



The Pagosa Springs

SUN

50¢

PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147

www.PagosaSUN.com

VOLUME 108 — NO. 20, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2016

Sales tax collections increase 18 percent for 2015

By Marshall Dunham
Staff Writer

According to a recent sales tax report, sales tax collections in Archuleta County increased in December, capping off a year that saw an 18-percent increase in collections from 2014 to 2015.

According to a report issued on Monday, Feb. 8, by Archuleta County Finance Director Larry Walton, on a year-to-date basis, sales tax collections were \$1,289,054 or 18 percent ahead of 2014.

However, \$234,412, or 18.2 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 the 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, and the back taxes from November being \$405.

In December, \$40 was collected. With these amounts factored out, the increase in sales tax collections related specifically to 2015 was \$1,054,642.

This suggests that the growth rate of the local economy during the year of 2015 was about 14.7 percent.

The following is a comparison between the entire year's sales tax brought in by category compared to last year as a whole.

■ See Sales A8



Hot air balloons fly high above Pagosa Springs during Saturday morning's picturesque Winterfest ascension. A second ascension took place over the west side of town the following morning.

SUN photo/Terri House

Reckless care claimed in suit against Mercy Home Health agency

By Jim Garrett
Staff Writer

Allegations of reckless and indifferent care of a paraplegic patient have been made against Mercy Home Health in a suit pending in 6th Judicial District Court. The home health care agency is a component of Mercy Regional Medical Center, with an office at 35 Mary Fisher Circle in Pagosa Springs.

The allegations were made in a pleading filed by attorney Jerome M. Reinan, of Denver, on behalf of plaintiff Joseph Ray Shouse in a medical malpractice suit brought against Catholic Health Initiatives Colorado, doing business as Mercy Home Health and Hospice.

The suit contends that, after suffering disabling injuries in an automobile accident that left him paralyzed and incontinent, Shouse resided in Pagosa Springs in a relative's home and depended on Mercy for essential, in-home nursing care.

Shouse's attorney alleges that while Shouse was in its care, Mercy failed to attend properly to a pressure sore he developed. Pressure sores are a well-known concern among bedridden patients with paralysis who lack movement and feeling. Without proper care, sores can rapidly develop into life-threatening infections.

■ See Suit A8

Council advances urban single-track trail proposal

By Jim Garrett
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs Town Council adopted two resolutions at its meeting on Feb. 2, committing the town to support Phase I of the proposed in-town urban single-track trails system.

The trails system concept was formulated by the local nonprofit organization Developing Urban Single Track Trails and Teams (DUST2).

According to Town Manager Greg Schulte, the resolutions would commit the town to construction of an initial trail and initiate "a long-term partnership" with DUST2.

Schulte expressed the hope that the partnership would result in construction of a substantial trails network built largely on town property. The network would depend in

part on town funding for construction and its labor for maintenance work.

Schulte stated that the contributions of DUST2 to the partnership would include its organizational efforts, assistance in development and construction of future trail segments, securing grant and other funding, and providing and coordinating volunteer resources for construction and maintenance.

The trails system as conceived by DUST2 would provide a community recreational asset that would include potentially several miles of trails usable for mountain biking, walking, cross-country skiing and other activities, with connections to other town trail systems such as the existing trails on Reservoir Hill and the proposed

■ See Trail A8



Photo courtesy Jasmin Wampler

The Pagosa Fire Protection District recognizes volunteer firefighters for their service and dedication at its annual appreciation dinner on Sunday, Jan. 31. Pictured, left to right, Chief Diane Bower, Rookie of the Year Jared Wirth, Firefighter of the Year Scott Carpenter and Assistant Chief Randy Larson.

Beauty for ashes: A love story

By Casey Crow
Staff Writer

There is a popular Christian song by the artist Gungor that gently serenades, "You make beautiful things, you make beautiful things out of dust."

The melody is reminiscent of a verse in the book of Isaiah, "To give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness ..."

As newly engaged Mike Knapp and Julie Rae sit side by side, intertwining their fingers and exchanging knowing glances, this is the phrase that describes the portrait of their love: Beauty for ashes and joy for mourning.

There are endless metaphors that could be invoked, images used to describe grief and perseverance, transformation and healing.

Each of these fall short because, in truth, there is no combination of words that can adequately describe what Mike and Julie have walked through.

Julie lost her husband, Richie, to cancer 18 years ago. Early on in their relationship he was diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor and given only 30 days to live.

According to Julie, "He didn't accept that very well. He was a fighter."

He fought for nearly five years, and although countless days have come and gone since his passing, for Julie, the scars are still fresh.

"Honestly, it seems like yesterday. You move on and you can see your life moving on, and that's OK, but when you think of that person, you don't go beyond that. It always feels like yesterday because time kind of stops right then. I can always hear him and see him, the way he bounces

■ See Love A8



Photo courtesy Mike Knapp

Mike Knapp and Julie Rae pose for a photo after getting engaged during a sled dog tour at sunset in Pagosa Springs. Both Mike and Julie lost their spouses to brutal battles with cancer. Now that they've found one another, they are embarking on a new journey filled with love, hope and faith in the possibilities of the future.

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Opinion

EDITORIAL

Bridge over troubled waters

The phones at The SUN have been buzzing this past week with people concerned over the possibility of Town Council moving forward with a proposed vehicle bridge at 5th Street without hearing what the public has to say about the matter.

It's no secret that the Town of Pagosa Springs has been holding closed-door executive sessions regarding the Springs Partners 10-Year Vested Rights Agreement. The agreement includes two conceptual plans, one with a bridge and one without.

In late February of 2012, council approved amending its 5-year Capital Improvement Plan to include the bridge as part of a list of desired elements, placing a 2017 date on starting the project.

The project has not been without controversy.

According to cost estimates, the proposed bridge project and associated road from U.S. 160 to Hot Springs Boulevard was \$6.5 million in 2012.

There are concerns that the town will foot the bill for the bridge, which would lead to Springs Partners' development.

Many have voiced their opinion that the bridge should be paid for by the developer, not by the town.

There are concerns that Pagosa Springs will end up with its own "bridge to nowhere" — a proposed vehicle bridge at 5th Street, connecting U.S. 160 with potential development on land between the San Juan River and the community center.

Others are concerned that once the bridge is put in, the developers will sell the property before the development is completed. People don't want to see more largely vacant developments like Harman Park and Aspen Village.

Some business owners worry that the bridge might have a negative effect on the historic downtown along U.S. 160.

The public is worried that the bridge project will be pushed through without the Town Council hearing and considering their concerns.

Mayor Don Volger advocates for the 5th Street vehicle bridge, as long as the town isn't "doing it alone; there must be a partnership." He agrees that there must be assurance that it isn't another "bridge to nowhere," and that the developers must begin construction on the adjoining properties.

What we know for sure, developers Bill Dawson and Matt Mees, of Springs Partners LLC, have a proven track record in building the hot springs facilities and a motel building now part of The Springs Resort — elements that are a big part of Pagosa Springs' status as a prime destination. The duo became a trio of developers when local businessman Jack Searle joined the partnership.

In 2012, The SUN reported that Dawson indicated their plans were independent of a bridge on South 5th Street. So, is the bridge even necessary?

The mayor also understands the public's concerns about not knowing what is going on behind closed doors when the council is discussing negotiations in executive sessions. Volger assured that the bridge project "will be open to comment at a future council meeting."

We implore council that if they do move forward with the bridge as a public works project, the developers must be heavily financially invested in the project, and this bridge must not be to "nowhere."

No matter what side of the bridge you find yourself on, make your voice heard at a council meeting in the very near future, through writing a letter to the editor or contacting council members listed below.

Terri Lynn Oldham House

WHADDYA THINK?

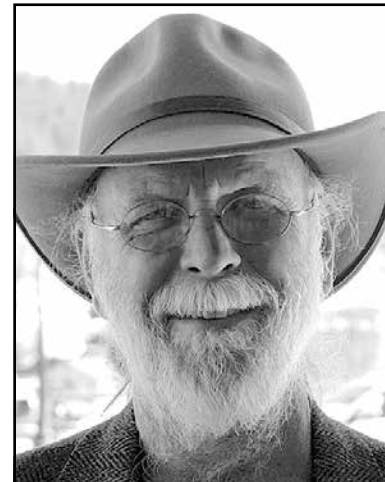
How effective are the pedestrian crossing lights in downtown?



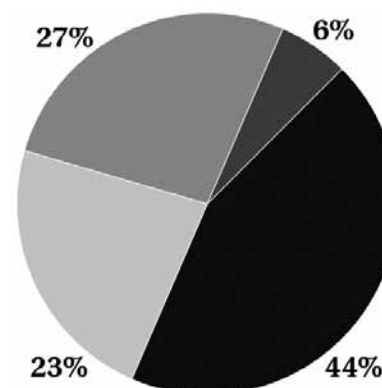
Judy Bingham
"I think they're very important."



Nancy Vogt
"They worked for us, but there wasn't a lot of traffic, either."



David Cunningham
"I try to avoid the bend. ... They're not that effective because people don't pay attention."



Poll results (186 Votes)
Very — 44 percent
Somewhat — 23 percent
Not very — 27 percent
Not at all — 6 percent

This week online: Should sandwich boards be allowed on downtown sidewalks?
Vote at www.pagosasun.com

LOOKING BACK



From the Jan. 19, 1967, Pagosa Springs SUN. **SMOKING A PIPE —** Smoking a pipe isn't recommended for injured people but Fire Chief DeVore seems to be finding some solace from it as he acts as a victim during first aid classes here last week. The expert bandager is the Rev. Woods, member of the Colorado Mounted Rangers in Pagosa Springs.

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
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David Schanzenbaker, dschanzenbaker@pagosasprings.co.gov

LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

90 years ago

Taken from SUN files of February 12, 1926

John Dyke had the misfortune to lose three head of weaner calves last Friday night. The cause was frosted alfalfa hay.

Two light snowfalls the first of the week of about two inches each relieved the monotony of perfect Italian weather.

Dr. A.J. Nossaman returned on Tuesday from Pueblo and Denver where he visited with his son Robert, who was enroute to San Francisco from St. Louis.

It is important for all World War veterans, who are still carrying war term insurance, to know that under the law this must be converted into some permanent form of government insurance before July 2, 1926. If this is not done, the insurance will terminate.

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of February 14, 1941

Mark Amyx finished helping G.L. Cotton and his sons put up 55 tons of ice for themselves and Luke Rock, Tuesday.

Jim Matthews, wing mechanic for Consolidated Aircraft at San Diego, Calif., who spent the Christmas holidays here with his parents insisted at the time that he had sent a letter to The Sun. However, it had not been received here and knowing the former Pagosa lad as an upstanding youth whose fabrications could be relied upon, the writer thought perhaps the "unusual" climate had something to do with the missing letter. The much promised missel arrived Monday of this week.

Newspaper advertising is a town's goodwill ambassador.

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of February 10, 1966

A mid-winter snow storm that has left plenty of snow arrived Sunday evening. Snowfall has been heavy and has continued intermittently through most of Wednesday. Temperatures have not been extreme but there was some high wind early Tuesday. The snowfall now totals more than 18 inches of new snow and most of it has been wet and heavy. The temperatures have been about right to make it very slick most of the time and numerous cars have taken to the ditch throughout the area but no serious accidents have been reported.

The Pagosa Springs Town Board met Monday of this week for the regular February meeting. Further applications are being filed in regards to Federal Aid for planning and enlarging the city water system.

25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of February 7, 1991

Government officials and residents of the U.S. 160 corridor east of Pagosa Springs, including the San Juan River Resort subdivision, met last week in another attempt to develop plans to deal with wastewater disposal problems. Dick Bowman, of the Colorado Department of Health, and Tony Medrano of the State Environmental Protection Agency met on Jan. 29 with County Commissioner Bob Formwalt, residents of the corridor and members of the San Juan River Resort property owners association. Bowman said his agency will begin a stepped-up enforcement program to deal with lagoon-type sewage disposal facilities located in the corridor in order to force the issue of the need for adequate treatment methods.

The Pagosa Springs SUN

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| | Best Advertising Special Section | Best Advertising Campaign |
| | Second Place | |
| | Best Health Care Ad | Best Classified Page(s) or Section(s) |
| | Best Automotive Ad | Best Newspaper/House Ad Promotion |
| | Best Restaurant or Dining Ad | Best Use of Color in an Ad |
| | Best Informational Graphic | Best Web-Weekly-Content |
| | Best Photo Essay | Best Photography Portfolio |
| | Best News Photograph | Best Feature Photograph |
| | Best Website-Weekly-Community | Best Small Space Ad |
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| | Third 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 |
| | Best Cover Design | Best Sports Photograph |
| | Best Black & White Ad | Best News Photograph |
| | Best Feature Photograph | Best Advertising Layout & Design |
| | Best Feature Page Design | Best Advertising Campaign |
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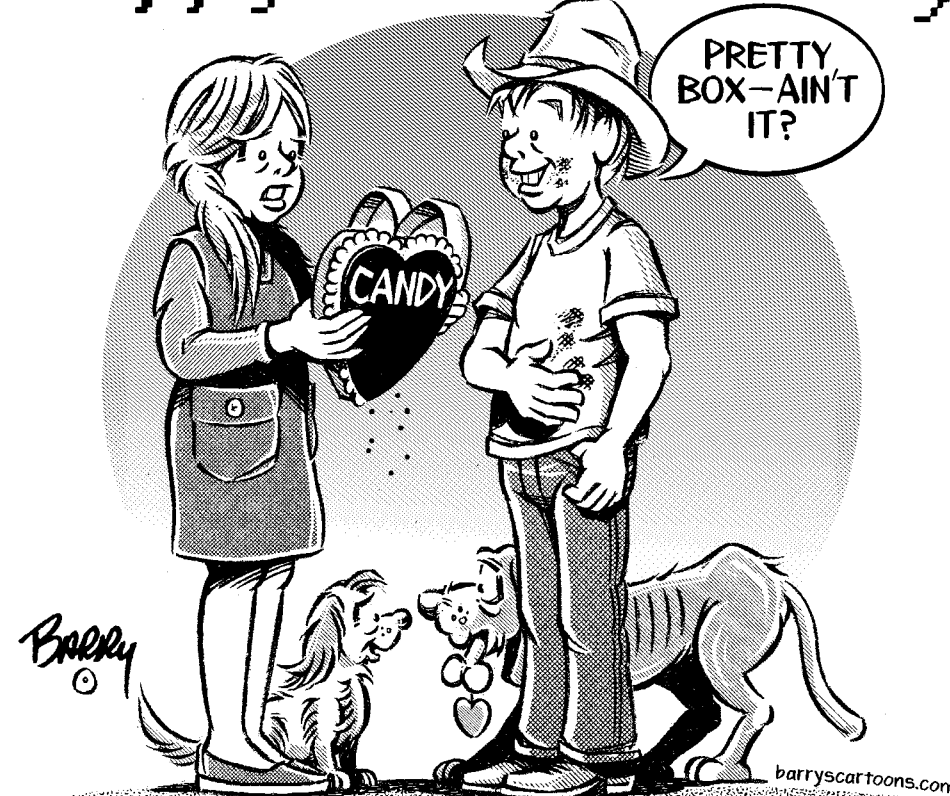
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2/5	29	-7	-	-	-	-
2/6	34	-1	-	-	-	-
2/7	39	7	-	-	-	-
2/8	46	13	-	-	-	-
2/9	49	11	-	-	-	-

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Happy Valentine's Day



IT'S THE THOUGHT THAT COUNTS...



Letters

Men speak out

Dear Editor:
 Women have long been on the battlefields fighting to end domestic violence and sexual assault. The successes have been many, like the landmark Violence Against Women Act that was passed by congress in 1994. This law requires mandatory arrests of the perpetrator, when there is a report of domestic violence. Then there is the recent Senate Bill 128 that allows victims of sexual assault to report anonymously when seeking medical care. The law ensures victims receive the necessary care they need after a sexual assault, with the option of anonymity. Laws like these are just a fraction of the victories we have seen.

Unfortunately, current statistics reveal that the many successes are still not enough, as one in four women will still experience sexual assault or domestic violence in her lifetime. What can we do to bring these numbers down further? Part of the answer may be hidden in the shifting of cultural norms happening right now.

On a global scale, we have men uniting to end violence against women and girls. We have organizations popping up around the United States like Men Stopping Violence and A Call to Men. They tout impactful programs like "Because We Have Daughters" and "Breaking out of the Man Box." We see other male leaders speaking out, like former President Jimmy Carter, who was recently on the TEDX stage and also wrote the bestseller "A Call to Action: Religion, Violence, and Power," where he addresses what he calls "the world's most serious, pervasive, and ignored violation of basic human rights: the ongoing discrimination and violence against women and girls."

The tides are certainly shifting, so what is going on here, locally? Here in the 6th Judicial District, we are launching the "White Ribbon Campaign." The White Ribbon Campaign started after a group of 14 female students were killed by self-acclaimed anti-feminist Marc Lepine at a university in Montreal. The campaign's aim is to raise

awareness about violence against women and girls, with the motto being men working to end men's violence against women. Currently, the campaign is utilized in over 60 countries worldwide and now it's here in Pagosa Springs.

As the tides change and men continue to speak out against violence, the impact will be huge. Ultimately, boys listen to men and men listen to men. One man standing up against violence in a community creates a ripple effect.

Here are 10 things you can do to prevent violence in your community:

- Don't fund sexism. Refuse to purchase magazines, watch videos, subscribe to websites, or buy music that portrays girls or women in a sexually degrading or abusive manner. Boycott sexism in the media.
- Be respectful toward women, girls and other guys. Sexism, homophobia, transphobia, racism and other forms of oppression hurt us all.
- Understand consent, whether it's holding hands, kissing or more it's important to communicate and get consent.
- Never use coercion, threats, or violence in your relationships with others.
- Pledge to never commit, condone or remain silent about violence against women and girls.
- Develop the ability to recognize myths which support violence against women. Avoid victim blaming.
- Be a good role model and share with the boys and young men around you the importance of respecting women, girls and yourself.
- Challenge and speak out against hurtful language and sexist jokes.
- As a father or a family member, teaching the boys in your life about healthy equal relationships helps you do your part in creating healthy families and strengthening family bonds.
- Learn about the impact of violence against women in your community. Volunteer or donate to a local shelter or a women's organization in your community.

If you would like to learn more,

get involved, or if you are in need of services, below is a list of your community's local organizations serving victims of violence:

- Archuleta County Victim Assistance Program — 264-9075.
- Volunteers of America: The Southwest Safehouse — 259-5443.
- Sexual Assault Services Organization (SASO) — 247-5400.
- Alternative Horizons (Domestic Violence) — 247-9619.

Misty Fowlds
 Outreach coordinator
 6th Judicial District

Snow removal

Dear Editor:
 Feb. 4, 2016, a perfect editorial with full details of what most of us have gone through with snow removal. Also weekend events listed with precise detail.

Thank you for the excellent writeup.
 Pam Morrow and Jerry Ethelbah

Valentine

Dear Editor:
 Be my Valentine. Nearly 72 years ago I met my Valentine — as they say today, we've been together 72 years, married for 69.

It was during WWII, just five days before he had to leave for the Navy at age 17. We were together all five evenings. I was a senior in high school, never dated anyone else.

We married one year after he came home. It wasn't easy for those who married soon after the war ended. There was a housing shortage, folks were renting out anything they could.

We began our marriage in a converted single-car garage, no inside walls, just one room with a shower; a stove, ice box, sink, table and two chairs and of course a bed. The closet was a wire strung across one corner of the room. But we were in love and our parents allowed us to live with what we could afford and "chart" our own course.

Rent on that nice apartment was \$8 per week. Entertainment of course was the radio and on Saturday afternoons, we'd take the bus to town, walk around "window shopping" (dreaming), maybe a bag of caramel corn to share on the bus ride home.

Like most in that time period of our history, our first wedding anniversary found us bringing our first little one home from the hospital. Now, there was no health insurance, we had to make monthly payments to the doctor and the hospital so our baby would be paid for by the "due date."

His anniversary gift for me? A cupcake with a candle. We were in love. So, from that start, we raised three dear children who still love us and we continue together in love. He is my Valentine and I am thankful for the life we have shared. Happy Valentine's Day to all.

Patty Tillerson

Letters

The SUN welcomes letters from readers.

Please submit to:
 PO Box 9, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

e-mail:
 editor@pagosasun.com

or fax: (970) 264-2103

All letters must:
 be 500 words or less
 be signed by the author, unless emailed

include the author's phone number and address

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

If necessary, only 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.

There is no guarantee letters will be published.

The SUN reserves the right to edit letters.

TREES

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CDOT announces monitoring system

Special to The SUN

The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) recently announced a new snow plow monitoring system, which provides near real-time location information for CDOT's snow plow fleet.

In addition to allowing CDOT to more efficiently deploy its fleet during winter storms, the Automated Vehicle Locator (AVL) system allows for the public to go online and see which areas have been plowed. The AVL system will give drivers additional information to help them make driving decisions.

Avalanche victim identified

By Marshall Dunham
 Staff Writer

A victim of an avalanche that occurred last week near Wolf Creek Pass has been identified.

According to Rio Grande County Coroner Rusty Strohmayer, the victim was identified as David Smith, 23, from Kimball, S.D.

According to a report that was published on Feb. 3 by the Colorado Avalanche Information Center (CAIC), "a group of four snowmobilers departed from the Tucker Ponds trailhead east of Wolf Creek Pass. At approximately 4 PM, the group was snowmobiling in the Lost Mine Creek drainage between Campo Mollino and Park Creek."

The report goes on to state that, during the ride, an avalanche ensued, with one member of the group being buried and another being partially buried.

"The group left the scene to go for emergency assistance. They obtained cell coverage and placed a call to 911 at approximately 6 PM," the report reads. "Local riders, personnel from the Wolf Creek Ski Area, Mineral and Rio Grand County Sheriff's Offices, Archuleta County Emergency Management, and Upper San Juan Search and Rescue all participated in the search and rescue effort."

marshall@pagosasun.com

"One of the most frequent comments and questions that we get from the public is 'where are the plows?'" said Shailen Bhatt, CDOT executive director. "This tool will help the public understand where we are and how we are working to keep the traveling public safe."

The public can view snow plow locations on any device by clicking on http://cotrip.org/snowplow.htm#/snowplow (also see upper right-hand corner of cotrip.org menu).

Using this information, drivers will be able to see plows' current locations, their travel speed and direction they are traveling. Plows that have not moved for more than 16 minutes will not be visible.

Currently, only 860 of CDOT's total 970 snow plows are outfitted with the AVL system, with more coming online. Future elements of the snow plow page will include

a one-hour button, showing all roads plowed in the past hour, and continued refinement of the trails showing the path of the truck.

"We are dedicated to helping the public to where they need to go during our winter storms," said Kyle Lester, director of maintenance. "We are constantly looking for ways to use technology — like this AVL system — to help improve our operations and therefore provide better service to travelers."

In addition to helping the public observe plow locations, the AVL system also generates real-time notifications to CDOT on how the plow is functioning. This will make it easier for CDOT crews to manage the fleet, direct plows to the areas where they are needed most and keep more plows on the road by addressing mechanical issues as quickly as possible.

DINNER SPECIALS

Wednesdays after 4 pm

<p>Feb. 3 Peel-and-Eat Steamed Shrimp <i>all you can eat</i> \$20</p>	<p>Feb. 10 Pork Baby Back Ribs <i>all you can eat</i> \$20</p>
<p>Feb. 17 Snow Crab Legs <i>all you can eat</i> \$25</p>	<p>Feb. 24 Wings 75¢ each <i>Buffalo, Hot or BBQ</i></p>

Wednesday specials include salad and fries

- Cocktails from Fresh-squeezed Fruit
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Pagosa Fire Protection District recognizes volunteers

By Jasmin Wampler
Special to The PREVIEW

The Pagosa Fire Protection District held its annual appreciation dinner on Sunday, Jan. 31. Each year, volunteer firefighters are recognized for the service and dedication they offer the department and the community.

At the dinner, awards were presented to Scott Carpenter for Firefighter of the Year and Jared Wirth for Rookie of the Year.

Awards were given to three outstanding firefighters that signify work and effort beyond what is normally expected of a volunteer: Marvin Johnson, recipient of the Training Officer Award; Bill Crouse, recipient of the Public Education Award; and Ryan Hujus, recipient of the Operations Award.

Chief Diane Bower and Assistant Chief Randy Larson honored and recognized several firefighters for their years of service and dedication.

Pagosa Springs firefighters are the definition of courage and dedication. They leave their job at a moment's notice or put down their children and rush to the scene of an emergency, placing themselves in harm's way for the sake of, quite often, a complete stranger's life.

These awards recognize the time



Photo courtesy Jasmin Wampler

The Pagosa Fire Protection District honors outstanding firefighters for work and effort beyond normal expectations. Pictured, left to right, Assistant Chief Randy Larson, Public Education Award recipient Bill Crouse, Training Officer Award recipient Marvin Johnson, Operations Award recipient Ryan Hujus and Training Officer Colton Calavan.

and effort that goes into hundreds of hours of training that these men

and women put forth, all the dinners they miss or the time away

from their family because of their dedication to helping others.

Obituaries



Margaret Ann (Vandiver) Love Cude

Margaret Ann (Vandiver) Love Cude, 98, formerly of Beeville, Texas, passed away Tuesday, Feb. 2, at her home in Pagosa Springs due to complications from a fall.

Margaret was born near Oglesby, Texas, on Nov. 17, 1917, to Charles Alec and Mellie (Roe) Vandiver, who farmed and ranched in rural Central Texas. She was the oldest of five children and grew up in Coryell County.

She married James (Jack) Love Feb. 6, 1937, in Coryell County and they moved to Beeville to begin farming and ranching. Jack passed away in 1984. Margaret married Bill Cude, a neighbor and close family friend, on March 11, 1988. Bill

passed away July 9, 2004. Margaret moved to Pagosa Springs in 2006 to be closer to her son, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Margaret was a true homemaker who gardened and canned the vegetables she grew for many years. She also sewed prolifically, making dozens of quilts and crocheted blankets, and she embroidered any number of items for herself and others. She was a longtime member of the First United Methodist Church of Beeville and volunteered for many years in the beauty shop at Hacienda Oaks Nursing Home.

She is survived by a son, George Van, and daughter-in-law, Jan V. Love, of Pagosa Springs; two stepdaughters, Kay Cude Past (Al), of Beeville, Texas, and Catherine Cude Young (Alan), of Blackfoot, Idaho; a sister, Peggy Albeck, of Pensacola, Fla., and a brother, Charles Ernest Vandiver, of Gatesville, Texas; granddaughter Alisha Love Buchser, of Delta, Colo.; and numerous grandchildren, nieces and nephews, great-grandchildren and great-nieces and great-nephews, and great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents and two brothers, Dan Vandiver and George Vandiver.

The funeral service will be held Saturday at 2 p.m., Feb. 13, at Galway Funeral Home in Beeville, with visitation Friday afternoon from 5 to 7 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, the family sug-

gests that memorial donations be made to the South Texas Children's Home (P.O. Box 1210, Beeville, TX 78104), the First United Methodist Church (106 E. Cleveland St, Beeville, TX 78102) or the American Cancer Society.



Orlando Isaac Martinez

Orlando Isaac Martinez went home with our Lord on Jan. 22. He was born on Jan. 27, 1949, in Pagosa Springs, Colo., to Jesus and Maria Martinez.

