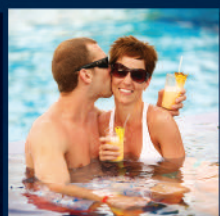


2018-2019

FREE

PAGOSA SPRINGS

REAL ESTATE & RELOCATION GUIDE



Published by The Pagosa Springs SUN



Welcome

Thank you for your interest in joining our community. Whatever has attracted you to this area — the scenery, the climate, the recreational activities or a specific job, we know you will find Pagosa Country to be a friendly, pleasant place to live, work and play.

The Pagosa Springs Real Estate and Relocation Guide has been developed to provide an abundance of pertinent information about the area.

Our community is surrounded by over three million acres of national forest and wilderness areas. That means you will find a variety of outdoor activities here — hiking, biking, rafting, back country exploration, skiing, sledding, cross-country skiing, fishing, hunting and many others. You will also find other activities to keep you busy such as our charming shops, historic sites, museums, Chimney Rock National Monument and a variety of artisans.

Please indulge in the pleasure of soaking in our geothermally heated waters. The giant spring in town issues forth from a mighty aquifer, providing Pagosa Country with some of the most relaxing and restorative waters anywhere in the world.

There is also an abundance of networking opportunities and special events to enhance the work and living environment for residents and business owners.

Members of our community are actively involved in many volunteer, leadership and business ventures.

Whether a home-based business or a growth company, Pagosa Springs has the resources available to help you succeed.

Archuleta School District, along with alternative educational services, offers many diverse programs to all students, including distance-learning opportunities.

The area's hospital — Pagosa Springs Medical Center — has recently undergone an expansion project. It operates a 24/7 emergency room, lab and diagnostic services, diagnostic imaging and mammography exams, cancer care, a surgical staff, orthopedic surgery, primary care physicians and more.

Look through these pages and learn for yourself — Pagosa Springs is a great place to live, work, create, move or expand your business, raise a family or retire.

Welcome to Pagosa Country.



Photo courtesy Michael Pierce Photography



Pagosa's Most Unique Shopping

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i sat there and forgot and forgot,
until what remained was the river that went by
and i who watched.
-norman mclean



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131 harebell drive

4 br | 3 ba | 3556 ft² | mls 743063 | ½ ac | \$1,099,000



family river retreat
105 monkshood drive

3 br | 3 ba | 4166 ft² | mls 743826 | .06 ac | \$950,000

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panoramic mountaintop views 922 jenkins place

6 br | 6 ba | 18625 ff² | 124 ac
mls 740478 | \$3.1 million



exquisite custom-built estate 135 santino drive

5 br | 6 ba | 8452 ff² | 17.06 ac
mls 732381 | \$2.8 million



exquisite craftsmanship bordering national forest 520b whispering wood drive

4 br | 3 ba | 3353 ff² | 8.6 ac
mls 741214 | \$1.1 million



luxury log home and barn 40 waterfall place

3 br | 3 ba | 3032 ff² | 5 ac
mls 731407 | \$974,900



expansive mountain views 209 vista san juan

3 br | 4 ba | 3246 ff² | 2.18 ac
mls 742814 | \$798,000



mountain privacy - walk to town 303 county road 411

3 br | 3 ba | 3850 ff² | 4.96 ac
mls 743705 | \$685,000



peaceful mountain setting 730 east log hill road

4 br | 2 ba | 2438 ff² | 3.08 ac
mls 746409 | \$549,000



western mountain views 465 handicap drive

3 br | 4 ba | 2464 ff² | .66 ac
mls 735881 | \$479,000



rare opportunity 141 buena vista place

3 br | 4 ba | 2601 ff² | 2.92 ac
mls 731797 | \$479,000



jann pitcher
970-749-4904



kalei pitcher
970-759-8165



blue lindner
970-946-1877



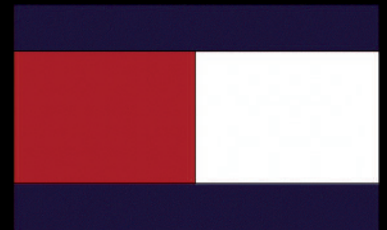
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david cammack
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Making the Move

Pagosa Country is a pretty place — no doubt about it.

We have mountains, meadows, rivers, lakes and more — scenery galore. It is the ultimate outdoor playground, year-round, and a surprising number of cultural opportunities exist.

It's a place that's easy to fall in love with.

But making a home, and a life, somewhere requires more than just pretty.

It likely requires not only establishing a residence and home life, but a work life as well — be it joining an existing business, relocating an existing business or, perhaps, starting a new business.

But, how do you go about creating that life in Pagosa Country?

What is here that would lead you to choose this as a place to live, and to do business?

What are the options for business? What kind of market exists here for your services or products? What kind of labor force exists that could support your enterprise? What is the state of the necessary infrastructure? What educational institutions exist to train workers? What support services are available to the owner of a business or light industry?

What opportunities exist for you and your family?

The Pagosa Springs Real Estate and Relocation Guide seeks to give you answers to many of your questions and, when the answer is not obvious, it directs you to sources that can give you what you need.

This publication results from a cooperative effort, with several area organizations and local government agencies contributing to the information in this guide.

The Pagosa Springs Real Estate and Relocation Guide was awarded first place at the Colorado Press Association's annual convention with the judge commenting, "Every U.S. county should be so lucky as to have a re-location guide this helpful. In an exceptionally competitive field, this entry is the winner."

When it comes time to make one of the most important decisions you face, know you will be welcome here in Pagosa Country — a great place to live, to raise a family and to do business.



Photo Terri House

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3700B County Road 600 • 19+ acres
4 bedrooms • 5 baths • 4662 sq. ft.
MLS 740172 • \$1,299,999



290 Engleman Place • 7+ acres
4 bed • 5 baths • 4217 sq. ft.
MLS 740493 • \$1,195,240



1135 Park Avenue
2 bed • 2 bath • 1736 sq. ft.
MLS 740226 • \$335,000



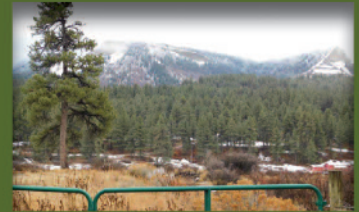
138 Squirrel Drive • 1.4 acres
4 bed • 2 bath • 2240 sq. ft.
MLS 740192 • \$224,000



229 Highland Avenue
3 bed • 2 bath • 1404 sq. ft.
MLS 742803 • \$133,900



114 S Feather Court • 5.2 acres
Pagosa Meadows 2
MLS 738476 • \$94,900



34, 76, 104 Sparrow Lane
4.4 fenced acres, views
MLS 740641 • \$65,000



983 Lakeside Drive • 1.1 acres
East and north range views
MLS 733188 • \$62,500



102, 128 & 266 West View Road
3.8 acres with westerly views
MLS 743310 • \$25,000



53 Haystack Circle • 1.8 acres
Views of Broken Off Point
MLS 741471 • \$25,000



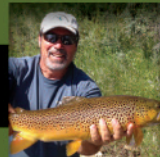
26 Laurel Drive • .33 acre
Near National Forest
MLS 725460 • \$13,500



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Deborah Kerns
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Greg Saffer
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WELCOME TO PAGOSA SPRINGS

Where is Pagosa Springs?

Pagosa Springs sits at 7,079 feet in southwest Colorado at the base of the Continental Divide. Featuring rushing rivers and streams, lakes galore, hiking and biking trails, spectacular fall colors, ancient ruins, deep powder in the winter at nearby Wolf Creek Ski Area, incredible hunting, amazing wildlife, clean air and 3 million acres of National Forest surrounding the area, Pagosa Springs offers plenty of opportunities for our valued visitors, any time of year.

Who can I contact for info?

The Pagosa Springs Area Tourism website at www.visitpagosasprings.com will link you to the Visitor Center, or call their vacation line at (866) 438-4917. Visitor information can also be found at www.ExplorePagosa.com.

Keep up on the news and events with The Pagosa Springs SUN, the community's weekly newspaper, with daily updates online at www.PagosaSUN.com.

What is it like at that altitude?

Regardless of physical fitness, acute mountain sickness can strike anyone not acclimated to Pagosa's 7,000-foot elevation. To guard against altitude sickness:

- Drink three to four quarts of water per day.
- Avoid overexertion, while keeping caffeine and alcohol intake moderate for the first few days.
- Seek medical attention if persistent headache, fatigue, poor coordination or shortness of breath occur.

What is the weather like?

Archuleta County is located in the "Colorado Sunbelt," just north of the New Mexico border and along the Western slope of the Continental Divide. This combination of high desert plateau and dramatic Rocky Mountains to the north and east creates an unusually mild climate compared with much of the surrounding Southwest. We are favored with some 300 days of sun each year, as well as four distinct seasons. With low wind and warm sunshine, residents can enjoy a variety of year-round recreational activities.

Average Temperatures and Precipitation:

Average Days of Sunshine: 300 per year

Annual Precipitation: 20.97 inches/year

Annual Snowfall: 104 inches/year

Month	High	Low	Precipitation	Month	High	Low	Precipitation
Jan.	37°F	1.4°F	1.48"	Jul.	83°F	45.2°F	1.81"
Feb.	43°F	7°F	1.52"	Aug.	80°F	44.6°F	2.77"
Mar.	49°F	15.9°F	1.63"	Sep.	74°F	36.6°F	2.26"
Apr.	59°F	23.9°F	1.64"	Oct.	64°F	26.3°F	2.26"
May	68°F	30.2°F	1.15"	Nov.	50°F	15.4°F	1.87"
Jun.	78°F	36.3°F	.88"	Dec.	40°F	5°F	1.7"

Is there a medical facility?

Pagosa Springs Medical Center includes a critical access hospital located at 95 S. Pagosa Blvd. The emergency room is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Phone (970) 731-3700. Dial 911 for emergency services.

There are multiple primary care clinics in the community offering a variety of services.

Important phone numbers:

EMERGENCIES DIAL "911" (Ambulance, EMT, Fire, Police)

Non-emergency ambulance, fire, EMT or Law Enforcement, dial (970) 731-2160

Emergency Medical Services	(970) 731-5811
Pagosa Springs Medical Center	(970) 731-3700
Pagosa Urgent Care	(970) 372-0456
Axis Integrated Healthcare	(970) 264-2104
Pagosa Springs Police Dept.	(970) 264-4151, Ext. 228
Archuleta County Sheriff's Office	(970) 264-8430
Pagosa Fire Protection District	(970) 731-4191
USFS Pagosa District Ranger	(970) 264-2268
Pagosa Springs Town Hall	(970) 264-4151
Archuleta County Commissioners	(970) 264-8300
The Pagosa Springs SUN	(970) 264-2100
Pagosa Springs Post Office	(970) 264-5440
Senior Citizens Center	(970) 264-2167
Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library	(970) 264-2209
Archuleta School District 50 Joint	(970) 264-2228
Navajo Lake State Park	(970) 883-2208
Airport Flight Base Operations	(970) 731-2127
Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation	(970) 731-2691
Black Hills Energy	(800) 563-0012
La Plata Electric Association	(970) 247-5786

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Photo courtesy Wes Bagwell/Wolf Creek Ski Area

Wolf Creek Ski Area goes solar

It was a busy spring break week at Wolf Creek Ski Area in southern Colorado; eight chairlifts were busily spinning full of skiers from Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico and Colorado.

The anomaly is the source of power that makes the ski area tick along.

Unlike all other ski areas, the energy used is generated by the sun. The entire operation, lifts and buildings, came on line with the Penitente Solar Project in November 2017. The expected operational lifetime of the project is over 25 years.

Wolf Creek Ski Area has been a leader in the ski industry of sustainable business practices for the past 11 years. Since 2006, Wolf Creek, at a greater expense, has purchased 100 percent of its winter

and summer use with wind offsets.

Davey Pitcher, CEO and Wolf Creek's manager, in cooperation with Loren Howard, president of the San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative (SLVREC), met and discussed the possibility of a Solar Farm in the sunny San Luis Valley. The Penitente Solar Project came into realization when SLVREC purchased 25 acres of land and then negotiated a long-term power purchase agreement with Renewable Energy Systems (RES).

RES, one of the top renewable energy companies in North America, constructed, and now operates and maintains the distribution of the solar photovoltaic system in South Central Colorado. The site was chosen for its sunny, unobstructed location less than a half of

a mile to the existing La Garita Substation. This substation provides direct power to Wolf Creek Ski Area, the largest consumer of power in the San Luis Valley in the fall and winter months, with both night and day use.

The land that was purchased is 25 acres of arid land located in the center corners of a pivotal irrigation system in Saguache County. Penitente Solar is a 2.75 AC megawatt ground-mounted solar project equipped with a single-axis tracking system. SLVREC, the second oldest cooperative in Colorado, purchases the output from RES to serve customers residing in Saguache, Rio Grande, Costilla, Alamosa, Conejos, Mineral and Hinsdale counties.

The Penitente Solar Project provides SLVREC members access to renewable energy, which is locally generated and cost effective. The name of the project is sourced from the Penitente Canyon, which is a small canyon on Bureau of Land Management lands located in the San Luis Valley. The area is primarily a sport climbing destination. The canyon got its name from Los Hermanos Penitentes, a Spanish religious "secret" sect that favored Penitente Canyon for its solitude in the 1880s.

The solar panels articulate following the path of the sun; the entire operation is automated, refining optimal positioning for the most effective solar gain. Visiting the site is a peaceful experience; the only sound is a hum, which comes from a huge power converter that turns the DC power into AC. The annual output of the solar plant is approximately 7,000 kilowatt hours, of which Wolf Creek uses about 1,000 kilowatt hours per year.

Wolf Creek Ski Area strives to implement sustainable business practices in all facets of ski area operations.

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- Data & Technical Assistance
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Region 9 Economic Development District of Southwest Colorado

Be another Region 9 success story

The Region 9 Economic Development District of Southwest Colorado, Inc. (Region 9) is a nonprofit organization that promotes and coordinates economic development efforts throughout southwest Colorado. Its mission is to work cooperatively with private and public sectors to enhance the economic conditions in the area and improve the region's economic prosperity.

Region 9's geographic reach includes the counties of Archuleta, Dolores, La Plata, Montezuma and San Juan, the 10 cities and towns, including Pagosa Springs, along with the Southern Ute and the Ute Mountain Ute Indian tribes. Its largest program creates access to capital and loans for area businesses. Region 9 focuses on creating and retaining jobs. Through partnerships with local banks it also supports businesses who need gap financing. Region 9 is known as the lender of "first resort" for start-up businesses that haven't yet established a financial track record, and the micro-loan program provides access to smaller funding amounts not offered through traditional financial institutions.

Other ways Region 9 promotes and coordinates economic development include:

- Administering the Southwest Colorado Enterprise Zone. This state tax incentive program supports business development in distressed geographic areas including the majority of Archuleta County.

- Providing technical assistance to county-level economic development groups including the Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation.

