all have their own set of issues, some good and some not so good.

Thanksgiving is traditionally a time for family members to come together to share a joyous meal. In our family we allow each other to be honest, and we have learned how to be forgiving at the same time. We add a lot of humor, which helps to keep the peace.

As we approach the holidays, memories, trials and traditions will all surface. It’s the peril of the season. We count our blessings and are grateful that we are a part of our family and our bigger family in Pagosa.

Final brushstroke: We have learned we have enough and more. We have chosen acceptance for each other. We can turn a simple meal into a feast and a family event. Our house is our home, where a stranger is a friend. “This Is Us.” Good wishes and peace from our family to yours during the holidays.

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Photo courtesy Gregg Heid

Snow on the trees at Wolf Creek Ski Area. The next Pagosa Springs Photography club meeting is scheduled for Jan. 11.

No December meeting for Photography Club, next meeting scheduled Jan. 11

By Gregg Heid
Special to The Preview

The Pagosa Springs Photography Club will not have a December

meeting. We will have our January meeting on Jan. 11 at the Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St.

Join us for socializing at 6

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

Everyone is invited to bring 10-15 pictures of their family Christmas celebrations and winter activities on a flash drive. Long time photographers and those just starting out are welcome.



Photo courtesy Gregg Heid

First snow on Pagosa Peak. The Pagosa Springs Photography Club will not meet in December, and is planning to view members' Christmas celebration photos in January.

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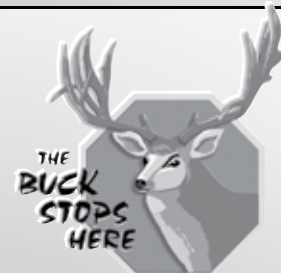
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Photo courtesy Carla Ryan

Left to right are Pagosa Community of New Thought members: Dianne Killen, board secretary, the Rev. Mike Ryan and the Rev. Carla Ryan.

New church space, new December theme for New Thought

By Carla Ryan
Special to The PREVIEW

Last weekend, the Pagosa Community of New Thought (PCNT) held its first gathering within the walls of its own sanctuary and church space (2800 Cornerstone Drive, across the parking lot from the Sears store and next to Shear Talk on the ground level).

This move comes just in time for the upcoming holiday events and services already planned, as well as those being added to the schedule. Check the PCNT website for details.

The December theme for this New Thought group is “The Gift You Are.” New Thought is based on teachings from Science of Mind, unity and uses other holy texts.

In support of this month’s theme, on Dec. 11 the Rev. Carla Ryan will present the topic “Being the Face of God.” One of the teachings of New Thought/Religious Science is that we are all individualized expressions of God. Each of us is unique; no two are alike. Such diversity is a gift of life and adds richness to all of humanity. The variety of humans, intelligences, beliefs, and so many other factors provide unlimited opportunities and ways for co-creating with the divine intelligence.

How are you showing up in the world? Are you putting your best face forward — your God-face? The presentation will explore what this means both in benefit and in responsibility.

Sunday will also be a time for celebration as students who have recently completed the fourth quarter classes and projects are recognized for their progress in these spiritual studies. The graduation ceremony will be conducted during the 10:30 a.m. service.

Hospitality and fellowship follow each service and gathering.

PCNT honors all lifestyles, belief systems, religious paths, and people for who they are, children of the divine. New Thought is a trans-denominational philosophy and draws from all the world’s major religions to teach Universal principles and concepts. Everyone is welcome.

Weekly Sunday gatherings are held at the PCNT center at 10:30 a.m. at 2800 Cornerstone Drive, Unit 3.

For information about the church or New Thought in general, attend a Sunday service, send an email to PagosaCommunityNewThought@gmail.com, call 749-902, 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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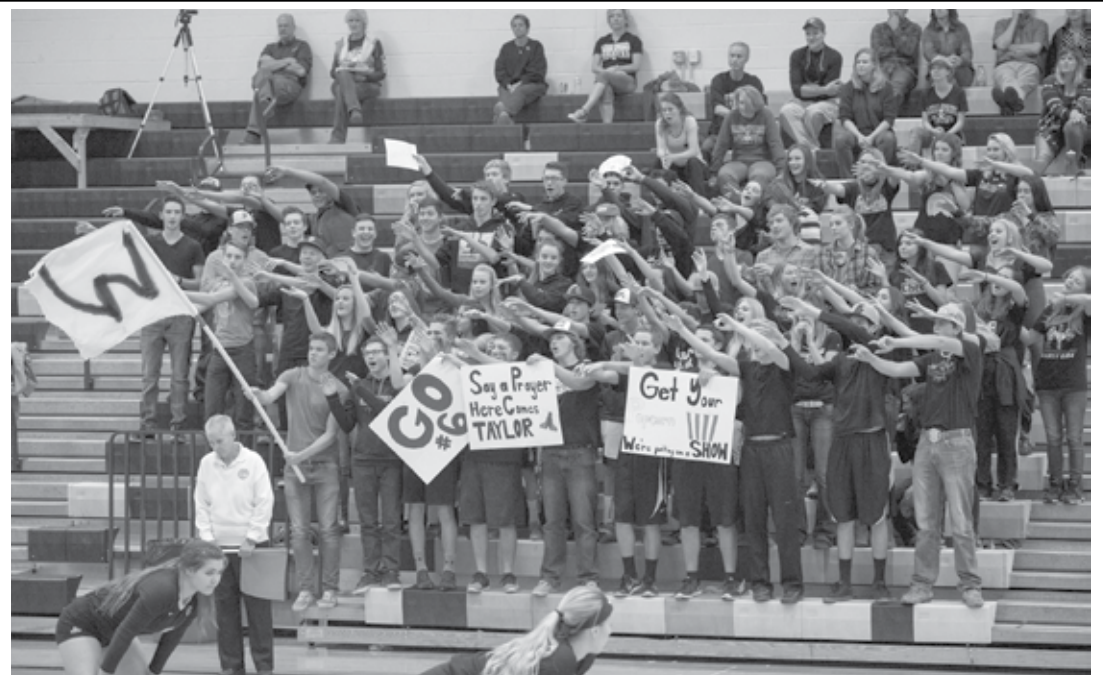
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Look out for that tree

By Lynn Moffett
Special to The PREVIEW

Turning 6, my son, Alan, yearned for a bike. Dick had a new business that demanded every penny we earned. Ever an innovator, he found a used one, tuned the spokes, polished the handlebars until they shone and painted it. We couldn't have found anything better.

Now came the challenge. This child climbed up on tables and room dividers at 5 months. He manufactured mischief faster than I could blink. He never sat still and he excelled in any sport. Teaching him to ride a two-wheeler should be a cinch. I'd already done this with his older sister, so this lesson couldn't be that hard.

We went out on the front sidewalk. He climbed aboard. I held the back of his seat and steadied him all of four steps before he waded me away. Balance was no problem. Three or 4 feet later, he slammed into the tree in the parkway.

Anger reddened his face and his lips thinned into a tight line. He wasn't used to failing at anything.

"Don't worry. You'll do it next time," I assured him.

He yanked his bike off the ground,

A Matter of Faith

examined every inch and discovered a scratch on the front fender. His chin set, he marched his new possession back to the driveway, lifted it and slammed it down with a bounce facing the way he had come.

Back on board, we started again. He hit the tree and went down harder. Without a word, he bullied the bike back to the starting point, threw his leg over the bar and dared me to help again.

"Calm down, son."

He hit the tree.

I took a deep breath. "I think you are focusing on the tree instead of where you are going. Try looking down the sidewalk to the Jones' house."

We spent an hour. Every time, the same thing happened. He couldn't force his eyes away from the tree. Every day for two weeks, he tried. And every day he hit the tree.