Orlando attended the local schools, where he enjoyed playing basketball and was one of the star players during his high school years. After graduating in 1967, he attended Adams State College in

Alamosa, Colo.

After college, Orlando moved to Westminster, Colo., where he worked and raised his two sons, Jerome and Timothy Martinez. He enjoyed teaching and playing sports with them. Orlando enjoyed and had fun watching his sons bowl.

He is survived by his two sons, Jerome and Timothy Martinez, from Westminster, Colo.; brothers Benerito Martinez, from Farmington, N.M., Jose Daniel and Manuel Martinez, from Henderson, Nev.; sister Cecilia Campbell, from Bloomfield, N.M.; nine nephews and nieces; and many friends who loved and will miss Orlando.

Orlando was preceded in death by his parents, Jesus and Maria Martinez, grandma Sheila Fernandez and brother Demetrio Martinez.

A celebration of life will be held this spring or early summer in Pagosa Springs.

Obituaries

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

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

fax: (970) 264-2103
Deadline is 1 p.m. Tuesday for the following Thursday's edition. The SUN reserves the right to edit all submissions.

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In Memoriam

Clifford E. Lucero

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He never looked for praises, he was never one to boast. He just went on quietly working for the ones he loved the most.

His dreams were seldom spoken, his wants were very few. And most of the time his worries went unspoken, too.

He was there ... a firm foundation through all our storms of life. A sturdy hand to hold onto in times of stress and strife.

A true friend we could turn to when times were good or bad. One of our greatest blessings the man that we called Dad.

We love and miss you,

Eliza; children: Alberta, Bernie, Guzman, Madeline, Clifford, Jimmy, Lucille; spouses; grandchildren; and great-grandchildren

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PIRATE PRIDE



Photos courtesy Michael Pierce
Pagosa's youngest cheerleaders take to the court for a halftime performance at Saturday evening's Pirate basketball game. In yearly tradition, the Pirate cheerleaders held a cheer camp for future cheerleaders, and the youngsters were eager to show off what they'd learned during the basketball game.



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LEGISLATURE

Brown reports from the General Assembly

Congratulations, Denver Broncos! The past two weeks at the legislature have been filled with Bronco mania. Everyone was very positive that the Broncos would win the Super Bowl and, now that it is done, we will revel in the win.

It has been a great two weeks for me, also. My off-highway vehicle bill, HB16-1030, was approved unanimously by another committee, the Finance Committee, where it met its death last year. It will be debated on the House floor on second readings this week and then will be voted on for final passage. I feel good about it because we have been able to work with all of the stakeholders and work out any differences. It is bipartisan in that I have a Democrat co-prime sponsor, Rep. Lois Court, who is also chair of the Finance Committee.

My bill to allow counties to approve and license medical marijuana testing facilities, HB16-1064, was passed out of the House Local Government Committee unanimously. The La Plata County commissioners asked me to run this bill. It is actually a cleanup bill from last session. Marijuana businesses have a dual approval process under the law in Colorado. Both the state and local jurisdictions must approve any business related to marijuana. In the law passed in 2015, local



Rep. Brown's Report

approval was left out for medical marijuana testing facilities. Under the state Constitution, marijuana is legal in Colorado. My bill will allow testing facilities so that consumers know what they are buying.

HB16-1083 is a bill I am running for Western State Colorado University that redefines the role and mission of that university to align closer to that of other Colorado universities.

I also introduced the South Platte River Water Storage bill. It has not been assigned to a committee yet. This bill will study water storage sites on the main stem of the South Platte, as well as its tributaries that have been proposed in the past. The bill requires the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) and the state water engineer to estimate the amount of water that could be

stored at each site, what it would cost to build each site, including the cost of land that must be acquired, any other costs associated with each site and a cost/benefit analysis of each site. The study will also gather the information on the amount of water that has wasted out of state on the South Platte to Nebraska that we could have stored in the past 20 years.

Water storage on the South Platte will have many benefits, No. 1 being that it will take the pressure off of diverting more water from the West Slope across the Continental Divide to the Front Range. It would also provide water to allow the Denver aquifer to be recharged and would stop the need to buy agriculture water, thus conserving and increasing agricultural production — among other benefits.

Town provides funding to Habitat for Humanity

By Jim Garrett
Staff Writer

At its meeting on Feb. 2, Town Council agreed to allocate \$15,000 to help meet the general operating expenses of Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County.

The money will come from the total of \$50,000 previously appropriated by council in the town's 2016 budget for Early Childhood/Attainable Housing Initiatives as part of its economic development strategy.

In presenting the proposed funding resolution, Town Manager Greg Schulte recounted that the budgetary appropriation providing the source for potential Habitat funding was approved last November in part pursuant to council's goal of promoting attainable local workforce housing. Consistent with that objective, he noted in prepared materials submitted to council that Habitat "is dedicated to eliminating poverty housing in Archuleta County by building decent, simple and affordable homes for families and individuals earn-

ing 20% - 60% of the area median income."

In support of the request for funding by the town, Habitat board chairman Kyle Cox described the organization's overall program to develop family housing in the area.

He explained the program includes two components: construction annually of a new home and repairs of existing homes. Cox noted that while Habitat has not constructed any new homes in the downtown area, it has done several rehabs, and foresees doing an additional two or more in 2016.

Council member Tracy Bunning commented that council's intent in budgeting for economic development was to target projects having impact in the town.

Fellow council member David Schanzenbaker concurred, but noted the value of Habitat's commitment to rehabilitations, as there are "a lot of older homes downtown that certainly can use some help."

Cox noted that an impediment to new construction downtown is the limited availability of suitable lots at an affordable price. He said

the organization is simply better able to acquire building sites uptown, and stated it would be happy to undertake building a new home downtown if a site became available.

Cox agreed to Mayor Don Volger's suggestion that Habitat's executive director could supply valuable input in working with the town in developing approaches for expansion of the stock of affordable housing in the community.

In a written submission accompanying his presentation, Cox informed council that since 1995, Habitat has constructed and rehabilitated 43 properties, whose occupants have paid approximately \$100,000 in property taxes since taking possession. In addition, overall neighborhood improvement has been a byproduct of the work.

Beneficiaries are low-wage earners of limited means. They are provided counseling in responsible home ownership and support in building self-sufficiency. Consequently, Cox said, Habitat has and will continue to contribute to the

availability of affordable housing in the community consistent with council's goal.

Turning to the organization's need for financial support, Cox told council that Habitat's projects are not "giveaways." Beneficiaries are not expected to pay for their properties through interest-free mortgage loans.

But, while costs may be subject to recovery and projects use volunteer labor to the extent possible, out-of-pocket expenses to complete projects and provide organizational oversight are unavoidable.

Information supplied to council indicated that Habitat's budget for operations in the 2015-2016 fiscal year is approximately \$228,000. Multiple sources relied upon by Habitat for its funding were identified.

Cox acknowledged that support has not been received from Archuleta County, but agreed with suggestions made by council members before approving the funding request that that is a logical step for the organization to pursue.
jim@pagosahun.com

Public Meetings

The following meetings are subject to change.

Tuesday, Feb. 16

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

Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners regular meeting. 1:30 p.m., Archuleta County

administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St.

Pagosa Fire Protection District regular board meeting. 6:30 p.m., training room at Station 1, 191 N. Pagosa Blvd.

Wednesday, Feb. 17

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

Thursday, Feb. 18

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

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

Tuesday, Feb. 23

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.

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

Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation work session. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. First Southwest Bank, 249 Navajo Trail Drive.

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

Clerk and recorder gives year-end report

By Marshall Dunham
Staff Writer

At the Feb. 2 regular meeting of the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners, Archuleta County Clerk and Recorder June Madrid gave a year-end report for 2015 to the board.

Documentation used during the report states that the clerk and recorder budget came in under budget by about \$21,500 for the motor vehicle and recording parts of the budget, and that revenues increased by roughly \$130,000.

The documentation goes on to explain that this is "due to the fact we didn't move on with the next step of digitizing microfiche."

The goal is to digitize microfiche from 1985 to 1997, states the documentation, adding that the goal is to complete the project this year.

The documentation also states that things were going well for the Motor Vehicle Department.

"We are increasing in work load between 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. when we close the doors, so we know things are picking up," the report states.

Sales tax for the Motor Vehicle Department is up \$150,000 over the last five years, the report reads.

As far as elections is concerned, the report states that elections came in under budget by \$25,000.

Additionally, the report states that the Secretary of State has chosen and approved switching to a universal voting system (UVS).

The UVS is expected to have a lifespan of 10 years and was originally going to cost about \$115,000.

"Now, because of financial situations with smaller and medium sized counties, the State has agreed

to pick up part of the cost," the report states. "Our cost may go down as low as \$6-8,000."

The report concludes by stating that the Election's Office wouldn't

go into a presidential election with new equipment, and that the county would know more and budget accordingly for the 2017 election.
marshall@pagosahun.com

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Business

CHAMBER NEWS

More than \$5,000 raised for charity in Penguin Plunge

By Clint Alley
SUN Columnist

We would like to thank all the people who came out for Winterfest last weekend. It was a beautiful weekend for the balloons and for everyone who participated in the Anything Goes Downhill Sled Race, plus other activities like the broom-ball tournament, Barkus Mardi Gras Parade, "Souper Bowl" Empty Bowls lunch and more.

The Penguin Plunge was once again a success, with nearly \$5,000 being raised for local nonprofits. Brandon Eggleston raised \$1,352 for the Pagosa Multi-Purpose Pavilion;

Allegra Maren, Patrick White and Phil Rosenstein raised \$2,116 for the Humane Society; Aaron Aucoin and Ebanie Wilkins raised \$893 for the Pagosa Springs Youth Football Association; and Tiffany Candelaria and Brandon Thompson raised \$295 for Our Savior Lutheran Preschool.

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

Business Bites will be held on Feb. 29. The topic will be Quickbooks and Bart Mitchell will be the presenter. Please join us in the Ross Aragon

Community Center South Conference Room for the class. The cost will be \$20 for members and \$25 for nonmembers. Please call the Chamber at 264-2360 to reserve your spot.

The Chamber's next large event will be the eighth annual Pagosa Car Show on June 10, 11 and 12. We already have people registering their cars for the event. Please visit our event page at pagosachamber.com or call 264-2360 for more information or to register your cars.

Member news

Our next Maximizing your Membership class is Monday, Feb. 22, 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 to reserve your spot; space is limited. To RSVP, contact us at 264-2360 or email admin@pagosachamber.com.

We would like to thank renewing members: Pagosa Realty Rentals LLC and Shang Hai Chinese Restaurant.

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.

County's December unemployment rate decreases to 3.3 percent

By Marshall Dunham
Staff Writer

Archuleta County finished the year strong with its unemployment situation, with December unemployment decreasing two-tenths of a percentage point from November, and decreasing 1.5 percent from the previous year.

According to a report issued on Jan. 26 by the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment, the unemployment rate in Archuleta County decreased by two-tenths of a percentage point from the previous month. In November, the unemployment rate was 3.5 percent, with the rate decreasing to 3.3 percent in December.

In December, the overall labor task force was 6,109, with 5,906 people being employed and 203 claiming unemployment.

In November, the overall labor task force was 6,095, with 5,883 people being employed and 212 claiming unemployment.

Over the year, Archuleta County's unemployment rate fell 1.5 percentage points, decreasing from 4.8 percent in 2014 to 3.3 percent in 2015.

In December of 2014, the overall labor task force was 5,574, with 5,304 having jobs and 270 claiming unemployment.

Looking at December of 2015's employment situation for the rest of the state, Huerfano County had the highest unemployment rate for the month at 7.4 percent, while Baca County and Summit County had the lowest rate at 1.6 percent.

According to the survey of households, the unemployment rate for the state decreased one-tenth of a percentage point in December to 3.5 percent.

Across the state, the number of people participating in the labor force increased by 7,600 people, bringing the total to 2,819,100.

Total employment also increased by 10,200, bringing the total to 2,719,800. The amount of people unemployed decreased 2,600, causing the unemployment rate to drop to 3.5 percent.

Over the year, the unemployment rate for Colorado dropped seven-tenths of a percentage point, decreasing from 4.2 percent in 2014 to 3.5 percent in 2015, and is at its lowest level since April 2007.

The number of Coloradans participating in the labor force decreased 5,100, total employment increased 15,200 and the number of unemployed decreased 20,300.

In comparison, the national unemployment rate declined from 5.6 to 5 percent from December 2014 to December 2015.

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

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

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

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

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

According to the survey of business establishments, nonfarm payroll jobs increased by 10,700 over the month to amount to 2,539,400. Private sector payroll jobs increased

10,000 and government increased 700.

The largest over-the-month private sector job gains were in construction, leisure and hospitality, and manufacturing. The only over-the-month decline was in mining and logging.

Over the year, nonfarm payroll jobs increased 46,600, with an increase of 41,300 in the private sector and an increase of 5,300 in government.

The largest private sector job gains were in leisure and hospitality, construction, and education and health

services. The largest private sector job declines were in professional and business services, information, and mining and logging.

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

Over the year, the average work-week for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls decreased from 34.1 to 33.4 hours, with average hourly earnings increasing from \$26.44 to \$27.15.

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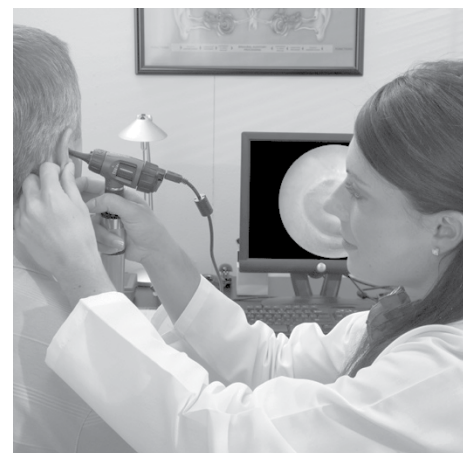
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Love

■ Continued from front

and eats, it just never really ..."

Her words trail off as she locks eyes with Mike. These wordless conversations happen between them often.

Mike lost his wife, also named Julie, last April after an exhaustive battle with breast cancer. Up until December of last year, Mike told himself they were going to be alright.

"I think you just go numb. It's weird how your life changes and it's normal now to be in the hospital all the time, and all these things that you just can't imagine you would be going through," he said.

Mike's late wife was loved deeply and her death was felt and mourned by the Pagosa Springs community and beyond.

For Mike, it is difficult to even begin to describe the loss of his wife, which perhaps is why it is so essential that his bride-to-be understands his heart on a level that doesn't require speech.

Their love story began unexpectedly last summer. Mike, a local real estate broker, was showing a visitor from Tulsa, Okla., around town.

The usual questions surfaced about life in Pagosa and Mike's family.

Upon hearing that he was widowed, the woman said, "Well I have the perfect person for you to meet."

A bit shocked by the abrasive declaration, Mike brushed it off and proceeded to tune her out most of the day.

Little did he know, Julie was celebrating her birthday at home in Missouri when she received a text saying, "I'm in the truck with your future husband."

Both Mike and Julie laugh about that day, describing their (now) mutual friend Laura fondly as big-hearted, but a bit pushy.

It wasn't until later that Laura mentioned the mystery woman's name to Mike for the first time — Julie Rae.

Mike was stunned. Julie — the significance of the name begs no explanation. Rae — the middle name of Mike's daughter, mother-in-law and sister.

"It was really shocking. It rattled me enough and I looked at her and I said, 'You can give her my number, but I'm not gonna call her,'" Mike said.

Julie texted Mike the same day, thinking that perhaps she could help him navigate the loss of his spouse.

A regular texting relationship formed between the two, initially focused on their similar histories, but eventually developing into a different connection, one that was both fairly instant and incredibly natural.

In late summer, after a few months of correspondence, something shifted for Mike.

He vividly remembers being at church under a heavy fog, one that weighed upon him constantly after Julie's death. The next day, out of nowhere, it was as if the fog had lifted.

"It was a huge change in one day ... the next day it was normal, and normal felt amazing ...," he said.

As the fog dissipated and conversations changed along with feelings, Julie decided to drive to Colorado with her friend Laura the matchmaker and meet Mike in person. It would be the first of several trips back and forth between their states.

Mike showed up that first night with flowers and a cowboy hat and, according to Julie, he had "all the perfect romantic dates lined up."

Mike whisked her way to a rustic cabin for a homemade dinner, paying close attention to detail and including her favorite things.

"The most impressive thing — he prayed first, which is something I've always wanted and didn't really have," she said.

Julie spent a full week in Pagosa, getting acquainted with Mike's

children, 13-year-old Talon and 12-year-old Rylie.

As it was with Mike, Julie's relationship with the kids developed easily and naturally.

Mike recalls watching Julie walk around the house looking at photos and talking with Rylie about her mom.

"She was talking with Rylie about Julie as if they were friends, in a way that was just amazing," said Mike.

Julie considers it a privilege, knowing how important it is to keep their loved ones alive in the memory of their children.

"And I think you even said that," Mike remembered, "How could you not be honored to have a day with Julie's kids, because there is nothing she wouldn't have done to spend another day with them."

Mike and Julie each have two children.

Julie's son Zach was two years old when she met Richie. Shortly after they found the brain tumor, the doctors warned that they had only a short window of time to have another child before Richie began chemo and radiation.

"So, we had our daughter, who looks and acts exactly like him; so he is never really gone because she is him," Julie smiled.

Even in the midst of treatment, Richie refused to miss the birth of his daughter, Jade.

"He came from one hospital to the next, bald and sick, but he was there."

At one point, Richie went into remission just as Julie Rae was diagnosed with cancer. The ordeal proved Richie to be a strong and selfless man.

"I remember him saying when I got sick, 'I've been praying if God would just cure you, he can give it back to me.' And that was so hard for me to hear. I said, 'No, no, stop praying that.' And that's exactly what happened. I was fine and he got sick again."

Julie Rae brought Richie to the

Christian faith, just as Julie Knapp did for Mike.

Faith and family are at the center of this story.

During the service celebrating Julie Knapp's life, a friend said, "She had that effect, the Julie effect. She had that spark that she carried with her that can't help but rub off on you. Rylie, you have that same spark. And Talon, you have that same spark and your mom's sense of humor. I know that radiance, that sparkle came from her relationship with God."

Mike and Julie adopted their son, Talon, from China in 2006. Initially, they had planned to adopt a little girl or a child with special needs, but their plans changed when Julie saw a picture of Talon and felt immediately connected to him.

Mike remembers receiving a phone call from Julie adamantly urging him to come home one day. When he arrived, she showed him the picture of Talon, knowing

he was meant to be a part of their family.

Like so many other things that link Julie Knapp and Julie Rae together, both women felt an instant love for Talon.

When Julie Rae first saw Talon's picture, Mike was taken back to the day he got that memorable phone call.

"The way she [Julie Rae] talked about him, it wasn't exactly the same, but it was so similar to hear her heart for Talon," Mike shared.

Their romance is filled with moments like these, threads of connection divinely woven together. The couple firmly believes it was God who ultimately orchestrated it all.

"There were just so many things that we knew it was God, because it certainly wasn't me," Julie said.

They also know that Julie Knapp's prayers played a role.

Jade once said, "Mom, it occurred to me that Julie is the one that has been praying for you and

wanted the right person to come into her kids' life."

Last month, on a sled dog tour at sunset, Mike made it official by getting down on one knee.

Now, with so many battles behind them, the couple is looking to the possibilities of the future with hope and excitement.

"I'm excited about everything, sometimes I wake up in the night because I'm just so excited. I'm excited to be a mom again and ... everything about him," Julie said with a sly smile in Mike's direction.

It is not as if life will be without battles from this point forward. Inevitably, there will still be struggles of the heart — missing those they've lost, fending off guilt at various turns of happiness and building a new life interlaced with the old.

But if ever there were a truth to be found in their story, it is that from the ashes of grief and loss, beautiful things still arise.

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Trail

■ Continued from front

Town-to-Lakes Trail. Phase I would be limited to construction of a 1.5-mile trail on the west side of town, running from the elementary school on South 10th Street to the high school.

Single-track trails, as described to council by DUST2 president Annie Sewell, are professionally designed, "engineered," low-maintenance dirt trails of up to 3-foot width, carved out of urban open spaces. A system cited by DUST2 as a model has been established in Eagle, Colo. According to Sewell, that system not only provides outdoor recreation for local residents, but has also become a tourist attraction.

As envisioned by Sewell, the local trail system would be available generally for use by Pagosa residents and visitors. It would also be utilized by youth mountain biking programs and by the high school cross-country team. Sewell emphasized to council that DUST2 hoped to be able to mobilize volunteer resources from the community substantially to meet maintenance needs.

In an interview with The SUN on Feb. 8, Sewell explained that an engineered trail is one designed to utilize course and grade variations over the natural terrain effectively to provide good drainage and include features such as curves and rolls. She stated that engineered single-track trail systems are "user-friendly," and have been shown to reduce maintenance demands while providing users "a sense of adventure and fun."

Sewell stated that contacts by DUST2 with references from the experienced and well-regarded contractor prospectively selected to construct the trails verified their experience that trail maintenance has been low.

In her appearance before council, Sewell noted that DUST2's concepts are consistent with recent actions by the state of Colorado expanding its commitment to development of outdoor recreation. She reported that the state has made \$100 million available for that purpose through the Colorado the Beautiful Initiative.

Sewell quoted Gov. John Hickenlooper, who pronounced an objective that "within one generation, every Coloradan will live within a 10-minute walk of a park, trail or open space."

During the Feb. 2 meeting, Schulte suggested to council that support for the proposed trail network appeared to promote its existing Goals and Objectives adopted for 2016. He referred initially to Goal No. 1 delineated by council, to "Define and Foster Pagosa's Unique Character and Sense of Place." The goal was tied by council in its specific Objective 1.1 to completion of the Town-to-Lakes Trail, which Schulte observed will be complemented by the urban single-track system, as both will have a terminus near the elementary school.

In addition, Schulte commented that the plan was consistent with council's third goal, "Promoting a Vital Local Economy by Supporting Economic Development and Tourism."

Finally, he reported also that the urban single-track trails concept had been ranked by the town's Parks and Recreation Commission as its No. 1 priority for the community.

Schulte told council that construction of the first phase of the trail, including two road crossings, is currently estimated to cost up to \$40,000, likely during the year 2017. A proposal of approximately \$14,000 for the 1.5-mile trail has been received from the contractor

identified by DUST2, but costs for the road crossings remain to be determined.

Council members reacted favorably to the DUST2 plan.

Kathie Lattin declared her 100-percent support and David Schanzenbaker said he "loved everything I'm hearing" and thanked Sewell and DUST2 for their hard work.

Councilman Clint Alley praised the plan as an "easy sell." Alley noted that conveniently accessible outdoor recreation facilities are the sort of amenities that attract and hold families, and contribute to the growth of the community.

At the end of the discussion, Mayor Don Volger conducted an informal poll of the audience and found the plan was supported by all present. He commented he believed broad support would be voiced, but didn't want to assume without taking the poll.

Specific action taken by council relating to DUST2 at its meeting included approval of two resolutions. The first committed the town to a policy calling for consideration of any potential impact on the future implementation of the trails network before relinquishing any of its current rights in real property. This specific policy is to be formally adopted by council in a future resolution to be prepared by town staff.

The second resolution approved the town's participation in Phase I by allowing use of town property, accepting an easement on a needed parcel of property, agreeing to budget in the future needed funds in the suggested amounts, committing to provide future maintenance to the completed trail to supplement volunteer efforts as needed, and committing to coordination with the school district in implementing the project.

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Suit

■ Continued from front

Shouse's suit contends that he developed a pressure sore in late June 2013 while under Mercy's care, which was inadequately treated by Mercy personnel who came to his home. The sore became progressively worse over a period of several weeks. Ultimately, the suit alleges that Shouse independently sought emergency room treatment on July 24.

The suit contends that, by the time Shouse obtained emergency care, his sore was life-threatening, with an infection that needed several surgeries to cure.

It alleges this resulted from Mercy's deliberate departure from sound policies and practices for management of home health care, and reckless disregard of Shouse's deteriorating condition.

The recent pleading filed by Shouse's attorney in district court seeks permission to amend the pending complaint against Mercy.

The prospective amendment would include a request for recovery of "punitive" damages, which would constitute a sort of punishment for deliberate or reckless wrongful conduct that could be imposed in any ultimate judgment in the suit.

The pleading argues the amendment is justified because the home health care agency's practices uncovered during discovery depositions of Mercy's employees conducted in the suit are dangerous to patients. It also contends that expenses for Shouse's emergency medical care unnecessarily burdened Colorado taxpayers. It claims this resulted from Mercy's "abject failure or refusal to acknowledge, train, and follow their own internal policies and procedures" in Shouse's care.

In response to a request for comment on Shouse's recent allegations, David Bruzzese, a spokesman for Mercy Regional Medical Center, said Mercy was unable to

"discuss specifics of this case due to federal patient privacy laws."

However, he observed that, "Ensuring patient safety and providing the highest quality home care services have always been Mercy Home Health's top priorities. Mercy Home Health adheres to all internal policies, procedures and protocols, as well as the standards of care set forth by The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and The Joint Commission. Joint Commission accreditation and certification is recognized nationwide as a symbol of quality."

Bruzzese also noted that Mercy has been frequently recognized by independent agencies for its quality care and sound professional practices.

He stated, "Over the last 30 years, Mercy Home Health has provided high quality home care services to over 10,000 patients in southwest Colorado."

jim@pagosason.com

Sales

■ Continued from front

Breaking the sales tax report down by sector, revenue generated by retail trade went from \$3,451,249 in 2014 to \$4,261,147 in 2015, for an increase of \$809,898 or 23.5 percent.

Revenue generated by accommodations and food service went from \$1,293,417 in 2014 to \$1,503,534 in 2015, for an increase of \$210,117 or 16.2 percent.

Arts, entertainment and recreation, a sector of the local economy that is greatly influenced by tourism, went from \$74,646 in 2014 to \$81,959 in 2015 — an increase of \$7,312.

The real estate industry garnered \$246,377, an increase of \$60,423, while the construction industry contributed \$166,154, for a decrease of \$1,388 compared to the previous year.

Wholesale trade brought in \$328,270 — an increase of \$36,122; manufacturing brought in \$394,512, with an increase of \$54,528; and mining brought in \$117,279, with

an increase of \$24,079 compared to the previous year.

The information industry garnered \$316,264, with a decrease of \$428 from the previous year.

Professional, scientific and technical services contributed \$30,081 — an increase of \$3,870.

Administrative, support, waste management and remediation services generated \$21,506, for a decrease of \$29,562 over the previous year.

December

The total sales tax collection in December for Archuleta County was \$785,630.30, according to Walton, with the town and county each receiving \$392,815.15.

Strictly for the month of December, revenue generated by retail trade went from \$344,428 in 2014 to \$423,967 in 2015, for an increase of \$79,539.

Revenue generated by accommodations and food service went from \$112,869 in December 2014 to \$113,545 in December 2015, for

an increase of \$676.

Arts, entertainment and recreation went from \$12,725 in 2014 to \$12,465 in 2015 — a decrease of \$260.

The real estate industry totaled \$38,190, an increase of \$2,663, while the construction industry contributed \$14,766, for a decrease of \$7,108 compared to the previous year.