- Facilitating and leveraging state and federal funding into the region such as Rural Jumpstart and Opportunity Zone incentives

- Administering the Four Corners Film Office. This office supports film production in the region by connecting local resources to film producers.

- Coordinating strategic planning with communities, governments and the private sector and forwarding viable economic projects and initiatives throughout the region.

- Supporting entrepreneurial infrastructure and participating in the Southwest Colorado Accelerator Program for Entrepreneurs (SCAPE). This program provides in-depth mentoring to entrepreneurs planning to grow their business enterprises.

- Operating as a State Data Center Affiliate. Region 9 consistently publishes a variety of regional economic data reports that provide citizens and policy-makers access to reliable, unbiased and timely information.

If you should need further information or resources, call Region 9 at (970) 247-9621 or go to www.scan.org.



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Opening a business in town

License, permits, zoning information and more

The Town of Pagosa Springs requires an annual business license for all businesses located and/or conducting business within the town's boundary. This includes special events, vendors, seasonal/temporary businesses, vacation rentals, retail and service businesses, building general and subcontractors, home-based, nonprofit entities, etc.

It is recommended that you contact the town planning and building department at the beginning of your planning process and prior to determining a location for your business. There may be zoning restrictions and building code requirements for particular businesses that you should know about before you get too far along in your planning process, and certainly before you lease or purchase a property.

This will help eliminate surprises and very costly oversights along the way.

In addition, a sign permit is required for all permanent and temporary signs (banners). Again, you should contact the planning department prior to designing or manufacturing a sign to ensure you meet the town's code requirements and prevent any costly mistakes.

Town staff is available to help guide you through the process of opening or relocating a business in Pagosa Springs. Applications are available on the town's website, www.pagosasprings.co.gov, or at Town Hall. Contact town government at: 551 Hot Springs Blvd., P.O. Box 1859, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, (970) 264-4151.

TAX BURDEN 2012

State	Rate	Ranking (1 Highest)	Per Capita Paid to State	Per Capita Taxes Paid to Other States	Total State & Local Per Capita Taxes Paid	Per Capita Income
Colorado	8.9	36	2,968	1,336	4,303	48,314
Texas	7.6	46	2,332	1,008	3,340	44,081
New Mexico	8.7	38	2,170	971	3,141	36,051
California	10.9	7	4,126	1,111	5,237	47,808
Arizona	8.8	37	2,283	992	3,276	37,012
Wyoming	7.1	49	2,056	2,351	4,407	61,708
Nebraska	9.2	31	2,930	1,267	4,197	45,485
U.S. Average	9.48	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	44,178

Source: www.taxfoundation.org/

STATE AND LOCAL TAXES PER CAPITA 2009

	RANK	Amount
Colorado	48	1,532.26
Texas	50	1,368.45
New Mexico	17	2,102.88
California	9	2,391.65
Arizona	41	1,673.57
Wyoming	2	2,973.87
Nebraska	18	2,082.27
U.S. Average		2,049.20

Source: http://www.statemaster.com/graph/eco_tot_tax_bur-total-tax-burden-per-capita

SELECTED STATE TAX COMPARISONS 2009 (PER \$1,000 INCOME)

	Colorado Rank	Tax	U.S. Average
Total Taxes	49	\$40.89	\$58.50
Sales and Use	44	\$10.89	\$19.68
Individual	28	\$20.74	\$20.12
Corporate	42	\$1.55	\$3.29
Motor Fuel	32	\$2.90	\$2.89
Liquor	43	\$0.17	\$0.44
Tobacco	35	\$1.02	\$1.37
Severance	12	\$1.34	\$1.10

Source: www.colorado.gov

Business ORGANIZATIONS & LICENSING

Colorado Workforce	(970) 247-0308	www.yourworkforcecenter.com
Better Business Bureau	(505) 346-0110	bbb.org/new-mexico-southwest-colorado
Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce	(970) 264-2360	www.pagosachamber.com
Region 9 Economic Development	(970) 247-9621	www.scan.org
Southwest Colorado SBDC	(970) 247-7009	www.sbdcfortlewis.org
Colorado Secretary of State	(303) 894-2200	sos.state.co.us
Town of Pagosa Springs	(970) 264-4151	www.pagosasprings.co.gov
Archuleta County	(970) 264-8300	www.archuletacounty.org
Archuleta County Clerk & Recorder	(970) 264-8350	www.archuletacounty.org
P.S. Community Development Corporation	(970) 264-2360	www.pagosaspringscdc.org



Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation

Improving our economic climate

By Jason Cox

The Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation (CDC) coordinates economic development initiatives that aim to enhance the economy in Pagosa Springs and Archuleta County.

The CDC, a nonprofit corporation formed in the spring of 2010, maintains the goal of enhancing economic vitality in Archuleta County. Supported by county and town governments, utility groups, local banks and individual businesses, the CDC strives to help Pagosa grow, diversify and become more economically stable.

Pagosa is proud to be home to Colorado Top 50 Companies to Watch including Growing Spaces, Skywerx and Voormi. Our community alternative energy portfolio includes biomass, solar and geothermal companies. With the current focus on alternative energy nationally, the CDC encourages individuals and companies interested in energy entrepreneurship to look no further than Pagosa Springs.

Better than a highway running through town, Pagosa Springs has the San Juan River flowing through town. With the Weminuche Wilderness and southern San Juan Wilderness in Pagosa Springs' backyard, outdoor equipment and accessory entrepreneurs are finding that Pagosa Springs offers an ideal research, development and testing lab for their products.

Technology has changed the way we do business and companies that need broadband Internet services for large data transmission or jobs that offer telecommuting opportunities are a perfect fit for the community. The CDC is currently spearheading improvement of broadband services in the area.

The CDC provides a wealth of resources including one-stop shopping for business information, a rapid-response team tailored to your needs to assist companies interested in opening or relocating a business to Pagosa Springs and Archuleta County. The CDC maintains close ties to the Chamber of Commerce, the Southwest Small Business Development Center at Fort Lewis College in Durango and Region 9 Economic Development District. These relationships help provide businesses a leg up on coming into the community through consultation services, educational opportunities and financial assistance. The CDC can help interested parties develop a business compatible with the area, locate available space, help smooth the business transition and create a win-win situation for new businesses and the community.

Contact the CDC's administrative office at (970) 264-2360 or visit www.pagosapringscdc.org for information about moving or expanding your business or about becoming a member of this organization supporting the economic growth of our community.

Grow your business with the Pagosa Springs Area Chamber Of Commerce

By Mary Jo Coulehan

Incorporated in July of 1976, the Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce is celebrating its 42nd year supporting Pagosa area businesses.

The Chamber is a member-based organization that promotes and supports the local community through various educational programs, a resource and referral system, business advocacy, economic gardening and special events. With over 425 members, it is known for consistently having one of the highest per capita memberships in the state of Colorado — an honorable achievement for a small mountain community.

The Pagosa Springs Chamber stays current with the technological age utilizing tools including a mobile website, social media and educational opportunities for local businesses. Popular networking events such as the Business After Hours, Business Bites luncheons, targeted trainings and Maximizing Your Membership sessions are a great way to stay current with area activities and to hone and expand your business.

The Chamber's popular major events bring visitors to the area amplifying business traffic and thereby exposure to our business community. The Chamber offers confidential consulting services, connections to other important business service centers and numerous ways to help

you grow your business. New under the Chamber umbrella is a Young Professional organization for those business professionals 21-41 years young.

The Chamber has also increased its involvement with the Archuleta School District by co-hosting a Career Day, Youth Job Fair, involvement in a vocational facility and collaboration on community events. We understand the importance our youth play in developing a strong work force for our businesses.

We also stay involved in other community initiatives including broadband, housing and early childcare.

The Chamber of Commerce, along with the Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation, the Small Business Development Center at Fort Lewis College and the Region 9 Economic Development District are poised to help you take your business to the next level.

If you are moving into the area and setting up a storefront or home-based business, or if you are an individual interested in staying connected to the business pulse, the Chamber offers many options and informational outlets to assist you.

Contact the Chamber of Commerce at www.pagosachamber.com or by calling (970) 264-2360.



What you should know

Before you build or open your business

By Mary Jo Coulehan

Before you build, renovate or open your doors for business, there is one step that many people forget to perform — and it is one that could save you time, money, surprises and a headache. That step is checking with the Town of Pagosa Springs or Archuleta County regarding doing business in our community. Depending on where your business is located, each entity may have different requirements and zoning laws.

Zoning and land use

Of course, most entrepreneurs know that you need a building permit before you break ground. But are you breaking ground in the right zone? Both the town and county have land use permitting and zoning. It is important to check to make sure that your business fits within the zoning and building code guidelines.

Even though a zone may permit light manufacturing, you will need to make sure that your manufacturing operation fits within those guidelines. You may need to ask for a variance and that involves speaking with each entity's building department.

Even if you bought an existing building, contact the building department to make sure your business is compatible within the zone. This includes converting a house from long-term to short-term rental (fewer than 30 days), adding accessory structures to a non-residential location (including portable shipping containers), paving or changing access and parking lots, and doing any work in a floodplain.

Some properties may be "grandfathered"; however, it must meet current codes when expanded or changed or if vacant for more than a year. If your property doesn't fit within a particular zone, check with the planner for other locations that may suit your needs.

Permitting and licensing

It is not necessary to obtain a business license within the parameters of Archuleta County; however, if doing business within the Town of Pagosa Springs, you must have a business license.

Even if your business is physically located in the county, but you perform a business function within the town (delivery of products, repairs or sales), you still need a town business license. Business licenses are also required within the town for temporary or vendor permits, lodging facilities (including short term rentals), and contractor work permits. Depending on the nature of your business, licenses, permits and re-

quired fees can vary.

In both the town and the county, sign permitting is required for both temporary, modified or permanent signage. This process will alert you to size restrictions or perhaps colors if you are doing business in the historic district of the town before you spend the money on making a new sign.

Any new construction will need to have plans submitted to each building department and feedback will be provided. Each entity will provide a building and fire safety inspection before issuing a certificate of occupancy. Many of the licensing forms can be found on the town's website at www.pagosasprings.co.gov or on the county's site at www.archuletacounty.org.

The town's building and planning departments are located at Town Hall at 551 Hot Springs Blvd. and the county building and planning offices are located at 1122 U.S. 84.

Every community has building regulations. A little time spent at the front end of your planning process can save you many hours at the back end of your building process and help you avoid penalties and costly time delays. Stop by the town or county building and planning offices and speak to a knowledgeable staff member who wants to help you get your business up and running in Pagosa Springs and Archuleta County as quickly as possible.

ECONOMIC PARTNERS

Archuleta County	www.archuletacounty.org	(970) 264-8300
Town of Pagosa Springs	www.pagosasprings.co.gov	(970) 264-4151
Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation	www.pagosaspringscdc.org	(970) 264-2360
Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce	www.pagosachamber.com	(970) 264-2360
The Pagosa Springs SUN	www.pagosasun.com	(970) 264-2100
Southwest Colorado SBDC	www.sbdccolorado.org	(970) 247-7009
Region 9	www.scan.org	(970) 247-9621
Office of Economic Development and International Trade	www.choosecolorado.com	(303) 892-3840



Pagosa Springs SUN photo

Pagosa Peak Open School

Engage learners, connect with community, make a difference

By Chris Mannara

The traditional idea of education for most people is the standard vision of homework, quizzes and tests, interspersed with the occasional passing of notes to your crush.

Well, maybe not everyone had that last part in their head when it comes to traditional education, but the idea for the newly founded Pagosa Peak Open School is to give parents and children of Archuleta County another choice when it comes to education.

PPOS, according to its website, opened its doors in September of 2017 and is “committed to providing a flexible, respectful and inclusive learning environment built upon individual competencies and interests, where education evolves as a creative process, fostering self-sufficient individuals with inquisitive minds.”

PPOS School Director James Lewicki explained what makes PPOS different from any other school that Archuleta County offers.

PPOS is a public charter school, Lewicki first noted.

“We’re authorized by the Archuleta board. We’re the second public school, elementary, in town,” he explained.

With the rich amount of educational choices for families in Archuleta County, PPOS is able to distinguish itself from the rest of its colleagues via three traits, he stated.

“One, we’re a year-round school,” he said. “We just feel that having this year-round piece is a different piece, it’s a different pacing.”

PPOS does not experience the “summer slump” as Lewicki described it. This allows for a number of summer learning opportunities for its students, he added.

The second thing that PPOS offers is small class sizes, he explained. “With a small school, what comes with that isn’t just size but our multi-age learning opportunities,” he explained.

Only having one class of each grade from kindergarten through fourth grade, it allows students of all grade levels to work together on multi-age learning activities, Lewicki noted.

The final, and arguably most important distinguishing trait about PPOS is the philosophy of “place-based” education.

In Lewicki’s words, it means “go learn in the community.”

As of the April 6 interview with Lewicki, PPOS students have been out

at least 30 to 40 times on field studies.

Acknowledging that while its colleagues are doing these sorts of field studies as well, Lewicki noted that PPOS is able to “marshal the whole school and the resources to do that.”

PPOS also utilizes personalized learning plans for families in order to not only customize learning for its students, but to help keep track of growth as well, Lewicki added.

Benefits of project-based learning is the utilization of community experts, he described.

“One of the benefits over time, is that by getting out of the school in the community, our kids really over time, get to know a lot of other adults,” he said.

Lewicki describes these outside community members as the “adjunct faculty” of PPOS.

“Part of the project-based learning, it’s coming from experiential, brain-based types of pieces and, again, this isn’t anything new to education,” he explained. “If you really want kids to retain things they’ve got to do something with the knowledge you just gave them.”

PPOS is hoping to add a grade level each year so that, eventually, the school houses kindergarten through eighth grade.

The next school year, fifth grade will be able to attend PPOS and Lewicki explained that 100 percent of its current fourth-graders are coming back next year.

“We’re just going to grow a grade a year as we kind of move forward,” he said. “But we’re already, even with our fourth graders now, we’re entering into that kind of middle-school type of curriculum.”

For the kids themselves, the transition to a new school has been fantastic, Lewicki noted.

For a new person coming into the community, they have a wonderful menu of educational opportunity in Pagosa Springs, he stated.

“We invite people to come spend a day, every child spend a day, you’re welcome to come walk through the school and see what you feel,” he said. “I think the opportunities are great here and the best thing we can do, is all of us in education do great work and offer families good choices.”

To learn more about PPOS, visit its website at www.pagosapeakopenschool.org



Education Options Private & Homeschool

While Archuleta School District offers excellent educational opportunities, some people relocating to Pagosa wish to enroll their children in a private school, online or blended school, or would like to homeschool their children. Pagosa Springs offers many private educational options, online and blended options, and homeschooling groups.

Pagosa Family School: Pagosa Family School is a state-funded educational outreach program offered to all homeschool, private school and Archuleta School District students. PFS offers Spanish, music, and art classes. Please visit Pagosa Family School on Facebook, visit the school district website at www.MyPagosaSchools.com or contact the Shared School Liaison at (970) 264-2228.