I must admit to holding back laughter. All I could think was the

line from the cartoon "George of the Jungle." I wanted to call out, "Look out for that tree!" I didn't.

How often do I try to repeatedly do the same thing expecting a different outcome? It's all about focus. No matter what is happening, what circumstance challenges me, I'm apt to concentrate all my effort on the problem rather than the answer I know so well.

I have to tell myself every time, "Keep your eye on the Lord, not the circumstance."

It isn't easy for me. But when I remember and refocus, peace reigns and solutions present themselves.

"Look out for that tree!"

Colossians 3:2 (NKJV) says, "Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth."

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://bettyjislade.com/BJS/Writers_Network.html. Visit our website at <http://www.wolfcreekwriters.com/> or our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/wolfcreekchristianwritersnetwork/>.

UU topic: 'Perception: Do You See What I See?'

By Karen LeCour
Special to The PREVIEW

The Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship invites you to attend a program titled "Perception: Do You See What I See?" with Karen LeCour this Sunday, Dec. 11, for its regular service.

In this talk, we'll ask, "Does the world we see exist in objective reality, or is it merely in the mind of the perceiver?" How much of what's there do we actually even notice in the first place? What role do prior experiences, beliefs and attitudes play in determining what and how we see?

We'll look at Sigmund Freud's theory of psychological projection whereby inner states are projected outward, further distorting what we think we see. And last, we'll look at the claims that the world of separation is itself a misperception and that unity is the underlying reality.

LeCour is a relatively recent arrival to Pagosa Springs and has been a member of the Fellowship since relocating here. Her career was devoted to the computer field, but her love is the spiritual quest, with a particular interest in the intersection of science and spirituality.

Karen and her husband, Bob, are facilitators of a local Course

in Miracles study group. LeCour loves having her hands in the dirt, nurturing plants, caring for her Nigerian dwarf goats, hiking, cooking, cheese making, writing and playing the piano.

This presentation reflects the Unitarian Universalist principles of "A free and responsible search for truth and meaning" and "Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part."

For those who plan ahead, 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.

Bar D Wranglers Annual Christmas Jubilee



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Simple ways to dress up your home for the holidays

Special to The PREVIEW

The holiday season is rife with traditions that focus on fun and family. One such testament to the festive spirit of the holiday season is the many homes and businesses decorated with the lights and colors that have become synonymous with the season.

Decorating for the holiday season can be time-consuming. While decking the halls may not consume as much time as holiday shopping and wrapping presents, according to data from a 2013 American Time Use Survey, interior and exterior decorating for the holidays may consume anywhere from 2.5 to 3 hours per session.

Holiday decorating includes things as simple as setting up a menorah or as complex as stringing lights on the exterior of a home. Though elaborate displays can take hours to erect, time-crunched holiday celebrants can still create festive, welcoming displays.

- Hang holiday wreaths. Holiday enthusiasts without much time to decorate can invest in a couple of holiday wreaths, which can be dressed up as much or as little as

celebrants prefer. If you do not have the time to string lights on the house, wrap them around wreaths hung in windows or hang the wreaths on a home's main entrance. Celebrants who want to go a less-traditional route can hang wreaths made of holly, citrus fruits, ribbons, or any other greenery instead of the more customary evergreen wreaths.

- Decorate with ornaments. Ornaments are not exclusive to Christmas trees. Fill a vase or bowl with metallic ornaments and place it in a prominent location, such as a busy hallway or the foyer of your home. Hang ornaments on clear filament from the mantle or within the main window of the house, where they can reflect tree lights and add sparkle.

- Bring in more greenery. Drape evergreen boughs on staircase handrailings or on the mantle, or use greenery to frame doorways. The scent will be inviting and things instantly will look more festive.

- Use throws and decorative pillows. Change the look of a room with holiday-colored decor if you do not want to clutter the space

with knickknacks. A red and green blanket draped over the sofa can give off a comforting holiday vibe.

- Focus on the front door and entryway. Celebrants who do not have the time to decorate their entire homes can create a warm, inviting space by decorating their front doors and entryways. Place greenery, bows, tinsel, lights, and winter-inspired accessories by the front door so friends and family visiting for the season catch the holiday spirit the moment they walk through the door.

- Place LED candles in windows. Rather than contending with twinkle lights and electric cords, homeowners can employ battery-operated faux candles to create a homey appeal in windows and hallways throughout their homes.

Simplify holiday decorating with some easy tips to make houses cozy and festive.

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Pagosa Bible Church to present 'If Christmas Came Today'

By Rick Artis
Special to The PREVIEW

Pastor Dave Stene and the congregation of Pagosa Bible Church are pleased to present a new play titled "If Christmas Came Today." The story follows Mary and Joseph on their trek to Bethlehem from a slightly different perspective.

The cast includes Pagosa theater regulars Heather Muirhead as Mary, Kevin Muirhead as Joseph, Brittany Bedtke as

Manuela, Anika Thomas as Ilana, Elliot Reed as Benjamin, Katrina Thomas as Raphaela, Rick Artis as Isaac and D'Ann Artis as Gwendolyn.

Opening night is Thursday, Dec. 8, at 7 p.m., with repeat performances Friday, Dec. 9, at 7 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 11, at 9 a.m.

Pagosa Bible Church is located at 209 Harman Park Drive, behind Wells Fargo Bank.

Admission is free and all are welcome.

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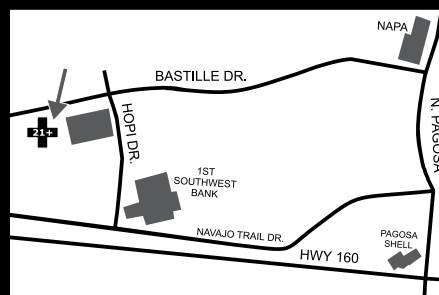


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Photo courtesy John M. Motter

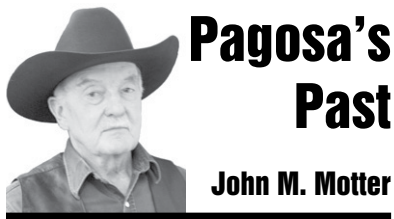
Pagosa Springs was proud of the Columbine Band. The band's performers were local citizens. Holding the reins during this parade is Fil Byrnes, who filled many roles in local history, including first school teacher, first school board president, deputy sheriff, stage coach driver and county judge.

Pagosa's early days: music, theater and more

In the early days, circa 1900, Pagosa Springs had a band called the Columbine Band. A surprising number of community members played musical instruments.

Naturally, because a band needs a place to perform, in 1899 the town built a bandstand — you could call it a gazebo — next to the Town Hall located at the intersection of San Juan and Pagosa streets.

The gazebo did a bit of traveling, moving first to Town Park in 1902 and then to Triangle Park. Triangle Park was located on the southeast corner of the Lewis Street, San Juan Street intersection. Town Hall also moved to Triangle Park, where it remained until the present Town



Hall was built a few years ago.

The Columbine Band played on the Fourth of July and on other festive occasions in Pagosa Springs. It also functioned as an ambassador of good will by participating in parades in surrounding communities.

Hilltop Cemetery was in use as early as 1901 on land donated to

the town by Kate Slick. The board soon discovered the donated land did not belong to Slick; it was homestead land she failed to prove up on. Finally, in 1905, the town paid the amount of money necessary to patent the cemetery grounds.

In October of 1905, A.T. Sullenburger was granted a right of way through certain Pagosa streets al-

■ See Past on next page

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Making holiday parties a positive, enjoyable experience

By John Lough
Special to The PREVIEW

'Tis the season for parties — office parties, social events, get-togethers with friends or relatives. It should be, and can be, a fun time of the year, but it also presents opportunities for difficulties and outright disasters.