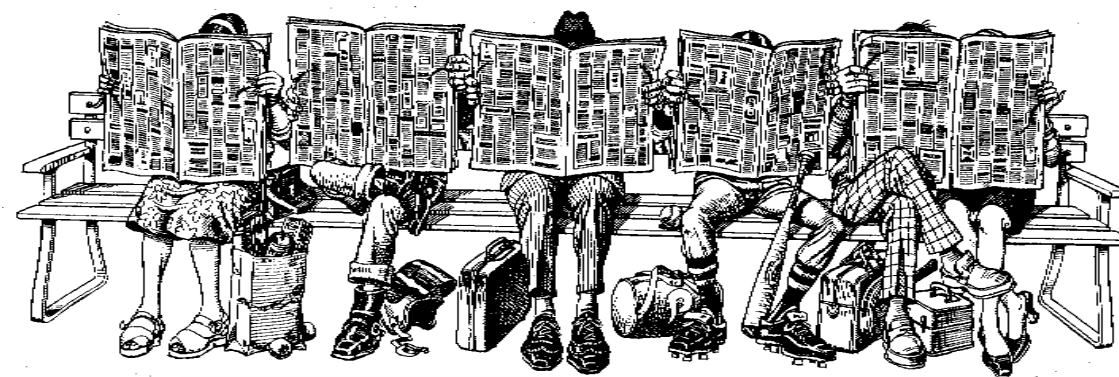
Wholesale trade brought in \$23,004 — an increase of \$1,000; manufacturing brought in \$32,667, with an increase of \$2,735; and mining brought in \$6,836, with an increase of \$2,848 compared to the previous year.

The information industry garnered \$25,283, with a decrease of \$1,702 from the previous year.

Professional, scientific and technical services contributed \$2,410, — an increase of \$313.

Administrative, support, waste management and remediation services generated \$2,527, for an increase of \$696 over the previous year. marshall@pagosason.com

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Special districts seek candidates for May 3 election

By Jim Garrett
Staff Writer

A number of special districts are seeking nominations for board seats to be voted on in elections on Tuesday, May 3. In addition, the San Juan Water Conservancy District is soliciting applications for appointment of directors.

The following districts have submitted notice of their elections to The SUN. Details concerning each of these district elections, including how to obtain Self-Nomination and Acceptance (SNA) forms, are summarized below.

Los Pinos Fire Protection District

The Los Pinos Fire Protection District (LPPFD), serving La Plata and Archuleta counties, seeks to elect three directors to its board to serve four-year terms.

Eligible electors of the LPPFD interested in serving on the board may obtain a SNA form from the district designated election official (DEO), Larry Behrens, at 275 Browning Ave., Ignacio, CO 81137, (970) 563-9501. The office of the DEO is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The deadline to submit an SNA is close of business on Feb. 26.

Affidavit of Intent To Be A Write-In-Candidate forms must be submitted to the DEO office by the close of business on Monday, Feb. 29.

Requests by electors for an absentee ballot shall be filed with the DEO no later than the close of business on Friday, April 29.

Pagosa Fire Protection District

The Pagosa Fire Protection District (PPFD) seeks to elect two directors to its board to serve four-year terms.

Eligible electors of the PPFD interested in serving on the board of directors may obtain a SNA form from the DEO, Diane Bower, at 191 North Pagosa Blvd. The office of the DEO is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The deadline to submit an SNA is close of business on Feb. 26.

Requests by electors for an absentee ballot shall be filed with the DEO no later than the close of business on Friday, April 29.

Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District

The Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District seeks to elect three directors to its board to serve four-year terms.

Eligible electors of the district interested in serving on the board can obtain SNA forms from Renee Lewis, DEO, at 100 Lyn Ave. between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

SNA forms must be filed with the DEO for the district during business hours at the above address no fewer than 67 days prior to the election (Friday, Feb. 26).

Requests by electors for absentee ballots must be filed with Lewis between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. until the close of business on

the Friday immediately preceding the election (Friday, April 29).

Upper San Juan Health Service District

The Upper San Juan Health Service District (USJHSD) seeks to elect three directors to its board to serve four-year terms.

Eligible electors of the USJHSD interested in serving on the board must obtain SNA forms from Jodi Scarpa, DEO, at 95 S. Pagosa Blvd. The office of the DEO is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

All SNA forms must be submitted and received by Scarpa before 5 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 26.

Affidavit of Intent To Be A Write-In-Candidate forms must be submitted and received by Scarpa no later than 5 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 29.

Requests by electors for absentee ballots must be filed with the DEO by 5 p.m. Friday, April 29.

Colorado's Timber Ridge Metropolitan District

Colorado's Timber Ridge Metropolitan District will hold a mail-in ballot election to elect two directors to serve four-year terms and two directors to serve two-year terms.

Eligible electors of the district interested in serving on the board may obtain a SNA form from DEO Ivo Brieven, 1428 Cool Pines Drive, 731-2678, or email ivobrieven@ctrmd.org. The office of the DEO is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The deadline to submit an SNA is close of business on Feb. 26.

Affidavit of Intent To Be A Write-In-Candidate forms must be submitted to the office of the DEO by the close of business on Monday, Feb. 29.

Requests by electors for an absentee ballot shall be filed with the DEO no later than the close of business on Tuesday, April 26, if the ballot is to be mailed to the elector, or until the close of business on the Friday, April 29.

Alpha-Rockridge Metropolitan District

Alpha-Rockridge Metropolitan District is seeking two directors to serve four-year terms and two directors to serve two-year terms.

Eligible electors interested in serving on the board may obtain a SNA form on the district's website, alparockridgeroaddistrict.com.

The deadline to submit a SNA form is Friday, Feb. 26. The DEO may be contacted by calling (505) 486-1437.

Affidavit of Intent to be a Write-In Candidate forms must be mailed to the DEO at 1 Alpha Drive by Monday, Feb. 29.

There shall be no election precinct or polling place. All ballots shall be returned by mail to Lansdale at the above address and received no later than Election Day, May 3.

Loma Linda Metropolitan District

The Loma Linda Metropolitan

District seeks to elect three directors to its board to serve four-year terms and one director for a two-year term.

Eligible electors of the district interested in serving on the board can obtain SNA forms from Bill Trimarco, DEO, at 1252 Loma Linda Drive, 264-0430, billt@centurytel.net, as well as from Tonya McCann, consultant/administrative assistant for the district, by emailing lomalindametrodistps.sec@gmail.com.

SNA forms must be filed by mail with the DEO at the above address no fewer than 67 days prior to the election (Friday, Feb. 26).

Application by electors for and return of absentee ballots may be made to Trimarco between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. no later than Friday, April 29.

Aspen Springs Metropolitan District

The Aspen Springs Metropolitan District (ASMD) will hold a mail-in election to elect three directors to serve four-year terms.

Eligible electors of ASMD interested in serving on the board may obtain an SNA form on the district website, www.aspenspringsmetro.org, or from Kelly Evans, DEO. Evans may be contacted by mail, telephone or email at PO Box 488, 903-7915 or info@aspenspringsmetro.org.

The deadline to submit an SNA form is 3 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 26.

Affidavit of Intent To Be A Write-In-Candidate forms must be submitted to the office of the DEO by the close of business on Monday, Feb. 29.

Colorado registered voters in the ASMD will receive mail-in ballots. All Colorado registered voters owning property in the ASMD but living outside of the district can submit an application for a mail-in ballot to the DEO no later than the close of business on Friday, April 29. However, if the applicant wishes to receive the mail-in ballot by mail, the application shall be filed no later than the close of

business on Tuesday, April 26.

San Juan River Village Metropolitan District

The San Juan River Metropolitan District seeks to elect two directors to its board to serve four-year terms.

Eligible electors of the district interested in serving on the board can obtain SNA forms from DEO Cynthia Purcell, c/o Lisa Quiller, at 344 Lewis St. The office of the DEO is open on the following days: Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The telephone number is 264-6525.

SNA forms must be submitted to the DEO not less than 67 days prior to the election (Friday, Feb. 26).

Affidavit of Intent To Be A Write-In-Candidate forms must be submitted to the office of the DEO by the close of business on Monday, Feb. 29.

Applications for an absentee ballot must be filed with the DEO official no later than the close of business on Friday, April 29.

San Juan Water Conservancy District

Appointments of three board directors of the San Juan Water Conservancy District (SJWCD) will be required due to expiration of the terms of incumbent members on March 21.

Applications by persons eligible for appointment to the board will be received until Feb. 20. To be eligible, applicants must have resided within the district for one year, be the owner of real property within the district in Archuleta County and be knowledgeable in water matters.

Applications are being received for the director positions on an at-large basis to achieve a generally geographical representation of the district.

Resumes setting forth applicants' qualifications to serve should be sent to the Archuleta County District Court, Archuleta County Courthouse, P.O. Box 148, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147.



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Sports

BASKETBALL

Pirates go 1-1 in week's action, now 4-1 in league play

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

It was a mixed bag of results for the Pagosa Springs High School Pirate basketball team over last week, with a loss to No. 9 Alamosa and a win over Monte Vista, leaving the team in second place in the Intermountain League with a 4-1 league record.

Alamosa and Pagosa entered Friday night's game with equal records, making it a key league game for the Pirates.

"The Alamosa game was a tough and physical game," coach Randy Sorenson wrote in an email to The SUN.

While the first half of the game was nearly point-for-point between the two teams, Alamosa began to pull ahead in the second half, eventually handing the Pirates their fifth loss of the season.

"We were able to keep it to a two point game at halftime but they were able to pull away in the third and fourth quarters," Sorenson explained.

Alamosa outscored Pagosa 11-7 in the game's first quarter, but the Pirates turned the tables in the second quarter, outscoring the Mean Moose 14-12.

Unfortunately, that would be the only quarter the Pirates would outscore their visitors, with Alamosa besting Pagosa 13-8 in the third and 11-5 in the final quarter, for a 47-34 final score in favor of the Mean Moose.

"Alamosa is a good basketball team and we just did not play well enough to win," Sorenson wrote. "Turnovers hurt us and we struggled scoring the basketball."

The Pirates racked up 16 turnovers in the game, with 12 coming from steals by the Mean Moose, compared to the Mean Moose's 14 turnovers, five of which were caused by steals.

Offensively, Briar Erskine was the game's leading scorer with 16 points and one of only two players in the game to reach double digits, the other being Alamosa's Noah

Romero.

Also scoring for the Pirates were Isaiah Griego with eight points (six of which came from 3-pointers), Ethan Brown with five, Ty Kimsey with a 3-pointer and Craig Tamburelli with a pair of free throws.

The Pirates were successful seven out of nine times from the free-throw line, making for a 78-percent success rate.

A trio of Pirates notched five rebounds each in the game — Erskine, Brown and Griego. Four other Pirates also contributed to the team total of 22.

The next night, however, was more fruitful for Pagosa.

"The kids were able to bounce back on Saturday night and beat Monte Vista," Sorenson wrote. "We were able to outscore them in every quarter."

Pagosa outscored the opposing Pirates 10-7, 12-8, 15-8 and 17-11 in the game, making for a final score of 54-34 in favor of the home team.

"We were balanced offensively, getting several kids into the scoring column," Sorenson explained.

Erskine led the team with 25 points in the game, followed by Griego's 10 (which included a 3-pointer) and seven from Lane Schaaf.

Kimsey contributed four in the game, while Brown, Zach DeVooght and Keaton Laverty each scored two points.

The team was successful from the free-throw line 93 percent of the time on the night, making 13 of 14 attempts.

The coach noted that the team's "defense was also pretty solid throughout the game."

The team notched 25 total rebounds in the game, with 19 of those coming on defense.

Erskine led with eight rebounds, while a trio of Pagosa Pirates each contributed four rebounds.

Pagosa turned the ball over 10 times in the game.

Pagosa now holds an 11-5 overall record and 4-1 IML mark, putting them second in the league



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Pirate Isaiah Griego goes up for a shot during Friday evening's 47-34 loss to the Alamosa Mean Moose. Griego scored eight in the loss, including a pair of 3-pointers. With 192 points scored on the season, Griego is averaging 12 points per game for the Pirates.

behind Alamosa.

Monte Vista trails Pagosa with a 2-4 league and 6-11 overall record, followed by Bayfield at 1-4 in the IML and 7-9 overall, and Centauri at 0-4 in the IML and 3-11 overall.

This week, the Pirates will continue league play in a pair of games.

At 7 p.m. on Feb. 13, the Pirates will welcome the Centauri Falcons, and at the same time on Feb. 16 will take on the Bayfield Wolverines.

"We need to keep working hard in practice and improving each and every day," Sorenson said.

randi@pagosahun.com



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Pagosa's Briar Erskine puts up two of his 25 points during Saturday evening's victory over the visiting Monte Vista Pirates. With the win in the game, Pagosa is now 11-5 on the season. Erskine is averaging 16.3 points per game.

Lady Pirates sail to perfect 15-0 record

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

With two more wins in the last week, the Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirates now own a perfect 15-0 record on the season and remain the state's top 3A girls' basketball team.

The team also continues to sit atop the Intermountain League with a 6-0 league mark.

Friday evening, the Lady Pirates welcomed the Alamosa Mean Moose to town, then sent their opponent home with a 57-37 loss, despite the team not playing its best defense of the season.

"I didn't think our defense was as good as it needed to be," coach Wes Lewis said. "I think you've got to give Alamosa some credit, but I didn't feel like our defense was dictating the way it is capable of doing, the way it does most nights."

Too, the coach felt the team struggled offensively in the game compared to what it is capable of.

"We kind of struggled shooting the ball from the floor and, you know, the nights that you struggle shooting the ball from the floor your defense needs to be ... pretty stellar," Lewis said, later adding that the team missed several easy shots.

Despite the hiccups, Pagosa outscored Alamosa in three of the game's four quarters — 15-4 in the first, 18-10 in the third and 11-9 in the fourth. In the second quarter, Alamosa bested the Pirates 14-13.

"We just never had that dominating quarter," the coach said.

Morgan Lewis led the Lady Pirates with 20 points in the game, followed by Madi Lewis with 13 points, including a 3-pointer, and Taylor Lee-Hammer with 12 points, which included two 3-pointers.

Megan Farrah and Mariah Snarr each added five points to the team's total, with Farrah logging a 3-pointer.

The team made 11 of 18 free-throw attempts for a success rate of 62 percent.

The team turned the ball over eight times and stole the ball four times.

Morgan Lewis led the team with 10 rebounds, with six other Lady Pirates contributing to the team total of 28.

"They're not a bad basketball team," the coach said of Alamosa, adding that he feels they are better than their record shows and are strong, athletic and "extremely well coached."

With little time to dwell on the game's mistakes, the Lady Pirates were again at it the next evening, this time welcoming their Monte Vista counterparts to town.

Pagosa sailed away with that game, adding a 65-17 win to the books.

"Our defense was really dialed in tonight," Lewis said following the game, adding that the defense "just kind of took the life out of" Monte Vista.

In fact, it wasn't until the fourth quarter that Monte Vista hit double digits.

"The press was good early," Lewis noted.

Pagosa limited their visitors to three points in each of the first three quarters while scoring 28, 13 and 14, respectively. In the fourth quarter, Pagosa scored 10 while limiting Monte Vista to eight.

"Our shooting chart was a whole lot better tonight," the coach said, with the team converting shots better than the previous evening.

Morgan Lewis led the team with

24 points in the game, followed by 10 each from Madi Lewis and Lee-Hammer (who had two 3-pointers). Farrah tallied six points in the game, Devin Wilson scored five, Keena Murphey scored four, and Andie Miller and Zoe Strohecker each scored two.

The team went to the charity stripe only four times in the game, making one of those four attempts.

"They shared the ball well," Lewis said, adding that several scored. "I like that a lot better than one or two kids scoring. I like it more balanced."

Lewis noted the team also had 26 assists.

Ten different Lady Pirates contributed to the team's 32 total rebounds.

Now, the Lady Pirates will look to add three more conference wins to the book over the next week in a series of home games that are slated to begin at 5:30 p.m.

"It's a big week for us," the coach said.

Friday, Pagosa welcomes the Montezuma-Cortez Panthers — a physical, intense team with a 1-7 league record and 7-10 overall mark.

Saturday, Centauri will come to town, with the coach noting it's "always a big showdown when we face Centauri."

Centauri, the state's No. 6 3A team, is 5-2 in the IML and 14-2 overall.

Tuesday, Feb. 16, the Bayfield Wolverines will come to town. Bayfield is currently 0-6 in the IML and 4-11 overall.

"At this time of year we need to make sure we're playing well and doing what little things add up to a big thing," he said.

randi@pagosahun.com



SUN photo/
Randi Pierce

Mariah Snarr goes up for two of her five points in Friday evening's contest against the Alamosa Mean Moose. The Lady Pirates were successful in the game, 57-37, and now own a 15-0 record.



Play hard, Pirates!

WRESTLING

Pirate grapplers fall to Falcons, gear up for regionals

By Marshall Dunham
Staff Writer

In their last dual of the season, on Thursday, Feb. 4, the Pirates were defeated by the Centauri Falcons 42-27.

"It was 'Senior Night' and we honored the 6 seniors who stepped out onto our mat as a competitor for the last time: Bryan Medrano, Tanner Schlom, Tyler Cowan, Chance McReynolds, Jaden Hinger, and Dakota Todd," explained coach Dan Janowsky in an email to SUN staff. "It goes by fast."

Janowsky went on to explain that "Centauri is #2 in 2A division and a very tough opponent."

In the 145-pound division, senior Tyler Cowan won his match by getting a pin in just under three minutes.

At 152 pounds, sophomore Dalton Lucero won his match by also getting a pin.

Nolan Stretton, a sophomore wrestling in the 220-pound division, won his match by decision, scoring 10 points to his opponent's four.

"Maybe the best match of the night was Tate Hinger, who was an underdog at 126, fell behind early, but in typical fashion didn't panic, chipped away, kept the pressure on and lost a close 11-8 decision in the end," wrote the coach.

Janowsky added that, this week, the Pirates will travel to Montrose for the regional state-qualifying meet,

and that wrestlers need to place in the top four to guarantee a spot on the state tournament bracket.

"Our region is very tough," wrote the coach. "Western Slope wrestling has a LONG tradition in the sport, and some of the programs there have been in place since the 1930's so there is lots of history and tradition in the culture over there. Adding to that is the decision by CHSAA to take some of the smaller 4A schools and move them into 3A and you've got a steep hill to climb."

Teams that will participate in the tournament include Olathe, Delta and Sheridan, ranked fourth, seventh and eighth, respectively.

Rifle, Moffat County, Eagle Valley, Steamboat Springs, Cortez, Gunnison, Basalt, Coal Ridge, Grand Valley and Bayfield are expected to attend, as well.

"Currently only Dalton Lucero is ranked in the top 4 at his weight, so we are underdogs across the board, as we expected from the beginning," wrote the coach. "However, our league is very tough and we scheduled tough events the entire season to ready us for this, and though we are underdogs we are not far behind and we think ready to qualify our kids for state."

Action for the regional tournament in Montrose is slated to begin at 4 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 12, with the semifinals beginning at 9 a.m. on Saturday and the finals taking place at 2:30 p.m. Saturday afternoon.

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SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Senior Chance McReynolds grapples with his opponent under the spotlight during last Thursday's dual against the Centauri Falcons. It was the Pirates' last regular dual of the season, meaning it was also the last home matches for the team's seniors.



Photo courtesy Aaron Freed

The Pagosa Springs Middle School girls' A team finish its season 10-0, winning the San Juan Basin League championship on Saturday, Feb. 6, at Escalante Middle School in Durango. The team, coached by Yul Wilson, defeated Cortez Middle School 26-20 to bring home the championship for the third year in a row. Team members, pictured left to right, are Halie Severs, Taylor Lewis, Amelia Peshlakai, Hailey Griego, Teagan Stretton, River Pitcher, Elsa Lindner and Alondra Hernandez. The girls will be honored at half time of the boys' basketball game Saturday night in the Pagosa Springs High School gymnasium.

RECREATION NEWS

Reservoir Hill reopens following thinning project

By Darren Lewis
SUN Columnist

The thinning project on Reservoir Hill has been completed.

Reservoir Hill is open for use, however, be cautious of debris that possibly could be on the ground and even hidden under the snow.

Cleanup of debris will take place early spring, as soon as the snow melts.

Volleyball registration

Youth volleyball registration runs 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 Ross Aragon Community Center will be open Saturday, Feb. 13, 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 usage is strong, 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 the Community Center at 264-4151, ext. 231.

Recreation registration

You can register for all youth recreational sports offered through the

recreation department at any time throughout the year. Registrations for all youth sports will be located in the lobby of the Community Center.

Online registration will only be available prior to the upcoming youth sport offered at that time.

Ice skating

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

Youth basketball 9-12

Games have started for 9-12 youth basketball. The 9-10 division will play on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and the 11-12 division will play on Mondays and Wednesdays.

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Education

Rotary at work teaching in Senegal

By David Smith
Special to The SUN

How to teach STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) classes to 200 sixth-grade students in their ethnic language, Wolof? This was the challenge faced by a team of teachers participating in an education program in a rural village in Senegal, Africa.

The Pagosa Springs Rotary Club supports and manages this program.

The goal of this program is to increase participation of Senegalese students in science. Currently, approximately 20 percent of Senegalese youth pursue the science curriculum in high school, yet the Senegalese government has set a goal of 80 percent participation by the year 2025.

Although the national language of Senegal is French, most youth in this region speak Wolof at home and learn French at school. The Rotary Club team speaks French, but not Wolof.

This language problem was solved by recruiting 12 high school science students, who were then trained to teach specific projects in biology, chemistry and physics by the Rotary team speaking French.

Each member of the Rotary team had three high school teaching assistants who taught small groups of sixth-grade students in Wolof.

One biology class, developed by Linda Carlson, focused on plant growth and observations of plants using hand lenses. Students in the other biology class, developed by Rita Jensen, learned how to use microscopes to explore plant and animal cells. In the chemistry class, Jean Smith showed how to power an LED light from a battery they built using copper and zinc electrodes and oranges. The physics class, developed by David Smith, focused on the properties of permanent magnets.

The sixth-grade students showed great interest in their STEM classes. This was their first opportunity to see their own cheek cells in a microscope; their first experience playing with magnets; their first opportunity to explore the world around them using a hand lens. Their teachers said that this is a good step in fulfilling the national goal of increasing science class enrollment.

Providing the 12 high school students an opportunity to teach for a day had an unintended consequence. The Rotary team was



Photo courtesy David Smith
Pagosan and veteran teacher Rita Jensen communicates with students, even though they do not speak a common language.

impressed with the enthusiasm, skill and preparation of these student teachers. Several said that they liked teaching and will likely pursue careers teaching science.

Such aid projects are possible because many of the 1.2 million Rotarians in 200 clubs around the world give money to the Rotary

Foundation. Funds from the Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs and the Cañon City Rotary Club are used to leverage funds from the Rotary Foundation to support several international aid projects. The nonprofit Friends of Guéoul (www.gueoul.org) has been an important contributor to this program.

Middle school Honor Roll students make the grade

By Rebecca Aucoin
Special to The SUN

The following fifth-grade students made Pagosa Springs Middle School's (PSMS) Honor Roll with a perfect 4.0 grade-point average: Ethan Bergdolt, Andrew Bowles, Aidan Grimes, Dennis Kholostov, Jonathan Nasralla, Reece Peterson, Jordan Pham, Skylar Sherman and Noah Slingerland.

The following fifth-grade students made Honor Roll with a grade-point average of at least 3.285: Aaron Aucoin, Beatrice Carpenter, Braylon Cotts, Jordan Heaton, Hannah Rockensock, Kameron Winkler, Beatrice Yenez, Carson Young-Marinez, Jacob Bolger, Lynelle Bartz, Maya Cardenas, Hannah Girardin, Kali Jury, Mateo Zamudio, Jovanka Ponce de Leon, Alexis Queen, Emma Ziminsky, Anna Burk, Chelsea Casaceli, Karissa Foster, Gabriel Gallegos, Keigan Hughes, Kailee Kellum, Tucker Mashue, Jackson Swearngin, Brodie Connors, Damaris Lujan, Jasmine Castaneda, Kaylor Christians, Raymond Herrera, River Johnson, Jai Loveday, Justin Rivas, Jordan Stern and Alyx Velarde.

The following sixth-grade students made PSMS's Honor Roll with a perfect 4.0 grade-point av-

erage: Kelsey Britton, Olivia Craig, Carolyn Foster, Stehanie Gherbaz, Lilivina Gilbert, Dimitry Kholostov, Ameya Novak, Davis Parker, Lauren Peart, Michelle Saucedo, Isabella Shortridge, Anneka Slead, Isaac Syverson, Nell Taylor and Ebanie Wilkins.

The following sixth-grade students made Honor Roll with a grade-point average of at least 3.285: Wilhelm Aucoin, Jace Feirn, David Morehouse, Theo Warden, Audrey Martin, Gracie Horras, Ashley Bewley, Zane Edwards, Timothy Hittle, Lucas Huddleston, Kori Lucero, Samantha Owen, Samuel Kinsley, Jack Lane, Thomas Barker, Ashlie Elliott, Jessi Gurule, Jaden Keating, Talon Knapp, Ethan Robel, Caroline Smith, Breck Wilson, Brenna Bayles, Sophie Heidelmeier, Lexie Valdez, Taylor Capistrant, Kaden Edwards, Emy Galloway, Andre Jones, Monique Martinez, Alexis Romero, Keira Torrez, Emily Byrum-Gambill, Ryan Elliott, Skyler Hill, Madison Pacheco, Akasha Plate, Arianna Stewart and Caleb Walker.

The following seventh-grade students made PSMS's Honor Roll with a perfect 4.0 grade-point average: Ivory Carpenter, Jillian Jolley, Maya Nasralla, Elan Ramirez and Nicholas Roth.

The following seventh-grade students made Honor Roll with a grade-point average of at least 3.285: Nicole Bartz, Brae Bergdolt, Kylie Keuning, Britain Peterson, Wyatt Zeigler, Grant Aucoin, Ella Hemenger, Peyton Khung, Aidan O'Donnell, Kiera Su, Taylor Cotts, Samaya Dunn de Pulido, Sasha Hampton, Cameron Lewis, Trevor Moore, Chloe Bridges, Zoie Condre, Richard Fiedler, Cerenity Keating, Dylan Manzanares, Bridhid Parken, MaKayla Perea, River Pitcher, Sophia Raymond, Trevor Torrez, Mitchell Lewis, Tristin Bowman, Rose Buck, Makayla Collins, Cam Hinger, Elijah Olivares, Nina Smith and Sierra Smith.

The following eighth-grade students made PSMS's Honor Roll with a perfect 4.0 grade-point average: Dustin Clark, DJ Day, Rosa Exchavarria, Stefani Echavarria, Megan Foster, Gabriela Gallegos, Zachary Haines, Emma Happ, Mark Holladay, Alyssa Hubbs, Daniel Laos, Elsa Lindner, Sydney Mitchell, Kassandra Reyes, Miah Shoffner, Nathan Smith, Isaiah Stene, Teagan Stretton, Kaylee Su and Katriel Yenez.

The following eighth-grade students made Honor Roll with a grade-point average of at least 3.285: Tay Barker, Annabelle

Bowles, Alandra Hernandez, Tad Hittle, Taylor Lewis, Mackenzie Patane, Dakota Pruitt, Celia Taylor, Grace Thompson, Brayan Valenzuela, Patty Black, Hailey Griego, Eric Huddleston, Crystal Jaramillo, Bryonna Armijo, Kevin Rodriguez-Chavez, Olivia Gilbert, Piedra Goss, Sara Laucius, Ryan Lewis, Kyle Short, Kaysey Archuleta, Cheyenne Todd, Jack Foster, Amy Archuleta, Alam Dozal, Jared Hall, Ethan Henderson, Kaden Hessman, Christina Marinelarena, Angel Medrano, Allan Mendoza-Erives, Josue Monterroso, Amelia Peshlakai, Josselyn Pina, Cheyenne Sanchez, Elijah Talamante, William Villalobos, Richard Whitaker, James Winsor, Alejandro Aguilar, Derrick Buhler, Peyton Burns, Alondra Echavarria, Amber Montoya, Albert Rodriguez, Halie Severs and Cody Terry.

