

County approves agreement for ‘historic’ Colo. 151 fiber project

By Josh Pike  
Staff Writer

At its Dec. 19, 2023, meeting, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) approved an indefeasible right of use (IRU) agreement with La Plata County, the Southern Ute Indian Tribe (SUIT), La Plata Electric Association (LPEA), and Region 10 League for Economic Assistance and Planning for a \$4 million grant-funded fiber project along Colo. 151.

County Attorney Todd Weaver spoke on the IRU, explaining that he was “very, very happy” to present the agreement to the BoCC and that the IRU is the product of a lengthy process beginning with the parties entering into a memorandum of understanding (MOU) on April 27, 2022.

He stated that the MOU was quickly created and committed the entities to each providing approximately \$500,000 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to provide matching funds for a grant from the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) to build fiber lines for broadband along Colo. 151.

He indicated that the time since the MOU was signed was spent in negotiations that arrived at the final IRU agreement before the BoCC for approval.

He stated that, as part of the project, the SUIT would be installing fiber lines from Arboles up Colo. 151 and along U.S. 160 to the carrier neutral location west of Pagosa Springs.

Archuleta County Broadband Services Technical Manager Eric Hittle stated that the lines would

■ See Agreement A8



Wolf Creek Ski Area picked up 29 inches of fresh powder from last weekend’s winter storm, bringing the season-to-date snowfall at the ski area up to 113 inches as of Monday, Jan. 8.

Photo courtesy Kevin Bruce, Wolf Creek Ski Area

Storm brings needed snowfall

By Hailey Sams  
SUN Intern

Sites in Archuleta County received more than a foot of snow from the weekend’s storm.

As of Thursday, Jan. 4, Archuleta County had received around 2 inches of snow and Wolf Creek Ski Area had received 3 inches.

Saturday night and Sunday brought the biggest snowstorm of the season, accumulating between 7 and 14 inches in areas of Archuleta

■ See Snowfall A8

Sheriff’s office announces death of deputy

By Randi Pierce  
Staff Writer

On Tuesday afternoon, Jan. 9, the Archuleta County Sheriff’s Office (ACSO) announced the death of Deputy William “Bill” Lucero.

A press release from Sheriff Mike Le Roux explains that Lucero was found deceased at his residence after a welfare check Tuesday.

“At this time, the cause of death is unknown,” the press release states.

It adds, “Deputy Lucero’s career spanned over 30 years, including

■ See Deputy A8



Lucero



Residents rally big effort for Christmas Bird Count

Photo courtesy Roger Organ



A group of Christmas Bird Count participants closes out the count day on Dec. 16, 2023. A total of 81 participants tallied 3,867 total bird of 64 species on the day.

Photo courtesy Charles Martinez

By Keith Bruno  
Audubon Rockies

This year’s Christmas Bird Count (CBC) marks the 124th national bird inventory on record and the longest standing community-generated science project in the western hemisphere.

A total of 81 Pagosa Springs residents joined in on Dec. 16, 2023, to collect data across our 15-mile diameter circle, with the transfer station marking the center point. Of those, 74 folks ventured into the field in groups to survey strategic zones of our circle, while seven other contributors logged avian visitors at their bird feeders.

Collectively, we tallied 121.5 hours of party effort.

The weather was unseasonably warm, with highs reaching into the mid-40s and local waterbodies only partially frozen. With warmer temperatures and a winter late to kick into gear, one might surmise that some birds might have lingered longer and thus numbers may have reflected a higher count than previous winters. Our numbers did not support this theory.

A very similar effort was put forth to last year’s (three more field participants than last year and slightly higher party effort).

We tallied 3,867 total birds of 64 species on count day. How-

■ See Count A8

Three at-large town council seats up for election in April  
Nomination packets due Jan. 22

By Derek Kutzer  
Staff Writer

Three at-large seats on the Pagosa Springs Town Council will be up for grabs during the town’s April election.

At its Dec. 21, 2023, meeting, the Pagosa Springs Town Council approved the second reading of Ordinance 1002, calling for the 2024 municipal election.

The election is slated for April 2 and the ordinance designates a mail-ballot election.

The ballot will include the election of three at-large town council member seats currently held by Mat deGraaf, Brooks Lindner and Leonard

Martinez.

Nomination packets for potential candidates can be found at Town Hall and are due back to the town clerk by Jan. 22.

According to the town charter, to be eligible to be elected, a person must be a citizen of the United States, a registered elector of the town and a resident of the town for a period of no less than 12 consecutive months immediately preceding the election. In addition, candidates may not be convicted of a felony and may not be an employee of the town.

Elected town council members would be elected to serve a four-year term.

derek@pagosasun.com

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# Opinion



## The Pagosa Springs SUN

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## OUR VIEW

### Welcome, winter

Better late than never.

Winter finally seems to be arriving in Pagosa Country and, given how late into the fall fire season stretched, we're welcoming it with open arms.

We were delighted to watch the snow fall multiple days over the last week, covering the trees all around us in fluffy white and creating some gorgeous bluebird days.

For as long as we've lived here, we're continually amazed by the beauty that surrounds us.

We were a little less delighted when it came time to shovel, but, nevertheless, we're still glad for the snow and what it provides for the area.

We were less delighted still when, as we were reporting delays for area institutions and a closure for Wolf Creek Pass, folks decided to comment that there should be no delays and people should get to work and school, even while others were reported being snowed in despite having four-wheel-drive vehicles or reporting other difficulties.

Yes, there have been heavier winters. Yes, we used to get fewer snow days and delays in decades past than there seem to be now.

But we also have a lot more traffic now, plain and simple. And, no, not everyone who now calls Archuleta County home grew up learning to drive in blizzard condi-

tions and in significant snowfall. That's part of the reason we repeat tips for safe winter driving year after year.

What's the use of a two-hour delay or a snow day? To us, that's obvious: It allows plow operators more time to clear the roads and apply materials to make them less slick before more traffic hits them.

It means that, hopefully, fewer of our friends and neighbors will slide off the road or into one another. It helps more people get to where they need to be safely, including buses full of students and the people who operate the businesses and organizations we rely upon.

The fact that on Monday afternoon, not even 24 hours after the storm ceased, U.S. 160 along Put Hill was already largely dry is a testament to the experience and expertise of area road crews.

We thank the road crews who were out at all hours of the day and night to keep the roads open and safe so people could get out when they needed to. We also thank the first responders who don't have the option of running on a delay.

And, after hearing of several accidents following the snow storm, we think it's a good time to again share some winter driving tips, courtesy of the Colorado Department of Transportation:

Take a little extra time to clear your car

of snow and ice before leaving for your destination.

There are three actions you do most when you drive: accelerate, turn and brake. In winter weather, only do one of those actions at a time. Attempting more than one of these actions at once can cause slide-outs, spin-outs and other harmful scenarios.

When traveling downhill, if possible, switch to a lower gear and gently tap your brakes. This helps to avoid burning your brakes, and in winter weather, it helps keep traction.

Keep momentum when traveling uphill to avoid getting stuck.

When driving at night, keep your headlight beams low. High beams can amplify the appearance of snow and lead to decreased visibility.

Slow down — driving too fast for conditions causes most crashes.

If you encounter a multi-car collision, stay in your car. You're safer in your car than outside of it.

Follow Colorado's Left Lane Law. No matter the season, keep right except to pass.

Signage is your best friend — look ahead and plan ahead for abrupt turns or stops.

Always wear your seat belt.

Never drive impaired.

Stay safe so we can enjoy winter.

Randi Pierce

## LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

### 100 years ago

Taken from SUN files of  
January 11, 1924

The town board of trustees met in regular session Monday night and passed on first reading the ordinance granting a franchise for 30 years to Grant Shields, owner of the New Light & Power Co. The ordinance appears elsewhere in this issue and will come up for final reading and adoption at the February meeting. In addition to the franchise the town board and Mr. Shields have entered into a tentative contract for entirely new street lighting in this city, and contract to extend for 15 years and also to be signed and entered into at the February meeting.

The new street lighting under the contract is to include 51 residence bracket type fixtures with 100-watt lamps, 2 alley type brackets with 75-watt lamps, and 7 decorative post standards on Pagosa street, between 4th and San Juan streets, with underground wiring and 200-watt lamps. Service is to extend all night from dusk to dawn.

The company is to install and maintain all street lighting fixtures at its own expense. The change is to be completed about Sept. 1st, and it is estimated that 50% more light will be obtained at an increase of only \$15 per month.

### 75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of  
January 14, 1949

County officials were sworn in on Tuesday of this week for the coming two year term. All officers at the Court House were re-elected in the last election and except for the County Commissioners are the same. On the board, Daily Hott, chairman, is a holdover, having served two years of a four year term. J.T. Chambers and Harmon T. Clark are the new members of the board and held their first meeting Tuesday.

The two retiring commissioners John Stevens and Chas. D. Pargin along with Mr. Hott have steered the county finances through a very successful period with the county now being entirely debt free and even having a cash reserve. This is unusual in the state of Colorado with Archuleta County being one of the counties that is not in debt for anything. The road department is in good shape with all equipment being in excellent condition and adequate for the county needs. Mr. Stevens served on the board for eight years and Mr. Pargin for four. Mr. Hott has completed ten years of public service and will be up for re-election at the next election.

### 50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of  
January 10, 1974

Some gasoline in Pagosa Springs is now selling for 50¢ per gallon, the highest that any local resident can remember.

This price is for premium grade gas at most major oil company stations. There apparently isn't any shortage of gasoline of any grade here, with no stations being forced to close because of shortages.

Insofar as the SUN has been able to ascertain, there have been no severe shortages of any fuel of any kind locally. Most service stations have been closing on Sundays and observing fewer hours of operation, but do have gasoline on hand.

Joe Manzanares has no rotary snow-plov to help clean out his house after a small snow slide swept into it last Saturday. The slide came down off the shale bluff in South Pagosa, pushed in a door and window and filled the bathroom and part of the kitchen with snow.

### 25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of  
January 14, 1999

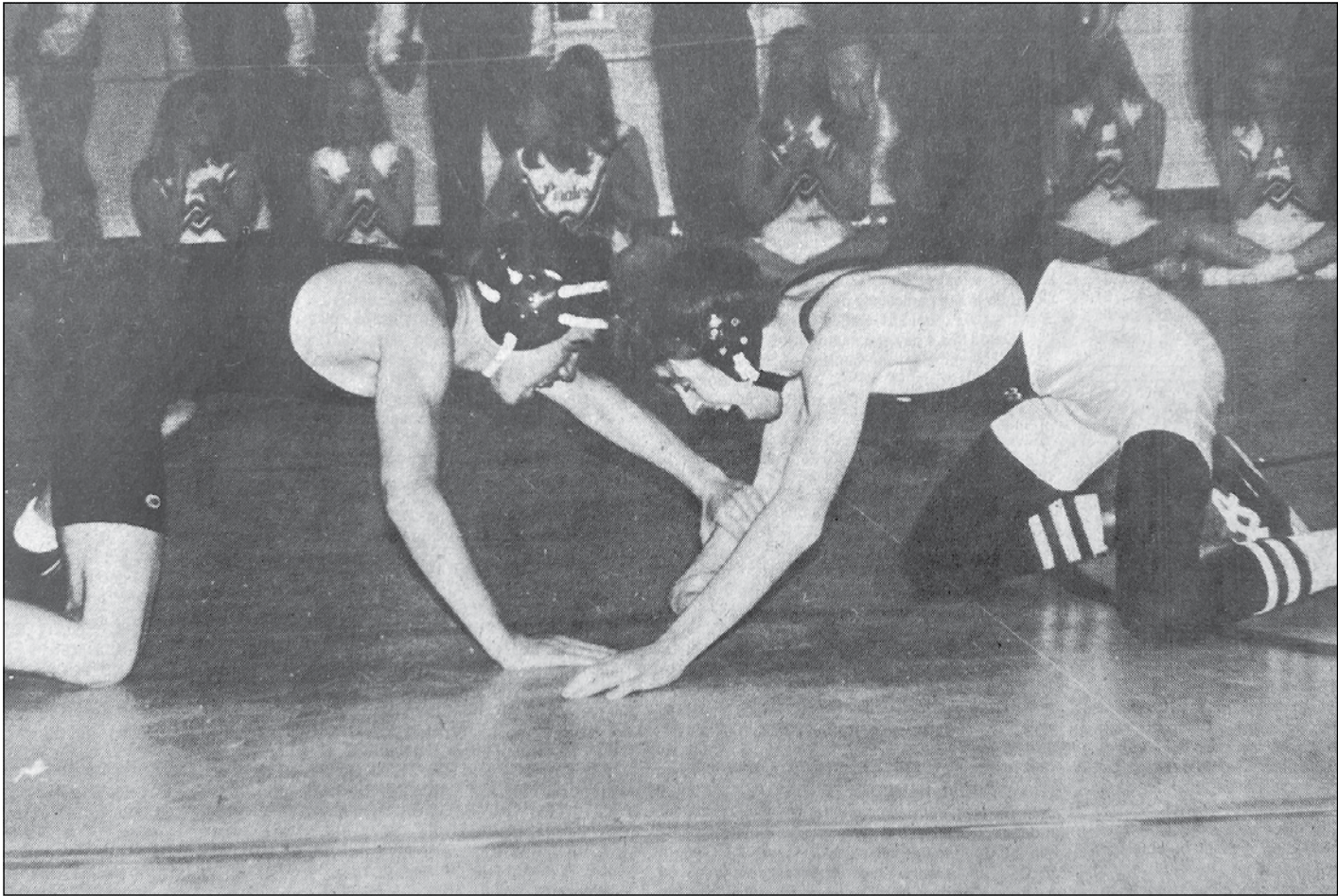
Lynx are still coming to the San Juan Mountain, but no one is certain of the exact timing. Weather conditions in British Columbia are making lynx trapping a difficult task.

At the same time, folks opposed to the northern cat's reintroduction by the Colorado Division of Wildlife misrepresented the facts in order to quash a petition in a Denver federal court that could have stopped the release. The same opponents vow to continue the fight by appealing the decision.

DOW spokesmen originally announced a Jan. 8 release date. That release time has been moved to Jan. 25, maybe later, according to Todd Malmsbury, DOW chief of information.

"They are having horrific ice storms in British Columbia," Malmsbury said. "The traps are freezing. When lynx step on the trigger the traps don't go off."

As of Tuesday, six lynx had been trapped. The DOW schedule calls for the release of approximately 50 lynx in the Weminuche Wilderness Area this winter.



From the Jan. 6, 1996, Pagosa Springs SUN — Ryan Martinez, left, is a top-flight contender in the 103-pound class. His opponent seems a bit leery as he prepares to take on the Pirate wrestler. Martinez won a second-place medal Saturday at the Rocky Mountain Invitational — one of the two top finishes by the Pagosa team. SUN photo.

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		Depth	Type Moisture
1/3	41	12	- - -
1/4	36	21	1.5 S .15
1/5	31	16	2 S .1
1/6	28	15	T S T
1/7	24	17	5.1 S .26
1/8	30	-3	9.5 S .71
1/9	22	-8	- - -

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# Letters

Letters to the Editor are printed as received and are not edited for grammar or punctuation, but may have been edited for content or style.

Letters to the Editor are opinions and information in them has not been verified for accuracy.

The opinions of letter writers do not necessarily represent those of the paper.

## Land of the free?

Dear Editor:

Land of the Free?

Donald Trump's lawyers are in court this week arguing for the former president's "absolute immunity" from prosecution. One of his lawyers, John Sauer, argued that a president could order Seal Team Six to assassinate a rival and face no prosecution. Order the assassination of an American citizen? Seriously? Clearly, the mental gymnastics required to justify unlawful conduct has reached reckless and unimaginably distorted levels. How is this possible?

Well, let's consider the precedent – not here, but in a country frequently praised and greatly admired by the former president. On December 27th 2023, Vladimir Egorov, a government minister, "fell" to his death from a 3rd floor window, leaving behind a widow and two children. Such sudden and tragic "falls" have become quite common since Putin started facing internal resistance to the unpopular war in Ukraine. Since the end of 2022, the violent death of political critics has claimed the lives of over two dozen notable Russians.

While some might cynically joke about the plague of "Sudden Russian Death Syndrome," it's not a joke. This is the tragic fate of Russians who dare to criticize an autocrat. This is the reign of terror inflicted on a people who are willing to tolerate any behavior from a political leader.

We call America the Land of the Free. To keep America free, we need to realize that freedom must apply equally to all. Selective freedom is just a newer version of "Might Makes Right." As Americans, we rejected that principle as a basis for our governance in 1776. In 2024, we must reject it again. We must stop facilitating those who would tear down our democracy, however imperfect, and replace it with a dangerous and vindictive autocracy.

K. Muth

## Midiron

Dear Editor:

First I want to thank Comm Maez for returning my numerous telcons. He listened, and was polite

However...

He has failed apparently, to understand our street paving situation

here on Midiron Street.

1. We have about 45 residences which use this access to work, etc.
2. Several young children live here.. attempting to use school bus service. Many residents are elderly
3. We watched last summer as the county's contractor repaired failing surface areas and repaved streets and roads that were in good condition, while ignoring gravel surface roads that desperately need to be improved with permanent all-weather surface.

Note: Talisman & Piedra Rd seems to be done properly.

4. Our road is virtually unpassable in the spring after snow melt. It is dangerous and damaging to auto front ends. Potholes make access by school bus treacherous.

Periodically, in an effort to appease our citizens, a load- or two of gravel is dumped and spread around ; but a week or two later, the pothole problem persists.

We've observed this futile effort for almost 10 years... why not take that wasted money and pave our street?

We've been alerted that our property taxes will be increased this year by 200-250%. Commissioner Maez has not been clear to me with his explanation about why ours, and other nearby streets cannot be improved with this additional money.

5. As a start , why not deny any further building permits on Midiron and other similar streets with sub-

standard surfaces until a resolution to this problem is addressed?

6. Also, why not allow road/bridge employees to visit our steets during the pothole season to observe this unacceptable situation ?

George Neill

## MAGA is not a losing cause

Dear Editor:

In a 12/21 Letter to the Editor, Mr. Dave Blake attempts to show concern for our country by railing against anyone who supports Donald Trump for president. He even makes the incredible statement that Trump's platform MAGA (Make America Great Again) "is a losing racial, political and national cause." Hmm. If this is so why does the Washington Post report that, compared to former Republican presidential candidates, Trump has the highest rating in 50 years among Blacks and Hispanics. Hmm. If MAGA is such a failure, why do so many people say they were better off under Trump's leadership than under Biden's. Clearly, MAGA is NOT a losing racial, political and national cause to millions of Americans.

If Mr. Blake is looking for losing causes, he might focus on our current president and his dangerous handling of the southern border crisis. According to the Center for Immigration Studies, in 2023 alone 1.4 million illegal immigrants, many

of whom are single young men, have been allowed to cross our southern border because of Biden's incompetence. This invasion is being paid for by this country as we are now housing, feeding, and providing medical care for these people. One example is New York, who is realizing the folly of being a sanctuary city now that the bill for 150.000 illegals is having to be paid out of their pocket. Ditto for other sanctuary cities in this country including Denver (I volunteer at a Denver area food bank where the number of single, non-english speaking men seeking food has grown dramatically).

More important than the financial drain that illegals have caused is the security threat that some of them pose. Already the authorities have captured a number of known terrorists trying to sneak across the border. One hates to think about how many have gotten in undetected. When you couple the terrorist threat with thousands of young single men who don't work because they don't understand our language, you get a volatile mixture that is dangerous to our society.

In summary, if Mr. Blake is truly concerned about our country, he need look no farther than President Biden's regime and their disastrous policies which have caused an invasion of illegals, created massive inflation, etc., etc.

Charles Newton  
Highlands Ranch



## Letters

The SUN welcomes letters from readers.

Please submit to:  
**PO Box 9,  
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**editor@pagosasun.com**

All letters must:

be submitted electronically in a format that can be copied and pasted, must not be in all capitals include the author's actual name, phone number and address be 500 words or less

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

Letters will be limited to two per month per letter writer.

If necessary, only one letter pertaining to a candidate or political issue will be printed in each edition up to three weeks prior to the election.

Letters quoting other people must contain proper attribution.

There is no guarantee letters will be published.

The SUN generally does not edit letters, but reserves the right to do so.

## Blood drive slated for Jan. 22

By Sharee Grazda  
Special to The SUN

The American Red Cross issued a statement this week that the blood inventory shortage is so severe that some hospitals cannot receive the quantity or types of blood needed for patients.

Storms causing drive cancellations, pandemic-related remote work leading to fewer employer-hosted drives and other factors have led to a nationwide shortage. Donations are at a 20-year low.

But needs continue.

We have an opportunity here in Pagosa Springs to alleviate that in a small but valuable way.

The next local blood drive will be Monday, Jan. 22, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive, near Walmart.

Please join other donors and sign up for an appointment at [vitalant.org](http://vitalant.org) or call (877) 258-4825.

For a local contact, you may call or text volunteer Sharee Grazda at (970) 946-2760 for more information or to set an appointment.

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# Board of Health appoints officers, confirms Wilson as permanent executive director

By Josh Pike  
Staff Writer

The Archuleta County Board of Health (BoH) held its first formal meeting on Jan. 4, which included the appointment of officers and the selection of a permanent executive director for the Archuleta County Public Health Department (ACPHD), among other business.

The meeting opened with the board unanimously voting to appoint Jon Bruss as president of the BoH and Commissioner Warren Brown as vice president of the BoH.

Later in the meeting, following a brief executive session, the BoH also unanimously voted to appoint interim ACPHD Executive Director Ashley Wilson as the permanent executive director for the department.

Following the vote, Commissioner Veronica Medina commented that Wilson has been a “godsend.”

“I really, really appreciate everything you’ve done,” she added. “It’s been said that we would not be where we are today with the health department if it hadn’t been for your leadership, so thank you.”

“I think that’s the sentiment of the board,” Bruss said.

“Exactly,” Brown added.

At the meeting, the BoH also approved bylaws for the board and set meeting dates, agreeing to initially hold monthly meetings on the third Thursday of each month at 3 p.m.

Additionally, the board approved and ratified a range of items previously approved by the transitional BoH, which consisted of the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners.

These items included a fee schedule for the public health department, which Wilson explained matches the fees charged by San Juan Basin Public Health (SJBPH); on-site wastewater treatment system regulations; and several contracts with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) that will allow the department to provide a range of services supported by CDPHE funding.

The BoH also considered and approved three memorandums of understanding with the CDPHE concerning testing for HIV, hepatitis C and syphilis that the ACPHD will provide, and the potential storage of vaccines

for the CDPHE Mobile Public Health Clinic at the ACPHD offices.

Wilson explained that the agreement to store vaccines for the mobile clinic allows CDPHE staff to keep the vaccines at the proper temperatures while providing clinic services in the region.

The BoH meeting ended with Wilson discussing reviewing the recently completed SJBPH Public Health Improvement Plan with the board.

Wilson asked when the BoH wanted to begin reviewing the plan and associated policies.

BoH member Jennifer Cox commented that she would like to begin the review “sooner rather than later” due to the amount of detail likely involved, which Bruss expressed agreement with.

Bruss added that he felt Wilson should decide what manner would be most appropriate to present the plan information to the board and that he would like the data placed in the context of a five-year plan for the department’s services.