While sitting home and not socializing may seem a safe answer, that's really just punishing yourself and can leave you feeling left out and depressed. Instead, follow a few commonsense rules to help you enjoy the season and avoid disasters.

- Don't skip that party. Whether it's an office party, family gathering or neighborhood get-together, you only damage your reputation by being a no-show. If you're hesitant to attend an event, minimize your exposure by showing up early in the party, staying for a short time, then thanking your host and leaving. And, in some cases, you may find you're

actually enjoying yourself and want to stay longer.

- Be informed. If you're anxious about how to dress for an event, or unsure whether there will be gift giving, ask a few questions ahead of time. A little information will lessen that anxiety. And remember gag gifts should never be something risqué or embarrassing.

- Avoid the alcohol. Even one or two alcoholic drinks can affect your judgment and lead to a party disaster. Sticking to juice or soft drinks lessens your chances of saying the wrong thing or doing something foolish.

- Don't be critical. A holiday party isn't the place to vent frustrations or to negatively critique others. It's almost a guarantee that negative comments will get repeated later to all the wrong people.

- Use your best manners. Yes, that buffet looks tempting, but don't overeat or walk away with an over-

loaded plate of food. Do the things your mother taught you. Politely introduce yourself to others and be sure to thank your host or hostess when leaving.

- Stay away from problem people. If there's a co-worker with whom you always clash, avoid him or her and spend time with people you like. If there's a relative who always has to argue with you, simply refuse to respond and excuse yourself politely.

Holiday parties need not be feared. They can, and should be enjoyable events, even when you feel "required" to attend. Plan on staying sober and on being polite and sociable, and you may just find yourself having a very good time.

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

Past

■ continued from previous page
lowing for use by the Pagosa Lumber Co., owned by Sullenburger.

In those early days, so-called "sin" taxes supported the town, which had no property or sales tax income. Appearing on the town magistrate's docket for 1906 were monthly fines of \$5 each paid by certain named ladies for being "in-mates of a house of ill repute." All of the businesses selling alcoholic beverages were heavily taxed.

A major fire in 1904 ravaged about half of the town's main business block along Pagosa Street. In truth, few of the first buildings remain in Pagosa Springs because of fires. In its early days starting in 1878, Pagosa Springs did not have the substantial brick buildings featured in the first mining boom towns such as Silverton, Ouray, Telluride and Creede. Wooden buildings and no community water system led to the demise of many frontier communities.

An ordinance licensing theatrical exhibitions, amusements and

shows was adopted by the town board in 1907. As early as the 1890s, shows featuring a variety of optical-light devices were being held at the Patrick House, Gross Hall and Phillip's Hall.

Moving pictures arrived in Pagosa Springs in 1907. The first show was on the second floor of Hatcher's Hall. Hatcher's Hall was earlier known as Phillip's Hall. This building, constructed with adobe blocks, remains on Pagosa Street. Its builder was Alice Phillips, with construction beginning in 1898. A public meeting room upstairs was known as Phillip's Hall. When the building was completed, Hatcher rented one half and Bowling the other half, using the space for their businesses. Hatcher later purchased and added on to the building, which became known as the Hatcher Building. In 1921, Hatcher sold the building to Dave Hersch and it became known as the Hersch Building. For many years, Hersch operated a grocery store in the building. It was still

called the Hersch Building when I moved to Pagosa Springs circa 1970.

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Photo courtesy Community Concert Hall

With decades of history under their collective belt, the Blind Boys of Alabama will bring a holiday show, "Talkin' Christmas," to the stage of the Community Concert Hall at Fort Lewis College on Dec. 15.

Blind Boys of Alabama will be 'Talkin' Christmas!' Dec. 15 in Durango

By Indiana Reed
Special to The PREVIEW

The Community Concert Hall at Fort Lewis College will welcome the Blind Boys of Alabama, bringing a special holiday show, "Talkin' Christmas," to the stage on Thursday, Dec. 15, at 7:30 p.m.

The Blind Boys of Alabama have the rare distinction of being recognized worldwide as both living legends and modern-day innovators. Not just gospel singers borrowing from old traditions, the group helped define those traditions in the 20th century and almost single-handedly created a new gospel sound for the 21st century.

Since the original members first sang together as children at the Alabama Institute for the Negro Blind in the late 1930s (including Jimmy Carter, who leads the group today), the band has persevered through the decades to become one of the most recognized and decorated roots music groups in the world.

"We had no idea when we started that we would make it this far," noted Carter in a press release. "The secret to our longevity is, we love what we do. And when you love what you do, that keeps you motivated. That keeps you alive."

The Blind Boys of Alabama has lived American history, touring throughout the south during the Jim Crow era of the 1940s and 1950s. In the 1960s, the group sang at ben-

efits for Martin Luther King Jr., and became part of the soundtrack to the Civil Rights movement. And the Blind Boys witnessed a resurgence of gospel music in the 1980s, tapped for a starring role in the Obie Award-winning musical "The Gospel at Colonus."

The group's most recent album, "Talkin' Christmas!," a collaboration with Taj Mahal, continues the band's streak of creating original and interesting work. It includes new versions of Christmas standards, covers of hidden gospel gems and features seven new holiday songs — six of which are the first Christmas songs ever penned by the Blind Boys.

Five-time Grammy Award winner (including a Lifetime Achievement Award), the Blind Boys of Alabama has been inducted into the Gospel Music Hall of Fame and performed at the White House for three different presidents. The live shows continue to be roof-raising musical events enjoyed by audiences of all cultures.

View a variety of videos from the Blind Boys of Alabama at <http://www.blindboys.com/videos>.

Tickets for the Blind Boys of Alabama (\$39/\$46) are available online at www.durangoconcerts.com, by calling 247-7657 or by visiting the ticket office inside the Durango Welcome Center at 8th Street and Main Avenue in downtown Durango. All sales are final.

Celebrating its 20th anniversary season in 2016-2017, the Community Concert Hall is a not-for-profit, multiuse performance venue located on the campus of Fort Lewis College.

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Plants of the season part 2: the Christmas rose

By Roberta Tolan
PREVIEW Columnist

In Europe, the Christmas rose (*helleborus niger*) is considered one of the most traditional and noble seasonal plants of the Christmas season, but it comes with its fair share of confusion.

The Christmas rose, ironically, is not even a rose but a member of the buttercup family. It gets its common name from its resemblance to wild roses with its large, flat flowers on short stems and it produces white and occasionally pink flowers standing around 9-12 inches in height.

Its natural habitat can be found up in the mountainous regions of Switzerland, Bavarian Germany, Austria, Northern Italy and Croatia, but can grow in any well-drained garden soil and is hardy even in the most shaded of areas.

The Christmas rose is another plant that is steeped in history, tradition and folklore. The plant is heavily associated with Christianity and the birth of Christ through a little shepherd named Madelon. The legend goes that Madelon was tending to her sheep one cold and wintry night. Three wise men and a group of shepherds passed by. The wise men were bearing gifts including frankincense, gold and myrrh and the shepherds bearing fruits, nuts and doves. Madelon became saddened that she didn't have any gift for the newborn and began to weep. An angel looking down saw Madelon's tears and came down to her aid. The angel brushed away the snow to reveal a beautiful white flower with tips of pink for her to give the infant — our Christmas rose. A lovely legend of the spirit of Christmas for a beautiful flower.

Botanically, Christmas rose is classified in the plant family ranunculaceae, the buttercup family. The scientific name, *helleborus*, derives from the Greek name for *H. orientalis* "helleboros elein" to injure and "bora" food. Niger refers to the black color of the roots of the Christmas rose plant.

The Christmas rose is an evergreen rhizomatous perennial and flowers from December through April — the season when snow is melting leaving open spots for the first plants to grow. By the end of and during the flowering season, part of the old leaves die and new ones begin to grow.