Keep up on local happenings with
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Photo courtesy Melissa Snarr

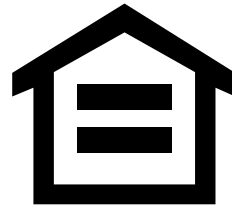
The High Rollers lead singer Andy Janowsky is bringing the band to Pagosa Springs to raise money for Our Savior Lutheran School. Janowsky's mother, Mary Jo Janowsky, dedicated over 10 years of service to Our Savior Lutheran School. She was an asset to Our Savior Lutheran and passed away in December 2013. She loved her son's amazing talent and always wanted the High Rollers to perform at Our Savior Lutheran's annual spring fundraiser. The High Rollers will make her wish come true on March 19 from 6 to 9 p.m. in Our Savior Lutheran's gymnasium. Tickets are on sale at Our Savior Lutheran School.

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Outdoors



Two events on tap for Pagosa Nordic Club this weekend

By James Dickhoff
Special to The SUN

The Pagosa Nordic Club (PNC) is hosting two Nordic cross-country ski events this weekend.

On Saturday, Feb. 13, a BB Gun Biathlon will be held at Yamaguchi Park, sponsored in part by the Town of Pagosa Springs. This is an excellent venue for spectators and racers.

The event is free and there will be a 16k competitive course, a 6k citizens course and a Kidk course. All ability levels are welcome.

It is a freestyle Nordic ski event, which means you can skate ski or classic cross-country ski the course. Participants will have three opportunities to shoot at targets with a Red Ryder BB gun (provided) between ski laps. This event is great time for all ages and ability levels.

On Sunday, Feb. 14, PNC will host the third Plumtaw Ultra 30k/60k freestyle Nordic cross-country ski race. This is a self-supported race with limited aid on the course.

The race begins where the winter plowing ends on Fourmile Road. From downtown, take North 5th Street and continue on CR 400 approximately 7 miles. Racers will ski along portions of Fourmile Road and Plumtaw Road, which will be freshly groomed for the event.

The race course is one of Colorado's most beautiful out-and-back Nordic ski courses, skirting below the southern base of Pagosa Peak.

The awards ceremony will be at one of Pagosa's breweries. There is a \$20 fee for the 30k and a \$30 fee



Photo courtesy James Dickhoff

Racers line up between ski laps to shoot at targets with Red Ryder BB guns at the last Pagosa Nordic BB Gun Biathlon event. The next BB Gun Biathlon is this Saturday, Feb. 13, in Yamaguchi Park. The event is open to all ability levels and ages.

for the 60k, and Pagosa Nordic Club members receive a discount.

Registration for both events can be completed at PagosaNordic.com under the events tab.

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

Pagosa Nordic 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."

Enjoy your retirement at Chimney Rock National Monument

By Shirley A. Miller
Special to The SUN

In 2013, I retired from the medical profession to enjoy life. After working 10- to 12-hour days for 45 years, I looked forward to relaxing and basically doing nothing. Well, that worked for me for about a month.

At a social event, I met Helen Richardson, who talked to me about Chimney Rock and invited me to attend the potluck, which is held six Thursday evenings each year.

The speaker was the director of another archaeological area. I was hooked. I had limited knowledge regarding Chimney Rock as I had lived in Pagosa Springs for the last eight years. I wanted more information. I thought, what better way to obtain the information than by signing up to be a volunteer?

As a part of being a volunteer, Chimney Rock Interpretive Association (CRIA) provides great educational training. I chose to be a "cabin host" since I still wanted to learn more and being a cabin host allowed me access to all of the informative literature that is for sale in the cabin.

On my first day, I was teamed up with a knowledgeable, experienced cabin host to assist me with all of the processes. I was excited as I was finally going to get firsthand knowledge.

A function of being a cabin host is to meet and greet individuals and explain the many tour options to find out what will be the best fit for them. What a wonderful surprise at also having an opportunity to meet individuals from a majority of the states and several international countries. It is always entertaining finding out what brings them to our part of Colorado and their interest in Chimney Rock.

We are fortunate to live in an area where we are able to share a great part of American history. I recommend you come to either a potluck or to the national monument, which opens May 15, and experience this wonderful opportunity. Who knows, you may want to join us.

Please consider joining our band of enthusiastic Chimney Rock volunteers. CRIA invites community members to the annual Chimney Rock open house on Friday, March

18, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the EcoLux building at The Springs Resort and Spa located at 165 Hot Springs Blvd. There will be a host of CRIA volunteers on hand at the open house eager to introduce guests to the variety of roles that support CRIA and the flexibility in level of commitment.

For more information, call the CRIA office at 731-7133.

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If you are interested in joining our volunteer team or are able to make a donation, please go to www.chimneyrockco.org.

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Pagosan honored for commitment to community fire protection

Special to The SUN

The Wildfire Mitigation Awards Committee has announced the 2016 Wildfire Mitigation Award winners, and they include a Pagosa Springs woman.

Peggy Beach, volunteer for Firewise of Southwest Colorado, received the Community Wildfire Preparedness Pioneer Award.

"Peggy was recognized for her ceaseless efforts to educate, plan and implement mitigation work to protect her community from the threat of wildfire," said Bill Trimarco, Archuleta County coordinator of FireWise for Southwest Colorado.

Established in 2014, the awards are the highest commendation for the innovation and leadership displayed by individuals and organizations committed to wildfire preparedness and mitigation.

The Wildfire Mitigation Awards are jointly sponsored by the National Association of State Foresters (NASF), the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC), the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and the USDA Forest Service (USFS).

The three categories for the awards are Fire Adapted Communities Fire Service Leadership, Wildfire Mitigation Innovation and

the Community Wildfire Preparedness Pioneer.

Recognizing the comprehensive challenge posed by wildfires, these awards commend the outstanding dedication to wildfire preparedness and safety across a broad spectrum of activities and among a variety of individuals and organizations. By honoring their achievements, the award sponsors also seek to increase public recognition and awareness of the value of wildfire mitigation efforts.

"State Foresters are proud to honor the efforts of citizens working on the ground to mitigate the threat of wildfire. These outstanding mitigation efforts are helping keep America's communities safe. In 2015, more than 10 million acres of land were burned by wildfire. As more people build homes and recreate in forested areas, state foresters partner with agencies, communities, and homeowners to create fire adaptive communities that are better able to withstand this increasing threat," said Paul DeLong, Wisconsin state forester and president of the NASF.

"Wildland fire continues to be a major threat to communities and fire departments across the U.S.," said Chief Rhoda Mae Kerr, IAFC president and chair of the board. "The IAFC commends the 2016

Wildfire Mitigation Award winners for everything they have done to mitigate wildland fire in their communities and inspire others to do the same."

"NFPA is pleased to recognize the significant impact these individuals and groups have made in wildfire preparedness and mitigation," said Michele Steinberg, manager of NFPA's Wildland Fire Operations Division. "Damaging wildfire seasons remind us of the need to increase awareness of the value of wildfire mitigation efforts. The awards are a great way to honor the positive work being done in communities to keep residents safer from fire."

"The USDA Forest Service promotes individual and community level fire adaptation, like forming local all-hands coalitions, supporting fire departments, reducing hazardous fuels, hardening structures and smart development as the best ways to prepare for wildfire. These awards recognize and encourage that very important wildfire risk reduction work," said Pam Leschak, USDA Forest Service National WUI/Fire Adapted Communities program manager.

Awards will be presented at the IAFC Wildland-Urban Interface Conference (WUI) in Reno, Nev., on March 9.



Photo courtesy Sarah Mashue

As part of the fourth-grade physical education curriculum, students take two lessons in the classic technique of cross-country skiing. For their second lesson on Tuesday of this week, teacher Lindsey Kurt-Mason took the students to Coyote Hill, where the U.S. Forest Service sets 14 kilometers of groomed ski trails. The students return to school excited and tired, and with a healthy lifetime skill.

Agencies train for backcountry rescue operations

By Michael Le Roux

Special to The SUN

On Saturday, Feb. 6, members from Archuleta County Sheriff's Office Division of Emergency Management, Upper San Juan Search and Rescue, Mineral County Search and Rescue, Alamosa Volunteer Search and Rescue, and Wolf Creek Ski Patrol took part in a multi-agency training operation in the area adjacent Lobo parking lot at the top of Wolf Creek Pass.

The training events occur annually and are in response to the increase in demand for winter backcountry rescue covering multiple jurisdictions under different agency authorities.

The need for this training was highlighted just this past week with the tragic death of a young snowmobiler caught in an avalanche within the Wolf Creek corridor and the rescue of another lost snowmobiler who got his machine stuck in a remote backcountry location and was forced to camp overnight.

Training started with a briefing at 8 a.m., where a group of approximately 25 assembled at the Lobo

parking lot. The group was split into teams, with each team assigned to one ski patroller. Teams then dispersed into different areas of the backcountry and were trained in critical avalanche rescue activity. This included instruction and practical application of transceiver checks, establishing a probe line, transceiver locating and probing for subject and strategic digging.

The group reconvened after lunch for a final avalanche rescue scenario covering all aspects of the training received in the morning.

These training operations are vital for the area that we live and work in, not only from skill and operational standpoints, but also from an interagency relationship development perspective. Pooling resources, collaborating on searches and working together make us exponentially better in serving the communities of the wider region.

Our thanks to Davey Pitcher and the ski patrol team for volunteering their time and sharing their valuable knowledge and expertise, as well as hosting and providing lunch for everyone involved.

DHS gives fourth quarter report for 2015

By Marshall Dunham

Staff Writer

On Tuesday, Feb. 2, Archuleta County Department of Human Services (DHS) Director Matthew Dodson presented a fourth quarter report for 2015 to the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners.

The report, included in agenda documentation used at the meeting, begins by giving a brief summary on the Colorado LEAP program, which is a program that assists low-income households in paying their energy bills.

The report states that in Archuleta County, "The LEAP program disbursed \$34,369.56 to 131 households from November 1, 2015, to December 29, 2015."

The next item the report discusses is entitled "Child Protection Activity," with the purpose being "to provide safety assessment and in home and out of home case management services to children at risk of abuse and neglect and their families so they can maintain a safe and permanent home."

In 2015, 271 referrals were made to DHS, with 73 of those referrals being accepted for assessment.

The next item listed on the report is entitled "Adoption and Foster Care Activity."

"Jessica Coker assumed full time foster care coordinator duties in the final quarter following Kathy Kulyk's retirement," reads the report. "She has been actively working on certifying new foster care homes in Archuleta County and DHS anticipates having two additional homes certified in the first quarter of 2016."

The report states that, in 2015, 16 children were placed in foster care and eight adoptions were

finalized.

Currently, Archuleta County only has two certified foster care homes.

The next item listed on the report is entitled "Adult Protection Activity."

The report states that the purpose of the adult protection is "to provide assessment, advocacy, support and community referral services to at-risk adults so they can maintain a safe and independent living situation."

The report states that, in 2015, 43 reports were made to Adult Protection Services, with 22 reports being accepted for assessment.

Another item listed in the report is entitled "Child Care Activity."

"The Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) served 11 households in October, 10 in the month of November and 11 in the month of December," reads the report, adding that there is a total of 69 ongoing child care cases, with 148 children having already been served.

One of the last items listed on the report is entitled "Child Support Activity," with the purpose being listed as, "to provide establishment and enforcement services to custodial and noncustodial parents so they can consistently receive and/or pay court-ordered support for their children."

The report goes on to state that, this year, the percent of child support collected was 63.6, with the state's goal being 66 percent.

The report also states that the percent of cases with arrears payments is at 38.8 percent for Archuleta County, with the statewide goal being listed at 44.8 percent.

marshall@pagosason.com

School funding, compensation, insurance discussed at meeting

By Casey Crow

Staff Writer

The Archuleta School District (ASD) held its regular meeting Tuesday, Feb. 9. The school board and administration continued their in-depth discussion on school funding, teacher compensation and insurance.

The ASD has engaged in these topics of discussion for several months now, following multiple presentations to the board by members of the Pagosa Springs Education Association (PSEA).

During Tuesday's meeting, Superintendent Linda Reed presented a brief history and overview of school funding in Colorado.

Funding history

School funding in the state of Colorado is complex and often confusing for those who do not interact with it on a regular basis. Following is an overview of major legislation that has impacted school funding, which largely comes from property taxes.

In 1982, the Gallagher Amendment passed with a statewide vote of 65 percent, which established that business and residential property be assessed differently for tax purposes. For business, 29 percent of the property value is taxed, and for residential property 7.96 percent of the property value is taxed.

In 1992, the TABOR (Taxpayer Bill of Rights) Amendment was passed by a vote of 53 percent, establishing growth plus inflation limits on tax revenue and requiring a vote to raise any tax.

In 1994, the Colorado Public School Finance Act was put in place by the legislature with the idea that the quality of education should not be determined by a zip code.

Base funding and additional factors create a per-pupil revenue (PPR). It includes the local share of property taxes and the state share. In 2010, capital reserve was eliminated from the PPR formula.

Amendment 23 was adopted in 2000, requiring growth plus inflation for base funding, as well as requiring K-12 funding to increase inflation by 1 percent from 2001-2011.

However, with the economic downturn in 2008, Amendment 23 was not fully implemented.

In 2010, the legislature enacted

the Negative Factor, allowing cuts to education funding. It amounts to a funding cut of approximately 12.1 percent annually for most school districts.

From 2010 to 2016, it resulted in cuts of \$9 million for the ASD.

In order to cope with the funding cuts, many districts have pursued bonds or a mill levy override.

With districts seeing a fair amount of success in overriding mill levies, the state average has increased from 35.932 mills in 2008 to 39.006 mills in 2016.

The ASD's mill levy was 23.715 in 2008, and barely increased to 24.737 in 2016.

According to Reed, for the ASD, one mill generates \$270,774 annually. One mill costs \$7.96 a year per \$100,000 market value of a residential property, and \$29 per year for nonresidential property.

Compensation

Teacher compensation has been named a priority by the new school board many times over the last few months. The question is how to go about obtaining additional funding to increase salaries.

Finance Director Mike Hodgson undertook a salary study, comparing the ASD to other mountain towns and other Colorado school districts. The study was intended to be a starting point for evaluating the status of teacher salaries in the ASD.

During the meeting, Hodgson stated, "If we want to raise more money, there are only three ways to do it. One is have the Legislature give us more money and that probably would require a Constitutional amendment, so we're talking voters. A mill levy override, which we could do, requires a vote of the public to increase property taxes, and there is also a possibility of, there are a couple schools out there I've found that have agreements with their towns or counties to do a sales tax increase, but that requires that the town or county take those out to their voters and get an increase in sales tax."

According to Pagosa Springs Middle School Principal Chris Hinger, inadequate compensation is having a noticeable impact on the pool of teachers who apply for jobs in the ASD.

"The applicant pool has shrunk tremendously," he told the board.

"Right now, starting wage in Archuleta County is \$33,000. New Mexico is significantly higher two hours south of us, and north of us is way higher," Hinger said.

Later, during the time for public comment, Tim Taylor spoke to the board regarding the salary study.

"This is a nice start, but we are not just competing with mountain towns, we are competing with every school district in the state, we are competing with every school district in this country."

Later, Taylor pointed out that, ultimately, compensation will determine whether or not a teacher takes a job in the ASD.

He asserted that, for example, the middle school is not the most "aesthetically pleasing" building to work in, but teachers would be incentivized to take a job despite this hindrance if the compensation package was appealing.

"It is compensation, and we are competing with everybody," he said in closing.

Insurance

High insurance costs within the district have also mounted the list of concerns for ASD administration. On Jan. 11, the Insurance Committee met to discuss the issue.

Insurance costs for the ASD are higher than all school districts in the region. The committee unanimously decided that the ASD should seek bids for insurance, which has a renewal date of July 1.

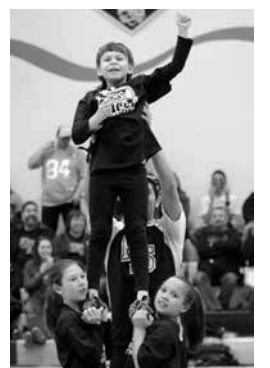
Hodgson recommended that, due to the complexities of health insurance and the implementation of the Affordable Care Act, that the district use an "expert" to complete the process.

The committee considered four firms for the job. Ultimately, the committee decided on Gallagher Benefit Services to be recommended to the board.

Gallagher is the world's fourth largest insurance broker. It is also one of the top-ranked brokers for customer satisfaction. The company's method is to conduct a broad-based survey of staff in order to assess their insurance needs before making any decisions.

The school board approved the action item, and the ASD will utilize the services of Gallagher in obtaining bids for district health insurance.

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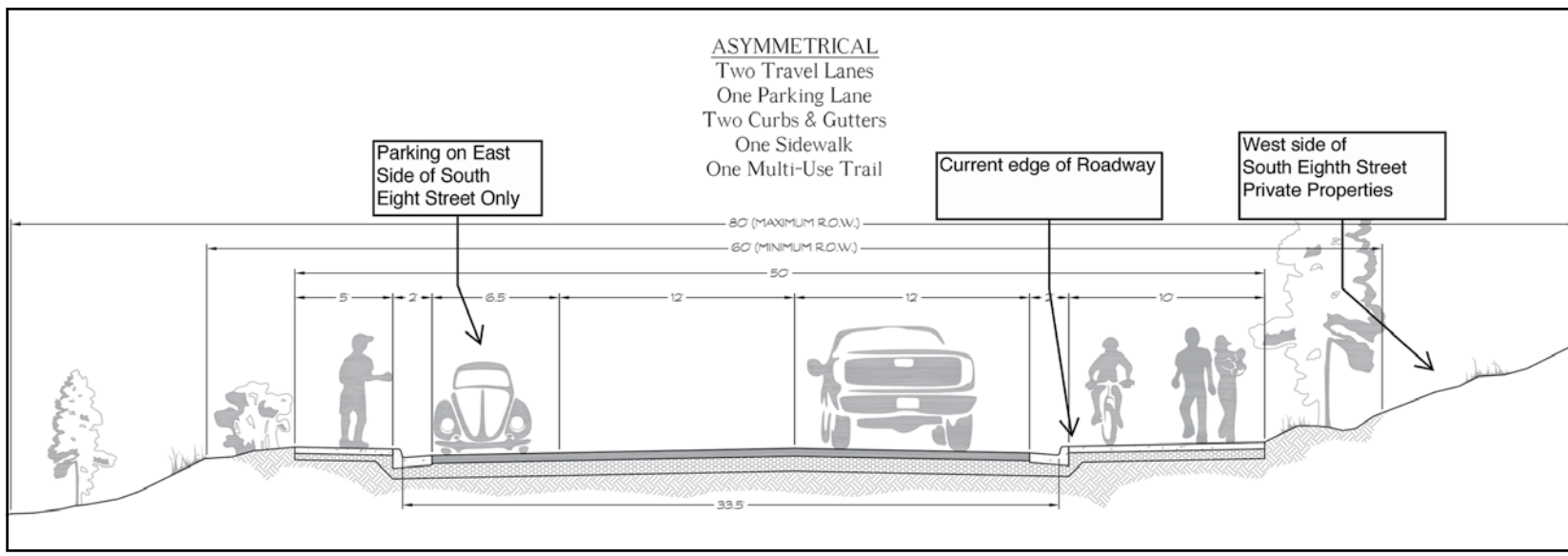


Illustration courtesy Town of Pagosa Springs

The second public work session concerning South 8th Street reconstruction improvements will be held Tuesday, Feb. 16, at 6 p.m. in the Town Hall council chambers. Illustrated is the prospective reconfiguration of South 8th Street, viewed looking south.

Another work session on South 8th Street improvements set for next week

By Jim Garrett
 Staff Writer

On Feb. 16, the Pagosa Springs Town Council and staff will conduct a public input work session regarding South 8th Street reconstruction improvements slated for the summer of 2016.

The public work session is the second regarding the planned reconstruction project. It will be conducted on Tuesday, Feb. 16, at 6 p.m. in the Town Hall council chambers.

Scott Lewandowski, town special projects manager, said public input regarding the project is very important.

He advised community members, "Your input is very important regarding this project and the time is now to provide your insight into your local neighborhood considerations and

comments, so please mark your calendars now and plan on attending."

The potential project area extends between U.S. 160 and Apache Street along South 8th Street, affecting many residential properties and community organizations located along South 8th Street.

Residents and property owners in the affected area are strongly encouraged by the town to provide their comments at the work session on potential improvements being considered for both vehicular and pedestrian traffic along the corridor.

The work session is open for input from all community members, as well as affected residents.

Approximately 25 community members and neighborhood residents attended the first public work session conducted on Jan. 19.

At that time, many expressed significant interest in allowing parking only on the east side of the street and adding a 10-foot-wide, hard-surfaced, multiuse trail along the west side of the street, between property lines and the roadway.

According to Lewandowski, many property owners may not realize their property does not extend to the current sidewalk or curb line. Most property lines are actually 15-20 feet from the current roadway or sidewalk edge.

Lewandowski advised that town staff and representatives from Davis Engineering Services will present potential 8th Street improvements to Town Council for its determination of the project's scope at its regular March meeting. This will ensure the project can be designed, advertised for construction bids and built within the 2016 construction season.

Dog flu not confirmed in southwest Colorado, yet

By Jim Garrett
 Staff Writer

Like humans, dogs are susceptible to influenza viruses. And, like the viruses that infect humans, those that infect dogs may comprise different strains. The symptoms may not differ, but one strain may resist immunization by vaccines effective for another.

Until 2015, canine flu in the United States was caused by the H3N8 virus, for which an effective vaccine exists. However, in that year, a new virus appeared, designated as H3N2.

Symptoms of canine flu, described by the American Veterinary Medicine Association (AVMA) on its website as typical of the "mild form" of the disease, commonly include "a cough that persists for 10 to 21 days despite treatment with antibiotics and cough suppressants. Affected dogs may have a soft, moist cough or a dry cough similar to that induced by kennel cough. Nasal and/or ocular discharge, sneezing, lethargy and anorexia may also be observed. Many dogs develop a purulent nasal discharge and fever (104-105 degrees F)."

In more severe cases, the AVMA notes ill dogs may develop pneumonia with higher fevers. It further advises that infection with the virus may be detected from material collected by nose or throat swabs, or by blood tests.

The AVMA further suggests that, "Veterinary expertise is required to establish the best course of treatment or treatment options. As for all viral diseases, treatment is largely supportive. Good husbandry and nutrition may assist dogs in mounting an effective immune response. Most dogs recover from canine influenza within 2-3 weeks."

The discussion of dog flu offered by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in a report on its website published April 15, 2015, is similar.

The report states, "Signs of dog flu infection in dogs include cough, runny nose and fever, but not all dogs will show signs of illness. The severity of illness associated with dog flu in dogs can range from no signs to severe illness resulting in pneumonia and sometimes death in dogs. Tests are available to determine if a dog has been infected. CDC recommends that people concerned about dog flu in their pets speak to their veterinarian."

Concerning the current availability of vaccines for canine influenza, the AVMA website reports, "There are currently two H3N8 CIV vaccines available, the first of which was approved by the USDA in May 2009; both are labeled as an aid in the control of disease, and contain inactivated whole virus. It is unknown whether the H3N8 vaccines will provide any cross-protection against H3N2. In November 2015, the U.S. Department of Agriculture granted a conditional license to Zoetis to market the first commercially available H3N2 canine influenza vaccine. Later that month, Merck Animal Health also announced the availability of a H3N2 canine influenza vaccine, also conditionally licensed

by USDA."

However, the AVMA website does not advocate blanket immunization of pets from canine flu by vaccination. It observes that, "canine influenza vaccine is a 'lifestyle' vaccine, and is not recommended for every dog."

The AVMA explains, "In general, the vaccine is intended for the protection of dogs at risk for exposure to the canine influenza virus, which include those that either participate in activities with many other dogs or are housed in communal facilities, particularly where the virus is prevalent."

It recommends consultation with a veterinarian on the appropriateness of vaccination for individual dogs.

National data reported by the Canine Influenza Virus Surveillance Network, a project of the Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine, show that four positive tests for canine H3N2 infection were recorded in Colorado between March 8, 2015, and Feb. 2, 2016.

For comparison, 820 positive tests were reported in Illinois and 559 in Georgia during the same period. The next highest state was Ohio with 87, and the total of positive tests nationally was 1,693. The data is summarized on the veterinary college's website, which cautions that reporting from state to state is uneven and all relevant cases may not be included in its numbers.

The veterinary college website also reports that transmission of flu from dogs to cats in "community" settings like animal shelters and

boarding facilities has been noted, although this appears to be rare. There is no known instance of transmission of canine flu to humans, or of the reverse.

To date, there have been no known cases of influenza among pets caused by the H3N2 virus in the Pagosa Springs area, based on contacts by The SUN to the Humane Society, veterinarians and a local business engaged in dog care, Doggy Day Care. Nonetheless, all are on alert for the potential appearance of the disease in the area.

As among humans, influenza is communicable among dogs and the disease can be expected to spread. Polly Thibault, DVM, of High Peaks Veterinary Clinic, indicated on Feb. 8 that, although there have been no cases in the area, pet owners "definitely have to brace for it."

Likewise, Kitzel Farrah, DVM, of San Juan Veterinary Hospital, said that, while there have been a few cases of H3N2 influenza confirmed among dogs in eastern Colorado, there have been none in the southwest part of the state to date. But she agreed there is a likelihood that infections by the H3N2 virus will spread, although at an unpredictable pace.

Both Farrah and Thibault concurred that dogs should be vaccinated based on existence of risk, such as plans to travel to areas where infections have occurred or the presence of other health issues in individual pets, like compromised immune systems, or respiratory or cardiovascular disease.

Farrah cautioned that, while in most cases vaccination is not needed

currently, that could change. She added, "People need to be diligent about paying attention to the occurrence of potential symptoms."

She urged that a veterinarian should be consulted in the event of questions.

Thibault agreed. She advised, "Pay attention to your dog and if it is showing signs, make sure to get it checked by your veterinarian."

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SUN photo/Marshall Dunham

Audience members from the community and the National Guard listen to a presentation from Lt. Col. Ariel Blitz of the Israeli Home Front Command. In his presentation, Blitz explained how the Home Front Command manages emergency operations in Israel.

County hosts emergency management talks with National Guard, Israeli Home Front Command

By Marshall Dunham
Staff Writer

On Thursday, Jan. 28, the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office Division of Emergency Management hosted a meeting and presentations on how small rural communities handle emergencies. The division was invited by the National Guard to host the gathering.

Christina Kraetsch, Archuleta County's deputy director of emergency operations, made a presentation and spoke to members of the National Guard and Israeli Home Front Command.

Members from the National Guard in attendance included Lt. Col. Robert Redding and Maj. William Woodard, while Lt. Col. Ariel Blitz represented the Israeli Home Front Command.

Additionally, many members from the community attended the presentation, including Pagosa Springs Mayor Don Volger, Archuleta County Sheriff Rich Valdez, and Pagosa Fire Protection District Chief Diane Bower.

