



PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147

www.PagosaSUN.com

VOLUME 108 — NO. 17, THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 2016

Public chimes in on South 8th Street changes

By Marshall Dunham
Staff Writer

The Town of Pagosa Springs Planning Department held a work session on Jan. 19 seeking public input on potential improvements for South 8th Street.

Town planning staff and representatives from Davis Engineering were there to present potential improvements that will later be considered by the Town Council.

Roughly 25 community residents attended the work session to hear discussion of the potential improvements and many offered opinions on how the improvements could be made even better.

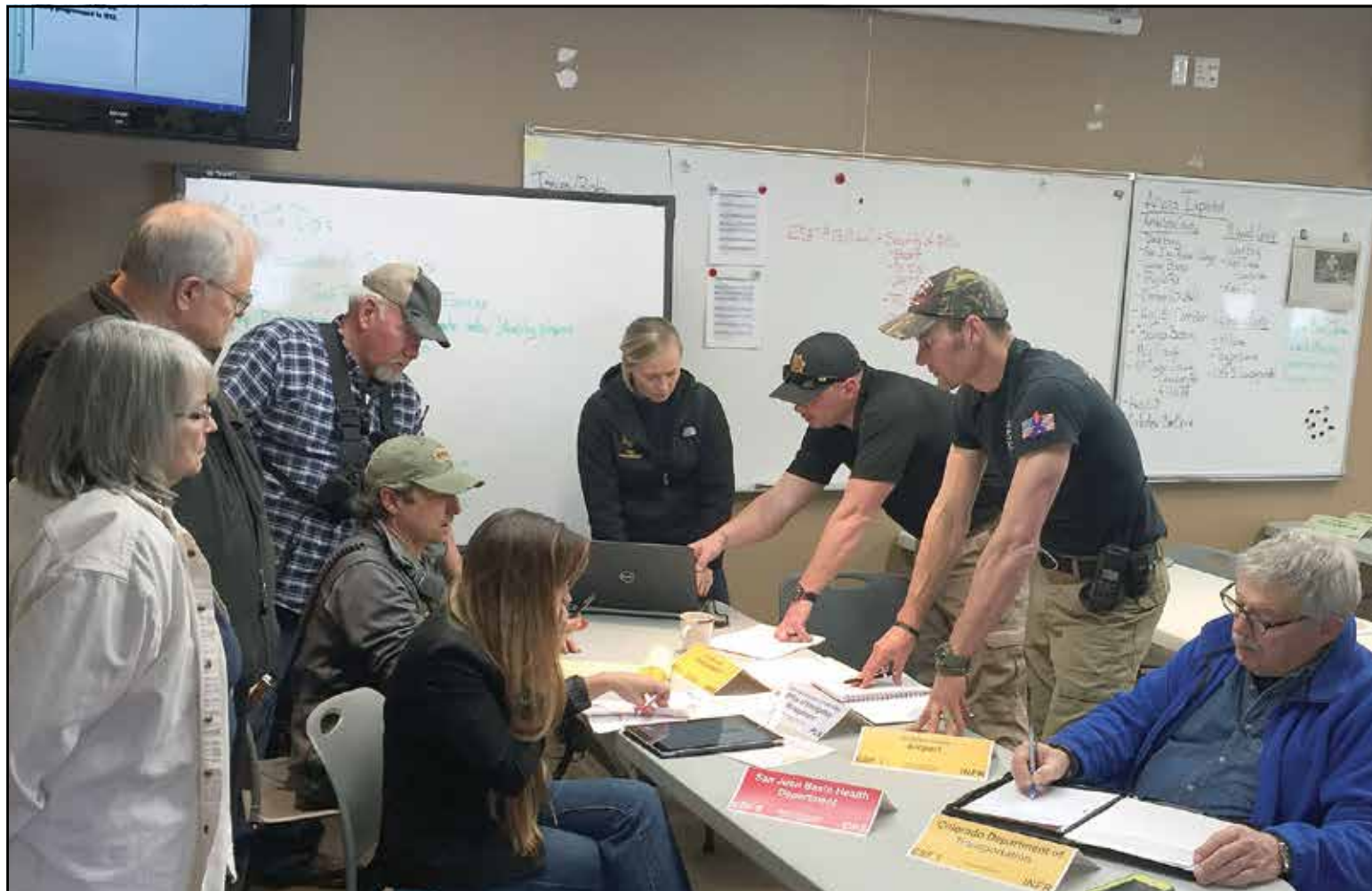
Myron Stretton and Michael Davis, of Davis Engineering, attended the work session, in addition to Scott Lewandowski, the special projects manager for the town, and Town Planner James Dickhoff.

"This gives us the opportunity to look at possibly doing some widening of the road, adding sidewalks, or modifying the roadway in some fashion and we wanted to make sure we got the neighbors' input regarding those potential improvements," Dickhoff said as he began the work session. "We'll take your information that you give us tonight to Town Council as well as information received from other entities, including town departments."

Dickhoff went on to explain that South 8th Street collects a lot of traffic, whether it be traffic from Apache Street, traffic from the high school, traffic from the light that borders U.S. 160, traffic from the library or grocery plaza, traffic to the landfill and transfer station, and traffic from other places as well.

"Eighth Street is an urban collector," explained Dickhoff. "We're col-

■ See Street A8



Representatives from the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office Division of Emergency Management participate in a plague epidemic exercise Wednesday morning. Several counties, as well as Pagosa Springs Medical Center, Mercy Regional Medical Center and the San Juan Basin Health Department participated in the exercise.

Photo courtesy Michael Le Roux

Village opponents allege hidden records, influence

By Jim Garrett
Staff Writer

The Friends of Wolf Creek Coalition has accused the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) of concealing and destroying official records relating to the controversial Village at Wolf Creek proposal.

The allegedly missing records may include communications concerning USFS approval last May of the swap of a parcel of the Rio Grande National Forest (RGNF) for a parcel of property owned by the developer. The swap would provide the developer access from U.S. 160 to the intended site of the Village on its privately owned land.

The Coalition made the accusation in a press release on Jan. 17.

The Coalition consists of three environmental advocacy groups: Rocky Mountain Wild, the San Luis Valley Ecosystem Council and San Juan Citizens Alliance. The groups are plaintiffs in a lawsuit pending in U.S. District Court in Denver that is seeking to overturn the land swap and compel the USFS to undertake a new, full and complete evaluation of the proposed development.

The Coalition press release contends that full disclosure of agency records and communications in compliance with legal requirements would help show that the USFS was subjected to undue influence by the developer in the form of threats to contact political "friends in Washington." The Coalition also contends

■ See Village A8

Election 2016: Colorado caucus process

By Jim Huffman
Special to The SUN

The Archuleta County Democratic and Republican Precinct Caucuses are the first official events in a series of events leading to the choice of candidate(s) to be placed on the primary and general election ballots.

Anyone may attend the caucus, but, in order to participate in your precinct caucus, you must have been registered as either a Democratic or Republican by Monday, Jan. 4, and you must be a

resident in your precinct not later than Monday, Feb. 1. However, anyone who turns 18 after Jan. 4 and before March 1 and registers to vote may also participate as long as they have been a resident in their precinct since Feb. 1. If you are unsure of your precinct, you can go to the county website (www.archuletacounty.org), click on "County Departments" and then "Clerk/Recorder's office," click on "Elections" and then on "Election Precincts" to see the maps — you can then enlarge them to get a better look — then find your street and you should be able to identify your precinct.

The caucus starts at 7 p.m. — you should plan to arrive, check in, get your ballots, and see what is going on not later than about 6:30 p.m.

Voters present at each precinct caucus will elect two precinct committee persons to represent them on their respective Democratic or Republican County Central Committees for the next two years and they will elect delegates to the next event in the caucus process, their County Assembly. Absentee ballots and/or proxy votes

■ See Caucus A8

Sales tax: Up 15.1 percent January through November

By Marshall Dunham
Staff Writer

The total sales tax collection in November for Archuleta County was \$567,608.14, according to a report issued on Wednesday, Jan. 13 by Archuleta County Finance Director Larry Walton, with the town and county each receiving \$283,804.07.

Walton reported that, on a year-to-date basis, meaning January through November, sales tax collections were \$1,208,539 or 18.7 percent ahead of 2014.

However, \$234,372, or 19.4 percent of that increase includes significant collections related to back taxes, mostly from 2014 and 2013.

In January, \$98,000 was attributed to back taxes, while in February this amount was \$62,500.

The amount of these abnormal collections continued to shrink each

month until there were no back taxes collected in August. In September the back taxes were only \$139, with the back taxes from October amounting to \$433.

In November, \$405 was collected. With these amounts factored out, the increase in sales tax collections related specifically to 2015 were \$974,167.

This suggests that the growth rate of the local economy during the first eleven months of 2015 was about 15.1 percent.

Breaking the sales tax report down by sector, revenue generated by retail trade went from \$258,038 in 2014 to \$295,169 in 2015, for an increase of \$37,131.

Revenue generated by accommodations and food service went from \$56,162 in 2014 to \$97,116 in 2015 for

■ See Sales A8

Wrong-way driver damages middle school



Damage to an outer wall of Pagosa Springs Middle School following an alleged drunk-driving incident Jan. 16. In the incident, a man is suspected to have eluded a sheriff's officer and driven the wrong way down a one-way street before crashing into a dumpster and the wall.

SUN photo/Shari Pierce

By Marshall Dunham
Staff Writer

Pagosa Springs Middle School (PSMS) sustained structural damage after an alleged drunk driver hit a dumpster and the school while reportedly eluding law enforcement.

According to Archuleta County Sheriff Rich Valdez, at approximately 12:20 a.m. on Jan. 16, Cpl. Michael Bishop observed a Ford F250 traveling the wrong way in the one-way alley between Lewis Street and U.S. 160.

Upon realizing the vehicle was traveling the wrong way, Valdez said Bishop turned on his lights and sirens, to which the vehicle allegedly responded by accelerating down the alley in an attempt to elude Bishop.

According to Valdez, the vehicle crossed 4th Street into the parking area of the car wash and school property, and crashed into a large dumpster before coming to a stop against the wall of the school.

After that, Bishop proceeded to work with the Pagosa Springs Police Department (PSPD) in investigating the incident. The PSPD could not be reached by presstime Wednesday.

Trenton Ybarra, 22, was arrested for vehicular eluding, driving a vehicle under the influence of alcohol, driving under restraint from an alcohol- or drug-related offense, possession while under the influence, reckless driving, not having insurance in possession, having expired license plates and driving a vehicle the wrong way down a one-way street or roadway.

Bishop noted Ybarra had three active warrants from other counties. "We have a preliminary report from a structural engineer about the condition of the building and are awaiting the full report," wrote Archuleta School District Superintendent Linda Reed in an email to SUN staff. "The damage appears to be to the outer structural wall, the doors, the grate above the doors and some damage to the area above the doors where the air handlers are located."

Reed went on to explain "Our insurance carrier will be here later this week for an inspection and meeting with key district personnel," adding, "At this time, the damaged portion of the building is blocked off so that students and staff can not enter that area of the building but they can access the gym from another entrance that is not compromised."

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Opinion

EDITORIAL

Just a pipe dream?

Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District's (PSSGID) agenda for the board meeting this evening lists an executive session for the purpose of receiving legal advice on the possibility of initiating litigation or entering mediation in regard to the sewer pipeline intergovernmental agreement (IGA) between the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) and PSSGID.

Documentation for PAWSD's board meeting this evening has an agenda item for "Consideration of Negotiations Pertaining to PSSGID Intergovernmental Agreement" as part of the regular meeting — not in executive session.

The PAWSD board packet also includes a board agenda summary sheet outlining PSSGID's sewage spill responsibilities in regard to the pipeline.

Here we are, slightly over four years from when the intergovernmental agreement was entered into by these two entities.

In those four years, PAWSD has had a turnover in district management and engineers. The board leadership has changed.

In those four years, the town (whose council also serves as the PSSGID board of directors) has had a turnover in the manager position, there is a new mayor and several members of the council have also changed.

We are left with new people trying to figure out what should have been figured out long before the millions of dollars were thrown at constructing this sewer pipeline. In hindsight, a new sewer treatment plant for the PSSGID would have been the best solution for the town.

Jan. 4 was the target date for the pipeline being certified to run. That hasn't happened. Instead, we have continued problems with the pipeline, and the two boards are at odds with each other over a poorly written agreement that should have never been signed in the first place.

Both boards have met in separate executive sessions over the agreement and PAWSD took action to terminate the agreement in a public meeting on Dec. 10.

Now there are concerns over limited storage capacity and possible sewage spills.

The public deserves to know what exactly is going on with the pipeline project.

What we do know is the two parties entered into an agreement four years ago. Both parties agreed that it was fair and complete.

Then, in May of 2015, an amendment was made to that agreement. Part of that recognizes that additional amendments to the IGA are necessary with regard to operation and maintenance provisions and will be made "at a time closer to project completion."

It's that time. What are the outstanding issues that are causing delays and increased costs?

Millions of dollars have already been spent on the project. Now we are flushing more money down the pipeline through attorneys and litigation, and who is paying for it? The customers. The ratepayers.

There must be a compromise or the ratepayers will lose even more. It's time to move forward without repeating past history. Completion of this project should be more than just a pipe dream.

Terri Lynn Oldham House

WHADDYA THINK?

What is the worst part about driving in winter?



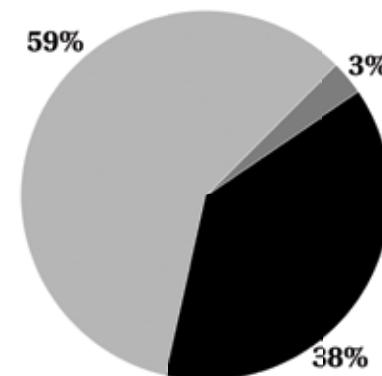
David Hayduke
"Icy roads."



Bob Moomaw
"People who don't know how to drive in snow."



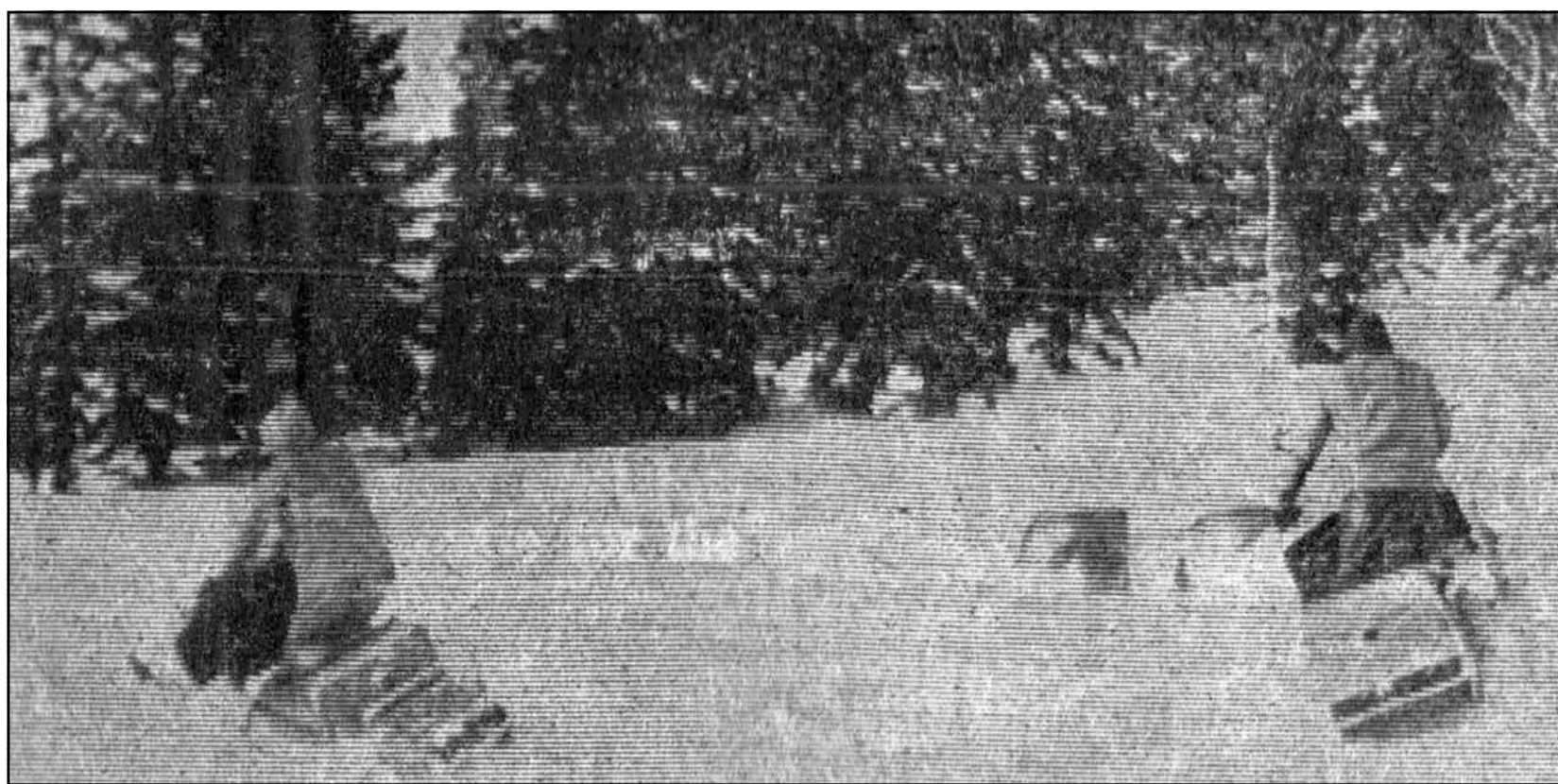
Riley Searle
"The fact that I can't drive with my windows down."



Poll results (116 Votes)
Low visibility — 3 percent
Slippery roads — 38 percent
People driving with fishing licenses — 59 percent

This week online: How do you like this El Niño winter so far?
Vote at www.pagosasun.com

LOOKING BACK



From the Jan. 05, 1967, Pagosa Springs SUN. **MOTOR PROPELLED** — Motor propelled snow scooters are numerous in many areas this winter. The top of Wolf Creek Pass is a favorite spot for many of them. This SUN photo shows two of the small machines racing up a bank.

Your Representatives

Pagosa Springs Mayor Don Volger, ddvolger@gmail.com
Pagosa Springs Town Council
 Clint Alley, callej@pagosasprings.co.gov John Egan, jegan@pagosasprings.co.gov
 Kathie Lattin, klattin@pagosasprings.co.gov CK Patel, ckpatel@pagosasprings.co.gov
 Tracy Bunning, tbunning@pagosasprings.co.gov
 David Schanzenbaker, dschanzenbaker@pagosasprings.co.gov

LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

90 years ago

Taken from SUN files of January 22, 1926

Max Mickey returned home Saturday evening from Santa Fe, where he spent a week on business. The Mrs. Joseph Hersch stock of merchandise is being shipped from that city to Pagosa Springs, and will be put on display in the front room of the Legion hall for local sale.

Politics are commencing to simmer slightly for the coming fall setting. It is rumored that Atty. John H. Galbreath may be a candidate for state senator from this district, and that Stamey E. Edmisten, D. & R.G.W. conductor, and Phillip R. Johnson, county clerk, are possible candidates for state representative from this district, all on the Democratic ticket.

These snappy cold mornings should be sufficient reason to use every caution to prevent the fire menace.

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of January 24, 1941

Harry Macht has been endowed much against his will, with a private game preserve. Throughout the winter, a herd of fifty elk enjoyed his hay, a number of wild turkeys have favored his ranch with their presence, and chukkers feed with the chickens. The hay situation having forced Mr. Macht to decide whether to raise cattle or elk, the game warden and men from the state game commission were called in to devise ways of keeping the hay for the consumption of the cattle. The elk leaped gayly over an electric fence, smashed flares, ignored lanterns and scare crows and night herders. The latest attempt, which has so far been successful, consists of a burlap fence eight feet high. Mr. Macht hopes that the elk will not discover its frailty.

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of January 20, 1966

Elvin Burgess, superintendent of schools, was informed this week by the State Department of Education, that an application for \$10,031.00 for a student study center had been approved. This was a project which the School Board approved some time ago and which Mr. Burgess had worked on at great length. The funds are a federal grant and are part of the federal program to aid schools. The study center will be equipped with several aids for students that are not now available. The center is to be housed in the High School Library and will be open evenings and afternoons.

1966 dog licenses are now on sale at the Town Hall. These licenses must be purchased prior to February 1st if the family dog is to retain his freedom.

25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of January 17, 1991

Plans to offset costs of operating the new jail and ways to extend the life expectancy of the county landfill were the major topics discussed during Tuesday's meeting of the Archuleta County Commissioners. Both subjects were received with equal enthusiasm. Undersheriff Russell Hebert reported that the Ignacio Police Department is interested in renting jail space from the county on a "needs" basis. The county will charge \$33 per day for each Ignacio prisoner that is housed in Archuleta County. The rental operation is expected to start in the near future. Income from the rentals will be used to offset the jail's cost of operation. Also, Sheriff Tom Richards says it has been determined that four extra bunks can be added to the 22-bed jail.

The Pagosa Springs SUN

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| | Second Place | |
| | Best Health Care Ad | Best Classified Page(s) or Section(s) |
| | Best Automotive Ad | Best Restaurant or Dining Ad |
| | Best Serious Column Writing | Best Use of Color in an Ad |
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Date	High	Low	Precipitation		
			Type	Depth	Moisture
1/13	38	8	-	-	-
1/14	31	9	-	-	-
1/15	26	20	-	-	-
1/16	27	6	S	.1"	T
1/17	33	3	S	T	T
1/18	36	9	S	T	T
1/19	36	19	S	T	T

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Letters

Better off

Dear Editor:
Yesterday I was sitting by a fireplace in a bar in Santa Fe, a conversation was struck up with a retired fellow from Chicago. Strange how it happens, but politics crept into the conversation. A military veteran, he started life as a Democrat, switched to being Republican and now professed being an independent ... "no one should be elected due to a party affiliation." A decent fellow, his strongest wish was for a "benevolent dictator to avoid all the idiotic wrangling."

On return, I started cleaning up email where I read Isberg's latest blog post on the president's SOTU speech where he focused on commercialism and generalizations ... "This is the political process reduced to shorthand. The speech is designed to harmonize with our

increasingly limited capacity to entertain complicated ideas — a consciousness shaped by Internet drivel, news briefs and commercials, by rapid-fire film editing ..."

However, this SOTU speech also included national survival points ... that Americans: are facing even greater future systemic changes ... that we can survive and succeed but must relinquish being a global military occupier ... that the perception of recession is false but the negativists could make it self-fulfilling.

So where are we ... really, where are we as a nation? We ask 1 percent of our citizens to defend the nation; we do prefer to hear doom and gloom, core values ... most of us define these by self interest, our most valued rights ... speech and voting are being undermined by a few respectively by money and purposeful conspiracy to deny

"the others access," guns mean individual independence and self worth where the lives of others lose importance, jobs are being created but the nation fearing change seeks the past, desire exists for a benevolent dictator by a fading generation ... well Trump wants the job. These are not good developments ... #howtogiveuponyournation.

Conservatism isn't inherently a bad political posture, but it is absolutely a state-of-confusion default; i.e., "I don't know what to do next" choice. Maybe we could all stop staring at our phones and take on just one small community/social problem ... who knows, it might mean we're better off?

David Blake

food I had with me. They weren't panhandling, but I gave them some money anyway for dinner even though clearly nothing was open. We talked about their dog. They were grateful that we had turned around. I was ashamed of my earlier harsh judgment, and I couldn't help but wonder where they would spend that cold night.

I will forever remember the words of Mike Davis when he wrote, "Do my part, be generous and meet the need, and let Him judge their motive." His choice of 1 Timothy 6:18 was perfect. "Let them do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share."

Carol Blechschmidt

Meet the need

Dear Editor:
I have been reading The Pagosa SUN for over a year in anticipation of a move to Pagosa Springs early in 2016. One of the columns I love to read is "A Matter of Faith." I was particularly moved by the column in the Dec. 24 edition of the paper written by Mike Davis.

Like the author, I am prone to giving to people I encounter. Whether they are holding a cardboard plea at a stop sign or asking for money at a rest stop. I am quick to dip into my wallet.

There's a section of Highway 159 into Ft. Garland which I think of as the Miracle Mile. My husband calls it Holy Spirit Highway due to the little miracles we have experienced on this particular stretch.

We were returning late one night from Pagosa Springs when we stopped at the Conoco Station. I could see two rough looking "road warriors" sitting on the curb. I made a conscious decision to stay in the truck. As we pulled out of Conoco, I saw that the two young men had a dog with them wearing his own little backpack. My conscience worked on me as we drove down the highway. About 10 miles down the road, I asked my husband to turn back.

The young men were still on the Conoco curb in the cold and dark. This time I got out of the truck. I gave them the two cans of dog

Dog tale

Dear Editor:
Mysweet, compassionate neighborhood. Across the street from me lives an adorable dog — now, you must understand, no one ever told him he is a dog, he's just one of us, looks a little different. He is a very responsible adult. He loves his neighbors as himself. Every morning, he takes his stand on the driveway, sits very tall, looks back and forth over several minutes to be sure everything is fine. Soon it is time to go in for the day and take care of the house while the rest of the family is at work. Evening comes and once again, he is outside, helping with outside chores, watching over the neighborhood before his day is done. What a sweetie.

Then, about a year ago, a youngster like him moved into the house just behind ours. He was young, very prissy and had a lot to learn about life. He was just a kid. Soon after, he began to "take over" the neighborhood. Folks began to find their shoes or other small items left on their deck "missing." It became the talk of the neighborhood and some began to watch. Finally, someone caught an eye of him "at work" — he had quite a stash. He became known as the neighborhood thief. Finally it got so bad, law enforcement had to be called. You will be amazed at what happened next. I'll tell you next week.

Patty Tillerson

Public Meetings

The following meetings are subject to change.

Thursday, Jan. 21

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

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

Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District regular meeting. 5:30 p.m., PAWSD administrative offices, 100 Lyn Ave.

Tuesday, Jan. 26

Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners and Pagosa Springs Town Council joint work session. 8 a.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St.

Dr. Mary Fisher Medical Foundation regular board meeting. 5 p.m., Pagosa Springs Medical Center, Great Room, 95 S. Pagosa Blvd.

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

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

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

Letters

The SUN welcomes letters from readers.

Please submit to:

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or fax: (970) 264-2103

All letters must:

be 500 words or less

be signed by the author, unless emailed

include the author's phone number and address

be received by The SUN by noon on Tuesday (deadline may move up due to a holiday)

If necessary, only two letters 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.

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Obituaries



Jimmye Day

Jimmye Day passed away Tuesday, Jan. 12, in Pagosa Springs with her loving husband, Vernon, by her side. She was 85 years old. Arrangements will be determined at a later time. Burial will be in Shepherd, Texas, up on Big Creek.

Jimmye was born Feb. 11, 1930, in Livingston, Texas, to Fannie and Henry Beverly. She grew up in Shepherd, Texas. She was married to her first husband, Joe Houghton, for 36 years. They lived in many places including Houston, California and Ireland, and settled in Pagosa Springs in 1978. They owned and operated Harvey's Motel in Pagosa.

Jimmye married Vernon Day in 1986 in Hawaii. They traveled extensively and shared a winter home in Tucson, Ariz. She was a passionate collector from her travels, was

very outgoing and loving toward her family.

Jimmye is survived by her husband, Vernon, and his daughter, Brenda Sulma, and husband, Roy; Jimmye's children Paul Houghton and wife, Linda; Beverly Cragg and husband, Steve; grandchildren Parker, Kelly, Raul, Gillian and Lindsay; great-grandchildren Jonathan, Anthony and Jesse; former spouse Joe Houghton; and many extended family and close friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents and siblings.

Memorial contributions may be sent to Community United Methodist Church in Pagosa Springs.

Edward H. Mergens

Funeral services for Edward H. Mergens will be held this Saturday, Jan. 23, at John Paul II Catholic Church, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd. Funeral services will begin at 10 a.m., with a Celebration of his Life to follow. Come and share your stories and memories with Ed's friends and family.