Pagosa Valor Academy: Pagosa Valor Academy is a University Model School for kindergarten through 10th grades. It combines the best traits of home education with the best traits of public school education. It is a family-oriented school with the core purpose of teaching kids from a biblical perspective while preparing college-ready young adults. Learn more at www.pagosavaloracademy.org.

Our Savior Lutheran School: This early childhood school offers preschool through seventh grade in which every discipline is taught from the Christian worldview. All classes are taught using a Classical Christian Curriculum, which includes such classes as Latin, cursive, traditional math (no common core), phonics-based English, science, art and music. The school is located on three acres, complete with six classrooms, a gymnasium and two playground areas. Information is located at www.oslcpagosa.org.

Online and blended options: Online schooling options, many of which are tuition-free public schools, are gaining popularity.

GOAL Academy is accredited by the Colorado Department of Education, serving ages 14-21. GOAL Academy maintains a blended learning format with online courses and drop-in centers with individuals to help with any questions or problems. Visit online at www.goalac.org.

A sampling of other popular tuition-free public online schools available in Pagosa include Southwest Colorado eSchool (www.southwestcoloradoeschool.org), K-12 schools (www.k12.com/colorado-online-schools), and Colorado Connections Academy (www.connectionsacademy.com/colorado-online-school).

Pagosa also has a robust and diverse homeschooling community. Homeschooling families of all educational philosophies are invited to stay connected through Pagosa Homeschool Connection’s Facebook page. In addition, three homeschooling groups meet weekly throughout the school year. Classical Conversations of Pagosa Springs group (www.classicalconversations.com) follows a classical home-education model with weekly community days. Friday Co-Op offers academic classes and field trips for preschool through high school as participation dictates. Adventures à la Carte group gets together every week for social and enrichment activities such as hikes, sledding and other field trips. Families who are considering homeschooling for the first time or moving into Colorado are encouraged to review homeschooling laws in Colorado, available through HSLDA (www.hslda.org) and the Colorado Department of Education.

For more information on these groups or for advice on additional homeschooling resources, contact Pagosa Homeschool Connection leaders at pagosahomeschoolconnection@gmail.com.



Engaging Students

Proud Partners Program

Proud Partners is an initiative of the Archuleta School District (ASD). Over the last few years, ASD has worked to bring together the Archuleta County business community and individuals with the district's schools to the benefit of everyone involved.

According to Program Director Doug Hershey, "The Pagosa Proud Partners Program was created through a collaborative effort by the school board, school district staff and community members in order to help the community better support student success. It's a way to connect businesses and individuals who are interested in helping our students and teachers."

Businesses, individuals, local government and community organizations have all partnered with the school district to the benefit of the students.

Partnerships include local businesses hosting students for job exploration and experience. Also, 28 local businesses participated in the high school's Career Fair in January and presented information to students about what they would need to do to prepare for various careers. The Pagosa Area Chamber of Commerce was a vital partner

with the high school in putting this event together.

One exciting partnership to develop this year was with the Pagosa Area Builders Advisory Committee (PABAC). Local builders are actively working with the schools to develop vocational programs for our students. With the generosity of local builders in time, funds and spirit, we have been able to begin a building trades program this year at the high school. Plans to expand the program offerings for next year are already in the works. The expansion includes a facility to house the high school's growing career and technical education programs.

The program also aims to help students gain experience and employment, both over summer breaks and for future careers. The school has initiated, as part of its course offerings, a school-to-work program, which is also part of the Proud Partners Program. This not only helps employers with an immediate need for help, but also helps to provide workforce training. Students acquire needed skills while exploring possible fields to pursue.

Individuals in the community volunteer in the schools in a variety



of ways. Volunteers may assist teachers in the classrooms, tutor students, operate after-school clubs and activities.

“Our volunteer partners bring a wealth of diverse resources to our district. We are so much better for their efforts and help,” says Hershey.

“Like small rural schools across Colorado, we are in a perpetual budget crisis,” Hershey observes. “We work really hard and have phenomenal success. However, individual volunteers and businesses can be a great help in our efforts to find ways to provide the best possible education to our kids. We are always looking for partners to volunteer in classrooms and after-school programs. We also need

business sponsors for students looking for on-the-job work experience. And, donations of any size are always welcome.”

To see some of the possible ways to help Archuleta County schools, interested individuals and businesses can visit the Archuleta School District website, <http://www.mypagosaschools.com/>, and look for the heart-shaped volunteer tab right below the revolving photos. On that page you will find the Teachers Volunteer Want Ads, where you’ll find requests for things teachers need, such as volunteers or materials.

Want to be a Proud Partner? Click on our website links to fill out online forms.

Skills USA

By Becky Guilliams and Jesse Morehouse

VICA (Vocational Industrial Clubs of America) was formed in 1965. Its purpose was to motivate students at the high school and collegiate levels to understand and value opportunities present in America’s skilled workforce.

In 2004, VICA became Skills USA. In 2006, the Pagosa Springs High School Skills USA chapter was founded, and it continues to grow each year. Now, Skills USA includes more than 312,000 students nationally. The organization conducts state, national and global competitions at which Pagosa Springs High School students regularly compete.

At Pagosa Springs High School, students have access to subjects

such as crime scene investigation (CSI), auto technology, auto refinishing, welding, motorcycle mechanics, firefighting, computer programming, digital photography and web design.

Pagosa Springs High School funds the students’ attendance for regional and state competitions, while students who qualify for national competitions must raise their own funds to attend.

There are over 88 different competitions available to students.

Skills members volunteer at the 9Health Fair for setup and take-down of the event, as well as helping out with the local antique auto show. This provides students and community members a chance to get to know each other outside of the high school setting while raising money for incidental costs at events.



Public schools offer multitude of reasons for living in Pagosa

By Linda Reed

Archuleta School District

For families with children who are interested in moving to Pagosa, there are a multitude of reasons, many of them found in our schools.

Archuleta School District's strategic framework, which emphasizes whole student education, exemplifies what we believe is important. We believe in order for our students to be successful in life, they need to develop more than just their academic competencies. They also need to develop personal, professional, entrepreneurial and civic competencies.

In order for them to accomplish these, we provide many atypical opportunities for our students. In addition to an outstanding academic program, our schools offer many co-curricular activities for students of all ages.

The district was created in 1950 and consists of three campuses: Pagosa Springs Elementary School (kindergarten through fourth

grades); Pagosa Springs Middle School (fifth through eighth grades) and Pagosa Springs High School (ninth through 12th grades).

The motto at Pagosa Springs Elementary School is "Care Reigns Here" and the staff believes that creating respectful and caring relationships is the foundation for learning. From this foundation, kids engage in learning a rigorous curriculum. We focus on strategic and purposeful lessons in the Seven Habits/Leader in Me curricula.

Pagosa Springs Middle School takes great pride in offering a dynamic, well-rounded educational experience. Our mission is to empower students to navigate the future through learning and problem solving. Our highly trained and caring staff engages students in relevant and dynamic ways to meet and exceed the Colorado Academic Standards. We embrace our community values and spectacular location in our academic pursuits and often venture outside the classroom to learn and explore. Student health and wellness is a top priority at Pagosa Springs Middle School. As a three-time

Healthy School Champion, we have been recognized for our well-developed, systemic approach to embedding best practices at all grade levels.

Additionally, our middle school develops a strong positive school culture through a daily advisory program. Through this program, staff and student build a strong rapport and purposefully make those human connections that provide the foundation for our educational program. Students engage in team building, fun activities and develop socially while having an advisory teacher to guide them through the middle school years.

Pagosa Springs High School has implemented changes to the master schedule in which students take eight year-long classes. An advisory period is aimed at establishing strong meaningful relationships between students and teachers. Research shows if students feel like they belong and have strong relationships, their achievement in academics is greatly improved. The high school also uses the advisory period to improve school spirit, develop character and help students plan for their lives after graduation.

In the fall of 2016, Archuleta School District, in partnership with a variety of home and private school groups, began Pagosa Family School. This unique opportunity provides elective classes of Spanish, art and choir to home and private school students during the regular school day as well as an after-school program for public, home and private school students. With guidance from an advisory board and under the skilled leadership of Jane Parker, this program provides a rich opportunity for students to embody the motto of “Growing Together.”

On the playing field, Pagosa Springs is a 3A school, and is consistently competitive at the state level in a number of team sports. The Future Business Leaders of America, Skills USA and FFA organizations consistently produce top finishers in state competition and multiple Destination Imagination teams have qualified for Global Finals.

Pagosa Springs High School also takes great pride in the arts. The high school offers a wide variety of music programs including traditional band and choir as well as guitar and the Americana Project, which is a beginning song writing course. Students can also enroll in a drama class in addition to after-school drama productions.

Head Start and Seeds of Learning work hand in hand with the district through the Colorado Preschool Program, which also offers assistance to at-risk preschool students. The district provides bus services to the majority of the district’s students.

For more on our schools, visit our website at www.mypagosaschools.com.

EDUCATIONAL CONTACT NUMBERS

Archuleta County Education Center
www.theacec.com

Archuleta School District 50 JT
 (970) 264-2228
www.MyPagosaSchools.com

Childcare Resource and Referral Program
 (970) 247-0760
www.ecclaplata.org

GOAL Academy
 (877) PRO-GOAL
www.goalac.org

Our Savior Lutheran School (K-7)
 (970) 731-3512
www.oslcpagosa.org

Pagosa Family School (K-8)
 (970) 264-2228
www.MyPagosaSchools.com

Pagosa Peak Open School (K-5)
 (970) 317-2151
www.pagosapeakopenschool.org

Pagosa Springs Elementary School (K-4)
 (970) 264-2229
www.MyPagosaSchools.com

Pagosa Springs Middle School (5-8)
 (970) 264-2794
www.MyPagosaSchools.com

Pagosa Springs High School (9-12)
 (970) 264-2231
www.MyPagosaSchools.com

Mardel Gallegos Center (Head Start)
 (970) 264-2484
www.tchs4c.org

Pagosa Valor Academy (K-10)
 970-264-4782
www.pagosavaloracademy.org

Community Connections, Inc.
 (970) 259-2464
www.communityconnectionsco.org

San Juan Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES)
 (970) 247-3261
www.sjboces.org

Sonrisas Spanish School
 (970) 264-9288
www.sonrisasspanishschool.com

Seeds of Learning Early Care and Education Center
 (970) 264-5513
www.growingseeds.org



Photo courtesy Pagosa Springs Elementary School

Pagosa Family School

Educational enrichment courses for Archuleta County home-school, private school and public school kids

By **Randi Pierce**

Pagosa Family School (PFS) works to bring Archuleta County home-school, private school and public school kids together for educational enrichment courses.

According to PFS Principal and Shared Schooling Liaison Jane Parker, PFS began with Archuleta School District (ASD) Superintendent Linda Reed and the previous shared schooling liaison, Blue Lindner, asking the question, “What are the educational needs of the home-school and private school community and how can Archuleta School District help reach those needs?”

“Input from an advisory committee of homeschool and private school leaders, conversations, and surveys showed that homeschool and private school students would benefit from educational electives, as they tend to be expensive or hard to find,” Parker explained in an email. “Then, work began to develop and fund the program to launch in the fall of 2016.”

That launch was successful, and PFS, an outreach of the ASD in its successful second year, now offers Spanish, art and choir, and Drum Line with each class meeting two afternoons per week during the school year.

And the best part? It’s free to every student — no matter if they’re part of ASD schools or not.

“Pagosa Family School offers a dynamic educational environment connecting homeschool, private school, and public school families as they learn together in enrichment courses,” the program mission statement notes.

PFS currently employs one choir teacher, one drum line teacher, two art teachers and four Spanish teachers, as well as a number of educational aides, who, during the 2017-18 school year, worked to serve 123 students, including 64 private and home-school students and many public school students.

The PFS choir serves middle school-aged students (in the fifth

through eighth grades).

The Drum Line class offers students an exciting class for students to engage in a dynamic and energetic group while learning the skills and practice of Drum Line.

The art classes allow students to “work toward a mastery of art skills while exploring their unique personal creativity,” the course description notes.

In addition to encouraging creative thinking, the course works to instill an appreciation of art history and world cultures.

The Spanish courses immerse students in a Spanish-language environment that uses experiences such as music, games, stories, drama, role-play, art, chants and rhymes. Additionally, the students learn about Spanish-speaking cultures throughout the world.

But, beyond providing educational opportunity for the area’s students, Parker wrote of another benefit: “It also has helped promote a positive growing relationship between the various educational communities in Pagosa and has been successful as a result of that positive cooperation.”

Too, the parents of those enrolled in PFS are also pleased, with Parker gathering numerous positive testimonials during the program’s first year.

“I love the students at family school. Seeing students interact in conversations while doing art projects or playing on the playground makes me feel like we have become a family. My own girls love the content and warm atmosphere provided by the other teachers. They are becoming better singers, Spanish speakers and artists. But most of all, they are becoming more confident by gaining new skills in a fun environment,”

one mother said.

Another wrote, “My daughter loves her Spanish class through Pagosa Family School! She comes home speaking Spanish afterwards. I think it is wonderful that she has been given this opportunity in our small town. She also loves her teacher, Mrs. Kurz.”

“I am SO grateful for the extra educational opportunities that Pagosa Family School has provided for my children!” another wrote. “They are learning SO much, and LOVE PFS (so much so, that they’re bummed if they have to stay home sick because they ‘don’t want to miss Family School!’). My kids are talking to each other in Spanish all the time (and this is their 1st year taking any Spanish ever, and the year hasn’t even ended yet!), and teaching me Spanish too! My son is always excited about the new techniques he’s learning in Art class, and [my] daughter is singing all the songs she learns in Choir, at home. It’s definitely enriched, not only their lives, but mine as well! And, at no extra cost to me! (As otherwise, I don’t know if they’d be able to take advantage of this opportunity). We are truly BLESSED by the PFS, [its] staff and teachings. ... I can only imagine the way it’s blessing the community in the way of the students and families it’s touching.”

Each spring, the program surveys families to determine future course offerings for electives, Parker wrote, “We have big dreams of being able to build our program by adding a wider variety of courses, in addition to our core of Spanish Art & Music, to allow more and more students in Archuleta County to be involved in the program. We hope to be able to offer electives that may not be offered in the mainstream classroom, thus adding extra opportunities for all students in Archuleta County.”

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Continuing Education

Pueblo Community College Southwest

Learning technical skills, achieving a higher level of education and earning an associate degree and/or technical training certificate is a very real possibility while living in Pagosa Springs.

What once was a smattering of vocational, technical and online studies has now been gathered under the umbrella of Pueblo Community College (PCC) Southwest.

Based in Pueblo, Colo., PCC has been offering community outreach education and training programs in the area for more than 30 years.

PCC Southwest, a comprehensive two-year college, has two locations: The Southwest Campus is located in Mancos, just one mile west of the Mesa Verde National Park turnoff, and the Durango site is

located on the campus of Durango High School.

PCC Southwest operates its locations with the aid of a regional advisory board with representatives from local counties, including Archuleta, Dolores, La Plata and Montezuma. The diverse regional representation assists PCC in highlighting the needs of local communities, such as workforce demands and education interests.