Extension Viewpoints

Even though the Christmas rose is steeped in folklore and displays a beautiful flower, the entire plant is also highly toxic. Some of the compounds contained in plants found in the ranunculaceae family include cardiac glycosides bufadienole hellebrin, saponins and ranunculosides. All parts of the plant contain some or all of these toxins and can be a hazard to both humans and animals and should be kept out of reach of children and pets.

Other toxic holiday plants

Holly (*ilex aquifolium*) — The holly plant has evergreen leaves that are dark and shiny and display bright red berries that are popular in holiday decorating. The plant contains several glycosides and theobromine, which affects the heart. The red berries are also toxic and, when eaten in great numbers, can cause persistent vomiting and diarrhea.

Mistletoe (*viscum album*) — Mistletoe is a partial parasitic plant growing on many types of trees and its degree of toxicity can vary depending on the host tree. The toxic compounds found in mistletoe are proteins viscotoxin A and B and the leaves and stems are said to be more toxic than the white decorative berries. Reactions following mistletoe ingestion are variable and serious reactions are rare, however, fatal poisonings

have been reported both for humans and pets.

Poinsettia (*euphorbia pulcherrima*) — Poinsettias are used as Christmas decorations because of their very colorful bracts located just beneath the actual small flowers. The milky sap, characteristic of plants in this Euphorbiaceae family, contains poisonous diterpene esters that are persistent even when dried. Poinsettias are often mentioned to be highly toxic, however, recent studies have failed to show toxic effects.

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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PAGOSA SCENE . . .

CHRISTMAS TEA

PREVIEW photos/Terri House Scene ... at the annual Christmas Tea at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church Sunday afternoon. The annual event treats ladies to an elegant afternoon of being pampered with tea, door prizes, pastries and more.



PAGOSA SCENE . . .

FESTIVAL OF TREES

PREVIEW photos/Terri House

Scene ... at the annual Festival of Trees fundraising event. Following Thursday's public viewing and vote, Friday's Festival of Trees featured both silent and live auctions, with the live auction featuring the 10 most popular trees. Each tree represented a nonprofit, with the nonprofit receiving the proceeds from the sale of its tree.



‘Do it self’: an independent child

By **Daris Howard**
Special to The PREVIEW

Our neighbors have a little 3-year-old daughter, Millie, who is very independent. She has to do everything herself. She has been that way since she could barely crawl. I think about the first words she learned was, “Do it self,” because that was what she always said.

One time when we were at church, she was standing in front of the water fountain, which was about a foot above her head.

“Do you want some help to get a drink?” I asked.

“Do it self,” she replied.

She thought and thought and considered all options but could not figure out how to get a drink. She finally let me lift her up to the water. But the minute I went to push the bar that made the water come out, she said, “Do it self,” and pushed it on her own.

In the church nursery, she was the same way. I opened the toy cupboard, and the toys were stacked on the shelves as they always were.

“Which toy would you like, Millie?” I asked.

She pointed to a bear that was a couple of feet above her head. I reached for it, and she said, “Do it self.”

I rolled my eyes but left the bear where it was and started to hand toys to the other children. Millie stood on her tiptoes, but she was still nearly a foot short of reaching the bear. The other children started playing with their desired toys while Millie stared at the bear trying to figure a way to get it down.

She took a small doll and laid it down on the floor and stood on it. She still couldn't reach the bear, and the doll underneath her feet rolled, and she fell. I reached down to help her up, and she said, “Do it self.”

I sighed and let her stand up on her own. Millie looked around and saw a little stick that the children used to make a corral for the toy farm animals. She got the stick and took it over to the shelf and tried to reach the bear with it. She waved the stick, but it was about an inch

short. She thought for a minute and then went and got the doll again. She stood on it and waved the stick, barely touching the bear, but it was enough to unbalance it so it fell off of the shelf onto the floor.

I smiled. I had to admit that Millie was quite innovative. Some of the other children wanted us to do everything for them, even what they could do for themselves. But Millie's attempts at doing everything for herself taught her to think. I realized this even more as the weeks went by. I watched as Millie became more and more clever in her ability to do everything. A month or two later, I was standing by the water fountain lifting each nursery child up to get a drink.

When Millie came, knowing her temperament, I waited for her to ask. But she didn't ask. Instead, she disappeared into a nearby classroom and came out dragging a child-size chair. She scooted it up next to the water fountain, climbed on it, and got her own drink. She didn't bother returning the chair, so I did, but I marveled at her ingenuity.

Sometime later that day I ran into Millie's mother. I told her what I had observed about Millie over the last few months and what I had recently observed earlier that morning.

“Have you also noticed that none of her clothes ever match?” Millie's mother asked.

“I haven't,” I replied. “But that's probably because I'm a man and don't notice such things.”

Millie's mother sighed. “Well, they never do match because Millie insists on dressing herself. I'm considering removing all of her shirts and blouses and replacing them. And you know what they will say on them?”

“What?” I asked.

“They will say, ‘Mom loves me, but I dress myself.’”

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264-2101

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Part of a calyx
- 6 Caustic chemical
- 9 Bed board
- 13 Belief
- 14 Aquatic shocker
- 15 Tiresome task
- 16 Kansas City stadium
- 18 Company dodger
- 19 Cut (off)
- 20 Street musician's instrument
- 22 Depressing
- 24 Computer command
- 25 Number in a Kutcher TV title
- 26 Dull
- 28 Any doctrine

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12
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52	53	54						55	56			57	
58							59				60		
61							62			63			
64							65				66		

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- 31 Sham argument
- 34 Hypnotic state
- 36 Pinocchio, at times
- 37 Go fish
- 39 Astronomer's sighting
- 40 Aim
- 42 Audio accessory
- 44 Casual attire
- 45 Before the due date
- 47 Witch's work
- 48 Joined the party
- 49 Mackerel's cousin
- 52 Power cable with extreme voltage
- 57 Arresting figure?
- 58 Model
- 59 Climate type
- 61 Like some vegetables
- 62 Horse-and-buggy ____
- 63 Carpenter's joint
- 64 Weight deduction

- 65 Electricity source
- 66 Accumulation of fluid
- DOWN
- 1 Burn badly
- 2 Trial partner
- 3 Commit
- 4 "Without further ____..."
- 5 Uncultivated
- 6 Give the eye
- 7 Orbital period
- 8 Alec, among the Baldwin brothers
- 9 Driftwood site
- 10 Marathon
- 11 Environs
- 12 Fork-tailed flier
- 15 Shade of green
- 17 Cow chow
- 21 Not the former
- 23 Sentient
- 26 Word before and after "oh"
- 27 One of Charlie's trio
- 28 Inebriate
- 29 Glance over

- 30 Insignificant
- 31 Buttonhole
- 32 Fork part
- 33 Butterfly, e.g.
- 35 Pale with fright
- 38 Not of the cloth
- 41 In a tidy way
- 43 Unit of speech
- 46 Signed a lease
- 48 Irritate
- 49 Clobber
- 50 ____ pole
- 51 Verdi specialty
- 52 Sword handle
- 53 Creative spark
- 54 Spur or helical
- 55 Red Cross supplies
- 56 Muslim leader
- 60 Do away with

Answer to Last Week's Crossword:

R	A	C	E	M	E				F	R	O	S	T												
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Preview Calendar

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

Thursday, Dec. 8

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.

Mountain View Homemakers Christmas Holiday Gathering. 11 a.m., Extension building. The Pagosa Springs High School choir will sing Christmas carols. Special luncheon, optional gift exchange. All area women are invited. Call Tozi at 731-3360 for more information.

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.