Wilson stated that she would like to integrate other local data sources

into the creation of a five-year plan, as well.

Cox asked Wilson how the BoH can support her.

Wilson explained that discussions surrounding the five-year plan will help guide her goals in terms of potential sources of funding or programs needed in the community that do not have attached funding.

She stated that this process will also help staff identify gaps in data and services.

Bruss pointed out that the role of public health is “multifaceted,” including preventing disease, promoting health, prolonging life and preparing emergency plans, adding that keeping these overall goals in mind while developing the plan will help “keep the vision of what we really want for our citizens in Archuleta County in terms of public health.”

Wilson concluded by inviting the BoH members to visit the ACPHD building, meet the staff and review the services provided, which she indicated staff would appreciate.

She added that staff felt very “welcomed.”

josh@pagosasun.com

## Colorado Property Tax Deferral Program Enrollment open

*Program provides tax deferment for homeowners impacted by increases in property taxes*

Colorado Department of the Treasury

The Colorado Department of the Treasury reminds homeowners the Property Tax Deferral Program is open for enrollment until April 1.

“Anytime we can keep folks in their homes and help them find tax relief at the same time is a win for Coloradans,” Colorado Treasurer Dave Young stated.

Colorado’s Property Tax Deferral Program has traditionally helped seniors and active military personnel continue to afford to live in their homes by deferring the payment of their property taxes, and was expanded last year to provide relief to homeowners affected by increased property taxes.

“Due to the special legislative session, counties will be sending out tax bills a few weeks later than previous years,” Treasury spokesperson Sheena Kadi stated. “Homeowners will need to wait until they have received

that from their county to apply.”

Homeowners can check eligibility at [colorado.propertytaxdeferral.com](http://colorado.propertytaxdeferral.com).

In 2023, 52 homeowners applied under “Active Military,” 171 under “Tax Growth” and 958 under “Seniors,” for a total of \$3,685,648 in deferred tax payments for 2023.

The state treasurer paid tax deferrals of approximately \$2.6 million in 2021 and \$3.6 million in 2022.

Previously managed by counties, the expanded program will allow homeowners to defer all or a portion of property taxes depending on the category. For eligible seniors and active military, it defers the total property tax owed; for eligible tax growth cap applicants, it defers a portion of their property taxes, up to \$10,000, cumulative.

The expanded deferral program does not exempt taxes; it is a loan to assist Coloradans with the payment of property taxes if an application is submitted and the applicant is

eligible. The deferral loan is recorded as a junior lien against a participant’s property and does not have to be repaid until a later date.

### What homeowners need to know

1. The property claiming the deferral must be owner-occupied.
2. All property taxes for years before 2024 must be paid.
3. These are deferrals and not exemptions.
4. For growth cap deferrals, the property must not be income producing.

“New this year, seniors who rent a room or a portion of their home and active duty military renting while they are out of the country or stationed elsewhere are able to participate,” Vanda Howell, Property Tax Deferral Program administrator, stated. “New eligibility requirements have changed for active military with VA backed loans. These changes allow

more homeowners more opportunities to participate.”

Applications for 2024 are open until April 1. Claims must be filed after January and on or before April 1 of each year in which the taxpayer claims the deferral. Applicants must reapply each year to determine eligibility and continue using the program.

Homeowners can visit [colorado.propertytaxdeferral.com](http://colorado.propertytaxdeferral.com) to learn more about Colorado’s expanded Property Tax Deferral Program.

If homeowners have questions:

1. Visit [colorado.propertytaxdeferral.com/faq](http://colorado.propertytaxdeferral.com/faq).
2. Call (833) 634-2513 (toll free) with questions about enrolling or eligibility.
3. Email [cotreasproptax@state.co.us](mailto:cotreasproptax@state.co.us).

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## Obituaries

### Kathryn ‘Katie’ Lee Demchak

Born: Sept. 27, 1996.  
Died: Jan. 3, 2024.

Katie was born in Englewood, Colo., to the parents of Michael and Stacie Demchak. She was raised in the Denver area and as a child enjoyed gymnastics and rock climbing. She graduated 10th in her class from Highlands Ranch High School in 2015. She studied mathematics at Metropolitan State University in Denver and Fort Lewis College in Durango. Her hobbies and interests included photography, nature, drawing and rock hounding. In recent years she lived with her father in Pagosa Springs, Colo. She loved animals, and worked at the Humane Society and Doggy Day Care here in Pagosa.

A memorial service and celebration of life will be held on Sunday, Jan. 14, at 2 p.m. It will be held at the Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship in the Greenbriar Plaza (301 N. Pagosa Blvd., Unit B-15, Pagosa Springs, CO

81147) The service will be conducted by her father, Michael Demchak. Please join us as we mourn our loss, as well as celebrate and honor Katie’s life. She was a special, creative and caring person that touched many who knew her. She will be missed dearly. The service is open to all.

### Servelia Jesusita Trujillo

Servelia Jesusita Trujillo peacefully returned to her heavenly home on Dec. 7, 2023, in Pagosa Springs, Colo. Servelia was born on Nov. 20, 1940, in Pagosa Springs, Colo., to Eugenio Montoya and Glorifica Maria Martinez. Servelia was the eldest of eight children. She cherished her childhood memories and the deep bond she had with all her siblings. She remained close to all of them throughout her life.

Servelia was a woman deeply devoted to her Catholic faith. She found solace in reading and studying the Bible. She shared her profound love for the Lord with everyone.

She is preceded in death by her parents; her beloved husband, Louis Orland Trujillo; and several siblings. Those left to cherish her memory are her four children: Mark (Amy) Trujillo, of Aztec, N.M.; Ron (Mary) Trujillo, of Farmington, N.M.; Richard (Marcia) Garcia of Pagosa Springs, Colo.; and her daughter, Jill (Tim) Shaul, of Farmington, N.M.; eight grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandson. She loved them all dearly. She often said there is nothing more special than being a grandma.

She is also survived by four siblings: sisters Norma (Vincente) Duran, Pagosa Springs; Rosie (Delphin) Griego, Pagosa Springs; Ruthie Salinas, Pagosa Springs; and brother Johnny Montoya, Pagosa Springs; and several nieces and nephews.

A celebration of Servelia’s beautiful life will be held on Jan. 12 at St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Farmington, N.M. The rosary will commence at 10:30 a.m., followed by the funeral at 11 a.m. Servelia’s ashes will be placed in the Columbarium behind the church. Everyone is welcome to join us for lunch at the Parish Hall.

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# Business

## Things to do to prepare for WinterFest

By Mary Jo Coulehan  
Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce

WinterFest weekend is right around the corner, Jan. 19-21. Are you ready?

There will be a lot of activities happening all weekend. Here are some things you can do to prepare for the event or get involved.

First off, mark that weekend down on your calendar. With the hot air balloon mass ascensions, Penguin Plunge, Bonfire and concert, Sledz on Rez, cross-country ski activities and the Barkus parade with your pets, you will have a busy weekend.

### Bonfire

Have you taken down your Christmas tree yet? If you take it down by Jan. 18, please bring it to the Archuleta County Fairgrounds, where we will use it as fuel for the the WinterFest Bonfire and free concert on Friday night, Jan. 19.

If you don't want to stand around all night at the bonfire, consider volunteering for one of the positions we have available. The greatest need right now is for people to help work the beverage bar, where we will be serving hot and cold drinks. You can also be a runner, or for you pyro enthusiasts, you can

help us feed and monitor the bonfire.

Visit the Chamber website at [www.pagosachamber.com/winterfest.html](http://www.pagosachamber.com/winterfest.html) and click on the volunteer graphic to sign up for a fun volunteer activity. There will also be special perks for volunteering.

### Penguin Plunge

Has your nonprofit group signed up to plunge into the frigid San Juan River for the Penguin Plunge?

Other groups are already out there raising money for their organizations. This is a wacky and fun — albeit cold — way to raise money for your organization. People are often quite generous because they think the plungers are crazy to brave the freezing water temperatures. Plus, you get fun pictures to promote your organization's fundraising efforts and use as community collaboration.

Find a few hardy souls to brave the waters for you. The volunteers can certainly add this event to their bragging book. Perks come to the volunteers who plunge in the river.

Contact us at the Chamber so we can help promote your group now.

### Sledz on Rez

Following the Plunge will be the Sledz on Rez on Reservoir Hill. Have you started building your sled yet?

Every year the sleds seem to get more elaborate and creative. However, you just need to follow the simple sled-building rules listed on the registration form also located on the WinterFest activity page on the Chamber website.

What a fun family project. This event, hosted by Build Pagosa, encourages creativity, learning some basic "putting it together" skills and teamwork. Encourage a group of kids or your family to be a part of this fun event.

### Cross-country skiing

If you have wanted to learn to cross-country ski, this is the year.

We now have snow, and expert teachers are ready to share their love of cross-country skiing with you. These classes usually fill up, so you need to register now for the class. Visit [www.pagosnordic.com](http://www.pagosnordic.com) and click on the events page and the clinics. There are different levels of experience and types of skiing; therefore, preregistration and getting your equipment requires a pre-event planning.

Our winter sporting shops also offer discount rates on equipment, so make sure you mention that you will be taking this clinic.

### Barkus Parade

If you have a pet that likes the

outdoors, plan a costume and join the Barkus Parade.

You can even carry your pet or put them in a wagon and enjoy the walk along the Riverwalk and then a delicious bowl of hot gumbo.

It's a great way to get some exercise, show off your precious pet and participate in a WinterFest activity while supporting Rugby's Rescue House.

### Hot air balloons

We are hoping for a bit more snow before the weekend. We have more hot air balloonists registered for this year's rally than in years past, so we expect the skies to be filled with stunning colors with the backdrop of gorgeous snow-covered mountains.

Plan some time to get out Saturday or Sunday morning, Jan. 20 and 21, after 8 a.m. to view the balloons. Please, do not stop or park along U.S. 160 during the event as it is dangerous and creates congestion along the highway. There are plenty of locations to view the balloons.

Visit [www.pagosachamber.com/winterfest](http://www.pagosachamber.com/winterfest) to get all of the locations, times and details for all of the WinterFest events. We hope to see everyone around town enjoying the festivities in a few weeks. In the meantime — get ready.

## Town, Archuleta Seniors Inc. agree to new lease for Senior Center

By Derek Kutzner  
Staff Writer

At its Dec. 21, 2023, meeting, the Pagosa Springs Town Council approved a new lease for the nonprofit organization Archuleta Seniors Inc. (ASI).

The organization currently operates the Pagosa Senior Center from the town-owned Ross Aragon Community Center.

The 3,249-square-foot area rented by the organization "includes offices, a dining area, and a large kitchen that the Town keeps updated and replaces appliances when necessary," states agenda documentation on the matter.

During the fiscal year 2023, the council waived all rent fees "to help the Senior Center financially," states agenda documentation.

However, the approved 2024 budget anticipates the town collecting revenue for leasing the space. The budget accounts for the town collecting \$31,425 for the property in fiscal year 2024, which amounts to \$2,618 per month. The lease is up for renewal on an annual basis.

Parks and Recreation Director Darren Lewis said, "In regards to the lease, Rose Chavez, representative from Archuleta Seniors, she's seen the lease. She's already signed the lease, so it's really now in front of you for approval to continue them as tenants."

Council member Leonard Martinez wanted to know what the organization's "financials look like" and stated that "it appears that they are doing some really good things," adding that "the thought was that we would gradually increase [the rent] based on their success."

He asked if Lewis had "any information" that speaks to if the organization has a revenue stream that makes them financially "solvent."

"Are they ready to pay the full

rate?" he asked.

"I have not heard from Rose that they are not ready to pay the full rate. She certainly signed the lease, so I'm assuming they are ready to pay the full rate," Lewis said, adding that he had never seen the organization's finances. "That's really not part of my job."

Council member Brooks Lindner stated that he was "really happy" that the council could give the organization some "relief after they came to us last year with their budget challenges."

He cited the average price of commercial rental properties in town and remarked that "they are getting a smoking deal with this" lease, "so, I think, given our budget challenges, it's time that we institute this."

He added that he is "in favor of the lease."

Mayor Shari Pierce said that she "would like to see what the market value of that lease is, and maybe provide, to the seniors, a letter" explaining "what our contribution is between what they're paying and that market, so they could maybe use that for grant opportunities."

Lindner added that a look at the Classifieds shows that the market price for commercial rentals "are about 2 bucks a square foot, uptown, downtown," if not even more.

Council member Mat deGraaf noted that he thought the letter would be "a wonderful thing that we should put forward," saying that a letter could explain "this is the monetary value of our help. This is your tax dollars doing good things."

Lewis added the town's rent for the space is far below the market value.

He did a quick calculation and explained the organization is paying roughly "80 cents a square foot."

He added that the lease amounts

to a "significant contribution" from the town, adding that the town could look into formalizing a letter for the organization.

Martinez added that ASI has "shown a lot of flexibility, a lot of entrepreneurial spirit, in reaching out and bringing different revenue sources in," adding that the letter would be a "positive thing" to help them bring in more grants and revenues.

Council member Gary Williams

added, "Let's not forget that we bought \$15,000 worth of new equipment" in the kitchen, with deGraaf adding, "That's why the food's so good."

deGraaf then made a motion to approve the lease, and the motion was carried by a unanimous vote of the council.

The year lease took effect on Jan. 1 and will be in effect until Dec. 31.

[derek@pagosasun.com](mailto:derek@pagosasun.com)

As we step into the new year, we would like to recognize all of you who have made our progress possible and say, simply but sincerely,

*Thank you*

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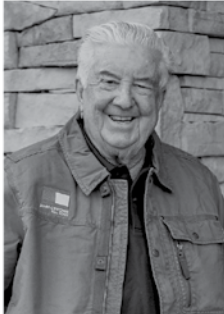
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## Public Meetings

The following meetings are subject to change.

### Thursday, Jan. 11

**Main Street Advisory Board meeting.** 4 p.m., Pagosa Springs Visitor Center meeting room, 105 Hot Springs Blvd. See town website for participation information: <https://pagosasprings.civicweb.net/portal/>.

### Friday, Jan. 12

**Main Street Advisory Board Heritage Committee meeting.** 1:15 p.m., Pagosa Senior Center dining room, Ross Aragon Community Center, 451 Hot Springs Blvd. See town website for participation information: <https://pagosasprings.civicweb.net/portal/>.

**Pagosa Peak Open School Salary Subcommittee meeting.** 2 p.m., Pagosa Peak Open School upstairs conference room, 3133 Cornerstone Drive.

### Tuesday, Jan. 16

**Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners work session.**

8:30 a.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St. For more information, visit: <http://archuletacounty.org/agendacenter>.

**Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners meeting.** 1:30 p.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St. For more information, visit: <http://archuletacounty.org/agendacenter>.

**Pagosa Springs Planning Commission.** 5:30 p.m., Town Hall, 551 Hot Springs Blvd. See town website for participation information: <https://pagosasprings.civicweb.net/portal/>.

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# 2023 YEAR IN REVIEW

2023 was an interesting year in Pagosa Country. There was no want for good news, bad news, controversial issues, and no lack of interesting news to keep SUN readers focused on local events, situations and personalities. The SUN is taking a look back at some of those events, selected by SUN staff writers. This week, we look back at June.

## June

• At a June 1 special meeting, the San Juan Basin Public Health (SJBPH) Board of Health appointed Tiffany Switzer as interim executive director for SJBPH.

The appointment followed the June 1 departure of the former executive director, Liane Jollon, who accepted a position as executive director of North Larimer County, according to a press release by the agency.

• Pagosa Springs High School (PSHS) and San Juan Mountain School (SJMS) students, families and supporters celebrated at their annual commencement ceremonies on June 3.

PSHS celebrated 96 graduating seniors, and SJMS celebrated the graduation of 27 seniors.

• At its June 6 meeting, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC), acting as the transitional Board of Health, approved an application to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) to provide the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children through the county health department.

• In early June, a number of PSHS student athletes earned honors for their work during the spring sports seasons.

A trio of Pirate baseball players earned postseason honors: Hunter Pouyer and Riley Laugel earned first-team all-conference honors, and Kaison Clifford earned an honorable mention.

Two Lady Pirates earned all-conference honors for their work on the pitch during the spring soccer season: Ava Pargin and Jeidy Moreno-Echavarria made the all-conference first team, and Vida Maes made the

second team.

Several Pirate track and field athletes earned all-conference honors: Andrew Bowles, Chantelle Caldwell, Rylie Carr, Elio Groves, Annabelle Parker and Sienna Rose.

• At its June 6 special meeting, the Pagosa Springs Town Council heard an update from Archuleta Seniors Inc. (ASI).

In November 2022, the council heard a presentation from ASI and ultimately approved a waiver of rental payments for ASI's use of kitchen and office space at the Ross Aragon Community Center, as well as an expanded use of the commercial kitchen for ASI to conduct catering outside of their regular hours.

The council then unanimously approved to grant \$15,713 in rent relief to ASI, coming from the town reserve funds in the form of payment relief or a grant.

• In a June 7 press release, the Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS) recognized the Archuleta County Department of Human Services as one of 15 county human services departments for 2022 C-Stat Distinguished Performance Award.

"C-Stat is a performance management tool that allows CDHS to better focus on and improve performance outcomes that enhance people's lives," the press release states. "The Distinguished Performance Award recognizes counties that meet goals for timeliness, safety and accuracy in their work. Counties that meet their goals are more likely to be meeting the needs of individuals and families in their community. They are also more likely to have more completed applications for programs such as SNAP, the Low-income Energy Assistance Program and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)." • At its annual meeting on July 8,

## Commissioners appoint seven to Road and Bridge Advisory Committee

By Josh Pike  
Staff Writer

At its Jan. 2 meeting, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) appointed seven citizen members to the Road and Bridge Advisory Committee.

County Manager Derek Woodman outlined that the BoCC voted at its Dec. 19, 2023, meeting to create the advisory board and that the county received seven applications to serve on the board.

Commissioner Veronica Medina moved to appoint Andy Byra, Randall Davis, Frank Sciacca, Gary Gray, Jean Strahlendorf, Peter Beaudry and David Pribble to the advisory board in addition to the Road and Bridge manager, who will serve as a nonvoting member and liaison between the board and the county.

Pribble and Beaudry currently also serve on the Archuleta County Planning Commission.

Commissioner Warren Brown

seconded the motion and asked if the appointees had been notified that they may be appointed to the committee.

Woodman stated that the potential members were notified that their appointments were being presented to the BoCC at the meeting.

Commissioner Ronnie Maez commented that he was "glad" to see the number of applicants for the committee.

"In the past, a Road and Bridge Committee was formed and their information — and they were very diligent on what they gathered and what they found — and what I express to this board is to not do the same as what was done to the last one. Let's hear 'em out and call upon their professionalism and their advice to give us the direction we need to get the right roads done," Maez added.

"Great point," Brown responded. The board then unanimously approved the appointments.

josh@pagosasun.com

La Plata Electric Association announced its new board members following the election, including Nicole Pitcher, who was unopposed and filled the seat vacated by retiring director Bob Lynch.

• Pagosa Springs athletes competed in the Special Olympics Colorado State Summer Games in Grand Junction in June. The team brought home 10 gold medals, eight silver medals, two bronze medals and two ribbons.

• On June 16, Andrea Phillips, the town manager, sent a letter to the town council stating that she would not be seeking the renewal of her employment agreement, which would run for another three-year term.

• On June 20, the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) announced that the April death of Jeremiah Enriquez Villareal was ruled an accidental drowning by a pathologist.

• Rick Holt was picked to continue as Archuleta School District superintendent following a unanimous vote at the Board of Education meeting on June 20.

Following an executive session, board president Bob Lynch explained Holt's review was very positive and made a motion to affirm and renew Holt's contract for another three years at his current salary plus a 3 percent raise.

In addition to renewing Holt's contract, the board unanimously voted to renew the contracts of all of the school's top administrators, with Holt noting it was a "phenomenal year" and he's glad to have them all coming back.

Included in the renewal vote were Kelly Vining as the elementary school principal, Chris Hinger as the middle school principal, Cory Clopton as the middle school assistant principal, Sean O'Donnell as the high school principal, Chantelle Jordan as the high school assistant principal, Stewart Bellina as the SJMS principal and Jane Parker as the Pagosa Family School principal/ shared school liaison/district communications specialist.

• On June 20, the school board also began hearing about proposed changes to graduation requirements for PSHS.

• A June 21 fatal accident closed U.S. 160 near Colo. 151 and Colo. 151 for part of the day.

According to the Colorado State Patrol (CSP), a call came in at 10:57 a.m. on June 21 reporting that a motorcycle accident was blocking the eastbound lane of U.S. 160.

The CSP reported that there were two confirmed fatalities.

• At a June 22 special meeting, the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) Board of Directors approved a contract with Plummer Associates to assist with compliance with a CDPHE notice of violation issued to PAWSD concerning sewer overflows.

District Engineer/Manager Justin Ramsey explained that, during the spring runoff, the district had several sanitary sewer overflows and subsequently received a notice of violation from the CDPHE.

• According to a June 22 press release from Archuleta County, the county landfill passed its yearly inspection by the CDPHE with no compliance issues reported.

The press release explains that the landfill has previously been cited for a variety of violations, including the lack of training plan for landfill staff, deficiencies in the application of intermediate cover to trash, excessive windblown trash and accumulations of leachate in cells exceeding the maximum allowed by state regula-

tions.

In the press release, County Manager Derek Woodman indicates that the landfill has not passed an inspection "in recent memory" and commends the progress that has been made by county staff.

• A June 27 thunderstorm ushered in 2023's fire season, with several lightning-caused fires reported throughout the area.

"We had a delayed fire season due to, of course, the heavy winter we had and abundant spring rain, but it only delayed fire season," said Lorena Williams, communications specialist for the San Juan National Forest. "We are expecting to see an average fire season for the rest of the summer."

As of the morning of June 28, six fires had been confirmed across the San Juan National Forest.

• According to a statement from Navajo State Park Complex Park Manager Nolan Tappenden, both water levels and park attendance at Navajo Lake rose in 2023 as of late June.

According to the Lake Navajo Water Database, on June 27 the lake was 25.03 feet below full pool at an elevation of 6,085 feet above sea level.

The database states that Lake Navajo was up 32.19 feet from one year prior and was down 3.83 feet from high water for the year.

The database indicates that the lake was approximately 76 percent full at 1,696,000 acre-feet.

• The BoCC reviewed the second interim status report from SJBPH Receiver Bellann Raile at its June 27 work session.

During the discussion, the commissioners expressed concerns and requested investigation into emergency compensation pay awarded to employees between 2020 and 2023 and voiced objections to the compensation package approved for Switzer and other leadership staff by the SJBPH Board of Health.

Weaver then raised the issue of the emergency compensation pay, stating that, while reviewing payroll records, the receiver discovered a line item in certain employee pay stubs marked "EC," which she had determined represented "emergency compensation" that certain staff were receiving between 2020 and 2023 during the COVID-19 public health emergency.

He stated that the total of \$845,000 was paid out to employees during that period and that there may have been an internal policy that allowed for this, although the policy was dated 2015 and is unsigned.

• Koltin Bassett, 15, achieved the rank of Eagle Scout on June 27.

For his project, Bassett hosted multiple food donation events for the Community United Methodist Church. By doing so, he was able to assemble more than 100 Thanksgiving dinners for families, feeding almost 400 individuals in the community.