Courses can be taken on campus or online and all classes are accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.

Efforts are also being made to broaden the accessibility of classes.

To find out more about classes online or on campus, visit the college website at www.pueblocc.edu/Southwest/.

Fort Lewis College & Adams State University

Pagosa Springs is situated between the sites of two higher learning establishments: Fort Lewis College in Durango and Adams State University in Alamosa.

Fort Lewis College

Serving southwest Colorado for over 100 years, Fort Lewis College is a selective, public liberal arts college located approximately 60 miles west of Pagosa Springs in Durango.

Smaller classes (18:1 ratio of students to faculty with 97 percent of classes smaller than 50 students) is a hallmark for FLC.

There is a diversity of studies offered, with specially accredited programs in business, chemistry, engineering-physics and music. With over 70 student organizations, including NCAA Division II sports (in the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference, RMAC), Fort Lewis prides itself in not only community activities, but national and international activities through their Study Abroad and Village Aid programs. Fort Lewis College also offers internships, service learning and undergraduate research programs.

Durango marries the educational requirements with the accessibility of the natural playground in which it is located. Community members can enjoy the museum and research library at the Center of Southwest Studies and a wide variety of performances at the Community Concert Hall at Fort Lewis College.

Travel to FLC from Pagosa Springs is just an hour.

Persons interested in pursuing an education through FLC should check out the school at www.fortlewis.edu.

Adams State University

Adams State University is located in Alamosa, approximately 90 miles east of Pagosa Springs. ASU is a comprehensive institution offering bachelor degrees in over 60 areas of study, in addition to 11 master's-level programs and one doctoral program.

Adams State is distinguished by caring professors and a diverse, yet close-knit community. The average class size is 18.

Adams State was Colorado's first four-year higher education institution to be federally designated a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI), with 35 percent of undergraduate students identifying as Hispanic.

With about one-third of the student body participating in athletics, the Adams State Grizzlies compete in the NCAA Division II and the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference (RMAC). Adams State has over 40 student clubs and organizations.

An intimate campus with tree-lined walkways, state-of-the-art classrooms and laboratories, supportive programs and vibrant student life await Adams State students.

For more information about ASU, visit www.adams.edu.



Photo courtesy Jeff Laydon/Pagosa Photography

Early Childhood Education

Seeds of Learning

Seeds of Learning, a NAEYC-accredited early care and education center 501(c)(3) organization in Archuleta County, is a quality early childhood education facility serving preschool children ages 2.5 to 5 years old. The center encompasses early education, childcare, parenting classes and staff in-services.

The center piloted and currently provides the Incredible Years Program, which brings children, their parents and their teachers together in a proven prevention strategy that has been shown to reduce child behavior problems, promote positive discipline and improve school performance.

They are also contracted by the Archuleta County School District to implement the Colorado Preschool Program, which serves children in need of language development and helps reduce the risk of school failure by providing support through early childhood education.

Seeds of Learning provides a hot lunch every day, along with breakfast and afternoon snack. Tuition is offered on a sliding scale.

Seeds of Learning is open Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and is open year round. The center is located close to the downtown area and provides an educational, nurturing environ-

ment for children and parents.

More information can be obtained by visiting the website at www.growingseeds.org.

Tri-County Head Start

Tri-County Head Start has provided quality early childhood education programs at 10 sites throughout Southwestern Colorado for over 40 years. Participation in the Mardel Gallegos Center Head Start program in Pagosa Springs is no cost to income-eligible families and free or low-cost extended day services are also available.

Each year, over 50 enrolled children from ages 3-5 in the Pagosa Springs' region benefit from daily activities helping them grow mentally, emotionally, physically and socially.

Head Start program services also include health screenings and assessments, disability services and family involvement. Visit the Head Start website at www.tchs4c.org for more information or to apply.

Private Schools and Day Care

There are private organizations that offer early childhood learning and day care services. A list of providers can be obtained by contacting Archuleta County Human Services at 264-2182 or Seeds of Learning.



Photo courtesy Jeff Laydon/Pagosa Photography

Pagosa Springs Medical Center: Ten years of serving our community

Pagosa Springs Medical Center (PSMC) has been providing excellent health care to the Pagosa Springs area since 2008.

Community residents and visitors have access to high-quality hospital services, primary care appointments, award-winning emergency medical services, 24/7 ER, general and orthopedic surgery, infusion therapy and now excellent cancer care — all in the mountains you love.

Your health care team begins at the PSMC Clinic. Family physicians, internists, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, behavioral health specialists, sub-specialists and surgeons are all here to work together to provide integrated care. The PSMC clinic offers regular check-up appointments and Monday through Saturday walk-in visits for unexpected illnesses and minor injuries.

PSMC has a 24/7 ER and 11-bed critical access hospital. Board-certified physicians, nurses and care team members provide the same high-quality, compassionate care that you would receive at a

metropolitan hospital. Should you find yourself staying in the hospital, you will notice PSMC's quaintness allows for excellent care with sincere kindness.

PSMC realizes its responsibility to not only treat patients but to promote health and wellness for the members of the community, and those visiting the area. A sense of pride resonates throughout PSMC and the community equally reciprocates pride for PSMC.

PSMC is continually assessing the health care needs of Pagosa, the surrounding communities and the unique demographics of the region's evolving population.

Improvements over the decade

Basic diagnostic imaging was part of PSMC's initial services. Now patients have access to X-ray, CT scan, ultrasound, mammography, DEXA scan, echocardiogram and one of the area's best MRI machines.

General surgery and gastrointestinal scopes began in 2011, with

the addition of orthopedic surgery in 2013. Since then, PSMC has added experienced general surgeons, renowned orthopedic surgeons and a skilled gastroenterologist. PSMC offers ophthalmology surgery and women's health surgery.

In 2017, PSMC opened a new 23,000-square-foot clinic to help meet the demands for primary care providers and specialists. The new wing doubled the capacity of exam rooms and produced more efficient and effective care through an integrated care model. This model allows for your primary care provider and specialists to communicate and work together to manage your health care issues best.

The increased space supported the addition of specialists in internal medicine, neurology, cardiology, gynecology and gastroenterology as PSMC continues to meet the population's needs.

PSMC began providing high-quality cancer care to its patients in 2018 with the opening of The Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders at PSMC. The Center is led by Medical Oncologist Dr. Bill Jordan with more than 40 years experience in cancer and hematology care. He trained at MD Anderson Hospital, a top-ranking cancer care

center, and operated 10 cancer centers in North Texas.

Jordan has been a part-time resident of Pagosa for over 15 years. Realizing there is a greater burden placed on those who choose to live in rural areas, Jordan sought to open a rural cancer center rooted with the pillar of providing excellent care. At The Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders, PSMC patients can receive high-quality cancer care with individualized treatment plans.

Chemotherapy and infusion therapy are offered at PSMC. The Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders at PSMC not only serves as a patient's principal cancer care provider, but it can also be a complimentary location for treatment or the continuance of cancer care.

The Pagosa Springs Medical Center is supported by the PSMC Foundation, a nonprofit organization created to serve PSMC. Gifts from donors have enabled, in part, the building of the medical center, the addition of a mammography suite, 23,000 square feet of clinical space, and EMS vehicles and equipment.

For more information about PSMC or the PSMC Foundation, visit pagosamed.com.

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Alternative Treatments Plentiful in Pagosa

Throughout the centuries, people of all cultures have come to regard the hot mineral waters in Pagosa Springs as having healing properties.

Whether they were used to soothe sore muscles, to deal with breathing issues or just for simple relaxation, the hot mineral baths have played a key part in the development of Pagosa Springs.

Pagosa is also home to the famous Dr. Mary Fisher — our own “Dr. Quinn Medicine Woman” — who, back in the late 1800s, graduated medical school as a doctor of homeopathy and surgery. She brought her healing skills, tenacity and tenderness to Pagosa Springs at the turn of the century, becoming a legend and the namesake for the Dr. Mary Fisher Foundation, a nonprofit that exists to assist, benefit and support the district that oversees the local hospital.

Perhaps because of the healing waters, the thought that Pagosa is founded on a vortex, or just because of the natural assets of the flowing rivers, cascading waterfalls or glorious mountains, those providing many forms of healing have been drawn to our community.

Pagosa abounds in talented therapists qualified in a variety of massage techniques. Traditional massage, cranio-sacral, Swedish, deep tissue, sports, neuromuscular, axial tonal alignment, kinesiology, energy work and reflexology are but some of the modalities practiced by trained therapists. Therapists work out of several spas in the community, stand-alone businesses, out of their homes and, with their massage tables, will travel to your home. Massage therapy is definitely one of the industries that is prevalent in Pagosa — good for the therapist and for those who need and want this body work.

A comprehensive aquatic wellness program with therapeutic water exercises is offered for adults with chronic health conditions or healthy individuals who just wish to improve their fitness level.

Traditional medical practitioners in the area focus on and offer preventative and wellness programs to help individuals achieve a healthy, active lifestyle.

Pagosa also has its share of qualified chiropractors. There are a variety of chiropractic treatments available, serving a wide range of



Photo courtesy The Springs Resort



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needs. Treatments include the Gonstead technique, focusing on the whole person, not just the area of pain. With the active lifestyles in our community, sports medicine treatments, using traditional adjustment methods and non-force techniques, are also widely available. Keeping up with new technologies, Pagosa chiropractors also utilize techniques such as scio biofeedback, cold laser therapy, aqua chi detox and spinal decompressions. Whether a resident of Pagosa or someone interested in opening a practice, there is certainly room to explore this industry.

If you are looking to improve your life through conscious and inner awareness, Pagosa is home to a number of well-trained therapists, including hypnotherapy practitioners. Several practitioners who had very successful businesses in the “big city” have chosen to move to a smaller community, and have made Pagosa their home, now sharing their expertise with the community by setting up shop here in the mountains. Some therapists still travel, but make Pagosa their home base. Whether experiencing a life change, a choice of a place to raise your family, downsizing or even semi to full retirement, Pagosa welcomes alternative and experiential therapists.

With the resurgence in natural or holistic products in recent years, Pagosa Springs is also home to a variety of businesses producing

natural-based products. Some of the businesses operate from storefronts, offering spices, tinctures, oils, teas, soaps and many other selections. Other businesses are home-based and Internet-driven. Body and facial care products, soaps and cleaning products are produced locally, but marketed globally. As the market for holistic and natural products increases, talented practitioners are finding our community conducive to producing and marketing these products right here in Pagosa Springs. Pagosa, with one of its eyes on the holistic, is a perfect place for businesses of this nature to set down roots and grow.

Our community is a wellspring of traditional and alternative solutions to health care. With lodging and conference facilities, mineral hot springs in town and the great outdoors as our backyard, Pagosa Springs is an attractive site for wellness seminars educating the outside world to the benefits of alternative methods of treatments and holistic products. There is still room for the “alternative” community to come together and better promote our area to the outside world. The Chamber of Commerce would be happy to assist businesses interested in expanding this alternative arena. Pagosa exemplifies a healthy way of life through its active lifestyle and open-mindedness to alternative contributions to health care.




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Alpine Medical and Specialty Practices	(970) 507-3030	alpinepagosa.com
Pagosa Medical Group	(970) 372-0456	www.pagosamedicalgroup.com
Archuleta Integrated Health	(970) 264-2104	axishealthsystem.org
Axis Health System	(970) 403-0180	axishealthsystem.org
Alcoholics Anonymous	(888) 333-9649	aadistrict18.org
San Juan Basin Public Health	(970) 264-2409	sjbpublichealth.org
Hospice of Mercy	(970) 731-9190	mercydurango.org
Southwest Safehouse	(970) 259-5443	voacolorado.org
Mercy Hospital	(970) 247-4311	mercydurango.org
Durango VA Medical Clinic	(970) 247-2214	albuquerque.va.gov/locations/DurangoClinic.asp
USJ Health Service District (EMS)	(970) 731-5811	pagosaspringsmedicalcenter.org
Pine Ridge Extended Care Center	(970) 731-4330	pagosanursinghome.com
Archuleta County Department of Human Services	(970) 264-2182	archuletacounty.org

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Pagosa Springs Senior Center	(970) 264-2167	psseniors.org
Housing Solutions for the Southwest	(970) 259-1086	swhousingsolutions.com
San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging	(970) 264-0501	sjbaaa.org
Archuleta County Department of Human Services	(970) 264-2182	archuletacounty.org
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Dr. James Pruitt,
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Photo courtesy Axis Health System

Axis Health System: A new integrated health care facility

Archuleta Integrated Healthcare (AIH) is changing the game in Archuleta County when it comes to different types of health care. In 2017, Axis Health System built a 10,200 square foot building to offer more services to the residents of Archuleta County.

“We currently serve over 650 patients at AIH. We have had primary care available as part of our integrated team only since the fall of 2017, so we anticipate the number of patients will continue to increase rapidly this year,” explained Sarada Leavenworth, Senior Director of Strategy and Development for Axis Health System.

She explained that, prior to the construction of AIH, Axis only offered behavioral health services, which pertained to things such as mental health or substance abuse treatment.

Now, AIH is offering much more than that. “Our motivation to build our new clinic was to be able to provide integrated care for residents of Archuleta County and Pagosa Springs,” said Leavenworth. “Integrated care is basically a team approach to health care, where on the team we have primary care providers, behavioral health care providers ... we have a psychiatric provider who just started as well.”

She went on to explain that one of the main goals of AIH is to provide more care options to the citizens of Archuleta County.

AIH is also flexible with payment options, accepting Medicare, Medicaid, CHP+ and private insurance.

“We also have options for folks who are uninsured at this point and need a sliding-fee scale,” Leavenworth stated, adding, “We have nine locations in southwest Colorado, and each location provides a range of care options, often particularly geared to the needs of that community.”

Axis Health System has had roots in Archuleta County for the last 40 years, but its roots in the Four Corners area go even farther than that, stretching all the way back to 1960.

Leavenworth explained that AIH was constructed with the idea of expansion in mind.

“Depending on the needs of our community, we can add additional providers and already have the space to do that,” Leavenworth said, adding that Axis Health System is seeking sustainable ways to potentially add dental services to AIH in the future.



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Photo courtesy Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership

Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership

Growing food and community with local energy

Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership (GGP) is building an educational botanic park in Pagosa Springs' Centennial Park.

Construction of GGP's Community Garden Dome and Innovation Dome is slated for completion in 2018. These two greenhouse domes will be installed next to the existing Education Dome.

A volunteer-driven nonprofit and educational organization, Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership's park enhances Pagosa Springs' San Juan Riverwalk. Its mission is "to educate the community in sustainable agricultural practices by producing food year-round using local renewable energy." Demonstrating the value of the community's geothermal resource remains a GGP priority.

The October 2017 Smart Growth America Report listed the GGP as an important amenity for the community. Both the Archuleta County Community Economic Development Action Plan and Downtown Colorado Inc. identified the GGP as a priority for downtown economic revitalization. With the Education Dome completed in 2016, the GGP continued fulfilling its mission in 2017.