Vicki Marie Previte

Vicki Marie Previte, age 59, died peacefully in her sleep on Jan. 11. She was born Jan. 1, 1957, in Pomona, Calif. She is survived by her mother, Cathy Vinyard; her daughter, Amanda Ashley Olsen; her son, Scotty Eaton Frazer; and grandchildren Charlotte, Daphni

and Rileigh.

Vicki attended college in California, and worked in engineering at Honeywell and SGS Thompson before moving to Pagosa Springs. She was a talented artist who loved animals and showed horses competitively in California and Arizona. She was a founding member of the Powder Puff Girls, the first professional motor-cross organization that raced motorcycles (dirt bikes) competitively.

A 2 p.m. memorial service will be held on Monday, Jan. 25, at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd.



Eunice Elizabeth Waddell

Eunice Elizabeth Waddell went to be with her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ at 3:15 p.m. on Dec. 30,

2015, in Colorado Springs, Colo., surrounded by her family.

Eunice was a Christian; she enjoyed reading her Bible, doing puzzles and spending time with her family. She was witty and silly, she was a wonderful cook, a devoted wife and mother and a caregiver for many. She lived most of her life in northern Indiana and worked as a homemaker and then as an assembler at Penn Controls beside her husband, Wilbur, for 22 years. She moved to Colorado Springs in 2009 with her daughter, Sharon, and shared time between there and Pagosa Springs with her son, Terry Waddell, and his wife, Debbie, until her passing.

She is survived by her children: Myrna Dieffenderfer, of Colorado Springs, Sharon Best, also of Colorado Springs, and Terry (Deborah) Waddell, of Pagosa Springs. She is also survived by six grandchildren, six great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren, as well as many nieces, nephews and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Hugo and Mable Searls; her brothers, Robert and Walter; her sisters, Ines and Marie; her husband, Wilbur Waddell (1983); her daughter, Wilburta Waddell (2011); her grandson, Gunner Pender (2001); and a son-in-law, Earl Dieffenderfer (2011).

The family asks that any memorial donations be made to a hospice program of your choosing. Please remember her and her family in your prayers.

In Memoriam

Delfin John Griego

In memory of Delfin John Griego. Why?

That's what we ask. The truth is, we may never be able to know for sure why. But we do know that there is no single "should have done" or "could have done" or "didn't do" that could have changed that why.

Happy birthday, Del. We love you.

Mom, Dad, Kristen, Gloria and Lorie



Photo courtesy John Duvall

Professor and author Duane Smith (right) from Fort Lewis College was the guest speaker at last week's Pagosa Springs Rotary Club meeting. Smith shared a brief history of the Southwest area including various settlers, and the impacts of the railroad and mining in the area. Pictured on the left is the club's program coordinator, David Cammack, with club president Jo Bridges in the middle.

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

- Jan. 11 — Information only, Lake Street.
- Jan. 12 — Owner operated or permitted operation of vehicle without liability insurance, Alpha Drive.
- Jan. 12 — Missing property, Meadows Drive.
- Jan. 12 — Criminal mischief, Trails Boulevard.
- Jan. 12 — Identity theft/uses financial device, Stagecoach Lane.
- Jan. 13 — Information only, Cloud Cap Avenue.
- Jan. 14 — Failure to register as a sex offender, San Juan Street.
- Jan. 14 — Warrant arrest, Fireside Street.

Town of Pagosa Springs Police Department

- Jan. 12 — Information only, 14th Street.
 - Jan. 14 — Violation of restraining order, Lewis Street.
 - Jan. 14 — DUI, Lewis Street.
 - Jan. 15 — Prohibited use of weapons, San Juan Street.
 - Jan. 15 — Shoplifting, Aspen Village Drive.
 - Jan. 15 — Fraud by check, Piedra Road.
 - Jan. 16 — Assault, San Juan Street.
 - Jan. 17 — Theft, Lewis Street.
 - Jan. 17 — Arrest/local warrant, Florida Street.
- Pagosa Springs Municipal Court: Judge William J. Anderson**
No report.
- Archuleta County Court: Judge Samuel H. Cassidy**
No report.
- 6th Judicial District Court: Judge Greg Lyman**
No report.

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- Jan 21, 2016 Location United Methodist Church
6:00 DINNER
7:00 THE PRINCIPLE OF THE PATH. *By Andy Stanley*
How to get from where you are to where you want to be
- Jan 28, 2016 United Methodist Church
6:00 Dinner
7:00 FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY *By Dave Ramsey*



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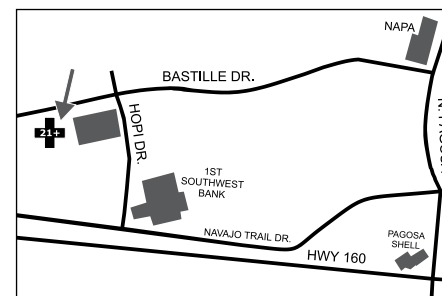
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Education

Shared Schooling Program cultivates new partnerships

By Casey Crow
Staff Writer

Last August, the Archuleta School District (ASD) made an effort to bridge the gap between public and home-school families by creating the ASD Shared Schooling Program.

The program aims to connect students with resources and teachers to provide the most effective education possible for students living in Archuleta County. According to Blue Lindner, the Shared Schooling liaison, the district recognizes that, for many families in the area, home schooling is a valuable option to meet families' distinct needs.

"We want to break down the idea that there is any one approach to educating our children that is superior to another. We prefer to look at all students in our small, rural town as our children, and through shared schooling opportunities and partnerships we hope to provide more educational opportunities to

meet more students' educational needs," Lindner shared in a statement to The SUN.

Now, the Shared Schooling Program is taking on two new collaborations to integrate district resources with home school learning — the Partnership Program and the Southwest Colorado eSchool.

The Partnership Program is based on a model used in Durango District 9R. The district receives funding from the state to provide programming for electives and enrichment classes for private schools and home school students. The district has worked to develop this partnership for 19 years. The district provides adjunct teachers to travel to local private schools to teach art, Spanish, music, physical education, outdoor education and other classes.

Such home school or private school children enroll as part-time students and, in turn, the district receives extra funding from the state to improve programming in public

schools.

Currently, the ASD is collaborating with stakeholders to create a similar program between the private and home-school community in Archuleta County. This includes Pagosa Valor Academy and several home-school cooperatives.

The second collaboration involves the Southwest Colorado eSchool. The school offers online courses to public and home-school students throughout the San Juan BOCES districts, including Archuleta County students. The principal, Mike Freeburn, is trying to expand offerings to meet the needs of more home-school and public-school students. Freeburn is collaborating with nonprofit educational companies to design classes that meet a diverse population of students.

According to Lindner, "These include highly rigorous synchronous and asynchronous courses, including AP (advanced placement) and dual enrollment, credit recovery,

courses designed for students with IEPs (individualized education programs) or learning challenges, ACT prep and SAT prep courses, as well as options for younger elementary and middle school students. ASD is looking at training teachers to facilitate and support students that need or desire these more non-traditional educational options."

Lindner expressed that the ASD is seeking feedback from home-school families in order to best meet the needs of the community as it develops these new partnerships. Currently, Shared Schooling has communicated with an estimated 25 percent of home-school families in Archuleta County.

"We want to make sure that as we create this program, we are receiving input from the families that we want to serve," Lindner explained.

The ASD encourages families to contact the Shared Schooling liaison and to join the home-school contact list. Contact Lindner at blindner@pagosa.k12.co.us.

Local piano student awarded second Sullivan scholarship

By Carole Howard
Special to The SUN

Jovanka (Jovie) Ponce de Leon, 10, has been named a scholarship winner by the Jim and Elizabeth Sullivan Foundation for the second year in a row.

The foundation was founded in 2013 by country singer/songwriter Tim Sullivan to honor his parents by providing scholarships for disadvantaged youth with a talent for music, dance or visual art in Archuleta and La Plata counties.

Jovie Ponce de Leon is the daughter of Roberto and Kristy Ponce de Leon, and a student of Kathleen Isberg, all residents of Pagosa Springs. She has been taking piano lessons for a year and a half.

The Sullivan Foundation works closely with independent teachers, school and nonprofit programs that provide music, dance and art education. With their help, the foundation identifies students who have the talent and work ethic to be in the programs but don't have the funds for tuition.

Tim Sullivan is well known in Pagosa Springs for his many local performances, notably weekly gigs at local establishments when the dance floor is jammed with people doing the Texas two-step and line dances to his music, both original and covers of such greats as George Jones and the Eagles. He has performed in Carnegie Hall and appeared on stage with country stars such as Alan Jackson, Willie Nelson, Vince Gill, Glen Campbell and Tammy Wynette.

"I am lucky because my mother started teaching me voice and piano when I was a very young child," Tim Sullivan said. "She encouraged a deep appreciation for music that has been so important to me throughout my life. Through the Sullivan Foundation, we are giving something back to other youngsters with talent and a willingness to practice."

"Jovi is a sensitive and diligent student who is making progress as



Photo courtesy Carole Howard

Jovanka (Jovie) Ponce de Leon has been named a scholarship winner by the Jim and Elizabeth Sullivan Foundation for the second year in a row. Pictured, left to right, are Tim Sullivan of the Sullivan Foundation, Ponce de Leon and her piano instructor Kathleen Isberg.

a young musician," said Kathleen Isberg, her piano teacher. "I very much appreciate the encouragement she is receiving through Tim Sullivan's scholarship initiative."

"I love music because it makes me feel happy and it helps me express myself, especially when I am happy," wrote Jovie Ponce de Leon in the short essay that is required of

every scholarship applicant. "I like it when I get new music because I get to try new things. I hope to be able to play for my family, especially on holidays."

Funds for Sullivan Foundation scholarships have been raised in three annual cabaret-style benefit concerts where Tim Sullivan and others in his extraordinarily tal-

ented musical family, including his mother, come from Oklahoma and New York to perform at the Strater Hotel theatre in Durango. Jovie Ponce de Leon will be a special guest at the concert.

This year's concert is set for Saturday, Nov. 12. For the first time, it will include a regional cabaret contest for 15-19 year olds organized by Tim Sullivan's sister, KT Sullivan, internationally acclaimed cabaret singer, recording artist and Broadway star. The winner will sing at the Durango concert and later at the cabaret society convention in New York City in the fall of 2017. While they are here, KT Sullivan and her cabaret society colleagues from New York City also will teach a master class on cabaret performance.

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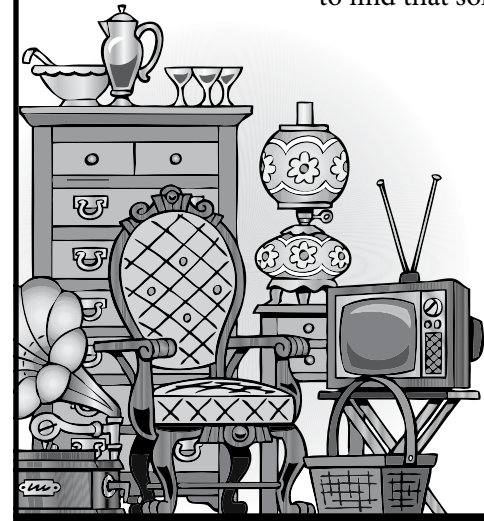
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"As during our property purchase last spring, Kalei was helpful and always available. He takes the time to listen and was therefore able to show us the beautiful home we now own! Couldn't be happier!" — Lena Lander
"Kalei is awesome! He listens, responds and gets it done. Thanks to everyone in your office... they are terrific and really know the 'ins and outs' of the real estate game." — Derek and Karmen Lamoreaux

"Kalei is a top-notch Realtor who not only hung in there through a lot of house searching but made it very easy and was never pushy and always very informative through the entire process. Would highly recommend him to everyone in the 'Kalei was more than an agent, he became a trusted friend that walked me through the process of buying my first home." — Scott Carpenter

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"Kalei was wonderful helping me through the process. It is so important to have a good Realtor especially when from out of state. Thank you and see you on the slopes." — Stacy Clark
"Kalei is quite the gentleman. Extremely knowledgeable about the community, government officials, and in all things a buyer. Our experience with Kalei was excellent, we have no complaints. He was very knowledgeable, understanding, and efficient. He showed us exactly what we asked for and answered our questions in a timely manner." — Wolfgang and Janet Baeck

"Kalei was a great agent to work with! He is so knowledgeable of the area and subdivisions, we feel like we understand Pagosa Springs more like 'insiders,' instead of 'out-of-staters' after working with him. Thanks so much for your help with purchase of our property!" — Nick and Angela Jacobs

"We will continue to work diligently with hopes to someday 'shape and mold' Kalei! He's the best! The apple must (truly) not fall far from the tree!" — Michael McTeigue

"We have bought and sold several homes in the past. Our experience with Jann C. Pitcher Real Estate and our Realtor, Lee Riley, surpasses our past experiences. Lee is professional; we especially appreciated his feedback following every showing of our home and his guidance through the sale. For 'an old guy' he's at the top of his game. Thanks, Lee." — William and Valerie Sparrow

"Very professional from listing to closing! Lee and his staff made everything easy for me!" — Yvette Gonzales
"Lee Riley is a rock star! I so appreciate him going over and beyond in getting my property sold. He managed the property makeover and clean-up since I live out of state — couldn't have done it without him — great job — Brian and Lisa Shaw

"Hi, my dealings with Lee and the team were easy and professional. Lee seems to really know the market and I wouldn't hesitate to use him in the future." — Mark Ritchey
"Lee Riley did a superb job. There were several snags along the way and Lee rose to the occasion in every case. I would engage Lee Riley again in a heartbeat!" — John Ritchey

"We made multiple trips to Pagosa Springs over a 6 or 7 month time period. Lee Riley was very accommodating to us in providing showings on a short notice. He knew what we were looking for in a home and here we are — thanks to Lee Riley! Our home is perfect for us." — Stephen and Joane Skultety

"Lee was wonderful to work with. He is very knowledgeable and was able to not only answer all our questions, but to direct us to other resources we needed to get our property ready to use." — Habibollah and Betty Assadullahi

"Everything went smoothly. Lee was very helpful and professional in all dealings. His knowledge, contacts, and negotiating skills made a difference in getting the sale done." — Eda Cook

"This transaction was handled in a very professional and timely manner. I have to say Lee kept contact with me on all aspects of this sale, and your staff executed all the necessary paperwork and documents without any problems... very efficient staff. Thank you again." — Andrew Popowicz...

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School board discusses new roof for fifth- and sixth-grade building

By Casey Crow
Staff Writer

The Archuleta School District (ASD) held its regular work session and meeting on Jan. 12 to discuss a grant application for a new roof on the fifth- and sixth-grade building, the switch from the ACT to SAT college entrance exam and to adopt the revised budget.

New roof

During the ASD's work session, the Board of Education heard a presentation from Greg McClure, of Division 7 Design, regarding grant funding and design and construction of a new roof on the fifth- and sixth-grade building at Pagosa Springs Middle School.

The ASD is seeking a BEST Grant to complete the project. According to the Colorado Department of Education (CDE), the BEST Grant Program was established in 2008 and aims to provide annual amounts of funding in the form of competitive grants to school districts. Funding can be used for the construction of new schools, as well as general construction and renovation of existing school facility systems and structures.

The fifth- and sixth-grade building at Pagosa Springs Middle School is two stories and was built in 1924. According to McClure, the building has "three-ply built-up roofing" with minerals in the material estimated to be 45 years old. Due to a long list of concerns around the age and quality of the roofing, McClure recommended that the ASD remove it completely and rebuild it from scratch.

Approximately 20 years ago, an inch to inch and a half of spray foam was applied to the existing wood decking to act as insulation and reduce leakage. An additional

coating, a sprayed elastomeric membrane, was added on top of the foam. Rather than removing old materials to apply new ones, multiple roofs were stacked on top of one another.

According to the presentation, the foam insulation expired five years ago. Also problematic, the foam makes noise when heating and cooling and attracts birds that have pecked their way through both layers of the foam and topcoat. These layers also hold excess amounts of water, damaging the wood decking beneath and causing water leakage.

McClure stated that both layers of roofing must be removed down to the wood decking due to the previously mentioned concerns. After tearing off the two old roofs, contractors would also have to add approximately 6 inches of insulation.

The ASD board is hoping to receive the BEST Grant, which will require that the district match 63 percent of the cost for the new roof, while the grant will cover 37 percent. The cost estimated by Division 7 Design totals \$382,053.

The BEST Grant application requires that the district develop cost estimates, as well as include two contractor bids for the project. In terms of the timeline, the ASD's application will be submitted and the project put out to bid at the end of February. The bidding process will be completed and a contractor hired in April, with construction anticipated to start on June 1, 2016.

Division 7 Designs must complete the bid documents prior to the next scheduled board meeting on Feb. 9. The board will make additional decisions and discuss the matter further on that date.

Switch from ACT to SAT

There has been a lot of discus-

sion about the decision to switch Colorado's 11th-graders from the ACT to the SAT college entrance exam. During last week's regular meeting, Superintendent Linda Reed presented her thoughts on the issue to the school board.

According to the superintendent's report, since the year 2001, the state of Colorado has paid for and administered the ACT exam to every high school junior. In last year's legislative session, a bill was passed requiring the CDE to implement a bidding process for the college entrance exam that occurs every five years, as well as administer an exam to every high school sophomore that is aligned to the college entrance exam.

In early November, Reed was asked by Interim Commissioner of Education Elliott Asp to serve on a committee of 15 educators representing various parts of the state to determine which exam would be selected. Going into the process initially, Reed favored the ACT for several reasons: the longitudinal data already in place in the district and the disruption she feared for this year's juniors.

However, after listening to presentations by both ACT and College Board and discussion with the committee, Reed concluded that the SAT and PSAT were the superior choice for students.

In the report, Reed states, "The reasons are many, but the major reasons I changed my mind were the close alignment that SAT has to the high school Colorado Academic Standards which ACT did not have as well as the level of depth, complexity and the application of learning that SAT measures and ACT does not."

Following the announcement on Dec. 23 of the intent to award

to SAT, superintendents across the state expressed their concern about the timeline and how it would affect juniors this year. Last week, just before the school board meeting, it was announced that negotiations were successful and all juniors will still take the ACT this spring. All current sophomores will take the PSAT this spring and the SAT next spring.

In a letter to parents concerning the change, Reed concluded with, "That being said, I know that the work our teachers have done with your students will prepare them for whatever test they take, be it the ACT or the SAT. Fortunately, our high school teachers have worked with this year's juniors to help them understand the format and test readiness associated with the ACT. Moving forward for next year, I encourage you to go to the College Board website, where there is a wealth of information."

The College Board website is <https://sat.collegeboard.org/home>.

Revised budget

In its final action item of the night, the school board approved the revised budget for the ASD. Below is a consolidated budget summary reflective of the final, revised budget.

- Beginning fund balance: \$10,183,128.
- Revenues: \$13,566,622.
- Total funds available: \$23,749,750.
- Expenditures: \$14,735,902.
- TABOR Amendment reserves: \$340,000.
- Other appropriated reserves: \$6,093,281.
- Total appropriations: \$21,169,183.
- Non-appropriated reserves \$2,580,567.


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William L. Hubbard
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Why registering with Selective Service System matters

By Kate Kerns
Special to The SUN

With the rising cost of college and a daunting job market, it's easy to worry about what will happen to the young people in our community as they enter adulthood. For young men, there's one easy way to improve their chances in life: register with the Selective Service System.

Since 1980, every young man living in the U.S. has been required to register with Selective Service when he turns 18 or when he becomes a resident of this country. If a young man doesn't register, he loses his eligibility for widely used government programs.

"If a young man doesn't register, he stops being eligible for student

loans, federal jobs and job training programs," said Richard Flahavan, spokesperson for the Selective Service System. "We don't want that to happen, which is why we're committed to letting young men know about their legal responsibility and the opportunities that come with it."

In most states, including Colorado, a man who hasn't registered can even be prevented from holding a driver's license.

There is no penalty for late registration, but once a man reaches his 26th birthday, he cannot register and can become permanently barred from the opportunities associated with registration.

So, why don't more people register?

Research shows that the main

reason men fail to register with Selective Service is a simple lack of awareness. This can be particularly true in communities where trust in the government is low or in communities where cultural or language differences can make communication more challenging.

In Colorado, more than three out of 10 young men fail to register when they turn 18. That means more than three out of 10 young men are losing their shot at important opportunities.

Making sure young men know they have to register is a fast and effective way to change the future for the young men in your community. Each year, the Selective Service System meets with dozens of local and national organizations that work with underserved com-

munities. From these meetings, the Selective Service System has developed a wide array of materials in numerous languages. They can be found at www.SSSresources.us.

Young men can register online at sss.gov, at the post office or by filling out the reminder registration card the Selective Service mails to young men when they turn 18.

"Young men improve their access to opportunities the instant they register," said Flahavan. "That's something every American man deserves to know."

For additional information, visit www.sss.gov.

Keep up on local happenings with The SUN.

The Pagosa Springs SUN
264-2101

PSHS to host FAFSA evening for seniors

By Mark Thompson
Special to The SUN

The Pagosa Springs High School (PSHS) counseling department is announcing a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) evening for seniors at PSHS, Monday, Jan. 25, in the downstairs computer lab at PSHS, room B14.

The computer lab will be open from 5 until 7 p.m.

We are going to have personnel from the financial office of Fort Lewis College to help you fill out your

FAFSA. You will leave your session with your financial aid forms completed. It usually takes around 40 minutes.

There are some materials you should bring: the 2015 tax forms, for parent and student (if they are filed), 2014 tax forms if the 2015 are unavailable, your social security number, driver's license number and a good idea of the amounts of money available in your savings, checking account and other investments.

If you have questions, please contact counselor Mark Thompson at 264-2231, ext. 226.

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Business

Colorado home sales improve statewide in December, down for southwest region

By Saul Rosenthal
Special to The SUN

Home sales improved statewide in December, reversing a downward trend that began in July of this year. Sales of single-family homes increased 21 percent compared to November and were up 11 percent compared to December 2014. Similarly, condominium/townhouse sales were 14 percent higher in December than the previous month and 7 percent higher than a year ago.

The median price of the 6,617 single-family homes sold in December was \$305,000, an increase of 9 percent compared to December 2014 and up \$4,000 from November of this year. The median price for the 2,092 condominiums

and townhouses sold last month was \$226,000, an increase of 14 percent compared to a year ago. Over the last six months of 2015, housing prices started to level out with smaller increases month-to-month. The number of new listings dropped significantly from November to December — down 25 percent for single-family homes and down 28 percent for condominiums/townhouses. Despite these historically low figures, new listings in 2015 were an improvement over 2014.

Of great concern continues to be the low inventory of homes available for purchase in nearly every area of the state. For both single-family homes and condominiums/townhouses, inventory is at a five-year low and dropped an additional

18 percent for single-family and 16 percent for condominiums/townhouses between November and December. As a result, the supply of homes is below 2.5 months statewide and considerably lower in some areas. Experts consider a five-seven month supply to be a balanced market which favors neither buyers nor sellers.

In the southwest region of the state (Alamosa, Archuleta, Conejos, Costilla, Dolores, Hinsdale, La Plata, Mineral, Montezuma, Sagua-che and San Juan counties), sales of single-family homes increased 17 percent from November to December 2015. Compared to December 2014, however, sales were off 7 percent. Meanwhile, condominium/townhouse sales remained flat through the final three months of

the year but were up 18 percent compared to a year ago.

The median sales price of \$276,000 for a single-family home in this region was off a little more than \$30,000 from the November median and down 7 percent when compared to December 2014. In contrast, the median price of a condominium/townhouse rose 19 percent to \$250,000 compared with December 2014 and was up about \$79,000 from November.

New listings followed a seasonal pattern in this region, dropping in December somewhat more steeply than in past years. The number of new listings of single-family homes went down 26 percent compared to November, -9 percent compared to December 2014 and, for the year, finished 4 percent lower than in 2014. Condominiums/townhouses followed a similar pattern, dropping 37 percent from November, -14 percent from a year ago and -5 percent for the whole year compared to 2014.

Available inventory continued a downward trend in December that can be traced back to mid-2010. There were 1,217 properties in the inventory in December, down 13 percent from a year ago and representing an 8-month supply of single-family homes and a 6-month supply of condominiums/townhouses.

The Colorado Association of Realtors Monthly Market Statistical Reports are based upon data provided by Multiple Listing Services (MLS) in Colorado. The December 2015 reports represent all MLS-listed residential real estate transactions in the state. The metrics do not include "For Sale by Owner" transactions or all new construction.

CHAMBER NEWS

Chamber to celebrate past and current year at annual meeting

By Clint Alley
SUN Columnist

The Chamber's annual meeting will be held at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts on Jan. 23. There will be catered food and live music by the Retro Cats.

This is going to be a great chance for our members to celebrate the past and current year.

Contact the Chamber to purchase tickets.

The next Business After Hours will be hosted by Wyndham Pagosa. Please join us for networking, food and drinks on Feb. 24 from 5 to 7 p.m. We invite all our members and their guests to join us.

The Chamber's next Business Bites will be "A Road Map to your Financial Report." Please join us for this free event on Jan. 26 at the Ross Aragon Community Center from 10 to 11:30 a.m. This course will give participants an overview of learning to understand the numbers on a basic balance sheet and income

statement, understand what the bottom line means, what to look for when inconsistencies occur in financial statements, overview of cash flow and its importance and overview of financial ratios. Once again, this event is free, so please call the Chamber to get on the list of participants.

Winterfest 2016 is also just around the corner. The Chamber will have balloons on Feb. 6 and 7 and the very popular Penguin Plunge. Also, during this exciting weekend, the town is bringing back the Anything Goes Sled Race, plus other activities like a Broomball Tournament, kids' dog sled rides and more.

For more information on many other exciting events that will be taking place during that weekend, please contact the Chamber at 264-2360.

Member news

The voting for new board members and community nominations has ended. We look forward to an-

nouncing our new board members and community award winners at the annual meeting on Jan. 23.

Our next Maximizing your Membership class is Monday, Jan. 25, from noon to 1:15 p.m. Maximizing your Membership is a service offered to Chamber members or businesses interested in becoming a Chamber member. The Maximizing your Membership class is free and a light lunch is provided.

Please call the Pagosa Chamber to reserve your spot; space is limited. To RSVP, contact us at 264-2360 or email admin@pagosachamber.com.

We would like to thank our renewing members: Durango Credit and Collection Co., Pagosa Fire Protection District, Raymond Rent-A-Nerd Inc. and Toner Mountain Copiers.

We welcome you to visit our offices Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. You may also call us at 264-2360 or visit pagosachamber.com.

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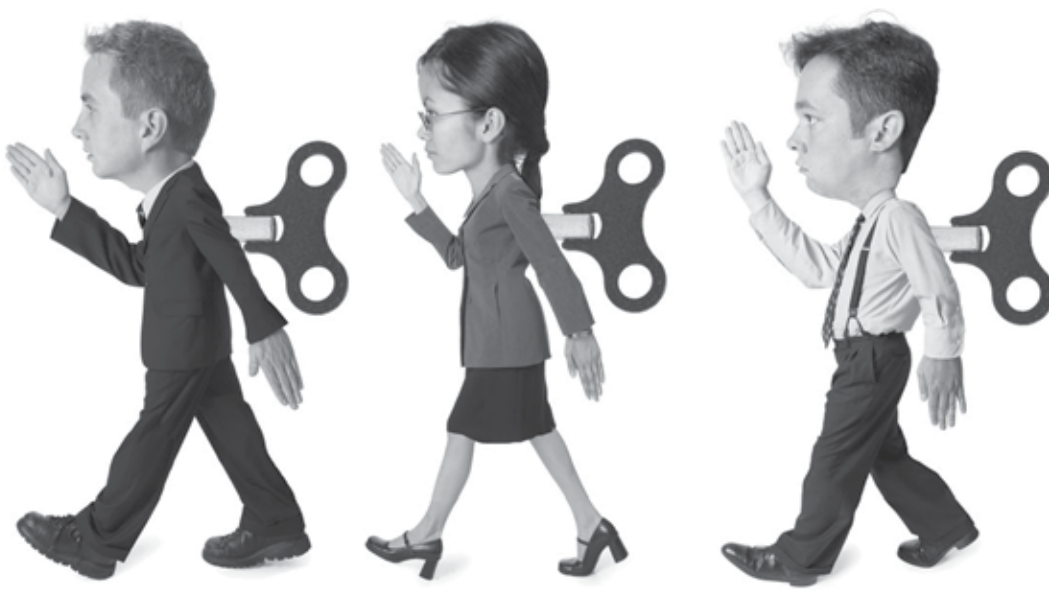
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 Ed Keyes, Jr. 970.398.0211	 Eddie Keyes 970.398.0251	 Bill Kinsley 970.946.1804
 Lindy Moore 970.749.5062	 Juli Morelock 970.946.2137	 Tim Plate 970.264.1250
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Village

■ Continued from front

that the USFS violated federal law by allowing the developer excessive direct participation in its decision-making process.