Connect for Health/Medicaid Presentation. 1-1:45 p.m., Sisson Library. Call 264-2209 for more information.

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

DIY Holiday Ornaments. 4-5:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Join us to make a variety of festive decorations out of old books, beads and paper. For youth in the 5th-12th grades. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Friday, Dec. 9

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

Christmas Parties for Kids: Backwards Birthday Bash. 9-11:30 a.m., Pagosa Valor Academy. These parties are sponsored by Child Evangelism Fellowship of Colorado. Parents are welcomed to attend. For more information, call Frank and Connie Porter, (303) 901-5290 or 507-7096, or email ceflittlekids@gmail.com.

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

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

Christmas Parties for Kids: Backwards Birthday Bash. 1:25-3:25 p.m., Pagosa Springs Elementary School. These parties are sponsored by Child Evangelism Fellowship of Colorado. Parents are welcomed to attend. For more information, call Frank and Connie Porter, (303) 901-5290 or 507-7096, or email ceflittlekids@gmail.com.

Gaming. 2-3:15 p.m., Sisson Library. All ages. Enjoy video gaming on the Wii and X-box 360 Kinect with all of your friends and family. 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. 10

Breakfast with Santa. 8:30-11 a.m., Pagosa Springs High School. You and your family can start off the morning with a full breakfast, enjoy games and face painting for the kids, hear inspiring Christmas songs from high school musicians and complete the morning with a picture with Santa. There is a \$5 fee at the door and a \$20 maximum fee per family.

Pagosa Nordic BB Gun Biathlon. 9 a.m., Wolf Creek Ski Area, Alberta Park. Registration is from 9-9:30 a.m. with a 10 a.m. start. The cost is based on your

donation. RSVP as space may be limited. Go to PagosaNordic.com for more information.

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.

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

Pagosa Piecemakers Quilting Guild. 10 a.m., CrossRoad Christian Fellowship, 1044 Park Ave. We will be celebrating with Christmas show and tell, games,

■ See Calendar on next page

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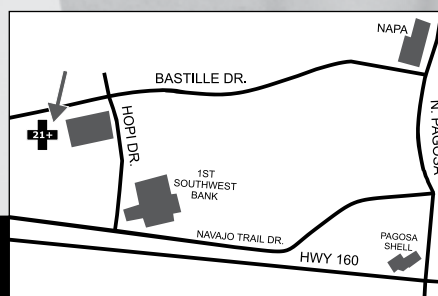
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Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page**

food and friendly faces.

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.

Christmas Parties for Kids: Backwards Birthday Bash. 2-3:30 p.m., Community Center. These parties are sponsored by Child Evangelism Fellowship of Colorado. Parents are welcomed to attend. For more information, call Frank and Connie Porter, (303) 901-5290 or 507-7096, or email ceflittlekids@gmail.com.

Made-to-Give Stenciled Gifts. 3-4:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Create beautiful handmade, stenciled gifts for someone special in your life. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Benefit Dinner. 5-8 p.m., Dorothy's Restaurant. A benefit chili dinner will be held for Marty Martinez. A benefit drawing for a leather handbag will be ongoing until Dec. 23, when a winner will be announced. \$20 tickets can be purchased at Just for Kids.

Contra Dance. 6:30 p.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. This is to benefit the Archuleta County Victim Assistance Program, which lost its offices in the Adobe fire. Donations will be accepted at the door. These fun and easily accessible dances for all ages will include American folk dances in circles, squares and line formations. For more information, call Juanalee Park at 731-7547.

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.

Sunday, Dec. 11

Christmas Parties for Kids: Backwards Birthday Bash. 1-2:30 p.m., Amazing Grace Church, Aspen Springs. These parties are sponsored by Child Evangelism Fellowship of Colorado. Parents are welcomed to attend. For more information, call Frank and Connie Porter, (303) 901-5290 or 507-7096, or email ceflittlekids@gmail.com.

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.

Sunday Night Unplugged. 5 p.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church,

225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Guest musicians will be Jason Rose and Denise Chaney, who will present us with a few of the lovely songs from their new Christmas CD.

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.

A Celtic Christmas. 7 p.m., Restoration Fellowship Church, 264 Village Drive. Come and enjoy an evening of Christmas music with a Celtic flavor. The Patrick Crossing Band will be performing a selection of traditional Celtic music. Admission is by donation only.

Monday, Dec. 12

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

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

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.

Seeds of Learning Performance. 11:30 a.m., Senior Center.

Bingo. 1 p.m., Senior Center.

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

Earth Community. 2 and 6 p.m., Visitor Center. We will be discussing the fall 2015 issue of YES Magazine.

Christmas Parties for Kids: Backwards Birthday Bash. 4-5:30 p.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse. These parties are sponsored by Child Evangelism Fellowship of Colorado. Parents are welcomed to attend. For more information, call Frank and Connie Porter, (303) 901-5290 or 507-7096, or email ceflittlekids@gmail.com.

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

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

Tuesday, Dec. 13

Dancin' and Movin' with Debbie. 9:30-10:30 a.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. What

■ **See Calendar on next page**

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Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

are you waiting for? Come have fun and get moving with us. For information, call Debbie Copple at 398-0606.

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.

Seeds of Learning Performance. 11:30 a.m., Senior Center.

Archuleta County Republican Women. Noon, Boss Hogg's Restaurant. We will be hosting Christine Soria and Matt Dodson. Everyone is invited to attend. Lunch will be offered for \$12. Email acrwpagosa@gmail.com for more information.

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

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

Book Club for Adults. 2-3 p.m., Sisson Library. We will discuss "Little Night" by Luanne Rice. Call 264-2209 for more information.

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

Teen Gaming. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. X-box, 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.

Wednesday, Dec. 14

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

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

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

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.

Seeds of Learning Performance. 11:30 a.m., Senior Center.

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

DIY Wreaths. 1-2 p.m., Sisson Library. Join Rachael for do-it-yourself paper wreaths. Call 264-2209 for more information.

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

Jelly Beans and Squiggly Things After-School Club. 3:30-5 p.m., Pagosa Springs Elementary School, room 9. For information, call 903-8104.

Spanish Basics: People and Family. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. In this basic Spanish lesson, we will learn how to talk about family members and begin to describe who people are and what they do. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Tween Gaming. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. X-box 360 Kinect, Wii and snacks. Call 264-2209 for more information.

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

Winter Birds 101. 6-8 p.m., Community Center west conference room. Audubon Rockies'

Keith Bruno will host a bird identification class. For more information, go to www.weminuheadubon.org or call Dottie George at 731-5759.

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

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.

■ See Calendar on page 23

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PAGOSA SCENE . . .

TAPESTRY OF SOUND

PREVIEW photos/Terri House
Scene ... at the Tapestry of Sound music event Nov. 23 at the library. Jessica Peterson and Paul Roberts performed a special concert for children and families on their array of instruments from around the world. There were sing-alongs, body percussion, dancing and drumming.



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Preview Calendar

■ continued from page 21

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.

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.

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.

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 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.

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■ See Calendar on next page

Give a pet in need
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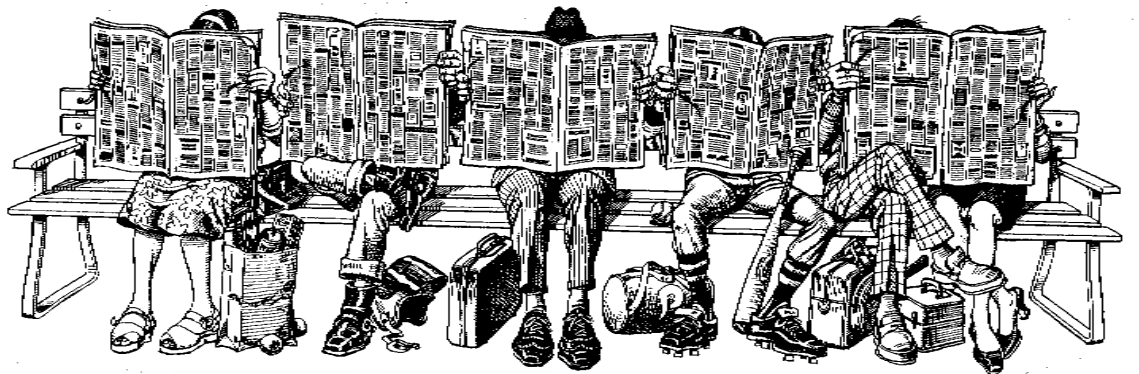
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Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page 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.