Kraetsch began the presentation by thanking everyone for attending and allowing Redding, Woodard and Blitz to introduce themselves.

Redding began by explaining that he was a Colorado National Guardsman and lived in Golden.

"I'm on an excursion tour in Israel as an exchange officer as a liaison to what is Israel's equivalent to the National Guard, called Home Front Command," explained Redding. "The purpose of this relationship is to exchange best practices, to watch each other do business and to gain that information and bring it back. Ariel, my counterpart, is doing the same thing here."

Redding went on to explain that Blitz was stationed in Washington, while Redding himself was stationed in Tel Aviv, Israel.

In a way, Blitz and Redding almost act as exchange students for their respective military branches.

This allows the National Guard and the Home Front Command to exchange information with each other, and allows each organization to learn from each other.

When Blitz introduced himself, he began by joking that Redding and himself have a lot in common, as they both have terrible traffic on their morning commutes.

Blitz then gave a little bit of background about the Home Front Command.

"The Israeli Home Front Command is actually the youngest command within the Israeli Defense Forces ... it was established immediately after the Gulf War in 1992," explained Blitz.

Kraetsch began her presentation by describing Archuleta County to the audience.

"The land area for Archuleta County is a little over 867,000 acres, which ends up being about 1,355 square miles," explained Kraetsch.

She went on to describe how the county is essentially made up of four different types of land:

- Privately owned land, which is 31 percent of the county, or 270,560 acres.

- San Juan National Forest, which is 49 percent of the county, or 421,497 acres.

- Southern Ute Tribal Lands, which are 14 percent of the county, or 125,706 acres.

- Rio Grande National Forest, which is 6 percent of the county, or 53,874 acres.

Kraetsch then explained the different branches that make up the county's emergency services, as well as who the emergency operations team consists of.

"With emergency operations, there is three of us," said Kraetsch. She went on to explain how the team only has three paid members, and the rest are volunteers.

The presentation went on to describe the county's biggest threats and challenges, which included:

- Wildfires.
- Avalanches.
- Flooding.
- Blackouts.
- Few shelters.

- How spread out Archuleta County is, with 95 percent of resources being located in Pagosa Springs.

Kraetsch also stated that, oftentimes, the emergency operations team assists Hinsdale County, Mineral County and Rio Grande County in events such as search and rescues, wildfires and other disasters.

After Kraetsch concluded her presentation, Blitz proceeded to present on how the Home Front Command manages emergencies in Israel.

Blitz began by explaining that he joined in 1993, as joining the Home Front Command is mandatory for Israel's youth upon turning 18.

"There's a mandatory service for three years, but I decided to stick around," explained Blitz. "I started as a search and rescue instructor in the Home Front Command."

Blitz went on to explain that the state of Israel was established in 1948, and was a British colony before that.

"So, we fought the British too," joked Blitz.

Israel borders the countries of Egypt, Lebanon, Jordan, Syria and Palestinian territories.

When talking about neighboring countries, Blitz stated, "It's a very tough neighborhood," later adding, "For example, Syria, there is no Syria anymore."

However, Blitz also mentioned that Israel has a peace agreement with both Egypt and Lebanon.

"The threats are complicated," explained Blitz. "Our main threat is the war threat, and its mainly, in the last decades, rockets and missiles."

Terror organizations, natural disasters and man-made disasters or accidents were the other threats faced by Israel, according to Blitz.

Regarding the threat of war, Blitz

said, "But, that's our main threat and we're preparing ourselves for that, with a mutual understanding that if we prepare for the worst scenario, we are better prepared for terror, for natural disasters and man-made disasters or accidents."

Blitz referenced Israel's Iron Dome Missile Defense System, comparing it to technology from Star Trek.

"It's a missile hitting another missile in the air," explained Blitz.

He went on to say that the Iron Dome technology had more than 90-percent success in the last defense against Hamas, a Palestinian Islamic terror organization.

Blitz then began discussing how Israel prepares the public for crisis, saying that preparation begins for Israel's youth beginning in the first grade.

"As a student, you have to take classes in emergency preparedness," explained Blitz. "Not only for a war scenario, but for hazard materials, for fires, for earthquakes, et cetera."

Students are often assigned tasks, such as being required to make a family preparedness plan.

Blitz changed the topic of discussion to search and rescue exercises.

While Archuleta County's search and rescue exercises typically involve the backcountry, the Home Front Command's search and rescue exercises typically occur in densely populated, urban areas.

"We'll find an old building that needs to be demolished, we'll come to the city and say 'We have a suggestion,'" explained Blitz. "We will tear this building down, but for that, we need to practice for two weeks ..."

Blitz proceeded to describe how the Home Front Command will fill the abandoned building with rescue dummies, demolish the building, and execute a mock search and rescue effort.

Blitz also described how the public is informed regarding missile and rocket dangers, saying that emergency messages are broadcasted to cellphones, depending on the location of the cellphone at the time.

"Israel is divided into more than 200 zones," explained Blitz, adding that, during the Gulf War, if a missile was launched at Israel, "regardless of where its going to hit, all of Israel was running for shelter."

Blitz stated that the dividing Israel into zones is what solved this problem.

"Now, we have more than 200 zones, so you can sit in one part of Tel Aviv, and deal with your ordinary life, while another part of Tel Aviv will hear a siren and get messages, because there is a missile just affecting that part," explained Blitz.

The Home Front Command also has assisted in international affairs, often times pertaining to national disasters.

Blitz stated he was honored to assist in many of these calamities, saying he went to Turkey twice to aid in earthquake relief, and even

Brown seeking re-election to state House

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

J. Paul Brown, who currently serves Colorado's House District 59 at the Capitol, has thrown his hat in the ring for another term in office.

Brown, 62, was first elected as representative in 2010.

"I love this Country, this State, and the 59th House District. Debbie and I have had the freedom to make a living and I want to do everything that I can to pass on that freedom, without burdensome regulation and crippling high taxes, to my Grandchildren and the future generations of our State and Country," Brown stated about his decision to run for re-election in an email to The SUN. "I am running again because I would like to finish my job."

Brown outlined several accomplishments from his time in office thus far: voting to prioritize funding; fighting for full funding of K-12 education under the Colorado Constitution; stressing the need to keep up with the maintenance for state infrastructure, especially highways and buildings; working to protect Western Slope water from being diverted across the Continental Divide by proposing storage on the South Platte River; encouraging ways of reducing the costs of health care and health insurance; leading a fight to "encourage the federal government to do a better job of managing our resources, especially the waste of dead trees" on Wolf Creek Pass and other locations; voting to reduce unneeded regulation; and passing a bill to outlaw "bath salts."

Too, Brown indicated that he is one of three or four legislators "that know anything about agriculture. I work on a daily basis to educate my colleagues about agriculture, the second largest sector of Colorado's economy, contributing \$40.1 billion."

He also noted that he works hard and puts in long hours to study proposed laws in order to vote "intelligently" and advise his fellow legislators.

"The legislative process is a continuing process and my goals after I am elected again are the same as my accomplishments above," Brown wrote.

Brown stated he feels the biggest challenge facing the office today is balancing the budget with limited resources.

"Every legislator has different priorities and a consensus must be attained. To accomplish this takes a lot of time establishing good relationships on both sides of the isle (sic). Most of the legislators in the General Assembly are from the front range and it is a challenge to educate them about our West Slope issues especially concerning water and agriculture," he wrote.

Brown, who calls the Bayfield/Ignacio area home with wife Debbie, graduated from Farmington High School in 1971 and from New Mexico State University with a bachelor's in animal science in 1975.

He stated he has been a rancher his entire life and a business owner for 40 years.

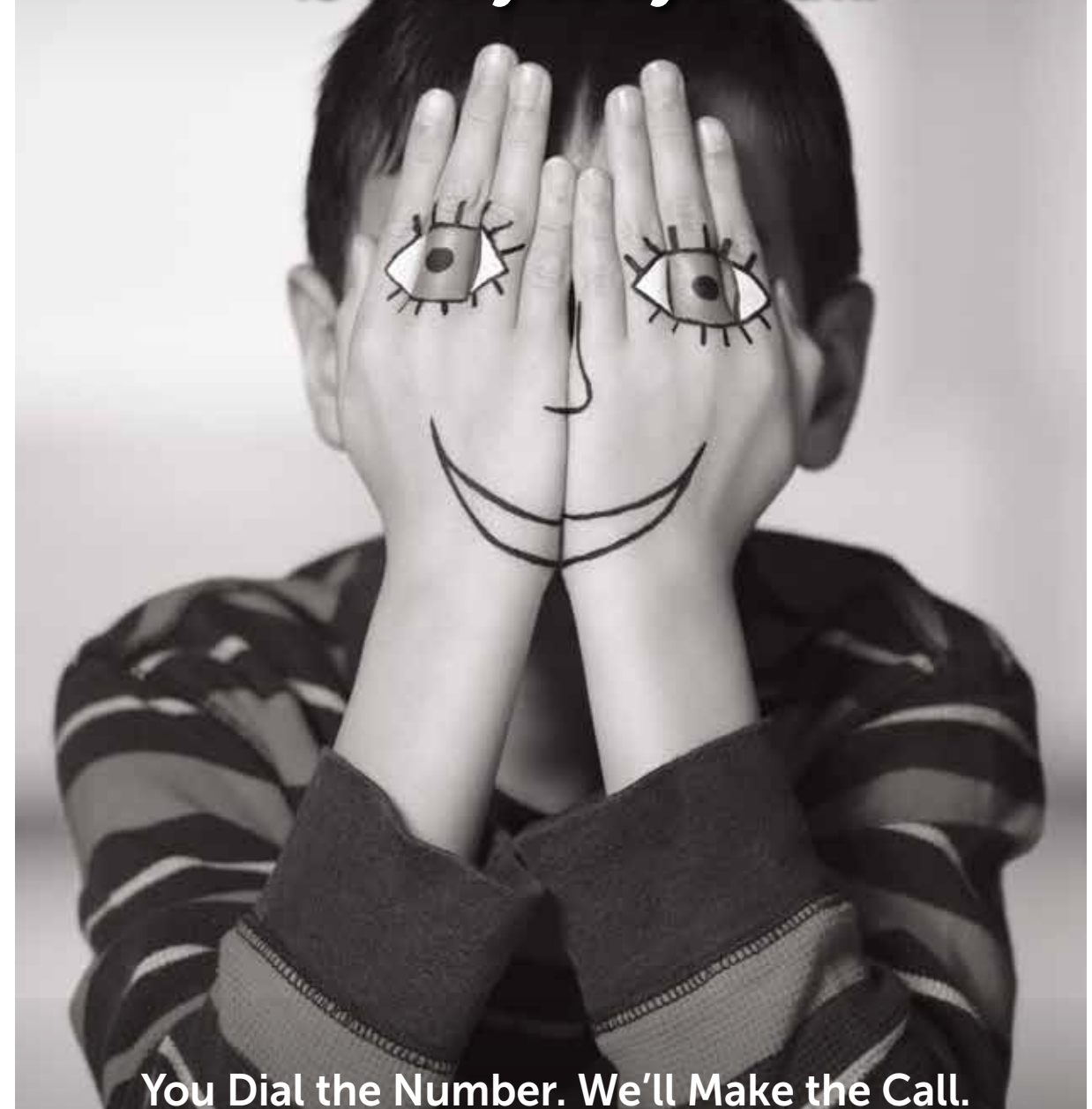
Brown noted that he has served on a variety of boards, including the La Plata County Board of County Commissioners, Ignacio School District Board of Directors, San Juan Basin Health Department and more, as well as several committees at the state level.

Brown has received several awards, including the University of Colorado's Legislative Champion in 2015, Colorado Outfitters Association Legislator of the Year, Colorado Mule Deer Association Legislative Courage Award, Colorado Wool Growers Association Camp Tender of the Year, Durango Chamber of Commerce Agriculturist of the Year, La Plata County Farm Bureau Farm and Ranch Family of the Year.

randi@pagosun.com

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Card of Thanks

Warrior Wash

Pagosa Springs is a very generous community. On Nov. 8-14, Pagosa Springs held its first Warrior Wash Retreat for veterans impacted by time in a war zone. An event like this occurs because many people and organizations contribute their time and resources.

We would like to thank the following people, churches and businesses for their support that made this possible: Chaplain David Bach-

elor, Bill Church, Stan and Bert Counsell, Troy and Maria Rasco, Cynthia Peironnet, Marnie George, Glen Garton, Penny Hart, John and Jeannette Hill, April Holthaus, Jerry and Jill Phillips, Derold Polson, Bill Simkins, Ken Temco, Healing Waters Resort and Spa, Once a Tree Staining, Pagosa Springs Middle School, Ski and Bow Rack, The Springs Resort and Spa, Trout Unlimited, Visiting Angels, Troy and Marie Rasco from Pagosa Bible Church, Anna Harbison from Our Savior Lutheran

Church, John and Ann Rasich from Pope John Paul II Catholic Church; we thank Trinity Anglican Church for hosting the Warrior Wash Service on Nov. 14; Leslie Olmstead Santee for Truth and Grace Media.

We also want to thank the following who have supported our once-a-quarter special weekend for a family impacted by war: Boss Hogg's Restaurant, Cafe Colorado, Healing Waters Resort, Pagosa Lakes Recreation Center, Pagosa Baking Company and Two Chicks and a Hippie.

preview

ARTS & LIFE

Broomball Fun

Sunday, Feb. 14 • 10 a.m.



Photo courtesy Jeff Laydon

Broomball tournament a big hit

By Tari Woods
Special to The PREVIEW

Winterfest was a weekend of fun and thrills at the ice rink in Town Park.

Sunday, we featured our first official broomball event.

The lucky tournament winners were Travis Quills, Tadd Quills, Kelsey Quills, Don Welsh, Briana Jardine and Alex Aguire of the Misfits. They won a gift certificate to Wolfe Brewing and season passes to the rink for this season and the 2016-2017 season. There was quite a crowd cheering them on.

Broomball can be played in soft-soled shoes or boots and almost any age can play. Helmets are re-

quired, as well as signing a waiver. We will be having drop-in broomball this Sunday at 10 a.m., weather permitting. Just show up and we can get some teams together.

Leo Milner played with his granddaughter in the tournament and claimed he felt "like a kid again." He will be back; he loved the fact that he could participate with his granddaughter.

We are expecting unseasonably warm weather, so please call to check on our open hours and ice conditions.

Stick and Puck games are played Saturday and Sunday mornings from 7:45 to 10 a.m.; drop-ins are welcome, but you'll need full protective gear.

Please feel free to call 731-8877 with questions.



Live Performers

- Thursday**
Rez Hill Grille: DJ Lisa Saunders, 8 p.m.
- Friday**
Riff Raff Brewing Co.: Jack Ellis, 6 p.m.
- Saturday**
Rez Hill Grille: Rob Webster
Riff Raff Brewing Co.: Anthony Leon and Paige, 6 p.m.
- Tuesday**
Pagosa Brewing Company: Indoor Open Mic, 6 p.m.

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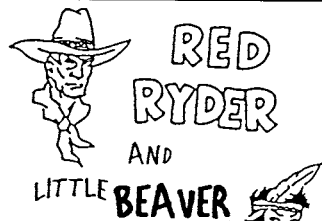
Tuesdays 6p - Indoor Open Mic
Wednesdays 7p - Useless Knowledge Trivia
Weekdays 4p-6p - Happy Hour



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"BEST APRÈS SPOT" - NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC



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

© Red Ryder Ent. Inc.

By Fred Harman



Native American flute to serenade at Sunday Night Unplugged

By Sally Neel
Special to The PREVIEW

Local artist Charles Martinez will offer the mystic sounds of the Native American flute at this week's Sunday Night Unplugged at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church Sunday evening at 5 p.m.

Sunday Night Unplugged, which began in January 2009, is celebrating its eighth year of monthly services of music and meditation. On the second Sunday of each month, local artists generously offer their music to enhance this uniquely beautiful hour of quiet contemplation.

Martinez, a local favorite, has a gift for taking his listeners into another realm. While listening to the haunting sounds of the flute, one can easily envision the beauty of creation: a walk in the woods, sitting on the pinnacle of a mountain, listening to the gentle sounds of wind in the aspens, the river flowing over rocks or the birds singing in the trees.

Martinez is a native of Pagosa Springs and began playing the Native American flute following a serious illness. He found the music of the flute to be an important source of healing. He learned to handcraft his own flutes in the traditional fashion, each flute unleashing its own unique sound and musical "personality." Martinez composes his own songs based on the musical sounds of nature and his own spiritual response to those sounds.

"This week, we enter the holy season of Lent, a time when we reflect on our walk with God, our weaknesses and how we can become more faithful to God's call to us. Of course, with this week's Sunday Night Unplugged falling on Valentine's Day, we will have readings on love. Love is, after all, God's greatest commandment and God's greatest gift to humankind," said Fr. Doug Neel, rector of St. Patrick's. Sunday Night Unplugged is free and offered at 5 p.m. on the second Sunday evening of every month. The public is invited to attend. St.

Patrick's is located at 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. For more information, go to www.stpatrickspagosa.org or call 731-5801.

Pagosa Catholic Community **KC Fish Fries!**

Beginning Friday, February 12
and every Friday during Lent
5:00-7:00 p.m. Parish Hall on Lewis St.
sponsored by the Knights of Columbus

Thingamajig's locally grown show set to premier Feb. 19

By Audrey Layne Crocker
Special to The PREVIEW

As an audience member, one often wonders (sometimes aloud, sometimes internally) what it would be like to actually be on stage, to take the chance and put themselves out there. At talk-backs, they ask questions that are incredibly specific to the process, curious to find out any detail about what performing looks like "behind the scenes."

Every year, Thingamajig Theatre Company provides an opportunity for those curious and fascinated individuals to give it a try. As part of an outreach program that includes acting and improv classes for the

youth of Pagosa, Thingamajig produces a play each February cast 90 percent of folks who are not professional performers.

This year's production runs from Feb. 19-28 with tickets at only \$28.

A unique and exciting opportunity for those curious individuals, participating in this production is always a blast, but, more importantly, provides some answers to even questions that one might be too timid to ask: Where do you get dressed? Are guys and girls in the same room? How do you learn all of your lines? Do you get nervous?

While the average person is curious in a way that leads them

■ See Show on next page



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Cast announced for PSHS spring musical

Dale Johnson
Special to The PREVIEW

The Performing Arts Department at Pagosa Springs High School is excited to announce the cast for its 2016 spring musical, "Legally Blonde: The Musical."

The title role of Elle is played by Taylor Jones. Others in lead roles: Gus Palma as Emmett; Hayley Mitchell as Paulette; Carson McKee as Callahan; Blake Irons as Warner; Hannah Hemenger as Vivienne; and Regan Richardson as Brooke.

Others in the 40-person cast include: Kaya Knox, Jacqueline Hampton, Averie Lynch, Zoe Geraghty, Justus Logan, Pitcher Lindner, Keanan Anderson, Jessicah Wellman, Maddie Greenly, Alex Foster, Kinsleigh Shields, James Berndt, Alma Sigurdsson, Megan Kline, Marissa Medina, Malaya Ellsmore, Delilah Pastin, Antonia Bussoli, Molly Burkesmith, Stella Schuchart, Kayla Nasralla, Sarah Ross, Stephanie Bramble, Ahia Kaeser, Elizabeth Thomas, Diana Scott, Alyssa St. Louis, Gavin Ross,



Photo courtesy Dale Johnson

Taylor Jones will star as Elle in Pagosa Springs High School's production of "Legally Blonde: The Musical." The production is slated to open March 29.

Brayden Schulda, Maverick Miller and Libby Bonin.

Our eighth-grade student apprentices in the show are Sydney Mitchell and Anika Thomas.

"Legally Blonde" is the first contemporary musical produced

at the high school; previous shows selected were of the classical musical genre and Disney musicals.

Our cast has already been in rehearsals for three weeks, working hard for a 7 p.m. opening on March 29. Watch for more updates.

Show

■ **continued from previous page**
to questions, Pagosa is unique in its community of folks willing to act on their investigative nature.

This year's locals' production, entitled "How to Eat Like a Child," boasts six brave and skilled experimenters who are willing to take the plunge and live as the other half.

Stories of dodging your parents, duping your teachers and

covering up mistakes are hilarious when put on the bodies of adults who have already lived through these comical and trying times as a child. Mixed with the real-life experiences of folks who are trying something new, this production is a special and exciting opportunity to see theater through bright and new eyes.

Watch friends that you know,

people you see around town and even a few former stars perform in "How To Eat Like a Child" this February, for two weekends only.

Visit www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW for tickets or information.

Thingamajig Theatre Company is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit professional theatre in residence at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts.

Happy Valentines Day!

Want to take your sweetie out for dinner but need someone to watch the kids?

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February 14, 5-8 pm

-Dinner for children will NOT be provided
-please feed them before arrival

at Pagosa Bible Church

209 Harman Park Dr. (behind Wells Fargo)
970-731-3120

*This is a fundraiser for the youth to go on a mission trip this summer. We will be happy to accept donations in exchange for babysitting (adults will be present also).

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Sunday

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Monday

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Tuesday

Trivia Night at 7pm

Girls Choir sponsoring women's chorus

By Linda Parker
Special to The PREVIEW

Are you tired of snow shoveling and the cold weather? Well, look forward to spring and join the women's chorus that is being sponsored by the Pagosa Springs Girls Choir (PSGC).

Ladies in the community are invited to be a part of a women's chorus that will share the stage with the PSGC at its annual Spring Concert, which will be held on May 3, in the high school auditorium.

The chorus will begin rehearsals on Tuesday evening, Feb. 23, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Community United Methodist Church. Rehearsals will continue each Tuesday evening until the concert in May.

The women's chorus will sing a selection of quality choral music

of all genres.

"There's something for everyone in the repertoire for this concert, from classical to folk to a fun arrangement of 60's tunes," Linda Parker, director of the PSGC, said.

She went on to say, "The music will be fun yet challenging," and added that no prior experience is required to be a part of the choir and there is no cost to participants.

"Reading music is always helpful, but there will be enough rehearsal time to learn the music," Parker said.

The women's chorus is being formed to offer the girls of PSGC the opportunity to sing with a women's chorus. Conceived by Parker, the chorus will allow the girls to meet some Pagosa ladies who have enjoyed music throughout their lives and to sing with

them.

The chorus will have its own part of the Spring Concert, singing several tunes alone, then finishing the concert with a combined number with the girls.

"I am excited to offer Pagosa ladies the opportunity to share their love of music and singing and to give them an opportunity to perform. We musicians are hams and we love to perform," said Parker.

Parker is ordering music, so please let her know if you are interested in singing. Her email is singpagosa@gmail.com and her phone number is 264-1434.

"We're looking forward to meeting new friends, renewing acquaintances, having an entertaining time, and being a part of a new and unique experience in Pagosa Springs," she said.

Local food banks seek donations

By Sally Neel
Special to The PREVIEW

Over the next month, when you make a trip to our local Walmart, you will have a special opportunity to make a donation of food to assist local people who need your help.

Area food banks — located at

Community Methodist Church, John Paul II Catholic Church, St. Patrick's Episcopal Church and Restoration Fellowship — will have volunteers posted in front of Walmart to receive your gifts of packaged foods that will go to fill the food pantry shelves.

Our local food pantries receive

assistance and oversight from Care and Share, a statewide food assistance agency. According to its website, one in six people in southern Colorado struggle with hunger. One in four children go without enough healthy food to thrive.

Area food banks coordinate
■ See Food on next page

★ ★ ★ ★
★ ★ ★ ★

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Stayers and changers

My Sweet Al said, "I am who I am. I like who I am."

He opened the door and I walked right in and sat down. I said to him, "You have a Popeye personality: 'I yam what I yam.' I gave a lesson to the writers' group on character development on stayers and changers. You're a stayer. I'm a changer. How in the world have we made it together all these years?"

I shared the lesson with him as he rolled his eyes and thumbed through his dog magazine. "To be fair to the reader, the main character must change throughout the story. If not, he has to be totally adorable so the reader is satisfied. The reader expects the character to change and be different. It's called a character arc."

I prepared the teaching on how stayers and changers related to each

Artist's Lane

Betty Slade



other in a story. I looked around to see the people in my life and how they validated what I was saying. I realized I live among stayers in my own household. I didn't even know it. That's why they are the way they are and they like themselves.

A successful character who doesn't change needs to be a likeable person. It's like the real people and the true story about Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid. They robbed trains, banks and stole horses in the

1890s and never changed.

Their characters were immortalized in the 1969 film, portrayed by Paul Newman and Robert Redford. They were a pair of loveable rascals who went out in a blaze of glory in Bolivia. They were known by their flair and daring, not their violence. They were still robbing banks at the end of the movie. We loved the story and we really loved Newman and Redford. We wouldn't have changed them.

They were stayers. As viewers of this story, we saw lovable characters and we were satisfied with their lives. We wanted them to change, give up their lifestyle, fall in love and settle down, but they didn't, and we were OK with it.

The writer of the story said he **■ See Lane on next page**

Food

■ continued from previous page

their efforts to make sure that no one in Archuleta County need go hungry. They depend on assistance from local citizens, as well as Care and Share, Walmart and foundation grants.

"Between the four churches, we feed somewhere between 180-200 families per week, offering boxes of food that include dry goods, canned goods, frozen meat and occasionally fresh vegetables. In addition, we also receive bars of soap, lotion, toothbrushes, shampoo and other personal items, which we distribute as it is available," said Fr. Doug Neel, rector of St. Patrick's.

"It doesn't take long to deplete our shelves," he continued. "We are constantly seeking donations. Yet, thanks to the generosity of our community organizations and individuals, we have not had to turn people away due to lack of food. Many donors have made it a habit to pick up a few extra cans of food when they do their grocery shopping to give to the food bank. It is amazing how much this continuous effort helps."

So, when you make your next trip to Walmart, pick up a few extra cans of food and help fill the boxes located in front of the store. You will never know who you fed or how

needed it was. But you can be sure that your gift has helped to keep a family from going hungry and you also can be assured that your donation will be appreciated.

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Dinner
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Prime Rib \$16⁹⁵
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Tuesday • 1:30-4:30 pm
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Wednesday • 1:30-4:30 pm
Facial Anatomy Sculpting

Thursday • 10:30 am-noon
Quilting Paper Piecing Techniques

Thursday • 1:30-4:30 pm
Mosaic Tile Classes

Friday • 2-4 pm
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Saturday • 2-4 pm
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Lane

■ continued from previous page
made the biggest mistake of his life. He developed the characters and killed them off at the end. There could have been a sequel. You never kill off a good character. The audience loved the characters. But if they didn't change, they would just continue to rob trains and banks and the story would remain the same. Might not be good for a sequel.

James Bond was a stayer who started out resourceful, suave, unflappable and smart. At end of each of Ian Fleming's novels, Bond is still resourceful, suave, unflappable and smart. His personality does not alter. Even if a good woman came into his life, she would not alter his personality. He is perfect in who he is and he is a stayer.

There were George and Lennie in "Of Mice and Men." John Steinbeck wrote his characters with the same motivation throughout. They wanted to earn enough to buy a small farm. Their personalities remained the same. George, the planner, and dim-witted Lennie, the caretaker, remained the well-meaning bumbler who brings them both to tragedy. The story changed, but they didn't.

There is an academy called the Game Changers Academy. They advertise, "Most people are broke, stressed and struggling, don't be one of them. Blaze your own trail. Start living life on your terms." That sounds promising for a changer, but not for a stayer.