• Sen. John Hickenlooper (D-CO) visited Pagosa Springs the afternoon of June 28 to participate in a pair of roundtable discussions focusing on health care, workforce, community needs and education.

• At the annual Upper Piedra meeting in June, the Hinsdale County Board of County Commissioners presented Lifetime Achievement Awards to Bob Case, Jean Taylor and John Taylor.

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# School board continues consideration of changes to graduation requirements

By Robert Moore  
Staff Writer

The Archuleta School District (ASD) Board of Education again considered revisions to Pagosa Springs High School's (PSHS's) graduation requirements at its Dec. 12, 2023, meeting.

The board's first discussion on the matter at the meeting came during the public comment period, when English Department staff Melinda Blankenship, Sean Downing and Sally Riggs addressed the board.

Riggs expressed their disagreement with the proposed changes to the graduation requirements, stating, "We would just like to share that we still do not agree with the lessening of English graduation requirements or how haphazardly the decision was made."

Riggs further stated that a "plethora of data" exists that links literacy with positive student outcomes such as "improved memory, critical thinking, analytical thinking, self-esteem, adult successes and more."

She also expressed their concerns with lessening the requirements for seniors, stating that it "seems inconceivable" that the lessening of both academic and literacy requirements was under consideration.

Blankenship followed by expressing her opinion that the current advisory classes are not meeting the original expectations.

"I can confidently say that these expectations are not being met in our advisory classes," she said, adding that she would rather put her "time and energy" into the English classes. Later in the meeting, PSHS Prin-

cipal Sean O'Donnell presented on the proposed graduation requirements, sharing that he had been asked during the June board meeting to look at what the graduation pathway with four English requirements would look like in more detail as opposed to the current five.

**Board member Tim Taylor responded in reference to the five English requirements that "we heard in June ... it's unusual for a high school to have five credits; it's not the common thing. Well, I will throw out that I'm not averse to being uncommon when it's on the high end."**

He began with comments on what had been presented by the members of the English Department during public comment, noting that he had solicited feedback from school staff with the results being 51 percent to 49 percent in favor of having an advisory period for a grade and a credit.

Noting that the previous pass/fail approach was cumbersome, he also reported that "starting this year, instead of pass/fail, we make it with a half credit each semester, just assigned a regular letter grade."

O'Donnell next explained that, in the updated proposal provided to the board, advisory counts as a half credit each semester, adding four extra opportunities for students to earn a credit throughout high school.

"We would ultimately need to change the number of credits or additional courses that we ask kids to complete," he added.

He then shared slides with the board that illustrated what other districts are doing, explaining, "We looked at nine other districts ... about two-thirds of the schools that we looked at, they require you to pass 75 percent to 79 percent of your courses to graduate. A third of them are in that 80 percent to 82 percent range."

Indicating that the current Pagosa requirements are passing 28 out of 32 courses, he said, currently, "We need kids to pass 87.5 percent of their classes to earn a diploma."

Under the updated proposal, O'Donnell stated the requirement would be 25 (down from the current 28).

That would be comprised of four English, three social studies, three math, three science, one ninth-grade PE/health class, with students also required to take either a fine arts or career and technical education (CTE) class, and 14 advisory credits, which would lower the passing requirements to 80.5 percent.

O'Donnell then took questions from the board for approximately 20 minutes, with several members voicing concerns regarding the rigor of the proposed requirements and the research conducted with the school staff and others.

Board member Dana Guinn stated, "I don't feel I have enough in-

formation at this point in time" to approve the proposed requirements.

Board member Amanda Schick called out the need for research-based curriculum and "specific benchmarks ... I think maybe some additional work needs to go into it before I would feel comfortable."

Board president Bob Lynch asked O'Donnell to "revisit the stack with the details of what makes that valuable."

Guinn asked about the high school's English performance compared to other schools in the state and Superintendent Rick Holt responded that Pagosa lags behind others based upon SAT and PSAT scores.

He added that he believes the math scores also lag behind, but would need to confirm that.

He then stated his support for the proposed graduation requirements, saying, "I'm very much in support of having four Englishes instead of five ... we really want a set of graduation requirements that says all students should be able to do this or more."

Board member Tim Taylor responded in reference to the five English requirements that "we heard in June ... it's unusual for a high school to have five credits; it's not the common thing. Well, I will throw out that I'm not averse to being uncommon when it's on the high end."

Board member Butch Mackey added that from his prior work with prisons, he considered language skills "valuable" and that he agrees with Taylor.

It was agreed that the issue would be revisited at the February board meeting.

robert@pagosasun.com

## Commissioners set meeting schedule, mill levies

By Josh Pike  
Staff Writer

The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) set its 2024 meeting schedule at its Jan. 2 meeting.

The board also approved resolutions appointing a budget officer and setting mill levies at the meeting.

The resolution setting the meeting schedule for the BoCC also established the posting place for notices of BoCC and other county board meetings as the county website and established hours for county offices.

According to the resolution, the BoCC will hold regular meetings on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at the county administration building at 398 Lewis St. unless otherwise noticed.

It adds that the meetings on March 5 and Nov. 5 will be rescheduled to March 6 and Nov. 6.

The resolution indicates that most county offices will be open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., though County Manager Derek Woodman indicated that the clerk and recorder's and the treasurer's offices will be open Monday through

Thursday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., and the Archuleta County Public Health Department offices will be open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The resolution also indicates that the Department of Human Services office will be open Monday through Friday between 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Additionally, the county landfill will be open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday between 8 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., according to the resolution. The Pagosa Springs and Arboles transfer stations will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

The board unanimously approved the resolution.

The board also appointed Woodman as the county budget officer for 2024 and approved a resolution setting the mill levies for the county.

Finance Director Chad Eaton explained that the amount of property tax revenue required to balance the county budget is \$7,798,269 and that the county decided to lower its operating mill levy to provide a refund of \$3,109,903 to local property owners.

The total valuation for the county in 2023 was \$598,265,370, Eaton stated.

He indicated that the county will levy a tax of 18.233 mills upon every dollar of the "total valuation for assessment of all taxable property within Archuleta County for the year 2023."

Eaton stated that the county will also provide a "tax credit/mill levy reduction" of 5.198 mills that will be distributed as a credit on residents' 2023 property taxes.

In response to a question from

Commissioner Veronica Medina, Eaton explained that the refunds will only go to those who pay property tax in the county and will be based on the amount of property tax paid.

Commissioner Ronnie Maez commented that he feels the county issuing refunds is better than allowing the money to pass on to the state, where it would be distributed to all Colorado citizens.

The board then unanimously approved the resolution setting the mill levy.

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All candidate packets are due January 22.

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# Sports

## BASKETBALL

### Lady Pirates start new year with pair of wins

By Robert Moore  
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirates basketball team started off the new year with two victories to extend its winning streak to six games as the team defeated the 2A Sanford Mustangs on Thursday, Jan. 4, 38-27 and followed that by doubling up the Gunnison Cowboys Saturday, Jan. 6, by a score of 52-26.

The two wins improved the Lady Pirates' overall record to 7-3. At the same point last season, the team's record was 0-10.

The Lady Pirates opened with a strong first quarter and led the Mustangs 11-4 at the end of the period. They outscored Sanford 11-4 again in the second quarter to post a 22-8 lead at halftime.

Sanford outscored the Pirates 11-8 in the third to close the gap to 30-19 by the end of the quarter.

Each team tallied eight points in the fourth quarter, and Pagosa closed out the Mustangs by a final score of 38-27.

In an email to the SUN, Osborn praises the defensive effort of the team, writing, "I thought we came out against Sanford focused and ready. Our defense was intense and well executed, which made it difficult for Sanford to find a good open shot. Our defensive pressure gave us momentum on the offensive end of the court."

She also highlights that the Pirates "had a good even contribution from everyone on the floor."

The Lady Pirates' scoring was led by Karsyn Shahan with 11 points followed by Kylie Ketchum with eight, Liz Currier and Annie O'Donnell with six each, and Daveyann and Amber Snarr added four and three points, respectively.

O'Donnell led the team in rebounding with seven, and also had two assists and one block. Shahan contributed four rebounds, one assist and one block. Daveyann Snarr had three rebounds, one steal and one block.

Adelyn Hittle had two rebounds and one assist. Ketchum added two rebounds, one assist and one steal. Amber Snarr added two rebounds. Currier added a rebound, four assists, three steals and a block.

Overall, the team gathered 21 total rebounds while committing 12 turnovers and shot 83 percent from the free-throw line, making five of six attempts.

In their next game against Gunnison, the Lady Pirates put together another strong performance and dominated the Cowboys 52-26, scoring double figures in every quarter.

The Pirates led Gunnison 13-0 at the end of the first quarter and 23-7 at halftime. Pagosa continued to dominate in the second half, leading 40-15 at the end of the third quarter and finishing the game with the final score of 52-26.

Osborn wrote, "we were able to pull ahead early against Gunnison by applying full court pressure. We were able to get lots of steals and disrupt their half court offense early."

Osborn was able to provide playing time to the entire roster, writing, "it was a fun game where everyone got to play and it was a good learning experience for some of our younger varsity players."

Both Currier and Shahan scored in double figures with 22 and 10 points respectively, followed by Ketchum with seven and Amber Snarr with three. O'Donnell, Daveyann Snarr and Victoria Currier each scored two points.

O'Donnell led the team again in

rebounding with eight. Daveyann Snarr had three rebounds, one steal, one assist and one block. Kaila Limebrook snared three rebounds. Shahan added two rebounds, four assists, three steals and one block. Liz Currier had two rebounds, five steals and two assists. Ketchum added one rebound, two assists and four steals. Hittle had a rebound and an assist, and Lexi Campbell had an assist.

The team grabbed 21 total rebounds while committing only nine turnovers and shot 50 percent from the free-throw line, making six of 12 attempts.

At this point in the season the team is averaging 42.4 points, 21.3 rebounds, 9.3 assists, 8.7 steals, 2.7 blocks and 12.7 turnovers per game.

The two wins improved the Lady Pirates' record to 7-3 and Pagosa ascended to No. 5 in the 4A Ratings Percentage Index (RPI) standings, which help determine postseason seedings.

Sanford's record dropped to 5-2 after the loss to the Lady Pirates, but the team rebounded to defeat Alamosa to improve to 6-2 and move up from No. 8 to No. 6 in the 2A RPI standings.

Gunnison's record now stands at 2-4 and the team is currently ranked No. 27 in the 3A RPI standings.

Up next for the Lady Pirates is their league opener at home against the 3A Centauri Falcons on Friday, Jan. 12, at 5:30 p.m.

The Falcons are 6-2 on the season and ranked seventh in the 3A RPI standings.

The Lady Pirates will then hit the road to face the 3A Ignacio Bobcats on Saturday, Jan. 13, at 2:30 p.m. The Bobcats are 4-4 on the season and ranked No. 24 in the 3A RPI standings.

robert@pagosasun.com

### Pirates ready for league play after posting two more victories

By Robert Moore  
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate basketball team started off the new year with two victories to extend their winning streak to eight games and improve their overall record to 9-1.

Pagosa defeated the 2A Sanford Mustangs on Thursday, Jan. 4, 62-34 and followed up with a win over the Gunnison Cowboys Saturday, Jan. 6, by a score of 71-35.

Coach Wes Lewis indicated that he was pleased with the team's performance in the Sanford game, stating, "I thought we did a nice job coming out and being ready to play coming off the break."

The Pirates bested Sanford in the first two quarters, posting a 34-14 halftime lead.

Pagosa outscored the Mustangs 38-20 in the second half to win, going away with the final score being 62-34.

Lewis indicated the team played well both offensively and defensively, saying, "I thought the boys played pretty well. We were very balanced in scoring. A lot of guys contributed. That's how we like to be — balanced in scoring if we can be — and we accomplished that that night. That was great. Defense was pretty good, as well."

In their next game on Saturday evening, Pagosa defeated the Gunnison Cowboys by a score of 71-35.

The Pirates led Gunnison 18-13 at the end of the first quarter.

The Pirates opened the second quarter with eight straight points to extend their lead to 26-13 and continued to build on their lead with the score 40-23 at halftime.

Lewis indicated that he was not happy with the team's defensive performance in the first half, stating, "I didn't think we were very good defensively in the first half in particular ... Our half-court defense was not very good. Challenged them at halftime to have them make a goal for themselves on what they wanted to allow Gun-

nison to score in the second half and the third quarter in particular."

Rising to the challenge, the Pirates opened the second half with consecutive steals and fast-break points early in the third quarter, and the team held the Cowboys scoreless for the first six minutes of the third quarter to lead the game 54-30 at the end of the period.

The Pirates' defense held Gunnison to only five points in the fourth quarter while Pagosa scored 17 for the final margin of victory.

Noting he was pleased that his team held Gunnison to only 12 points in the second half, Lewis said, "They came out and they took care of business. They were good defensively ... just refocused and recommitted."

Looking toward the two league games coming up Friday and Saturday, Lewis said, "We always get ramped up for league ... Centauri is] very well coached, always tough, good athletes, good tradition ... we're going to have to be good in all areas of the game ... Ignacio is no slouch either; they're well coached, as well."

Additional game and player statistics were not available by press time Wednesday.



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Luke Tressler  
Wrestling**



**Favorite subject:** Classics

**Comments from coach Dan Janowsky:** "A senior, Luke Tressler has been a quiet but strong presence on the wrestling team for the past four seasons. A four year starter and 3 time state qualifier, placing 4th last year, Luke's steady presence has helped keep the Pirate wrestling program at a high level year after year. Luke has not missed a practice in his entire four

years in the program, including voluntary in season and out of season workouts. In addition, he puts in significant time on his own working out, building his wrestling skills and his strength and conditioning. Luke's first place finish at the Rocky Mountain Invitational helped secure a high team finish at the tournament. He is to watch and unquestionably makes himself, his team, and the sport better."

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## WRESTLING

# Pirates win dual, take second at Rocky Mountain Invitational

By Josh Pike  
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate boys' wrestling team won a dual against Nucla at home on Jan. 5 and followed the win with a second-place finish at their home tournament, the Rocky Mountain Invitational, on Jan. 6.

Pagosa defeated the 2A Nucla Mustangs by a score of 48-21.

The dual included five forfeits by Nucla — in the 106-pound, 126-pound, 144-pound, 150-pound, 157-pound and 285-pound weight classes — giving Pagosa 30 points.

The dual also included double forfeits in the 106-pound and 175-pound weight classes.

Coach Dan Janowsky highlighted that the dual was challenging due to the number of forfeits making it difficult to establish momentum or flow across matches.

In the first match of the event, Hudson Mazur, competing in the 138-pound weight class, was pinned in four minutes, 47 seconds, scoring six points for Nucla.

The coach stated that Mazur's opponent was one of Nucla's strongest wrestlers.

In the 165-pound weight class, Seth Aucoin pinned his opponent in 3:42, scoring six points for the Pirates.

In the 190-pound weight class, Conner Kelly was defeated by a 12-3 major decision, scoring four points for the Mustangs.

Janowsky highlighted that Kelly faced another of the Mustangs' most-talented grapplers.

Harley Armijo then pinned his opponent in 3:10 in the 215-pound weight class, scoring six points for Pagosa.

In the 113-pound weight class, Deegen Hoffschneider was defeated with a 17-2 technical fall occurring in 5:44, scoring five points for Nucla.

In the 120-pound weight class, Stetson Osborn then pinned his opponent in 53 seconds to score six points for Pagosa.

In the 132-pound weight class, Tucker Jacobson was pinned in 1:06 to end the dual, scoring Nucla an additional six points.

### Rocky Mountain Invitational

At the tournament the next day, the Pirates took second place overall with a score of 174 points, including three first-place and two second-place finishes.

Centauri took first place with a score of 203.

Janowsky stated that he was "a little surprised" by the team's score and placement as it surpassed both his and other tournament participants' expectations.

"But, our lineup is getting better and our kids are wrestling better," he said.

The coach added that the "most encouraging" thing to him about the tournament was the number of close matches that the team's wrestlers won and the number of matches where Pagosa wrestlers came from behind to achieve victory.

In the 106-pound weight class, Hoffschneider was pinned in the first championship round, received a bye in the first consolation round and was pinned in the second.

Mark Ray also competed as a non-scoring wrestler in the 106-pound weight class.



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

**Conner Kelly works to improve his position during the Pirates' dual against Nucla in Pagosa on Jan. 5. Kelly was defeated in the match by a major decision although the Pirates won the overall dual 48-21.**

Osborn took sixth place in his weight class and scored 11 points. He achieved a pin in the first championship round before being pinned in the quarterfinal. Osborn received a bye in the second consolation round and won the third by decision before being pinned in the consolation semifinals and fifth-place match to take sixth.

The coach stated that Osborn, a freshman, was out for the earlier part of the season due to a broken leg and that he "did a nice job."

In the 126-pound weight class, Xavier Haney was pinned in the first championship round and the first consolation round.

Tucker Jacobson and Gabe Ramirez also competed as non-scoring wrestlers in the 126-pound weight class.

In the 132-pound weight class, Mazur took sixth and scored 11 points. He won the first championship round by decision before losing the quarterfinal in the sudden victory period.

Mazur then pinned his opponents in the second and third consolation rounds and was pinned in the consolation semifinals and fifth-place match.

Mazur is a freshman and wrestled well, Janowsky stated, commenting that he and Osborn both defeated more experienced opponents through their wrestling knowledge, "stubbornness" and fighting for points.

In the 138-pound weight class, Luke Tressler took first place and scored 28 points for the Pirates.

Tressler pinned his opponent in the first championship round and won the quarterfinals by a major decision.

He then pinned his opponent in the semifinals before winning the finals with another major decision.

Janowsky explained that Tressler has faced the Durango wrestler he confronted in the finals before and noted that this wrestler is one of Durango's "better guys."

Stephen Pair competed as a non-scoring wrestler in the 138-pound weight class.

In the 144-pound weight class, Colton Lucero took second place, scoring 21 points for the team.

He received a bye in the first championship round before winning the quarterfinal by a major decision and the semifinal by decision. He was defeated in the final by a 1-0 decision.

The coach commented that Lucero's opponent in the finals was a "very good wrestler" from Center and that his careful and highly defensive approach allowed him to avoid Lucero's strengths and win the match off a point scored from an escape.

In the 144-pound weight class, Nico Schroder, Devin Gonzalez and Gavin Lugenbeel competed for Pagosa as non-scoring wrestlers.

In the 150-pound weight class, Wyatt Hoover took eighth place and scored seven points. Hoover won the first championship round by a major decision before losing the quarterfinal by decision.

He then pinned his opponent in the second consolation round before being pinned in the third consolation round and the seventh-place match to take eighth place.

Taylor Hancey also competed as a non-scoring wrestler in the 150-pound weight class and finished in sixth place.

In the 157-pound weight class, Aucoin took fourth place and scored 16 points, winning the first championship round and quarterfinal with pins before losing by decision in the semifinal. He then won the consolation semifinal by decision before being pinned in the third-place match.

Janowsky commented that Aucoin is "showing steady improvement" and "won some big matches."

He noted that Aucoin's defeat in the semifinals was close and involved him having difficulty escaping from the bottom position against his opponent, which he indicated is something the team will focus on practicing.

"He's creeping up slowly ... and looking more competitive all the time," the coach added.

Tucker Ford competed as a non-scoring wrestler in the 157-pound weight class.

In the 165-pound weight class, Derek Carter placed eighth and scored seven points.

He was pinned in the first cham-

pionship round and received a bye in the first consolation round on his way to pinning his opponent in the second consolation round. Carter was then pinned in the third consolation round and seventh-place match to take eighth place.

Caden Plake and Jimmy Elledge both competed as non-scoring wres-

■ See Wrestling A11

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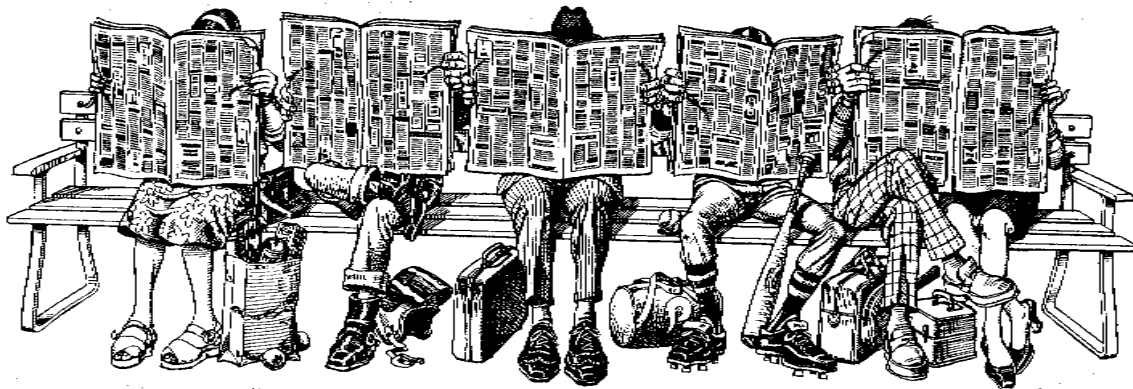
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All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or an intention, to make such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

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## Public Notices

### COMBINED NOTICE - PUBLICATION CRS §38-38-103 FORECLOSURE SALE NO.

To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with regard to the following described Deed of Trust:  
On October 26, 2023, the undersigned Public Trustee caused the Notice of Election and Demand relating to the Deed of Trust described below to be recorded in the County of Archuleta records.  
Original Grantor(s) Justin Travis Fowler  
Original Beneficiary(ies) Terry Jackson  
Current Holder of Evidence of Debt Terry Jackson  
Date of Deed of Trust September 21, 2016  
County of Recording Archuleta  
Recording Date of Deed of Trust September 26, 2016  
Recording Information (Reception No. and/or Book/ Page No.) 21606226  
Original Principal Amount \$54,000.00  
Outstanding Principal Balance \$55,229.40  
Pursuant to CRS §38-38-101(4)(i), you are hereby notified that the covenants of the deed of trust have been violated as follows: Failure to pay principal and interest when due together with all other payments provided for in the evidence of debt secured by the deed of trust and other violations thereof.  
**THE LIEN FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.**  
**Lot 11 of Block 7 in ASPEN SPRINGS SUBDIVISION NO. 3, according to the plat thereof filed for record July 8, 1971 as Reception No. 74587, being an Amendment of the plat of Aspen Springs Ranch Subdivision No. 3, filed on April 9, 1971 as Reception No. 74284**  
**Also known by street and number as: 514 Echo Lane, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147.**  
**THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCUMBERED BY THE LIEN OF THE DEED OF TRUST.**  
**NOTICE OF SALE**  
The current holder of the Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, described herein, has filed Notice of Election and Demand for sale as provided by law and in said Deed of Trust.  
THEREFORE, Notice is Hereby Given that I will at public auction, at 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, 02/22/2024, at the Archuleta County Treasurer's Office at 449 San Juan St. Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property and all interest of the said Grantor(s), Grantor(s)' heirs and assigns therein, for the purpose of paying the indebtedness provided in said Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, plus attorneys' fees, the expenses of sale and other items allowed by law, and will issue to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.  
First Publication 1/11/2024  
Last Publication 2/8/2024  
Name of Publication Pagosa Springs Sun  
**IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED;**  
DATE: 11/08/2023

est and best bidder for cash, the said real property and all interest of the said Grantor(s), Grantor(s)' heirs and assigns therein, for the purpose of paying the indebtedness provided in said Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, plus attorneys' fees, the expenses of sale and other items allowed by law, and will issue to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.  
First Publication 12/28/2023  
Last Publication 1/25/2024  
Name of Publication Pagosa Springs Sun  
**IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED;**  
DATE: 10/26/2023  
Elsa P. White, Public Trustee in and for the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado  
By: Elsa P. White, Public Trustee  
The name, address, business telephone number and bar registration number of the attorney(s) representing the legal holder of the indebtedness is: Cantalio & Song PLLC 1875 Lawrence Street, Suite 730, Denver, CO 80202 (303) 813-1200  
Attorney File # 514 Echo Lane  
The Attorney above is acting as a debt collector and is attempting to collect a debt. Any information provided may be used for that purpose.  
Published December 23, January 4, 11, 18 & 25, 2023 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (221896)