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.

High Country Squares. 6:30-8:30 p.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Mainstream and Plus square dancing with Jim Park calling. Contact person: Steve, 731-0044.

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.

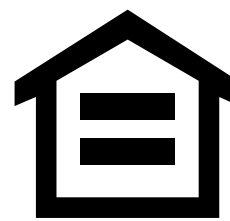
Tuesday, Dec. 20

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

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

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.

HUD Publisher's Notice



**EQUAL HOUSING
OPPORTUNITY**

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or an intention, to make such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

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

SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Purchase Gifts of the Heart, support nonprofits

By Barb Draper
Special to The PREVIEW

We all know that life can be a struggle sometimes. Emergencies happen. Costs of living go up when wages do not. Hours can be cut. Jobs can be lost. Children (or parents) can become ill. A family can break up for a number of reasons. Thankfully, here in Pagosa Springs, there are nonprofit agencies that can help people get through some of these situations.

Gifts of the Heart, the greeting card program sponsored by the Methodist Church, is a major supporter of four of these groups. The program provides assistance for the Community Assistance Fund, the Methodist Church Food Pantry, Pagosa Programs for Youth and the After-School Tutoring Program.

Gifts of the Heart offers a meaningful way you can "think outside the box" and support your choice of these worthwhile groups. You can purchase greeting cards to send to friends, co-workers, relatives, etc. For a \$5 (minimum) donation, you will purchase a card that will honor the recipient. He or she will be pleased with your thoughtfulness and generosity, and both of you will know that some-

one in our community's day will be a little bit brighter because of you.

The artwork on each card is so beautiful that some have been framed by the recipients. The message inside allows you to personalize the card and to choose which organization you wish to support.

During this season, you can view and purchase the cards Monday through Thursday at the Methodist Church between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., or between the two services (9:15-11 a.m.) or just after the second service on Sunday mornings. There will also be a special sales table for the cards at Ace on Saturdays between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. through Dec. 17. In addition to a wide variety of Christmas cards, there are many other cards for all occasions available at both locations.

Giving and peace of mind are two of the greatest parts of this holiday season. You can provide both of these, both to yourself and to the person you present the card with. You may not know which individual(s) your donation has helped, but you will know that it is greatly appreciated — by the service organization and by the individual or family you have helped.

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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

ANSWER:

Christmas events for teens and adults, plus role playing for teens

By Carole Howard
PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

We offer more free, fun Christmas events for teens and adults in the coming week:

• Kids in the fifth through 12th grades are invited today, Thursday, Dec. 8, from 4 to 5:30 p.m. to a DIY holiday ornaments session when you will make a variety of festive decorations out of old books, beads and paper.

• This Saturday, Dec. 10, from 3 to 4:30 p.m., adults are invited to the second of three consecutive Saturday made-to-give sessions where you will create handmade gifts for someone special in your life. This week, make stenciled gifts (pillows and tote bags) and next week winter blooming bulbs in mason jars. No registration is required.

• Next Wednesday, Dec. 14, at 1 p.m., the adult DIY is book page wreaths. Materials are provided and no registration is required.

• As well, the ever-popular role-playing game for seventh- through 12th-graders takes place next Thursday, Dec. 15. Use your imagination to go on adventures and battle monsters. You can join this group any time.

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.

Medicaid and Connect for Health clinic today

Kevin O'Connor from the San Juan Basin Health Department and Renee Burch from the Archuleta County Department of Human Services discuss Medicaid options and changes to Connect for Health today, Thursday, Dec. 8, from 1 to 1:45 p.m. No registration is required.

All-ages gaming tomorrow

Enjoy video gaming on the Wii and X-box 360 Kinect with your family and friends tomorrow, Friday, Dec. 9, from 2 to 3:15 p.m.

LEGO Club Saturday

Lego Club for kids 6-13 years is 11 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Dec. 10. We've got the LEGOs — just bring your imagination.

Book club for adults

The book club for adults meets next Tuesday, Dec. 1, from 2 to 3 p.m. to discuss the novel "Little Night" by Luanne Rice. If you need a copy, let us know. The book club meets the second Tuesday of each month to discuss alternating fiction and nonfiction titles.

Library News

Spanish basics

Wednesday, Dec. 14, from 4 to 5 p.m., we will learn how to talk about family members and begin to describe who people are and what they do in this Spanish basics session. No registration required.

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.

Tween gaming

Tween gaming will happen Wednesday, Dec. 14, from 4 to 5 p.m. for fourth- through eighth-graders. Enjoy X-box 360 Kinect, Wii and snacks.

We've had very limited attendance at this event, but we keep getting requests for it, so we'll try it one more time.

Kids storytime

Every Wednesday from 10 to 11 a.m., join Michael for great stories, fun songs and plenty of reasons to get up and move. This is an excellent way for kids of all ages to have fun while building the skills they need to become independent readers.

Baby storytime

Every Saturday from 9:05 to 9:25 a.m., join Michael for a short session of stories, songs and fingerplays for you and your little ones. Learn easy tips on how to include literacy skills in everyday family life.

Toddler storytime

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

Large print

"Cakewalk" by Rita Mae Brown features the freethinking Hunsenmeir sisters. "This Was a Man" by Jeffrey Archer is the final volume of the Clifton Chronicles. "A Baxter Family Christmas" by Karen Kingsbury is an inspiring Christian family story.

CDs

"Hard Ride to Wichita" by Ralph Compton is a western. "When All

the Girls Have Gone" by Jayne Ann Krentz is a thriller. "Leopard's Fury" by Christine Feehan is a Leopard paranormal romance. "Real Food, Fake Food" by food journalist Larry Olmsted looks at genuine and fake food and helps you know the difference.

Mysteries and thrillers

"Ruler of the Night" by David Morrell is the third Thomas De Quincey mystery set in Victorian London. "The Spy" by Paulo Coelho is the story of Mata Hari in her own words. "The Line" by James Patterson is an Alex Cross mystery. "Chaos" by Patricia Cornwall is a Kay Scarpetta medical examiner mystery. "Sinner Man" by Lawrence Sanders is a hard case crime story.

Other novels

"The Throwback Special" by Chris Bachelor follows 22 football fans who gather every year. "The Sellout" by Paul Beatty is a humorous satire. "The Sympathizer" by Pulitzer Prize-winner Viet Thanh Nguyen is an espionage novel set in the Vietnam War. "My Grandmother Asked Me to Tell You She's Sorry" by Fredrik Backman follows a woman delivering apology letters for her dead grandmother. "All That Man Is" by David Szalay, a portrait of nine contemporary men, was a finalist for the Man Booker Prize. "Odessa Sea" by Clive and Dirk Cussler is a Dirk Pitt adventure. "Swing Time" by Zadie Smith follows the lives of two dancers. "Prince Lestat and the Realms of Atlantis" by Anne Rice is a Vampire Chronicles novel. "The Whole Town's Talking" by Fannie Flagg is the story of a Swedish mail-order bride and her family and friends.