Why not stayers? They don't see themselves broke, stressed or struggling. They might have a slight problem along the way, but it's just a hiccup. They always end up on their feet. Ask them; they are satisfied with

their lives.

We have one member in the family who is a stayer. He's a lovable lump and if you asked him if he was ever going to change, he'd say, "Why?" He couldn't compute with that line of thinking. He likes himself the way he is.

I told my daughter, he doesn't fall far from the tree. He is who he is and he's just like my dad. My dad was a fun, lovable guy, and everyone loved him. He passed away at the age of 39; he never changed and he was probably satisfied with his life. I was too young to process it, but he seemed happy enough.

On the other hand, my mother was a changer. A widow at 36, she had to step up immediately. My dad didn't make provisions for his widow. He didn't think about it; he was having fun. When this tragedy hit our family, she had never worked outside the home, but she went to night school and learned a trade. She raised three children on her own.

I told my writers' class that my dad was everything to everyone but not to my mother. My mother loved him, but didn't like him. I wouldn't think their story could make a good sequel. After class time, one of the writers gave me a note, which read, "He was everything to everyone, but he wasn't her everything." There's another line of thinking, another story in the making.

Then there are the changers. They are never satisfied. They are always

changing, reinventing themselves. They are self-introspective, driven and motivated. They don't understand why others aren't driven like them or want to change.

I have two grandsons who are changers. They have little tolerance for those who aren't going places. They live under their own stress to be better. They will make their mark in life. They will become game changers one day.

My Sweet Al is a stayer, and I'm a changer. I surely wouldn't want to be married to a changer. He might hinder me from changing and doing all I want to do. He'd be caught up in doing his own changing.

Final brushstroke: I just received a news flash. I was informed that I was a finalist in Kathy Ide's "Promising Beginnings" writing contest with my entry "Under Heaven's Rage." Out of 100 entries, Ide chose 20 as finalists. I was one of them. Should I say, "I rest my case." I have just made it available as an e-book, and soon to be a paperback.

I've learned in writing these novels that I am living among my own characters. One is sitting next to me and still thumbing through his dog magazine. Does he care or want to know about this exciting tidbit about a character arc? No, not at all. My Sweet Al is "I yam what I yam and I yam happy." He's adorable enough for me to let him be who he is and, by God's grace, we will finish our story together as a stayer and a changer.

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Dodge for a Cause tournament registrations due Friday

By Traci Bishop
PREVIEW Columnist

Come out for a day of fun with family and friends and help raise money for our youth on Saturday, Feb. 20.

The Dodge for a Cause tournament will benefit 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 available.

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

There will be prizes for most uniquely 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. The registration deadline for all teams is Friday, Feb. 12. Registrations can be found at the Community Center.

For more information, please call us at 264-4152.

Open gym Saturday

Come down and mix up your Saturday with some basketball. The gym will be open to the public for use from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

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

Zumba classes

Instructors Leslie Holleman and Rhonda Sledge are now offering Zumba classes on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. and Saturday mornings from 10:15 to 11:15 a.m. at the Community Center.

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

Meditation class starting

Don't miss out on the new free meditation program offered Thursday evenings from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Meditation, if done properly, creates an awakened awareness, focus, peace of mind and joy. It allows us to be "present," therefore experiencing 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 whom he studied the energy exer-

Community Center News

cises and meditation techniques of the ancient Nyingma tradition.

Because We Care

The Community Center and Pagosa Springs Parks and Recreation Department are very excited to announce their new Because We Care Program. This program is run year-round and offers many opportunities for all ages in our community.

The Because We Care Program is kicking off with a Boys to Men class, a women's self-defense class and CPR/AED-certification classes. Please watch for more classes to be offered.

Boys to Men

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 is required.

This class is designed for boys 9 years of age and older. Registrations for the Boys to Men classes are due by Friday, Feb. 17. The registration fee for this five-week class is \$35.

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

Women's self-defense

Have you always wanted to learn self-defense, but did not know where to start? In this class, we will develop ways to survive a potentially violent encounter.

More than just a self-defense class, we will also learn proper body alignment, breathing and rooting exercises learning to feel "at home" in our bodies.

Instead of focusing solely on fighting drills, which are often forgotten in a fearful setting, we will learn situational awareness — how

to respond without fear and how to deal with a threat quickly and efficiently. This is a great class for discovering personal power and how to use it.

Registration for the women's self-defense class is due by Friday, Feb. 17. The registration fee for this five-week class is \$35.

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

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 is \$50 per student. Space is limited, so hurry to the Community Center to get signed up.

Free programs

The Community Center offers many free programs throughout the week. Check The PREVIEW calendar and the website, racc.co, for a current calendar of programs.

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 Community Center is located at 451 Hot Springs Blvd. Phone is 264-4152, email is community-center@pagosasprings.co.gov.

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VA to cover eight conditions caused by Camp Lejeune water

Veterans who contracted crippling diseases after drinking, cooking with and bathing in the tainted water at a North Carolina Marine Corps base were finally granted disability status from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Dec. 17, 2015, despite the fact that the government has known about contaminants there for decades.

The VA has determined that eight medical conditions are linked to service at Camp Lejeune, N.C., from 1953 to 1987, and veterans with these diseases who were stationed at the sprawling Marine Corps base are eligible for disability compensation.

VA officials said the eight diseases that have been determined to be service-connected to consuming contaminated drinking water at the base: kidney cancer, liver cancer, non-Hodgkin lymphoma, leukemia, multiple myeloma, scleroderma, Parkinson's disease and aplastic anemia or other myelodysplastic syndromes.

VA Secretary Robert McDonald said research by health experts at the Veterans Health Administration and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, an arm of the

Veterans Corner

Raymond Taylor



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, indicated that the risk of developing these illnesses is elevated by exposure to contaminants found in the water, including perchloroethylene, trichloroethylene, benzene and other volatile organic compounds.

"The water at Camp Lejeune was a hidden hazard, and it is only years later that we know how dangerous it was," McDonald said. "We thank ATSDR for the thorough review that provided much of the evidence we needed to fully compensate veterans who develop one of the conditions known to be related to exposure to the compounds in the drinking water."

Nearly a million people, including troops, family members and civilian employees working at Camp Lejeune from the 1950s through the 1980s, were exposed to these chem-

icals and other cancer-causing agents in the base's drinking water, supplied by two water treatment facilities polluted by dry cleaning compounds, leaking underground storage tanks, industrial spills and poor disposal practices.

The VA has provided health care or reimbursement for medical costs for veterans who served at Camp Lejeune at least 30 days during the affected period or family members with 15 illnesses related to exposure to water contaminated by solvents and fuels, but it had not awarded "presumptive status" to any condition until now. The changes will take effect after VA publishes regulations regarding these presumptions, and will apply to new disability claims.

Veterans who have previously been denied on such claims may seek to be reevaluated. Also, any pending claims that might be denied under current regulations will be placed on hold until the VA issues its final rules, according to a department press release.

The bedrock eligibility rules will be that veterans must have one of the eight specified conditions and must have served at Camp Lejeune

■ See Veterans on next page

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A parents' guide to teen dating violence

By Cheryl Bowdridge

Special to The PREVIEW

A healthy relationship is based on eight key factors. Those key factors are:

- Respect — are you accepted by your partner for who you are?
- Safety — do you feel emotionally and physically safe in all of your relationships?
- Support — does your partner support you and want what is best for you?
- Individuality — do you pretend to be someone you're not or can you be yourself with your partner?
- Equality — do you have an equal say in your relationship?
- Acceptance — does your partner accept you for who you really are without compromising your beliefs?
- Trust — are you always honest and trust what your partner says?
- Communication — do you listen to each other and hear what the other one is saying?

As a parent, you can encourage healthy relationships by being sensitive to the pressures of adolescence and provide understanding and support to tweens and teens.

Be aware of your teen's use of technology and set appropriate age limits for usage.

Be involved in and give them encouragement in their relationships. Be assertive with a balance of sensitivity to their feelings.

Express clear values and expectations.

Talk to your teens about the pressures of adolescence and make sure they are aware that they have the right to choose respect for themselves.

Model positive relationships for your children; they will then be clear on what a positive, healthy relationship should be. However, remember because you are a good model does not mean that your teen could not end up in an abusive relationship. Abuse knows no gender, race, religion or economic status. It can happen to anyone at any time.

Be aware of warning signs. Just because you do not see physical markings does not mean your child is not in an unhealthy relationship. Watch for control and lack of communication; does your teen spend too much time with their partner? Has their attitude changed or their circle of friends changed? Do they spend time at your house or do they always leave? Has your teen given up activities that they enjoy? All of these things are signs of control and emotional abuse.

One in three young adults will experience dating violence between the ages of 16 and 24.

February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month — it is the responsibility of us all to raise awareness and make sure our kids know what a healthy positive relationship should consist of.

If you feel your child is in an unhealthy relationship or you would like more information about how to help your child succeed in having healthy relationships, visit www.loveisrespect.org or call Cheryl Bowdridge at 946-5276 for more information.

Veterans

■ continued from previous page

between Aug. 1, 1953, and Dec. 31, 1987. The new rules also will expand eligibility to reserve and National Guard members who served at Camp Lejeune for any length of time during that period.

A VA spokeswoman said compensation awarded as a result of the proposed regulations, if adopted, will "be effective no earlier than the date the final rule is published."

Veterans have expressed frustration over the low rate of claims approvals for illnesses related to the Camp Lejeune water. Hundreds of veterans attended a meeting of the Camp Lejeune Community Assistance Panel on Dec. 5, 2015, in Tampa, Fla., to express frustration with the VA's handling of claims and plead with VA officials to improve the process.

Paul Maslow, a veteran who walks with a cane and said he has inoperable tumors on his spine and elsewhere, said he and thousands of former troops need assistance.

"You are not helping us, you are hurting us," Maslow told VA officials attending the meeting. "And the more you delay, the more of us ... are going to die."

Two senators who pressed VA to change its policies regarding benefits for Camp Lejeune veterans said Dec. 17, 2015, they applauded the VA's decision, calling it a "victory for those who have suffered."

"The VA has conceded that it will no longer deny disability benefits to Camp Lejeune victims based on ridiculous scientific claims," Sen. Richard Burr, R-N.C., said.

"VA is finally granting some justice to veterans who were exposed to contaminated drinking water while assigned to Camp Lejeune," said Sen. Thom Tillis, R-N.C. "The victims of this tragedy have waited far too long to receive disability benefits."

VA is working on regulations that would establish these presumptions, making it easier for affected veterans to receive VA disability compensation for these conditions. While VA cannot grant any benefit claims based on the proposed presumption of service connection for these conditions until it issues its final regulations, it encourages veterans who have a record of service at Camp Lejeune between Aug. 1, 1953, and Dec. 31, 1987, and develop a condition that they believe is related to exposure to the drinking water at the base, to file a disability compensation claim with VA.

VA will announce when the regulations are final and presumptive benefits can begin to be awarded.

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

■ See Veterans on next page

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How to care for your Valentine's bouquet

By Roberta Tolan
PREVIEW Columnist

The Extension office will be closed for Presidents Day on Feb. 15.

Valentine's Day is one of the busiest days of the year for many florists. Here in Pagosa, our local florists do an amazing job of creating beautiful arrangements of flowers and greenery in baskets and bouquets that are sure to warm the heart of lucky recipients. Be sure to shop locally for the freshest flowers and friendliest service.

If you are one of those lucky recipients, you can keep your flower arrangements looking fresh and beautiful longer with just a few easy tips.

As soon you receive the cut flow-

Extension Viewpoints

ers, fill your container with warm water (about 100-110 degrees F). Although warm water is better than cold, many flowers are not fussy and take up cold water readily. In case of doubt, use warm water.

The water should be about half the depth of the entire stem length, preferably containing a floral preservative or bactericide.

Before placing them in the vase, recut the stems at an angle. Remove 1-2 inches with a sharp knife under warm water if possible.

Probably the easiest way to do this is to make the cut while holding the stem under running warm water. Then immediately place the stem into a container of warm water with preservative before the stem end dries.

Keep the actual blooms dry and out of the water.

Place the containers of cut flowers in a cool, humid place free

■ See Viewpoints on next page

Veterans

■ continued from previous page

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.

Important numbers

- 799-VETS, www.Vets4VetsPSCO.org.

- Durango VA Outpatient Clinic: 247-2214.

- Farmington VA Center: (505) 326-4383.

- VAMC Albuquerque, N.M.: (800) 465-8262.

- VAMC Albuquerque, N.M., emergency notification: (800) 465-8262, ext. 5739.

- The Veterans Crisis Line offers free, confidential support to veterans in crisis, as well as their family and friends 24/7/365. Call (800) 273-8255, chat online or text 838255.

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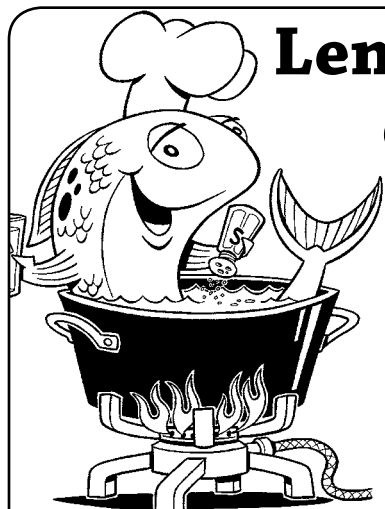


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San Juan Stargazers welcome all telescope owners

By Patrick Hasenbuhler
Special to The PREVIEW

Do you have a telescope in your closet or think you may want to buy one to view the incredibly beautiful night skies of Pagosa? Or, perhaps you've wondered about that bright star that can be seen in the evening and early morning sky? The San Juan Stargazers Astronomy Club can help you.

At the next club meeting on Feb. 25, we will be looking at the three basic types of telescopes used to view the night sky. They are: the lensed or refractor (first used to view the night sky by Galileo), the mirror or reflector (invented by Sir Isaac Newton) and one that is becoming more and more popular, the Schmidt Cassegrain (a combination of the two). You do not have to be a member of the San Juan Stargazers or own a telescope to come to the meeting. Everyone between the ages of 6 and 96-plus

who wants to learn more about astronomy is welcome.

The San Juan Stargazers meet the fourth Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. in the Pagosa Springs Visitor Center on Hot Springs Boulevard.

We will also discuss the basics of how and where to look for those beautiful gems in the night sky that can only be seen with the aid of a telescope or binoculars.

So, dig out that telescope that was given to you so many Christmases or birthdays ago and bring it along so we can help you get on your way to experiencing the beautiful night skies of Pagosa.

As always, when viewing outdoors, dress in layers and dress warmly with a hat, gloves and really warm boots. Towards the end of our meeting, we will go outside to practice what we have learned.

The San Juan Stargazers also help with the Chimney Rock Night Sky and Moon Viewing Plus pro-

grams, where telescopes are set up in the upper parking lot of Chimney Rock National Monument after an introductory astronomy program. Volunteers are always needed not only to use the four CRIA-owned telescopes, but for general organization and "crowd-control."

By the way, that beautiful, bright star you may see in the early evening and all through the night until early morning is not a star, but the planet Jupiter. If the night sky is clear, we can show you Jupiter's four Galilean moons and other wonders on Feb. 25.

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. Hope to see you soon.

Viewpoints

■ continued from previous page from drafts.

Water quality affects flower life. Both hard water (containing many dissolved materials) and hard water that has been "softened" with a home water-softener are unsatisfactory for keeping flowers fresh. The only effective means of improving hard or softened waters is to distill or deionize them, or you can buy water that has been treated. Floral preservatives contain some acidifying material that helps make water more acid and desirable. However, hard, alkaline waters may require twice the amount of preservative as distilled, acid or naturally soft water.

Prolonging the life of cut flowers and foliage

• Since most of the water comes in through the cut end of the stem, this surface must be kept functioning. Cutting stems under warm water and placing them into a container of warm water prevents air bubbles from getting into the cut end of the stem, plugging up the conducting cells and preventing or slowing water uptake. Warm water forces out any bubbles that might get into the stem.

• Bacteria attach and destroy the cut end of the stem and effectively plug up the conducting tissues. This condition is the most frequent cause for short flower life. Use a bactericide (such as chlorine bleach) or a floral preservative to control bacteria.

• A sharp knife used to make a clean diagonal cut does minimal damage to the stem end. The only practical way to cut a flower stem with a knife is diagonally. The sharp stem end also penetrates floral

foam more easily when the flowers are arranged.

• Check the water level in the container daily and add enough to keep all stems in water. This is especially important if floral foams are used as stem holders.

• If the water becomes cloudy, change it. Wash the container thoroughly and recut the stems to get rid of bacteria and to expose a fresh stem end.

• Use only clean, thoroughly washed or sterilized vases and containers.

Using floral preservatives

A number of commercial floral preservatives are available and most florists provide a preservative with each cut flower arrangement. These, if used properly, can prolong the useful life of cut flowers by one to several days. Sometimes the life span is even doubled.

If you know that your water is quite alkaline (pH8-10) or hard, or both, use up to twice the recommended amount. You may also wish to experiment on your own.

Several homemade preservatives work quite well:

• 2 teaspoons sugar + 1/2 teaspoon chlorox + 1/4 teaspoon alum + 1 quart water.

• 2 tablespoons white vinegar + 2 teaspoons sugar = 1/2 teaspoon bleach + 1 quart water.

• 1 pint non-diet (must contain sugar) non-cola drink (i.e. Sprite, 7-Up, etc.) + 1/2 teaspoon chlorox + 1 pint water.

Repeated scientific testing has shown that aspirin or pennies (to supply copper to reduce bacterial activity) in the water do not prolong the useful life of cut flowers.

Tips for rose care

You may receive roses as a gift packed in a box without water or arranged with their stems in a container of water or in wet floral foam. Here are some tips to get the most enjoyment from your roses.

Boxed roses without water:

• Remove all foliage that will be in water.

• Cut the stems up about 1 inch from the ends while holding them under warm water.

• Place the cut stems in warm water with floral preservative and keep them in a cold, draft-free place while they soak up water.

• Soak floral foams in a preservative before use.

Roses arranged in a water-filled container:

• Check the water level and fill it to the brim with water or a preservative solution.

• Check water level daily.

• Place the arrangement in the coolest place available for display. Avoid drafts, direct sun or heat.

If a rose wilts or is wilted upon receipt, remove it from the arrangement. Recut the stem under water as above, submerge the entire rose, including stem and foliage, by laying it out flat in a pan of warm water or in the bathtub. Replace it in the arrangement after it has revived by becoming full of water (often after 20 minutes to an hour). Some immature roses that have been cut too tight and have wilted severely can never be revived.

The above information was taken from the article "Care of Cut Flowers and Foliage," written by James C. Schmidt, horticulturist, University of Illinois.

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**3rd Monday
of every month
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Monday, February 15

Monday, March 21

Monday, April 18

Restoration Fellowship church parking lot

264 Village Drive (behind City Market)

Call Vickie at (970) 903-0996 with questions

You must:

- Meet income-based standards OR if you receive CSFP, SNAP, LEAP, TANF, OAP, AND, AB, SSI or have Medicaid Eligible Foster Children, you qualify.
- Bring proof of Archuleta County residency
- Bring a photo ID (and bags or boxes to carry your food in)

Food will be distributed while supplies last.

The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) is a Federal program administered through the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) that helps supplement the diets of low-income Americans, including elderly people, by providing them with emergency food and nutrition assistance at no cost. USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

**Call to sign up for
new senior boxes too!**



Photo courtesy John M. Motter

This is an 1894 photo of Pagosa Springs looking south over town. The four buildings in the foreground are the officer's quarters from Fort Lewis, located where the current junior high gym is located on 4th Street. Fort Lewis in Pagosa Springs was abandoned in 1882, but the fort buildings were not torn down until later.

How Wolf Creek Pass came to be

We've been writing about Elwood Pass, an important entry route into Pagosa Country during pioneer times. Elwood Pass remained important and was maintained as a Colorado state highway until 1911, when the San Juan Mountains were struck during early October by the worst flood of record. The Elwood Pass highway washed out in the canyon portion between Joe Mann's cabin and the junction of the San Juan River east and west branches.

The Colorado highway department spent a considerable amount of time scratching their heads while trying to decide what to do about the derelict highway. At first they



Pagosa's Past

John M. Motter

intended to rebuild the old Elwood Pass route. This plan drew opposition from Monte Vista, Del Norte, and South Fork on the east side of the Continental Divide. The old route bypassed those communities, depriving them of tourist income.

State highway department engineer J.E. Maloney leaves the following written account as to why Wolf

Creek Pass was chosen to replace the Elwood Pass route:

"In describing the location of the Wolf Creek Pass road, and the incidents which led up to it, I begin with the first trip the State Highway Commission made over the range in 1910. In that year, during the month of July, Messrs. Allen, Tully, and myself made a trip from Denver via Tennessee Pass, Grand Junction, and Montrose, to Placerville, Naturita, and to the west and south of Lone Cone to Dolores, thence to Mancos, Durango, Pagosa Springs to the junction of the East and West forks of the San Juan River, up the East Fork road

■ See Past on page 15

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Feb. 14 UU topic: ‘A God You Could Believe In’

By Karen LeCour
Special to The PREVIEW

The Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship invites you to attend a program titled “A God You Could Believe In” with the Rev. Christine Robinson, of Albuquerque, in person, this Sunday, Feb. 14, for its regular service.

Robinson’s topic is sure to interest and spark a discussion following the service: “Modern Science, specifically the science of emergence, suggests some exciting theological possibilities that give great meaning to our lives and are in accord with the physical universe.”

Robinson has been the senior minister of First Unitarian Church of Albuquerque for 27 years and, for many of those years, she has spent a winter weekend sharing her ministry with the fellowship. She also visits through the DVD

subscription program offered by First Unitarian.

Robinson writes for the UU World magazine and speaks regularly at the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) General Assembly.

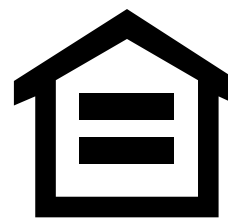
Under her leadership, First Unitarian has grown exponentially and was selected as a “breakthrough congregation” for 2009 by the UUA’s Growth Team. Under Robinson’s leadership, growth has extended beyond Albuquerque to include three other New Mexico towns — Socorro, Edgewood and Carlsbad — all of which receive live video-assisted services, pastoral care and leadership mentoring.

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

The Pagosa Unitarian Univer-

salist 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.

HUD
Publisher's Notice



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All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing act which makes it illegal to advertise “any preference limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or an intention, to make such preference, limitation or discrimination.” Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

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.

Hide and seek

By Jan Davis
Special to The PREVIEW

We played hide and seek as kids and couldn’t wait for darkness to settle over the yard. One stayed behind to count while the others hid. My cousins, brothers and sister ran to hide in a secluded place. We kept a close eye on the hunter and when the coast was clear, we ran home and shouted “safe.” If we made it home without being tagged, we were free to hide again. The one caught would take his turn to count and be “it.”

Afraid of things in the dark, I hid close to home. I watched and, when it was safe, I ran in. It worked as the hunter rushed off to find those hidden in the darkest places.

I think about this childhood game and realize I lived a life of hide and seek. Jesus stood at home. Hidden in the shadows of obscurity I watched Him from my vantage point. His light led me back.

Other times, I would hide further away from His presence. The things hidden in the dark tormented me. The deep recesses of darkness made it hard for me to find my way back to Him. But he always found me. I ran into the safety of his arms.

At times, I felt the darkness pull me into its hiding places. The light grew dim as I went deeper into the shadows. The force of the night drew me into its clutches. I looked, but could no longer see the light. The harder I tried to pull myself out of the darkness, the more entrenched I became.

In my darkest night, I asked Christ for help. I couldn’t find the light alone. The light of His Word broke through the darkness. It was

A Matter of Faith

a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. It led me back to Him. I found peace and safety in His arms.

How many times have we hidden from the one who searches for us? We hide from the one person, the one place where we are safe. Jesus draws us out of the recesses of darkness into His light. We can run but not hide from his love.

Because of Jesus I was found. “He reveals deep and secret things; He knows what is in the darkness, And light dwells with Him,” Daniel 2:22 (NKJV).

I love you, but Jesus loves you more!

Readers’ comments

We invite Faith Writers to send articles for publication (500 to 800 words). You are also invited to be a part of the Wolf Creek Christian Writers Network. Email betty@betty-slade.com for details about time and place.

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The Pagosa Springs SUN
264-2101

SUDOKU

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

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!

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

ANSWER:

Interfaith Community to ponder love and roses on Valentine's Day

By **Carla Ryan**
Special to The PREVIEW

GLOBAL Interfaith Community (GIC) and New Thought minister the Rev. Carla Ryan will present a spiritually based service on Sunday, Feb. 14, at 10:30 a.m. in the north room of the PLPOA Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave.

The topic for this service will be "What's Love Got to Do with It?" Love and roses will be the focus of the day, presented from a religious science perspective and with a small gift offered to all guests to recognize the holiday.

Attendees of the past few services have expressed interest in learning more about New Thought philosophy, so a schedule of upcoming SOM (Science of Mind) classes and workshops will be announced, as well.

GIC is an authorized teaching center of Emerson Theological Institute and classes are accredited through that association toward various degrees in religious studies. Whether a student is interested in pursuing a degree program, becoming a licensed practitioner or simply wanting to go deeper into their own spiritual studies,

the classes and workshops are an excellent way to achieve those desires.

GIC offers New Thought services at the PLPOA Clubhouse on the second and fourth Sundays of each month. February's dates are Feb. 14 and 28; March will be March 13 and 27 (Easter). Each service includes a spiritual message, music and meditation. Everyone is welcome.

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

Past

■ continued from page 13

which was a travelled road at that time, and on over Timber Hill.

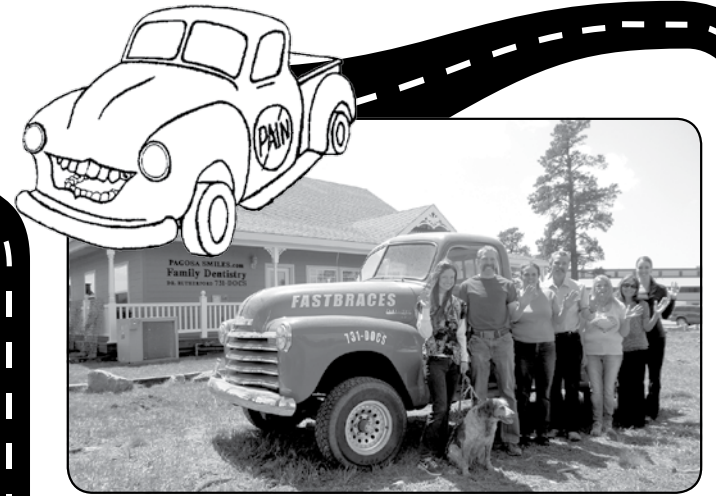
"We were compelled to put up at the foot of Timber Hill overnight, obtaining a span of mules the next day to help us over Timber Hill. From the top of Timber Hill, we went to Elwood Pass, then down the Alamosa River into the San Luis Valley, thence to Alamosa. This strip of road, the

East Fork of the San Juan River to the top of Elwood Pass, contained a great many stretches of very steep grades, especially the grade up Timber Hill."

In 1911, a flood washed this section of the road out from the base of Timber Hill to the junction of the San Juan River. There was much discussion as to the rebuilding of this road, many routes being proposed, the people of the southwest corner of

the state being very much interested in having an outlet to the East, and were pushing this outlet.