In 2017, the Education Dome's first year of operation, the dome and

amphitheater became busy gathering places. Pagosa's youth began horticultural activities and GGP's volunteers nurtured an abundant garden for the community.

This year promises more educational workshops and special events in Centennial Park. Lifelong Learning Workshops will feature in-depth education about the wise use of Colorado's water, explore various environmental issues, and celebrate the biodiversity of the San Juan River Walk. Live music and performances are planned for the GGP Amphitheater, as well as the ColorFest Breakfast with 5h Balloons.

The Colorado Water Plan (CWP) and Colorado Garden Foundation funded the construction of the nonprofit organization's second and third growing domes in late 2017. Pagosa Springs' Noon Rotary Club provided funding of the East Garden landscape in 2018.

The Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership operates through a board of directors, numerous volunteers, five strategic committees and an enthusiastic membership base.

Visit Pagosagreen.org for more information, to contact the GGP and to volunteer. We'll see you on the Riverwalk.

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ARCHULETA COUNTY DEMOGRAPHIC & INCOME PROFILE

Summary	2000	2010	2016
Population	9,898	12,084	13,315 (2017)
Households	3,980	5,267	5,382
Families	2,872	3,561	
Average Household Size	2.47	2.27	2.27
Owner Occupied Housing Units	3,057	3,947	4,023
Renter Occupied Housing Units	923	1,320	1,359
Median Age	40.7	48.4	49.5

POPULATION & POPULATION GROWTH

	2016	2000	1990
State of Colorado	5,607,154	4,301,261	3,294,394
State of Colorado: 104,093.57 Sq. Miles			
Population Density (People per Sq. Mile):	48.5 (2010)	41.5	31.8
Median Age (Years):		34.3	
Average Household Size (People):	2.56	2.53	
Archuleta County			
Archuleta County: 1355.48 Sq. Miles			
Archuleta County Population	13,315 (2017)	9,898	5,345
Population Density (People per Sq. Mile):	8.9 (2010)	7.3	3.9
Median Age (Years):	49.5	40.8	
Average Household Size (People)	2.27	2.5	2.7
Renter Occupied Apartments			
Per Capita Income (PCI):	28,649	21,683	19,156
Median Household Income:	45,607	43,259	
Cost of Living Index	96.3 (2016)		

Sources: <http://www.census.gov/>
<http://quickfacts.census.gov/>
www.city-data.com/county/Archuleta_County-CO.html

www.townofpagosasprings.com/colorado.gov
factfinder.census.gov

ARCHULETA COUNTY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT (2016)

Population 25 years & over	9,115
Less than 9th grade	3.6%
9th to 12 grade, no diploma	5.0%
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	25.6%
Some college, no degree	21.8%
Associate degree	9%
Bachelor's degree	23.1%
Graduate or professional degree	11.8%
High school graduate or higher age 25+	91.4%
Bachelor's degree or higher age 25+	34.9%

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY (2016)

Agriculture, forestry, fishing, hunting, mining	4.2%
Construction	12.2%
Manufacturing	3.6%
Wholesale Trade	0.6%
Retail trade	11.5%
Transportation and warehousing, utilities	4.5%
Information	1.5%
Finance, insurance, real estate, rental, leasing	7.4%
Professional, scientific, management, administrative, waste management services	11.4%
Educational, health care, social assistance	18.0%
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services	13.3%
Other Services, except public administration	7.9%
Public administration	3.8%
Unemployment — County (February 2018)	3.9%



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“We just finally decided that if it was going to happen, we had to do it,” Carolyn Paschal said.

That’s how Paschal described the birth of Aspen House, a home for community members with developmental challenges, came to be.

Paschal is one of the founding members of A Safe Place in Pagosa, (ASPIP), a local nonprofit organization dedicated to helping those in the community who have mental and physical challenges. She is also president of Aspen House’s board of directors.

Aspen House is a project in Pagosa with a one-of-a-kind mission — to help the local residents with mental and physical challenges stay in their hometown.

The Aspen House website describes some key goals of the program as providing a safe place to live, a sense of dignity, affordability, opportunity and relief for families.

“[Bret] was born and raised here ... I was looking at having to ship him off somewhere. And most places have 10-year, or 14-year waiting lists,” Paschal said about her son.

“We want to make sure our adult children are taken care of, before anything happens to us. We want to know they’re safe, they’re happy and they’re taken care of,” said Paschal.

According to the Aspen House website, many of the young men who could be residents of Aspen House are now too old for state or federal governmental aide programs.

Current plans for Aspen House call for eight residents with their own rooms, a kitchen, a communal area and a quiet room, said Paschal.

The residents would live as roommates sharing in the chores and needs of Aspen House. A full-time caretaker would be in-house, and have separate quarters, explained Paschal.

Dr. Deborah Parker, a local clinical psychologist and member of the Aspen House board of directors, described the importance of keeping the possible residents of Aspen House in Pagosa.

“They want to be an integrated part of the community. They want to know their neighbors, and help their neighbors with raking or doing whatever they can to help ... And we would like to see our guys integrate and help the older members of the community,” Parker said.

But Aspen House offers more than just a safe and familiar environment for the residents, Paschal explained.

“Adults want a home, their own place to live, they want to be like their siblings who get out in the world — and their parents, their primary concern is what is going to happen when I’m no longer here?” Parker said.

“There’s a great chance to bring in jobs, and to be able to help with the guys in the community, by giving back to the community,” Paschal said.

“Our community needs to take some responsibility to help our citizens who have developmental disabilities,” Parker said with a firm and friendly voice.

“And it is very important in a group home setting ... It’s really a family situation. You know, it’s a family of individuals living together ... but they are interdependent on each other, they socialize together, and they have fun together. And they just want to be [an] integrated part of the community,” Parker said.

ASPIP is not limited to only operations with Aspen House; ASPIP, along with the Southwest Center for Independent Living, organizes life skills classes open to all with developmental disabilities, which help with advice on goal setting, activity and health, Paschal said.

Paschal described a possible future for Aspen House in which multiple houses would exist for those with lesser or more intensive caretaking needs, spaces for female residents, co-ed and married housing and possible communal area.

Aspen House would allow outlets for religion, social events, work, promote family involvement with residents and other activities, explained Paschal.

Currently, according to Paschal, one of the hardest parts of Aspen House is finding funds.

“We want to provide scholarships for the individuals who need Aspen House but can’t afford it,” said Paschal.

Paschal explained that while there are many excellent programs across the country, there is one major benefit for keeping them in the community.

“There is something very special about Pagosa,” Paschal said, “The advantage is keeping them here in their own community.”

For more information on Aspen House or any of their future plans or programs, visit the website at www.aspenhousepagosa.org.

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Boulder	\$1,084	\$1,195	\$1,461	\$2,056	\$2,350
Colorado Springs	\$651	\$793	\$1,020	\$1,484	\$1,797
Denver-Aurora-Lakewood	\$938	\$1,127	\$1,418	\$2,031	\$2,351
Fort Collins	\$782	\$905	\$1,106	\$1,609	\$1,948
Grand Junction	\$589	\$635	\$844	\$1,228	\$1,487
Greeley	\$625	\$744	\$937	\$1,363	\$1,650
Pueblo	\$575	\$579	\$770	\$1,090	\$1,244
Teller County	\$666	\$803	\$1,044	\$1,503	\$1,839

FY 2018 Colorado FMR Local Area Summary

Locality Name	Efficiency	1 Bedroom	2 Bedroom	3 Bedroom	4 Bedroom
Alamosa County	\$620	\$623	\$756	\$1,061	\$1,159
Archuleta County	\$704	\$708	\$913	\$1,242	\$1,416
La Plata County	\$775	\$861	\$1,043	\$1,517	\$1,683
Montezuma County	\$607	\$610	\$726	\$1,056	\$1,279
Ouray County	\$729	\$884	\$1,143	\$1,546	\$1,752
Rio Grande County	\$590	\$607	\$697	\$1,012	\$1,106
San Miguel County	\$929	\$1,095	\$1,456	\$1,871	\$2,156

source: www.huduser.org



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	Telephone	Website URL
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Denver International Airport (DIA)	(800) 247-2336	http://flydenver.com
Airports / Regional		
San Luis Valley Regional Airport (SLV)	(719) 589-1138	http://www.sanluisvalleyairport.org
Durango/La Plata County Airport (DGO)	(970) 382-6050	http://www.flydurango.com
Four Corners Regional Airport (FMN)	(505) 599-1394	http://www.fmtn.org/172/Airport
Airports / Local		
Archuleta County Airport at Stevens Field	(970) 731-3060	http://www.archuletacounty.org/45/airport , www.stevensfield.com
Car / Truck Rental		
Enterprise Rent-A-Car	(970) 264-0156	http://www.enterprise.com
U-Haul Neighborhood Dealer	(970) 264-6376	http://www.uhaul.com
U-Haul Neighborhood Dealer	(970) 731-2404	http://www.uhaul.com
U-Haul Neighborhood Dealer	(970) 507-3008	http://www.uhaul.com
Shipping / Delivery		
FedEx — Exodus Shipping	(970) 731-1555	http://local.fedex.com/co/pagosasprings
Kangaroo Express	(970) 247-8191	http://www.kangaroo-express.com
The UPS Store	(970) 731-8771	http://pagosasprings-co-5807.theupsstorelocal.com
United States Postal Service	(970) 264-5440	http://www.usps.com
Transportation		
Mountain Express Public Transport	(970) 264-2250	http://www.archuletacounty.org
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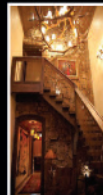
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 (970) 247-3161

Community Connections
communityconnectionscolorado.org
 (970) 259-2464

Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce
pagosachamber.com
 (970) 264-2360

The Pagosa Springs SUN
www.pagosahun.com
 (970) 264-2100

Regional Service Area 9 Council (R.S.A.9.C.)
www.sjboces.org
 (970) 247-3261

Southwest Colorado Small Business Development Center
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Pagosa Springs Town Council
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Home-Based Businesses

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The options are extensive, but you need to do your homework.

With the Internet and broadband capabilities, Pagosa Springs is a perfect place to work from home. Many major companies that rely heavily on the Internet are allowing employees to live where they choose, so long as they are able to "commute" via the Internet. Pagosa offers several high-speed Internet options, allowing residents to telecommute. Currently, broadband capability in many areas of town is available; however, check with the providers to determine the correct broadband capabilities you will need to make sure you can telecommute effectively. There are already numerous residents who choose to live in Pagosa Springs and enjoy the slower-paced lifestyle, and who can take time off during the day to ski, hike, bike, hunt or volunteer, all due to the wonder of telecommuting.

While there is a range of office rental or purchase space opportunities available in Pagosa Springs at very reasonable rates, many business owners have decided to base out of their homes.

Marketing via the Internet or e-commerce is the rage, and shopping via the Internet only grows in popularity. Many homes in Pagosa offer heated workshops or space in which to set up an office. Holistic products, piecework or general or sub-contracting businesses, including woodworking, plumbing, electrical, concrete or rock-work trades, can easily be established at your home base.

If you purchase a home in an area that is governed by a property owners association, it is a good idea to check and make sure if there are any home/business restrictions.

Small manufacturing companies are also growing in popularity in Pagosa Springs. The Chamber of Commerce can assist interested parties with business development consultation, workforce development, workspace consultation and business training. More and more smaller manufacturing businesses are choosing Pagosa Springs as a home base that affords their employees a better quality of life, yet they distribute their products all over the world.

As you can see, Pagosa Springs is a fantastic community in which to marry choice of lifestyle with work. With the advance of technology, telecommuting is ever more popular and possible. Choosing where your home-based business is located becomes easier

and a choice, not a necessity. Should you need to commute to another part of the country, the La Plata County Airport is only one hour away, making connections with DIA, in Denver, and the world.

The Chamber of Commerce and Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation (CDC) are poised and ready to help you work through the pros and cons of locating a home-based business here in Pagosa Springs. We look forward to helping you become that "Lone Eagle" entrepreneur. Contact the Chamber of Commerce at www.pagosachamber.com or the CDC at www.pagosaspringscdc.org.

If you have any questions about obtaining a business license, please contact the Town of Pagosa Springs at (970) 264-4151.

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HOUSEHOLDS BY INCOME	2000		2014		2016	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<\$15,000	648	16.2%	518	9.7%	495	9.2%
\$15,000 - \$24,999	563	14.1%	689	12.9%	791	14.7%
\$25,000 - \$34,999	573	14.4%	652	12.2%	664	12.5%
\$35,000 - \$49,999	839	21.0%	903	16.9%	970	18%
\$50,000 - \$74,999	729	18.3%	988	18.5%	970	18%
\$75,000 - \$99,999	306	7.7%	620	11.6%	534	9.9%
\$100,000 - \$149,999	165	4.1%	657	12.3%	647	12%
\$150,000 - \$199,999	63	1.6%	118	2.2%	135	2.5%
\$200,000+	103	2.6%	187	3.5%	176	3.3%
Median Household Income		\$38,333		\$48,186		\$45,607
Average Household Income		\$53,743		\$70,257		\$63,380

POPULATION BY AGE	2010		2014		2016	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0 - 4	519	4.3%	616	5.1%	630	5.1%
5 - 9	874	7.2%	613	5.1%	568	4.6%
10 - 14	1,124	9.3%	573	4.7%	618	5.0%
15 - 19	1,562	12.9%	680	5.6%	544	4.4%
20 - 24	996	8.2%	607	5.0%	828	6.7%
25 - 34	867	7.1%	1,086	9.0%	1013	8.2%
35 - 44	820	6.8%	1,295	10.7%	1211	9.8%
45 - 54	1,297	10.7%	1,738	14.3%	1656	13.4%
55 - 64	2,248	18.5%	2,507	20.7%	2496	20.2%
65 - 74	1,118	9.2%	1,552	12.8%	1853	15%
75 - 84	570	4.7%	636	5.2%	680	5.5%
85+	141	1.2%	229	1.9%	198	1.6%
Total	12,136		12,132		12,355	



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Photo courtesy Michael Pierce Photography

Getting here from there

Stevens Field Airport

Archuleta County's Stevens Field, located just 3 miles west of downtown Pagosa Springs, is one of the most scenic airports around.

In addition to beauty, the airport boasts a fully lit asphalt runway that is 100 feet wide and 8,100 feet long. That runway has aircraft weight capacities of 70,000 pounds for dual-wheel gear and 59,000 pounds for single-wheel gear. Flight safety at the high-altitude, general aviation airport is reinforced with a Precision Approach Path Indicator system.

The airport has seen a great deal of improvement over the years. In 2006, workers widened and resurfaced Runway 10/19 and built a new fixed-base operations building at midfield to provide fuel and services to local and visiting aircraft. In 2008, a new 3,000-foot parallel taxiway was constructed. In 2013, Archuleta County acquired additional snow removal equipment solely to be used at the airport. Alongside the other improvements, new hangars have appeared, an Automated Weather Observation System (AWOS) has been installed, and the airport identifier became KPSO.