Nonfiction

"Long-term Care" includes the latest laws and new information about Medicaid eligibility. "You Will Not Have My Hate" by Antoine Leiris is a memoir written after the author's wife was killed in a Paris terrorist attack. "The Grain Brain Whole Life Plan" by Dr. David Perlmutter explains how to put the doctor's advice into daily practice. "The Princess Diarist" by Carrie Fisher is based on journals the actress wrote while filming Star Wars. "At Home in the World" by Thich Nhat Hanh offer stories and essential teachings from a monk's life. "A Long Way Back" by Anthony Andrews documents an untold story from the Vietnam War.

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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Holiday Sale!

25% Off

regular price of one item of your choice with this ad, limit one coupon per customer, excludes artwork. Offer expires Dec. 23, 2016.

10% Off

Excludes artwork. Offer expires Dec. 23, 2016.



Shop early while supplies are still good. We have something for everyone.

Wolf Creek Gifts • (970) 264-2317 • Open 9am - 6pm
Located at The Junction Restaurant • Open 7 Days a Week

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.

The Pagosa Springs SUN
(970) 264-2100



Business Word Find

Find the hidden words in the puzzle.

ADVANCE	EMPLOYEE	PAYCHECK
BOSS	GROUP	SALARY
CAREER	MONEY	WEEKLY
CUBICLE	OFFICE	WORK

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

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- **1884:** CONSTRUCTION OF THE WASHINGTON MONUMENT IS COMPLETED.
- **1922:** THE IRISH FREE STATE COMES INTO EXISTENCE, EXACTLY ONE YEAR AFTER THE ANGLO-IRISH TREATY WAS SIGNED.
- **1998:** HUGO CHAVEZ IS ELECTED PRESIDENT OF VENEZUELA.



THE UNITED STATES SMALL BUSINESS ASSOCIATION OFFICE OF ADVOCACY SAYS 70 PERCENT OF ALL SMALL BUSINESSES LIST THIS MANY PEOPLE AS OWNER AND OPERATOR.

ANSWER: ONE

Get Scrambled

Unscramble the words to determine the phrase.

N O H E T B O J

Answer: On the job



BUSINESS

the practice of making a living in commerce

How they SAY that in...

ENGLISH: Desk

SPANISH: Escritorio

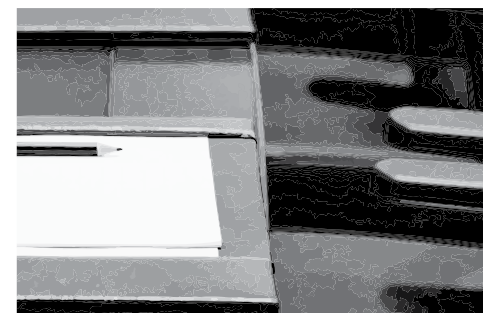
ITALIAN: Scrivania

FRENCH: Bureau

GERMAN: Schreibtisch



ACCORDING TO THE ORGANIZATION FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT, MEXICO WORKS THE LONGEST WORK WEEK AT 42.85 HOURS, AND GERMANY THE SHORTEST AT 26.37 HOURS ON AVERAGE.



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: CONFERENCE ROOM

264-2101

Classifieds

264-2101

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

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TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY

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GARTH: He's got friends in high places and can chase your blues away. Garth and his friend Carrie are here waiting to be home for the holidays. Adopt from **THE HUMANE SOCIETY**. 731-4771.

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HIPPIE CHICK MASSAGE is hiring one additional licensed Massage Therapist to join our team for the upcoming busy snow season! Must have great work ethic and want to work in a busy massage studio! High compensation paid! Call Shannon at 946-4578 for massage interview.

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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.

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.

POWDER PORTRAITS IS CURRENTLY seeking outgoing sales oriented individuals to train as ski photographers. No experience necessary. Full-time weekend and holiday periods included. Ski pass, \$11/ hour plus commission, including travel reimbursement. Applicants must know how to ski or snowboard and own appropriate ski or ride equipment. Call (719)339-4212.

ROOFERS AND LABORERS NEEDED with experience. (970)749-0830.

LABORERS WANTED. Driver's license and transportation required. Call 731-1805.

HELP WANTED

HIRING EXPERIENCED AND LICENSED PLUMBERS, and plumber helpers. (970)946-7096, leave message.

COOK: Archuleta School District 50 Joint in Pagosa Springs, CO is hiring a middle school cook. Applications must be completed online through www.mypagosaschools.com.

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@tblc.net.

DRIVERS NEEDED: Archuleta School District 50 Joint is in need of bus drivers. Competitive pay and training is provided. Contact Chad Bayles at 264-0392, ext. 601 or stop by the Maintenance and Transportation Department for more information. Applications are available at www.mypagosaschools.com.

LIFECARE- PART-TIME AND FULL-TIME positions available for Personal Care Providers/ Homemakers. Working phone and reliable transportation required. Training provided to those seeking a rewarding position with our agency. Application/ information (970)516-1234, ext. 1. <http://www.lifecare-inc.com>.

HUMANE SOCIETY OF PAGOSA SPRINGS. Thrift Store Help (may include some weekends). In-store duties include sorting, tagging, cleaning, customer service and cash register; frequent lifting- all successful applicants must be able to lift 40 pounds repetitively without limitation; may include helping with pickups and deliveries of furniture and other donated items. Must be a team player and willing to be cross-trained. Must have transportation, valid driver's license and Social Security Card. Pre-employment background check is required. Applications available only at the Humane Society Thrift Store (279 Pagosa Street). **NO PHONE CALLS, PLEASE.**

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.

NEEDING EXTRA MONEY through the holidays? Come join our team! Fast paced vacation rental company looking to fill multiple housekeeping positions. Compensation based on experience and quality of work, with mileage reimbursement. Must provide own transportation. Submit application in person at 165 N. Pagosa Blvd., by email to sunetha@pagosasprings.net, or call Sunetha Management (970)422-7164.

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.

PART-TIME DETENTION OFFICER. Archuleta County Sheriff's Office is accepting applications for Detention Officer. Starting wage \$18.48/ hour. Visit www.archuletacounty.org for position description and closing dates or submit application and resume to fgoheen@archuletacounty.org, fax (970)264-8306. Archuleta County is an equal opportunity employer.

HELP WANTED

PAGOSA SPRINGS MEDICAL CENTER has an opening for an **HIM Analyst**. The analyst assists with answering the telephone for the department and greets customers to the department. Reviews all completed charts as well as deficient charts and sends deficiency notification to providers, as needed. Attends to any customer needs. Performs diversified clerical duties requiring the application of several standard procedures and instructions. Compiles statistics for the reports and surveys. Performs other related clerical duties. This job description must cross-train to be able to effectively perform the job position of: HIM Clerk as needed. Applications may be picked up at PSMC's Human Resources office or downloaded from www.pagosaspringsmedicalcenter.org. Applications and resumes must be submitted to mitzi.bowman@psmedicalcenter.org or faxed to (970)731-0907. Pagosa Springs Medical Center is an EEO employer.

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@tblc.net.

COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (CDOT) Pagosa Springs, CO. The Transportation Maintenance Worker I performs highway maintenance and operates heavy equipment. Responsibilities include snow removal, road side and road surface maintenance, traffic device/sign maintenance and bridge structure maintenance. This position pays \$16.20 per hour, with opportunity for OT. Candidates must be available to work weekdays, weekends and holidays as needed throughout snow season. Requires 1-1/2 years labor experience in Heavy Construction (physical labor) or Farming/ Ranching experience AND six (6) months Heavy Equipment Operation/ Farming Equipment experience; OR 1-1/2 years Heavy Equipment Operation/ Farming or Ranching Equipment experience AND six (6) months labor experience in Heavy Construction (physical labor). A Colorado Commercial Driver's License (CDL) Type A or B with no restrictions on air brakes is also required. Please contact (970)382-9487 or email roberta.newman@state.co.us.