Mr. Herr, who was a member of the State Highway Advisory Board at that time, was a resident of Durango, and he and Sen. West and others were active in urging the rebuilding of the connection of the San Juan Basin with the San Luis Valley. More next week on how Wolf Creek Pass was born.



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SAVE THE DATE

Mon., Feb. 29 • 4:30-6:30 pm
Riff Raff Brewing Company

Learn: How the program works
How solar energy works
Financing options available

Sponsored by the Solarize Archuleta Volunteer Committee



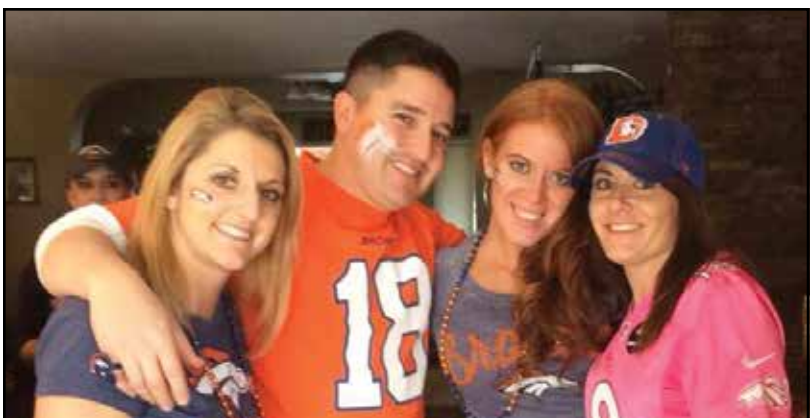
Solarize Archuleta

solarizearchuleta@fourcore.org

PAGOSA SCENE . . .

BRONCOS FANS

Photos courtesy Pagosa SUN friends
Scene ... celebrating the Denver Broncos' win in Super Bowl 50 Sunday. The SUN asked its Facebook friends to share photos of them supporting the Broncos' quest for the Lombardi Trophy, and one thing was clear — Pagosa Springs, too, was United in Orange. The Broncos defeated the Carolina Panthers 24-10 in the championship.





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pepsi Budweiser BUD LIGHT

Preview Calendar

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

Thursday, Feb. 11

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

Health Insurance Options. 10-11:30 a.m., Sisson Library. Come for drop-in sessions to learn about health insurance via Medicaid and Connect for Health, as well as medical savings plans for seniors.

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

Overeaters Anonymous. 11 a.m., Centerpoint Church. Everyone is welcome. For further information, call Leslie at 799-0775.

Mountain View Homemakers. 11:30 a.m., CSU Extension Building. Topic is "My favorite things." Covered-dish lunch prepared by members. Briefly share your favorite tip, book, recipe or treasured object. Call Tozi at 731-3360 with questions.

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 lynrose323bc@gmail.com.

Meditation Class. 5:30-6:30 p.m., Community Center. You will learn and explore various methods.

Friday, Feb. 12

Pickleball. 8-10 a.m., Community Center. Loaner paddles are available if you don't have one.

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

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

Facebook for Individuals. 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Sisson Library. Registration required. Learn the basics of a personal Facebook account. Learn how to create an account, find friends, upload photos/videos, post a status update and set privacy settings. Call 264-2209 to register.

Duplicate Bridge. Noon-5 p.m., Community Center. Call Stan at 731-2217 to get signed up.

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

Movie. 2-3:15 p.m., Sisson Library. For all ages. Explore the world of the emperor penguin through a little penguin who can dance. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Knights of Columbus Fish Fry. 5-7 p.m., Parish Hall.

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

Saturday, Feb. 13

Open Gym. 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Community Center. Come start your morning out with open-gym basketball.

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.

Meditation and Dharma Talk. 10 a.m., Unitarian Universal Fellowship, Suite 15-B, 70 Greenbriar Drive. Debra Quayle offers monthly dharma talks and meditation guidance. All are welcome.

Pagosa Piecemakers Quilting Guild. 10 a.m., CrossRoad Christian Fellowship, 1044 Park Ave. This is a perfect time to visit/join and learn about the great programs and workshops ahead. All skills or just interested bystanders are welcome to meet and greet, refreshments, show 'n' tell and friendly fellowship.

Zumba. 10:15-11:15 a.m., Community Center. Come start your morning out with this one-of-a-kind cardio workout.

LEGO Club. 10:30-11:15 a.m., Sisson Library. Join us to build wonderful creations with LEGOs. For ages 6-13.

Sunday, Feb. 14

Global Interfaith Community. 10:30 a.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. New Thought Minister Carla Ryan will present a spiritually based service. The topic will be "What's Love Got to Do with It?" For more information, contact Ryan at GOBAL.Interfaith1@gmail.com.

Earth Community. 2 p.m., Sisson Library. We will be showing a short film. Earth Community Pagosa is working on increasing the safety of our food supply. There will be refreshments.

Sunday Night Unplugged. 5 p.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Local artist Charles Martinez will offer the mystic sounds of the Native American flute.

Bingo. 6 p.m., Parish Hall. Doors open at 5 p.m., bingo from 6-8

■ See Calendar on next page

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Diminish
- 5 Farmer's task
- 10 "Cut it out!"
- 14 Horse color
- 15 Part of a voting machine
- 16 Finger jab
- 17 First step
- 19 Pervasive quality
- 20 Something to hum
- 21 Typical blue-stater
- 23 Failure
- 25 Catch, in a way
- 26 Koontz novel set in the Arctic
- 30 Money back
- 34 Kind of pie
- 35 Marketing tactic
- 37 Part of U.S.N.A.
- 38 Champagne designation
- 40 Andrea Bocelli, for one
- 42 Drink garnish
- 43 Stomach woe
- 45 Confute
- 47 Gray, in a way
- 48 Lace place
- 50 Outward manner
- 52 British nobleman
- 54 Pocket particles
- 55 Announce formally
- 59 Rub the wrong way
- 63 ___ lamp
- 64 One-sided
- 66 Awfully long time
- 67 Honeydew, e.g.
- 68 ___ souci
- 69 Carnival sight
- 70 Well-practiced
- 71 Preschooler

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
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43				44		45				46		47		
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			52			53		54						
55	56	57					58		59			60	61	62
63					64			65						
66					67					68				
69					70						71			

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- 2 Blue-ribbon
- 3 Detective, at times
- 4 Put away, in a way
- 5 Toddler's wear
- 6 Book end?
- 7 Ardent
- 8 "Well, I ___!"
- 9 Aftershock
- 10 Keyboard feature
- 11 ___ de force
- 12 Stew vegetable
- 13 ___ moss
- 18 Half-wit
- 22 Storefront sign
- 24 Curl one's lip
- 26 Permeate
- 27 Like some fries
- 28 Draw forth
- 29 Ate
- 31 Winged
- 32 Argentine dance
- 33 One sought for advice
- 36 Dynamite inventor

- 39 Air
- 41 Cud chewer
- 44 Down-to-earth
- 46 Basic belief
- 49 Kind of center
- 51 Certify
- 53 Like composition paper
- 55 Surveyor's work

- 56 Foam at the mouth
- 57 Beehive, e.g.
- 58 Distance in a Stephen King title
- 60 Carhop's load
- 61 Long and lean
- 62 End of a threat
- 65 Chop (off)

Answer to Last Week's Crossword:

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

GOODBYE POLIO. THANK YOU, ROTARY.

Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

p.m. Concessions and cash prizes. No outside food or drink.

Monday, Feb. 15

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.

Tuesday, Feb. 16

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

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

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

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 sign up.

Pajama Time Storytime. 6-6:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Join us for a pajama storytime recommended for children 7 and under and their families. Little ones can come dressed in their pajamas and bring their favorite snuggle toy. We will sing, dance and read our way to bed. Call 264-2209 for more information.

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, Feb. 17

Pickleball. 8-10 a.m., Community Center, Loaner paddles are available if you don't have one.

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. Please bring a mat or a towel.

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

Republican Central Committee. Noon, Boss Hogg's Restaurant. Monthly meeting, all are welcome.

HELP (Healthy Eating Lifestyle Plan). Noon-1 p.m., Community United Methodist Church. Weigh-in, support and more. Everyone is 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.

Jelly Beans and Squiggly Things After-School Club. 3:30-5 p.m., Pagosa Springs Elementary School, room 9. For information, call 903-8104.

ESL Conversation 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 e-mail lynrose323bc@gmail.com.

Zumba. 5:30-6:30 p.m., Community Center. Come enjoy this one-of-a-kind cardio class open to all ages.

The Spouses/Family of Veterans Group. 5:30-7 p.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church. 225 S. Pagosa

Blvd. Contact Dr. Sharon Carter at 398-0883 or Charlotte at 731-1025 for further information.

Wild West Square Dance Class. 6:45-7:45 p.m., PLPOA Vista 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.

Whadyacallit Drag Wednesday. 7 p.m., Pagosa Center for the Arts. Resident drag queen Beverly hosts the night full of games you know with a Thingamajig twist. For more information, go to pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Thursday, Feb. 18

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

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

Overeaters Anonymous. 11 a.m., Centerpoint Church. Everyone is welcome. For further information

■ See Calendar on next page

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Nathan Thomas, CPA; Marianna Dwinell, Bookkeeper; Jason Peterson, CPA ND; Gayla Bradbury, Office Manager; Tara Hughes, PA

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Jason Peterson, CPA ND

Cornerstone Accounting Services is pleased to announce the addition of Jason Peterson, CPA ND, to our firm. Jason is a trusted member of the Pagosa Springs business community and brings his years of experience to our company.

With the addition of Jason, Cornerstone Accounting Services is excited to grow and serve you better. Contact us today to find out how we can meet your needs.

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Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

mation, call Leslie at 799-0775.
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.

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

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.

Meditation Class. 5:30-6:30 p.m., Community Center. You will learn and explore various methods.

Friday, Feb. 19

Pickleball. 8-10 a.m., Community Center, Loaner paddles are available if you don't have one.

Pagosa Stitching Group. 9:30-11:30 a.m., second floor of the Pruitt

building, Pagosa Springs Medical Center. Bring your stitching project and enjoy coffee and camaraderie. All stitchers are welcome.

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

Facebook for Business. 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Sisson Library. Registration required. This class will teach you about promoting your business through Facebook. Please note that participants are expected to have a general understanding of Facebook for personal use. Call 264-2209 for more information and to register.

Duplicate Bridge. Noon-5 p.m., Community Center. Call Stan at 731-2217 to get signed up.

Gaming For All Ages. 2-3:15 p.m., Sisson Library. Enjoy video gaming on the Wii and Xbox 360 Kinect. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Knights of Columbus Fish Fry. 5-7 p.m., Parish Hall.

Thingamajig Theater Company Presents "How to Eat Like a Child." 7 p.m., Pagosa Center for the Arts. This comedic romp through the joys and sorrows of being a child is hilarious. Lessons are given in such subjects

as how to beg for a dog, how to torture your sister, how to act after being sent to your room and how to laugh hysterically. The pace is fast, the tone subversive and the recognition instant. For ticket information, go to www.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, Feb. 20

Coed Dodgeball Tournament. Community Center. Come out for a day of fun with family and friends and help raise money for our youth. This tournament benefits the Marky Egan Youth Scholarship Fund Program. Registration fee is \$10 per person with a minimum of six players. For more information, call 264-4152.

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.

Earth Community. 2 p.m., Sisson Library. We will be showing a short film. Earth Community

■ See Calendar on next page

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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

■ continued from previous page

Pagosa is working on increasing the safety of our food supply. There will be refreshments.

Thingamajig Theater Company Presents "How to Eat Like a Child." 7 p.m., Pagosa Center for the Arts. This comedic romp through the joys and sorrows of being a child is hilarious. Lessons are given in such subjects as how to beg for a dog, how to torture your sister, how to act after being sent to your room and how to laugh hysterically. The pace is fast, the tone subversive and the recognition instant. For ticket information, go to www.pago-sacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Sunday, Feb. 12

Thingamajig Theater Company Presents "How to Eat Like a Child." 2 p.m., Pagosa Center for the Arts. This comedic romp through the joys and sorrows of being a child is hilarious. Lessons are given in such subjects as how to beg for a dog, how to torture your sister, how to act after being sent to your room and how to laugh hysterically. The pace is fast, the tone subversive and the recognition instant. For ticket information, go to www.pago-sacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

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

Monday, Feb. 22

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.

Earth Community. 2:30 p.m., Chamber of Commerce. Discussion of "When Corporations Rule the World" by David. C. Korten.

Otaku. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. If you are into anime or manga, join us. 5th-12th grades. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Tuesday, Feb. 23

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

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

Team Gaming. 4-5:30 p.m., Sisson

Library. Join us for Xbox 360 Kinect, Wii and snacks. 7th-12th grades. Call 264-2209 for more 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.

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, Feb. 24

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.

HELP (Healthy Eating Lifestyle Plan). Noon-1 p.m., Community United Methodist Church. Weigh-in, support and more. Everyone is welcome. Call Nancy Strait at 731-3427 for more information.

Jelly Beans and Squiggly Things After-School Club. 3:30-5 p.m., Pagosa Springs Elementary School, room 9. For information, call 903-8104.

ESL Conversation 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 e-mail lynnrose323bc@gmail.com.

Wild West Square Dance Class. 6:45-7:45 p.m., PLPOA Vista 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.

Thursday, Feb. 25

Overeaters Anonymous. 11 a.m., Centerpoint Church. Everyone is welcome. For further information, call Leslie at 799-0775.

Earth Community. 1:30-5 p.m., Visitors Center. Discussion will be on GMOs. There will be books, magazines and copies of studies to take home. Snacks 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.

Thingamajig Theater Company Presents "How to Eat Like a Child." 7 p.m., Pagosa Center for the Arts. This comedic romp through the joys and sorrows of being a child is hilarious. Lessons are given in such subjects as how to beg for a dog, how to torture your sister, how to act after being sent to your room and how to laugh hysterically. The pace is fast, the tone subversive and the recognition instant. For ticket information, go to www.pago-sacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Submit your calendar items to editor@pagosasun.com; mail them to The Pagosa Springs SUN, P.O. Box 9, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147; or deliver them to The SUN office by noon Monday.

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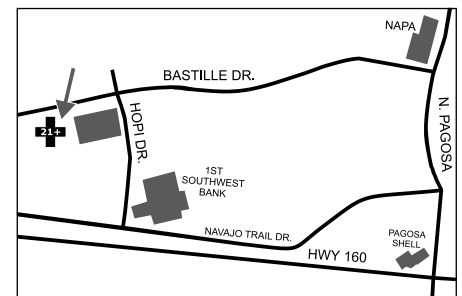
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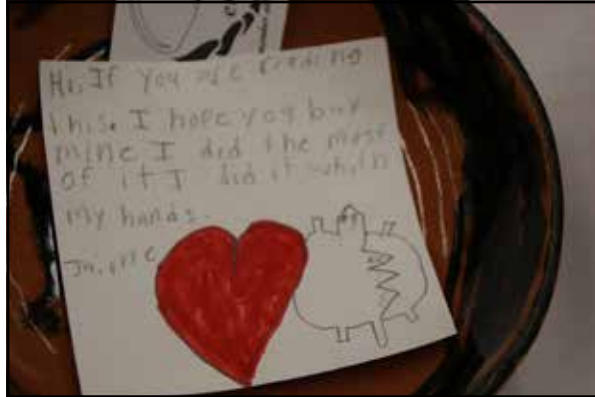
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PAGOSA SCENE . . .

EMPTY BOWLS 'SOUPER BOWL'

PREVIEW photos/Terri House

Scene ... at the Empty Bowls "Souper Bowl" Saturday. In yearly tradition, the Empty Bowls event featured handmade bowls, homemade soup, live performances by local students and a silent auction — all in the name of raising funds to benefit local food banks.



Library Friends offer Kindle Fire 7 drawing to attract new members

By Carole Howard
PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

The Friends of the Library board has an attractive incentive for you to become a Friends member — they will have a drawing for a new Kindle Fire 7 as soon as they meet their goal of attracting 30 new Friends members. When that goal is reached, all Friends members — including new, renewing and lifetime — will be eligible to win the Kindle, which has been donated by a board member.

Annual fees are \$15 for individuals, \$25 for families and \$100 for individual lifetime membership. Applications are available at the library front desk.

Friends membership fees and fundraising efforts like their annual summer book fair have supported multiple major library programs and special purchases over the years, including \$125,000 for the renovation of the library, \$1,500 a year for Summer Reading programs, \$1,600 for the remodel of the circulation desk, \$5,000 for the fence around the garden area, \$10,000 for books and \$8,000 for public computers.

Library News

The Friends' hard work and generosity clearly are vital to the health and success of your library, and they would welcome you as a member.

Sunday closings

As we detailed in last week's "Library News" column, effective March 1, your library will be closed on Sundays.

Although our 2014 patron survey showed an apparent desire for the library to be open on Sundays, the response has been lukewarm at best. We have averaged only 53 patrons visiting the library on Sundays, a small number that does not justify the cost of staff and utilities needed to stay open.

Interestingly, it is not unusual for libraries in southwest Colorado to be closed on Sundays. Durango, Ignacio, Mancos, Dolores, Cortez

and Dove Creek all are closed. Only Bayfield and Telluride are open on Sundays.

We hope this change does not inconvenience you, but we are sure you understand that we have a responsibility to both patrons and taxpayers to spend the library's funds wisely.

Holiday closure

Your library will be closed Monday, Feb. 15 for Presidents Day.

Activities calendars

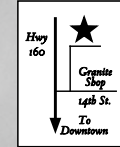
To be sure you don't miss any of the free activities available to you and your families at your library, we encourage you to pick up a copy of the events calendar each month. There are three versions — kids, tweens/teens and adults.

Technology classes

Meg Wempe is available for the highly popular Tech Tuesdays and Thursdays sessions from 10 a.m. to noon on Tuesdays and from 3 to 5 p.m. on Thursdays. Drop in with your technology questions.

A more formal session requiring advance registration takes place

■ See Library on next page



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Library

■ continued from previous page

tomorrow, Friday, Feb. 12, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. when Facebook for Individuals shows you how to create an account, find friends, upload photos and videos, post a status update and set privacy settings.

New free 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.

Access IndieFlix through the Downloadable Content icon on the library's website. Use "Quick Pick," the discovery tool that lets you sample movies like you would music.

Programmed Nooks

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

Mysteries, thrillers and suspense

"Even Dogs in the Wild" by Ian Rankin reunites three of the author's famous characters trying to solve intertwined crimes. "The Plague of Thieves Affair" by Marcia Muller and Bill Pronzini is a Carpenter and Quincannon

mystery set in San Francisco. "The Forgetting Time" by Sharon Guskin follows a mother and psychiatrist dealing with the problems of a 4-year-old. "Brotherhood in Death" by J.D. Robb is a Lt. Eve Dallas mystery. "The Art of War" by Stephen Coonts is a Jake Grafton thriller. "The Ex" by Alafair Burke features a woman who agrees to help an old boyfriend who has been framed for murder. "Breakdown" by Jonathan Kellerman is a psychological suspense story featuring Dr. Alex Delaware. "The High Mountains of Portugal" was written by Yann Martel, author of "Life of Pi."

Novels

"Blue" by Danielle Steel features a woman and a teen who get together after both lost their family. "Swans of Fifth Avenue" by Melanie Benjamin explores the friendship between literary legend Truman Capote and socialite Babe Paley. "The Dog Master" by W. Bruce Cameron tells of an extraordinary friendship with a wolf that changed mankind forever. "This Was Not the Plan" by Cristina Alger follows a lawyer who becomes a much better father after being fired from his prestigious job. "Kingfisher" by Patricia A. McKillip is a fantasy.

Story CDs

"The Guest Room" by Chris Bohjalian tells of the nightmares

following a disastrous bachelor party. "Scandalous Behavior" by Stuart Woods is a Stone Barrington mystery.

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 Shane Gage and several anonymous donors.

Quotable quote

"Go find your passion and embrace it. When you do, you will spring out of bed in the morning and sleep fast at night because you love what you are doing." — "Dr. Phil" McGraw, mental health professional, author and TV host

Website

For more information on library books, services and programs — and to reserve books, e-books, CDs and DVDs from the comfort of your home — please visit our website at <http://pagosa.colibraries.org/>.

What's Cookin'

Mile High Honey Brined and Basted Pork Spare-ribs

Recipe courtesy: Colorado Department of Agriculture and Chef Jason K. Morse, C.E.C.

- 4 racks St. Louis-style pork ribs*
- 1 package brine mix
- 1 cup plus 1/2 cup honey
- 1 cup pork rub
- 1 cup all-purpose meat rub
- 2 cups BBQ sauce

*Ensure the thin membrane is removed from the rib side of the racks.

Brine directions:

In a large stock pot, bring 2 quarts of water to a boil. Add 1 package of the brine to the water. Stir the brine with a whisk to ensure the salt and sugar dissolve. Remove from the heat and allow to cool to room temperature. Add 1 cup honey to brine mixture while cooling and stir. In a large bucket, add 1 gallon of water and 1 gallon of ice, then add the cooled brine solution and mix well. Add the ribs and ensure they are fully submerged. Brine the ribs covered and in the refrigerator for 3-4 hours.

Rub directions:

Remove the ribs from the brine, drain, and place onto a cooking sheet. Sprinkle pork rub onto the meat side and allow to become tacky and wet. Turn the ribs over and sprinkle meat rub onto the rib side and allow to become tacky and wet. Allow the rub to sit for 15 minutes before smoking.

Wood pellet smoking directions:

Fill hopper with pellets. Turn smoker on to smoke setting and allow smoke to start. Once smoke has started, place the ribs meat side up and smoke for 3 hours with the lid closed. At the 3-hour mark, remove ribs and place on cooking sheet. Close the lid and turn temperature to 225 degrees. Adjust the seasoning on ribs if desired, then brush both sides with BBQ sauce, drizzle with honey, then wrap tightly in aluminum foil. Place the ribs back into the smoker and cook for 2 hours. After 2 hours, remove the ribs, place on cooking sheet meat side up and remove the foil. Season, sauce or honey glaze as needed and place back into the smoker. Cook for an additional 45 minutes to 1 hour to set the sauce.

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Deadlines*

Display advertising: Noon, Monday

Classified line ads (regular categories): 10 a.m., Tuesday

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

Legal advertising: 5 p.m., Friday

Letters to the editor: Noon, Tuesday
(500 word maximum, email to editor@pagosasun.com)

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

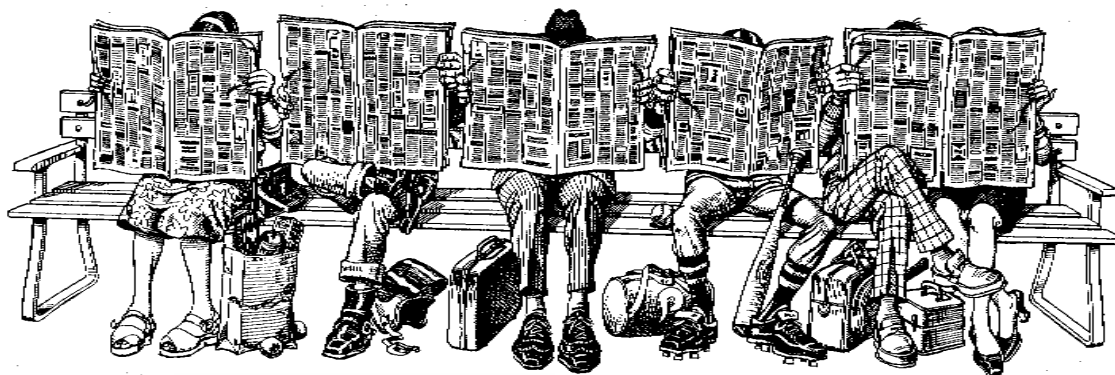
Obituaries: Noon, Tuesday
(We accommodate obituaries after this if at all possible.)

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

**Deadlines are earlier if there is a holiday.*

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Programs available to help seniors stay at home

By Cheryl Wilkinson
PREVIEW Columnist

The Senior Center offers two programs to help seniors safely remain in their homes — the chore programs and a program to help with home monitoring.

Chore program

This program offers in-home chores such as cleaning appliances, rugs, windows, turning mattresses, snow removal, tree trimming, etc. Home modification chore services includes repairs, adaptations such as wheel chair ramps, installing grab bars in bathrooms, etc.

Please call Louise at 264-2167 for more information or to sign up.

Home monitoring

Home monitoring services are available for seniors. We can help you get set up with a system and assist with the monthly service charges or if you already have a system in place, we can help supplement the monthly service fees.

Please call Louise at 264-2167 for more information or to sign up.

VITA tax preparation

VITA will be returning to prepare federal and state income tax returns at no charge as part of the IRS's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program.

Senior News

The planned dates are Saturday, Feb. 20, and Saturday, March 5, by appointment only. The gross income limit this tax season is \$54,000.

Please call 264-2167 for more information or to make an appointment.

Medicare Mondays

Are you turning 65? Are you confused about Medicare? We have openings every Monday at the Senior Center to help you with your Medicare enrollment questions.

Please call 264-0501 to make an appointment with one of our talented and experienced Medicare counselors.

Memberships

Senior Discount Club memberships are offered Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Menu

Everyone is welcome to join us for lunch. If you are a senior (60 years and older), for only a \$4 suggested donation, you are

eligible for a hot meal, drink and a salad prepared by our kitchen staff.

The guest fee for those 59 and under is \$10 and children 10 years and under can eat for \$5 each. Access to the salad bar is only \$6 for those under 60.

Lunch is served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 11 — Beef potpie, roasted vegetables, whole wheat roll, salad bar and melon medley.

Friday, Feb. 12 — Sweetheart salmon, romantic rice, whole wheat roll, be mine mixed vegetables, salad bar and Valentine velvet cake.

Monday, Feb. 15 — Closed for Washington's birthday.

Tuesday, Feb. 16 — Combo burrito, green chili, cilantro rice, Mexican corn, salad bar and fruit.

Wednesday, Feb. 17 — Chicken with gravy and noodles, whole wheat roll, broccoli, salad bar and apple with raisin crisp.

Thursday, Feb. 18 — Sausage with peppers and onions, baked potato, steamed carrots, salad bar and fruit with yogurt.

Reservations and cancellations are required. You can make a reservation at 264-2167 by 9 a.m. the morning of the day you would like to dine in the Community Cafe at the Senior Center.

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PAGOSA SCENE . . .

BARKUS PET PARADE

PREVIEW photos/Marshall Dunham

Scene ... Members of the community and their furry friends gather in Town Park to participate in the first annual Barkus Pet Parade. The event was held in celebration of Mardi Gras, and featured both dogs and their owners in fun, colorful costumes.



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A digitally enhanced version of the guide will be online at **PagosaSUN.com** and **ExplorePagosa.com**. When applicable, your ad will be linked to your website. The tourism committee will provide a link to this guide on visitpagosasprings.com.

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264-2101

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264-2101

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY

PUBLIC NOTICE. The Town of Pagosa Springs has received a "Notice of Appeal" from Walmart Real Estate Business Trust, regarding the Town of Pagosa Springs Planning Director's determination regarding the exterior parking lot lighting being in violation of the Town's Land Use Development Code regulations. The Town Council will conduct an Appeals Hearing to consider the facts and testimony as presented by the Town Planning Director and Wal-Mart Real Estate Business Trust regarding the Planning Director's violation determination. The Town Council may, in whole or in part, affirm, reverse, or amend the Planning Director's determination. The appeals hearing is currently scheduled for Tuesday, March 1, 2016 at 5p.m. in Town Hall, located at 551 Hot Springs Blvd. Anyone wishing to receive more information should contact the Town Planning Department at (970)264-4151, ext. 225.