### COMBINED NOTICE - PUBLICATION CRS §38-38-103 FORECLOSURE SALE NO.

To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with regard to the following described Deed of Trust:  
On November 8, 2023, the undersigned Public Trustee caused the Notice of Election and Demand relating to the Deed of Trust described below to be recorded in the County of Archuleta records.  
Original Grantor(s) June J Balizan and James A Pacheco  
Original Beneficiary(ies) Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as beneficiary, as nominee for The Central Trust Bank  
Current Holder of Evidence of Debt PennyMac Loan Services, LLC

Date of Deed of Trust September 06, 2019  
County of Recording Archuleta  
Recording Date of Deed of Trust September 09, 2019  
Recording Information (Reception No. and/or Book/ Page No.) 21905117 Book: N/A Page:  
Original Principal Amount \$250,381.00  
Outstanding Principal Balance \$236,059.23  
Pursuant to CRS §38-38-101(4)(i), you are hereby notified that the covenants of the deed of trust have been violated as follows: Failure to pay principal and interest when due together with all other payments provided for in the evidence of debt secured by the deed of trust and other violations thereof.  
**THE LIEN FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.**  
**Lot 2 of Block 2 in ASPEN SPRINGS SUBDIVISION NO. 4, according to the plat thereof filed for record August 20, 1971 as Reception No. 74785.**  
**Also known by street and number as: 511 Blue Jay Cir, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147.**  
**THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCUMBERED BY THE LIEN OF THE DEED OF TRUST.**  
**NOTICE OF SALE**  
The current holder of the Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, described herein, has filed Notice of Election and Demand for sale as provided by law and in said Deed of Trust.  
THEREFORE, Notice is Hereby Given that I will at public auction, at 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, 03/07/2024, at the Archuleta County Treasurer's Office at 449 San Juan St. Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property and all interest of the said Grantor(s), Grantor(s)' heirs and assigns therein, for the purpose of paying the indebtedness provided in said Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, plus attorneys' fees, the expenses of sale and other items allowed by law, and will issue to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.  
First Publication 1/11/2024  
Last Publication 2/8/2024  
Name of Publication Pagosa Springs Sun  
**IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED;**  
DATE: 11/08/2023

Elsa P. White, Public Trustee in and for the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado  
By: Elsa P. White, Public Trustee  
The name, address, business telephone number and bar registration number of the attorney(s) representing the legal holder of the indebtedness is: Aricyn J. Dall #51467  
Randall S. Miller & Associates PC 216 16th St. Ste 1210, Denver, CO 80202 (720) 259-9053  
Attorney File # 23C000165-1  
The Attorney above is acting as a debt collector and is attempting to collect a debt. Any information provided may be used for that purpose.  
Published January 11, 19, 25 & February 1 & 8, 2024 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (221568)

DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO  
**Case Number:** 2023CV30085  
**Court Address:** 109 Harman Park Dr, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147  
**Phone Number:** (970) 264-8160  
**Plaintiff:** LAURA KIM NOVAK v.  
**Defendants:** JACK L. RICH; RICH ENTERPRISES and ALL UNKNOWN PERSONS WHO CLAIM ANY INTEREST IN THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THIS ACTION.  
Submitting Attorney: Duke Eggleston, #24965  
Eggleston Kosnik LLC  
160 E. 12th St., Ste 7  
Durango, CO 81301  
Phone Number: (970) 403-1580  
E-mail: deggleston@e-klaw.com

**SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION**  
**PLAINTIFFS LAURA KIM NOVAK TO THE BELOW NAMED DEFENDANTS: JACK L. RICH; RICH ENTERPRISES and ALL UNKNOWN PERSONS WHO CLAIM ANY INTEREST IN THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THIS ACTION**  
**YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED** and required to appear and defend against the claims of the complaint filed with the court in this action by filing with the clerk of this court an answer or other response. You are required to file your answer or other response within

35 days after the service of this summons upon you. Service of this summons shall be complete on the day of the last publication. A copy of the complaint may be obtained from the clerk of the court.  
If you fail to file your answer or other response to the complaint in writing within 35 days after the date of the last publication, judgment by default may be rendered against you by the court for the relief demanded in the complaint without further notice.  
This is an action to quiet the title of the Plaintiff in and to the real property situated in Archuleta County, Colorado, more particularly described as follows:  
Lot 575, as recorded in the office of the County Clerk and Recorder of Archuleta County, Colorado on April 1, 1991 in Book 326, Pages 10, 11 and 12 as Reception Number 0178458, situated in Aspen Springs Subdivision, Archuleta County, Colorado.  
Respectfully Submitted this 8th day of December, 2023.  
Published in *The Pagosa Sun*  
First Publication: December 21, 2023  
Last Publication: January 18, 2024  
**Eggleston Kosnik LLC**  
/s/ Duke Eggleston  
Duke Eggleston, #24965  
160 E. 12th St., Ste 7  
Durango, CO 81301  
(970) 403-1580  
(223888)

The Town of Pagosa Springs has received a revised application for "Final Major Design Review" for the three vacant lots currently addressed as 232 Pagosa Street. This proposal is for a mixed-use development that includes 3 stories in a 7,098 SF footprint. The building includes 7 residential units (revised from 8 originally proposed), 6,589 SF at ground level in commercial units, and a 32-stall parking garage with storage lockers. The applicant revised the original plan after the Sketch Major Design Review hearing.  
The Design Review Board will conduct a public hearing on Tuesday, January 23, 2024, at 5:30 pm to consider the Final Major Design Review Application.  
Public Hearings and Meetings will be conducted at 551 Hot Springs Blvd and available for remote attendance via the Zoom meeting platform. To access the meeting agendas and staff reports, click the round **Minutes** and **Agendas** tab located along the bottom of the photo

on the Town's website home page at [pagosaspings.co.gov](https://www.pagosaspings.co.gov). You may also view the application at [mvpagosa.co.gov/proposed-development-projects](https://www.pagosaspings.co.gov/proposed-development-projects). We encourage interested parties to contact the Planning Division prior to the public hearing dates, with any questions via phone at **970-264-4151 x221** or email at [cschultz@pagosaspings.co.gov](mailto:cschultz@pagosaspings.co.gov). Written comments received 7 days prior to the meeting or public hearing will be forwarded to the Design Review Board for their consideration. Public comments will be accepted at the public hearing(s)/meeting(s).  
Published January 11, 2024 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (225977)

The Town of Pagosa Springs has received an application for "Preliminary Plat - Major Subdivision" for Phase 1 of the Pagosa Views Planned Development. The PUD agreement for the 80 +/- acres was approved in 2022 and Phase 1 proposes to subdivide 15.7 acres and prepare individual lots for development. Phase 1 will include 58 lots: 37 townhomes, 10 single-family homes, 11 condominiums. Phase 1 will also include associated tracts which will include roads and access, dedicated open space, recreational facilities, and a segment of the Town to Lakes Trail.  
The Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing on Tuesday, January 23, 2024, at 5:30 pm to consider the Major Subdivision - Preliminary Plat.  
Public Hearings and Meetings will be conducted at 551 Hot Springs Blvd and available for remote attendance via the Zoom meeting platform. To access the meeting agendas and staff reports, click the round **Minutes** and **Agendas** tab located along the bottom of the photo on the Town's website home page at [pagosaspings.co.gov](https://www.pagosaspings.co.gov). You may also view the application at [mvpagosa.co.gov/proposed-development-projects](https://www.pagosaspings.co.gov/proposed-development-projects). We encourage interested parties to contact the Planning Division prior to the public hearing dates, with any questions via phone at **970-264-4151 x221** or email at [cschultz@pagosaspings.co.gov](mailto:cschultz@pagosaspings.co.gov). Written comments received 7 days prior to the meeting or public hearing will be forwarded to the Design Review Board for their consideration. Public comments will be accepted at the public hearing(s)/meeting(s).  
Published January 11, 2024 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (225988)



## SWIM

# Lady Pirates set to dive into back-to-back meets

By **Randi Pierce**  
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirate swim team will dive back into action in a pair of meets this week — the team's first competition since Dec. 18, 2023.

Both meets will take place in Durango, with the first set to begin at 4:30 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 12, at the Durango Rec Center.

The Lady Pirates will be back in action at the same place at 10:30 a.m. the following day.

Coach Heather Miller notes in an email to The SUN that, since the team has two meets back-to-back, “we will have the swimmers work on some new or off, not typical events, and swim some of their top events as well. We are looking for them to finish their races stronger than they have in the past.”

The meets follow a break from official competition over the holidays, though the coach notes that,

in that time, the team made progress toward its goals of building endurance, resting and having a healthy team for January's competitions.

“I think we had some great endurance building practices over break for those that were able to make the practices. With some forced rest (the no contact period during break) we do have most of our swimmers healthy at this point, knock on wood,” she wrote.

*randi@pagosasun.com*

## WRESTLING

# Lady Pirate grapplers to return to action Jan. 13

By **Josh Pike**  
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirate girls' wrestling division will return to action on Jan. 13 at the Lady Bronco Invitational in Kirtland, N.M.

Competition at the event will begin at 9 a.m.

Coach Dan Janowsky explained that, despite a break in competition, the division is “training really hard” and has made significant improvements.

He stated that the wrestling program has been able to add additional events to the girls' wrestling schedule in January and February, giving the division more opportunities to compete.

“I'm excited for them to get some extra matches and test those things out,” Janowsky said. “I'm a big believer in, you know, you need a lot of practice before you compete, but they've had plenty of practice now and it'll be very beneficial for them to try their stuff out.

“You need to be able to try that stuff out and you need to be able to win and you need to be able to lose. ... Losing is not a fun thing, but it's a valuable thing and so you gotta be able to have those opportunities to win and lose and find out what you're good at and what you need to work on.

“So, I'm happy for them. They've earned the right to get out there and do that and ... I expect to see good things from them.”

Following the Lady Bronco Invitational, the girls' division will compete

in a quad in Ignacio on Jan. 17 beginning at 5 p.m., followed by a dual against Montezuma-Cortez in Cortez on Jan. 25 at 6 p.m.

The Lady Pirates will then participate in the Ignacio Girls' Tournament in Ignacio on Jan. 27 starting at 9 a.m. and the Liberty High School Tournament on Feb. 3 in Colorado Springs beginning at 9 a.m.

The division will compete in regionals on Feb. 9 and 10 in Bayfield, beginning each day at 9 a.m.

*josh@pagosasun.com*

## Wrestling

### ■ Continued from A10

ters in the 165-pound weight class.

Kelly placed second and scored 23 points.

He received a bye in the first championship round and pinned his opponent in the quarterfinal before winning the semifinal with a major decision. Kelly was then defeated in the final by decision to take second.

Enrique Quezada competed as a non-scoring wrestler for Pagosa in the 190-pound weight class.

Armijo took first place and scored 24 points, receiving a bye in the quarterfinal and achieving a pin in the semifinal before winning the final by a 4-3 decision.

Janowsky explained that this was Armijo's first varsity tournament championship win and that he wrestled “really intelligently” to win.

He stated that Armijo was behind

for most of the final match against a wrestler from Taos, N.M., and scored the points that placed him ahead and ensured his victory with only nine seconds left in the match.

“That kind of doggedness is really what every coach wants to see,” Janowsky said. “He didn't give away any cheap points, kept the score close, kept trying to figure it out and got it at the very end. And that's great for our kids to see because everybody can learn from his experience.”

Matthew Lane also competed as a non-scoring wrestler for Pagosa in the 215-pound weight class and finished in sixth place.

Antonio Quesada placed first in the 285-pound weight class, scoring 24 points.

He won the quarterfinal and semifinal with pins before defeating his opponent in the first-place match by

a 2-1 decision.

The coach stated that this was Quesada's first varsity championship win and explained that he is “learning how to win” by avoiding bad positions and impulsive moves and wrestling with “focus and discipline.”

Janowsky commented that this focus was “the only way he could have won that match the way he did.”

He explained that Quesada was methodical and strategic throughout the match, waiting for and successfully capitalizing on an opening late in the match to score and then wrestling carefully for the remainder of the match to avoid losing his lead.

“Those last two matches of the day really gave us a lot of momentum and showed that our team is learning not just how to wrestle, but how to win,” Janowsky commented, referring to Armijo's and Quesada's final

matches. “That takes a lot of grit and a lot of stamina, so you can see the progress there.”

Janowsky explained that the team will participate in the Mel Smith Invitational in Florence on Jan. 12 and 13, which he indicated is often seen as a preview of the regional and state tournaments due to most of the top 3A teams attending it.

He stated that the event includes 32 teams and that it will be the Pirates' final “traditional elimination-style” tournament prior to the regional tournament in February.

The tournament will begin at noon on Friday, Jan. 12, and at 9 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 13.

*josh@pagosasun.com*

## Weminuche Audubon Society sets January meeting

By **Jean Zirnhelt**  
Weminuche Audubon Society

In November 2023, our Audubon chapter hosted a presentation by Dr. Terry Root on climate change.

The consequences of global warming which we are experiencing now and predictions for the future left us concerned if enough

is being done to slow the trajectory that we are on. Can our actions make a difference? How do we achieve the goal of 100 percent clean electricity by 2035?

The good news is that the energy grid is undergoing a massive transformation from technologies that have historically powered modern life to a system that will also be increasingly clean and sustainable. A couple of promising avenues in development are distributed energy resources (DERs) and virtual power plants (VPPs).

DERs are things like solar panels and batteries, which supply electricity within the communities they are in, while also increasing resilience because there are fewer transmission lines needed to import the energy. A VPP will congregate attributes and resources of DERs while demanding side technologies (electric vehicles, smart appliances, etc.) and energy efficiency measures to help meet energy demand placed on the elec-

tric grid.

With us to explain these concepts at our January meeting will be Holly Metzler, now serving her second term on the La Plata Electric Association Board of Directors.

Metzler received her Bachelor of Science in biology from Fort Lewis College, and in 2018 completed her Master of Science in environmental policy from University of Denver. She has lived most of her life in Pagosa Springs, where she and her husband are local business owners.

The public is invited to join us for our meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 17, at the Community United Methodist Church on Lewis Street.

We will gather at 6 p.m. for socializing and the meeting will start at 6:30 p.m. Please enter through the side door off the parking lot or let us know to open the main door for handicap entry. In appreciation for our meeting space, we welcome donations of nonperishable food for the church food bank.

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### Dr. Morgan Lopez

Small animal care only— areas of interest are preventative care, quality of life and end-of-life care, small animal dentistry. Dr. Lopez' hobbies include hiking, backpacking and reading.



### Dr. Kitzel Farrah

Small animal and equine care — areas of interest are Surgery and Ultrasound. Dr. Farrah's hobby is showing Reining Horses.



### Dr. Cara Finstad

Small animal and equine care — areas of interest are Equine emergency care and surgery. Dr. Finstad's hobbies are anything outdoors and skiing.

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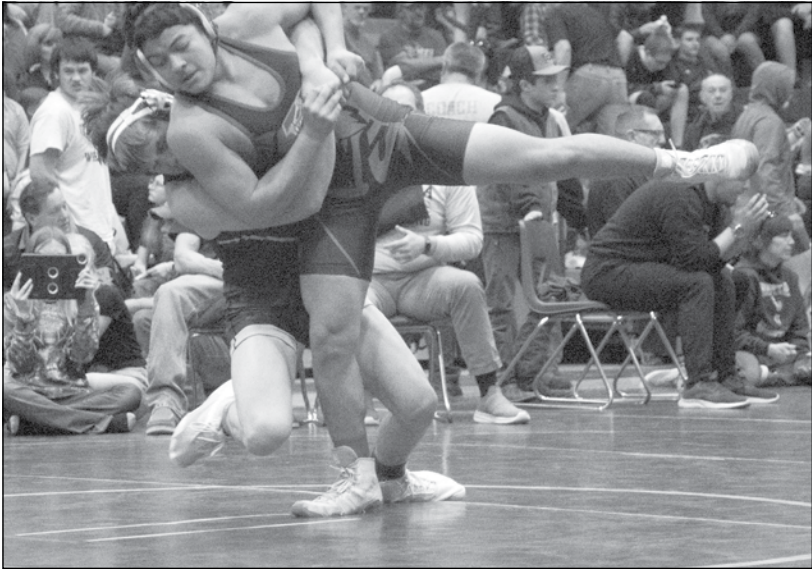
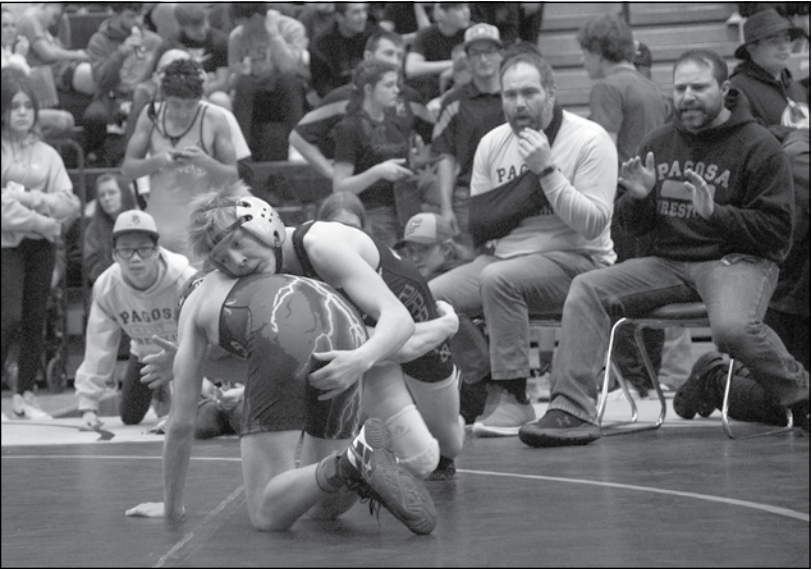
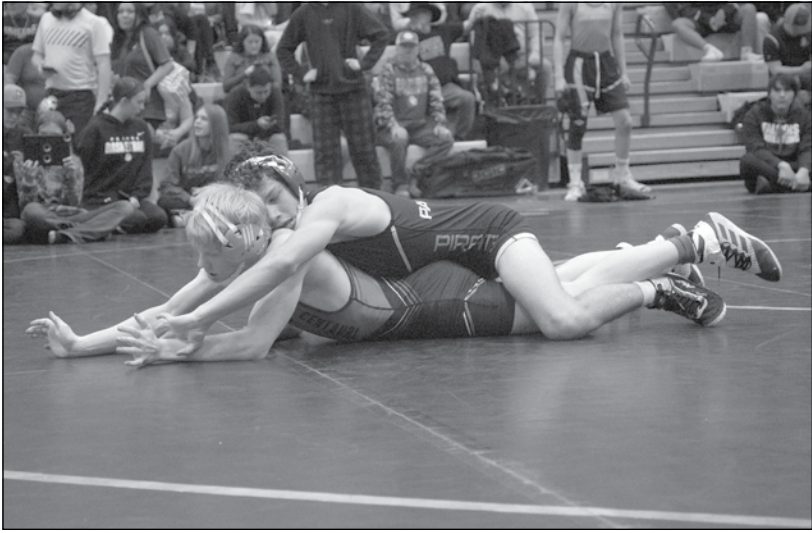
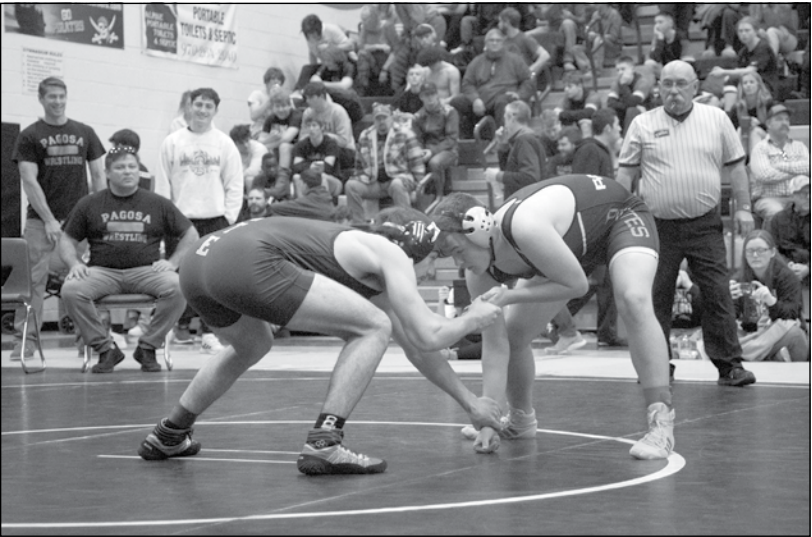
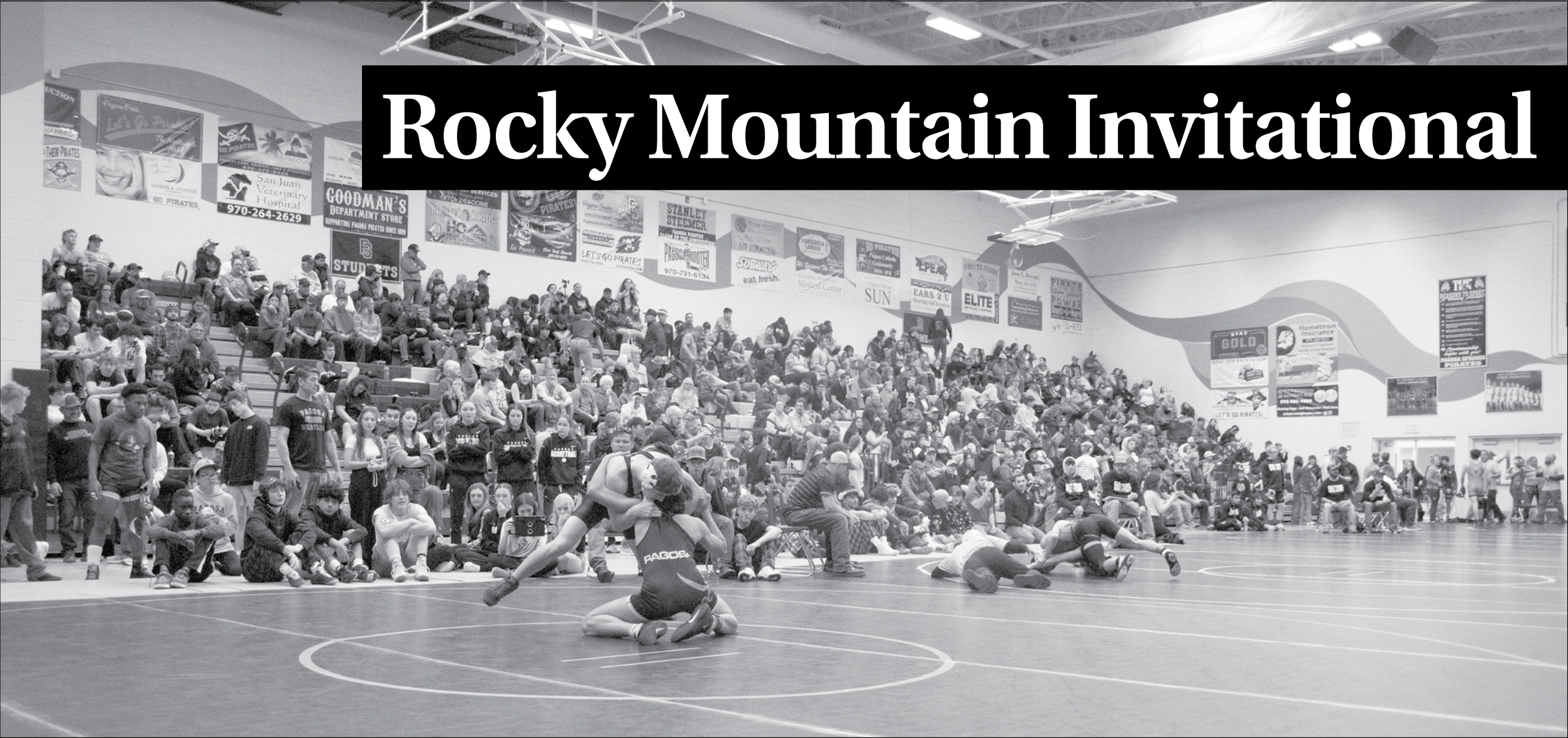
**Tricia G. Vega - Health Insurance Agent — CO License #252560**

With the changes to the Affordable Care Act this year, we finally qualified for the Advance Premium Tax Credit and now have an insurance plan in place. *What a relief!*  
Thank you HomeTown Pros for your help and patience in finding a plan that fit our budget.  
*—Kavaka Pereira*

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Pagosa Springs High School, along with a number of community volunteers, hosted the Rocky Mountain Invite on Jan. 6. The 16-team tournament featured a full day of competition to keep spectators and wrestlers entertained and cheering.