In keeping with its commitment to Archuleta County and Stevens Field, the Federal Aviation Administration also completed and published a GPS instrument approach for pilot use during nighttime and low-visibility landings.

In 2015, nearly \$6 million was spent to extend the parallel taxiway and complete other associated projects, further increasing the efficiency of aircraft movement and safety.

Those improvements have not only increased safety, but have also helped solidify the airport's status as an economic driver for the community. According to an Economic Impact Study completed by the airport's advisory committee, for every dollar Archuleta County invests in the airport, the county receives a return of \$10.86.

The airport facility also boasts a private, on-site maintenance shop in one of the hangars.

For more information on the airport, visit www.archuletacounty.org or www.stevensfield.com. For specific airport management questions or concerns, call the airport manager at (970) 731-3060.

The AWOS system is available on frequency 127.175, or by phone at (970) 731-0365.

And once you've landed, Pagosa boasts car rental agencies and transportation companies.

Fixed-Base Operator

For aviation services or to visit Avjet Corporation, the fixed-base operator, travel 3 miles west of town, then approximately 1 mile northwest on Piedra Road (CR 600). Turn right (northeast) on Cloman Boulevard and proceed to 61 Aviation Court.

The FBO offers a number of amenities, including restrooms, telephone, shower

facilities, a flight-planning room, pilot snooze room, Internet, vending machines, catering services, coffee, a lounge area, heated hangar and more. Avjet also provides fuel, Avgas and Jet-A rated fuel.

For more information about these and other airport services, call Avjet at (970) 731-2127.

La Plata County Airport

The Durango-La Plata County Airport offers daily service with American Airlines and United Airlines. The airport offers a full range of services within the terminal to make your visit comfortable. The airport has short- and long-term parking, full rental car services and shuttle/taxis.

The airport is located 60 miles from Pagosa Springs at the intersection of Airport Road and County Road 309A, approximately 1 mile from County Road 309.

For more information about flights and ancillary services, visit www.flydurango.com.

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Phoenix, Ariz.	514 miles
Oklahoma City, Okla.	699 miles
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Photo courtesy Mark Meier

Wildlife in Pagosa Country

If you've brought your camera and are inclined to trek through the extensive wilderness that composes the greater portion of Pagosa Country, be prepared for the chance to snap the shot of a lifetime.

In a region that ranges from 6,000 to 13,000 feet in elevation, the 1.8-million-acre San Juan National Forest not only hosts a complex diversity of climate zones, ecological niches and microenvironments, but also is home to a vast array of wildlife that call these diverse habitats home. As the country climbs in elevation from the south and east to the mountains north and west, that diversity becomes apparent as high-desert plateau gently transitions into alpine forest, then dramatically ascends beyond the tree line to alpine tundra. While many species of wildlife prefer to inhabit a specific ecological zone, others travel throughout Pagosa Country, seeking resources and habitat wherever they can find them.

Coyotes, foxes, cougars and black bears may roam the region at almost any elevation and are a common site (and sometimes a nuisance) for residents and visitors alike. A special but not uncommon sight is the symbol of our country — the American Bald Eagle — soaring majestically above meadows, lakes or rivers at all elevations. Snapping a photo of one of these birds perched atop a ponderosa pine is a rare treat.

In the lower reaches, short-horned lizards, eastern fence lizards, western rattlesnakes and ringtail cats share sandy sage flats, arid rocky slopes, deep canyons and sandstone mesas with jackrabbits, prairie dogs, elk and mule deer. Piñon jays, turkey vultures, red-tailed hawks and golden eagles commonly grace the sun-drenched skies above the high desert plateau.

In the high country, observers may see Rocky Mountain goats, bighorn sheep, snowshoe hares, ptarmigan or a rare Canada lynx. Although normally a denizen of high-country meadows, willow flats, forests and lakes north of Pagosa Springs, it is not unusual for the Shiras moose to be seen at most elevations. The largest member of the deer

family, these solitary individuals occasionally wander the streets and outskirts of town.

While the encroachment of civilization on some of the region's wilderness has decreased the numbers of several species in the area, many other species are thriving and even increasing in numbers, including foxes and coyotes, mule deer, bears, magpies, crows and ravens, golden and bald eagles, wild turkeys and vultures. While mountain lions are normally solitary and secretive, reported sightings have become frequent, particularly between the hours of 10 p.m. and 4 a.m. Visitors and residents are cautioned not to feed local wildlife, especially as prey species can attract lions into residential areas. Food should never be left out to attract bears.

In the spring and early summer, infrequent hikers and wildlife watchers will invariably stumble upon a newborn fawn or elk calf. Baby birds, rabbits, foxes and squirrels may appear quite approachable, yet mother is almost certainly nearby. As long as a potential predator lurks about, she'll not return to feed or coddle her young. Therefore, it is always best to back away and leave little ones as they're found. Survival in the wild is challenging enough without avoidable human interference.

In a bountiful area as rich and diverse as Pagosa Country, vigilant observers will enjoy an array of wildlife matched by few places on earth. The adventurous visitor traveling the canyons, mesas and forests early or late, moving in silence and employing a pair of good field glasses, is almost guaranteed to be rewarded with the sight of wildlife in their natural habitat — and the experience of a lifetime.

For more information about the best hiking trails for wildlife watching in the San Juan National Forest and surrounding wilderness areas, visit the U.S. Forest Service website at www.fs.usda.gov/sanjuan/ or stop by the Pagosa ranger station at 180 Pagosa St.

For information about Colorado's wildlife and hunting and fishing licenses, go to Colorado Parks and Wildlife's website at cpw.state.co.us.



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Pagosa Springs SUN photo

Pagosa Play Place

An indoor playground for families

Pagosa Country may be known for abundant sunshine and a beautiful, natural backyard for people of all ages to play in, but, for parents of young children, outdoors isn't always the best option. Inevitably, there will be snowy days, windy days, hot days, rainy days — days where parents are left seeking indoor options for children to move, play, explore and use up their (also abundant) energy.

The Pagosa Play Place, located at 2839 Cornerstone Drive #3, is a nonprofit effort borne out of a desire for area families to have just that.

The play place, which caters to youngsters up to age 10, opened its doors in late March and held its grand opening in April.

The facility's Facebook page calls it "An indoor playground created to inspire individuals, children & families to engage in a healthy and active lifestyle through play and full body movement."

And, when you walk in, you'll notice it's just what the description says.

The space includes a number of features to keep youngsters busy, moving and having fun, including a custom-built wooden jungle gym

(built by a local builder) that includes a bridge, slide, monkey bars and more. There's also the climbing wall, caterpillar tunnel, a toddler area and more.

"We wanted to try and have a variety of activities for all ages," the nonprofit's president, Meggie Caler, said as her son garnered her attention to show off his skills on the climbing wall.

According to Caler, the Pagosa Play Place morphed out of a previous effort to have an indoor play area in Pagosa Springs, with founding members of the original play place teaming up with new members and a local business owner, Laura Daniels.

Caler explained that Laura Daniels had seen an indoor play place in a mall and approached her and the group about bringing something similar to a vacant location she owned.

What followed was a lot of work, with the unfinished location not even having a functional bathroom when the group started.

"We all really wanted it to work," Caler said. "This town really just needs other options for kids, and we're here."

And while the facility may be officially up and running, the work is far from over for the organizers.

“It’s an all-volunteer organization, so it’s a lot of work,” Caler said, “but I feel like it’s really worth it for the kids.”

The Pagosa Play Place runs solely on volunteers, with those volunteers (usually moms) taking shifts working while the facility is open (with their kids in tow to play, of course).

As of its opening, sessions at the play place are \$7 for locals and \$10 for nonlocals and \$5 for each additional kiddo. Punch passes are also available.

Parents working three-hour shifts as part of the volunteer co-op can receive discounted admission for their children, Caler noted.

The organizers (a six-member board) are also working to bring weekly events, crafts, activities and story times to the Pagosa Play Place.

“I mean, at the end of the day, it’s just an indoor playground, but the love that’s gone into it is a lot,” Caler said. “A lot of love.”

The nonprofit, Caler explained, will also hold periodic fundraisers to help give the organization more “breathing room” when it comes to operations, especially as the play place becomes more established.

All of the funds from the daily operation of the facility and the fundraisers go back into the operation of the Pagosa Play Place, Caler noted.

But don’t expect those fundraisers to be stuffy — the first of those fundraisers, held in May, was a murder mystery masquerade dinner.

For more information on the Pagosa Play Place, check out Pagosa Play Place on Facebook.

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Photos courtesy Pagosa Skaters Coalition For Concrete

The Parks of Pagosa

The employees of the Pagosa Springs Parks and Recreation Department take great personal pride in their stewardship of the town's facilities and amenities. The parks of Pagosa Springs run the gamut from the wild and natural pine forest on Reservoir Hill to the well-manicured fields of Yamaguchi Park. What follows is a list of each park and a description of what it has to offer.

Reservoir Hill

The most prominent physical feature of the downtown area, Reservoir Hill towers over the south bank of the San Juan River and is distinguished by the large green water tank visible from U.S. 160.

The park is accessible from three trailheads — located across the highway from the River Center, behind the Healing Waters Spa and next to the U.S. Post Office — and offers miles of hiking and biking trails ranging from gentle and peaceful to steep and technical.

A large meadow right next to the water tank is the home to two of Pagosa's largest musical events: The Folk 'N Bluegrass event takes place in early June and the Four Corners Folk Festival over Labor Day weekend. A large, wooden gazebo in the festival meadow is available to rent for special occasions such as weddings or reunions.

Located one-fourth of a mile east of the gazebo is an overlook that allows one to overlook the town and see stunning views.

Reservoir Hill is also home to one of the best disc golf courses in the region, featuring 18 baskets, 18 regular tee boxes and 18 alternative tee boxes for those experts looking for a bit more challenging game.

There are restrooms available on the hill.

Centennial Park

Centennial Park stretches along the river behind the Archuleta County courthouse, and includes several tables for enjoying a nice family picnic while watching the activities in the river and the hot springs beyond. A pedestrian bridge provides a continuous connection for the Riverwalk that winds through the wetlands behind Town Hall and the Ross Aragon Community Center. A pedestrian bridge at the other end of the park connects to The Springs Resort and Spa.

Town Park

On the southeast corner of the U.S. 160/Hot Springs Boulevard intersection, Town Park connects to Centennial Park via the Riverwalk and contains a wind harp, bathrooms, a drinking fountain, picnic tables, barbecue grills, a playground, two special-event 200-amp electrical services, a performance space with stage and a white-water feature in the adjacent river.

The park and the athletic field across Hermosa Street host several events throughout the year, including the Fourth of July Park 2 Park Arts

and Crafts Fair, ColorFest and the Mountain Chile Cha Cha.

Yamaguchi Park

Located on South 5th Street between Pagosa Springs High School and the river, Yamaguchi Park is home to a favorite hangout for local kids — the Pagosa Skate Park. The Skaters Coalition for Concrete, a local grassroots organization formed over a decade ago, raised funds and added a full-sized bowl to the 4,500 square-foot concrete terrain at the park.

The park was designed to appeal to skaters of all ability levels and includes several plaza elements and a bowl feature.

The park is open from dawn to dusk throughout the year, provided the skating surface is free of ice and snow in the winter months. To learn more about the skate park, or to find out when the annual skater competition and fundraiser will take place, visit www.skaterscoalitionforconcrete.com.

Another amenity of Yamaguchi Park is the kayak/raft launching facility and two whitewater features, complemented by the paved Riverwalk to facilitate viewing activities on the river.

A pump track was installed in 2017 south of the skate park for bicycle use and coming in 2018 will be an outdoor basketball court.

A heated year-round restroom, drinking fountain, picnic tables, barbecue grills and picnic shelter allow for family gatherings, while a state-of-the-art playground and beautiful soccer and softball fields give plenty of room for the kids to play. A special-events and performance venue with electrical service is also available.

Mary Fisher Park

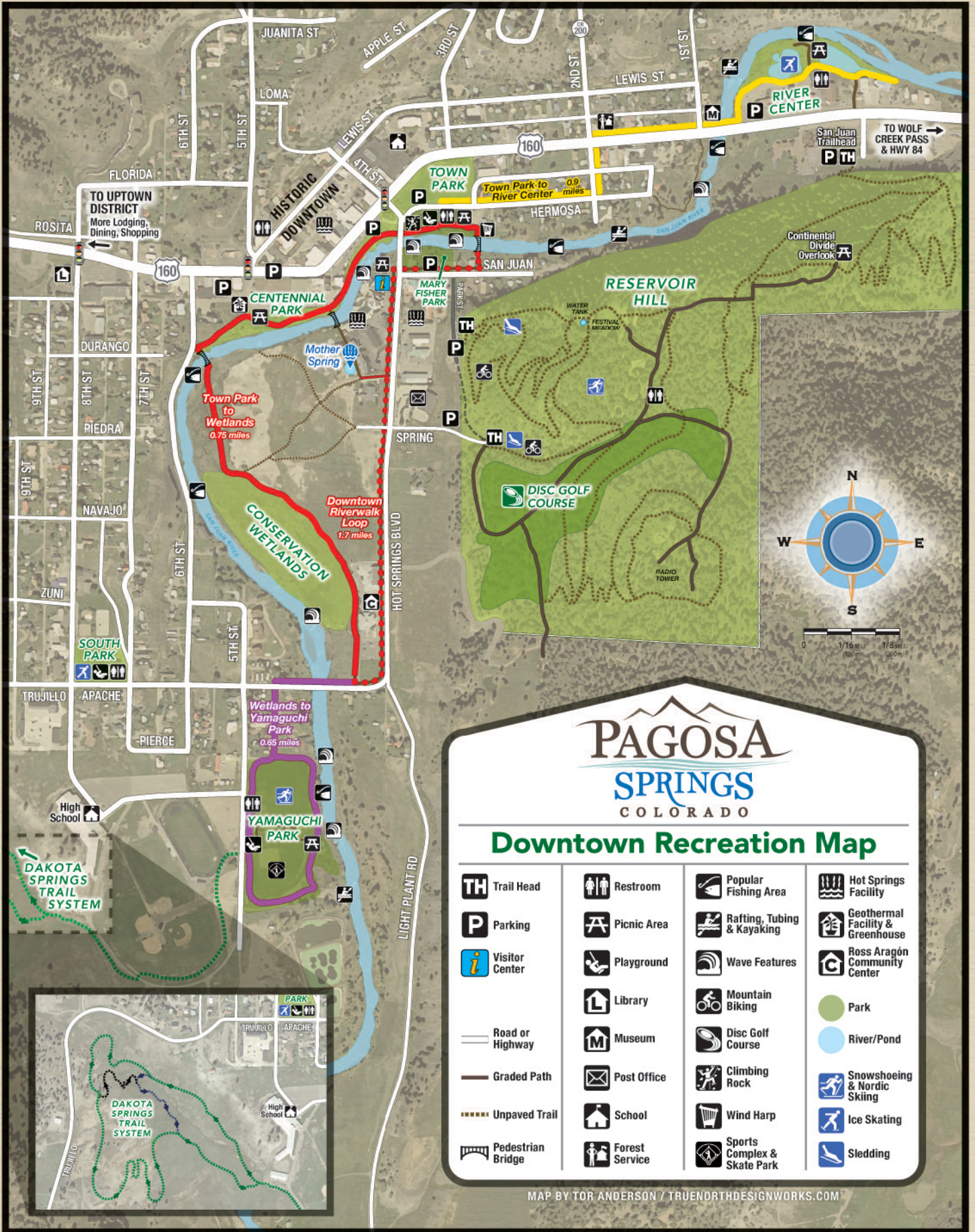
Along the south bank of the San Juan River directly across from Town Park, and connected to it by another pedestrian bridge, Mary Fisher Park contains several picnic tables, as well as a changing screen for kayakers and inner tubers to use before hitting another one of the new whitewater river features.