QUALITY HOME REPAIR. John Brooks, 264-0570.

BANK OF COLORADO in Pagosa Springs is now hiring a full-time Teller Supervisor. Responsibilities include providing quality service, developing long term customer relationships, opening new accounts and advising customers on all bank services. Strong candidates will possess at least 2 years of prior banking experience. Prior cash handling and customer contact experience is a plus. Please apply online at www.bankofcolorado.com by clicking on the career link and choosing the position titled Teller III/ New Accounts.

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GOOD EARTH MEDS SALE: 10% off all regularly priced items for the month of February, for both Medical and Recreational marijuana products. We love our customers and want to show it. Offering 500 mg CO2 vape cartridges, with pen for \$30 (normally \$60), while supplies last. 600 Cloman Blvd. #1. Telephone: 731-3202. www.goodearthmeds.com for menus and directions.

SERIOUS SOURDOUGH HAS a new number, 264-0570. We deliver.

RUDY: Rudy is just a puppy and will need someone familiar with raising a puppy. Some leash training is in order. Adopt from **THE HUMANE SOCIETY.** 731-4771.

NEW STORE, FORGOTTEN THINGS. Consignment, used furniture, antiques, handmade items. We buy, sell and trade almost anything. Located uptown between Upscale Resale and Marconi's Pizza. Vendors wanted, no commission, space available. 731-2367.

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SHOE STORE. Pagosa's new shoe store in historical downtown- FOOT PRINTS. 458 Pagosa St. 264-3668.

WINTER BOOT SALE. Ladies' tall boots 30% off. FOOT PRINTS, 458 Pagosa St. 264-3668.

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ANGELA'S FLOWERS OPEN 9A.M.-6P.M. Thursday, Friday, Saturday for your Valentine's Day orders. 2035 Eagle Dr. or just call 731-1183.

SIDE STREET SUSHI. OPEN Sunday, Valentine's Day. 2 dinner seating, 5p.m and 7p.m. Special menu. Call for reservations after 3:30p.m. 731-6674.

BLUEPRINTS- HAVE YOUR PLANS drawn now. Don't wait til late spring. Be ready to start your house, barn, garage on time. Call Rick, 946-1737.

THE LIFT COFFEE HOUSE now open in new location, 175 Pagosa Street Unit #4, next to Farrago. Serving the freshest cup of coffee anywhere! (970)264-0653.

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CITIZENS BANK is now accepting applications for a Teller position. Some experience preferred. Applications and resumes may be dropped off at 27 Talisman Drive. Equal opportunity employer.

LPN/RN WANTED. NEW GRADS welcome. 12 hour shifts. Must be Colorado licensed, benefit package. Competitive wages. EOE. Apply in person. Pine Ridge Extended Care Center. 119 Bastille Dr. Pagosa Springs.

LOCAL RANCH LOOKING for a wrangler/ laborer for the summer of 2016 May- October. Job description includes fence work, pasture irrigation, lawn maintenance, some heavy equipment experience a bonus. Horse experience and cattle knowledge not a must but would be beneficial. If you're looking for a fun summer job outside in a beautiful setting and don't mind getting your hands dirty, send an email to pagosadave@gmail.com.

ATTENTION PAGOSA SPRINGS, CO. Mastercorp is now hiring Housekeepers and a House Person. Earn excellent wages, paid weekly, paid training. Please call today to set up an interview: (970)731-4294. Mastercorp, the leader in the resort housekeeping industry. Must work Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

NOW HIRING ALL POSITIONS for San Juan Market Place. Cooks, bartenders, host and dishwashers. Stop by Riff Raff Brewing for an application or email resume to HR@riffraffbrewing.com.

ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVE- The Pagosa Springs SUN is seeking a creative person to join our award-winning newspaper team. This position provides you the opportunity to work with area business owners and managers to assist them in advertising. We are looking for a self-motivated person to join our team selling weekly paper, website and special issues. Adobe InDesign, Adobe Photoshop and marketing experience a plus. Please pick up an application at The Pagosa Springs SUN front office or email your resume to helpwanted@pagosahun.com. Qualified applicants will be contacted for an interview. No phone calls, please.

PAGOSA SPRINGS MEDICAL CENTER is accepting applications for a **PACU RN**. The RN assists the provider in delivering high quality patient care. Accurately document all necessary information within the patient's chart. Perform in-house lab tests, EKGs and assist with basic procedures. Administer and document medications and vaccinations appropriately. Follow-up with all outstanding patient orders and referrals. Must have Colorado RN license. 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.

LABORERS NEEDED, CHAINSAW EXPERIENCE preferred, transportation a must. Call (970)946-9201.

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.

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL is accepting applications for a part-time teacher. Hours are from 2:30-5:30p.m. MWF with other days to substitute. Must be able to pass a background check. Experience is necessary and must have First Aid and CPR. Call Anette at (970)731-3512 for more information.

COUNTY ENGINEER. Archuleta County Colorado is seeking qualified applicants for the position of County Engineer. Visit www.archuletacounty.org for job detail. This is a full-time, exempt position with excellent benefits. Salary \$60,504-\$72,240 DOQ and experience. Print application or apply online at www.archuletacounty.org or email application to rsmith@archuletacounty.org. Posting closes Feb. 19. Archuleta County is an equal opportunity employer.

ARCHULETA COUNTY IS HIRING Independent Contract Truck Drivers to haul gravel locally within the county. Must be insured and bonded. Job will be for approximately 5 weeks, May through June, weather permitting, 10 hour days 4 days a week. All interested parties please mail in your hourly rate by February 26, 2016, along with W-9, to Archuleta County Road & Bridge, PO Box 1507, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147.

SHEAR TALK IS LOOKING to fill a full-time nail technician position. Call (970)264-2308.

PAGOSA SPRINGS MEDICAL CENTER is looking for a full-time **Clinic Medical Assistant**. The MA assists the provider in delivering high quality patient care. Accurately document all necessary information within the patient's chart. Perform in-house lab tests, EKGs and assist with basic procedures. Administer and document medications and vaccinations appropriately. Follow up with all outstanding patient orders and referrals. Applications may be picked up at the hospital front registration desk, the human resources office or downloaded at 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.

HUMANE SOCIETY OF PAGOSA SPRINGS. Thrift Store Help (3 to 4 days per week, includes weekends). In-store duties include sorting, tagging, cleaning, customer service, cash register and snow removal. Frequent lifting- all successful applicants must be able to lift 50 pounds repetitively without limitation. May include helping with pickups and deliveries of furniture and other donated items. Must be a team player and willing to be cross-trained. Must have own transportation, valid driver's license and Social Security Card. Pre-employment background check is required. Applications available only at the Humane Society Thrift Store (279 Pagosa Street). NO PHONE CALLS, PLEASE.

PAGOSA SPRINGS MEDICAL CENTER is looking for a full-time **Registration Clerk** for the clinic. The Registration Clerk is responsible for completing the admission information into the Patient Accounting System. Required to maintain a 98% accuracy rating as being subject to performance audits. Pre-certify appropriate hospital admissions and verify eligibility for patients using various applications that are available for the insurance carriers. Pre-admit any/all patients that are scheduled on the hospital scheduling system. Applications may be picked up at the hospital front registration desk, the Human Resources office or downloaded at 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.

AT YOUR DISPOSAL is looking for experienced CDL drivers for full-time year around employment. The right person will have and use common sense, manners and know we are in the service industry. Please apply in person at 128 Bastille Dr.

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.

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PAGOSA SPRINGS MEDICAL CENTER has an opening for a HIM Analyst. This person will analyze charts for completeness, assign queries to providers, as needed; performs diverse clerical duties; answers phones and attends to customers. Applications may be picked up at hospital registration or 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.

REGIONAL YOUTH AND FAMILY Support Therapist- Pagosa Springs. Master's degree in mental health field. Must have experience working with children, youth and families. Ability to work with teams, travel and have flexible work schedule to provide in home and community based treatment. Position requires a self-starter and is collaborative with Department of Human Services. Send resume and cover letter to: Resumes, Axis Health System, 281 Sawyer Dr., Ste. 100, Durango, CO 81303, email resumes@axishealthsystem.org or fax (970)247-1337. EOE.

WYNDHAM VACATION RESORTS. Find your next opportunity or launch your career right here in Pagosa Springs. Find out more online at WVOjobs.com or apply in person, 42 Pinon Causeway. (970)731-8070. Full-time positions, full benefits after 30 days, development and career opportunities.

CARETAKER FOR ELDERLY COUPLE. Full or part time. Also, live-in option. Light house-keeping, meal preparation. Need dependable transportation, upper Piedra area. Call 731-4523.

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.

FULL-TIME DELIVERY AND COLLECTIONS driver needed. Apply in person, Priority Sales and Rentals, 197 Navajo Trail Dr.

PAGOSA SPRINGS MEDICAL CENTER is looking for a full-time **Clinic Registered Nurse**. The RN assists the provider in delivering high quality patient care. Accurately document all necessary information within the patient's chart. Perform in-house lab tests, EKGs and assist with basic procedures. Administer and document medications and vaccinations appropriately. Follow up with all outstanding patient orders and referrals. Applicants must have CO RN licensure. Applications may be picked up at the hospital front registration desk, the human resources office or downloaded at 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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POSITION: COLORADO CERTIFIED B or Collections 3 Wastewater Operations Supervisor. Location: Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District, Pagosa Springs, CO. Salary and benefits: Salary DOQ. Benefits include retirement, health insurance, vacation, sick leave, district paid holidays, paid testing, training, tuition assistance and more in a competitive benefits package. Job description: Operate a recently upgraded wastewater system, consisting of a 3.9 MGD activated sludge plant and a bio-solids greenhouse drying facility. Desired qualifications include: Use of CityWorks Computerized Maintenance Management System as a scheduling, planning and reporting tool. Diagnose and correct operating problems. Prepare reports and maintain records. Analyze readings and lab test results and make necessary plant adjustments. Inspect plant for efficiency in operations, cleanliness and maintenance. Train and evaluate employees. Prepare work schedules. Determine emergency actions. Assist in safety programs. Assure compliance on all levels of regulations. Establish and maintain cooperative job related relationships. Job requirements: High school diploma or GED. Colorado Class B wastewater certification or Class 3 Collections. One or more years of supervisory experience. Knowledge of the principles, methods and tools employed in the general operation of engines, pump valves, motors and related equipment; general maintenance work, safe work practices; principles and methods of wastewater treatment processes, principles of supervision and training; principles of budget preparation and expenditure control. Knowledge of computer software including but not limited to Microsoft Word, Excel, asset data management systems and able to operate plant PLC and SCADA systems. How to apply: Submit resume with a cover letter to email to: nancy@pawsd.org or call (970)731-2691. Also complete and submit the application at our website: pawsd.org.

SECRETARY: Archuleta School District 50 Joint in Pagosa Springs, CO has a part-time elementary school secretary position available. Job description, salary and applications may be viewed and completed online through www.mypagosaschools.com.

A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR SOMEONE SEEKING A SERVICE CAREER. Are you looking for a job with meaning? Look no further! Community Connections, Inc. can offer you a job that is like no other. You can make a difference in the life of an individual with developmental disabilities as a Direct Support Professional. \$10.50 per hour after completion of training, with annual increases through the fifth year. Seeking full-time employees. Amazing vacation/sick time for full time! For more information about this incredible opportunity and how to apply, go to: www.communityconnectionsco.org or contact Judy Schreckenbach, HR Director, at (970)259-2464. EOE.

HELP WANTED

TEACHER AIDE: Archuleta School District 50 Joint is accepting applications for a part-time Elementary School Special Education Teacher Aide. Job description and salary schedule information and application may be viewed and completed online through www.mypagosaschools.com.

WYNDHAM VACATION RESORTS. Seeking highly motivated and hungry marketing agents to join our expanding team in Pagosa Springs. Find out more online at WVOjobs.com or apply in person, 42 Pinon Causeway. Please contact Tanya O'Neal at (970)731-8926 for more details. Full-time positions, full benefits after 30 days, development and career opportunities. Amazing earning potential. Come work for the biggest and best hospitality company in the world!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A.A. PRINCIPLES BEFORE PERSONALITIES GROUP meets at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Tuesday 7p.m. Big Book Study (closed); Thursday 7p.m. Discussion (open); Questions (970)245-9649, www.aa-westerncolorado.org or www.aadistrict18.org; Ken or Charlotte 731-1025.

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.

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.

OPEN HOUSE! VIEW AND test drive MAHINDRA, the world's #1 selling tractor. SPECIAL DISCOUNTS on full line. One day only. Tuesday, February 23, 2016, 9a.m. till 5p.m. Valley Tractor Repair, located midway between Alamosa and Monte Vista, Colorado. Phone: (719)852-0200. Enter drawing for Louisiana smoker. Refreshments served.

NEW OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS meeting starting December 3, 11a.m., at Centerpoint Church, 270 Cornerstone Dr. Leslie, (970)799-0775.

LOST & FOUND

IF ANYONE has lost their pet, please call the Humane Society of Pagosa Springs, 731-4771. www.humanesociety.biz.

LOST SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6: Canvas shopping bag of photographs and legal documents in or around Pagosa Hills subdivision. Reward. 946-6280.

PERSONALS

REPORT KNOWLEDGE OF CRIMINAL ACTS To Crime Stoppers, 264-2131. You may be entitled to a reward. Anonymity guaranteed.

HOSPICE CARE A special kind of caring. Call 731-9190.

IT CAN STOP! Let us help. 24-hour domestic violence or sexual assault hotline. Confidential. 264-9075.

PETS

ADOPT FROM THE Humane Society. Stop by or call 731-4771. You'll be amazed at what we have to offer. www.humanesociety.biz.

DOGGY DAY CARE 81147.COM. Open 365 days of the year! Full day and half day doggy day care and overnight boarding. Conveniently located just 1 mile from downtown Pagosa. Call (970)264-9111.

FREE TO GOOD HOME. 4 year old Yellow Lab. Well trained, great personality, all shots current. 731-1090.

LIVESTOCK

AG SERVICES: HAY LOADING- unloading, field pick up, ditch cleaning, box blade and front-end loader work. RWH Bale Handling Service. Ron, (970)264-5573.

HAY FOR SALE- 3x3x8 800 plus lbs., high mountain Timothy/ brome hay, barn stored, \$70. (970)264-2767.

FOR SALE: GRASS ALFALFA HAY. Barn stored, no rain. Delivery available. \$7.50 per bale. (970)764-5999.

WANTED

NEED UP TO 3 ARCHERY SEASON landowner vouchers for deer in GMU 7778/771. We're very respectful archery hunters, strict in following Leave No Trace ethics. Would appreciate the consideration of any landowner/ manager with vouchers. Call/ text Ken, (435)602-2729.

IS IT TIME TO CLEAN your freezer out? Bring your meat and fish to the Wildlife Park to feed the animals. 11a.m. - 4p.m.

FOR SALE

1994 27' ROAD RANGER travel trailer, needs some repair, \$950. 30 gallon electric mobile home water heater, \$40. 1,000 gallon above ground poly water tank, \$450. (970)903-2900.

FIREWOOD FOR SALE. Split and delivered. \$200/ cord. 2 cords for \$375. Call (970)946-9201.

USED WOOD STOVE with glass door and fire brick, fan. \$200. 264-1367.

FOR SALE

LA-Z-BOY QUEEN SOFA SLEEPER and recliner love seat. Photos on Craig's List. Sofa sleeper, dark green, clean like new, comfortable \$500. Love seat, SW upholstery design, good shape, \$100. (435)259-8820.

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.

RVS NEW AND USED. Lowest prices around with a huge selection of 80-100 on any given day. TOP DOLLAR TRADES and easy financing for all credit situations. (719)873-1800.

ELIMINATE HIGH HEATING BILLS. Central boiler wood, corn, pellet outdoor furnaces. Clean, efficient heat. Financing available. (575)756-2705.

SKIDSTEER 2006 CATERPILLAR 226B. In exceptional condition; new tires, new seat, new paint, new bucket, just serviced. 5,870 hours. \$18,750 firm. 264-0269.

10" CRAFTSMAN TABLE SAW, \$125. 10" Craftsman compound miter saw with stand, \$125. Worm drive skill saw, \$100. Band saw, needs a little work, \$80. 749-4710.

ATTENTION CONTRACTORS AND HOMEOWNERS. Are you remodeling or tearing down? Call Durango Salvage, we buy and sell building materials. Tom, (970)749-2271, Mark, 749-8235.

ANTIQUE 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.

STEEL PIPE. ALL SIZES. 2-3/8x31'- \$30 joint, posts, big pipe 12", 16" and 24", 2"x8' posts, \$8. Ed Mann (Good) Pipe Co. (505)486-6823. Free smiles.

OTT'S MILL- SPECIALIZING IN hand peeled log siding and peeled logs. Rough sawn timbers and lumber. (970)533-7997.

SILVER SILVER SILVER. Roll of 25 maple leaf 1 oz. coins. Mint proof condition, \$450. Serious inquires only. (970)731-8600.

WIG AND HAIR PIECE SALE. Quality. Limited selection. Special on hair cuts and colors also. Studio 160. 731-2273 or 731-9362.

TRITON 2 PLACE ALUMINUM TILT SNOWMOBILE trailer, like new, with nose cone, spare tire and tracks, new tires. Price reduced \$1,300 OBO. 946-5329.

ALL NATURAL LOCALLY RAISED grass finished beef and lamb, as well as free range organic chicken, from GrassRoots Meats. Check out our website at www.grassrootsmeats.com for more information. Local pickup available at our warehouse on Mondays from 9:30a.m. to 3p.m. Call Lois for more information. (970)582-0166.

MULTICOLORED ORGANIC EGGS. \$5/ dozen; new customers 2 dozen for \$5. Call Coyote, 946-7227.

BELA FLECK BARITONE BANJO with hard shell case. Below retail. 731-3117.

FIREWOOD FOR SALE. 317-4933.

NEED FIREWOOD? The dump truck special is back! 2+ cords of pine mix for \$350. Contact FIRE&ICE, ask for Dan, (970)582-0006.

SELL YOUR GUNS. Only 10% consignment fee. No hassle. Licensed, bonded, insured. San Juan Trading Post, 635 San Juan St. 731-PAWN (7296).

RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

CHECK OUT NEW LOCATION in Pagosa Springs! Just west of Ace Hardware on Hwy. 160. Holiday RV South, (970)731-5007.

NEW AND USED RVS CHEAP! Come see us and we will pay the fuel. We have new units starting at \$12,500 and used units starting at \$5,000. We also stock the nation's best selling toy haulers at tens of thousands less than the competition. Low, no haggle prices and top dollar on trades. (719)873-1800.

PAGOSASUN.COM

AUTOS

MASTER CERTIFIED TECHNICIAN BRYAN Ray, long time resident of Pagosa Springs with over ten years experience in the automotive repair industry has now opened NO BS Automotive LLC offering a different experience in automotive and diesel repair. NO BS Automotive. 264-NOBS (6627). Honest, competent, quality.

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.

GUARANTEED CREDIT APPROVAL! 4X4 Auto Sales, 21698 Hwy. 160 West, Durango. (970)385-7940.

2004 GLASSTITE TOPPER for Ford Ranger. Gold color, \$400 OBO. Call (970)946-1275.

2008 SUZUKI GRAND VITARA 4X4 SUV, V6 engine, 4 door, 5 speed manual, second owner. Very well equipped, very clean, newer tires, 76,000 miles. \$7,000 OBO. Call (575)937-0743.

WWW.SALSMOTORCORRAL.COM. Visit us online to view current inventory and pricing. (970)259-8170.

VACATION RENTALS

FOR VACATION RENTALS, please go to www.sanjuancabin.com.

VACATIONERS. We have fully furnished homes and condos for rent by the day, week or month. We also have long term leases available. Pagosa Realty Rentals, located upstairs, Frontier Building, Piedra at 160. (970) 731-5515. www.pagosarentals.com.

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

2 BEDROOM, 2 BATH DUPLEX with garage. \$800/ month plus security deposit and utilities. W/D, 1,400 sq. ft., lots of storage, on golf course. (970)946-4181.

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.

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.

264-2101

Classifieds

264-2101

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

COMMERCIAL RENTALS

HOUSES FOR SALE

HOUSES FOR SALE

Currently Available
1, 2, 3 bedroom units

- > On-site laundry facility
- > Tot lot
- > Access to Pagosa Lakes recreation
- > Close to shopping and restaurants
- > On-site manager and maintenance
- > We accept Section 8 vouchers

Contact on-site manager at:
Lakeview Estate Apartments

857 N. Pagosa Blvd. or call 970-731-5666

This institution is an equal opportunity provider, and employer.



Affordable Rent Clean Apartments

Close to schools & bus lines.
Call for information

We are now accepting applications for 2-, 3- and 4-bedroom apartments.

Archuleta Housing Corporation
264-2195



BEST VALUE IN PAGOSA. Excellent condition 1/1, 2/2 apartment homes. Convenient location, walk to uptown grocery store. 946-9187.

SMALL 1 BEDROOM CABIN in Aspen Springs. 2 acres with 800+ sq. ft. barn and 2 sheds. 1,800 gallon cistern. \$725/month. Call Pagosa Realty Rentals, 731-5515.

ROOMMATE WANTED. New 2 bedroom home in Aspen Springs. Neat, nonsmoker, must love animals. \$500/month. Call Bonnie at (970)946-5641.

FOR RENT- 2 BEDROOM, 2 bath unfurnished condo, close to shopping. \$825 per month, one year lease, water included. One month security deposit, references required. (970)731-0133, leave message please.

\$925- PET FRIENDLY 1 bedroom, 2 bath condo in Fairfield. Cozy, efficient, naturally well-lit condo with private entrance/ parking space. Walking distance to grocery, bike path, local shops. Loft-level master suite overlooks open floor plan dining/great room with vaulted ceilings, wood burning fireplace. Full wall windows, glass doors open to back deck, wooded yard space. Storage room nested in covered front porch. Dishwasher, refrigerator, stackable laundry included. Sliding glass door closets in both bathroom vanity areas. Pets on approval. \$925/ month plus 1 month security. Trash/ water/ sewer included. 946-7498.

RENTALS: VACATION AND LONG TERM. Call Laura Daniels, (970)731-8599, Broker, Team Pagosa Realty Group, www.lodging-pagosasprings.com.

CONVENIENTLY LOCATED DOWNTOWN 2 bedroom with shared garage. \$1,100/ month includes utilities, plus security deposit and last month's rent required (can be collected in monthly payments). Available February 1st. (970)946-5549.

COMMERCIAL RENTALS

DOWNTOWN 1,300 SF LEFT in multiuse building. Window exposure to street, great for retail, food service or office use. (805)698-2918.

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.

PRIME RETAIL LOCATION. Approximately 1,000 sq. ft. located in the City Market center uptown. Great visibility and parking. Morgan, (303)475-6053.

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.

STORAGE SPECIALS, DISCOUNTED RATES by the day, week or month. All sizes and we will beat anyone's price in town. Lets Store It. 731-0007.

STREET LEVEL UNITS STILL available at the River Center. Give us a call at 731-0951 or 264-6147.

HIGH COUNTRY MINI STORAGE. Most sizes available. Paved, lighted, security. Behind The Outfitter. Call 264-9142.

COMMERCIAL CONDO, 1,252 SQ. FT. 2 bath, kitchen. Convenient uptown location. \$1,200 month plus CAM. (970)946-2676.

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.

DOWNTOWN OFFICE IN HERITAGE building. \$225/ month, utilities and WiFi included. 946-2728.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

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

LOOKING FOR CONTRACTORS in painting, staining, landscaping, concrete work. Abracadabra 731-3005 or rayball3005@gmail.com.

MOBILE HOMES

\$38,000 FIRM. 1,064 SQ. FT. mobile home with lot. Vista on greenbelt. 2 bedroom 2 bath with office. CASH ONLY. Fixer upper. Serious buyers only. (970)946-0238. No owner financing.

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.

HOUSES FOR SALE

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.

House For Sale in Downtown Pagosa



\$139,779 obo

266 1/2 S. 9th St.
Alley Access -1000 Sq.Ft.
2 Bedrooms - Storage Room
3/4 bath - Outside Shed
Dishwasher - Stove
Refrigerator
Washer & Dryer
Wood & Natural Gas Heat
Freshly Painted

Cash or Pre-approved Financing Preferred
970-946-2719

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.

WANT A FORECLOSURE? I can find what you're looking for! Call Britney Chaisson at Team Pagosa Realty (805)651-9151.

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.

1 STORY DUPLEX across from Lake Pagosa. Each side has 2 bedrooms, 1 bath and 1-car garage. \$289,000. Call Diane at Galles Properties. (970)749-4303.

FSBO- NEAR NEW, FURNISHED, two and three bedroom duplex. Warm, sunny passive solar design almost eliminates heating costs. Lots of wood with maximum natural lighting. Well appointed with 4 bathrooms and laundries, plus two additional "secluded" patio/ deck areas for outdoor entertaining. Overlooking downtown and hot springs, great views of mountains, a couple minutes walk to San Juan River Walk, hot springs, fishing/ rafting, restaurants, pubs, shopping, post office, etc. Highly desirable location in new river development neighborhood! Asking \$345,000, possible financing. Currently leased long term; netting \$2,600 income per month. Motivated! (970)946-6274.

TEAM PAGOSA Real Estate Sales and Property Management Services, www.teampagosa.com. Call Laura, (970)731-8599, Team Pagosa Realty Group.

List Your Property Now!

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- Vacant Land
- Commercial

Free Market Analysis
Call Jim Smith Realty,
Pagosa Springs Oldest
Real Estate Firm.

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www.ListPagosa.com
JIM SMITH REALTY

PROPERTY

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.

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.

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.



All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, or national origin, or an intention, to make such preference, limitation or discrimination."

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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Hearing Problems ...

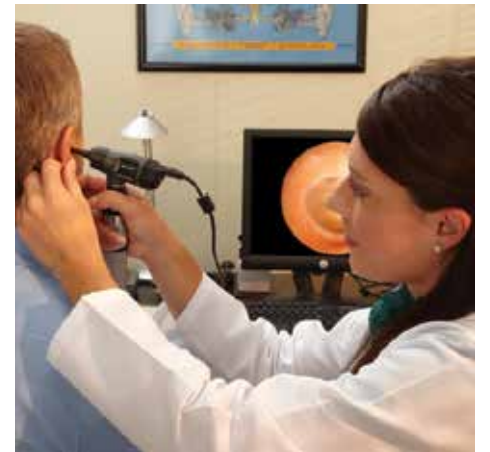
or maybe just earwax?



SPECIAL GUEST!
Nationally Known Hearing Aid Expert, **Kristen Schardein**, will be available for our special event — **AT NO CHARGE!**

FIND OUT!

We'll look into your ear canal with our Video Otoscope. As you are watching the TV screen we'll do a complete inspection of your ear canal and eardrum. If there is any amount of wax blockage, you'll know immediately.



TWO DAYS ONLY! Feb. 15 & 16
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Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

FREE!

Whatever your hearing needs may be, we invite you to our Factory Special Sale and you'll receive:

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- FREE** Computer Hearing Screening to see what you hear and what you don't.
- FREE** Hearing Aid Inspection. All makes and models.
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- FREE** Package of Hearing Aid Batteries. Limit one free pack per family.
- FINANCING AVAILABLE.** Call for details!

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With sophisticated, innovative technology, we help preserve and deliver a wider range of sound cues to enhance the way you hear!

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