SUN photos/Randi Pierce

## A Cure for Winter Projects: Rent it from P.V.R.

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# The Blotter



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

**Archuleta County Sheriff's Office**  
Calls for service for two weeks: 513.  
Dec. 12 — Information only, fraud by check-other method, Cape Place.

Dec. 18 — Expired license plates, West U.S. 160.

Dec. 19 — Domestic violence, second-degree assault-caused intended serious injury, harassment-strikes/shoves/kicks, Park Avenue.

Dec. 19 — Warrant arrest, Hurt Drive.

Dec. 19 — Warrant arrest, Hurt Drive.

Dec. 19 —Domestic violence, harassment-strikes/shoves/kicks, harassment-strikes/shoves/kicks, County Road 326.

Dec. 20 — Agency assist, Harman Park Drive.

Dec. 20 — First-degree criminal trespass-other intent, tampering with equipment associated with oil/gas, Evergreen Drive.

Dec. 20 — Second-degree burglary, Frontier Avenue.

Dec. 21 — Third-degree criminal trespass, North Pagosa Boulevard.

Dec. 22 — Found property, Park Avenue.

Dec. 22 — Menacing-misdemeanor, domestic violence, third-degree assault-simple assault, harassment-strikes/shoves/kicks, intimidating a witness or victim, Down and Out Road.

Dec. 23 — Warrant arrest, Solomon Drive.

Dec. 23 — Speeding 25-39 miles per hour over prima facie limit, 14th Street/West U.S. 160.

Dec. 25 — Vicious dog with injury, information only, Wilderness Drive.

Dec. 26 — Trespass warning, Seminole Drive.

Dec. 26 — Violation of restraining order, Navajo Trail Drive.

Dec. 26 — Information only, Cornerstone Drive/Aspen Village Drive.

Dec. 27 — Violation of restraining order, Hills Circle.

Dec. 27 — Harassment/credible threat with communication, Bastille Drive.

Dec. 27 — All other thefts, Oak Place.

Dec. 28 — Found property, Harman Park Drive.

Dec. 29 — Speeding 25-39 miles per hour over prima facie limit, West U.S. 160/14th Street.

Dec. 30 — Reckless driving, West U.S. 160.

Dec. 31 — Dog at large (first offense), West U.S. 160.

Dec. 31 — No insurance in possession, possession of drug paraphernalia-penalty, expired license plates, Lakewood Street/Lake Forest Circle.

Dec. 31 — Warrant arrest, Lake Forest Circle/Lakewood Street.

Dec. 31 — Drove vehicle when license suspended, drove vehicle without insurance, expired license plates, County Road 700.

**Town of Pagosa Springs Police Department**

Calls for service for two weeks: 181.

Dec. 16 — Criminal mischief, South

9th Street.

Dec. 16 — Simple assault third degree, harassment, South Pagosa Boulevard.

Dec. 16 — Simple assault third degree, domestic violence, false imprisonment, East Pagosa Street.

Dec. 17 — Careless driving, failed to notify police of accident, Pagosa Street.

Dec. 18 — Criminal trespassing, Eagle Drive.

Dec. 19 — Simple assault third degree, domestic violence, information only, South 9th Street.

Dec. 21 — Trespass warning, Aspen Village Drive.

Dec. 21 — Trespass warning, Talisman Drive.

Dec. 21 — Violation of restraining order, Country Center Drive.

Dec. 21 — Warrant arrest, Hot Springs Boulevard.

Dec. 21 — Shoplifting, trespass warning, Aspen Village Drive.

Dec. 22 — Shoplifting, Aspen Village Drive.

Dec. 23 — Trespass warning, Pagosa Street.

Dec. 23 — Criminal trespass first degree, identity theft, Aspen Village Drive.

Dec. 27 — Careless driving, left scene without providing information, San Juan Street.

Dec. 27 — DUI, open container in motor vehicle, U.S. 160/Aspen Village Drive.

Dec. 27 — Criminal trespassing, Eagle Drive.

Dec. 27 — Simple assault third degree, domestic violence, harassment, DUI, drove vehicle when BAC .08 or more, East Pagosa Street.

Dec. 27 — Failed to give information and/or aid after damaging another vehicle, Hot Springs Boulevard.

Dec. 28 — Found property, San Juan Street.

Dec. 28 — Following too closely, operator failed to present insurance, U.S. 160/Aspen Village Drive.

Dec. 29 — Violation of restraining order, West U.S. 160.

Dec. 29 — Aggravated motor vehicle theft, South 7th Street.

Dec. 29 — Theft, Village Drive.

Dec. 29 — Information only, Cornerstone Drive.

Dec. 29 — Menacing, Talisman Drive.

**Pagosa Springs Municipal Court: Judge Anthony D. Edwards**

No report.

**Archuleta County Court: Judge Justin P. Fay**

Dec. 20 — Luke Maroto Martin, tail lamps/reflectors, fines and costs — \$65.  
Dec. 20 — Bradley Ward, motorcycle riding improper, fines and costs — \$177.50.

Dec. 20 — Daniel Sampson Scalf, tail lamps/reflectors, fines and costs — \$100.

Dec. 20 — Nichole Dee Rieg, parking priv for persons with disabilities, fines and costs — \$220.

Dec. 20 — Kelly Ann Mullen, speeding 20-24 over, fines and costs — \$290.  
Dec. 20 — Andrew Jovais, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$225.

Dec. 20 — Jared N. Early, fail obey traffic control device, notice-primary body color, fines and costs — \$194.50.

Dec. 20 — Carl Matthew Dilley, obedience to official traffic control device,

fines and costs — \$170.

Dec. 20 — Jose Alfredo Diaz Dimas, driver's license-driving without, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs — \$279.50.

Dec. 20 — Notma Rae Cutter, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$225.

Dec. 20 — Boone Zeus Cullen Hill, controlled substance-unlawful use, 30 days jail, 120 days jail, fines and costs — \$452.50.

Dec. 20 — Gary Kay Morann, harassment-strike/shove/kick, 12 months probation, fines and costs — \$892.50.

Dec. 20 — Chance Jacob McGuire, harassment-strike/shove/kick, 12 months probation, fines and costs — \$872.50.

Dec. 20 — Eddie John Clark-Nossaman-Burk, driving ability impaired-with prior convictions, 365 days jail suspended imposition, 60 days jail, two years probation, 48 hours community service, fines and costs — \$1,965.50.

Dec. 22 — Abian Vincent Herrera, license plates-expired, fines and costs — \$120.50.

Dec. 22 — David Lee Henson, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$190.

Dec. 22 — Jessica Angel Warren, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$225.

Dec. 22 — Angelina Jennifer Voss, obedience to official traffic control device, fines and costs — \$170.

Dec. 22 — Jonathan Powell, license plates-expired, driver's license-driving without, fines and costs — \$201.50.

Dec. 22 — Robert T. Antonez, failed to stop at stop sign, fines and costs — \$105.

Jan. 2 — Alexis Viscaino Pina, obedience to official traffic control device, fines and costs — \$135.

**6th Judicial District Court: Judge Justin P. Fay**

Dec. 20 — Paulino Serratos, driving while ability impaired, 30 days jail suspended imposition, 24 hours community service, fines and costs — \$680.50.

Dec. 20 — Brandon Thomas May, carrying a concealed weapon-knife/gun, 16 days jail, fines and costs — \$258.50.

Dec. 20 — Boone Zeus Cullen Hill, criminal mischief-\$1,000-\$2,000, 30 days jail, fines and costs — \$258.50.

**6th Judicial District Court: Judge Jeffrey R. Wilson**

No report.

As we step into the new year, we would like to recognize all of you who have made our progress possible and say, simply but sincerely,

Thank you

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KALEI PITCHER | BROKER ASSOCIATE



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AMY JOHNSON | BROKER ASSOCIATE



"Amy was a delight to work with throughout the selling process. She reached out and kept us informed regarding each step. We have never sold a property before; Amy was a tremendous help." - Robert & Susan Fleck

BROOKE BASSIN | BROKER ASSOCIATE



"Brooke is a tireless real estate agent who truly cares about her clients! She worked with us to find an amazing home for our family and we are forever grateful!" - Ari D'Angelo

## Fire district approves budget

By Josh Pike  
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Fire Protection District (PFPD) Board of Directors approved a resolution adopting the 2024 budget, setting mill levies and appropriating sums of money at its Jan. 2 meeting.

Fire Chief Robert Bertram explained that the district received mill levy and property tax revenue calculations the week before, with property tax revenues down \$146,003 due to recent legislation passed by the Colorado Legislature, particularly changes in residential property tax exemption thresholds.

In response to questions from board members, Bertram explained that there were few "significant" changes from when the budget was presented in October 2023.

He explained anticipated ColoTrust revenues were increased by \$10,000 due to improved estimates, full-time payroll costs rose by \$28,359 due to pay matrix adjustments, and

health and dental insurance costs decreased.

Bertram noted that funding was retained in the budget for the purchase of two new water tenders, though the district will not pay for them until 2025 due to manufacturing delays.

The budget documentation indicates that funding for legal council was increased by \$10,000 to reflect anticipated document reviews, audit costs were decreased by \$37,500 due to a change in audit firm and funding for apparatus purchases decreased by \$127,634.

The budget states that the district will collect \$4,170,539 in property tax revenues in 2024 at a levy of 8.363 mills.

Overall, the district will have total revenues and expenses of \$4,531,736, according to the budget.

The board concluded the discussion by unanimously approving the budget resolution.

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A white propane delivery truck is parked in a snowy mountain landscape. The truck's tank is the central focus, with the text "ARE YOU READY TO FEEL THE HEAT?" written on it in red, italicized, bold letters. The background features a rustic wooden cabin with a snow-covered roof, surrounded by snow-laden evergreen trees. The scene is set in a winter environment with mountains in the distance.

***ARE YOU READY TO  
FEEL THE HEAT?***

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preview  
ARTS & LIFE

Late Night at the Library

Saturday, Jan. 13 • 5 p.m. • Ruby Sisson Library



Photo courtesy Ruby Sisson Library Foundation and Friends

January 11, 2024



# Late Night at the Library event slated for Saturday

By Cindi Galabota  
Ruby Sisson Library Foundation and Friends

Join your friends for another Late Night at the Library this Saturday, Jan. 13.

The doors will open at 5 p.m. at your Ruby Sisson Library. During this unique event you will have opportunities to turn old books into repurposed treasures while spending time with old and new friends.

We will offer crafts for all abilities along with volunteers to help you along if needed. You also will have an opportunity to make a room freshener spritzer.

Feel good about upcycling old, worn, ruined books while creating beautiful and fun pieces of art. Enjoy delicious craft hors d'oeuvres and drinks. This is a 21-and-over event.

Your \$50 ticket to Late Night at the Library provides

you with all of your supplies for a variety of crafts along with your food and drinks.

Proceeds will support our Mountains of Opportunity building campaign. The addition and renovations will offer community meeting space; dedicated room for children's literacy programs; a room exclusively for teens and tweens; private study rooms; an inter-generational, hands-on learning space; easy access to self-checkout and drop-off; and a beautiful outdoor reading garden.

Tickets may be purchased online with credit card at [pagosalibrary.org](http://pagosalibrary.org) or in person at your Ruby Sisson Library with cash or check. Buy your tickets today.

To learn more about Late Night at the Library Round Two or about our campaign, please contact Cindi Galabota at (970) 264-2209 or [cindi@pagosalibrary.org](mailto:cindi@pagosalibrary.org). We hope to see you on Jan. 13.

## Registration open for Incredible Years Parenting Class

By Michelle Carpenter  
Incredible Years

Seeds of Learning and Pagosa Head Start are partnering to offer the Incredible Years Parenting Class to caregivers who want to build positive relationships with their children or would like new ideas to help their children learn and grow. This class is free for families with children between the ages

of 3 and 8 years.

The parenting class will be offered each Wednesday from 6 to 8 p.m., for 14 weeks, starting Wednesday, Jan. 17. A free dinner will be offered at 5:30 p.m., and child care is provided.

The Incredible Years Parenting class will help strengthen children's social skills, emotional regulation and school-readiness skills. You will learn skills to encourage

cooperative behavior, learn to use positive discipline, as well as learn how to best handle misbehaviors.

A local father said, "At first, I was not all that eager to give up my free time for 14 weeks, but over time, the other class members became such good friends. I realized I wasn't the only parent having the same struggles with my children. I was astounded at the degree of ef-

■ See Class on next page

### Live Performers

- Thursday**  
Coyote Moon Lounge: Maxwell Miller, 5 p.m.
- Friday**  
The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Jackson Mountain Ramblers, 5 p.m.
- Saturday**  
The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Maxwell Miller, 5 p.m.
- Tuesday**  
The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Dustin Burley, 5 p.m.
- Wednesday**  
The Den: Karaoke, 8 p.m.

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**SUN**

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Return shuttle from Wolf Creek at 4:15pm  
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# San Juan Stargazers to host virtual planetarium webinar

By Dena Laterza  
San Juan Stargazers

The San Juan Stargazers meet on the first Thursday of each month at the Community United Methodist Church at 434 Lewis St.

There is social time from 6 to 7 p.m. and the meeting from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome. Please enter using the side door near the parking lot.

In addition to our regular educational monthly meetings, we occasionally host public virtual events over Zoom. Sunday, Jan. 14, is our first event.

The webinar will be a demonstration of the free online planetarium app Stellarium. What can Stellarium do? How do I use it? Can it drive my telescope? Is it really free? Attend the webinar to find out. Already have the Stellarium app? Thinking of upgrading to Stellarium Plus? The demo will also include features of the paid version.

Too cold outside to stargaze or use your telescope? You can explore the night sky from any location on Earth at any time past, present or future — all from the comfort of your own home. Stellarium can open up the cloudy, snowy skies so you can learn and plan for the

warmer months. Or, perhaps plan some stargazing for an upcoming trip to a warm climate you are planning.

We use Stellarium to prepare and outline our Night Sky Programs. The moon phase, visible planets, visible constellations and the deep-sky objects within them

are all considerations as we plan. Club members were given a demonstration of Stellarium-web at the December 2023 meeting, but we did not cover the Stellarium Plus app. The paid version of the app has many capabilities beyond the free version. We'll demonstrate

■ See Webinar on next page

## Class

■ continued from previous page

fectiveness from the class. My son was responding very positively to the techniques I had learned and began implementing at home. This class became a weekly meeting that I looked forward to each week as a positive gathering of friends."

If you have any questions about the class or would like to register, please call Seeds of Learning at (970) 264-5513 or Tri County Head Start at (970) 264-2484. Call soon as class size is limited.

**Enjoy Jazz Standards of Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin & more!**



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Sat., Jan 20, 5-7 p.m.  
Fri., Jan 26, 5-7 p.m.

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# ‘Hunger Games’ party, Late Night at the Library returns plus new quilting class

By Carole Howard  
PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

Teens and tweens who are “Hunger Games” fans are invited to a free party tomorrow, Friday, Jan. 12, from 4 to 5 p.m. Come join us for crafts and activities based on the books.

Our first Late Night at the Library was such a success that we’re doing it a second time. We hope to see you this Saturday, Jan. 13, from 4 to 7 p.m., when we will have a fun fundraiser for our Mountains of Opportunity campaign to expand and renovate your library.

This time we will be creating all types of cards, gift tags and other crafts out of books and other supplies. Tickets are \$50, which covers your hors d’oeuvres and drinks plus all your crafting supplies.

Tickets can be purchased online at [pagosalibrary.org](http://pagosalibrary.org) or in person with cash or check at the library. Attendees must be 21 or older.

## New basic quilting classes

Adults interested in learning about upcoming basic quilting classes are invited to an information session next Wednesday, Jan. 17, from 1 to 3 p.m. The free classes will be led by Wanita Martin, a local quilter and member of the quilters’ guild. They will happen on Wednesdays from Jan. 31 to March 6 from 1 to 3 p.m. Preregistration is required and the classes are limited to six participants.

## Webinar

■ continued from previous page  
these awesome features during the webinar.

This is a one-hour webinar taking place on Sunday, Jan. 14, at 1 p.m. over Zoom. Go to our Events page at [SanJuanStargazers.org](http://SanJuanStargazers.org) to register by Jan. 13. You will receive an email the day prior with the link to the Zoom call. You can simply

## Library News

Participants will need to do some homework. You also will need access to a sewing machine, a ruler, good scissors, a marking pen, straight pins, thread, an iron and an ironing board.

### Library closure

Your library will be closed on Monday, Jan. 15, in observance of the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

### Alert about teen programs

There will be no teen programs the weeks of Jan. 15 or Jan. 22 because Josie will be on vacation. In addition, the Teen Art Club is taking a break in January, but will return in February.

### Legal clinic tomorrow

This month’s free legal clinic on civil issues is by appointment tomorrow, Friday, Jan. 12, from 2 to 3 p.m. Come to the library to meet privately via Zoom with our volunteer attorney.

To schedule an appointment, at the beginning of the month send an email titled “Sign-up for Free Legal Clinic” with your first name and phone number to [ruby@pagosalibrary.org](mailto:ruby@pagosalibrary.org), or phone (970) 264-2209 or stop by the library.

### ‘Mario Kart’ fun tomorrow

If you love playing ‘Mario Kart,’ you’ll want to play in real life at this free drop-in program tomorrow, Friday, Jan. 12, from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Participants will race around the course on space hoppers.

### Chess Club Saturday

Learn how to play chess with free quick lessons and game time to practice your skills on Saturday, Jan. 13, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. All ages and abilities are welcome.

### Adult knitting Saturday

Join new and experienced knitters this Saturday, Jan. 13, for our free Knitters Circle from 1 to 3 p.m. It is aimed at anyone over the age of 18 who would like to knit together or get some help if you are stuck on your project.

### Read-Aloud Shakespeare

Shakespeare fans of all ages will be pleased to know that the Shakespeare Read-Aloud Club is returning this month, with “As You Like It” on the agenda. Join us every Monday in January from 3:30 to 5 p.m. except for Jan. 15 because of the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday. Call Jenny at (240) 426-7887 for more information.

### Online author talks

Our highly popular free on-line author talks continue with two more opportunities for you ■ See Library on next page

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# Library

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to interact with New York Times bestselling authors and ask questions this month. For details and to register, go to <https://libraryc.org/pagosalibrary/upcoming>.

Thursday, Jan. 23, at noon will showcase a conversation with Rajiv Nagaich, author of “Your Retirement.”

On Jan. 30 at noon, we will talk with Dr. Robert Lustig, author of “The Lure and the Lies of Processed Food, Nutrition and Modern Medicine.”

### Knitting and crochet lessons

Learn to knit or crochet on Mondays from 2 to 3:15 p.m. for ages 8 and up. Supplies will be provided.

Note that this group now meets the first three Mondays of the month, except for Jan. 15 because of the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

### Adult DIY

At the free adult DIY next Tuesday, Jan. 16, from 1 to 2:30 p.m., you will create your own jar of bath salts for a gift or to treat yourself to a relaxing bath. It's a great gift for that special someone in your life. All supplies will be provided. Note the time and day change this month.

### Spanish conversation

Practice your Spanish in a free group setting on Tuesday, Jan. 16, from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. There is no minimum skill level needed.

Note this group now meets twice a month, on the first and third Tuesdays.

### Elementary tutoring sessions

Children ages 6-11 are welcome at these free sessions on Wednesdays from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. where they will build essential skills in core subjects. Preregistration is required.

### Family storytimes

Wednesdays from 10 to 11 a.m., join us for a free educational hour of reading, singing and free play to build early literacy skills.

### Writers' guild

Thursdays from 9 to 11 a.m., Ruby's Writers Guild welcomes writers looking for opportunities, support, resources and camaraderie with other writers at this free gathering.

### ESL

Free in-person evening classes take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays: 4 to 5 p.m. is reserved for beginners, 5 to 6 p.m. for intermediate and 6 to 7 p.m. for advanced students. Please help us spread the word about these classes to others in our community who would be interested, and contact us by phone or email if you have any

questions.

### Tech Time

Free in-person slots are available from 10 a.m. to noon Tuesdays and 2 to 4 p.m. Thursdays. Judy helps you with basic questions relating to computers, smartphones and tablets, and also provides assistance in accessing any of the library's online resources.

No appointment is needed for these drop-in sessions, but it is important that you bring both your device's charger and also your device passwords with you.

### Pagosa Adult Learning Services (PALS)

Join Mark or Sally for free PALS sessions Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 to 8 p.m. to help with high school equivalency, GED, college prep, financial aid, tutoring and more. PALS stands for Pagosa Adult Learning Services.

### Activities calendars

Pick up monthly events calendars at the library so you don't miss any of the free activities available to you and your family.

### Downloadable books

CloudLibrary has a wide variety of downloadable e-books and audiobooks for all ages. To access this free digital collection, download the cloudLibrary app, answer a few simple questions, select AspenCat Union Catalog for the name of your library, then enter your library card number and four-digit PIN. Library staff are happy to help you set up your device if you need assistance.