The controversial Village at Wolf Creek proposal involves a residential and commercial development adjacent to the existing Wolf Creek Ski Area. The developer is the Leavell-McCombs Joint Venture (LMJV), headed by Texas billionaire Red McCombs.

LMJV holds an interest dating to 1987 in private property located on the eastern flank of the ski area, fully surrounded by lands of the national forest. As it sits currently, the property lacks the direct connection to U.S.

Sales

■ Continued from front

an increase of \$40,954.

Arts, entertainment and recreation, a sector of the local economy that is greatly influenced by tourism, went from \$3,198 in 2014 to \$3,174 in 2015 for a decrease of \$24.

The real estate industry garnered \$12,580 for an increase of \$2,360, while the construction industry

Street

■ Continued from front

lecting a lot of traffic from everything I just mentioned and funneling it out onto the highway, and vice versa.”

Dickhoff also stated that bicycle and pedestrian use on 8th Street is important, but that 8th Street is currently not as accommodating for pedestrians and cyclists as it could be.

For instance, if a person was headed southbound on the west side of 8th street, once they arrived at the street's intersection with Durango Street, the pedestrian would need to cross the road to continue heading southbound on a sidewalk.

The presentation then turned to traffic, and the speed of said traffic.

“The current speed limit on 8th Street is posted at 25 mph,” reads a slide from a presentation used at the work session. “However the roomy width of the street, long distance visibility, the street has a very ‘open’ feeling which leads to higher speeds than intended.”

Dickhoff went on to compare South 8th Street to a runway, saying that even if a driver doesn't make a conscious decision to drive faster, they can still find themselves speeding without even realizing it.

The presentation then lists different methods being considered for slowing down traffic, including:

- Bump-outs.
- Center medians.
- Speed humps or raised sidewalks.
- Textured pavement at intersections.
- Landscaping.
- Stop signs.
- Street curvature.

Before asking the public about their reaction to the potential traffic calming features, Dickhoff presented the potential plans for the widening of the South 8th Street right of way.

Dickhoff pointed out that at different areas of South 8th Street, the maximum width for the right of way is sometimes 60 feet wide, while, in other places, the right of way is 80 feet wide.

The first potential plan Dickhoff presented was 38 feet wide total. It featured sidewalks on each side of the road, each 5 feet wide, connected to curbs and gutters on either side of the road, each 2 feet wide, with two travel lanes in the middle of the road, each lane being 12 feet wide.

The second option was the same as the first, with 3.5-foot-wide bike lanes added in between the curbs and the travel lanes. The additions make the right of way 45 feet wide.

The third option removes the bike lanes from the plans, and replaces them with 6.5-foot-wide on-street parking lanes. This makes the right of way 51 feet wide.

The fourth option is identical to the third but with two bike lanes being added in between the on-street parking and the travel lanes, each bike lane being 4 feet wide. This would make the right of way 59 feet wide.

The fifth option contained a sidewalk and on-street parking lane on one side of the road, with a 10-foot wide multiuse trail being placed on the other. A multiuse trail would accommodate cyclists and pedestrians, thus eliminating the need for bike lanes. The total width of this proposed right of way was 50 feet. This option appeared to get the most approval from those who attended the work session.

The last proposed right of way

160 that would allow all-season road and utility access. LMJV currently hopes to develop the property with a hotel, commercial businesses, residences for up to 8,000 people, and all associated infrastructure. The plan is characterized as “Aspen-sized” in the pending lawsuit brought by the members of the Coalition together with a co-plaintiff, Wilderness Workshop.

In the May decision being challenged by the lawsuit, the USFS approved the exchange of a parcel of RGNF land lying near the top of Wolf Creek Pass adjacent to U.S. 160 for a part of the developer's land farther from the highway.

In approving the swap, RGNF Su-

pervisor Dan Dallas acknowledged there would be impacts on the surrounding natural and human environment, but contended that, under federal law, the USFS was legally bound to afford the developer access to his property “commensurate with [its] reasonable use and enjoyment.” The complaint filed in the pending lawsuit disputes the applicability of that proposition to the land swap.

Under laws, including the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), government actions having an impact on the environment are subject to requirements including the production of an environmental impact statement (EIS). Conclusions based on the EIS required before

from last year.

Professional, scientific and technical services contributed \$2,042 for an increase of \$665.

Administrative, support, waste management and remediation services generated \$1,755 for an increase of \$430 compared to last year.

marshall@pagosasun.com

contributed \$11,557, for an increase of \$1,106 compared to last year.

Wholesale trade brought in \$2,306 for a decrease of \$58, manufacturing brought in \$27,371 for an increase of \$6,326, and mining brought in \$8,239 for a decrease of \$6,385 compared to last year.

The information industry garnered \$24,978 for a decrease of \$822

was 72 feet wide and featured two retaining walls, two street lights, two sidewalks, two curbs, two on-street parking lanes, two bike lanes and two travel lanes.

After presenting the different right of way options, Dickhoff asked the audience members about their opinions on different potential improvements, beginning by asking about on-street parking.

“On-street parking is another topic that we really want to know about from the neighbors and residents along 8th Street,” said Dickhoff.

He proceeded to ask whether or not South 8th Street really needed on-street parking, and pointed out that street maintenance is easier the smaller the road becomes.

“I think that anything that allows for traffic to slow down and encourages safety for pedestrians, that is a good thing,” stated one audience member.

The same audience member later pointed out that many residents who have parked on South 8th Street have had their vehicles hit, and that, often, people parking on the road are visitors or guests as opposed to residents.

“I'm not sure where I stand on the parking one way or the other ... but I find that from my home to the high school has gotten to be kind of a speedway, people will accelerate from there,” explained another audience member. “My input would be I would like to see something put in to slow traffic down and to make it more accessible to pedestrians and bike traffic.”

The work session continued with Dickhoff asking the audience members what they thought about bump-outs.

A bump-out is when the street is narrowed, often at crosswalks or intersections. Advantages to bump-outs include safer pedestrian crossing, narrower street width, the allowance of more clearly defined on-street parking, and the fact that bump-outs provide landscaping opportunities.

Dickhoff pointed out that, if bump-outs were installed, they would be installed in the right of way of the street.

An attendee pointed out that bump-outs affect the ease of street maintenance and snow removal, but also agreed that they would drastically reduce speeds.

“Unfortunately, the things that help improve safety are kind of counter to improving maintenance,” said Davis. “The trick is to find that balance.”

One audience member talked about a driver's field of vision when driving, and how wide it typically is when driving, going on to add that bump-outs “bring pedestrians into a motor vehicle operator's field of vision ... which is worth its weight in gold.”

The discussion then turned to center medians on South 8th Street, with the general consensus from the audience being a no, for various reasons.

“Initially, my gut instinct is that I would rather have the sidewalk be further removed from the street, and have a buffer zone between the road and the sidewalk,” explained one audience member, adding, “For those people who do have driveways off of 8th Street it would be kind of a pain ... if you had to pass your house, hook a U-turn and come back to hit

your driveway.”

Another audience member commented “The streets are so narrow and you're talking about a median, it just doesn't make a lot of sense.”

After discussing center medians, the conversation turned to bike lanes compared to multiuse trails, to which the audience expressed more approval to a multiuse trail compared to a bike lane.

One audience member posed the question of which option would be safer, saying, “I'd presume it'd be safer to have bikes off the road ... but I think we definitely need to accommodate both pedestrians and cyclists, as there are a lot of both.”

Another audience member stated “The multiuse trail makes a lot of sense and it sounds like there's a lot of children traffic, and the reality of a child staying in a bike lane on a road is not realistic,” adding, “I don't see many bike lanes around Pagosa, so I think they would be a little out of place, because they don't connect to anything else.”

The last item discussed with the public was the idea of street lighting along South 8th Street.

“This is a new street light fixture we have been installing around town,” explained Dickhoff. “They are high-efficiency LED lights, they are dark-sky compliant, a lot more compliant than the old La Plata lights that you see around town, which are very intrusive in the middle of the night.”

Dickhoff went on to explain that the light structures would likely be 12 feet tall, as opposed to the 16 feet tall alternative, which are usually used for highways.

The lights would be spaced roughly 50 to 70 feet from each other.

The audience's biggest concerns with lighting included how bright the lights would be, as well as obstruction of mountain views.

Dickhoff explained that, most of the time, light installation is targeted for the corner of properties as opposed to installing a light pole right in front of a person's window.

“They're pretty unobtrusive, really,” said Dickhoff, adding, “You really can't see the light source, it's really just providing downlighting.”

The work session concluded with Town Manager Greg Schulte speaking to the audience, saying, “I wanted to, first of all, thank everyone for being here; I really appreciate it. I think what I'm hearing tonight is just a recognition that this is really a big deal. Eighth Street is a really important street for the community, and it serves a lot of different purposes, and I think as we think about the improvements that we're doing we really have to think about what's going to happen decades in the future.”

Schulte also pointed out that, from what he had heard that night, the consensus of the audience was to slow traffic down, but the repaving of South 8th Street will bring speedier drivers unless actions are taken.

Schulte went on to add that it was important for the community to stay involved.

Dickhoff explained that the public's comments, in addition to comments received from utility companies, would be compiled into a presentation that would be shown to the Town Council at its Feb. 2 meeting.

The meeting will be held in Town Hall at 5 p.m. on a Tuesday. *marshall@pagosasun.com*

authorizing the use of national forest land for purposes including the swap with the Village developer are matters for the discretionary judgment of the USFS. However, the complaint notes that discretion must be exercised in compliance with legal standards.

To overturn the swap through the lawsuit, the plaintiffs would need to show that the USFS abused its discretion by acting arbitrarily and capriciously, for reasons such as failing fully to consider necessary factors, allowing its judgment to be influenced by irrelevant factors, or disregarding required procedures. All told, the pending suit argues 14 grounds on which it contends the District Court should find that the USFS acted improperly.

Among other factors, the suit contends that the USFS action was improper because it failed to consider all environmental impacts of the land swap mandated by law, including those not only resulting directly from, but also those connected to, the proposed action. Thus, it argues that the impact of establishing an 8,000-person community, with corresponding businesses and necessary infrastructure, in a pristine area at an altitude between 10,300 and 11,900 feet was not sufficiently considered because the USFS improperly restricted its consideration to only the direct impact of the land swap itself.

The complaint filed in the lawsuit also argues that the impact of increased traffic on U.S. 160 over Wolf Creek Pass that would result from the development of the proposed Village was not sufficiently considered in compliance with NEPA.

The complaint further states that the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) has concluded that the great increase in traffic on the highway resulting from the new community would necessitate the construction of a “grade separated” interchange with bridge or tunnel connections for turning vehicles in order for traffic to flow safely into and out of the proposed Village. The suit criticizes the USFS for improperly failing to invite CDOT to participate as a cooperating agency

Caucus

■ Continued from front

are not allowed, you must be there to vote and participate in the process. In addition, caucus attendees will hear and vote on resolutions to be forwarded to the County Assembly for consideration.

Delegates elected to the two County Assemblies at the precinct caucuses, and present at those assemblies, will vote on several things. First, they will choose the candidates for county office on the primary election ballot (June 28). This year, two county commissioner positions are up, District 2 (vacant since Commissioner Lucero (D) is term limited) and District 1 (currently held by Steven Wadley (R)). Again, anyone can attend the assembly or the convention. However, only delegates selected at the caucus can participate and vote.

Next, County Assembly delegates will elect delegates to the three state and national political districts that include Archuleta County and are up for election this year: the 3rd U.S. Congressional District (3rd CD), the 59th State House District (59th HD) and the 6th State Judicial District (6th JD). These offices are currently filled by U.S. Representative Scott Tipton (R), State Representative J. Paul Brown (R), and District Attorney Todd Risberg (D), respectively. Later, these district delegates will choose the candidate(s) to be put on the primary ballot at their respective district assemblies.

Delegates at their County Assembly will also hear and vote on resolutions to be forwarded to their State Convention; on Vacancy Committees for vacancies on the Central Committee, candidates designated to run for office and in elected office; and they will approve the precinct committee people who were elected at their precinct caucus. And, last, they will choose from among themselves who will be delegates to their respective state conventions.

Usually delegates at the State Convention choose who will be on the primary ballot for statewide offices (governor, secretary of state, state treasurer, etc.), but in this year's cycle, there are no major state offices up for election. Therefore, it is left to the delegates to choose who among them will go, as delegates, to the Democratic or Republican National Conventions and to vote on resolutions to be forwarded to the National Convention for inclusion in their party's National Platform.

in the decision of whether or not to approve the land swap.

In addition, the complaint alleges that the USFS predetermined the result in favor of the land swap by incorrectly endorsing the proposition that the developer was legally entitled to the desired all-season road access to its privately owned property. The suit notes that similar in-holdings are limited to “over the snow” access in winter, and justification is lacking for treating LMJV's in-holding differently.

The complaint also contends that the USFS did not adequately consider alternatives to the swap, nor did it correctly assess the scope of reasonable use of the developer's property. The suit cites an appraisal of the parcel involved in the land swap, which concluded that the “highest and best use” for the land was subdivision into five 35-acre home sites rather than construction of the proposed Village. And the suit notes that the USFS improperly gave up restrictions on the developer's use of its land contained in a scenic easement dating to the creation of the private parcel in 1987.

The suit further claims that USFS action on the land swap was flawed for failing to adequately consider the impact of the proposed Village on lynx habitat. The lynx is legally considered a “threatened” species in Colorado. The designation means it is likely the lynx will become an endangered species in part of its range in the foreseeable future. The complaint states that the relevant land lies in a “corridor” used by lynx that is important to the potential reestablishment of a stable, natural population of lynx in the state. It argues that in its approval of the land swap the USFS ignored its own plan for the RGNF, which incorporates requirements to protect lynx habitat.

Also, the complaint argues that in approving the swap, the USFS improperly ignored likely negative impacts from development of the proposed Village on nearby communities, including Pagosa Springs and South Fork. It contends that tourism related to skiing at Wolf Creek, and associated commercial activities that could be siphoned off by the

proposed Village, are critical to the economies of these communities.

The allegations in the Coalition's press release regarding the concealment and destruction of records by the USFS, as well as undue political influence, are based on documents presented to the U.S. District Court as exhibits in a second, ancillary lawsuit. The companion lawsuit was brought by Rocky Mountain Wild under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

The act provides for disclosure of records maintained by U.S. government agencies. It is often relied upon by parties opposing government actions to gain access to information in agency files that may substantiate their objections.

Rocky Mountain Wild's companion suit contends that the USFS improperly responded to a request made in 2014 for access to records relating to the USFS decision regarding the proposed Village. The suit alleges that USFS conducted an unduly narrow search of its files, and applied disclosure exemptions overbroadly. Although Senior District Court Judge Wiley Y. Daniel agreed on Sept. 30, 2015, that the USFS had not adequately complied with FOIA, and ordered the agency to grant broader disclosure, a pleading filed before the Court on Jan. 7 in support of a motion for partial summary judgment by Rocky Mountain Wild contends that the dispute continues unresolved.

Rocky Mountain Wild maintains that, although the records that have been disclosed in response to its FOIA request to date are incomplete, they nevertheless demonstrate a pattern of intentional destruction of documents by USFS. In particular, it cites an email written by District Ranger Tom Malecek on Aug. 24, 2012, commenting to fellow USFS employees that email communications “might be a little damaging in the event they are not all deleted [and] we get a FOIA.” Malecek's message went on to state, “... remember we are swimming with sharks and need to keep emails from even the remote appearance of whatever, so

■ See Village A9

Archuleta County Republican caucus

The Archuleta County Republican Precinct Caucus, the first official event leading to the choice of Republican candidate(s) to be placed on the primary and general election ballots, will take place at 7 p.m. on March 1 at eight separate Precinct Caucus locations.

The Archuleta County Republican 2016 Precinct Caucus locations, precinct committee person (POCs) and phone numbers are as follows:

Precinct 1 — Old county commissioners' meeting room, county courthouse, POCs Glenn Walsh, 317-5400 and David Parker, 264-1434;

Precinct 2 — United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St, POCs Mike Church 759-9214 and Julie Church, 264-4465 or 769-3063;

Precinct 3 — CSU Extension building, 344 U.S. 84, POCs Marlys Nelson, 264-1155 or (580) 370-0208 and Carl Mellberg, 264-0269;

Precinct 4 — St. Peter Catholic Church, Colo. 151/CR 975, Arboles, POC Molly Risinger, 946-0240;

Precinct 5 — Pagosa Baptist Church, 10533 W. Hwy. 160, POC Mason Carpenter, 731-5839 or 903-1034;

Precinct 6 — Pagosa Lakes Vista Clubhouse, 230A Port Ave, POCs Deborah Van Gundy, (719) 839-0556 and Donald Farr, 731-1184 or (303) 618-7422;

Precinct 7 — Restoration Fellowship Church, Ed Building, 264 Village Dr., POC Roxanne Lattin, 507-0257;

Precinct 8 — Pagosa Lodge, The View, 3505 E. U.S. Hwy. 160, POCs Dick Warring 731-3971 or 946-6236 and Martha Peacock, 731-0884.

The Republican County Assembly will be held at Pagosa Springs High School on Saturday, March 19, with check-in starting at 8 a.m. and the assembly to start at 9 a.m. The two Republican State District Assemblies, the 59th HD and the 6th JD will be held on Saturday, April 2, at the Recreation Center in Durango. Check-in for the 59th HD is at 1 p.m., with the assembly to start at 2 p.m. Check-in for the 6th JD to follow the completion of the 59th Assembly, approximately 2:30 p.m., with the assembly to start around 3 p.m., as soon as check-in is completed.

The 3rd CD Assembly will be held at the Doubletree Hotel, 1775 Cheyenne Mountain Blvd., Colorado Springs, on Friday, April 8. The Republican State Convention is at

the Broadmoor World Arena, 3185 Venetucci Blvd., Colorado Springs, on Saturday, April 9. Schedule for the events in Colorado Springs is yet to be determined.

If you are looking for additional information about local Republican organizations and events, you can go to www.archuletarepublicans.org/news/ and click on whatever links are of interest.

Archuleta County Democratic Caucus

The Archuleta County Democratic Precinct Caucus, the first official event leading to the choice of Democratic candidate(s) to be placed on the primary and general election ballots, will take place for all precincts at 6:30 p.m. on March 1 at the Ross Aragon Community Center, Senior Dining Room, 451 Hot Springs Blvd. In addition to the caucus activities listed above, a Presidential Preference Poll will be conducted and used to help determine the distribution of delegates to the County Assembly.

The Democratic County Assembly will be held Saturday, March 12, at the Archuleta County Extension building, 355 U.S. 84, starting at 8:30 a.m.

The two Democratic State District Assemblies, the 59th HD and the 6th JD, and the 3rd CD Assembly will be held at the Ranch Events Complex in Loveland, on Friday, April 15. State Democratic Convention is at the Budweiser Events Center, Loveland, on Saturday, April 16. Schedule for the events in Loveland is yet to be determined.

The POC for the Archuleta Democrats is Becky Herman, the County Democratic Chair, at 264-2171 or 903-0788. If you are looking for additional information about local Democratic organizations and events, you can go to archuletaadems.org and click on whatever links are of interest.

Again, in order to participate in your Democratic or Republican Precinct Caucus you must be a resident in your precinct not later than Monday, Feb. 1. Don't wait until the last minute. If you are uncertain as to which precinct you are in, have moved or are unable to get on the website, call the Archuleta County Clerk, 264-8331, to verify your precinct or update your registration if you have moved, since changing your registered residence address could change your precinct.

Village

Continued from A8

make sure you burn this once read." In addition, the Coalition press release emphasizes emails found in the limited documents disclosed by USFS in response to the FOIA request that were circulated among various USFS officials in late 2014, several months prior to the agency's final decision on the land swap. The messages included comments attributed to Red McCombs, stating that he intended to "begin making

calls to his friends in Washington" and "use every political avenue open to him."

Clint Jones, representing LMJV in his position as president of The Village at Wolf Creek LLC, denied in an interview with The SUN that any effort was made to pressure USFS with political influence.

Jones noted that, by late 2014, the approval process had dragged out much longer than anticipated at the time it originated under an

agreement reached in January 2011. He said that the delay by the USFS caused heavy frustration to LMJV, and that McCombs' comments in that period referenced in the emails cited by the Coalition merely reflected his effort to "understand when the process would be concluded."

Jones stated the allegation that an attempt was made to bring political influence to bear "was not factually based whatsoever."

Lawrence Lujan, the media offi-

cer in the USFS Regional Office, declined to respond to the allegations contained in the Coalition press release. Lujan said that, as a matter of policy, the USFS does not comment on pending litigation.

By agreement between the parties, no construction activity related to the proposed Village is to be undertaken while the lawsuit challenging approval of the land swap is pending.

jim@pagosasan.com

Goals & Accomplishments Pagosa Springs Medical Center, USJHSD

SUN staff asked representatives of publicly funded agencies in Archuleta County to individually answer a trio of questions relating to the goals and accomplishments of themselves and their agencies at the turn of the year.

Their answers will be printed in The SUN over the coming weeks. Answers are printed as received and are not edited.

Malcolm Rodger, MD, Board Chairman Upper San Juan Health Service District



What are your three biggest accomplishments of 2015?

The first thing is the Board approval of the Business plan in February and then the financial plan in November for our expansion of the Medical center. This will include the building of the new Primary Care center, the expansion of the Operating Rooms and the renovation of the Emergency Room. The funding is through Grants, donations and a bank loan. I must give credit to our Finance Committee, Administration and Building Committee in overcoming some hurdles presented by our Special District requirements. We anticipate that construction will begin this spring

The Second thing is the response of our Primary Clinic to the additional need for Primary care as a result of several local Physicians leaving or closing their practices in Pagosa Springs. We have added several new Physician to our staff and the Clinic personnel did a great job in handling the new patient sign ups.

The third thing is our continued increase of services to the community setting records almost every month. We have had a good influx of patients from the Jicarilla tribe from Dulce, contracts will the VA system to provide some services to our vets here locally, and the increase in people coming to Pagosa Springs this summer.

What are your three top goals for 2016?

First would be the continuation of care during our construction and expansion. This is anticipated to take over a year and yet we are obligated to provide all the services we can to the community during this period.

Second would be to keep our Medical providers on a long term basis. Turnover has been a concern for us and our patients and we are now having Providers that seem to be more committed to staying in Pagosa Springs

Third but not last would be to continue to be financially sound in our business here at the Medical Center. The future looks good and so far our decisions for expansion of services and meeting the needs of the community have proven to be successful and I think appreciated.

What is your action plan to meet your goals?

The Board's action plan has always been to work closely with the Administration by our monthly Board meetings and if necessary with weekly updates. The end of my eight years on the Board comes to an end in May. This year is an election year for three Board seats and one Board member has agreed to serve another 4 year term and the other two will be new Board members. Our action plan is again to be financially responsibly to the community while we provide quality care in our service.

Brad Cochennet, CEO, Pagosa Springs Medical Center



What are your three biggest accomplishments of 2015?

1. Gaining approval to move forward with our primary care expansion plans was one of our biggest accomplishments in 2015. We have been working for over two years to reach that approval. Our growth in most every area of the medical center continued this past year and we set many new records of patient volumes as a result.

2. Adding our CAO (chief administrative officer) and our CMO (chief medical officer) to our leadership team was another top accomplishment for 2015. Our growth has continued to challenge our management team to operate safely with great patient outcomes. The addition of these two new positions will help us meet our goals.

3. Last but not least of the top three would be our success meeting and exceeding quality and financial goals for the year. 2015 was our best year ever as measured by many different metrics. We ended the year very proud of our successes.

What are your three top goals for 2016?

1. The top goal for 2016 will be to get our new building successfully underway.

2. The second goal is to have a successful CDPHE (Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment) evaluation.

3. The third is to meet and exceed the individual goals we have established for the 2016 year and set new records in our patient volumes with excellent care.

What is your action plan to meet your goals?

1. The plans for the new building have been developed with the architect and general contractor during the past two years and now our team is ready to implement those plans.

2. We have a series of steps we are taking every month to prepare for the CDPHE visit and will be ready.

3. The leadership team meets every week and we report to the board every month on our progress towards our individual goals.

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Sports

BASKETBALL

Lady Pirates improve to 10-0 with pair of wins

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirates notched another pair of wins over the weekend, including a league win, giving the No. 1-ranked team a 10-0 record on the season and 2-0 conference record.

The first win came in Monte Vista against that town's Lady Pirates, with Pagosa returning home with a 67-41 victory. Monte Vista is currently the No. 9 team in Colorado 3A girls' basketball.

"I thought the girls played pretty well, you know, with Monte Vista beating ... Centauri," coach Wes Lewis said, referring to Monte Vista handing the Falcons (who were ranked fourth in the state at the time) their first and only loss of the season, adding, "It was kind of a big eye-opener for everybody."

Pagosa proved to be focused heading into the game, however, scoring 23 points in the first quarter while limiting Monte Vista to nine points.

"Twenty-three points a quarter is pretty good stuff," Lewis noted, adding that, although the points "dropped off" in the second quarter (19 points compared to Monte Vista's 12), "forty-two points in a half is pretty good basketball."

The third quarter, however, was not as commanding for Pagosa, with Monte Vista outscoring its

visitors 16-12.

"For us to give up 16 points is unacceptable," Lewis said.

The coach explained that Monte Vista landed a couple 3-pointers in the quarter and that the Pagosa defense was lacking.

"We have to do better defensively than that," the coach said. "We never want to give up double-digit quarters and, if we do, they need to be very low double-digit. Sixteen is certainly higher than we want to be."

Pagosa rebounded in the contest's final quarter, though, besting their hosts 13-4 to log a 67-41 victory.

In the win, the coach complimented sophomore Ada Peshlaki, who logged nine points and three rebounds.

"I thought Ada Peshlaki had a really nice game coming off the bench for us," Lewis said, adding, "She's doing some good stuff."

Morgan Lewis led the team in scoring in the game with 24 points, followed by Taylor Lee-Hammer's 11 points.

Along with Peshlaki, Madi Lewis and Megan Farrah tallied nine points each, and Mariah Snarr added five to the team's total.

Morgan Lewis recorded 10 rebounds, followed by Madi Lewis' four. Four other Lady Pirates pulled down three points each.

The coach was also pleased with the team's defense, saying, "I

thought our press was effective."

Where the defense faltered, the coach noted, was in defending 3-pointers, with Monte Vista landing five in the game.

Pagosa committed 15 turnovers in the game, compared to Monte Vista's 27.

"It was a good, quality win," the coach noted.

The Lady Pirates were back in action Tuesday evening, taking on the visiting 2A Sanford Indians and notching their 10th win of the season, 64-37.

Lewis noted that his team was "very sloppy" in the first half.

"We left too many points out there," he said, explaining that the team left at least six easy shots on the floor and didn't play well defensively or communicate well. "We just didn't play well in the early going."

Lewis said the team may have lacked focus in the game and been looking forward to this weekend's contest with Centauri.

The Pirates scored 29 points in the first half.

The second half, the coach noted, was much better, but the team was still not great with its half-court offense and patience on offense.

"We're going to have to be a lot better than that against Centauri on Saturday," he said.

In the game, Morgan Lewis led the team with 18 points, followed by Lee-Hammer's 16. Snarr

notched 10 points, Peshlaki scored seven, Madi Lewis recorded six, Devin Wilson tallied three and Farrah added two.

Morgan Lewis also led the team with nine rebounds, followed by five from Madi Lewis, four from Peshlaki, three from Snarr, two from Wilson and Lee-Hammer, and one from Farrah.

Saturday, the Lady Pirates return to Intermountain League action against the Centauri Falcons.

"It's a big game," Lewis said, adding, "It's two good teams."

The Falcons are now ranked sixth in the state.