River Center Park

Nestled behind the River Center shops on the east end of town (from U.S. 160 go behind the River Center buildings), the River Center Park contains two small fishing ponds with a handicap-accessible pier and access to the river for launching rafts and kayaks.

South Pagosa Park

A true neighborhood park located on the south side of town on Apache Street between 7th and 8th streets, South Pagosa Park has bathrooms, a drinking fountain, picnic tables, barbecue grills, a picnic shelter, horseshoe pits, a playground and four pickleball courts. The park is well used by local families.



PAGOSA SPRINGS
COLORADO

Downtown Recreation Map

TH Trail Head	Restroom	Popular Fishing Area	Hot Springs Facility
P Parking	Picnic Area	Rafting, Tubing & Kayaking	Geothermal Facility & Greenhouse
Visitor Center	Playground	Wave Features	Ross Aragón Community Center
Road or Highway	Library	Mountain Biking	Park
Graded Path	Museum	Disc Golf Course	River/Pond
Unpaved Trail	Post Office	Climbing Rock	Snowshoeing & Nordic Skiing
Pedestrian Bridge	School	Wind Harp	Ice Skating
	Forest Service	Sports Complex & Skate Park	Sledding

MAP BY TOR ANDERSON / TRUENORTHDESIGNWORKS.COM



Photo courtesy Elise Soniat/Source Of Light Imagery

Pagosa Springs: The Best of Both Worlds

Are you worried that relocating to Pagosa Springs and the surrounding community in the heart of the beautiful San Juan Mountains might leave you without the basics and the luxuries you've come to rely on?

Let those worries fade away: Pagosa Country offers the best of both worlds — a wonderful, small-town environment and shopping and dining opportunities that will satisfy your needs and cravings.

There's not much you'll want or need that you can't get in Pagosa.

A wide variety of businesses, from small to large, serve up goods from hardware to luxury lighting, from clothing (everyday and fancy) to sporting equipment, from gear for the horse owner to motorized off-road vehicles.

Looking for furniture, either utilitarian or high-end? You can find it in Pagosa. Appliances? Electronic goods? You'll find them here.

What about dining? There's plenty in Pagosa to satisfy even the most discriminating palate. Pagosa has about as many eating establishments per capita as any town you can think of, with the options spanning the spectrum in terms of styles of cuisine and price.

Want a down-home breakfast? No problem. Looking for a muffin or croissant, specialty coffees and espresso drinks? We have those.

When dinner calls, you need only to determine what kind of cuisine you're in the mood to sample: continental, American, French, Thai, Chinese, Italian, barbecue, steaks and chops, Mexican, seafood, breweries with classic pub fare, burgers and fries, a menu with plenty of options for the kids. You name it, you've got it. In all price ranges.

A night out, with a meal at a favorite restaurant, is one of Pagosa's great pleasures. Take advantage of it whenever you can.

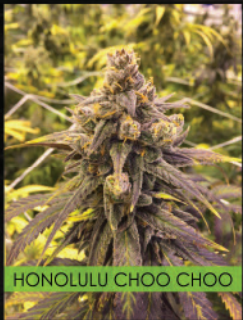
In need of some entertainment? Fear not, you can find it in Pagosa. Local bars and pubs regularly feature music and, on any given night, one can choose from jazz, rock, blues and others. Art galleries provide art lovers with opportunities to indulge their passion. Or, how about a rodeo? A play? We have those, too, and other organizations hold events year-round that can keep anyone busy and having fun.

Pagosa is small, yes. But Pagosa packs a lot onto its small frame. That's part of the joy of living and working here — you are in the heart of an environment that appeals to even the most discerning outdoor enthusiast, but you have the dining, shopping and cultural amenities you need to indulge your whims. It's a great place to be!

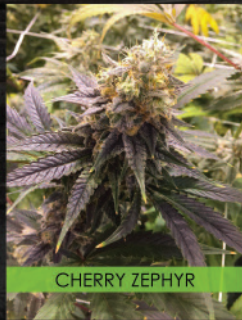
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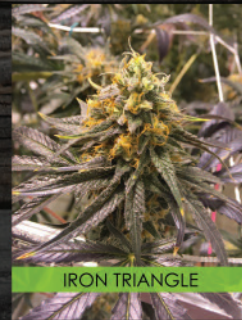
CHERRY ZEPHYR



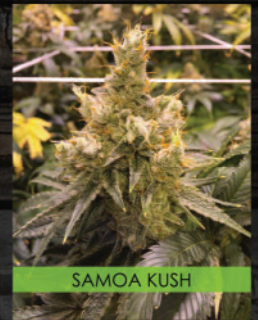
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SPEC OPS



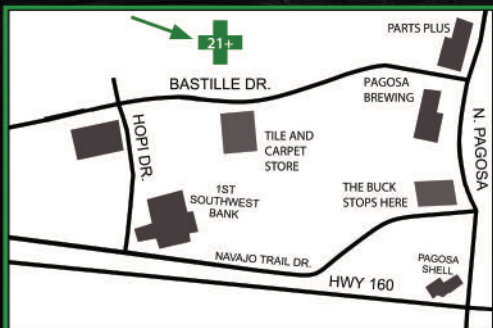
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Photos courtesy Pagosa Nordic Club

Local Groups Share the Outdoors

Pagosa Springs and the outdoors go hand-in-hand; in fact, being able to enjoy the outdoors year-round is one of the benefits of living in this mountain paradise. There are a number of groups that are passionate about their sport and are willing to share their enthusiasm.

The San Juan Outdoor Club is devoted to providing outdoor activities such as backpacking, hiking, canoeing, cross-country skiing, fishing, cycling, etc. The club also performs community services. The club's primary goal is to get outdoors and have fun together. The organization is open to families and individuals. For more information on member application and fees, visit their website at www.sanjuanoutdoorclub.org.

The Gray Wolves Ski Club is more than just a senior ski club; it's a group of skiers and outdoor enthusiasts who are interested in socializing, downhill skiing, cross-country skiing, hiking, golf, etc. The club started in 1984 to promote skiing, other outdoor sports and fellowship through organized activities for people 50 years of age or older.

Regular ski days are held during the winter months to promote fellowship, with discounts for members. The Gray Wolves hold various functions throughout the year, such as potlucks and gatherings. For more information, visit their website at www.graywolfskiclub.com.

The Pagosa Nordic Club strives to enhance winter recreational opportunities by maintaining and grooming winter trails for cross-country and skate skiing and snowshoeing enjoyment for all ability levels. Throughout the winter months, the club holds free Moonrise/Sunset Ski Socials at various groomed trails. You can find out more about this

group at www.pagosanordic.com.

The Wolf Creek Trailblazers Snowmobile Club grooms forest service trails for use by snowmobilers, cross-country skiers and snowshoers. The purpose of the club is to have a great time riding snowmobiles while operating an active trail-grooming effort.

The Pagosa Trail Riders is an ATV club with members who love to ride the trails and roads of southwest Colorado. Along with promoting education of responsible ATV/OHV use, they work with the forest service, BLM and other user groups to maintain trails for everyone's outdoor pleasure. Visit their website at www.pagosatrailriders.com.

The Pagosa Area Trails Council is an all-volunteer organization dedicated to planning, building and maintaining trails and trail-related facilities around Pagosa Springs. They also work with the Southwest Youth Corps and other organizations to accomplish their tasks of trail maintenance and improvement of trail use and accessibility.

The Weminuche Audubon Society programs provide opportunities for visitors and residents to explore our local environment through bird walks, nature and science presentations, and collaborations with other outdoor and nature-based organizations. They have ongoing monitoring projects, monthly meetings and field trips. Visit their website at www.weminucheaudubon.org.

There are numerous organizations that tend to our natural playground for the enjoyment of residents and visitors alike. Visit the Pagosa Springs Chamber website for more information about these organizations and other outdoor groups.

Senior Living in Pagosa

“To support seniors in living healthy, vibrant and independent lives” is the purpose of the Pagosa Springs Senior Center.

The Senior Center has an array of activities and services for the young at heart, along with supportive services for those in need of more assistance. The center schedules various outings and games for fellowship and fun.

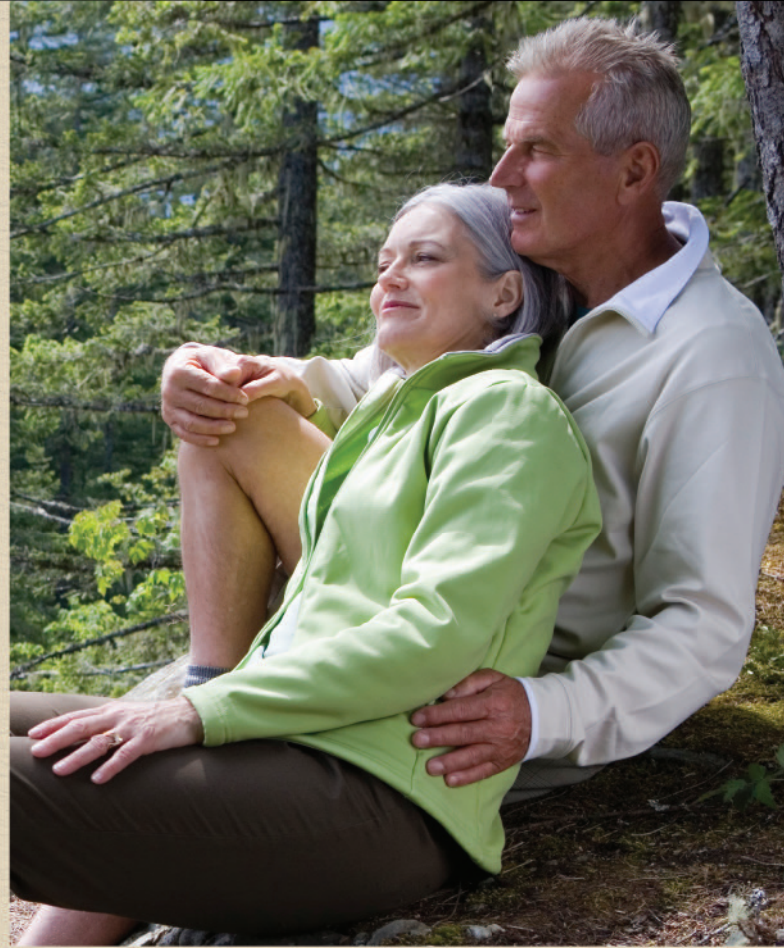
The center offers delicious lunches, including a fabulous salad bar, Monday through Friday. Weekly menus are printed in The Pagosa Springs SUN newspaper. Seniors interested in dining at the center can make reservations by calling 264-2167. Home-delivered meals are available to qualifying home-bound individuals.

Flu shot clinics are offered in the fall as well as free screenings through the San Juan Basin Health Department twice a month, free blood pressure checks weekly, and a wellness clinic once a month.

The center also collaborates with Mountain Express to provide bus transportation for attending lunches, going to the post office, pharmacy, grocery store and other necessary errands. Arranging transportation can be completed by contacting Mountain Express at 264-2250.

Additionally, the San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging offers a wide range of supportive informational and referral services. Services include Medicare counseling, legal assistance and Alzheimer’s support programs, to name a few. Their telephone number is 264-0502.

For more information about the Pagosa Springs Senior Center and the San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging, visit their offices, located in the Ross Aragon Community Center at 451 Hot Springs Blvd. Call 264-2167, or go online to www.psseniors.org. Staying active and engaged in Pagosa Springs is easy with organizations like the Senior Center.



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Relocating your animals

Moving to a new town with your pets can be an exciting adventure with many new discoveries. It can also be a bit stressful for you and your pets leaving behind the familiar. For peace of mind, plan ahead for your pet's safety during the move. There are many Internet sources of good information on how to safely move your pets, as well as great tips on how to help your dogs or cats acclimate to their new home.

Before you move, make sure that your pets are healthy and up to date on their vaccinations. If you are moving from out of state with dogs or cats, Colorado requires that you have a Certificate of Veterinarian Inspection (CVI) that is no more than 30 days old. If your cat or dog is three months or older, they must also have had a rabies vaccination within the preceding 12 months. For livestock and other animal requirements, visit the Colorado Department of Agriculture website (www.colorado.gov/ag).

Part of moving involves gathering all your important personal documents. Make sure you do the same for your pets. Have all of their health and vaccination records on hand so that when you choose a local veterinarian you can provide your new vet with your pets' medical histories.

Losing a pet can be nerve-racking. The Humane Society of Pagosa Springs (HSPS) operates the only animal shelter in the area, located at 465 Cloman Blvd. The shelter is open seven days a week. A call to the animal shelter at (970) 731-4771 should be one of your first steps in finding a lost pet.

The HSPS website (www.humanesociety.biz) hosts detailed information on what to do if you and your pet become separated. Check the website's "Lost and Found" page for a list of useful suggestions. The website also has information on adoptions, low-cost spay/neuter voucher programs and other community services.

To aid in finding a lost pet, make sure that your pet always wears a secure collar with a sturdy identification tag attached. The ID tag should contain your name and contact information, including information on rabies vaccination. If you are moving, make sure the tag has your current cell phone number. Secondly, have a microchip inserted in your pet. This aids identification if your pet's collar is lost or removed. The HSPS animal shelter scans every incoming pet for a microchip. Make sure you have registered your pet's chip with the manufacturer, and

update your microchip contact information with your new address and relevant phone numbers right before you move. If your pet does not have a microchip, the HSPS can provide one at low cost.

Pagosa Springs and Archuleta County do not require licensing for dogs or cats at this time. You are, however, required to have a current rabies vaccination for your pets. While the Town of Pagosa Springs does have a leash law, Archuleta County does not. You are required to have your dog under control at all times, whether by leash or verbal command. If you want to exercise and play with your dog in a safe, controlled environment there is a fenced community-accessible dog park at HSPS animal shelter.

If you are purchasing property in Pagosa Country, make sure you check for additional pet regulations or restrictions in the covenants of your property owners association. Keep in mind, too, that regardless of where you live, some homeowner insurance policies have certain dog breed exclusions, so check your insurance policy for pet restrictions.