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 Manzanaras at dmanzanaras@dulceschools.com; phone (575)759-2950; fax (575)759-3533, PO Box 547, Dulce, NM 87528.

NOW HIRING! DISTINGUISHED Automotive Mechanic- Lead position. Must have reputable experience. Certifications a plus. Please apply in person at 163 Goldmine Dr. Unit B.

HELP WANTED

CATALOGER. The Ruby Sisson Library is looking for a tech person to catalog materials and perform library tasks. Solid knowledge of PC skills is required. Must be detail-oriented and comfortable assisting with technology questions. Must have great customer service skills, be a team player and able to work independently. Schedule is 24 hours per week and may include one evening a week. Salary commensurate with experience and knowledge. Drop off letter of interest and resume to library or email meg@pagosalibrary.org before December 14.

GROWING CLEANING BUSINESS in search of reliable and dependable person. Must have dependable vehicle, good work ethic, flexible schedule, including some weekends and some holidays. Call (970)799-1778.

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.

NEW SALON LOOKING for hair stylists, manicurist, esthetician and massage therapists. Great location and opportunity to build your business. (661)312-8295.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

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.

NEW ALANON GROUP: Traditional AlAnon Group meets Fridays, 6-7p.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Dr. (325)669-9715.

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.

NEW OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS meeting Thursdays, 11a.m., at Centerpoint Church, 270 Cornerstone Dr. Leslie, (970)799-0775.

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.

264-2101

Classifieds

264-2101

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

YARD SALES

BE SURE TO check for more yard sales in the Too Late To Classify section.

HOLIDAY SALE: Jewelry by Kray Kray Jewelry Designs, Tessie Garcia pottery, pine needle baskets by Sueyal Palma and vintage jewelry from the Chartreuse Moose. And assorted goodies. Saturday, December 10th, 9a.m.-noon, 53 Fremont Ct.

LOST & FOUND

LOST IN PAGOSA SPRINGS: One silver hearing aid. If you have found it, please call Margaret at (970)731-0302.

PERSONALS

REPORT KNOWLEDGE OF CRIMINAL ACTS To Crime Stoppers, 264-2131. You may be entitled to a reward. Anonymity guaranteed.

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ADOPT FROM THE Humane Society. Stop by or call 731-4771. You'll be amazed at what we have to offer. www.humanesociety.biz.

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FOR SALE: PINE CORDS and starter wood bundles. Call for details. (970)903-5134.

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2013 SNOWSTAR SNOWMOBILE TRAILER. 2 custom Polaris covers, spare tire. \$950. 264-0519.

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.

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.

BIG TEX 16' UTILITY TRAILER, built up wooden sides, double axle, \$3,500. 731-2010.

FIREWOOD FOR SALE. SPLIT pine/ aspen/ fir mix, \$185 cord, \$110 half cord, delivered. L.S. Also pitch wood. 264-0913.

STUDDED TIRES 205/70R15, asking \$325 OBO. TV hutch, asking \$80 OBO. 2 lower arms for 3 pt. hitch, \$350. 946-2061.

OCTANE ELLIPTICAL Q37c: Like new, upgraded console, heart monitor, multi programs. Cost \$2,850, sell for \$1,450. 731-3597.

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.

FOR SALE

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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.

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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.

2012 GRAND CHEROKEE OVERLAND SUMMIT. 70,200 miles, hemi 5.7 engine, gold with leather interior, almost all options. \$26,000. 264-5114.

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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2 ROOMS FOR RENT. 1 person each. \$600 a piece plus \$600 deposit. Pagosa Lakes area. No pets, no smokers. Call Randy (970)903-2554.

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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.

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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.

2 BEDROOM, 2 BATH unfurnished, very clean duplex. Laundry room with washer/dryer hookup, single car garage or storage, quiet area, close to shopping. \$850/ month for two, plus utilities plus deposit plus last month's rent with approved rental application. No pets, nonsmoking. 1 year lease. Call Norman Ragle, (970)946-2340.

334 E. GOLF PLACE, B UNIT. 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath, single car garage, backs to golf course. Asking \$1,150 plus utilities. Call 731-2262.

COMMERCIAL RENTALS

BEST COMMERCIAL LOCATION, downtown Pagosa. Victorian building next door to Riff Raff Brewery. 1,000 sq. ft., \$800/ month. (318)347-6100.

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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.

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HOUSE FOR SALE BY OWNER. 50 Woodsmen Dr. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. \$267,000. (970) 582-0305; (970)883-3127 after 5 or weekends.

OPEN HOUSES

OPEN HOUSE: 53 FREMONT CT. Saturday, December 10th, 2-6p.m. Beautiful custom home for sale by owner. 3 bedroom, 3.5 bath, 4-car garage. \$1,250,000. Realtors welcome. (970)946-7545.


PROPERTY

.31 ACRES BY OWNER. Must see. Great neighborhood. Utilities to site. Easy building site. Surveyed. Bob (970)903-7876.

BUILD TO SUIT. Premier lot with view of Lake Pagosa. .31 acres, big trees, privacy, great neighbors. 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.

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Senior Center initiates new health and wellness services through pilot program

By Cheryl Wilkinson
PREVIEW Columnist

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

The program includes wellness, blood pressure monitoring or allow 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 longtime 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 Pagosa 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.

Christmas parties for kids announced

By Frank Porter
Special to The PREVIEW

Christmas is for kids and kids love parties. We have scheduled several Christmas parties again this year.

The party theme for this year is a Backwards Birthday Bash. It includes some great games, songs and a presentation of the Christmas story. There will also be snacks and gifts to take home. The parties are free and are ideal for children ages 5-12.

The parties we have scheduled are:

- Dec. 9, 9 to 11:30 a.m., Pagosa Valor Academy.
- Dec. 9, 1:25 to 3:25 p.m., Pagosa

Senior News

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.

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. 8 — Pork green enchilada, charro beans, Mexicali corn and salad bar.

Friday, Dec. 9 — Turkey potpie, vegetable, salad bar and pumpkin crème brulee.

Monday, Dec. 12 — Shepherd's pie with corn and green beans, peas and salad bar.

Tuesday, Dec. 13 — Chicken Parmesan, roasted asparagus, squash casserole and salad bar.

Wednesday, Dec. 14 — Pork carnitas, corn medley, calabacitas and salad bar.

Thursday, Dec. 15 — Beef Texas red chili, charro beans, zucchini, cornbread, salad bar and lemon bisque.

Reservations and cancellations are required. You can make a reservation at 264-2167 by 9 a.m. the morning of the day you would like to dine in the Community Cafe at the Senior Center.

For your convenience, you can make your reservations in advance or have a standing reservation on days you know you will always attend. Please cancel if you cannot attend on your standing reservation days.

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Promotional period November 27-December 24, 2016. Hourly drawings every Saturday December 3-24, 2016 from 5PM-10PM. Rules apply. See Players' Club for details.

Springs Elementary School.

• Dec. 10, 2 to 3:30 p.m., Ross Aragon Community Center.

• Dec. 11, 1 to 2:30 p.m., Amazing Grace Church in Aspen Springs.

• Dec. 12, 4 to 5:30 p.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse.

Choose the party that works best for your children. Encourage them to bring their friends.

These parties are sponsored by Child Evangelism Fellowship of Colorado, a Bible-centered ministry. All teachers are trained and screened to ensure your child's safety. Parents are welcome to attend.

For more information, call or email Frank or Connie Porter, (303) 901-5290 or (970) 507-7096 or email at ceflittlekids@gmail.com.