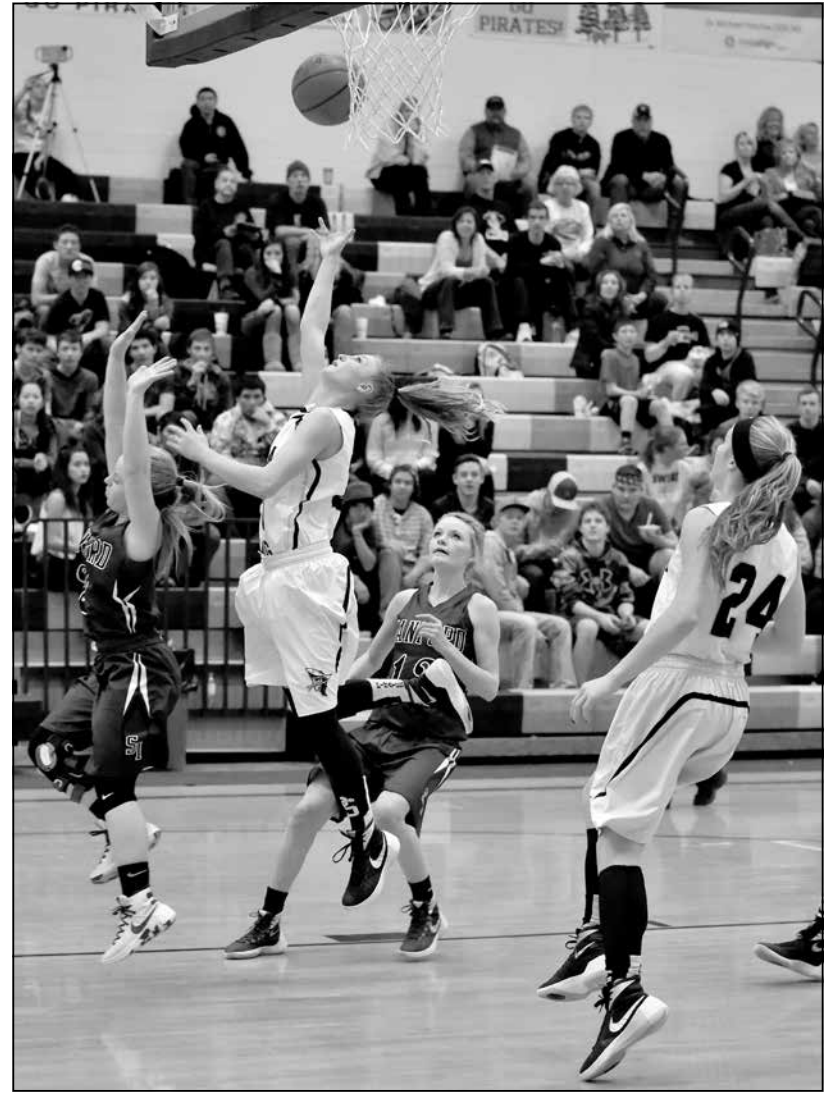
"It's going to be a big challenge. They're going to be as pumped as they can be. I mean, it's a chance to get back and really put the IML in a tangled mess as far as who the leader is," Lewis said. "It's a big game for both of us. It's on their home court. We're going to have to make sure we're dialed in."

Too, Lewis noted, Centauri is one of the few teams that has size on the Pirates, and Pagosa will have to play a strong all-around game to be victorious.

The game is set to begin at 5:30 p.m. in La Jara.

Currently, Pagosa and Alamosa lead the league with 2-0 records. Monte Vista is 2-1 in league play, Centauri is 1-1, Bayfield is 0-1 and Montezuma-Cortez is 0-4.

randi@pagosasun.com



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Taylor Lee-Hammer puts up two of her 16 points in Tuesday evening's 64-37 win over the Sanford Indians. This weekend, the Lady Pirates will look to remain undefeated while taking on the No. 6-ranked Centauri Falcons in La Jara.



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Pagosa's Ethan Brown puts up two of his five points during the first half of Tuesday evening's loss to the 2A Sanford Indians. Despite the loss to the No. 1-ranked 2A team, the Pirates were also successful in the last week, picking up their first league win of the season. Saturday, the team will look to continue its success within the league against Centauri in La Jara.

Pirates pick up first league win

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School boys' basketball team picked up its first league win of the season Friday night in Monte Vista, but dropped Tuesday evening's nonleague game against Sanford.

With the league win, the Pirates are in an early season tie atop the Intermountain League with Alamosa, who is ranked ninth in the state.

Monte Vista is next in the league with a 1-1 record, while Bayfield and Centauri are each 0-1 in conference action.

Pagosa defeated Monte Vista's version of the Pirates despite a slow start.

"On Friday night in Monte Vista we came out flat early in the game and Monte was able to lead by five at the end of the first quarter," coach Randy Sorenson wrote in an email to The SUN. Monte Vista outscored Pagosa 13-9 in the first quarter. "We were able to cut the lead to one by halftime."

Pagosa outscored Monte Vista 17-13 in the second quarter, taking a narrow 25-24 lead going into the second half.

"In the second half we came out and played pretty good basketball," Sorenson wrote, "and we were able to win by fifteen."

En route to that 15-point, 56-41 win, Pagosa bested Monte Vista 13-7 and 18-8 in the final two quarters, respectively.

Briar Erskine led Pagosa with 18

points in the game, including one 3-pointer, followed closely by Mike Kuhl's 17 points.

Isaiah Griego followed with 11 points that included two 3-pointers, Craig Tamburelli tallied nine, including one 3-pointer, and Ty Kimsey added one.

The team went 8-for-15 from the free-throw line for a 53-percent success rate.

Erskine and Griego jointly led with seven rebounds each, while Kuhl and Ethan Brown each pulled down three rebounds. Kimsey logged two, and Zach DeVoght and Tamburelli each added one to the team's total.

"It was good to win the first league game and to get off to a good start in the IML regular season," the coach wrote.

Pagosa was not as lucky Tuesday evening, when the team dropped a nonleague matchup to the 2A Sanford Indians — the division's No. 1-ranked team.

"On Tuesday night we played a really good Sanford team. Sanford is a fundamentally sound basketball team and they are well coached," Sorenson noted.

In that game, the visiting Indians outscored Pagosa the first quarter to take an early 14-9 lead. The tables turned in the second quarter, however, and the Pirates outscored the Indians 15-12 to cut their deficit to two points at the half.

The Indians were back on top in the third, though, besting the Pirates 12-6 and 12-11 in the final

two quarters, handing the Pirates a 50-41 loss.

"They have two really good players in (Chance) Canty and (Miles) Caldon. Canty is a big kid with great skills and Caldon is a great point guard that can control the game and score," Sorenson wrote. "Our kids battled and competed but we were unable to come away with a victory. It was a fairly close game throughout but we made critical errors at critical times and that hurt us."

Among those errors, Sorenson noted, were 22 turnovers and a lack of scoring.

"You are not going to win many games doing that and you surely are not going to beat good basketball teams like Sanford. Give Sanford a lot of credit as they played well. Their effort was better than ours at times getting several key rebounds and loose balls," the coach wrote.

Griego was the only Pirate to put up double-digit numbers in terms of scoring, tallying 16 points,

including a 3-pointer. Brown and Erskine each followed with five points, and a trio of Pirates — Keaton Laverty, Kuhl and Kimsey — each logged four points. Tamburelli added a 3-pointer.

The team went 5-for-8 from the free-throw line of a 63 percent success rate.

Kuhl led in rebounds with five, while Erskine and Griego pulled the ball down four times each, while Laverty and Brown each pulled down three.

This week, the Pirates will look to rebound from the loss and, at the same time, pick up another league win when they travel to La Jara to take on the Centauri Falcons.

The Falcons are 2-7 on the season.

"We will continue to work hard this week and prepare for our next league game on Saturday night in Centauri," Sorenson wrote of the upcoming matchup.

The Saturday affair is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m.

randi@pagosasun.com

COMMUNITY CENTER NEWS

Gym open for public use on Saturday morning

By Traci Bishop
PREVIEW Columnist

The gym will be open to the public for use from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday.

For more information, please call the center at 264-4152.

Meditation class starting

Don't miss out on the new free program offered Thursday nights from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. starting Jan. 28.

Meditation, if done properly, creates an awakened awareness, focus, peace of mind and joy. It allows us to be "present," therefore, experience our life more fully. Through the practice of meditation, we dissipate the reactionary knee jerk response, allowing us to be our natural selves.

In this class, you will explore and learn various methods of breathing and meditation in a gentle and

supportive setting. Instructor Val Fulco is a 20-year resident of Pagosa Springs. He has a personal and deep relationship with a family of Tibetan Lamas with who he studied the energy exercises and meditation techniques of the ancient Nyingma tradition.

Boys to Men class

This class is designed to promote strength of character, compassion, wisdom and maturity on the boy's journey to manhood.

Using martial arts, stretching, focusing and self-reflection exercises, we will explore the idea of the male's role as protector, provider and source of strength to ourselves, our families and the community. No previous experience required.

This class is designed for boys 9 years of age and up. Registrations for the Boys to Men class are due by Friday, Feb. 17. Registration fee

for this class is \$35 for a five-week session.

For more information, please call the center at 264-4152.

Dodge for a Cause

Come out for a day of fun with family and friends and help raise money for our youth on Saturday, Feb. 20. This tournament is in honor of the Marky Egan Youth Scholarship Fund Program. This scholarship helps children in need and allows them to participate in many of the recreational youth programs.

This will be a two-court tournament held at the Ross Aragon Community Center and will be played in two age divisions. The first division is ages 12-15 and the second division is 16 and older.

There will be prizes for most unique dressed team and for the champions in each division. Each team must have a minimum of six

players to register. The registration fee is \$10 per person. Registration deadline for all teams is Friday, Feb. 12. Registrations can be found at the Ross Aragon Community Center.

CPR/AED Certification

Registration for the CPR/AED class for Thursday, Feb. 25, is now open. Instructors Nicole Lagioia-Lewis and Darren Lewis will be teaching from 8:30 a.m. to noon. This class will certify you for two years and the cost \$50 per student. Space is limited.

Center information

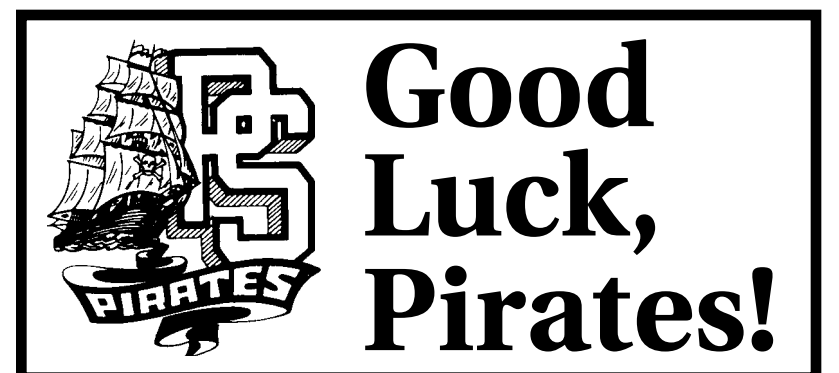
Community Center hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., closed for lunch daily from noon to 1 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday by appointment only.

The center is located at 451 Hot Springs Blvd. Phone is 264-4152, email is communitycenter@pagosasprings.co.gov.



SUN photo/Marshall Dunham

James Berndt signs his letter of intent to play soccer for Northeastern Junior College last Thursday. Berndt expressed how excited he was, and commended his coach and his team for the amazing year that he had. Coach Lindsey Kurt-Mason called him a stellar player and "brilliant with a ball."

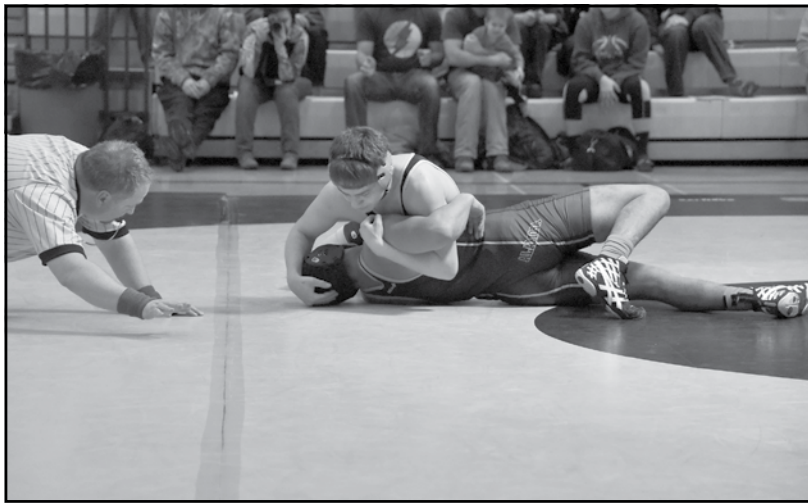


WRESTLING



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Sophomore Dalton Lucero grapples with his opponent during the dual against Alamosa last Thursday. The Pirates fought hard, but lost their dual 21-38.



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Sophomore Colton Castro goes for the pin during the Pirate's dual with the Alamosa Mean Moose. Castro wrestled in the 160-pound division and won with a pin roughly four minutes into the match.

Pirates fight hard at Alamosa Dual and Alamosa Invitational

By Marshall Dunham
Staff Writer

The Pirates faced a tough weekend, hosting a dual against Alamosa on Jan. 14 before attending the Alamosa Invitational on Jan. 16.

The wrestlers fought hard in their dual on Thursday, but were eventually bested scoring 21 points to the 38 points scored by the Mean Moose.

"We lost the first 5 matches, but had some great efforts, particularly from freshman James Thomas who was wrestling the defending state champion," wrestling coach Dan Janowsky said in an email to SUN staff. "We lost a major decision there, but the fact that we did not give up a pin or a tech fall shows what James is made of and showed the fight a lot of these young guys are willing to bring."

Sophomore Tate Hinger won his match in a sudden victory that was scored 4-2, with Dan Janowsky commenting that he "got the first win of the night for us and got the crowd on their feet with an overtime win at 126 pounds."

Trevor Bryant won his match in the 132-pound division by decision scoring 8-6.

"We lost the next 3 at 138, 145, and 152 but again, we were underdogs in all 3 of those weights," wrote coach Dan Janowsky. In particular Tanner Schlom at 138 and Dalton Lucero at 152 got behind early but built momentum through the match and were both coming back

at the end as time ran out."

In the 160-pound division, Caleb Janowsky won his match by decision scoring 6-0.

Colton Castro wrestled at 170 pounds and won his match by getting a pin.

At 182 pounds, Chance McReynolds won his match by decision and scored 8-2.

Lastly, wrestling at 195 pounds, Jaden Hinger won his match by decision, scoring 6-2.

"Alamosa is a traditional powerhouse, currently ranked 8th," explained Dan Janowsky. "We were considered underdogs in most, if not all of the 14 weights that make up a dual meet, and the fact that we were able to win 6 out of the 14 with a couple other very close ones again underscores our willingness to take on the best and fight it out."

Alamosa Invitational

Coach Janowsky explained that the invitational was a "very tough tournament featuring top ranked 2A, 3A, and 4A teams, with some good 5A's and a top team from Texas in the mix as well."

Out of 13 teams, the Pirates placed 10th, scoring 46 points.

Dan Janowsky went on to write that after the first few rounds, he was a little disappointed and sat down and talked to the team.

"The thing that bothered me more than anything was that we gave up more pins than we usually do," wrote the coach. "They responded

well the rest of the day, fighting hard win or lose."

Dan Janowsky added that this is the part of the wrestling season where things can become a little weary, for wrestlers and coaches alike.

"Numerous weigh-ins, early mornings, long evenings can wear kids and coaches down," wrote Dan Janowsky. "Since this is the first time a lot of our kids have experienced this, the impact can be greater than it is on more seasoned teams. We were sluggish early, and it hurt our start."

The coach ended his email on a high note, stating "On the positive side, after our team came to terms with the reality of the situation, they responded with more fight. In a tournament like this, there are no easy opponents, and we had 6 guys fight through to finish in what amounts to a tie for 5th place: James Thomas, Trevor Bryant, Dalton Lucero, Caleb Janowsky, Chance McReynolds, and Nolan Stretton."

The tournament was won by Pueblo West, scoring 189.5 points, with Rocky Ford coming in second place, scoring 187 points.

Dan Janowsky wrote that, although the Pirates didn't score high as a team, he was "certain that days like this will harden us for the challenges at the regional and state meets in the future."

The Pirates will wrestle in a dual hosted by Monte Vista, today, Thursday, Jan. 21, with action beginning at 7 p.m.

marshall@pagosasun.com

RECREATION NEWS

Take advantage of open gym on Saturday morning

By Darren Lewis
SUN Columnist

Youth volleyball registration started Friday, Jan. 15. Registrations will be accepted through Monday, Feb. 29.

The 9-10 division will be an instructional league held Monday and Wednesday evenings from 5 to 6 p.m. The 11-12 division will be held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings for league play.

Community Center

The Community Center will be open Saturday, Jan. 23, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. for open gym basketball only. Feel free to come use the Community Center at your leisure. If the building is being used, organizers will look at expanding the hours on Saturdays.

Please feel free to contact the recreation office with any questions or ideas for better use of Community Center at 264-4151, ext. 231.

Reservoir Hill closed

The thinning project at Reser-

voir Hill is underway. The hill will be closed for four to five weeks.

Ice skating

The ice rink at Town Park and the pond at River Center Park are open for ice skating.

Youth basketball 9-12

Practice for 9-12 youth basket-

ball is underway. Youth basketball games will begin Feb. 1. The 9-10 division will play on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11-12 division on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Online registration

Through the use of Xpress Bill Pay, the Town of Pagosa Springs Recreation Department offers

online registration for most youth programs.

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

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

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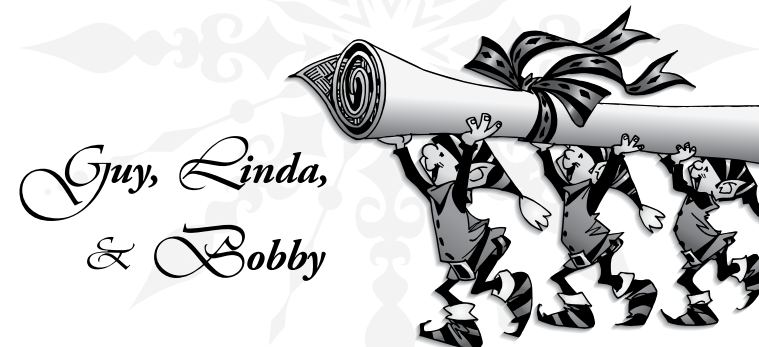


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Outdoors

PAGOSA LAKES NEWS

Pagosa Lakes ice fishing tournament offers fun, prizes

By Larry Lynch
Special to The SUN

The association will be sponsoring an ice fishing tournament on Saturday, Jan. 30, at Lake Pagosa. The tournament will be a fun, low-key competition for seasoned ice anglers and even newcomers to the sport and kids alike. The tournament will begin at 10 a.m. sharp and run till 2 p.m. (please, no lines in the water until 10 a.m. when we blow the horn). We will be throwing some burgers on the grill around 11:30 a.m. and it should be a great day out on the lake.

The entry fee ticket is \$20 per person and there will be cash prizes for winners in several categories, including largest fish by weight of four species and a separate grand slam category where the combined weight of any three species of fish will be a winner. All contestants must have a current year valid Pagosa Lakes fishing permit. We anticipate that there will be several hundred dollars in cash prizes for winners (generated from the entry fee), along with some fun drawings for various ice fishing tackle and gear.

There will be a separate competition for kids 16 and under complete with all sorts of fishing-related prizes for the kids. Kids 16 and under will fish for free.

We will be staging the tournament off of the dam and boat ramp area on Cloud Cap Avenue, where we should have plenty of parking. Please come dressed for the weather; a layered approach works best. Hopefully, sunscreen will be necessary, but even if the weather is a little more wintry, we plan to hold the event. If we get a good turnout

and interest for a second tournament later this winter, we'll plan on holding a second event, perhaps on one of the other lakes in February.

Ice safety

We would like to remind everyone about ice safety out on the lakes. The recent colder temperatures have really solidified the ice conditions on the lakes and, generally, the ice is over a foot thick in most areas. However, due to various circumstances, there could be some areas where ice may be thinner. Please make sure to know ice conditions before venturing out onto the frozen surfaces of the lake, drill test holes close to shore and as you go out to confirm ice thickness.

We had a situation this past week where an ice fisherman out on Lake Pagosa had his dog with him. The dog became attracted to some waterfowl swimming in an open water aerator area near the dam and went in the open water and could not get back out. Fortunately the fire department responded within minutes and the dog was pulled out of the water safely and happily returned to the warm pickup truck of his owner.

Make sure you keep pets close by and under close control at all times out on the lakes. If you see unattended pets or even children out on the lakes, please call the office to let us know or you can call Archuleta County dispatch at 731-2160 to let someone know of a potential safety concern. Never attempt an ice rescue on your own; this often leads to two people in the water instead of one. The fire department is well equipped for ice rescue and Fire Station 1 is just minutes away.

Numerous groomed trails available for winter sports

By James Dickhoff
Special to The SUN

Trail groomers have been extra busy this season. We have seen regular snow accumulations, which requires much labor and time to keep trails groomed for your enjoyment.

Pagosa Springs is very fortunate to have four entities that groom trails for cross-country skiing. For trails groomed specifically for cross-country skiing, other non-skiing trail use like snowshoeing, fat tire biking and walking, are strongly discouraged on the groomed trail surface, as trail damage to the trail surface is common and affects the enjoyment of the skiing experience. If your winter outing requires use of the groomed trail, please use the edge of the trail and avoid the set tracks.

There are many groomed multi-use trails available in Pagosa Country for snowshoeing, fat tire biking and walking and additional cross-country skiing options. A popular area is the Turkey Springs trailhead, where many fat tire bikes have been riding this season, and numerous snowshoeing options exist. Also, the Trail Blazer Snowmobile Club grooms almost 100 miles of multi-use trails around Pagosa Country. These trails access incredibly scenic areas and allow all winter recreational uses, and many see very light snowmobile traffic. Some of these trails include: Fourmile, Plumtaw, McManus, Monument, Turkey Springs, Toner, East Toner, Nipple Mountain Porcupine and East Fork.

The Wolf Creek Ski Area has been regularly grooming the 10k Alberta Park loop, accessed from

the east end of the upper parking lot. The Alberta Park trail offers easy, moderate with some more difficult terrain. The trail is groomed wide for skate skiing with set tracks for classic cross-country skiing and is free for public use.

The Pagosa Nordic Club (PNC) has been grooming the West Fork Nordic trail, located 15 miles east of town on U.S. 160 at the west base of Wolf Creek Pass. The 15k trail system is very scenic along the base of the Wolf Creek Pass cliffs. West Fork is a multi-use recreational area and the cross-country ski trail is within this area.

In addition, there are a number of private properties that use the West Fork Road for access, even in the winter. The PNC has recently worked with the forest service and private landowners to reduce the potential for trail damage. We are very fortunate our local ranger district and local landowners recognize the community benefits that Nordic skiing and the West Fork trail system provide. PNC is looking forward to providing consistently groomed skate ski lanes and set tracks in this very scenic area.

PNC reminds everyone to please be courteous and respectful to other trail users and property owners in this area; they all have the right to use this area. We also rely on an adjoining property owners for plowing the trailhead road when they are available. When the road is not plowed, limited parking is available at the top, off of the highway. This trail system offers lots of flat terrain and also offers some challenging hill climbs if you so choose.

PNC also grooms a .75k loop at Yamaguchi Park, a great area for short workouts along the San Juan



Photo courtesy James Dickhoff

Pagosa Nordic Club volunteer grooming team Jan Ariyasu, Al Boucheir and Doug Call putting final touches on the West Fork Nordic ski trail.

River. The Nordic Club trails are free to use, however, donations are encouraged to cover grooming expenses.

Grooming on Reservoir Hill has ceased for the season due to the tree thinning project currently underway. The club is looking forward to the additional trail alignment opportunities the thinning project will provide for next season's trails.

The Pagosa Ranger District regularly grooms 14k at Coyote Hill. The trails have been in great shape this season. This area boasts excellent views of Pagosa Peak. All trails are groomed for skate skiing with set tracks. These trails are free for public use. The ranger district is planning on maintaining grooming more frequently this season, as this winter recreation area is very popular and in close proximity

to town. If taking your canine friends, please only take friendly dogs, clean up all messes from the trail and discourage your dog from walking in the set tracks. Remember, dogs can run up on skiers and other trail users, causing a fall. Many trails are in multi-use areas, so you may come upon and interact with other users like snowmobiles. Please be respectful of each other's right to use the forest.

The PNC serves as the local advocate for groomed cross-country ski trails and you can find current cross-country ski trail grooming reports, trail maps, activity and event schedules at PagosaNordic.com.

PNC is a nonprofit, 100-percent volunteer organization with a mission, "To enhance winter recreational opportunities in Pagosa Springs by maintaining accessible groomed winter trails for skate skiing, classic cross-country skiing and snowshoeing for all ability levels and to encourage and promote the use of these winter trails through education, marketing and events."

EXTENSION VIEWPOINTS

Choosing trees and shrubs for wildlife habitat

By Roberta Tolan
SUN Columnist

According to a survey conducted by Colorado Parks and Wildlife, more than 90 percent of Coloradans responding to a survey believed in the importance of having wildlife in their neighborhoods. One component of creating an environment that attracts wildlife is using appropriate vegetation including trees and shrubs that can attract wildlife by providing food and shelter.

The Colorado State Forest Service nursery in Fort Collins grows tree seedlings that they sell to the public for reforestation, developing windbreaks and creating wildlife habitat.

These seedlings can be purchased through the Soil Conservation Service at 505A County Road 600 (Piedra Road) while inventory lasts. Call 731-3615 for information or to place an order. Some of the trees and shrubs that attract wildlife to the landscape are the following. This information was compiled by Kent Grant, Colorado State Forest Service in Durango.

Deciduous trees

Cottonwood hybrids and narrowleaf (populus deltoids var. noreaster, populus angustifolia)

have buds and catkin flowers that are good food in winter and early spring. Bark, twigs and leaves are eaten by rodents, rabbits, deer, beaver and porcupines. They provide forage for browsing wildlife such as whitetail and mule deer up through the sapling stage. They also provide important nesting and roosting habitat for various species of birds.

Golden willow (salix alba var. vitellina) do best in moist, fertile sites. They provide good browse food for big game, rabbits and beaver, provide forage for browsing wildlife such as whitetail and mule deer through the sapling stage and provide important nesting and roosting habitat for various bird

species. Hackberry (celtis occidentalis) fruit provides important winter food for songbirds (especially waxwings, sapsuckers, mockingbirds and robins). About 45 wildlife species eat fruit, and deer browse on twigs and leaves.

Aspen (populus tremuloides) are very important for browse in many areas for snowshoe hare, deer and elk. Deer avidly take fallen leaves in fall and early winter. And the tree provides important food and building material for beaver. Grouse depend on aspen buds for winter food.

Bur oak (quercus macrocarpa) ■ See Viewpoints A13

Promoting seedlings for conservation

By Ryan Cox
Special to The SUN

The Colorado State Forest Service and the San Juan Conservation District are now accepting applications on a first-come, first-served basis for more than 40 varieties of low-cost seedling trees and shrubs grown at CSFS's Fort Collins nursery. Seedlings ordered now will be distributed statewide in the spring.

Landowners who are interested in conservation goals such as creating natural windbreaks, improving wildlife habitat or reforesting properties impacted by wildfire or floods are eligible to purchase the low-cost seedlings. Colorado-grown species are adaptable, hardy and ideal for a variety of conservation uses.

The CSFS seedling tree program is designed to encourage Colorado landowners to plant seedling trees and shrubs for conservation purposes. Through a cooperative

effort with Colorado State University Extension offices and county conservation districts throughout the state, approximately 5,000 Coloradans receive CSFS seedling trees each year.

Seedling trees have many uses and benefits, including:

- Increased property values.
- Energy conservation through reduced utility bills.
- Carbon sequestration.
- Reduced soil erosion.
- Wind/snow control to protect agriculture, livestock and roadways.
- Enhanced wildlife habitat and reforestation.

The only requirement for purchasing trees through the seedling program is that the seedlings be used for conservation purposes only. Those interested in purchasing seedlings are encouraged to check the continually updated seedling inventory at <http://csfs.colostate.edu/seedling-tree-nursery/seedling-nursery-inventory>.