Pets are important members of our community, and Pagosa Springs is one of the most animal-friendly places that you will find in all of Colorado.

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Volunteer opportunities

In addition to the wondrous beauty, plentiful wildlife and an active outdoor lifestyle that you will enjoy in Pagosa Springs, there are tremendous opportunities for enriching your life by volunteering in the community. No matter what your level of involvement has been in the past, you will find wonderful ways to share your interests, talents and abilities.

Pagosa Springs has traditional civic clubs, churches and organizations that you will find in almost every community. There are two Rotary clubs that are very active. The churches and nonprofit community have a wide variety of projects and activities year-round. Loaves and Fishes provides a free hot meal every Thursday with different organizations adopting a week of service. Habitat for Humanity builds and renovates homes using both local and national volunteers.

There are also multiple organizations supporting Pagosa's youth. Big Brothers Big Sisters provides mentors for boys and girls who need an active role model. GECKO (Giving Every Child Knowledge of the Outdoors) promotes getting off the couch and getting outside and provides scholarships for youth outdoor education. 4-H, Girl Scouts and Scouts BSA help keep our youth involved in positive activities, including the Archuleta County Fair.

For our veterans or active military, there are Veterans For Veterans and the American Legion Post 108.

The Democratic Central Committee and the Republican Women meet regularly and are involved in community affairs.

We also have many volunteer opportunities unique to our area. If you like outdoor activities, you can volunteer with clubs like the San Juan Outdoor Club, the Pagosa Nordic Club, the Gray Wolves Ski Club or the Back Country Horsemen. If you have a love of history, you can be a guide with the Chimney Rock Interpretive Association for Chimney Rock National Monument or volunteer with the Pagosa Springs History Museum (San Juan Historical Society). If you love animals, you can be a volunteer at the Humane Society Shelter or Thrift Store, or LASSO horse rescue or other organizations.

In addition to paid professional staff, the Pagosa Fire Protection District relies heavily on volunteer firefighters. The San Juan Mounted Patrol assists with numerous community events and emergencies, as does the Sheriff's Volunteer Patrol.

To help people who need assistance in our backcountry or with emergencies, we have the Upper San Juan Search and Rescue, the Mounted Search and the Incident Management Group.

If the arts are your passion, we have Friends of the Library, Curtains Up Pagosa, the Thingamajig Theatre Company, Pagosa Community Choir and the Pagosa Springs Community Band. There is a garden club, quilting club, archaeology club and homemakers club. The Audubon Society has an active presence, as does the League of Women Voters and several other women's groups.

You can find out more about organizations that interest you on the Chamber's website at www.pagosaspringschamber.com/stay-connected/community-volunteer-opportunities, or by calling the Chamber of Commerce. Volunteering can enrich your life, allow you to share your talents and pursue your passions!

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mtnhpagosa@gmail.com

About the Area

Location

Archuleta County is located in southwest Colorado, situated at the junction of U.S. 160 and 84 at an elevation of 7,079 feet. The county seat, Pagosa Springs, is located 30 miles north of the New Mexico border, and 60 miles east of Durango. It is also near the Four Corners region where Colorado, Utah, New Mexico and Arizona meet.

Physical Description

Archuleta County is comprised of 872,960 acres. Only 34 percent of lands in Archuleta County are in private ownership. Tribal lands comprise 14.4 percent of the county. Most of the northern and eastern portions of the county (51.6 percent) are within the San Juan National Forest. There is a total of approximately 2.8 million acres of National Forest and Bureau of Land Management surrounding Archuleta County.

Population Archuleta County

Source: US Census Bureau State & County QuickFacts
2016 estimate — 12,854

Housing and Income

Median value owner-occupied housing — \$268,400
Households — 5,382
Persons per household — 2.27
Per capita money income — \$28,649
Median household income — \$45,607
Persons in poverty — 12 percent

Geography

Land area (square miles) — 1,350
Persons per square mile — 9.1

Taxes

Sales and User Tax: 2.9 percent state, 4 percent county. County sales tax revenue is divided between county and town.
Lodger's Tax: A 4.9 percent tax is collected from the lodging industry and used for tourism promotion.
Primary Source of Town & County Revenue: Retail sales taxes, property taxes and charges for services.

Government

Town Government: www.pagosasprings.co.gov
Home Rule Municipality
Town council with elected mayor and six councilors elected for alternating four-year terms, town manager is appointed. Date of incorporation: 1891.
County Government: www.archuletacounty.org.
Three county commissioners elected for alternating four-year terms.

Media

Newspaper: The Pagosa Springs SUN
www.pagosasun.com, (970) 264-2100
Radio Stations: KWUF AM-1400, FM-106.1, FM-102.5, www.kwuf.com, (970) 264-5983

Education

District 50 Joint Office (970) 264-2228
www.mypagosaschools.com
High School (970) 264-2231
Middle School, 5th-6th grades (970) 264-2256
Middle School, 7th-8th grades (970) 264-2794
Elementary School (970) 264-2229
Pagosa Peak Open School (970) 317-2151
The Training Advantage (970) 264-5627
GOAL Academy (877) PRO-GOAL

Utilities

Electric La Plata Electric Association
(970) 247-5786, www.lpea.coop
Gas/Natural Black Hills Energy
(800) 563-0012
Telephone CenturyLink
(970) 264-0012, www.centurylink.com
Water Pagosa Area Water & Sanitation
(970) 731-2691, www.pawsd.org
Sanitation Pagosa Area Water & Sanitation
(970) 731-2691, www.pawsd.org
Sanitation Town of Pagosa Springs, (970) 264-4151
www.pagosasprings.co.gov
Trash At Your Disposal (970) 731-4892
Elite Recycling & Disposal (970) 731-2012
Waste Management (970) 264-5622
County Transfer Station, (970) 264-5660

Tourism & Business Development

Pagosa Springs Community Development Corp.
www.pagosaspringscdc.org
(970) 264-2360
Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce
www.pagosaspringschamber.com
(970) 264-2360
Pagosa Springs Area Tourism
www.visitpagosasprings.com
www.explorepagosa.com
(970) 585-1200 or (866) 438-4917
Region 9 Economic Development District
(970) 247-9621, www.scan.org
Fort Lewis College Small Business Development
(970) 247-7009
<http://sbdcfortlewis.org/>

Related Website Links & Info

Association of Realtors,
www.pagosaspringsrealtors.com
Pagosa Lodging Association,
www.pagosalodgersassoc.com
U.S. Postal Service
Hot Springs Boulevard, (970) 264-5440
U.S. Forest Service Pagosa Ranger District Office
(970) 264-2268, www.fs.usda.gov/sanjuan
Colorado State University Extension Office
(970) 264-5931, www.archuleta.colostate.edu
Ruby Sisson Memorial Library
(970) 264-2209, pagosalibrary.org
Stevens Field Airport
(970) 731-3060, www.stevensfield.com
AWOS frequency 127.175
(970) 731-0365, FBO (970) 731-2127
Durango-La Plata County Airport
www.flydurango.com

Road Conditions

Colorado Department of Transportation
511 or (303) 639-1111, www.cotrip.org
Archuleta County Road Report
(970) 264-5555
New Mexico Road Report
(800) 432-4269, www.nmroads.com



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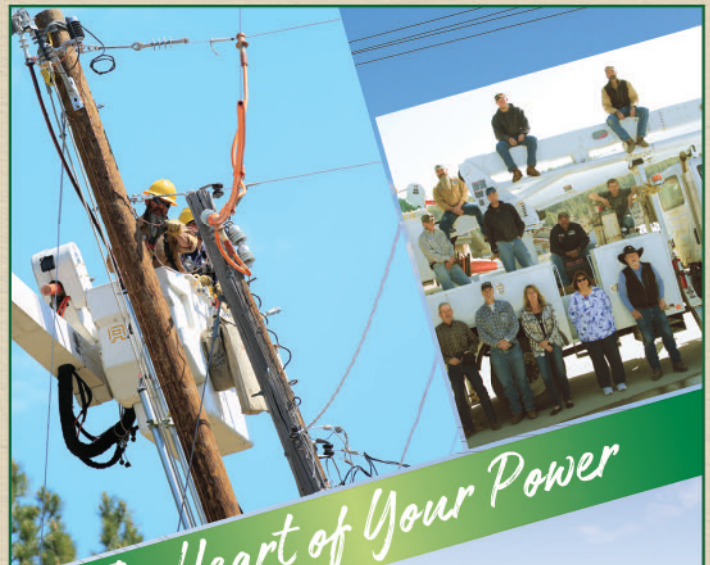
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RELIGIOUS RESOURCES

Ahavat Adonai Messianic Jewish Congregation	(970) 946-5262
Amazing Grace Community Church	(970) 444-2111
Arboles Baptist Church	(970) 883-3630
Calvary Chapel Pagosa	(970) 507-0123
Centerpoint Church - SBC	(970) 731-2205
Church of Christ - Lewis Street	(970) 264-2552
Church of Christ - Community Center	(970) 264-4236
Church of His Glory	(970) 759-8441
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints	(970) 731-2623
Community United Methodist Church	(970) 264-5508
CrossRoad Christian Fellowship	(970) 731-4384
Open Door Church	(970) 731-5767
Grace Evangelical Free Church	(970) 731-6200
Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church	(970) 731-5744
Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witness	(970) 731-5826
Our Savior Lutheran Church - LCMS	(970) 731-4668
Pagosa Baptist Church	(970) 946-5166
Pagosa Bible Church	(970) 731-3120
Pagosa Community of New Thought	(970) 749-9020
Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship	(970) 731-7900
Pope John Paul II Catholic Church	(970) 731-5744
Restoration Fellowship	(970) 731-2937
Saint Patrick's Episcopal Church	(970) 731-5801
Seventh Day Adventist Church	(970) 731-1005
Tara Mandala Buddhist Retreat Center	(970) 731-3711
Trinity Anglican Church - Orthodox Anglican	(970) 759-3845

Voter & Vehicle Registration

Motor vehicles

In making your transition from another state to Colorado or from another Colorado county, we would like to help in making the registration of your vehicle as easy as possible.

Colorado law requires you to register your vehicles, trailers, motor homes, heavy equipment, etc. within 30 days of becoming a Colorado resident. Unfortunately, the law does not allow you to "run" on your out-of-state plates until they expire.

If you are currently a Colorado resident and are just moving here, you may call the Archuleta County Clerk's office and they will help you change your registration address so you will receive a renewal notice from Archuleta County when your plates expire.

Some of the most obvious reasons that, by law, constitute becoming a resident are: obtaining a Colorado driver's license, registering to vote, enrolling children into school or becoming employed. If you are retired and consider this your legal place of residence and intend to file your federal income tax with a Pagosa Springs address as your legal address, you need Colorado plates.

To obtain Colorado license plates, you will need:

1. A current registration or title from the state you are coming from.
2. Proof of Insurance (Must be Colorado).
3. A vehicle identification verification done by any law enforcement officer. The sheriff's office is located in the courthouse (west end of the building) and charges \$10 (cash or check) for this service.
4. An acceptable form of ID.

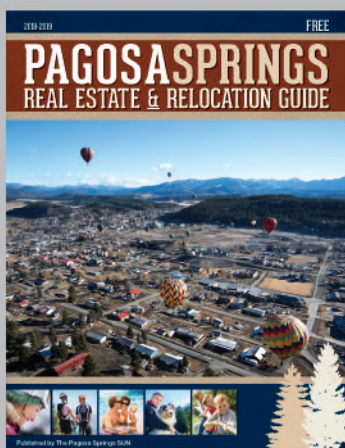
Vehicle registration in Colorado is based on the year, weight and taxable value of the vehicle, when new. The taxable value is then depreciated according to the age of the vehicle. The office is located at 449 San Juan St., in the east side of the courthouse.

The nearest place to obtain a Colorado driver's license is Durango, approximately 60 miles west of Pagosa Springs. The DMV is located at 305 S. Camino del Rio. You may contact their office at (970) 247-4591.

Please visit www.archuletacounty.org for more information. For any questions you may have, call (970) 264-8350.

Voter registration

You may register to vote or change your address online by visiting govotecolorado.com or sos.state.co.us and following the directions for Election & Voting. Should you have questions, please call (970) 264-8331 or (970) 264-8350.



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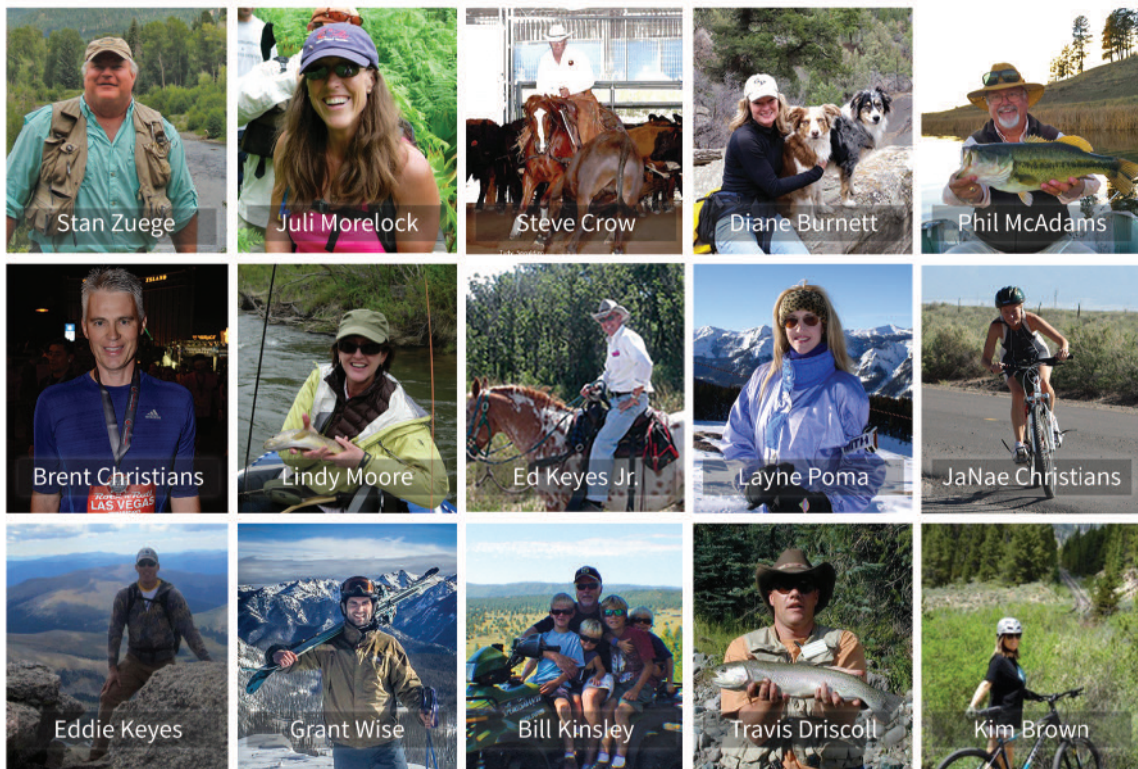

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