### Large print fiction

“Just Once” by Karen Kingsbury is a love story set during World War II. “Absolution” by Alice McDermott tells of a reunion of women who first met in Saigon in 1963. “Robert B. Parker's Broken Trust” by Mike Lupica is a Spenser mystery. “Manner of Death” by Robin Cook is a medical thriller. “The Watchmaker's Hand” by Jeffery Deaver is a Lincoln Rhyme mystery. “The Proof of the Pudding” by Rhys Bowen is a Royal Spyness mystery. “A Chateau Under Siege” by Martin Walker is a Bruno, Chief of Police, mystery. “Wyoming Proud” by Diana Palmer is a Wyoming Men romance. “Inheritance” by Nora Roberts is the first book in a new Lost Bride trilogy.

### Large print nonfiction

“The Possibility of Life: Science, Imagination and Our Quest for Kinship in the Cosmos” by Jaime Green looks at whether we humans are alone in the universe. “Luck of the Draw” by Frank Murphy is a first-person account of the air war in Europe and an American who survived a German prisoner-of-war camp.

### Books on CD

“Dazzling” by Chikodili Emelumadu is a new take on West African mythology. “Tom Clancy Command and Control” by Marc Cameron is a Jack Ryan adventure. “Dark Night of the Mountain Men,” “The Scavengers” and “Devil's Gulch” by William W. and J.A. Johnstone are

■ See Library on next page

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# Registration open for Colorado Building Farmers and Ranchers Business Development program

By Robin Young  
PREVIEW Columnists

The Colorado Building Farmers and Ranchers program builds community and capacity in agriculture for beginning farmers and ranchers around the state.

From Jan. 23 to March 12, course facilitators and instructors will guide new and beginning farmers (those with zero to 10 years of experience) through a series of eight online evening classes designed to explore agriculture as a business, including the principles of business management, developing a marketing plan, managing risk, obtaining financing and more.

The program also provides more experienced farmers and ranchers with tools and ideas to refine and enhance their business management and marketing skills.

Classes are taught by farmers, ranchers and other professionals. Participants are supported with group and individual exercises and coaching, which result in participants creating a business plan and presenting it to a group of peers.

The course classes are as follows:

- Class 1, Jan. 23: "Planning for Farm Business Success."

Hear about vision/mission statements, short-term and long-term goals with clear action items

## Extension Viewpoints

for each, how personal and customer values influence the business plan, tools to perform a SWOT — or strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats — analysis to identify potential marketing niche, customer base, location, etc.

- Class 2, Jan. 30: "Getting Started in Agriculture."

Hear how other successful growers got started, pivotal choices they made in the development of their farm business and what those growers wish they had known when starting out.

- Class 3, Feb. 6: "Strategic Marketing."

Develop a strategic market position and strategy consistent with the mission developed in the business plan; and create a marketing plan that includes product, pricing, placement/market channel and promotion goals and strategies while identifying how customers, costs and competition are considered in marketing decisions.

- Class 4, Feb. 13: "Managing Risk in Your Farm Business, Part 1."

Hear about a variety of current risk topics, including setting up an appropriate business structure for your farm/ranch, thinking about insurance for a farm/ranch business, and building a network of producers in your area to keep you and your business healthy.

- Class 5, Feb. 20: "Keeping and Analyzing Financial Information for Farm Business Decision-making."

Hear about recordkeeping for decision making in business planning, including production and marketing; variable and fixed costs; develop a basic production plan including a calendar, estimated total output of product per market channel and monthly labor estimates; estimate projected revenue by market channel; and basic financial statements and their use for operational management and planning.

- Class 6, Feb. 27: "Managing Risk in Your Farm Business, Part 2."

Understand water use and rights in Colorado, managing labor and market risk, and accessing resources through the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

- Class 7, March 5: "Financing Your Farm or Ranch Business."

Learn about farm loan programs available to new and beginning farmers and ranchers, as well as grants. This will include discus-

sion on how to best prepare for requesting a grant or loan.

- Class 8, March 12: "Business Plan Presentations."

Present your plan to your peers and selected external reviewers.

Classes are Tuesday evening from 6 to 8:30 p.m. from Jan. 23 until March 12. Classes are held

online via Zoom.

The cost is \$225 per participant, and \$125 for each additional participant from the same farm business.

For questions or additional information, please contact Nicole at [nicole.didero@colostate.edu](mailto:nicole.didero@colostate.edu) or ■ See Viewpoints on next page



## CONSTITUTION ALIVE!

Join our local Constitution Host and others from Pagosa Springs as we watch, study, and discuss this powerful video series with Rick Green and David Barton.



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Monday evenings for 10 weeks beginning Jan 15 from 6:00-8:00pm at Grace in Pagosa. Scan the QR Code for more info. Course and digital workbook are FREE. A spiral-bound workbook is available for \$20. Refreshments will be provided.

## Library

■ continued from previous page

westerns. "The Narrow Road Between Desires" by Patrick Rothfuss is a Kingkiller Chronicle fantasy. "Alone on the Wall" by Alex Honnold recounts his seven most astonishing climbing achievements.

### Nonfiction: self-help and how to

"Promote Your Book" by Eleanor C. Whitney is a guide to getting your work into readers' hands. "Hidden Potential" by Adam Grant shows how you can rise to achieve greater things. "The Vegetable Garden Planner" by Lynn Byczynski is a crop-by-crop guide from seed to harvest. "Growing an Edible Landscape" by Gary Pilarchik and Chiara d'Amore details how to transform outdoor space into a food garden. "Strong Girls, Strong World" by Dale Hanson Bourke offers practice steps we can take to help girls excel.

### Other nonfiction

"Teddy and Booker T." by Brian Kilmeade explores how two American icons blazed a path for racial equality. "Ours was the Shining

Future" by Pulitzer Prize-winner David Leonhardt reviews the rise and fall of the American Dream for the average person. "Unwoke" by Ted Cruz outlines the senator's ideas on how to defeat the woke assault on America. "Romney" by McKay Coppins is a biography of the Utah senator's three decades in politics. "The Sisterhood" by Liza Mundy documents three generations of women in the CIA.

### Mysteries, thrillers and suspense

"Deus X" by Stephen Mack Jones explores the mysterious retirement of a popular Catholic priest.

### Other novels

"The Fraud" by Zadie Smith, based on real events, tells of a butcher claiming to be heir to a title and estate. "Nineteen Steps" by Millie Bobby Brown features a London woman who meets an American airman.

### Thanks to our donors

We are grateful to Patrick Shettle and Joanne and Vuc Lucaniello for their generous monetary donation. When we are open, material

donations are accepted for the Friends of the Library at the front desk — not down the outside returns slot at the library or the drop box at City Market, please.

The Friends recently announced new guidelines for donations: Yes to popular fiction books published in 2014 or later, nonfiction books published 2019 or later, and children's and young adult books — all in excellent condition, please. No to CDs, DVDs, Blu-ray, VHS or cassette tapes; or textbooks, outdated travel books or reference books because they do not sell. No more than two boxes at a time because of space constraints.

### Quotable quote

"You can't stop the waves, but you can learn how to surf." — Jon Kabat-Zinn, American professor of medicine and mindfulness guru.

### Website

For more information on library books, services and programs — and to reserve books, e-books, books on CD and DVDs from the comfort of your home — please visit our website at <https://pagosa-library.org>.

## Join us for the 8th Annual Barkus Parade

Saturday, January 20

11 am at Town Park

Registration will start at 10:30 am

### COSTUME CONTEST

Bring your costumed pet and parade with us! Participants are asked to make a small donation (suggested \$10 or more) and get a free cup of gumbo.

### THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING FOR DONATING PRIZES:

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check out our FB page for more information



# New Thought Center to meet Sunday

By Shayla McClure  
New Thought Center for Inspirational Living

Sunday service on Jan. 14 at 11 a.m. with Dr. Elaine Harding will be “Express Your Spiritual Gifts for a Renewed Life in 2024.”

Our Jan. 7 service was canceled due to weather, so we rescheduled for Jan. 14.

“We are not human beings having a spiritual experience. We are spiritual beings having a Human experience.” — Pierre Teilhard de Chardin.

We will have a potluck after the service and a burning bowl ceremony at 1 p.m.

## Upcoming events

SpiritHeart Band practice is Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. We welcome musicians and singers to join the SpiritHeart band. Please text Bruce at (970) 507-0739 for band information.

Jan. 11, 6 p.m.: Quintangled game night. Dress in costume for a photo shoot if you wish.

Jan. 14: Sunday service with Harding, with potluck to follow and burning bowl ceremony at 1 p.m.

Jan. 21, 11 a.m.: Sunday service with Julie Loar.

Jan. 27: Quintangled Masquerade Ball Fundraiser with Julie Loar and the Good Vibe Tribe. This is a benefit for Wolfwood Refuge. There will be a cash bar, live band and costume contest. Tickets will be \$50 and will go on sale Jan. 5.

## Viewpoints

■ continued from previous page  
Martha at martha.sullins@colo-state.edu.

Learn more and register at [https://colorado\\_building\\_farmers\\_and\\_ranchers\\_2024.eventbrite.com](https://colorado_building_farmers_and_ranchers_2024.eventbrite.com).

## Refrigerator needed for Extension office

The Extension office is looking for a commercial refrigerator to replace the one in the Exhibit Hall that finally went kaput after many years. If you have a working commercial refrigerator that you are looking to get rid of, please let us know. We will come remove it for you.

## Save the dates

Jan. 23-March 12: Colorado Building Farmers and Ranchers Business Development Program. Go to <https://www.facebook.com/CSUARCHCTY> for more information and to sign up.

Feb. 20, 22: Livestock and Forage Growers Updates. More information will be coming soon.

Feb. 11: Open heart ceremony to celebrate the heart and universal love with Shayla White Eagle.

## About us

The New Thought Center is a 501(c)(3) and promotes philosophies similar to Centers for Spiritual Living and Agape Centers. We honor all lifestyles, cultures and religious paths to the divine. The vision of the New Thought Center is to empower possibility through revelation of spiritual truth, and to enhance our members' life experience through self-empowerment, inner peace and being part of an all-inclusive community. Our mission is to create a world that works for everyone through awareness of a higher power. We are the Good Vibe Tribe that practices Science of Mind principles of positive thinking.

The SpiritHeart Band provides live music every Sunday. We welcome local talents to share gifts, aptitudes and knowledge. Participate, learn or contribute your insights, beliefs, knowledge and skills.

New Thought events are held at 3505 W. U.S. 160, on the second floor of the Pagosa Lodge (elevator available). Request prayer treatment or obtain information by joining us; emailing [pagosacomunitynewthought@gmail.com](mailto:pagosacomunitynewthought@gmail.com); mailing P.O. Box 1052, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147; or calling (970) 510-0309.

Save the dates for Tuesday evenings in April at 5:30 p.m.

Do you own property in Archuleta County? Would you like to know more about your land and its resources?

The CSU Extension office and the San Juan Conservation District are hosting an in-depth landowner series on stewardship practices on your land.

## CPR and first aid classes

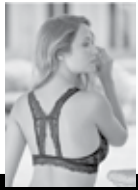
CPR and first aid certification classes are offered every other month by the CSU Extension office, generally on the second Monday and Wednesday of each month from 6 to 10 p.m. The cost for the classes is \$80 for combined CPR/first aid and \$55 for CPR, first aid or recertification. Call the Extension office at (970) 264-5931 to register.

Check out the online option on our website: <https://archuleta.extension.colostate.edu/>.

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# Volunteers needed to make valentines during free art class

By Rose Chavez  
PREVIEW Columnist

The next free art class will be on Tuesday, Jan. 23, beginning at 1:15 p.m. (shortly after lunch is finished) in the Pagosa Senior Center dining hall.

We are never too old to make a valentine and give it to someone. This year we will be making them for the Meals on Wheels and congregate dining participants, and we will need to make a lot of them.

This is the perfect volunteer opportunity, or come to make some for your loved ones.

No art skill required for this class, just a desire to have fun and help spread some cheer to our older adults and their families.

All materials will be provided. Join us for an hour or so of making valentines together.

Our teacher will again be Denise Fisk, who is a retired elementary art teacher from Iowa. She loves art and loves sharing art techniques with her classes.

So, grab a friend and come to the Senior Center for some fun, to exchange ideas with others and see your success in creating some fun valentines together.

### Bingo

The Senior Center will be hosting bingo twice a month on Friday afternoons from 1:15 to 2:30 p.m.

Bingo will be on Jan. 12, Jan. 19, Feb. 9 and Feb. 23.

The price to participate is free and we ask you bring yourself and a friend for an hour of joyful fellowship. We will provide prizes from local businesses for all winners and snacks will also be provided.

No RSVP is required; just show up. All ages are welcome, but we ask those 18 and younger to come with an adult chaperone.

For more information, contact us at (970) 264-2167.

### T'ai Chi Chih and mindfulness-based meditation

The Senior Center will be offering T'ai Chi Chih with accredited instructor Patti Popovich each Thursday from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m., and longtime local practitioner Udgar Parsons will offer mindfulness-based meditation classes from 3 to 4 p.m. in the dining hall to support older adults who want to discover purpose and fulfillment in this transitional phase of life.

T'ai Chi Chih and mindfulness-based meditation are not martial arts, but rather tools for self-healing. Softness, flow and effortlessness are the guiding principles in these practices.

All classes will be free for older

## Senior News

adults (age 60 and better) and will last approximately one hour in the dining hall.

No special clothing or equipment is required for either class.

For more information, call (970) 264-2167.

### Senior Conversations

Join us Mondays at 1:15 p.m. for a series of "Senior Conversations" with local Bill Salmansohn.

He will lead the group through mindfulness exercises and discussion of various topics pertaining to aging in Archuleta County. Explore and discover for yourself answers to your questions and concerns.

The meeting will be held in the Senior Center in the dining hall. Snacks will be provided.

### Healthy aging and yoga therapy class series

Gather with local yoga practitioner AJ Connors for a series of evidence-based healthy aging and yoga therapy classes at the Senior Center geared for adults and older adults of all ages.

This yoga series promotes healthy aging for individuals with therapeutic classes offering yoga tools and education for strength, resilience and wellness.

Classes are designed to address different aspects of healthy aging and are geared toward accessibility and gentle practice. The themes for the class will include physical and mental well-being utilizing movement, meditation and breathing practices.

Mats and chairs will be provided; it's optional to bring a blanket, and please wear comfortable clothing.

The class is offered Mondays 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. in the dining hall.

### Pagosa Springs Scrapbooking Club

The Pagosa Springs Scrapbooking Club holds monthly meetings the second Saturday of each month at the Senior Center.

It meets each month from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. to be creative, share ideas, connect with friends, learn new techniques, share supplies and indulge in a potluck lunch together.

Bring your scrapbooking projects — or any crafting project that you may want to work on with the group. If you would like to be added to the mailing list to receive noti-

cations each month of the upcoming meeting along with handy tips and tricks for scrapbooking, please send your request to [copenhaver-creative@gmail.com](mailto:copenhaver-creative@gmail.com).

### Share lunch Monday through Thursday

Join us at the Silver Fox's Den, aka the Community Cafe, in person for daily hot/cold meals Mondays through Thursdays at the Community Center between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. It is open to all. Pickup is available all week, including Fridays.

Our dining hall is open to all ages and welcomes you all with kindness and warmth. We provide hot/cold meals for anyone in the community interested in a nutritious and delicious meal. For those 60 or older we request a suggested donation of \$10, but no one will be turned away. There is a \$10.50 charge for guests under the age of 60.

Meals include a main course, ■ See Senior on next page

## DID YOU KNOW?

HSPS offers the following community services:

### Cremation and Memorial Services


Honor your faithful companion and cherish the memories left behind with our cremation and memorial services.

### Microchips and Tags

Lost and stray pets with identification have the best chance for a speedy reunion with their owner.

### Pet Financial Assistance

HSPS offers programs including a pet food bank in collaboration with our local food pantries, spay and neuter vouchers, emergency medical aid. We also help our community members to identify feral feline colonies to control the overpopulation of felines in our community.



#### Animal Shelter

(970) 731-4771  
465 Cloman Blvd  
Mon-Sun 10-4

#### Human Society



of Pagosa Springs

#### Thrift Store

(970) 264-6424  
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# Senior

■ continued from previous page

side dish, fruit/dessert, garden salad plus beverage. Some popular menu items include Frito chili pie, pork tenderloin with harvest chutney, Singaporean pork ribs, vegetarian lasagna, Hawaiian shrimp with coconut rice and always a beautiful green salad. Many of our items are locally sourced and organic.

Our chef works with a team of local food professionals to hand-prepare your meal for dine-in service in our cozy dining room (with an amazing view of the San Juans) or for takeout (via our convenient drive-through). Our menu changes daily.

To reserve your meal for the day, please make your reservation via text or phone call to (970) 264-2167 by 9 a.m. weekdays.

## Community Cafe menu

Thursday, Jan. 11 — Cannellini bean and artichoke goat cheese casserole, rainbow chard, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Friday, Jan. 12 — Beef meatloaf, roasted butternut squash, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Monday, Jan. 15 — Closed for the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

Tuesday, Jan. 16 — Mahi-mahi with mango salsa, jasmine rice, black beans with red pepper, garden salad, fruit, lemon bar and milk.

Wednesday, Jan. 17 — Pork adovada, pinto beans, tortilla, garden salad with avocado, sunrise muffin, fruit and milk.

Thursday, Jan. 18 — Stuffed bell peppers (beef), roasted cauliflower, dinner roll, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Friday, Jan. 19 — Mushroom, broccoli and cheese quiche, wilted spinach, garden salad, fruit, chocolate hazelnut torte and milk.

## Grab-N-Go meals

Dine-in and Grab-N-Go meal reservations and cancellations are required. Please call or text by 9 a.m. the morning of the day you want to pick up a meal. A suggested donation of \$10 helps to sustain our program. For ages 59 and younger, the cost is \$10.50. No one will be turned away for their inability to donate. Please call or text us at (970) 264-2167 to make a reservation.

## Meals on Wheels

We deliver fresh Meals on Wheels five days a week (and provide frozen Meals on Wheels for weekends) to homebound Archuleta County residents. Call or text us at (970) 264-2167.

## Mobile food pantry service discontinued

The Mobile Food Pantry Service has been discontinued due to funding shortages. Older adults needing a ride to a local food pantry should contact the MET to

schedule a ride with its paratransit service. For more information, contact Lavonne at (970) 264-2250.

## Text reservations

Don't forget that we offer a convenient texting service for you to communicate with us. Text us at (970) 264-2167. When texting, please include your name, phone number and the days you want a meal. If you are canceling a reservation, please include your name, phone number and the days you want to cancel.

Texting services are available for dine-in meal reservations, Grab-N-Go meals and Meals on Wheels recipients.

## COVID-19 test kits available

Stop by the Senior Center to pick up a pack of six free COVID-19 tests kits for your personal use. These kits are available to anyone in the public who needs affordable access for health promotion and disease prevention.

## Mahjong

Mahjong is a 19th century Chinese tile-based game that is commonly played with four players. Each player receives 13 tiles with a goal to make matching sets and

pairs (like poker). To win, a player must form four sets and one pair.

Come to the Senior Center to learn or play every Tuesday at 1:15 p.m.

■ See Senior on next page

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## Dr. Morgan Lopez

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## Dr. Kitzel Farrah

Small animal and equine care — areas of interest are Surgery and Ultrasound. Dr. Farrah's hobby is showing Reining Horses.



## Dr. Cara Finstad

Small animal and equine care — areas of interest are Equine emergency care and surgery. Dr. Finstad's hobbies are anything outdoors and skiing.

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# GET INVOLVED.

Now is your chance to be part of the decisions made by the Pagosa Springs Town Council.

# HERE'S HOW.

The three at-large seats on Town Council will be up for election on April 2, 2024.

Candidate packets, information, and requirements will be available beginning January 2, at Town Hall. Information can be found on the town's website: [www.pagosasprings.co.gov](http://www.pagosasprings.co.gov).

All candidate packets are due January 22.

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APRIL 2, 2024 • 7 AM — 7 PM  
TOWN HALL

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For town boundaries, eligibility, or more info call 264-4151 or visit [www.pagosasprings.co.gov](http://www.pagosasprings.co.gov)



# They struggle to come to America: one woman's story

By Laura Pritchett  
PREVIEW Columnist

Exactly what causes people to leave their homeland and make a difficult trek of 3,000 miles?

A young woman I'll call Jhovid, who came here from Venezuela, has asked me to listen to her answer, so that I and others may understand.

Her hair is neatly ponytailed, her clothes tidy, she looks composed — but her food is uneaten and tears streak her face. She tells me that people are starving to death in Venezuela. She looks at me to make sure I understand. Starving.

We know about the dire conditions generally, and we know that our Colorado town of Fort Collins, like many, has absorbed large numbers of newly arrived immigrants who fled for their safety. But she hopes someone will bear witness to her particular journey, and so we gather with my friend, bilingual author Laura Resau, who has collaborated with other South American women to help them share their stories.

Jhovid is one of the many Venezuelan refugees who climbed off a bus months ago with no coat, food, shelter or contacts. She's 32,

## Opinion: Writers on the Range

she tells us, and graduated from college with a degree in business administration, but Venezuela was sinking economically as she was growing up. Jobs were scarce and gangs were everywhere.

She traveled with her sister to Colombia, where they worked for five years in a tennis shoe factory. But economic conditions soured there, too, so the women went to Chile, traveling 23 days by foot and bus.

"We were crossing a banana plantation on the Ecuador-Peru border and men approached, asked for valuables, but we didn't have any, so they said, 'You'll have to pay with something else then.'"

I wince, predicting what is to come, but she offers a small smile. "I gave them my cheap cellphone and they left."

Luck, kindness and perseverance seem to be the themes of her story, where, time after time, good people — in law enforcement,

nonprofits, people living in poverty themselves — offered help.

Like the time that immigration officials in Chile "gave us medical help and food, and we got jobs in fruit processing." She liked the factory, the country and sending money to her family.

Pero después. But then. Her father, a retired police officer, who had been kidnapped and rescued, developed Parkinson's disease. Her family was desperate for help. Jhovid knew that if she could make it to the U.S.-Mexico border where there was a "Very Famous Hole" through the border wall, she could get to America and find work that paid more.

For the next three months, the sisters traveled north, walking and hitchhiking through three countries. In Panama, they foraged for food in the jungle with los animales. Worst of all, her sister became very "sick from the river, because the river was contaminated from dead people."

But then her eyes light up: A kind person gave them food, medicine, tickets to Costa Rica. Then it was on to Nicaragua, Honduras, Guatemala and Mexico. They hid under cars at a mechanic shop to avoid the Mexican Mafia. Caught

■ See Writers on next page

## Senior

### ■ continued from previous page Medicare call by appointment

For anyone who needs help enrolling and navigating Medicare plans, the San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging helps with parts A, B and D. They can also help you with fraud concerns and troubleshooting any billing issues you may be having. By appointment only. Please call the Medicare line at (970) 264-0501, ext 2.

### Bridge

The longest-played bridge game in Archuleta County takes place on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 1:15 p.m.

Bridge is a four-player card game with partners sitting opposite each other around a table. It is a trick-taking card game using a standard 52-card deck. Come alone or bring a partner.