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Viewpoints

Continued from A12

are very important to wildlife, especially the acorns that provide wildlife food especially in winter. Almost 100 wildlife species use oak, including quail, turkey, deer, bear and squirrels. They also provide excellent cover to many species.

Coniferous trees (evergreens)

Pine species including Austrian, scotch, ponderosa, pinon, lodgepole, limber and bristlecone are nearly as important as oaks to wildlife. All parts of the tree are used and/or eaten with pine seeds being especially important for food. Bark harbors insects that woodpeckers, sapsuckers and nuthatches eat.

Juniper provides some food value to songbirds and also provides escape and nesting cover for songbirds and game birds. Do not plant near apple or hawthorn trees, as juniper is the alternate host for apple rust.

Douglas fir seeds are used by squirrels, rabbits and other rodents.

White fir prefer cool, moist sites and offer moderate wildlife importance, mostly used for cover by mammals and game birds and are used for roosting and nesting by songbirds.

Shrubs

Caragana or Siberian peashrub are used for nesting by several

songbirds and the seeds are occasionally eaten. It also provides good cover, but is not a preferred food for browsing animals.

Cotoneaster provide roosting and loafing cover for numerous songbirds and also provide some cover for both bird and animal species. It is preferred nesting site for many songbirds, prefers open moist areas and is good in fencerows. It provides food for songbirds, rabbits, quail and turkeys.

Chokecherry — all parts of plant has some benefit to wildlife for winter food, but, most importantly, during summer and fall. It is among the most important plants for wildlife cover and food and the shrubby, thicket-forming growth provides cover for songbird nesting, loafing and roosting and animal loafing and bedding. The fruit and foliage are relished by a great number of wildlife species, including songbirds, upland game birds, rodents and other small mammals, bears and whitetail and mule deer.

Native American plum are highly important as wildlife cover and food. The thorny, suckering growth when protected forms a thicket valuable for bird nesting, loafing and roosting and animal loafing and bedding. Twigs and foliage provide a highly preferred browse for whitetail and mule deer and foxes are chief consumers of its fruit.

Skunkbush sumac or quailbush prefer moist, sunny open areas

but will grow in dry location. It is good in fencerows along roads and canal/stream edges. It is important fall and winter food for songbirds, woodpeckers and deer and emergency winter food for game birds. Its fruit and buds are a staple food for sharp-tailed grouse and is a good source of vitamin A. Bark and twigs are eaten by rabbits, rodents and deer and provide high quality roosting and loafing cover for many bird species and is a preferred nest site for many thicket-nesting birds.

Coyote willow and other varieties of riparian willows are very important as browse and cover for big game, especially in fall and winter. It is also important as food and cover for birds in winter particularly ptarmigan and is especially valuable along trout streams as shade and cover and as a secondary food source for beaver.

Gambel oak, also called shrub oak and oakbrush, is very important for mast, browse and cover. Acorns are eaten by many species, especially jays, wild turkey, squirrels and bear and are important winter browse and mast for deer, bighorn sheep and elk.

True mountain mahogany is very important browse species for all big game ungulates and livestock and it also provides cover and food for small game birds and mammals.

This information and more can be found in the publication "Wild-

life Values of Conservation Trees and Shrubs," written by Kent Grant of the Colorado State Forest Service in Durango, and can be found at the CSU Forest Service website at www.csf.s.colostate.edu.

Free radon testing and mitigation workshop

For information on the effects of radon in the home, the importance of testing and a free testing kit, attend this free workshop on Wednesday, Feb. 10, at 3 p.m. at the CSU Extension building at the Archuleta County fairgrounds. Pre-registration is required by calling 264-5931.

CPR and first aid

CPR and first aid certification classes are 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 schedule classes on additional dates with five or more registrations.

Cost for the classes is \$80 for combined CPR/first aid and \$55 for individual CPR or first aid. The type of first aid information provided will vary by the needs of the audience. Group rates are available.

Call the Extension office for information at 264-5931.

VETERAN'S CORNER

VA health care rural access update

By Raymond Taylor
SUN Columnist

Great news for the uninsured population and veterans living in rural communities with limited access to health care providers and services.

If you are a veteran enrolled in, or eligible for, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) health care services, the Veterans Choice Act of 2014 and Choice Improvement Act of 2015 were created to offer you greater access to care in your community.

If you are a veteran who is not eligible for VA health care and do not have insurance, the Health Insurance Marketplace may be a great option for you.

The Veterans Choice Act increases access to health care for enrolled veterans and the Choice Improvement Act expands this access to a larger number of veterans. For example, eligible veterans who live more than 40 miles from a VA medical facility or are unable to schedule an appointment within 30 days may be eligible to use their Choice Card to see a provider in their community. To find out if you are eligible, please call (866) 606-8198 or visit <http://www.va.gov/opa/choiceact>.

Recent legislation (the Choice Improvement Act) amended the Veterans Choice Act to further expanded eligibility for veterans to receive care in their communities. VA will implement these changes in several phases, with the first phase (waiver of the enrollment date) effective immediately.

The legislation:

- Waives the enrollment date — now, all enrolled veterans, regardless of when they enrolled, may be eligible.

- Expands the 60-day episode for referral care — meaning, if an eligible veteran is referred for care, they will have 60 days to complete the referral.

- Allows for appointments less than 30 days when clinically in-

dedicated — soon, veterans with an approved clinical need for an appointment can seek care in their community, even if it's within 30 days.

- Allows VA to expand its network — VA has now has authority to expand its Veterans Choice Program provider base.

- Allows for Veterans Choice Program benefit where no VA full-time physician is present at the existing site of VA care. In addition, veterans who receive hospital or medical services for a service-connected disability will be eligible to participate in a Health Savings Account effective Dec. 31, 2015.

VA wants to ensure that veterans have options to access the health care they need and that the care received also fully addresses their needs.

Veterans who are uninsured or not eligible to enroll in VA health care can consider enrollment in state or federal Health Insurance Marketplaces for affordable health insurance. Most people can find health insurance plans available for \$75 or less per month. Learn about options available in your area by visiting <https://www.healthcare.gov> or calling (800) 318-2596.

If you are a veteran who is either enrolled or not enrolled in VA health care and want more veteran-specific information about the Health Insurance Marketplace, visit www.va.gov/aca.

For more information

The office of Archuleta County veterans service officer provides assistance to qualified military veterans, and their families, or a veteran's survivors, in applying to and in obtaining VA program assistance, benefits and claims.

This assistance is provided within the guidelines, policies and procedures established by the Colorado Department of Military and Veteran Affairs. This is a mandated program of the state of Colorado.

For further information on VA benefits, please call or stop by the Archuleta County Veterans Service Office, located at the Senior Center in the Ross Aragon Community Center on Hot Springs Boulevard.

The best way to contact me is to set up an appointment, for either at your home or in the office, so I can schedule a specific time in order to answer and assist each veteran in Archuleta County.

I will be out of the office on the following days for regularly scheduled meetings:

- Vets4Vets: Tuesday mornings, 9 a.m. to noon.
- Arboles Community Center, scheduled Thursdays. Back around 2 p.m.
- Home visits/Pine Ridge outreach, 2 to 4 p.m.
- Pagosa Outreach Connection, 8:30-10 a.m. every Thursday.

The office number is 264-4013, fax number is 264-4014, cell number

is 946-3590 and email is raytaylor@archuletacounty.org. The office is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Bring a DD Form 214 (discharge) for applications to VA programs or benefits for which the veteran may be entitled to enroll, and for filing in the Archuleta County VSO office.

Always leave me a message and phone number to contact you.

Veterans' groups

The following veterans groups meet in Pagosa Springs:

- American Legion Post 108: second Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m., 287 Hermosa St.
- American Legion Post 108 Ladies Auxiliary: second Tuesday of the month at 4 p.m., 287 Hermosa St.
- Veterans for Veterans: Every Tuesday at 10 a.m., Pagosa Lodge.
- Women's Group of Spouses of Veterans: First and third Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Parish Hall, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Contact Charlotte at 731-1025.

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LIBRARY NEWS

Meet Claire, your new tween and teen services librarian

By Carole Howard
SUN Columnist, and the library staff

We are delighted to introduce you to Claire Spence, who became your tween and teen services librarian two days ago, on Jan. 19. Her studies, field and work experience have given her knowledge of a wide variety of children's and young adult literature, and she says she always has had a passion for literature for children and teens.

Spence comes to us with impressive credentials. She earned a master's degree in library and information studies from the University of Wisconsin in Madison, with a major in youth services and collection management in May 2015. While there, she was an active member of the TLAM (Tribal Libraries, Archives and Museums) youth center, the American Library Association student chapter and Gaming in Libraries. She also has a Bachelor of Arts in English from McDaniel College in Westminster, Md.

Her recent library-related experience in Wisconsin included working in the School of Library and Information Studies office in Madison, at a Parent Council Family Literacy Resource Center in Fitchburg and at the Monona Public Library Youth Services Department. She is fluent in multiple operating systems, data bases and social media.

Spence grew up in a small town in Maryland, even smaller than Pagosa, so she is familiar with the advantages and disadvantages of a small town. She especially likes the sense of community a small town offers. Having gone to college in Wisconsin, she also is familiar with the joys and challenges that winter brings. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, writing, sewing and hiking. She also plays the fiddle and has been very involved in theater, especially on the costume side.

With her interviews for this job taking place over Skype, Spence had not seen Pagosa until she arrived here last Friday. "Of course, I'd seen pictures — but they do not do justice to the amazing beauty here," she said.

Her goal in her new job? "I want to help kids develop their imaginations," Spence said. "Books and stories are an excellent way to explore the world and other people in new ways so that we look at the world and each other from different perspectives."

Read with a Ranger

Our first free Read with a Ranger event of 2016 takes place tomorrow, Friday, Jan. 22, from 3 to 4 p.m. This highly popular free series with Ranger Brandon is aimed at youngsters ages 6-10. Tomorrow's session will explore the wonderful world of snow, as we celebrate winter with nature-themed books and activities.

DIY session for adults

This month's free do-it-yourself project takes place next Wednesday, Jan. 27, at 2 p.m., when we will make



Photo courtesy Carole Howard

Claire Spence is your new Sisson Library tween and teen services librarian, as of this week. Her studies, field and work experience have given her knowledge of a wide variety of children's and young adult literature, and she says she always has had a passion for literature for children and teens.

two of our own household cleaners — a glass cleaner and an all-purpose cleaner. In the past, these fun DIY sessions have included making your own cheese, sushi, centerpiece, tea wreath, candles, mustard and mayo, and screen-printing a T-shirt. No registration required.

Downloadable films

For your viewing pleasure, we have purchased IndieFlix, a streaming movie service that gives you unlimited access to more than 7,500 award-winning and popular independent shorts, feature films and documentaries from more than 50 countries — on your device, PC or Mac, with no apps needed. Also, PBS content is now live on the website. Access IndieFlix through the Downloadable Content icon on the library's website.

New films include "Caldera," a 12-minute animated feature for all ages about a young girl's struggle with mental health and medication; "Katherine," which stars Sissy Spacek as a wealthy debutante who uses unorthodox methods to make changes in the world, for ages 13 and up; "The Nostalgist," a 17-minute fantasy for ages 13 and up; and "The Exploding Girl," about a young woman who must choose between her budding romance or her best friend, for ages 17 and up. Use "Quick Pick," the discovery tool that helps you find new favorites in seconds.

Audio books service

We no longer carry downloadable audio books through OneClick

Digital. Starting this month, we are migrating to 3M for downloadable audio books so that you will be able to get your downloadable audio books and e-books in the same location. Another advantage to this change is that we will be able to select our own content, based on our knowledge of your reading preferences.

Programmed Nooks

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

Nonfiction

"Real Paleo Fast and Easy" by Loren Cordain offers more than 175 recipes ready in 30 minutes or less. "How to Retire with Enough Money and How to Know What Enough Is" by Teresa Ghilarducci provides understandable, actionable guidance for retirement. "Chrysalis: Angeles, ETs and Us" by Mark Kimmel provides a larger picture of who we are, why we are here and where

we are headed. "Lost in the Yellowstone" by Truman Everts is the true story of a man lost for 37 days in the park. "Ponderosa" by Carl E. Fiedler and Stephen F. Arno recounts the story of humans among the ponderosa pines and why the forest has changed.

Thrillers and mysteries

"Scandalous Behavior" by Stuart Woods is a Stone Barrington mystery. "The Bitter Season" by Tami Hoag follows the trail of two crimes 25 years apart.

Other novels

"American Copper" by Shann Ray is an American West story set in 1900s Montana. "My Name is Lucy Barton" by Pulitzer Prize winner Elizabeth Strout is about a mother and daughter reconnecting. "The Expatriates" by Janice Y.K. Lee focuses on three American women living in Hong Kong.

Story CDs

"Secret Sisters" by Jayne Ann Kretz is a romantic suspense story. "The Pharaoh's Secret" by Clive Cussler and Graham Brown is a NUMA files adventure. "Ashley Bell" by Dean Koontz is a suspense story. "Tom Clancy Commander in Chief" by Mark Greaney features President Jack Ryan. "Blood Kiss" by J.R. Ward is a Black Dagger Brotherhood story. "Warheart" by Terry Goodkind is part of the Sword of Truth epic.

Music CDs

Come in and take a look at the wide variety of music CDs we have available to borrow, thanks to donations from patrons like you. You'll find bluegrass, classical, jazz, rock and more for your enjoyment.

Thanks to our donors

For books and materials this week, we thank Kristal Fortune. For their generous monetary donations, we thank Lenore Bright in memory of Virginia Sheets and James Liebman.

Quotable quote

"You will become way less concerned with what other people think of you when you realize how seldom they do." — David Foster Wallace (1962-2008), American author and professor of English and creative writing.

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Barrett Frappier Weisserman, LLP 1199 Bannock Street, Denver, CO 80204 (303) 350-3711

Attorney File #
The Attorney above is acting as a debt collector and is attempting to collect a debt. Any information provided may be used for that purpose.
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Published December 31, 2015, January 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2016 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO
Court Address:
449 San Juan St.
PO Box 148
Pagosa Springs CO 81147
Case Number: 2015CV30031
PLAINTIFF:
PEREGRINE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION INC.

DEFENDANT(S):
Gregory Scott Cole et al.
COMBINED NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE OF TIMESHARE INTEREST AND RIGHTS TO CURE AND REDEEM

This Notice of Public Judicial Foreclosure Sale is given pursuant to the specific assessment lien in the Declaration of Protective Covenants and Internal Ownership for Peregrine Property Owner's Association, Inc., recorded the 2nd day of August, 1990 under Reception No. 173556, as recorded in the office of the County Clerk and Recorder of Archuleta County, Colorado, at Book 303, Page 104, et al.
Under a Judgment and Decree of Foreclosure entered October 18, 2015, in the above entitled action, I am ordered to sell certain real property, improvements and personal property secured by the Declaration, including without limitation the real property described as follows: See Exhibit "A" attached hereto and made apart hereof. Owner(s): Gregory Scott Cole, Jacqueline M Auran, Kenneth O Anderson II, Tracy A Anderson, Margaret A Gray, David L Derrig, L James Grattan, Trustee and Jan E Grattan, Trustee of the Grattan Family Trust dated 11/26/2003, Thomas Kennedy, Lorraine Kennedy and The Harry A Nester Living Trust dated 9/30/1993
Evidence of Debt: Declaration of Protective Covenants and Internal Ownership for Peregrine Property Owner's Association, recorded the 2nd day of August, 1990 under Reception No. 173556 as recorded in the office of the County Clerk and Recorder for Archuleta County, Colorado, at Book 202, Page 104, Et al.
Current Holder of evidence of debt secured by the Declaration: Peregrine Property Owner's Association, Inc. Obligations Secured: The Declaration provides that it secures the payment of the Debt and obligations therein described including, but not limited to, the payment of attorneys' fees and costs.

Agent: Attorney at Law, Reg. No. 43104, 924 Adelaide Ave., Ft. Smith, Arkansas 72901
Association Assessments Due to: Peregrine Property Owner's Association, Inc.
Debt: Timeshare Owner's Assessments due to Association in the amount of Gregory Scott Cole \$5340.28
Jacqueline M Auran \$1687.71
Kenneth O Anderson II and Tracy A Anderson \$3447.47
Margaret A Gray \$5541.91
David L Derrig \$1709.28
James L Grattan and Jan E Grattan, Trustees of the Grattan Family Trust dated 11/26/2003 \$7543.50
Thomas Kennedy and Lorraine Kennedy \$1866.91
The Harry A Nester Living Trust dated 9/30/1993 \$2779.75
Amount of Judgment Entered on October 18, 2015: See attached Exhibit "A"
Type of Sale: Judicial Foreclosure Sale of Timeshare Interest being conducted pursuant to the power of sale granted by the Declaration, the Colorado Property Code, and the Colorado Common Ownership Act
THE PROPERTY TO BE SOLD AND DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCUMBERED BY THE LIEN PURSUANT TO THE DECLARATION.

The covenants of said Declaration have been violated as follows: failure to make payments for assessments with the addressness was due and owing and the legal holder of the indebtedness has accelerated the same and declared the same immediately fully due and payable.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE OF TIMESHARE INTEREST

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT I, at 10:00 o'clock A.M., on Wednesday, March 2, 2016, in the Office of the Archuleta County Sheriff, Civil Division, 449 San Juan Street, Pagosa Springs, Colorado, sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property described above, and all interest of said Grantor and the heirs and assigns of said Grantor thereon, subject to the provisions of the Declaration permitting the Association thereunder to have the bid credited to the Debt up to the amount of the unpaid Debt secured by the Declaration at the time of sale, for the purpose of paying the judgment amount entered herein, and will deliver to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.
First Publication: January 7, 2016
Last Publication: February 4, 2016
Name of Publication: [Pagosa Springs Sun]

NOTICE OF RIGHTS

YOU MAY HAVE AN INTEREST IN THE REAL PROPERTY BEING FORECLOSED, OR HAVE CERTAIN RIGHTS OR SUFFER CERTAIN LIABILITIES PURSUANT TO COLORADO STATUTES AS A RESULT OF SAID FORECLOSURE. YOU MAY HAVE THE RIGHT TO REDEEM SAID REAL PROPERTY OR YOU MAY HAVE THE RIGHT TO CURE A DEFAULT UNDER THE DEED OF TRUST BEING FORECLOSED. A COPY OF THE STATUTES WHICH MAY AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS IS ATTACHED HERETO.
A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE PURSUANT TO §38-38-104 C.R.S., SHALL BE FILED WITH THE OFFICER AT LEAST FIFTEEN (15) CALENDAR DAYS PRIOR TO THE FIRST SCHEDULED SALE DATE OR ANY DATE TO WHICH THE SALE IS CONTINUED.
IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED.

A NOTICE OF INTENT TO REDEEM FILED PURSUANT TO §38-38-302 C.R.S. SHALL BE FILED WITH THE SHERIFF NO LATER THAN EIGHT (8) BUSINESS DAYS AFTER THE SALE.
THE LIEN BEING FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.
IF YOU BELIEVE THAT A LENDER OR SERVICER HAS VIOLATED THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT IN §38-38-103.1 OR THE PROHIBITION ON DUAL TRACKING IN §38-38-103.2, YOU MAY FILE A COMPLAINT WITH THE COLORADO ATTORNEY GENERAL, (1-800-922-4444), THE CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU (1-855-411-2372), OR BOTH. BUT THE FILING OF A COMPLAINT WILL NOT STOP THE FORECLOSURE PROCESS.

The name, address, and business telephone number of each of the attorneys representing the holder of the evidence of debt are as follows:
John D. Alford, Attorney at Law, Reg. No. 43104, 924 Adelaide Avenue, Fort Smith, Arkansas 72901.
Current Holder of evidence of debt secured by the Declaration: Peregrine Property Owner's Association, Inc. Obligations Secured: The Declaration provides that it secures the payment of the Debt and obligations therein described including, but not limited to, the payment of attorneys' fees and costs.
Agent: John D. Alford, Attorney at Law, Reg. No. 43104, 924 Adelaide Ave., Ft. Smith, Arkansas 72901
Association Assessments Due to: Peregrine Property Owner's Association, Inc.
Debt: Timeshare Owner's Assessments due to Association in the amount of Salzman, Carl Z and Elsa Salzman \$3865.00
Eberhart, Carolyn \$4136.48
Meyers, Carl J II and Margaret E Loughhead-Meyers \$1657.29
Mitchell, Troy C and Tracy L Mitchell \$2510.34
Samarin, Rebecca L and George W \$3917.60
Cox, Jane E and Frank Cox \$2390.27
Newby, Wayne and Pamela L Newby \$2452.98
Dimmer, Ronald C and Veronika H \$908.61
Mitchek, Casey D and Judith A Smelker-Mitchek \$7892.21
Faulkner, Perry S and Alice M \$4171.73
Logsdon Enterprises \$2015.12
Wickell, Ray P \$6233.80
Craver, Dirk L and Katherine \$2333.50
Suits, Sherma E and Linda Sue \$3048.43
Wunder, Stephen \$2548.60
Hank, Ralph O and Lynn Benson Work \$5361.05
Worson, Phil and Barbara Hanson \$2626.25
Cullum, Kathryn M \$4575.05
Williams, Gina M and Herman J Williams III \$2203.37
Amount of Judgment Entered on October 18, 2015: See attached Exhibit "A"

Type of Sale: Judicial Foreclosure Sale of Timeshare Interest being conducted pursuant to the power of sale granted by the Declaration, the Colorado Property Code, and the Colorado Common Ownership Act
THE PROPERTY TO BE SOLD AND DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCUMBERED BY THE LIEN PURSUANT TO THE DECLARATION.

The covenants of said Declaration have been violated as follows: failure to make payments for assessments with the addressness was due and owing and the legal holder of the indebtedness has accelerated the same and declared the same immediately fully due and payable.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE OF TIMESHARE INTEREST

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First Publication: 12/31/2015
Last Publication: 1/28/2016
Name of Publication: Pagosa Springs Sun
IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED.
IF THE BORROWER BELIEVES THAT A LENDER OR SERVICER HAS VIOLATED THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT IN SECTION 38-38-103.1 OR THE PROHIBITION ON DUAL TRACKING IN SECTION 38-38-103.2, THE BORROWER MAY FILE A COMPLAINT WITH THE COLORADO ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE FEDERAL CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU (CFPB), OR BOTH. THE FILING OF A COMPLAINT WILL NOT STOP THE FORECLOSURE PROCESS.

Colorado Attorney General
1300 Broadway, 10th Floor
Denver, Colorado 80203
(800) 222-4444
www.coloradoattorneygeneral.gov
Federal Consumer Financial Protection Bureau
P.O. Box 4503
Iowa City, Iowa 52244
(855) 411-2372
www.consumerfinance.gov
DATE: 10/29/2015

Betty A Diller, Public Trustee in and for the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado
By: /s/ Betty A. Diller, Public Trustee
The name, address, business telephone number and bar registration number of the attorney(s) representing the legal holder of the indebtedness is:

Exhibit A
Detail Listing of Judgment Calculations
As of January 12, 2015

Defendant/Property Matter Amount
Lien Statement for Gregory Scott Cole filed 1/12/2015
Property to wit:
Units 7813, 7814, 7815, and 7816 in Buildings 7 and 8, as tenants in common with the other undivided interest owners of said building of Peregrine Townhouses Phase III, as depicted on the Plat recorded in Reception Number 173555 Declaration of Protective Covenants and Internal Ownership for Peregrine Townhouses recorded at Reception Number 173556, and any amendments and supplements thereto, all in the Office of the County Clerk and Recorder in and for Archuleta County, Colorado.
Unpaid Assessments & Costs: \$4340.28
Attorneys Fees: \$1000.00
Lien Statement for Jacqueline M Auran filed 1/12/2015 as Doc. No. 21500198 against the following described Property to wit:
Units 7813, 7814, 7815, and 7816 in Buildings 7 and 8, as tenants in common with the other undivided interest owners of said building of Peregrine Townhouses Phase III, as depicted on the Plat recorded in Reception Number 173555 Declaration of Protective Covenants and Internal Ownership for Peregrine Townhouses recorded at Reception Number 173556, and any amendments and supplements thereto, all in the Office of the County Clerk and Recorder in and for Archuleta County, Colorado.
Unpaid Assessments & Costs: \$709.28
Attorneys Fees: \$1000.00
Lien Statement for L James Grattan, Trustee and Jan E Grattan, Trustee of the Grattan Family Trust dated 11/26/2003 filed 1/12/2015 as Doc. No. 21500202 against the following described Property to wit:
Units 7813, 7814, 7815, and 7816 in Buildings 7 and 8, as tenants in common with the other undivided interest owners of said building of Peregrine Townhouses Phase III, as depicted on the Plat recorded in Reception Number 173555 Declaration of Protective Covenants and Internal Ownership for Peregrine Townhouses recorded at Reception Number 173556, and any amendments and supplements thereto, all in the Office of the County Clerk and Recorder in and for Archuleta County, Colorado.
Unpaid Assessments & Costs: \$6543.50
Attorneys Fees: \$1000.00
Lien Statement for Thomas Kennedy and Lorraine Kennedy filed 1/12/2015 as Doc. No. 21500203 against the following described Property to wit:
Units 7813, 7814, 7815, and 7816 in Buildings 7 and 8, as tenants in common with the other undivided interest owners of said building of Peregrine Townhouses Phase III, as depicted on the Plat recorded in Reception Number 173555 Declaration of Protective Covenants and Internal Ownership for Peregrine Townhouses recorded at Reception Number 173556, and any amendments and supplements thereto, all in the Office of the County Clerk and Recorder in and for Archuleta County, Colorado.
Unpaid Assessments & Costs: \$866.91
Attorneys Fees: \$1000.00
Lien Statement for The Harry A Nester Living Trust dated 9/30/1993 filed 1/12/2015 as Doc. No. 21500204 against the following described Property to wit:
Units 7813, 7814, 7815, and 7816 in Buildings 7 and 8, as tenants in common with the other undivided interest owners of said building of Peregrine Townhouses Phase III, as depicted on the Plat recorded in Reception Number 173555 Declaration of Protective Covenants and Internal Ownership for Peregrine Townhouses recorded at Reception Number 173556, and any amendments and supplements thereto, all in the Office of the County Clerk and Recorder in and for Archuleta County, Colorado.
Unpaid Assessments & Costs: \$1779.75
Attorneys Fees: \$1000.00
Lien Statement for The Harry A Nester Living Trust dated 9/30/1993 filed 1/12/2015 as Doc. No. 21500204 against the following described Property to wit:
Units 7813, 7814, 7815, and 7816 in Buildings 7 and 8, as tenants in common with the other undivided interest owners of said building of Peregrine Townhouses Phase III, as depicted on the Plat recorded in Reception Number 173555 Declaration of Protective Covenants and Internal Ownership for Peregrine Townhouses recorded at Reception Number 173556, and any amendments and supplements thereto, all in the Office of the County Clerk and Recorder in and for Archuleta County, Colorado.
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Attorneys Fees: \$1000.00
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Unpaid Assessments & Costs: \$687.71
Attorneys Fees: \$1000.00
Lien Statement for Kenneth O Anderson II and Tracy A Anderson filed 1/12/2015 as Doc. No. 21500199 against the following described Property to wit:
Units 7813, 7814, 7815, and 7816 in Buildings 7 and 8, as tenants in common with the other undivided interest owners of said building of Peregrine Townhouses Phase III, as depicted on the Plat recorded in Reception Number 173555 Declaration of Protective Covenants and Internal Ownership for Peregrine Townhouses recorded at Reception Number 173556, and any amendments and supplements thereto, all in the Office of the County Clerk and Recorder in and for Archuleta County, Colorado.
Unpaid Assessments & Costs: \$2447.47
Attorneys Fees: \$1000.00
Lien Statement for Margaret A Gray filed 1/12/2015 as Doc. No. 21500200 against the following described Property to wit:
Units 7813, 7814, 7815, and 7816 in Buildings 7 and 8, as tenants in common with the other undivided interest owners of said building of Peregrine Townhouses Phase III, as depicted on the Plat recorded in Reception Number 173555 Declaration of Protective Covenants and Internal Ownership for Peregrine Townhouses recorded at Reception Number 173556, and any amendments and supplements thereto, all in the Office of the County Clerk and Recorder in and for Archuleta County, Colorado.
Unpaid Assessments & Costs: \$4541.91
Attorneys Fees: \$1000.00
Lien Statement for David L Derrig filed 1/12/2015 as Doc. No. 21500201 against the following described Property to wit:
Units 7813, 7814, 7815, and 7816 in Buildings 7 and 8, as tenants in common with the other undivided interest owners of said building of Peregrine Townhouses Phase III, as depicted on the Plat recorded in Reception Number 173555 Declaration of Protective Covenants and Internal Ownership for Peregrine Townhouses recorded at Reception Number 173556, and any amendments and supplements thereto, all in the Office of the County Clerk and Recorder in and for Archuleta County, Colorado.
Unpaid Assessments & Costs: \$709.28
Attorneys Fees: \$1000.00
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Unpaid Assessments & Costs: \$6543.50
Attorneys Fees: \$1000.00
Lien Statement for Thomas Kennedy and Lorraine Kennedy filed 1/12/2015 as Doc. No. 21500203 against the following described Property to wit:
Units 7813, 7814, 7815, and 7816 in Buildings 7 and 8, as tenants in common with the other undivided interest owners of said building of Peregrine Townhouses Phase III, as depicted on the Plat recorded in Reception Number 173555 Declaration of Protective Covenants and Internal Ownership for Peregrine Townhouses recorded at Reception Number 173556, and any amendments and supplements thereto, all in the Office of the County Clerk and Recorder in and for Archuleta County, Colorado.
Unpaid Assessments & Costs: \$866.91
Attorneys Fees: \$1000.00
Lien Statement for The Harry A Nester Living Trust dated 9/30/1993 filed 1/12/2015 as Doc. No. 21500204 against the following described Property to wit:
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Unpaid Assessments & Costs: \$1779.75
Attorneys Fees: \$1000.00
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Unpaid Assessments & Costs: \$1779.75
Attorneys Fees: \$1000.00
Lien Statement for The Harry A Nester Living Trust dated 9/30/1993 filed 1/12/2015 as Doc. No. 215002

Some PLPOA residents oppose proposed cell tower location

By Casey Crow
Staff Writer

Two weeks ago, the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association (PLPOA) released information on a proposal by Verizon Wireless to build a cell tower in the Lake Forest area, to which some area residents are adamantly opposed.

In the summer of 2014, Verizon Wireless approached the PLPOA with a proposal for the construction of a telecommunications facility on association property, according to General Manager Chip Munday.

Munday stated in the Jan. 7 edition of The SUN that Verizon sought to address inadequacies in service for customers in the Pagosa Lakes area. The resulting proposal places a cell tower on Pagosa Lakes property above Lake Forest, near the greenbelt that divides the area between Antelope Avenue to the east and Lake Forest Circle to the west.

As explained by Munday in a statement to The SUN, PLPOA sees the project as being in the best interest of property owners and guests.

"The reasoning was to address problems specifically in the area of the Central Core and South Village Lake, from which they were getting an exceptional amount of complaints over dropped calls or other interruptions of service. This is the area where all of the Wyndham timeshare units are located as well as our most densely developed townhome and condominium unit communities. Given that there is a rise in the amount of property owners utilizing cell phones as their primary voice communication device (no land line), and that guests and part-time residents rely on cell phones, it is imperative that their service works, especially in cases of emergency," Munday stated.

According to PLPOA, Verizon's proposal seeks to be as unobtrusive as possible, with a "mono-pine" tower meant to resemble a ponderosa pine, and a structure housing communications equipment meant to look like an old miner's shed. A dirt driveway will lead to the facilities in the wooded area of the northern border of the property.

Some PLPOA residents are not on board with the proposal. One such resident, Janet Freudenberger, voiced her opposition in a letter

to the Archuleta County planning manager. The letter states, "It is our opinion that this is not a satisfactory location for this project and that other options should be considered. This open space was included in the Planned Unit Development and Common Interest Community for recreational enjoyment for all members and their guests. We do not feel that this type of use for this property is appropriate in any way."

The plan has already been approved by the Environmental Control Committee of Pagosa Lakes. Now it must be passed through the Archuleta County Planning Department due to the fact that the project will require the rezoning of a portion of open land.

"They have to get it rezoned. I just don't know that would be the right thing to do without the property owners having a say in it," Freudenberger said in an interview with The SUN.

In order to gauge support for the proposal, Freudenberger consulted with more than a dozen homeowners in the area on the issue, none of whom were in favor.

"Not ONE household was happy to hear that PLPOA was allowing Verizon to construct a cell tower in their open space. A family was concerned about the effects on their kids in the future. A retired couple purchased their property and made this their home because of the open space adjoining their property. Not one household was in favor of this proposal," she stated in the letter.

According to Munday, Verizon had already identified the only locations that would be feasible for the project based on technological conditions that include addressing customer concerns without being in a location that would be compromised by other radio or microwave signals from towers southwest of the proposed location. The choices were also narrowed down based on proximity to the airport and height restrictions within the aviation easement.

"The PLPOA then had to consider out of these choices which location would provide the least obtrusive visual impact, and a location where we could work with the architects and engineers to construct an improvement that would best harmonize with the surroundings," Munday

asserted.

The opposition from homeowners in the area is based both on aesthetics and health concerns. Questions were raised over possible health issues associated with having a cell tower close to residential homes and recreation property. Freudenberger argued that a 70-foot metal tower, a driveway cutting through the meadow and a 26-foot building housing equipment does not "blend into the environment."

Freudenberger has lived in the Lake Forest area with her husband for 16 years. They chose their home specifically for the proximity to the lake, sweeping mountain views and the general environment and lifestyle. She worries the proposed cell tower will jeopardize this.

"We would be looking out at a cell tower coming out of the woods. There would no longer be open space to walk your dog and there is going to have to be a driveway; they're going to have to do something across our property. I hike down there, I walk down there, people walk their dogs, and kids are sledding on that hill. It's recreational property in my opinion, and this just oversteps the bounds of open space for enjoyment," Freudenberger said.

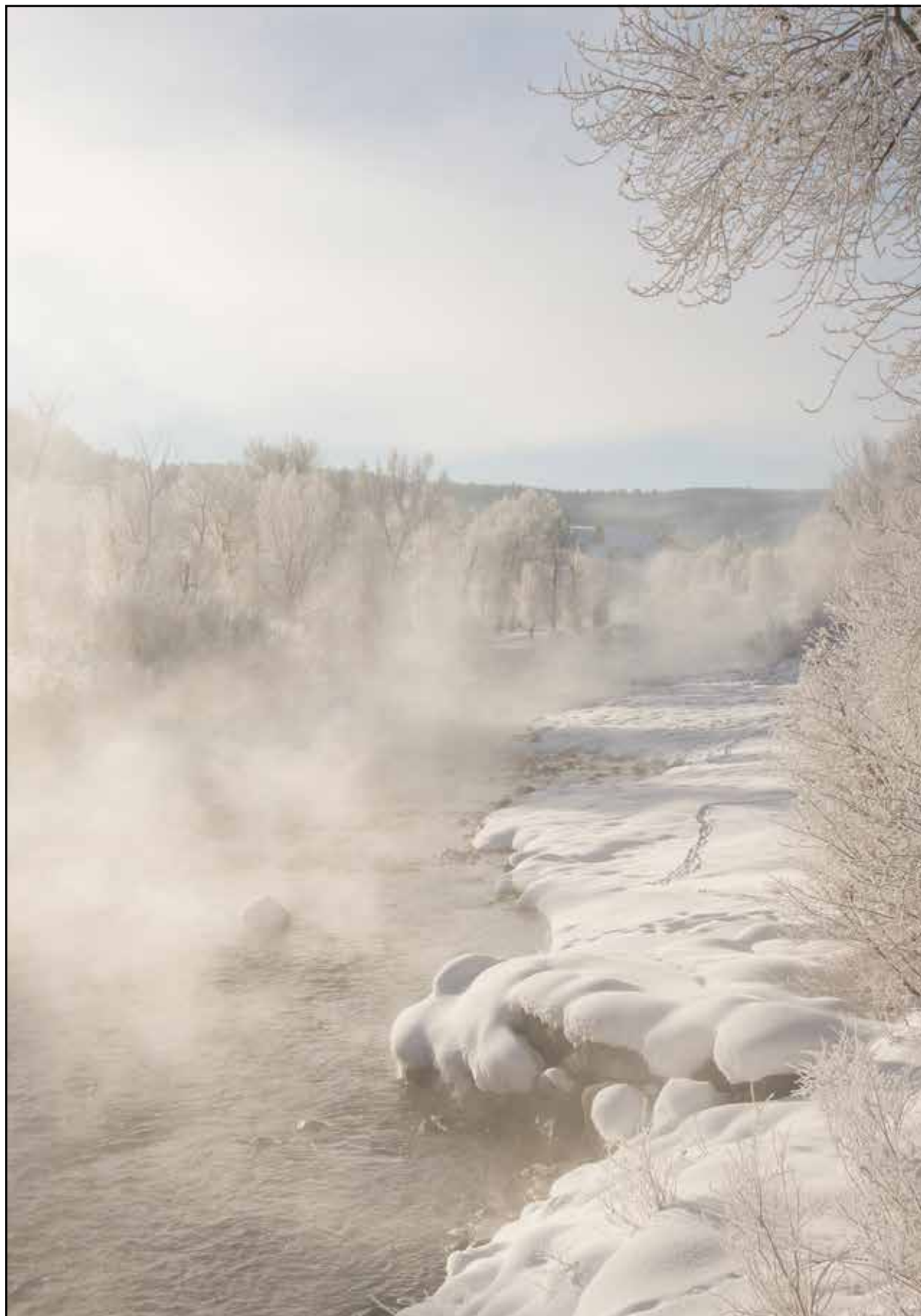
Still, Munday asserts that the board's support for the project is based on addressing "the needs of all property owners, not just a select few."

Now that the Environmental Control Committee has approved the proposal, it must receive a green light from the Archuleta County Planning Department. Two public hearings on the proposal will be held on the following dates:

- Archuleta County Planning Commission on Wednesday, Jan. 27, at 6 p.m.

- Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners on Tuesday, Feb. 16, at 1:30 p.m.

Both meetings will be held in the Archuleta County administration building meeting room at 398 Lewis St.



SUN photo/Shari Pierce

Steam rising from the river and wafting over the snowy banks and frosty trees provides a beautiful view looking south from the Apache Street bridge last Thursday morning.

Roberts rejects governor's budget 'fix'

We're past the ceremonial days of the 2016 legislature and the only tasks we must complete in a session, based on the state's constitution, are to pass the budget and the school finance act.



Sen. Roberts' Report

Although a short list, these two pieces of legislation require months of noodling, number crunching and negotiations. This year will be no exception. The budget touches every essential — and many nonessential — governmental service and will be the biggest challenge we face over the next 120 days.

In their opening speeches, Gov. John Hickenlooper and the House Speaker, both Democrats, already assigned blame to the Republicans for budget battles brewing on the horizon, saying there's only one path to reconciling the mess and that's with their workarounds on the Taxpayers' Bill of Rights (TABOR). Their speeches highlighted the word "compromise," but in a way that suggested perhaps neither has read the book, "Getting to Yes." There's an art to compromise, including listening and incorporating the input of others, something sorely missing here.

It's important to note that the top 2016 challenge in all U.S. state legislatures is balancing their budgets. Unlike Colorado, more than a dozen states failed to meet their 2015 deadlines to balance their budget. So, while the spending limitations of TABOR and other constitutional requirements are hard to reconcile, it's not TABOR causing the big squeeze, but, as experienced across the country, the very long lists of state spending that are exceeding available revenue.

We can't print money at the state

level, but, unfortunately, we've become much like Washington, D.C., finding short-term fixes to deal with the huge number of unfunded mandates that have been passed on to the states. Most pressing right now are the mandates under the Affordable Care Act, but there are numerous unfunded mandates from the federal government, stripping away the states' ability to be more fiscally responsible.

Some will characterize Colorado's budget debate as solely partisan-driven, but that's an overused and, frankly, lazy analysis. It's true there are deep differences between the parties about the appropriate role of state government in providing services to its citizens, but this particular budget situation is more like the bill collector knocking at the door after a long, expensive stretch of binge shopping.

I reject the governor's budget "fix" not because he's a Democrat and I'm not, but because my legislative duty includes necessarily upholding constitutional requirements. Colorado's constitution is central under the rule of law. We need to seek voters' approval to change the constitution rather than enforcing our own form of executive order on the people. I've spoken up for years against the shifting of state funds to backfill the budget desires in other areas because I knew the piper would get paid, eventually. It's time to address our failure to apply truth-in-spending principles.

Arriving at a balanced budget won't happen by proposing to spread the pain among the most active special interest groups so they will cajole, email and yell at legislators, a tactic already being tried by the administration. Instead, as we did last year, we can produce a bipartisan, balanced budget and on time. We just need to stay open to alternative paths, with an eye on the long view, to determine what Colorado's government can constitutionally afford to do in our great state.



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preview

ARTS & LIFE



Pagosa Paw Sled Dog Race

Jan. 23 and 24
Toner Ranch

PREVIEW photo/Randi Pierce

Pagosa Paw Sled Dog Race, Nordic races this weekend

By Jennifer Martin
Special to The PREVIEW

Come join us for the sixth annual Pagosa Paw Sled Dog Race on Jan. 23 and 24. This is a must-see spectator event. Races start at 8:30 a.m. both days, so show up early for the excitement as sled dog teams gear up for their start times.

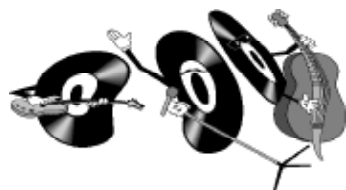
This winter dog sports event includes spectacular dog-sled racing as well as Nordic skiing. Races include a six-dog, 6-mile sled race, four-dog, 4-mile sled race, 6-mile skijor race (dog pulls you on skis) and a junior sled division. There is also a sportsman class offering a 4-mile and a 1-mile course for those who just want to try it out.

Cash prizes are awarded for competitive entries

(based on a combined score for racing both days) and medals for sportsman participants.

To register as a racer, visit the Rocky Mountain Sled Dog Club website or call Jennifer Martin at 264-9358.

The Pagosa Paw Sled Dog Race will take place at the Toner Ranch in Pagosa Springs. The ranch is located 15.5 miles north on Piedra Road from U.S. 160. After crossing the Piedra River Bridge, turn right on Taylor Lane. Go 1.7 miles to the race site on the left. There will be a corral and cattle chutes on the right. Please allow enough time to reach this venue. The 17 miles is up a dirt road, so allow a good hour from town. Once you reach the race location, Taylor Lane loops back into Piedra Road, allowing for easy access for larger vehicles and trailers.



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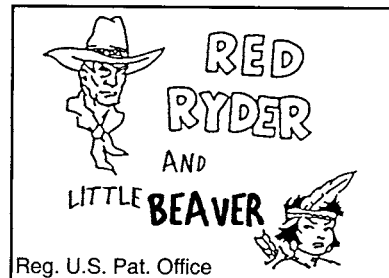
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The Pagosa Springs SUN thanks longtime Pagosa Springs supporter Mrs. Shirley Slesinger Lasswell for the privilege of being the only newspaper in the United States to publish the 'Red Ryder and Little Beaver' comic strip. The ongoing adventures of Red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

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By Fred Harman

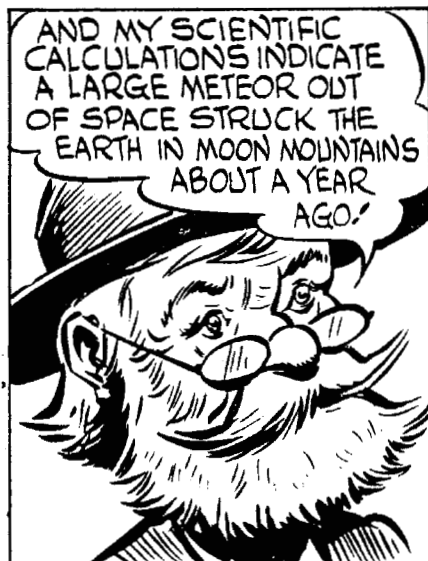
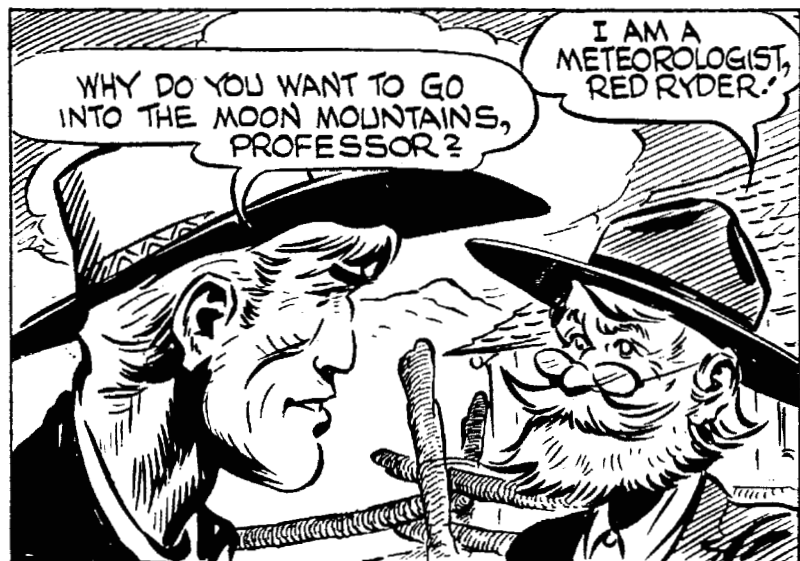




Photo courtesy Thingamajig Theatre Company

Nova: a modern ballet is the second installment of Ryan Hazelbaker's debut ballet from last season: UniverSUs. The final performance will be held Jan. 27 at 7 p.m. at Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts.

One performance remains for Nova

By Audrey Layne Crocker
Special to The PREVIEW

Thingamajig Theatre Company is a treasure in the community of Pagosa Springs for many reasons. Not only do they produce thoughtful and challenging theater, they have also cultivated a community where new work is a common theme and has become expected by the patrons. From the new Playwright's Festival in the fall to original cabarets to world-premiere ballets, Thingamajig is consistently adding more original work to the season. *Nova: a modern ballet* is the second installment of Ryan Hazelbaker's debut ballet from last season: *UniverSUs*.

A story that deals with the complicated and beautiful relationships between family members, *Nova* tells the story of a mother with three very different and unique children. While her sons vie for her attention, *Nova* must help them find balance and worth within themselves all the while mothering a young daughter who proves to challenge her in new ways. The characters Aries and Orion, celestial interpretations of the biblical Cain and Abel, struggle

to find their place in the universe, both literally and figuratively. Without being chosen as the favorite, how will they know their worth?

Hazelbaker's choreography and vision create a story that is articulate and beautiful and unique to Thingamajig. Audiences watching the story unfold will understand with certainty the relationships between the dancers without the need for words. A skill Hazelbaker has made his trademark move, the choreography lends itself not only to beautiful lines and exciting movement, but clear and concise storytelling. An artist who is truly a treasure to the community of Pagosa, Hazelbaker has a decisive and interesting vision that lends itself to creating work that moves the audience deeply.

Perhaps the foundation that most informed the choreography, the original music is composed by cast member and Pagosa favorite Heather McCall. With sweeping themes and beautiful tones, she creates a world very much recognized as celestial and majestic, while remaining tangible. With an expert sense of necessity, there is never a moment that is overly-composed or indulgent. The creative team brings a piece to the theater scene of Pagosa that is sophisticated and special and one that isn't to be missed.

The final performance will be held Jan. 27 at 7 p.m. Tickets are available at pagosacenter.org or by phone at 731-SHOW.

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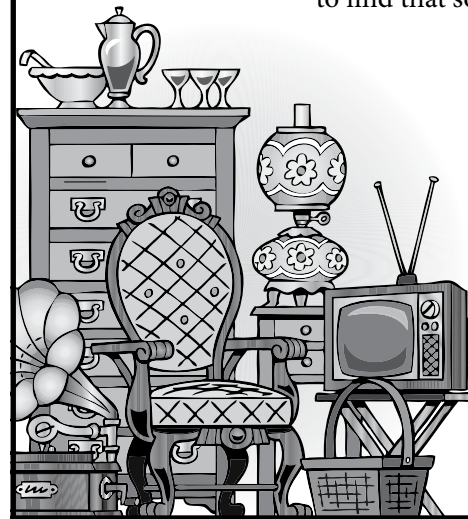
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Photo courtesy Thingamajig Theatre Company

Featuring some of Pagosa's most well-known actors, "Moon Over Buffalo" delivers an interesting story with fast and furious comedy. The production runs for two more weekends, until the end of the month.

The timing is right for Thingamajig's farce

By Audrey Layne Crocker
Special to The PREVIEW

Thingamajig Theatre Company celebrates the new year with a great farce that is purposefully chosen to bring laughter and joy to a typically somber month. After the festivities of the holiday season end, folks are likely to allow the let-down of the events keep them inside and hibernating until the cold passes. Thingamajig wouldn't ask folks to come out of hibernation for just any show, but "Moon Over Buffalo" is worth braving the cold.

Featuring some of Pagosa's most well-known actors, "Moon Over Buffalo" delivers an interesting story with fast and furious comedy. Farces are known for their door-slaming, mistaken identities and slapstick comedy of which there is no shortage in Thingamajig's production. The show is set backstage of a theater company that isn't doing well. The opening scene is a rehearsal for their production of "Cyrano de Bergerac," in which the actors are lackluster and refusing to pacify the aging producer and self-proclaimed star of the company.

As one can imagine, the very idea of presenting the backstage of the theater is bound to be fraught with surprises and events that audiences are certain could never take place. Although Ken Ludwig has created a world that is definitely the extreme version of backstage mishaps, it's actually not that far off from reality. The importance of the missed entrances and "two ships passing the night" is paramount in a farce and thus requires great rehearsal of timing.

An expert at timing in life, director Melissa Firlit did an incredible job of rehearsing and perfecting the timing of Thingamajig's production. With five doors onstage, any experienced audience member will know that timed slamming is

about to ensue. The end of act one delivers exactly what you want in a farce with a series of slamming doors, unknown exits and a reveal of horrible information to stew over for the interval.

Thingamajig Theatre Company is a nonprofit professional theater in residence at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. They produce musicals, comedies and dramas year-round. They also host theater camps for children, put on free summer concerts and a fall playwrights festival, as well as provide free tickets to local nonprofits for

fundraisers. In its fifth season in Pagosa, Thingamajig Theatre Company has become a staple among tourists and locals, a lot of which has to do with their willingness to produce thoughtful and challenging theatre.

"Moon Over Buffalo" runs for two more weekends, until the end of the month. Don't miss out on Thingamajig's opening production of 2016, a clear sign that this year will be one for the books at the theater. Visit pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW for tickets or information.

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Photo courtesy Tessie Garcia

Pagosa Springs Elementary School will host the seventh annual Empty Bowls event on Feb. 6, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Pagosa Springs Elementary School. Your \$10 donation will get you the opportunity to pick out a beautiful handmade ceramic bowl, as well as a simple but wonderful meal of soup, bread, drink and dessert. Proceeds will go to local food banks.

Souper Bowl Saturday: Empty Bowls event

By Tessie Garcia
Special to The PREVIEW

Souper Bowl Saturday will take place Feb. 6, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Pagosa Springs Elementary School.

Pagosa Springs Elementary School will host the seventh annual Empty Bowls event. We have over 300 ceramic bowls made by elementary and high school students, as well as other members of our community. During the event, under the direction of Music Teacher Lisa Hartley, students will perform to entertain everyone.

Your \$10 donation will get you

the opportunity to pick out a beautiful handmade ceramic bowl, as well as a simple but wonderful meal of soup, bread, drink and dessert donated by area businesses and community members.

Karen Siclair is organizing a silent auction which will also take place with items and gift certificates donated by local businesses. Proceeds will go to local food banks.

We look forward to seeing you at this year's event. If you have attended our Empty Bowls event in the past and have a bowl that you would like to donate back, contact Tessie Garcia at 769-4212.

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Kick up your heels at free square dance class

By **Carla Roberts**
Special to The PREVIEW

Free square dance classes continue Wednesday afternoons Jan. 27 through March 9 from 6:45 to 7:45 p.m. at the PLPOA Clubhouse in Pagosa Springs.

This introductory class has seven more weeks and is still open for registration. This is a fun, easygoing and free class available to families, couples and singles. Suggested age for children is at least 8 years old. Call Carla Roberts to enroll at 903-6478.

Wild West Squares with Caller Carla Roberts is a modern western square dance teaching program that starts at a basic level, so new dancers can quickly master enough calls (or dance steps) to experience the exhilaration of dancing in a group setting. Learn teamwork, stretch your mind and body and develop friendships with a growing group of enthusiastic dancers.

Help us to continue this great western heritage activity in Pagosa Springs. Come to town and kick up

your heels. To best enjoy dancing, wear comfortable clothes and clean shoes.

Multi-instrumentalist, singer and performing arts specialist Roberts has taught and performed concerts in schools and fine arts venues in the western states for the last 35 years. Her Four Corners based "Wild West Squares" program is designed to bring the joy of modern western square dance to people of all ages.

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Photo courtesy Thingamajig Theatre Company

In the spring, the Watchamawhozits program provides classes in improv style that are geared to helping young actors learn to take chances on stage. Classes start on Jan. 22 and run every Friday through March 18.

Whatchamawhozits are back for improv

By Audrey Layne Crocker
Special to The PREVIEW

Thingamajig Theatre Company is proud to provide classes for the youth of Pagosa Springs to experiment and learn about the art of theater.

In the fall, students gather together to write an original play and perform it during the Christmas season. In the spring, the Watchamawhozits program provides classes in improv style that are geared to helping young actors learn to take chances on stage.

Thingamajig is passionate about bringing great art to the community of Pagosa, but, more than that, Thingamajig is passionate about making theater accessible to everyone. Thingamajig strives to create a place where young artists can learn, have fun and explore their skills while creating meaningful relationships. Improvisation not only helps students on stage, but gives them the confidence to move strongly into circumstances that are unpredictable.

Registration for the entire class, which meets once a week, is only

\$100. Classes start on Jan. 22 and run every Friday through March 18. Students will learn the basics of improvisation, as well as how to implement those skills in a rehearsal process. The class culminates in a performance for the community to see the techniques they have learned over the semester.

Register by emailing laura@pagosacenter.org with your child's name in the registration. And the name and age of your child in the body of the email, as well as your email and phone number. Registration fee can be brought in the first day of class.

Visit pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW for registration or more information. The class fills up fast, so don't wait.

Call for entries for national juried art competition

By Jody Carman
Special to The PREVIEW

The Farmington Museum at Gateway Park is currently calling for entries for its Gateway to Imagination — A National Juried Art Competition. The deadline to enter artwork is Saturday, March 19.

All media will be accepted and the competition is open to artists 18 years and older. Entries can be submitted online at www.callforentry.org, by using the keyword Farmington. A direct link is available at www.fmtn.org/farmington-museum. Cost of entry for Gateway to Imagination — A National Juried Art Competition is \$45 for a total of three works of art. To enter, you will need to fill out an entry form and submit digital images of artworks created after Jan. 1, of 2015.

The 2016 Gateway to Imagination — A National Juried Art Competition will open on Saturday, May 7, and remain on display at the Farmington Museum at Gateway Park until Saturday, July 9. On Saturday, May 7, there will be a lecture by the juror from 6

to 7 p.m. and reception from 7 to 9 p.m. This annual show attracts artists from across the country. The show will award up to \$4,650 in cash prizes.

The juror for 2016 Gateway to Imagination is artist BettyAnn Mocek, professor of art and director of the Ferguson Art Gallery at Concordia University Chicago.

Mocek, is an artist, arts advocate and educator in her native Chicago. She has received numerous awards for her service to the visual arts community, such as the Chicago Society of Artists' Woman of the Year, Chicago Artists' Coalition Service to the Visual Arts Award and Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award from Carthage College, Kenosha, Wis. She just completed a post sabbatical exhibition of 42 new works of art in multiple media, including drawing, prints, mixed media, photography and video.

For additional information on the 2016 Gateway to Imagination — A National Juried Art Competition, call (505) 599-1174 or go online www.farmingtonmuseum.org.