### Hand and foot card game

Whether you are new to hand and foot or interested in learning, please join us most Thursdays at 1:15 at the Senior Center.

This card game involves four rounds of playing until the final round is reached — some two to

three hours later. Plan to stay and meet some new friends or catch up with those you have missed over the last couple of years.

No experience is necessary, so come willing to learn.

### Supporting ASI

Please support our ongoing operations and programming that provide critical services to some of the most vulnerable in Archuleta County.

You may mail your donation to P.O. Box 3444, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 or please visit our website, <http://www.psseniors.org/> (donation button). Donation checks can be written to: Archuleta Seniors Inc. We are located at 451 Hot Springs Blvd. For more information about Archuleta Seniors Inc., please visit <http://www.psseniors.org/>.

There is also another way to donate.

Are you 70 and half years old or better? Do you have an IRA from which you need to take a distribution? Did you know you can make charitable donations directly from your IRA without paying taxes on the distribution, up to \$100,000 per year? The do-

nation from the account would be payable to Archuleta Seniors Inc. and sent to P.O. Box 344, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. This gift option is called the IRA charitable rollover or qualified charitable distribution.

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Tricia G. Vega - Health Insurance Agent — CO License #252560

With the changes to the Affordable Care Act this year, we finally qualified for the Advance Premium Tax Credit and now have an insurance plan in place. What a relief!

Thank you HomeTown Pros for your help and patience in finding a plan that fit our budget.

—Kanaoka Perea



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# Applications being accepted for county grants

Archuleta County

Applications are now being accepted for the Community Marijuana Offset Impact Fund grant awards.

Applicants for award funding may be a graduating local high school student, a college student

who previously attended high school in Archuleta County or a local organization providing programs that provide an alternative to marijuana use.

Grant awards will be limited to no more than \$1,000 per approved

application.

Applications can be found at [www.archuletacounty.org](http://www.archuletacounty.org) or by calling Mary at (970) 264-8308.

All applications must be received by the submission deadline of March 29.



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## Writers

■ continued from previous page

twice by immigration patrols in southern Mexico, they were sent to towns near the Guatemalan border.

By the third time, she knew how to avoid la migra, and after making it through the Very Famous Hole, they arrived in El Paso, Texas. Finally, she and others were bused to Denver, where a stranger directed them to a homeless shelter and, later, a bus to Fort Collins.

Various groups stepped up with lightning speed, including churches and the nonprofits Fuerza Latina and Alianza NORCO. She's grateful for all the help, but is happy to have found a full-time job.

As Jhovid wraps up her story, I breathe out a sigh. This woman walked thousands of miles through country after country because she had to. Determination and the kindness of strangers helped her succeed. But as I listen, I think of a family member's response to immigrants — one echoed by many in this country: "They're ruining the country, why would you want to help them?"

My answer: Why wouldn't you respect their desperate quest for a decent life?

*Laura Pritchett is a contributor to Writers on the Range, an independent nonprofit dedicated to spurring lively conversation about the West. She has two novels coming out this year. Views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN.*

As we step into the new year, we would like to recognize all of you who have made our progress possible and say, simply but sincerely,

thank you

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"Kalei was exceptional in all aspects. This was my fourth transaction with Kalei - I highly recommend him for your real estate needs." - Jo Giacomini

LAUREN FREDRICKSON | BROKER ASSOCIATE CRS



"Lauren was professional and honest. Her knowledge of the area was impressive. We really liked that she didn't "show boat" us. She was there to help us, keep us informed, and tell us the truth about each property." - Juanita & Harvey Simmons

DAVID CAMMACK | BROKER ASSOCIATE GRI



"I have been on both sides of 15 or more real estate transactions and never have I experienced a more efficient and professional dealing than this one. David made this a smooth and effortless experience for me." - George Diestelkamp

AMY JOHNSON | BROKER ASSOCIATE



"Amy was a delight to work with throughout the selling process. She reached out and kept us informed regarding each step. We have never sold a property before; Amy was a tremendous help." - Robert & Susan Fleck

IVY KING | BROKER ASSOCIATE CRS, RENE



"Ivy is the life coach of real estate. We slept well at night knowing that she and the team at Jann C Pitcher were backing us up throughout the process." - Cee & Dan

BROOKE BASSIN | BROKER ASSOCIATE



"Brooke is a tireless real estate agent who truly cares about her clients! She worked with us to find an amazing home for our family and we are forever grateful!" - Ari D'Angelo

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# Bird of the Week



Photo courtesy Jeffrey Reichel

This week’s Bird of the Week, compliments of the Weminuche Audubon Society and Audubon Rockies, is the ferruginous hawk.

This is the largest of North American hawks, noticeably bigger than the familiar red-tailed hawk which we see here all year. Although we are not far outside the year-round range of the ferruginous, in our area this is strictly a late fall, early winter bird. It is most commonly seen here in December and January and then only in small numbers.

The ferruginous hawks that winter here are often seen looking for a meal near prairie dog towns. They are usually found in habitats with prominent perches: a lone tree, fence post, powerline pole or rocky outcrop. Small mammals — including prairie dogs, rabbits and gophers — comprise most of their diet, although they will also take birds, reptiles, amphibians and large insects.

In addition to searching for prey while perched or on the wing, these hawks may quietly wait outside a prairie dog hole to snatch the unlucky rodent when it emerges. On the ground these hawks may walk, hop or run after prey. The number of young raised each year is dependent on the cyclical abundance of its mammalian prey, and when food is scarce, pairs may not nest at all.

Ferruginous hawks are named for the rust-colored feathers on their backs and legs. They are one of the few “booted” hawks whose legs are covered in feathers all the way to the toes. In light-colored form, its white belly stands out, lacking the dark band of the common red-tailed hawk. A rare dark morph, sighted this winter in the Navajo lake area, appears dark brown all over when perched with white tail and flight feathers only apparent in flight. Both forms have a large bill with a long, yellow gape that extends back as far as the eyes.

Ferruginous hawks are birds of the open spaces of the West, dependent on the conservation of the grassland, prairie, sagebrush and edge habitats where they hunt.

For information on events, visit [www.weminuchaudubon.org](http://www.weminuchaudubon.org) and [www.facebook.com/weminuchaudubon/](https://www.facebook.com/weminuchaudubon/).

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# SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

### Here’s How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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

ANSWER:

### Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you’ll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!



# Preview Calendar

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

## Thursday, Jan. 11

**Ruby's Writers Guild.** 9-11 a.m., Sisson Library. Ruby's Writers Guild will welcome writers who are looking for opportunities, support and camaraderie with other writers. Members will provide support, resources and guidance for each other.

**Bridge.** 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

**Hand and Foot Card Game.** 1:15 p.m., Senior Center. No experience is necessary, so come willing to learn.

**T'ai Chi Chih.** 1:30-2:30, Senior Center. Free for those 60 and better.

**Tech Time.** 2-4 p.m., Sisson Library. Basic questions related to computers, smartphones, tablets, etc. Bring your device charger. We provide assistance with accessing any of the library's online resources. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

**Mindfulness-based Meditation Class.** 3-4 p.m., Senior Center. Free for those 60 and better.

**Teen/Tween Escape Room.** 4-5:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Solve puzzles and find clues quickly to be sure you can get out of the room before the deadline.

**English as a Second Language.** 4-7 p.m., Sisson Library. Your library offers English as a second language classes. These classes are free. Call (970) 264-2209 or email for more information. Beginning students are encouraged to attend from 4-5 p.m., intermediate stu-

dents from 5-6 p.m. and advanced students from 6-7 p.m.

**PALS Adult Education.** 5:30-8 p.m., Sisson Library. Pagosa Adult Learning Services, or PALS, can help you with high school equivalency, GED, college prep, financial aid, tutoring and more. Mark can help you develop a plan to achieve your education goals. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

**San Juan Stargazers Astronomy Club Monthly Meeting.** 7 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. There will be a social hour starting at 6 p.m. At 7:10 p.m., Barbara Sanborn will present on eclipses.

## Friday, Jan. 12

**Pickleball.** 8-11:30 a.m., Community Center. Loaner paddles are available.

**Bingo.** 1:15-2:30 p.m., Senior Center. Free. Those under 18 must have an adult chaperone. For more information, contact (970) 264-2167.

**Free Legal Clinic.** 2-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Meet with a volunteer civil attorney via Zoom at the library. Registration required. Registration opens on the first day of each month. Space is limited. Call (970) 264-2209 or email ruby@pagosalibrary.com.

**'Mario Kart' Live.** 2 p.m., Sisson Library. Love playing "Mario Kart"? Play in real life at this drop-in program. Participants will race around the course on space hoppers.

**'Hunger Games' Party.** 4 p.m., Sisson Library. Are you a fan of the "Hunger Games"? Join for crafts and activities based on the books.

**Pagosa Springs Varsity Girls' Basketball.** 5:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Pagosa versus Centauri.

**Pagosa Springs Varsity Boys' Basketball.** 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School versus Centauri.

■ See Calendar on next page

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# Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page  
**Saturday, Jan. 13**

**Beginners Chess Club.** 9:30-11 a.m., Sisson Library. Learn how to play chess with quick lessons and game time or practice your skills.

**Knitters Circle.** 1-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Join new or experienced knitters to get help with your project, or sit and knit.

**Late Night at the Library.** 5 p.m., Sisson Library. Join your friends to create all types of cards out of books and other supplies. The cost is \$50 and includes all crafting supplies, hors d'oeuvres and drinks. Must be 21 to attend. Proceeds benefit the Mountains of Opportunity campaign to expand and renovate the library.

**Sunday, Jan. 14**

**San Juan Stargazers Virtual Planetarium Webinar.** 1 p.m., via Zoom. The San Juan Stargazers will present an overview of a free planetarium app. Register at [www.sanjuanstargazers.org](http://www.sanjuanstargazers.org) by Jan. 13 to receive the Zoom link.

**Monday, Jan. 15**

**Pickleball.** 8-11:30 a.m., Community Center. Loaner paddles are available.

**Women's Fellowship.** 9-11 a.m., John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms.

**Line Dancing.** 9:30-11:30 a.m., PLPOA Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Beginners meet at 9:30 a.m. and the advance group meets at 10:15 a.m. If you haven't attended before, please call Beverly at (970) 264-2064 for more information.

**Deepening the Faith Classes.** 6-7 p.m., John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms.

**Tuesday, Jan. 16**

**Tech Time.** 10 a.m.-noon, Sisson Library. Basic questions related to computers, smartphones, tablets, etc. Bring your device charger. We provide assistance with ac-

cessing any of the library's online resources. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

**Pagosa Springs Stitchers.** 10 a.m.-noon, Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Bring your current stitching project and a snack/drink if you wish, and enjoy the fellowship of other stitchers. All are welcome.

**Adult DIY.** 1-2:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Create your own jar of bath salts. They are a great gift idea or treat yourself to a relaxing bath evening.

**Bridge.** 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

**Mahjong.** 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

**English as a Second Language.** 4-7 p.m., Sisson Library. Your library offers English as a second language classes. These classes are free. Call (970) 264-2209 or email for more information. Beginning students are encouraged to attend from 4-5 p.m., intermediate students from 5-6 p.m. and advanced students from 6-7 p.m.

**Conversational Spanish.** 4:30-5:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Practice your Spanish conversation skills in a group setting. No minimum skill level required.

**PALS Adult Education.** 5:30-8 p.m., Sisson Library. Pagosa Adult Learning Services, or PALS, can help you with high school equivalency, GED, college prep, financial aid, tutoring and more. Mark can help you develop a plan to achieve your education goals. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

**Wednesday, Jan. 17**

**Pickleball Beginner Lessons.** 8:30-10:30 a.m., Community Center. Loaner paddles are available. Reservations are required and can be made at [pagosapickleball.org](http://pagosapickleball.org) under the "Play" tab.

**Pickleball.** 8-11:30 a.m., Community Center. Loaner paddles are available.

**Pagosa Catholic Quilters.** 9 a.m.-2 p.m., John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms. For more information,

contact Maxine Everaert at [quilters@ihmjp2.org](mailto:quilters@ihmjp2.org).

**Family Storytime.** 10-11 a.m., Sisson Library. Join us for an educational hour of reading, singing and free play while building early literacy skills together. For all ages. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

**Basic Quilting Info Session.** 1-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Come hear about upcoming quilting classes and what you will need.

**Elementary Tutoring.** 3:30-4:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Build essential skills in core subjects. Registration required. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

**ABLAZE High School Youth Group.** 6-8 p.m., John Paul II Catholic Church. Dinner provided.

**Thursday, Jan. 18**

**Ruby's Writers Guild.** 9-11 a.m., Sisson Library. Ruby's Writers Guild will welcome writers who are looking for opportunities, support and camaraderie with other writers. Members will provide support, resources and guidance for each other.

**Bridge.** 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

**Hand and Foot Card Game.** 1:15 p.m., Senior Center. No experience is necessary, so come willing to learn.

**T'ai Chi Chih.** 1:30-2:30, Senior Center. Free for those 60 and better.

**Tech Time.** 2-4 p.m., Sisson Library. Basic questions related to computers, smartphones, tablets, etc. Bring your device charger. We provide assistance with accessing any of the library's online resources. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

**Mindfulness-based Meditation Class.** 3-4 p.m., Senior Center. Free for those 60 and better.

**English as a Second Language.** 4-7 p.m., Sisson Library. Your library offers English as a second language classes. These classes are

■ See Calendar on next page



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## Archuleta County Courts



**Have you experienced problems with courts and/or judges? Have you been denied attorney fees as the prevailing party? I have.**

In August, 2023 I had a hearing with Judge Justin Fay to defended against frivolous TPO's (temporary protection orders) obtained by neighbors who used false accusations to do so (as contained in cases 2023C75/76). Reluctantly ruling in my favor, Fay also questioned my honesty, made unnecessary personal comments about me, and denied motion for legal fees – actions which call into question his competence and suitability.

More about the judge, court, and my case: [archuletacountycourts.com](http://archuletacountycourts.com).



# Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page**  
free. Call (970) 264-2209 or email for more information. Beginning students are encouraged to attend from 4-5 p.m., intermediate students from 5-6 p.m. and advanced students from 6-7 p.m.

**PALS Adult Education.** 5:30-8 p.m., Sisson Library. Pagosa Adult Learning Services, or PALS, can help you with high school equivalency, GED, college prep, financial aid, tutoring and more. Mark can help you develop a plan to achieve your education goals. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

**Pagosa Springs Varsity Boys' Wrestling.** 6 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Pagosa versus Bayfield.

## Friday, Jan. 19

**Pickleball.** 8-11:30 a.m., Community Center. Loaner paddles are available.

**Bingo.** 1:15-2:30 p.m., Senior Center. Free. Those under 18 must have an adult chaperone. For more information, contact (970) 264-2167.

**PAWS to Read.** 2-3 p.m., Sisson Library. For all ages. Read with Muppet or Maple, therapy dogs who love stories.

**WinterFest Bonfire.** 5-8 p.m., Archuleta County Fairgrounds. In addition to the bonfire, the free event will include live music by the Jackson Mountain Ramblers, food trucks and beverages for sale.

## Saturday, Jan. 20

**WinterFest Hot Air Balloon Mass Ascension.** 8 a.m., west side of Pagosa Springs. Balloons will launch from the area of Park Avenue and the PLPOA admin areas. Do not park on U.S. 160 to view the balloons.

**WinterFest BB Gun Biathlon.** 10 a.m., Yamaguchi Park. Hosted by the Pagosa Nordic Club. For more information, visit <https://pagosanordic.com/bb-gun-biathlon/>.

**WinterFest Barkus Parade.** 10:30 a.m., Town Park. Benefiting Rugby's Rescue. The parade along the Riverwalk will begin at 11 a.m.

**LEGO Club.** 11 a.m.-noon, Sisson Library. For ages 6-11. Bring your own or use our LEGOs to free build.

**Pokemon Club.** 12:30-2:30 p.m., Sisson Library. For ages 6-11. Bring your cards to battle against others who love Pokemon, too. No experience is required.

**WinterFest Penguin Plunge.** 1 p.m., San Juan River. Spectators can view the plungers from the Riverwalk or overlook. For more information, visit [www.pagosachamber.com](http://www.pagosachamber.com).

**WinterFest Sledz on Rez.** 2:30 p.m., Reservoir Hill. Sled guidelines and entry forms can be found at [www.pagosachamber.com](http://www.pagosachamber.com).

## Sunday, Jan. 21

**WinterFest Hot Air Balloon Mass**

**Ascension.** 8 a.m., west side of Pagosa Springs. Balloons will launch from the area of Park Avenue and the PLPOA admin areas. Do not park on U.S. 160 to view the balloons.

**WinterFest Learn to Cross-Country Ski Clinic.** 10 a.m., location to be determined. Please preregister at [www.pagosanordic.com](http://www.pagosanordic.com).

## Monday, Jan. 22

**Pickleball.** 8-11:30 a.m., Community Center. Loaner paddles are available.

**Women's Fellowship.** 9-11 a.m., John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms.

**Senior Conversations.** 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

**Healthy Aging and Yoga Therapy Class.** 2:30-3:30 p.m., Senior Center.

**Shakespeare Read-Aloud Club.** 3:30-5 p.m., Sisson Library. Call Jenny at (240) 426-7887 for more information.

**Deepening the Faith Classes.** 6-7 p.m., John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms.

## Tuesday, Jan. 23

**Tech Time.** 10 a.m.-noon, Sisson Library. Basic questions related to computers, smartphones, tablets, etc. Bring your device charger. We provide assistance with accessing any of the library's online resources. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

**Pagosa Springs Stitchers.** 10 a.m.-noon, Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Bring your current stitching project and a snack/drink if you wish, and enjoy the fellowship of other stitchers. All are welcome.

**Virtual Author Talk: Rajiv Nagaich.** Noon, virtual. Listen live or recorded. Featuring Rajiv Nagaich, author of "Your Retirement." For details and to register, go to <https://library.org/pagosalibrary/upcoming>.

**Bridge.** 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

**Mahjong.** 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

**English as a Second Language.** 4-7 p.m., Sisson Library. Your library offers English as a second language classes. These classes are free. Call (970) 264-2209 or email for more information. Beginning students are encouraged to attend from 4-5 p.m., intermediate students from 5-6 p.m. and advanced students from 6-7 p.m.

**PALS Adult Education.** 5:30-8 p.m., Sisson Library. Pagosa Adult Learning Services, or PALS, can help you with high school equivalency, GED, college prep, financial aid, tutoring and more. Mark can help you develop a plan to achieve your education goals. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

## Wednesday, Jan. 24

**Pickleball Beginner Lessons.** 8:30-

10:30 a.m., Community Center. Loaner paddles are available. Reservations are required and can be made at [pagosapickleball.org](http://pagosapickleball.org) under the "Play" tab.

**Pickleball.** 8-11:30 a.m., Community Center. Loaner paddles are available.

**Family Storytime.** 10-11 a.m., Sisson Library. Join us for an educational hour of reading, singing and free play while building early literacy skills together. For all ages. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

**Elementary Tutoring.** 3:30-4:30 p.m.,

Sisson Library. Build essential skills in core subjects. Registration required. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

**Spanish Fiesta Committee Meeting.** 5:30 p.m., dining room, Community Center, 451 Hot Springs Blvd. All

■ **See Calendar on next page**



## TOP 10 HEALTH MISTAKES:

Many of the choices we make about our health are ill informed and just plain wrong. Some choices can actually make us sick. What's more, we repeat them! So let's look at a few of the more common mistaken choices:

### PART 9: NEGLECTING WEIGHT TRAINING

Women over 40-the people who would benefit most from weight training-are also the least likely to do it. A major misconception about strength training is that it will bulk you up. Actually, it's most likely to have the opposite effect. Women receive a greater benefit from strength training because they naturally have less muscle tissue than men. Whether you are male or female, as you age, you naturally lose muscle tissue. This reduces your strength and energy levels and often results in "middle-age spread". Weight lifting can curtail this process to a much greater extent than aerobic exercise (which is equally important and should be a part of your overall health plan). It is also an effective way to strengthen your bones and prevent osteoporosis.

**What you can do:** Don't do weights instead of aerobic exercise but in addition to it. Aim for using dumbbells, body weight, and/or gymnasium equipment two or three days a week. Start off with low weights and gradually build up as you progress. It's more important that you get in a habit of doing weight training than trying to lift heavy weights.

*"Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's." I Corinthians 6:19,20*

**Fun Bible Facts:** Christ quotes from 22 Old Testament books.

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# The reality of war

By Richard Gammill  
PREVIEW Columnist

The first major battle of the American Civil War, on July 21, 1861, earned the nickname “picnic battle” because spectators showed up with sandwiches and opera glasses.

These onlookers, who included several U.S. congressmen, came to the countryside near Manassas, Va., to watch what they expected to be a victory for the Union and a swift end to the war that had begun three months before. What was to be a glorious moment of triumph resulted instead in a bloody defeat for the Union that sent the picnickers scrambling for safety.

After the war, Union Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman said to a group of cadets: “War is hell.”

I was born in April 1941, just eight months before the U.S. entered what became known as World War II. One of my earliest memories is of being with my father in downtown San Francisco on Aug. 14, 1945, in what I learned later was a wild, out-of-control celebration reacting to the news of Japan's surrender following the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. During the war, news from the battlefields focused mostly on Allied victories — in newspaper headlines and theater newsreels — censored sufficiently to protect the troops and maintain high morale at home.

## A Matter of Faith

My awareness of the Korean “conflict” really did not hit me until years later while watching episodes of “M\*A\*S\*H.” I remember only one contact with that war: My favorite junior high teacher left one of his arms in Korea.

Vietnam is called “the first television war.” Advances in video and audio recording and transmission made news coverage easier, and more immediate and extensive, while the percentage of Americans owning a television soared to nearly 100 percent. To gain and maintain audience share, the networks for the first time brought vivid, chilling news from the front lines straight into our living rooms — increasingly on color TV sets. Any remaining glory of warfare was lost in the massive protests that divided our country and did not end until after the war ended.

On the morning of Sept. 11, 2001, my wife and I were on vacation in Myrtle Beach, S.C., with “Good Morning America” on the television while we finished breakfast and prepared to leave our hotel room. We saw Charlie Gibson

■ See Faith on page 18

# Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page  
are welcome to attend.

### Thursday, Jan. 25

**Ruby's Writers Guild.** 9-11 a.m., Sisson Library. Ruby's Writers Guild will welcome writers who are looking for opportunities, support and camaraderie with other writers. Members will provide support, resources and guidance for each other.

**Bridge.** 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

**Hand and Foot Card Game.** 1:15 p.m., Senior Center. No experience is necessary, so come willing to learn.

**T'ai Chi Chih.** 1:30-2:30, Senior Center. Free for those 60 and better.

**Tech Time.** 2-4 p.m., Sisson Library. Basic questions related to computers, smartphones, tablets, etc. Bring your device charger. We provide assistance with accessing any of the library's online resources. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

**Mindfulness-based Meditation Class.** 3-4 p.m., Senior Center. Free for those 60 and better.

**English as a Second Language.** 4-7

p.m., Sisson Library. Your library offers English as a second language classes. These classes are free. Call (970) 264-2209 or email for more information. Beginning students are encouraged to attend from 4-5 p.m., intermediate students from 5-6 p.m. and advanced students from 6-7 p.m.