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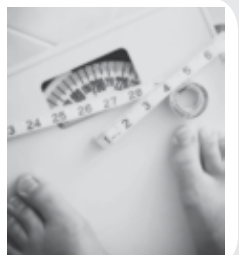
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The prodigal mother: Bringing a son home again

I wrote this story for a project in our writer's group. I thought it might encourage parents who are struggling with their child. There is hope in the horror of the midnight hour.

"I don't have another prayer left in me for this child." I pushed against the floor with my hands and knees. I struggled to my feet. "Jesus, there has to be life after Stephen? Twenty years and a thousand prayers later, I have nothing left to say."

Deep in my heart, I heard God. Now it's time for you to listen.

"But, God. My heart breaks for this child. The drugs and alcohol are destroying him. I fear for his life."

The phone rang. I hesitated. It could be the morgue, the hospital or the police. I picked up the receiver. "Hello." I heard Judy's voice.

"What's going on? You sound desperate."

"Thank you for calling me back. I am desperate. I'm at the end of my rope. Stephen didn't come home 'til two last night. I need your prayers."

"We have been praying and will continue."

"The principal called today. Stephen's missed more classes. He's hanging out in the parking lot at school with the wrong kids. He's flunking out and they've called us for a meeting with his teachers."

"The principal talked to him, and Stephen said he was smarter than the teachers and it was a waste of his time to go to their classes."

I heard someone from behind. I looked around to see Stephen in the doorway. I whispered into the receiver, "I've got to go. Stephen's here."

He slammed down his backpack. "Don't you ever feel like a hypocrite?"

"No, I'm worried about you. I've done everything I can to help."

"Did you ever ask yourself what did you do?" Stephen stormed out of the room.

In the horror of the midnight hour, I lay with my eyes open staring at the hands on the clock. Nothing good happens after midnight. I prayed again. Lord, where's the bottom? This child has hit bottom so many times and he's still falling.

My weariness pulled me into a deep sleep. I dreamed as I never

Artist's Lane

Betty Slade



Years later, far away in a third world country, God did pull him out of the miry clay and set his feet on the Rock.

before dreamed. In the morning, I opened my eyes. The dream, as vivid as in the night hours, horrified me as truth poured over my soul. The agony of my son vexed me and I couldn't help him.

In the dream, he couldn't hear me. The rain barreled down in violent sheets on Stephen. I yelled to him. "You're getting wet, come in out from the rain."

He tried, but sunk deeper into the ravine in front of our home.

"Come in. Please come in." I yelled harder as the rain beat down on my son's life. It was like judgment covered him with words from my own lips.

In one moment, the answer of the dream came to me, "I'm the problem."

How could I be the problem? I love my son. He has all this talent. He's got a beautiful voice, which he won't use for the Lord. He's our golden boy. He's throwing away his life. His father and I have put all our hopes and dreams on him.

This convicting dream was different than all the years of dreams of our son's future before drugs and alcohol. In this dream, I saw myself in the doorway, which blocked the entryway for him to come into the house. With all my religious zeal and legalism, I told my church friends about him and rehearsed all his wrong actions in their sympathetic ears. I was sure an overdose would one day kill him.

I had overdosed him with spews

of negativity. I had been his harsh judge, not a mother with compassion and acceptance where he could find safety. I had become his enemy.

That terrible dream never left me. Through the scriptures, I saw myself as a Pharisee in the doorway. Jesus warned against the Pharisees and their hypocritical, self-righteous legalism. Along with his own actions and words, Stephen became his only harsh judge and beat himself severely with shame and rejection. He felt he didn't belong anywhere.

He left home at 16, no longer under our authority. When he left, he said, "I love you and Dad. I can't please you and I can't stay here. Church triggers all those years of rejection."

He ran as far as he could from an angry home and us. He ran to a hostile and angry world, which beat him up even more. He fell into the ways of the streets. Destructive memories left him fearful of God.

I fell to the floor with one more prayer. I called out to the Lord, "I see what I've done to this child you've given me. In all my prayers I prayed against him. Please forgive me."

I confessed to Stephen, "Please forgive me. I didn't know what I was doing. I loved you, but I've brought judgment on you. I stood in the doorway and you couldn't come into the kingdom. I, too, have

■ See Lane on next page

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Lane

■ continued from previous page
 been a prisoner of my own making behind the bars of legalism.”

Healing had to come. He ran even further away, to another state. I held on to Psalm 42 throughout the years. I called it Stephen's Psalm. It was my release and the only words I had to pray. I prayed it day and night. “Oh God. You pulled him out of the mire clay, you set his feet on the rock and you've established his path. You've put a new song in his mouth and one day he will say, 'I will do your will, Oh, Lord.'”

The profound regret for my actions diminished the distance between us. Forgiveness has been freely given and accepted. The painful scars of my judgmental heart afflicted me with heart-rending remorse of what could have and should have been the joy of his childhood.

Years later, far away in a third world country, God did pull him out of the mire clay and set his feet on the Rock. He has established his path and has put a new song in his mouth. From his lips he says, “I want to do God's will.”

Stephen communicates to his dad and I weekly through email. He calls home for prayer. The anger is gone and we know and experience God's grace with him. We've accepted each other unconditionally.

Thirty-three years after our son left home, the dream is still as real to me as the night I dreamt it. By God's grace, Stephen has helped orphanages and given school supplies to school children. He's provided a college education for several young men, gave his shoes to

his taxi driver and helped a young man start a business. He treats his housekeeper with great respect and gave her teenage daughter her own bedroom in his home. He has led a successful team of 3,400 employees in his job.

He has given relief to people when tropical storms have taken away their homes. He knows God's grace and understands how it feels to be alone, shut out, on the streets without a home. He now lives a generous life full of grace and truth.

From the Philippines, Stephen posted on Facebook a picture of his home in the Rocky Mountains. He writes, “I ran in every one of those fields, fished the streams and even camped by that lake. I skied the face of the mountain, stood on the Continental Divide and tubed the snow-filled roads pulled by a broken down Ford named Big Red.

“In the summer, I whitewater rafted down the river that I had previously ice skated on, then dipped in the hot springs just because there were a few minutes left in the day.

“I saw more deer and elk than I could have ever counted and made snow angels anywhere, anytime, for any reason. All combined, I did all of these things about a million-and-a-half-plus times, but it was only just now that I realize what I didn't know then.

“How beautiful life can be, when all you know to do is enjoy it. Kindness, laughter, generosity, thoughtfulness and encouragement, my heart is full.”

Final brushstroke: God's message is deliberate. My condemna-

tion kept my son from entering into God's rest and sent him into exile. But God's grace found a way through a dream to bring a son home again and a mother willing to change. A prodigal mother has grown up. Sometimes it takes years for the hurts to heal. My son knows God's grace and so do I.

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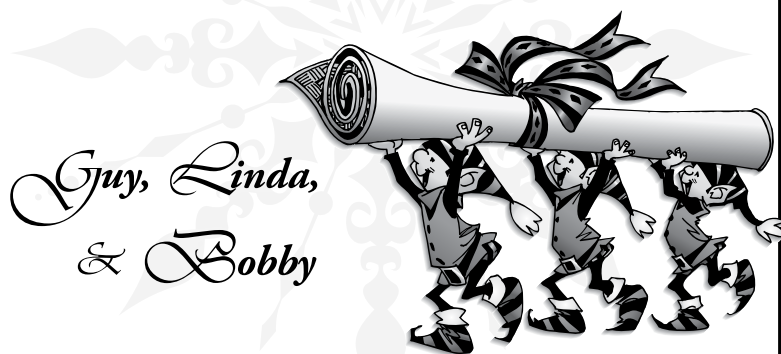
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The Anything Goes Downhill Sled Race makes a return at WinterFest

By Jenelle Syverson
Special to The PREVIEW

It is back. The Anything Goes Downhill Sled Race is back on for this year's WinterFest on Feb. 6. Registration starts at 2 p.m. and the race starts at 2:30 p.m., so start brainstorming and building or come see for yourself how fun community creativity can be.

From past experience, it can easily be said to not be surprised to see a canoe, a satellite dish, wagon, toilet or other creative "sled" fly down Reservoir Hill. A few rules, of course. All entries must be homemade. No unmodified, store-bought sleds or skis. Speed is important — entertainment is critical. All entries must be controllable and brakes are required. An event representative will have final authority over the safety of all entries. Each entry will make three runs and the fastest average run wins. Prizes will be awarded to the three fastest entries, as well as the most creative/best decorated, the best crash and a new category this year, "Gone" Green for the best use of recycled materials.

This is definitely a spectator event as the crowd cheers on the participants as the homemade concoctions fly — and crash — down the hill. For the brave at heart, entry forms for the race are available at The Choke Cherry Tree, Old West Press, Coyote Moon Bar and Grill, and the Chamber. There is a nominal \$5 fee if you preregister by Feb. 5 or \$10 at the event.

Hot drinks will be provided by the Pagosa D.I. Nerds. The D.I. stands for Destination Imagination, which is a competition group focusing on problem solving, critical thinking, and STEM skills (science, technology, engineering and math). The Nerds have been together for nine years and this is their final season together since three of the four are graduating this year. They have placed in the top 10 at globals and the top 20 twice.

With great snow this year, this is an event not to miss. Businesses are highly encouraged to make an entry, as well as families, groups and individuals. You don't have to be young — just young at heart. Join in for a great time.

New Thought history plus personal focus combine in white stone ceremony

By Carla Ryan
Special to The PREVIEW

GLOBAL Interfaith Community and New Thought minister Rev. Carla Ryan will present a spiritually-based service on Sunday, Jan. 24, at 10:30 a.m. at the PLPOA Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave., North Room.

The topic for this service will be "It's All About the Choice." The message will include a brief overview of the history and teachings of New Thought and its impact on the choices we make today to create a life of focused intentions. For many New Thought churches this is the time of year to "get back to basics" in this world-recognized philosophy. Guests also are invited to participate in a "white stone" ceremony and to establish a personal theme or overall intention for 2016.

Ryan intends to offer future services at the PLPOA Clubhouse on the second and fourth Sundays of each month. February services will be on Feb. 14 and 28.

While every message includes materials, quotes or rituals from the world's various religions, she will present them primarily from a New Thought or Religious Science perspective, sometimes referred to as metaphysical interpretation.

In addition, and as a member of the Association for Global New Thought (AGNT), Ryan will include focus on the Season for Nonviolence (SNV), too, as it commences on Jan. 30 in cities across the globe. Spiritually-guided citizen leaders in 900 cities in 67 countries have participated since the campaign

began in 1998. The annual 64-day campaign, co-founded by Dr. Arun Gandhi and AGNT, is an educational, media and grassroots awareness campaign spanning the Jan. 30 and April 4 memorial anniversaries of Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The purpose of the campaign is to focus attention on the philosophy of attaining peace through nonviolent action as demonstrated by legendary leaders Gandhi, King, Cesar E. Chavez, and President Nelson Mandela, as well as living legends such as His Holiness, Tenzin Gyatso, the 14th Dalai Lama of Tibet. Additional information can be found at: www.AGNT.org/season-for-nonviolence.

■ See Ceremony on next page

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7:00 THE PRINCIPLE OF THE PATH. By Andy Stanley
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Jan 28, 2016 United Methodist Church
6:00 Dinner
7:00 FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY By Dave Ramsey

P.O.P.S. Building Prosperity Together
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Stuck in the middle of nowhere

By Jan Davis
Special to The PREVIEW

The grandkids grew restless in the back seat. I didn't blame them. There's not much to look at between the Oklahoma border and New Mexico.

Mile after mile of boring landscape rolled by. Batteries on electronic games died in the Texas Panhandle near Amarillo. The boys tired of counting windmills as we drove through Texas into New Mexico. We talked about school, sports, their dreams, politics and religion. The trip neared the halfway mark in Tucumcari, N.M.

Our weary group stopped to spend the night and give the boys an opportunity to cool off in the pool. Time to relax and recharge our batteries. A good plan except for one flaw. Not a lot to do in Tucumcari. It makes our little town of Pagosa look like a metropolitan city.

We unloaded the car and settled into our room. The guys plugged in their electronic games to charge, donned their swim trunks and headed to the pool. Landry, the 10-year-old, looked at me, "Nana, I don't think I've ever stayed in a hotel in the middle of nowhere."

The next morning, we ate a leisurely breakfast in the hotel and piled back into the car for the final stretch. Landry began to quiz us about Pagosa. "Is there a Walmart? A Target? A mall?" I sensed panic in his voice. "What are we going to do for a week?" I assured him we

Ceremony —

■ continued from previous page

Local Sunday services and upcoming Science of Mind classes are part of the New Thought program to be offered currently through GLOBAL Interfaith Community LLC.

For more information about classes or New Thought in general, email Ryan at GLOBAL.Interfaith1@gmail.com, visit the Facebook/GlobalInterfaith page or attend Sunday's services for more details.

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A Matter of Faith

would find things to do. Not quite convinced, he stared out the window as the flat plains and mesquite trees turned into mountain peaks surrounded by tall ponderosa pines.

The week turned out better than imagined. We hiked along rivers and waterfalls, picnicked on the San Juan, kayaked on Lake Williams and drove an ATV to Quartz Meadows. Forests, large mountains, rivers and lakes surrounded our little town of Pagosa. Our grandsons experienced life in the mountains.

How many times have we felt stuck in the middle of nowhere and wondered what to do? Our life lacks purpose and void of motivation to change. We are comfortable with our surroundings and enjoy the benefits. We become fat and lazy. Like the cattle grazing in the green, lush pastures of Oklahoma and Texas we are ready for slaughter.

We move from complacency to apathy. Susceptible to the winds of change we are blown off course. We encounter Christ in the desolate

places. He tends to our barren heart.

We drink from streams of living waters. We lay down in His green pastures. Christ restores our soul. We stand on the mountaintops and look out over His vast creation and see the bigger picture. We focus on the world around us.

Regardless of where we travel, God is there. We rest beside the cool waters and climb to higher heights.

Each one (prince) will be like a shelter from the wind and a refuge from the storm, like streams of water in the desert and the shadow of a great rock in a parched land. (Isaiah 32:2)

Because of Jesus, we move from the middle of nowhere into the center of his perfect will, plan and purpose for our lives.

Reader comments

You are invited to write for A Matter of Faith. If you want to learn more about writing, come and join the WCCWN Writers' Critique Group on Monday mornings. For further details, email betty@betty-slade.com.

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Luminosity Talks presents ‘Life Begins at the End of Your Comfort Zone’

By Lynnzie Sutton
Special to The PREVIEW

Luminosity Talks presents Julie Bacon on Friday, Jan. 22, at 6:30 p.m., at the PLPOA Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Bacon will share what we can learn at the end of our comfort zone.

Your comfort zone is a place within or outside yourself that’s familiar, settled and safe; safe being the operative word. Our comfort zone resides within our mental construct (ego), where we tend to hide out and avoid taking risks. There is no growth in a safe space, yet we seek it nonetheless. Vacat-

ing our comfort zones can leave us feeling vulnerable, exposed and lead into the unknown. These hiding places can deceive us by proclaiming: be practical, reasonable, play it safe and don’t take unnecessary risks. The greatest comfort zone of all is the attachment to our wounds and suffering. And if you don’t think this is a comfort zone — think again.

So, why would we venture outside these safety nets when there is no guarantee of our safety? Because this is where the “good stuff is.” The baby eagle only learns to soar once it’s left the nest. The youngster delights in his accomplishments

once the training wheels have been removed. Our souls dance in the light of the adventure taken. In tasting the sweet nectar of life, we must be willing to risk in order to see that we can fly.

Life begins at the end of your comfort zone. What are you waiting for?

Luminosity Talks presents speakers and films that educate, inspire, inform and uplift in a progressive way. The focus is awakening wisdom and how it is lived. Looking at new ways of living that is in harmony with the planet and each other. Donations are appreciated.

‘A Theology of Hope and Joy’ with Reverend Angela Herrera

By Pauline Benetti
Special to The PREVIEW

The Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship invites you to attend the DVD presentation “A Theology of Hope and Joy,” with Reverend Angela Herrera from Albuquerque this Sunday, Jan. 24, for its regular service.

The question is not “to be or not to be”; the question is how to be.

With this question, Herrera begins her inquiry into how to be (or not be) in this world of problems and pain, suffering and injustice. How to be in the face of this river of need present everywhere on our earth and to experience hope and joy regardless. Have you asked this question? Then you will want to hear Herrera’s answer in her sermon.

Herrera is minister at First Uni-

tarian Church of Albuquerque. She joined First Unitarian in August 2010, having graduated from Harvard University in the spring. Previously, she completed a chaplaincy internship at Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston and a parish internship at First Parish in Concord, Mass. She was ordained in Concord in December 2009.

In her words, this is who she is:
■ See Herrera on next page

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For the month of **February only**, purchase a **1/2 page ad** in The Pagosa Springs SUN or PREVIEW, get the **second week FREE!**

Requirements: You must purchase a minimum of 2 half-page ads to run in February 4 through 25, 2016 editions. Must be the same ad for both insertions, runs do not need to be consecutive. Business’ main office must be located in Archuleta County.

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Preview Calendar

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

Thursday, Jan. 21

Hoopsters. 8-9 a.m., Community Center. Come down and play basketball.

Dancin' and Movin' with Debbie on Video. 9:30-10:30 a.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Just bring your love of movement. For information, call Renee at 731-0303.

Yoga. 10-11:30 a.m., Community Center. Bring a mat or a towel.

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

Earth Community Pagosa Springs. 2:30 p.m., Visitors Center.

Tech Time. 3-5 p.m., Sisson Library. Drop-in technology help with

Meg. Contact the library at 264-2209 for further information.

ESL Class. 5-7 p.m., Community United Methodist Church. Classes for adults. Free child care; all course materials provided. Registration is ongoing. For more information, call Lynn Rose at 507-1259 or email lynrose323bc@gmail.com.

San Juan Stargazers. 7 p.m., Visitor Center. Look over and critique 2016 Star Party Calendar. Program on Unique Astronomy in Antarctica. For information, email sjstargazers@gmail.com or call 335-8286.

Thingamajig Theatre Company Presents 'Moon Over Buffalo.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Center for the Arts. A play that centers on a husband

and wife acting team. In an attempt to keep their careers afloat, the couple is producing two plays simultaneously. They receive word that Hollywood director Frank Capra may be coming to see a performance, giving them one last chance at fame. That is, of course, if they can remember which play they are doing. For ticket information, go to pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Friday, Jan. 22

Pickleball. 8-10 a.m., Community Center. Loaner paddles available.

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.

Wellness Screening and Blood Pressure Checks. 10:30 a.m., Senior Center. Provided by San Juan Basin Health Department.

■ See Calendar on next page

Herrera

■ continued from previous page

"I am humanistic in the sense that I believe humans have the ultimate responsibility for what must be done in the world. I also draw much inspiration from Unitarian Universalism's Judeo-Christian roots. I seek not just to think about God, but to experience God: in relationship with other people, in prayer, in the arts and in nature. God as love, as yearning, as the stillness, peace or power that can erupt into the world even when it seems least likely. I also accept that there are many paths to meaning and ultimacy, some very different from mine and I honor those."

This presentation honors the Unitarian Universalist principles

of "justice, equity and compassion in human relations" and "a free and responsible search for truth and meaning."

The Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship welcomes people of all spiritual belief systems, ethnicity and sexual orientation and invites you to 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, call 731-7900.



".. practical, biblical.."

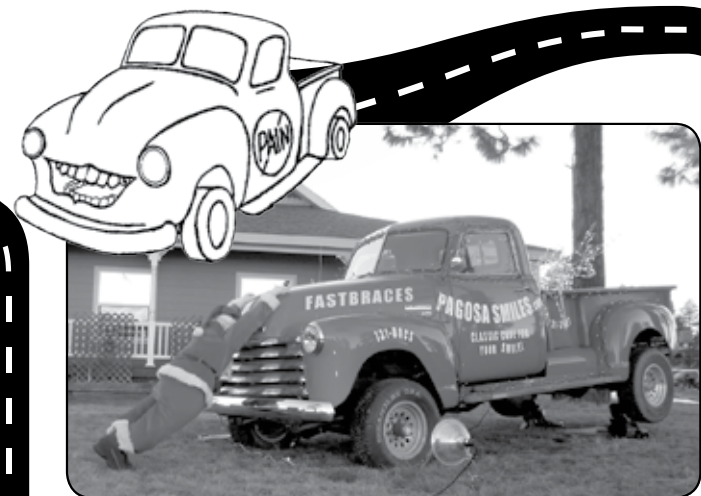
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for 12 weeks
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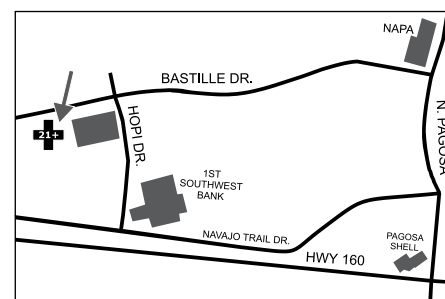
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Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

Tai Chi. 11 a.m.-noon, Community Center. Wear flat-soled shoes.

Android 101. 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Sisson Library. Registration required. This class is for those who have a relatively new Android tablet or cell phone and want to learn some of the basics. Bring your own device for this hands-on workshop. Call 264-2209 for more information.

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

Read With a Ranger. 3-4 p.m., Sisson Library. "It's snowtastic!" Come explore the wonderful world of snow and join Ranger Brandon of the U.S. Forest Service as we celebrate winter with nature-themed books and activities. Recommended for 6- to 10-year-olds. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Thingamajig Theatre Company Presents 'Moon Over Buffalo.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Center for the Arts. A play that centers on a husband and wife acting team. In an attempt to keep their careers afloat, the couple is producing two plays simultaneously. They receive word that Hollywood director Frank Capra may be coming to see a performance, giving them one last chance at fame. That is, of course, if they can remember which play they are doing. For ticket information, go to pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Course in Miracles Study Group. 7-8:30 p.m., Yoga Clarity Studio. Call 264-0111 for more info.

Saturday, Jan. 23

6th Annual Pagosa Paw Sled Dog Race. 8:30 a.m., Toner Ranch. This is a must-see spectator event. This event includes dog sled racing as well as Nordic skiing. To register as a racer, visit RockyMountainSledDogClub.org or call Jennifer Martin at 264-9358.

Open Gym. 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Community Center. Open gym bas-

ketball.

Baby/Toddler Storytime. 9:30-10 a.m., Sisson Library. Recommended for children 6 months to 3 years. Contact the library at 264-2209 for further information.

Thingamajig Theatre Company Presents 'Moon Over Buffalo.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Center for the Arts. A play that centers on a husband and wife acting team. In an attempt to keep their careers afloat, the couple is producing two plays simultaneously. They receive word that Hollywood director Frank Capra may be coming to see a performance, giving them one last chance at fame. That is, of course, if they can remember which play they are doing. For ticket information, go to pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Sunday, Jan 24

6th Annual Pagosa Paw Sled Dog Race. 8:30 a.m., Toner Ranch. This is a must-see spectator event. This event includes dog sled racing as well as Nordic skiing. To register as a racer visit RockyMountainSledDogClub.org or call Jennifer Martin at 264-9358.

Thingamajig Theatre Company Presents 'Moon Over Buffalo.' 2 p.m., Pagosa Center for the Arts. A play that centers on a husband and wife acting team. In an attempt to keep their careers afloat, the couple is producing two plays simultaneously. They receive word that Hollywood director Frank Capra may be coming to see a performance, giving them one last chance at fame. That is, of course, if they can remember which play they are doing. For ticket information, go to pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Uke Jam. 2:30-4:30 p.m., Community United Methodist Church. All levels welcome.

Soup Swap/Bunco Party. 4 p.m., Mt. Allison Grange, Arboles.

Bunco party starts at 4 p.m. with soup supper starting at 5:30 p.m. Bring a gallon of soup or chili to share, the recipe to share and a container to swap the leftovers. For more information, contact Yvonne at 799-3064.

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.

■ See Calendar on next page

JUST LIVING TOGETHER OR MARRIED?

People living together split up and go their separate ways just like couples who are formally married. Colorado has recognized a common law marriage since at least 1907. "A common law marriage is established by the mutual consent of the parties to be husband and wife, followed by a mutual and open assumption of a marital relationship." Until the recent Supreme Court decision, a Colorado marriage had to be between a man and a woman. You can, regardless of your gender or intent to be married or not find yourself in a lawsuit when the relationship ends. A prenuptial, marital, or cohabitation agreement may not be very romantic but it can solve a lot of issues including, if you are not formally married, whether you are or intend to be informally married and what happens if you go your separate ways. Consult an attorney if you have questions.



William L. Hubbard
Attorney at Law
(Mr. Hubbard's actual dog enjoying the snow.)

970-398-0820

46 Eaton Drive, Suite 3
Pagosa Springs
hubbard43@gmail.com
Office hours by appointment

SUDOKU

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

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!

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!

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

ANSWER:

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.

Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

Monday, Jan. 25

Pickleball. 8-10 a.m., Community Center. Loaner paddles available.

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

Line Dancing. 9:15-11:30 a.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Beginners are welcome at 9:15 a.m., no experience needed. Advanced group will be at 10 a.m. Call Gerry for information at 731-9734.

Qigong. 10 a.m.-noon, Community Center. Come help maintain and improve your health, strength and balance.

Caregiver Support Group. 11 a.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. The meeting is led by Elaine Stumpo, regional director of the Alzheimer's Association. For more information, call 731-1033 or 259-0122.

Pagosa Bridge for Fun. 12:30-4 p.m., Community Center.

Bingo. 1 p.m., Senior Center.

Tuesday, Jan. 26

Hoopsters. 8-9 a.m., Community Center. Come down and play basketball.

Dancin' and Movin' with Debbie on Video. 9:30-10:30 a.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Just bring your love of move-

ment. For information, call Renee at 731-0303.

Veterans for Veterans. 10 a.m., Pagosa Lodge.

Yoga. 10-11:30 a.m., Community Center. Bring a mat or a towel.

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

WHIPS. (Women Helping In Pagosa Springs). 11:30 a.m., Tavern Le Boeuf. The luncheon will be \$12. If you are not on our calling list or evites, call 946-1895 for your lunch reservation by Sunday, Jan. 24 so we can count you in to join us.

Adult Coloring. 1 p.m., Senior Center.

Mah Jongg. 1-3 p.m., Community Center.

Teen Gaming. 4-5:30 p.m., Sisson Library. X-box, Wii, board games and snacks. Contact the library at 264-2209 for further information.

ESL Class. 5-7 p.m., Community United Methodist Church. Classes for adults. Free child care; all course materials provided. Registration is ongoing. For more information, call Lynn Rose at 507-1259 or email lynrose323bc@gmail.com.

Duplicate Bridge. 5-10 p.m., Community Center. Call Stan at 731-2217 to get signed up.

Terrific Tuesdays. 7-9 p.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Learn to dance. Call Wayne at 264-4792 for more information

or go to <http://www.meetup.com/Lets-Dance-Pagosa>.

Wednesday, Jan. 27

Pickleball. 8-10 a.m., Community Center. Loaner paddles available.

Hatha Yoga. 10-11 a.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Please bring a mat and towel or blanket. For further information, call 731-5529.

Preschool Storytime. 10-11 a.m., Sisson Library. Recommended for 3- to 5-year-olds. Preschoolers and their families are invited for an hour of stories, music and a craft. Develop early literacy skills while having fun. Contact the library at 264-2209 for further information.

Flow Yoga. 10-11:30 a.m., Community Center. Bring a mat or a towel.

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

Tai Chi. 11 a.m.-noon, Community Center. Wear flat-soled shoes.

HELP (Healthy Eating Lifestyle Plan). Noon-1 p.m., Community United Methodist Church. Weigh-in, support and more. Everyone welcome. Call Nancy Strait at 731-3427 for more information.

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

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

DIY Make Your Own Household

■ See Calendar on next page

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Welcome

Dr. Brian Meier

Dr. Meier graduated from Ohio State University of Optometry. He retired from the Air Force with the rank of Lt. Colonel. Dr. Meier has 20 years of experience as an optometrist, seven of those with Abba Eye Care in the Colorado Springs area.

Call 731-4300 to schedule your appointment today!

Dr. Brian Meier joins the Abba Eye Care team of:
Dr. Roger Freeman, Optometrist
Dana Ford, dispensing optician/manager
Rachel Rohrer, optician
Peggy Bergon, receptionist



2800 Cornerstone Dr., Suite A-6

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731-4300 • Office hours Monday-Friday 8:30-5:30



Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

Cleaners. 2 p.m., Sisson Library. Join us for a DIY project where we make two of our own household cleaners: a glass cleaner and an all-purpose cleaner. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Jelly Beans and Squiggly Things After School Club. 3:30-5 p.m., Pagosa Springs Elementary School, room No. 9. For information, call 903-8104.

ESL Class. 5-7 p.m., Community United Methodist Church. Classes for adults. Free child care; all course materials provided. Registration is ongoing. For more information, call Lynn Rose at 507-1259 or email lynnrose323bc@gmail.com.

Wild West Square Dance Class. 6:45-7:45 p.m., PLPOAVista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Basic level. Open to families, couples and singles. Suggested age for children is at least 8 years old. Call Carla Roberts to enroll at 903-6478.

Nova: A Modern Ballet. 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. Suspended and set in the void of space, we follow the stars as they search for their purpose and explore the curiosities of movement through a zero-gravity continuum. Visit pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Thursday, Jan. 28

Hoopsters. 8-9 a.m., Community Center. Come down and play basketball.

Dancin' and Movin' with Debbie on Video. 9:30-10:30 a.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Just bring your love of movement. For information, call Renee at 731-0303.

Yoga. 10-11:30 a.m., Community Center. Bring a mat or a towel.

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

Tech Time. 3-5 p.m., Sisson Library. Drop-in technology help with Meg. Contact the library at 264-2209 for further information.

ESL Class. 5-7 p.m., Community United Methodist Church. Classes for adults. Free child care; all course materials provided. Registration is ongoing. For more information, call Lynn Rose at 507-1259 or email lynnrose323bc@gmail.com.

Meditation Class. 5:30-6:30 p.m., Community Center. You will learn and explore various methods.

San Juan Stargazers. 7 p.m., Visitor's Center Conference room. We will be learning about galaxy

groups. There will be coffee and snacks. For more information, go to sjstargazers@gmail.com or call 335-8286.

Thingamajig Theatre Company Presents 'Moon Over Buffalo.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Center for the Arts. A play that centers on a husband and wife acting team. In an attempt to keep their careers afloat, the couple is producing two plays simultaneously. They receive word that Hollywood director Frank Capra may be coming to see a performance, giving them one last chance at fame. That is, of course, if they can remember which play they are doing. For ticket information, go to pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Friday, Jan. 29

Pickleball. 8-10 a.m., Community Center. Loaner paddles available.

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

Tai Chi. 11 a.m.-noon, Community Center. Wear flat-soled shoes.

Duplicate Bridge. Noon-5 p.m., Community Center. Call Stan at 731-2217 to get signed up.

Blogs and Websites. 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Sisson Library. Registration required. Learn the difference between blogs and websites, hosted and non-hosted sites, choosing a template, adding posts and common mistakes to avoid. Call 264-2209 for more information and to register.

Submit your calendar items to editor@pagosasun.com; mail them to The Pagosa Springs SUN, P.O. Box 9, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147; or deliver them to The SUN office by noon Monday.

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The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Categorize
- 6 Algebra or trig
- 10 Habeas corpus, e.g.
- 14 Dental filling
- 15 Cousin of a bassoon
- 16 Memorization method
- 17 Baggy
- 18 Flimsy, as an excuse
- 19 Convenience
- 20 Affectedly creative
- 21 On the port side
- 23 Himalayan, for one
- 24 Twilled cloth
- 25 Woodshop tool
- 28 Russian coin
- 30 Betray, in a way
- 32 Chill-inducing
- 34 Low point
- 35 Actors
- 38 Representative
- 41 Grant
- 42 Orangish yellow
- 44 Cleverly escape
- 46 Proportionately
- 49 Type of dancer
- 52 Archery wood
- 53 Fine white linen
- 55 Finish, with "up"
- 57 Highway crosser
- 59 Church alcove
- 60 Details, slangily
- 62 Try out
- 63 Traditional Sunday fare
- 64 Break
- 65 Diva's song
- 66 Arm of the sea
- 67 If all ___ fails ...
- 68 Bank
- 69 Substantial

DOWN

- 1 Air freshener option

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14						15					16			
17						18					19			
20					21					22				
23				24							25	26	27	
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		57	58							59				
60	61					62				63				
64						65				66				
67						68				69				

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- 2 Arctic jacket
- 3 Drunk, in slang
- 4 Like pie?
- 5 Alkaline liquid
- 6 Fabric used in adhesive pads
- 7 To the rear
- 8 Small English bird
- 9 Roy Clark show
- 10 St. Paul's Cathedral architect
- 11 Farm stand spot
- 12 Part of T.G.I.F.
- 13 Kicker's aid
- 21 Ill-gotten gains
- 22 At another time
- 24 Invoice amount
- 26 In a group of
- 27 "___ #1!"
- 29 Fictional rabbit
- 31 Be silent, in music
- 33 "The Three Faces of ___"
- 35 Cheat, in a way
- 36 One to grow on?
- 37 Hot-doggers
- 39 Wear out one's welcome
- 40 Geometric line
- 43 Regatta
- 45 A dwarf
- 47 Kind of sauce
- 48 Current amount
- 50 Lion's lunch, maybe
- 51 Mollycoddle
- 54 Staple of Italian cuisine
- 56 Minor
- 58 Cast a ballot
- 59 First-class
- 60 Steamed state
- 61 Common soccer score
- 63 Backboard attachment

Answer to Last Week's Crossword:

A	R	I	D		S	P	I	T	E		V	A	M	P		
I	O	T	A		A	R	M	O	R		A	G	U	E		
D	U	C	T		T	O	P	E	R		L	O	S	S		
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GOODBYE POLIO. THANK YOU, ROTARY.



Photo courtesy John M. Motter

Freight was hauled into Pagosa Springs by horse teams via Elwood Pass during the early days of Pagosa Springs settlement.

Mode of travel was horseback or by horse-pulled vehicles

Entering and leaving Pagosa Springs was quite different in 1901 than it is today. First of all, even though the automobile was invented, I'm not aware that anyone in Pagosa Springs had an automobile at that time. Consequently, the existing roads were not designed for auto traffic.

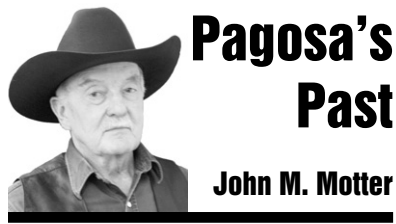
The accepted mode of travel in and out of town was horseback or by horse-pulled vehicles. By early 1901, the train had not reached town, although it would arrive later in the year.

In 1901, Wolf Creek Pass did not exist. No one would have dreamed of attempting a road over that route. It was not a natural pass, not even considered as convenient for a rider on a single horse. Wolf Creek Pass did not open until 1916. Wolf Creek was built to replace Elwood Pass. We'll talk about the reason for the change later.

The San Juan Mountains east and north of Pagosa Springs have always been a challenge for travelers, especially when winter snows pile up to a depth of several feet.

The two closest mountain crossings on the east at the time Pagosa Springs was first being settled were Elwood Pass and Cumbres Pass, both natural passes that had been in use by Native Americans and mountain men since long before settlement came to the San Juan Basin.

The Elwood Pass road started in the San Luis Valley, ascended the mountains by various routes to the head waters of the East Fork of the San Juan River, then followed that river westward as it descended the mountains passing through Pagosa



In 1901, Wolf Creek Pass did not exist. No one would have dreamed of attempting a road over that route.

Springs on its way to emptying into the Colorado River and ultimately into the Gulf of Lower California.

By the time the first settlers arrived in Pagosa Springs circa 1877,

Summitville was already a bustling gold mining camp high in the mountains at the eastern end of the Elwood Pass route. Summitville started with the discovery of gold in 1870 and was reached by a number of routes including one from Del Norte and another which followed a branch of the Alamosa River from the Rio Grande up the eastern side of the San Juan Mountains.

In response to a perceived threat from the Southern Utes, the Army conducted a number of surveys with the purpose of finding the best routes through the San Juans for troops stationed at Fort Garland which was located on the eastern side of the San Luis Valley. When the Army decided to build Fort Lewis in Pagosa Springs starting in 1878, an Army surveyor from Fort Garland surveyed a route from that fort across the San Luis Valley westward up the mountains following a branch of the Alamosa River to the headwaters of the San Juan River at Elwood Pass, through Elwood Pass and down the San Juan to Pagosa Springs. This route was surveyed by the Army but never fully constructed.

Nevertheless, this route was followed by many of Pagosa Springs' first settlers to enter and leave Pagosa Springs on the east. More next week on early roadways and the switch to Wolf Creek Pass.

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HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR WANTED. Experience a must. The Aspen Springs Metro District is interviewing for a full-time Heavy Equipment Operator. A valid CDL is required. Duties include road maintenance, snow plowing and general duties. Salary and benefits commensurate with experience. Applications can be found on the district's website, www.aspenspringsmetro.org, or a brief history can be mailed to Aspen Springs Metro, Attn: Personnel, at PO Box 488, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. Applications must be received by 02-01-16. ASDM is an equal opportunity employer.

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EQUIPMENT OPERATOR I. Archuleta County's Road and Bridge Department is accepting applications for an Equip I. Visit www.archuletacounty.org for job detail. This is a full-time, non-exempt position with excellent benefits. Starting salary \$33,488/ year. Apply online at www.archuletacounty.org or email application to rsmith@archuletacounty.org. Posting closes January 22, 2016. Archuleta County is an equal opportunity employer.

POSITION AVAILABLE: Community Liaison: Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association offers a true opportunity to have a positive influence within our community. This position is one of the most visible in the community. More than anything, it entails personal contact with residents and owners and as such will require exemplary verbal and written communication abilities to aid in the process of education regarding common interest communities. The incumbent will be responsible for subdivision inspection, reporting, processing and follow up of property violations and to creatively assist owners in finding solutions to bring their properties back into compliance. This position is 32 hours a week with an hourly wage of \$15.83-\$22.31 per hour, depending on experience, plus a great benefit package. Please bring a resume to our Administration office at 230 Port Avenue, Pagosa Springs, or submit through email plpaa@plpaa.com. If you have questions, you may call (970)731-5635, ex. 214.

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SEEDS OF LEARNING is accepting applications for a toddler room teacher aide. It is a full-time 40 hour a week position. High school diploma and CPR and First Aid is required. Must be able to pass a background check. Call Lynne or Melissa at (970)264-5513 for more information.

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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.

BASEBALL COACH: Archuleta School District 50 Joint is now accepting applications for assistant high school baseball coaches. Application, job description and salary are located under Job Openings at www.mypagosaschools.com.

CNAS WANTED, WITH BENEFIT package, competitive wages. Apply at Pine Ridge Extended Care Center, 119 Bastille Dr. Sign on bonus.

WYNDHAM VACATION RESORTS. We are seeking an Activity Supervisor to join our team in Pagosa Springs. The position is accountable for leading a team of associates selling area activities to our guests. If you are outgoing, love to help people and have a winning spirit, you can find out more online at WVOjobs.com, apply in person, 42 Pinon Causeway, OR contact Tanya O'Neal at (970)731-8926. It is a full-time position with full benefits after 30 days, unlimited development and career opportunities. Come work for the biggest and best hospitality company in the world!

VOLLEYBALL COACH: Archuleta School District is accepting application for a High School Assistant Volleyball coach. Job description and salary information and applications may be viewed/ completed online through www.mypagosaschools.com.

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LANDFILL OPERATOR. Archuleta County Public Works is currently accepting applications for Landfill Operator. Visit www.archuletacounty.org for job detail. This is a full-time, non-exempt position with excellent benefits. Minimum starting salary \$28,870/ year. Apply online at www.archuletacounty.org or email application to rsmith@archuletacounty.org. Posting closes January 22, 2016. Archuleta County is an equal opportunity employer.

HOUSEKEEPING POSITIONS AVAILABLE full time. Must be dependable and must work weekends. Apply at Pine Ridge Extended Care, 119 Bastille Dr.

HEALTH AIDE: Archuleta School District 50 Joint is now accepting applications for part-time Health Aide. Application, job description and salary are located under Job Openings at www.mypagosaschools.com.

PAGOSA SPRINGS MEDICAL CENTER is accepting applications for a part-time or PRN Emergency Department Registration Clerk. The Registration Clerk courteously greets all patients in a timely manner. The clerk is responsible for completing the admission information into the Patient Accounting System. This person will be expected to work day shifts, night shifts, as well as weekends. Applications may be picked up at the human resources office or downloaded from www.pagosaspringsmedicalcenter.org. Applications and resumes may be submitted to mitzi.bowman@psmedicalcenter.org or faxed to (970)731-0907. Pagosa Springs Medical Center is an EEO employer.

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HELP WANTED: ACCEPTING APPLICANTS for kennels position at Elk Park Animal Hospital. Applicant must be able to lift 50 pounds, work weekends and enjoy working with animals. 10 hour shifts 4 days a week with starting pay around \$10 hourly depending on experience. Please email a resume to elkparkvet@yahoo.com with your name and "resume" in the subject line or call between 8a.m. and 5p.m. on weekdays with any questions. 731-6400.

SMOKEN MOE'S BBQ NOW hiring kitchen help. Slackers and lazy people need not apply. No phone calls please. Can apply between 9:30-11a.m.

CNA CLASS STARTING SOON. Now accepting applications. Apply at Pine Ridge Extended Care, 119 Bastille Dr., Pagosa.

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SELPH'S PROPANE IS LOOKING for a seasonal propane delivery driver. Must have CDL with hazmat/ tanker/ air brakes endorsements. Please apply at 4640 Highway 160 West.

NEW YEAR- NEW CAREER in the field of dental health care. This is a job where you help others out, smile really big and feel better, no doubt. Help in the front, help in the back, for things to do you'll have no lack. Will train a person who has the right stuff, wear many hats and grin when it's tough. The hours and days will start with part time, but lead to much more we hope you will find. This is the year to start things out right, send us an email, your future looks bright. Send resume to denprac@yahoo.com.

CT'S AUTOMOTIVE INC. looking for an experienced automotive technician. Must have tools and willing to work weekends Accepting applications at 163 Gold mine Drive. (970)264-1630.

HONEST AND DEPENDABLE HOUSE-KEEPERS needed. Apply in person at the San Juan Motel and Cabins. 191 E. Pagosa Street. Starting wage is \$10 per hour.

ASSISTANT COOK POSITION OPEN at Archuleta Seniors Inc. Experience required. Send resume to cheryl@psseniors.org.

EQUIPMENT OPERATOR I: The Town of Pagosa Springs is hiring an Equipment Operator I to work in the Public Works Department. Information on position description, salary, application and deadline can be obtained on the town website at www.townofpagosaspings.com or picked up at the Town Hall.

ALL POSITIONS FOR NEW BREWPUB. Pagosa Brewing & Grill seeks fast-paced team members for all positions. Potential cross-training opportunities as we expand. Applications at 118 North Pagosa Blvd. No phone calls, please.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

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 starting December 3, 11a.m., at Centerpoint Church, 270 Cornerstone Dr. Leslie, (970)799-0775.

YOU'VE SEEN THE JEDI use force in movies, come experience the force first hand. AIKIDO (The Way of Harmony with the Life Force). Now accepting beginner students: www.aikidopagosa.org, (970)264-0430.

AL-ANON meets every Tuesday at 6 p.m. at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church. Saturday, 10:30a.m., 234 N. 2nd Street (CR200/ Snowball Road). www.al-anon-co.org.

A.A. 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 731-1025.

IF ANYONE has lost their pet, please call the Humane Society of Pagosa Springs, 731-4771. www.humanesociety.biz.

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800# ROUND BAILS MOUNTAIN meadow irrigated grass hay, no rain. \$70. (970)264-2416, leave a message.

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2 ALL SEASON TIRES, 285/75/R16, \$50. Pick up truck tool/ storage pouch, brand new never used, \$25. Hoop steps, brand new never used, \$50. Call (970)946-2632 or (970)946-5802.

4 225X75X15 STUDDER MUD and snow tires mounted on alloy wheels, used on 2009 Ford Escape and Jeep. 80% left. \$500 OBO. 903-1920.

3 PERSON FAR INFRARED Health Mate sauna. Portable snap lock construction, temperature control, dry heat. \$1,500 OBO. 731-0417.

WHITNEY UPRIGHT PIANO. Just tuned, sounds beautiful. \$500. (970)903-8091.

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ELIMINATE HIGH HEATING BILLS. Central boiler wood, corn, pellet outdoor furnaces. Clean, efficient heat. Financing available. (575)756-2705.

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RONK MODEL 92 ROTARY TRANSFORMER and capacitor panel. Converts single phase to three phase. 240/480 volts, KVA max: 50, Type 2p/4p, amps 90/45 SN 428269. \$750 Michael C. Branch, (970)769-2036.

SILVER SILVER SILVER. For sale. 100 oz. RMC silver bars, \$1 over spot; silver maple leaf coins, \$2 over spot; American eagle coins, \$3 over spot. 200 oz. minimum buy on coins. **Serious inquires only.** (970)731-8600, leave message.

ANTIQUÉ LOG BED, FULL size, came from an old lodge in Big Bear Lake, CA. Can be seen and purchased at Memory Lane Antiques, Pagosa Springs, CO.

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AWESOME OMEGA RICH GRASS fat beef. All natural, no hormones or antibiotics. Raised in Bayfield on lush grass and clover. Taking orders for halves now for June and November. Limited supply. (970)749-3176.

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2004 ARCTIC CAT 570 SNOWMOBILE, updated with new 2010 engine and clutch, \$2,100 OBO. 4x8 tilt trailer, \$400 OBO. 903-1920.

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15" WHEEL SET FOR 1996-1999 Subaru with used Firestone Winterforce tires: 205/70-15. \$200. 946-5591.

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2004 GLASSTITE TOPPER for Ford Ranger. Gold color, \$400 OBO. Call (970)946-1275.

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VACATIONERS. We have fully furnished homes and condos for rent by the day, week or month. We also have long term places available. Pagosa Realty Rentals, located upstairs, Frontier Building, Piedra at 160. (970) 731-5515. www.pagosarentals.com.

FOR VACATION RENTALS, please go to www.sanjuancabin.com.

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COUNTRY LIVING ON 9 ACRES on Snowball Rd. Rustic home. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath with bonus room, 2-car garage, fireplace, wood burning stove and natural gas heat. \$1,400/ month plus utilities. 946-2728.

3 BEDROOM 2 BATH 2 car garage. Available February 1st. Long term lease, \$1,150. (720)470-3056.

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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.

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GREAT LOCATION WITH PAGOSA Lake views. 198 Aspenglow #1. 2 bedroom, W/D, covered deck. No pets. Most utilities paid. \$699, available January 7th. (303)881-1407.

264-2101

Classifieds

264-2101

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RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

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2 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, 1-car garage. Furnished or unfurnished. \$1,200/ month. For further information, email Lee Riley at leeriley@isellpagosa.com.

DOWNTOWN STUDIO CONDO. Full kitchen, granite countertops, separate bath. \$700/ month, all utilities included- water, sewer, electric, gas. First, last month's rent, damage deposit required. (318)347-6100, (575)754-2300.

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PRIME RETAIL LOCATION. Approximately 1,000 sq. ft. located in the City Market center uptown. Great visibility and parking. Morgan, (303)475-6053.

STREET LEVEL UNITS STILL available at the River Center. Give us a call at 731-0951 or 264-6147.

RENT BY DAY, WEEK or month. Specials on 10x10s for \$40, and also rent 6 months, get one month free. Let's Store It, 731-0007.

PRIME RETAIL/ OFFICE SPACE for lease. 2 adjoining units available- 104 and 105, each approximately 900 sq. ft., 191 Talisman. Open and office space, private bath, front and side entrance. Great location. \$695 per month, \$1,250 for both. Some utilities paid. Call (970)264-0560.

BEST COMMERCIAL LOCATION, downtown Pagosa. Victorian building next door to Riff Raff Brewery. 1,000 sq. ft., \$800/ month. (318)347-6100, (575)754-2300.

COMMERCIAL/ OFFICE SPACES in downtown multi tenant building. Good start up rates and flexible terms. (805)698-2918.

HISTORICAL METROPOLITAN HOTEL OFFICES downtown next to Liberty Theatre. Upstairs offices, two office suite \$300 and single office \$200 per month, includes utilities and is available month to month with security deposit. Jacque 946-7636, Nettie (480)349-1468.

NEW EXECUTIVE iSUITES. 1-4, 300-1,500. Receptionist, conference room, Internet, utilities, paved parking. On- demand administrative. Copy/ scan/ fax. Also hourly, 1/2 day, full day rates. Wen Saunders (970)903-0038. Keller Williams Realty Southwest Associates.

WAREHOUSE SPACE FOR RENT. 1,800 sq. ft, natural gas heat, bathroom, good location, water, sewer, trash and snow removal provided. \$1,000 per month. Michael C. Branch, (970)769-2036 or 264-2135.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

PRIME RETAIL/ OFFICE SPACE for sale. 2 adjoining units available, each approximately 900 sq. ft., 191 Talisman. Open and office space, private bath. Great location. Unit 105, \$119,000; Unit 104, \$115,000. Want both? Let's make a deal. Call (970)264-0560.

WINTER SLASHED PRICES! Steak/ seafood restaurant (1,925), equipment, furnishings, low financing 200s. Mini mall (8,000/ SF, 11 units 500s. Office/ retail/ restaurant (928) \$100s. Buy or lease. Wen Saunders (970)903-0038. Keller Williams Realty Southwest Associates.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

BUDGET RENT A CAR- AGENCY OPERATOR: Your existing business can experience supplemental income without any investment. This commission based opportunity is for the successful candidate(s) meeting the following requirements: Pre-existing storefront business in nonsmoking environment with positive curb appeal; provide parking for 10 vehicles; bondable with pleasant business personality; clean driving record; sales oriented attitude; positive reputation within local business community; available to clients at local airport upon request; competency with Windows based software. We provide the vehicles, hardware, phone lines, direction and technical support. You answer the phones, provide the labor and staff to prepare vehicles and execute rental contracts. Interested parties should submit a resume and cover letter to: RonaldAFrame@msn.com.

MOBILE HOMES

TINY IMPACT- BIG SAVINGS. Sustainable affordable living in your own Tiny House. Ready to be towed. \$14K. (970)946-5015.

CONDOS

FSBO. 2 STORY LOFT, wood deck overlooking mountain views, park like setting. Natural gas plus wood burning fireplace. Washer/ dryer, full bath up, half bath down. Uptown, walk to shopping. Newly remodeled. Pick your own paint colors. \$114,000. 731-8877.

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FOR SALE BY OWNER: Beautiful well maintained home on 1/4 acre lot in Lake Forest subdivision. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, heated 2-car garage. Beautifully landscaped front and back yard. Large shed. \$260,000. For appointment to see, call (970)731-4585.

FOR SALE BY OWNER, ON THE SAN JUAN! This river house is about 2,600 sq. ft. with a massive insulated garage, deck, country porch, fire pit on the water. Price reduced, \$460,000. Call for more information and showing. (775)224-2607.

LOOKING FOR A FIXER? That's my specialty. Call me today! Sharon Crump with EXIT Realty Advantage Pagosa. (970)398-0215.

TOWNHOUSE FSBO. 3 bedroom, 3 bath, 2-car garage, fireplace, energy efficient, much, much more. Close to everything. Over 2,030 sq. ft. \$209,500. Call home (970)264-0269 or cell (520)241-1198.

BEAUTIFUL 4 BEDROOM EXECUTIVE HOME. Snowball Road (CR 200). Walk to national forest, trout streams. Hunting. Closeup mountain views, wildlife. Irrigated. \$740,000, possible financing. (970)946-6274.

3 OR 2 BEDROOM HOUSE wanted to buy in town or near. Garage or out building a plus. Fixer upper or mobile okay. Cash down with payments preferred. Can pay all cash. Moving to area. Call Dan (727)582-9000.

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PROPERTY

AFFORDABLE LOTS! 13 Grenadier Place, .19 acre corner lot, easy build, \$12,900. 96 Heather Place, .27 acre end of cul-de-sac, treed, \$13,000. 20 Overlook Court, .34 acre corner lot, treed, easy build, \$25,000. 44 Antelope Avenue, .44 acre very nice treed lot, great location, \$25,000. 50 Buck Drive, 3 acre level, corner, views!, \$45,000. 80 Dandelion Drive, 3.04 acre level, easy build, \$49,000. Lot 58 Montezuma Circle, 1.45 acre 200' river front, \$70,000. Call SHELLIE HOGUE with your land needs, (970)759-8109. EXIT REALTY ADVANTAGE PAGOSA.

EAST AND NORTH MOUNTAIN VIEWS and private lake access in Hidden Valley Ranch. Three 35+ acre tracts. Parcels treated for fire mitigation. \$549,500 each. Call broker J.R. Ford with Pagosa Land Company, (970)264-5000 or visit pagosalandcompany.com.

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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San Juan Stargazers studying galaxy groups

By Joan Mieritz
Special to The PREVIEW

The San Juan Stargazers will hold a regular educational meeting on Thursday, Jan. 28, at the Visitor Center conference room, at 7 p.m. It is located on Hot Springs Boulevard and the San Juan River. There will be coffee and snacks.

It is amazing to think that galaxies are situated in groups. Our Milky Way is in the local group, which seems like a very appropriate name. The local group is in the Virgo supercluster of galaxies. We will be learning about both of these galaxy groups. I think this meeting

will be mind-boggling.

If you want to broaden your perspective on life, you will want to attend this lecture and discussion.

We will also have the official 2016 CRIA Astronomy Program and Star Party Calendars to look over and critique. We will discuss a few changes for next summer.

If you have an interest in astronomy and would like to learn how to use a telescope, we can teach you on one of the Chimney Rock Interpretive Association-owned telescopes. There is plenty of time this winter to get ready for next summer's viewing. Or, we can help you figure out your own

telescope.

The San Juan Stargazers are part of the Astronomical League, which includes clubs from all over the U.S. We have a great website—www.SanJuanStargazers.com—as well as an email address, sjstargazers@gmail.com and a club phone number, 335-8286, to help communicate with the public.

Anyone interested in learning more about astronomy is invited to come to all our events.

Earth Community works to finalize mission statement

By Joan Mieritz
Special to The PREVIEW

The Earth Community Pagosa Springs had a general meeting last week and will hold another one today, Thursday, Jan. 21.

After brainstorming, we got to a point of clarity on some ideas that need to be included in our mission statement. Several people will be writing statements which we will combine either at today's meeting or possibly at a special meeting just for finalizing the formal mission statement.

If words like international movement, educational, action-oriented, free and making life better appeal to you, you may want to come to our meeting at 2:30 p.m. at the Visitor Center conference room on Hot Springs Boulevard and the San Juan River. We had a good turnout of members, but we always invite new people.

We have a great start on activi-

ties for 2016, with a big one being Earth Day, Friday, April 22, with events to be held in Pagosa all day Saturday, April 23. Much is being planned to support our planet and its inhabitants.

We will also have a website in addition to our Facebook page. We want to set up a directory of earth and human-friendly opportunities available in Pagosa. Plus, we will be showing films and having other educational programs. If you have ideas for something worthwhile to do in Pagosa, come and share them.

Possibly our last discussion on "When Corporations Rule The World," by David C. Korten, will be held on Monday, Jan. 25, at 2:30 p.m. at the Visitor Center conference room. We are in the section on solutions and may take more time on this, if needed. These discussions are always stimulating and worthwhile. Hope to see you at all our activities.

Cattlemen to meet

Special to The PREVIEW

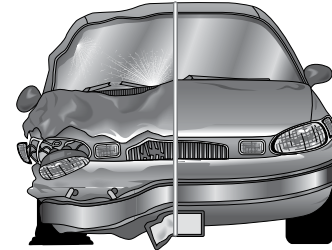
La Plata county Sheriff Sean Smith will be the guest speaker for the La Plata-Archuleta Cattlemen's Association on Jan. 25. The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. at the Extension building located on the La Plata County Fairgrounds.

Plans for activities of the association for the 2016 will be finalized, including preparations for the annual banquet to be held on April 23 and the Chuck Wagon Cook-off on July 30.



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