**PALS Adult Education.** 5:30-8 p.m., Sisson Library. Pagosa Adult Learning Services, or PALS, can help you with high school equivalency, GED, college prep, financial aid, tutoring and more. Mark can help you develop a plan to achieve your education goals. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

### Friday, Jan. 26

**Pickleball.** 8-11:30 a.m., Community Center. Loaner paddles are available.

**Pagosa Springs Varsity Girls' Basketball.** 5:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Pagosa versus Montezuma-Cortez.

**Pagosa Springs Varsity Boys' Basketball.** 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Pagosa versus Montezuma-Cortez.

## The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

### ACROSS

- 1 Sorvino with an Oscar  
5 Word before eyes or oil  
10 Hit the mall  
14 Swiss army knives have several  
15 Firth or Farrell  
16 Carryall bag  
17 Blackboard places  
19 One for the road?  
20 Pleasure seeker  
21 Kermit's creator  
23 Superhero accessory  
24 Occupation  
25 Like a taskmaster  
28 Part of a yard  
29 Lapidarist's item  
32 Fine-tune  
33 Very small  
35 Falling-out  
36 Like most notebook paper  
37 Johnny Bench's team  
38 Not connected  
40 Gets licked  
41 Bigelow product  
42 Mind-matter connector  
43 Church changing room  
44 Gave a hoot  
46 Writes  
47 "\_\_\_ down the hatches!"  
49 Lunchbox item  
53 Mishmash  
54 Concert manager  
56 Textile machine  
57 Library no-no  
58 Boatloads  
59 Change for a twenty  
60 One beyond help

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17					18						19			
20									21	22				
				23				24						
25	26	27					28					29	30	31
32						33					34			
35					36						37			
38					39					40				
41					42					43				
			44	45					46					
47	48						49					50	51	52
53						54	55							
56						57					58			
59						60					61			

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61 Joint with a cap

### DOWN

- 1 Considerably  
2 Capri, e.g.  
3 Dare anagram  
4 Work partner  
5 Actor's text  
6 Lasso loop  
7 All the time  
8 Actress Cattrall  
9 Conceal, in a way  
10 Put up with  
11 Weekend visitor  
12 Comics canine  
13 Working stiff  
18 Quick bite to eat  
22 Puts away  
24 In great shape  
25 Pompous gait  
26 Bale binder  
27 Change of direction, as light  
28 Taxpayer, e.g.  
30 Church official  
31 Like some divorces

- 33 Quiet  
34 Pedestrian's lane  
36 Voracious  
39 Folk stories  
40 Advances  
43 Plywood layer  
45 Molecule makeup  
46 Analyze, in a way

- 47 Make a run for it  
48 Soothing stuff  
49 Public relations effort  
50 Smooth (out)  
51 Give a ticket to  
52 Stockings  
55 Dairy farm sound

### Answers to Previous Crossword:

B	A	T	S		F	J	O	R	D		M	U	S	K
E	L	A	N		R	E	V	U	E		A	N	T	I
D	E	C	A	P	I	T	A	T	E		R	Y	A	N
S	E	T	T	L	E		T	H	R	I	V	I	N	G
					C	O	R	G	I		N	E	E	S
S	I	G	H	T		R	O	S	W	E	L	L		
I	D	L	E		B	A	N	T	E	R		D	A	B
G	L	I	S	T	E	N		R	A	T	L	I	N	E
N	Y	T		R	A	D	I	A	L		A	N	T	E
				T	R	I	D	E	N	T		S	U	G
S	T	E	E	L			T	A	S	E	R			
A	I	R	P	L	A	N	E		T	E	E	O	F	F
B	R	I	O		M	E	A	S	U	R	A	B	L	E
L	E	N	S		E	R	R	E	D		T	E	E	N
E	D	G	E		N	O	S	E	Y		E	Y	E	D

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N Y M A G N W K E N C G O M B G F H G K  
I P N D H P Y R Y R O V A S I A D K B J  
L P C N L E N L W O L J A F C E O E T P R  
R R I B O R R D F W I E L D A L O K P R O  
E E V M Y U M M N O N S T I C K E E O O  
A M J I R T V F U K W E T N V S T A E F  
F I E L P A I C R O C K M A E D S F D R  
T T N C R R M W H O U R S A E T O U F S  
H R R O P E H I N J B O S S O N D A U I  
W P U O S P H L D I F O S P D H V L D C  
B U S Y L M A W I H N E H U K P N E W K  
J A D E E E U K C I R H E K I T C H E N  
S T E W G T R W N T J V B V I J G B S L  
B U T U W I N G R E D I E N T S T S O G  
C E H U I N S O G B K F H W N T W L T O  
I N I D I G I T A L S B F H E H M B J O  
R E K O O C W O L S F G N I R E M M I S  
P W P G N B W K S C E D U R R P K P B A  
K O T D Y R M L L W F A R J V S A K F N  
T H C N B U O Y O J N E J W H M T O P H

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

## WORDS

BUSY  
CROCK  
DESSERT  
DIGITAL  
ENJOY  
FONDUE  
HOURS  
INGREDIENTS  
KITCHEN  
LADLE  
LOW  
NONSTICK  
POT  
ROAST  
SAVORY  
SEASONINGS  
SIMMERING  
SLOW COOKER  
SOUP  
STEW  
TEMPERATURE  
TIMER

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# Make better brain health your top New Year's resolution for 2024

By Jim Herlihy  
Alzheimer's Association

Alzheimer's disease is expected to impact nearly 13 million Americans by 2050, including 76,000 Coloradans today, according to the Alzheimer's Association.

So, as you contemplate your New Year's resolutions for 2024, consider there are steps you can take yourself to maintain and improve your cognitive function.

Research has shown lifestyle changes like improving diet and exercising regularly have helped drive down death rates from cancer, heart disease and other major diseases. These same lifestyle changes may also reduce or slow your risk of

cognitive decline, which is often a precursor to Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia.

"There is increasing evidence to suggest that what is good for the heart is good for our brains," said Jeff Bird, executive director of the Alzheimer's Association of Colorado. "Keeping our brains healthy is not something we should worry about only as we get older. It should be a lifelong effort."

### Healthy brain tips

Looking for tips on how to protect your cognitive health? Here are several ideas borne from research supported by the Alzheimer's Association:

- Manage your blood pressure.

People treated by medications approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to a top (systolic) blood pressure reading of 120 instead of 140 were 19 percent less likely to develop mild cognitive impairment, according to a study led by researchers at Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center. Those people also had fewer signs of damage on brain scans, and there was a possible trend toward fewer cases of dementia.

- Check your hearing.

Hearing loss is present in 65 percent of adults over age 60, according to researchers. This study looked at a subgroup of

■ See Health on next page

# Faith

■ continued from page 16

looking at Diane Sawyer when she said, "We just got a report that there has been some sort of explosion at the World Trade Center in New York City. One report said — and we can't confirm any of this — a plane may have hit one of the two towers ..." Jan and I never made it to the beach that day as a new era of warfare began, forever changing life in America.

Fast-forward to Feb. 24, 2022, when Russia launched an unprovoked invasion of Ukraine after denying that its military buildup on Ukraine's border was preparing for a full-scale attack on its sovereign neighbor. Now, technological advances and courageous reporting bring the world deep inside the bloody action to witness the immense destruction of schools, hospitals, industrial plants, businesses, homes and the murder of thousands of innocent citizens. How much can we bear to watch?

Today, there is more: We and our children watch on our high-definition, large-screen televisions

and visit the aftermath of a bloody, murderous assault by Hamas on an Israeli music festival, leaving hundreds of bodies to mourn. We go into private homes with uneaten breakfast still on the table, see blood splashed on the walls and enter nurseries with blood-soaked bedding; we look inside bullet-ridden, burned-out automobiles with dead bodies lying around. Shouldn't these news reports be PG rated?

How much of this do we have to witness before we pack up our lunch and flee the battle scene? Let's "lay down our sword and shield" and join Pete Seeger "down by the riverside and study war no more."

This is what I want to do. The sickening reality is that our big screen TVs will carry these horrifying scenes of warfare for a long time to come.

"You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come." — Matthew 24:6.

*This column may include both*

*fiction and nonfiction, and views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN. Submissions can be sent to editor@pagosasun.com.*

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# Health

## ■ continued from previous page

older adults with hearing loss who were at higher risk for cognitive decline (about one-quarter of the total study population). This study showed that those participants at highest risk for cognitive decline who utilized hearing aids and hearing counseling for three years cut their cognitive decline in half (48 percent).

### • Get vaccinated.

Getting an annual flu vaccination was associated with a 40 percent decrease in the risk of developing Alzheimer's disease over the next four years, according to researchers from The University of Texas' McGovern Medical School, who found that even a single flu vaccination could reduce the risk of Alzheimer's by 17 percent.

### • Go with your gut.

Sixteen percent of the world's population struggles with constipation — more among older adults due to fiber-deficient diets, lack of exercise and the use of certain medications. Researchers found that bowel movements of every three days or less was associated with 73 percent higher odds of subjective cognitive decline and long-term health issues like inflammation, hormonal imbalances and anxiety/depression.

### • Cut back on "ultra-processed" foods.

People who consume the highest amount of ultra-processed foods have a 28 percent faster decline in global cognitive scores

— including memory, verbal fluency and executive function — compared to those with lower consumption, according to research involving half a million people living in the UK. High consumption was defined as more than 20 percent of daily caloric intake.

Ultra-processed foods are those that go through significant industrial processes and contain large quantities of fats, sugar, salt, artificial flavors/colors, stabilizers and/or preservatives.

Examples include sodas, breakfast cereals, white bread, potato chips, and frozen foods such as lasagna, pizza, ice cream, hamburgers and fries.

### • Get vaccinated (part two).

Getting a vaccination against pneumonia between the ages of 65 and 75 reduced Alzheimer's risk by up to 40 percent, according to a Duke University's Social Science Research Institute study.

### • Be social.

That's right. Add "hang out with friends" and "have fun" to your New Year's resolutions list. For example, enroll in a dance class with a friend. Alzheimer's researchers are now looking into whether increased socialization, along with a "cocktail" of lifestyle interventions including improved diet, exercise, cognitive stimulation and self-monitoring of heart health risk can protect cognitive function.

The Alzheimer's Association's U.S. study to protect brain health through lifestyle intervention to

reduce risk (U.S. POINTER) is a two-year clinical trial that hopes to answer this question, and is the first such study to be conducted of a large group of Americans nationwide.

"There's currently no certain way to prevent Alzheimer's and other dementias," said Bird, "but there is much to be gained by living a healthy lifestyle and adopting brain health habits that you enjoy."

For those with questions about memory loss or personality changes that may be associated with Alzheimer's or other forms of dementia, the Alzheimer's Association has a free Helpline staffed 24/7 by trained professional staff members: (800) 272-3900.

## Alzheimer's by the numbers

- More than 6.7 million people in the U.S. are living with Alzheimer's or other forms of dementia in 2023 — 55 million people around the world.

- About 1 person in 9 (11.3 percent) in the U.S. age 65 and older has Alzheimer's dementia

- More than 76,000 Coloradans are living with dementia.

- Approximately two-thirds of those living with Alzheimer's are women.

- People of color are more likely to develop Alzheimer's: Black Americans are twice as likely as whites, while Hispanics are 50 percent more likely than whites.

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**PAGOSA AA:** M-W-F 5:30P.M.; Sunday 10a.m, Tuesday and Thursday at noon, Saturday at 10a.m.. Zoom Sunday 10a.m., ID 858 319 763, password 754 234, 315 N. 2nd St., County Road 200 (.2 miles off 160). Information, call Kathi (970)946-1482, or Central Office (888)333-9649.

## SERVICES

**THERE IS A SOLUTION GROUP** of Alcoholics Anonymous meets Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5:30-6:30p.m. at the Restoration Fellowship Church, 264 Village Drive. Questions? Contact Richard at (970)903-1456 or Diamond at (970)264-1073. More resources at [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org), [www.aa-westerncolorado.com](http://www.aa-westerncolorado.com), (970)245-9649, or (888)333-9649 (24 hours).

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**HEAVY DUTY** cab-over truck rack with removable crossbars for taller loads; for 8' bed. \$375 970-946-0305 leave a message.

**NEW 20' CONTAINERS FOR SALE** or rent. We deliver to homes or businesses. Pagosa Springs Storage (970)731-0007.

**OUTDOOR VEHICLE STORAGE SPACES** available. 16', 20', 25', plus indoor 12'x20'. Winter specials starting at \$60. Pagosa Springs Storage. Gated with security cameras. (970)749-1500.

**SELL OR TRADE YOUR GUNS.** We buy for cash or trade it. No hassle. Licensed, bonded, insured. San Juan Trading Post, 635 San Juan St. (970)731-PAWN (7296).

**GARAGE SALES**

**BE SURE TO CHECK** for more yard sales in the Too Late To Classify section.

**PETS**

**ADOPT FROM THE** Humane Society. Stop by or call (970)731-4771. You'll be amazed at what we have to offer. [www.humanesociety.biz](http://www.humanesociety.biz).

**AKC ROTTWEILER PUPPIES** available for their forever homes January 10. One set of shots, puppy well check and micro-chipped, five female, one male. Please call for more information, serious inquiries only. (970)507-1154.

**FOR POOCH SAKES GROOMING.** Appointments available with Kelly (303)819-2015. Mobile appointments with Barb (970)903-1290.

**DOGGY DAY CARE 81147.COM.** Open 365 days of the year! Full day and half day doggy day care and overnight boarding. Conveniently located just 1 mile from downtown Pagosa. Call (970)264-9111.

**LOVING DOG CARE BY LESLIE N.** Find me on Rover.com using zip code 81147. Boarding, day care, drop ins, house sitting. References and reviews online at Rover.com.

**CARS FOR SALE**

**1999 WHITE FORD Ford F-350 SUPER DUTY.** 202,087 miles. Good condition, minor dents/scratches. Manual, 5-speed, 7.3L V8 Diesel. Long bed. Routine maintenance complete. \$10,000. Text ONLY, NO phone calls please. (719)640-1588.

**2006 GOLD VOLKSWAGEN TOUAREG.** 200,000 miles. Good condition, minor hail damage. V10 TDI. Automatic, 6-speed. 4.9L 310 HP V10 Diesel. Leather, navigation, sunroof. Routine maintenance complete. \$7,500. Text ONLY, NO phone calls please. (719)640-1588.

**2011 HONDA ELEMENT.** 191,877 miles, \$1,300, OBO, as is, body good. Contact Eddie, 141 S. 10th St, (970)264-5760.

**2016 JEEP WRANGLER.** 4 door, 108,000 miles (new engine warranty at 104,000). Great condition. \$22,000 OBO. (760)399-0155.

**GUARANTEED CREDIT APPROVAL!** 4X4 Auto Sales, 21698 Hwy. 160 West, Durango. (970)385-7940.

**VEHICLE FOR SALE.** 1969 classic F250 Custom Camper Special with custom engine rebuild. 58k original miles for \$8900 OBO. Call for details. (310)245-0555.

**COMMERCIAL FOR RENT**

**4 OFFICE SPACES.** Freshly remodeled, \$400-\$525. Well suited for spa services, 140-270 sq. ft. Beautiful spacious restrooms. (970)946-3232.

**OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE JANUARY 1** Downtown Pagosa in the Metropolitan Hotel. 250 square feet. \$415 per month. Year lease. Call Jacque (970)946-7636.

**OFFICE SPACE.** 170 SF Downtown Metropolitan Hotel. \$270 per month. Utilities included. Broadband available. Call Jacque (970)946-7636.

**OFFICE SPACE.** 260 SF Downtown Metropolitan Hotel. Available Feb 1. \$460 per month. Utilities included. Broadband available. Call Jacque (970)946-7636.

**OFFICE UNIT FOR RENT.** 262 Pagosa St. #101 in the Town Terrace Building. Main street location. 767 sq. ft. Bathroom and kitchenette included. \$850. Call (970)946-9780.

**PAGOSA VALLEY PROPERTIES:** Offering "Aspen Plaza ProSuites" These are Professional Office Suites available for Long Term or Short Term rental from 100 SF to 205 SF, priced from \$264-\$669/ month. We also offer Hourly, Daily, or other Membership options for even more flexibility. Also, Large Conference/ Event Room Available. Call (970)889-2022 for more information.



264-2100

# Classifieds

264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

*"We owned a condominium in the Pagosa Springs area which was a rental property. For many years the firm provided property management services for us and we always found them to be very professional and responsive. If you are in need of a competent, professional property management firm or realtor, we would strongly recommend them. ~ Michael Gamba*

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COMMERCIAL FOR RENT

HOMES FOR RENT

VACATION RENTALS

HOMES FOR SALE

LAND/ BUILDING SITES

**PAGOSA VALLEY PROPERTIES:** Offering Lewis St. Office Suites available from 238 SF to 755 SF, and priced from \$400 - \$700/ mo. Excellent for a studio or professional office space. Call (970)889-2022 for more information.

HOMES FOR RENT

**2 BEDROOM, 2.25 BATH** condo on Lake Pagosa \$1800/month. TP-1 Team Pagosa (970)731-8599, pagosaspringsrealty.com.

**3 BEDROOM, 2.25 BATH,** 2-car garage, 3,348 sq. ft. beautiful home on remote 35 acres. \$4,500/ month. TP-2 Team Pagosa (970)731-8599, pagosaspringsrealty.com.

**AMAZING FURNISHED 3 BEDROOM,** 2 bath home that sits on 35 private acres in the Chimney Rock area. This is a must see property. \$2350 per month with some utilities included. TP-8. Team Pagosa, (970)731-8599, pagosaspringsrealty.com.

**BEAUTIFUL 4 BEDROOM, 3.5 BATH** 2 car garage on 3 lovely and private acres. This is a must see property. Available now. \$4,750/ month. TP-3 Call Team Pagosa (970)731-8599, pagosaspringsrealty.com.

**COMFY 1 BEDROOM,** one bath beautifully remodeled and furnished condo on golf course. Water, sewer, trash and snow removal included. 1 year lease preferred. \$1600 per month. No smoking. No pets. Available 01/01/24. (970)903-7088.

**FURNISHED 2 BEDROOM** with loft, 2 bath condo across from Lake Pagosa. Pet allowed. Available around January 1, 2024. \$2195 per month. TP-6. Team Pagosa, (970)731-8599, pagosaspringsrealty.com.

**HOUSE FOR RENT** on three acres on Hwy 84. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, brand new carpet and paint. Move-in specials. \$1750 per month. First, last and security deposit required. (970)749-4252.

**LONG TERM RENTALS AVAILABLE.** Call Team Pagosa (970)731-8599, 46 Eaton Drive, Suite #1, pagosaspringsrealty.com.

**LOVELY UNFURNISHED 2 BEDROOM,** 2.5 bath, 2 car garage townhome on golf course in uptown Pagosa. All appliances including gas fireplace. \$2150 per month. TP-5. Call Team Pagosa, (970)731-8599, pagosaspringsrealty.com.

**POOL HOUSE STUDIO RETREAT** among the Flowers work and sleep space for Writers, Artists, Musicians. 5 minutes from town, wooded area with Mountain Views for 1 person. Furnished N/S N/P \$1400 plus Security Month to Month includes Internet, Utilities, paper goods, & Trash. Call/text (970)309-6067.

**SADDLE MOUNTAIN TOWNHOMES.** 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 baths. Open floor plan with gas fireplace, oversize 2-car garage. Close to the bike path, uptown City Market and rec center. \$2,550/month includes: water/sewer, lawn maintenance, snow removal. Call/text (512)626-8499.

**SWEET FURNISHED 2 bedroom,** 2 bath, 1-car garage across from Lake Pagosa. Available 1/1/24. One small dog allowed. TP-7. \$2,400 per month. Some utilities included. Team Pagosa (970)731-8599, pagosaspringsrealty.com.

**UNFURNISHED 3 BED 2 BATH,** 1 car garage, duplexes. Newly remodeled and updated. All appliances including gas fireplaces. Pets allowed. \$2000 per month. TP-4 Call Team Pagosa (970)731-8599, pagosaspringsrealty.com.

**OWNERS, WE ARE BOOKED UP AND NEED MORE VACATION RENTAL PROPERTIES!** Call us today for lowest commission and highest customer service. All you have to do is wait for your rent check to come in. We do the rest! Rocky Mountain Realty & Rentals (970)507-1192.

COMMERCIAL

**10 BEAUTIFUL COMMERCIAL ACRES.** 50x167 metal building with concrete floor, 3 phase electric, well and more. \$650,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties LLC a call (970)903-2817.

**MULTI USE 6,800 SQUARE FOOT** building in prime location on .60 of an acre. \$1,375,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties LLC a call (970)903-2817.

HOMES FOR SALE

**3 BEDROOM 1-1/2 BATH HOME.** \$395,000 Immaculate! New carpet and paint, garage, fenced yard, close to national forest and fishing lake. Call Jennifer Reno, Broker Associate Exit Realty Home & Ranch (970)317-8493.

**3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, 1 ACRE** with great cell service, country views and 10 minutes from town. \$235,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties LLC a call (970)903-2817.

**64 ACRES, 3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH HOME,** 3 garages and shed, 46 shares of irrigation water, 3-3 phase electric outlets and beautiful views, too many extras to name them all. \$995,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817



**Christie Calderwood**  
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**REAL ESTATE SERVICES**  
*Whether Buying or Selling*  


**Call Marcie Lewis**  
(970) 759-8672  
  
**MarcieLewis.com**

**HUGE PRICE REDUCTION.** Log home on the banks of Stollsteimer Creek. 3 bedroom, 2 bath log home, 2-car garage, 2 acres with lots of extras. \$675,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

LAND/ BUILDING SITES

**1.2 ACRES CLOSE** to Navajo Lake. Utilities available. \$75,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

**1.2 ACRES, MOUNTAIN VIEWS,** electricity near, No HOA, close to town. \$35,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

**35.81 ACRES WITH AWESOME VIEWS** of Banded Peaks at the end of cul-de-sac with national forest access. Also comes with a full set of house plans. \$300,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties LLC a call (970)903-2817.

**5 BEAUTIFUL ACRES.** Centrally located, all utilities near. \$250,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties LLC a call (970)903-2817.

**DOWNTOWN, FLAT, BUILDABLE.** .52 acre lot, views, close to river, all utilities available. \$500,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

**MOUNTAIN VIEWS, MEADOWS.** Unique high elevation and complete privacy. 5.6 acres bordering national forest, (970)769-3588 blancoretreat@gmail.com.

**ONE ACRE LOT,** all ready for your new home with newly installed all utilities, four bedroom permitted septic system, power and insulated pump house. \$165,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

**THE RESERVE.** 3 lots available. From \$37,500. OWC possible. (720)626-9326 or gencohomes@outlook.com.



All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, or national origin, or an intention, to make such preference, limitation or discrimination." This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

PagosaSUN.com



A white propane delivery truck is parked in a snowy landscape. In the background, there is a rustic cabin with a snow-covered roof and a warm light glowing from a window. The truck's tank is the central focus, with the text 'ARE YOU READY TO FEEL THE HEAT?' written on it in red, italicized, bold letters. The truck has 'propane' written on its side in red. The overall scene is a winter wonderland, suggesting the need for heat during cold weather.

***ARE YOU READY TO  
FEEL THE HEAT?***

**A NEW PROPANE PROVIDER**

**IS COMING YOUR WAY**