

A frigid fix: PAWSD staff work overnight to fix leak

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

On Jan. 11, staff from the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) worked through the night in frigid temperatures to address a water leak impacting up to 676 homes in the Loma Linda and Holiday Acres areas.

PAWSD Operations Manager Andrew Connor explains in a communication to The SUN that the incident began with PAWSD receiving a low suction alarm at the pump station in the Loma Linda area, which indicated a problem with water pressure in the area.

"The on-call distribution technician called in off-duty personnel to help locate the issue. The crew found a water leak at

■ See Fix A8

Town council moving forward with Town-to-Lakes Trail

By Derek Kutzer
Staff Writer

On Dec. 21, 2023, the Pagosa Springs Town Council approved an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) with the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) for the design and construction of a multiuse trail that's planned to connect downtown to Pagosa Lakes.

The trail is known as the Town-to-Lakes Trail and "involves the design and construction of a ten-foot-wide asphalt or concrete non-motorized shared use path between 10th Street to Great West Ave," per states agenda documentation on the matter.

A middle subsection of this trail will be completed by the Pagosa Views planned development, expected to move forward in 2024-2025.

The town would be responsible for two sections of trail that will connect to the Pagosa Views portion, ultimately making one continuous trail system.

"Pagosa Views is responsible for constructing the trail along their frontage as part of their development," Community Development Director James Dickhoff said, adding that the town "will be working in conjunction with Pagosa Views for this trail section."

The town's two segments will begin at 10th Street and go through the frontage of the elementary school property up to the Pagosa Views development property line, picking up again on the west side of the property line and continuing to Great West

■ See Trail A8



Final patrol procession

SUN photos/Randi Pierce
Archuleta County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) Deputy William "Bill" Lucero was remembered and honored Tuesday morning during a final patrol procession. The ACSO escorted Lucero, who was found deceased at his residence on Jan. 9, and his family through Archuleta County, stopping to honor Lucero's time in the military and with several regional law enforcement agencies.

Grant awards for two local broadband projects announced

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) heard an update on recent broadband grant awards from Archuleta County Broadband Services Management Office Technical Manager Eric Hittle at its Jan. 9 work session.

Hittle explained that the Colorado Broadband Office (CBO) recently announced awardees for Advance Colorado Broadband Capital Projects Fund (CPF) grants and that two projects in Archuleta County that the BoCC provided letters of support for were awarded funding.

He stated that counties in the region had a high rate of success with the CPF grants, with Montezuma County receiving two grant awards — although Hittle noted that the county may have had "one or two" other unsuccessful projects — and La Plata

■ See Grant A8

Short closure planned for North Pagosa Boulevard

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

At its Jan. 16 work session, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) discussed an upcoming one- to two-day closure of North Pagosa Boulevard in February for cement work on a culvert with Public Works Director Mike Torres.

Torres explained to the BoCC that, during the culvert replacement project on North Pagosa Boulevard at Martinez Creek that the county completed in the fall of 2023, the concrete retaining walls near the culvert were removed.

He stated that, now that the culvert replacement is finished, the county can move forward with replacing the retaining walls.

Torres indicated that he received bids from local concrete companies for the project and that he wanted to move forward with Mastercraft Concrete Contracting LLC.

He explained that this bid would also involve another contractor who would work with Mastercraft to perform the dirt work for the project as Mastercraft does not have the capability to do it.

Torres stated that he wants to have the project completed before spring runoff begins and that both bidders for the project indicated that they could do the work with snow on the ground.

Commissioner Warren Brown asked if the base under the newly installed culverts

■ See Closure A7

PAWSD board of directors approves 2024 budget

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

At its Jan. 4 meeting, the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) Board of Directors approved the 2024 budget for the district and certified mill levies.

Discussion of the budget and mill levies opened with Business Manager Aaron Burns explaining that the 2024 budget meets all debt service requirements, reflects "improved but moderate growth," and includes increased rates and

capital investment fees (CIFs) prescribed by the district's recent rate study.

Burns then covered changes to the budget from its initial presentation, including the addition of \$8,000 in funding to build a concrete pad at the Mill Creek fill station and \$75,000 for the replacement of water lines as part of Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) repaving of U.S. 160 through downtown Pagosa Springs.

District Engineer/Manager Justin Ramsey explained that PAWSD

had its engineers design the line replacements and that this was included in the bid package for the CDOT project, with PAWSD paying for the work over a two-year period.

In response to a question from PAWSD board member Glenn Walsh, Ramsey explained that PAWSD chose to include the project with the CDOT bid instead of doing the project separately to avoid the possibility that PAWSD would be charged for any delays incurred on the CDOT project.

"If everything goes smoothly, it's

probably a little more expensive having to go through CDOT because they have a lot more stringent requirements than we'd have," Ramsey said, "but, if anything went wrong, I think we'd be on the hook for a lot of money if we had our own contractors do it."

Ramsey added that much of the pipe under the highway is old and that the district hopes to avoid having to dismantle the newly built highway to repair them.

■ See PAWSD A13

Index

Opinion	A2
Letters	A3
Obituaries	A3
William "Bill" James Lucero	
Justin Clay Dermody	
Business	A5
Sales tax revenues down	
2.7 percent in November	
Sports	A9
Lady Pirates extend	
winning streak to eight	

Outdoors	A13
Continental Divide Trail Coalition	
announces Jan. 24 virtual town	
hall event	
Public Notices	A14
PREVIEW	
Live Performers	2
Sudoku	12
Crossword	16
Classifieds	20



Opinion

The Pagosa Springs
SUN

©Copyright 2023
O'Rourke Media Group — Pagosa Springs, LLC
ISSN 2835-3994 (Print) ISSN 2835-4001 (Online)

(970) 264-2100 • PagosaSUN.com
Physical address: 457 Lewis Street
Mailing address: PO Box 9
Pagosa Springs, Colorado

"HOME OF THE WORLD'S DEEPEST
HOT MINERAL SPRINGS"



**COLORADO
PRESS
ASSOCIATION**

PRIZE-WINNING NEWSPAPER

- 2017 Service to the First Award Recipient
- 2022 EXCELLENCE IN PHOTO & DESIGN
- 2022 EXCELLENCE IN ADVERTISING
- 2022 FIRST-PLACE AWARDS
 - Best Advertising Campaign
 - Best Data Journalism Reporting
 - Best Serious Column Writing
 - Best Cover Design
 - Best Page Design
- Best Photo Slideshow- Gallery or Photo Essay
- 2022 SECOND-PLACE AWARDS
 - Best Advertising Campaign
 - Best Advertising Special Section
 - Best Print Ad
 - Best Editorial Special Section
 - Best Education Story
 - Best Investigative Story Package
 - Best Public Service Project
 - Best Page Design

SUN STAFF

Publisher
Jim O'Rourke, jorourke@orourkemediagroup.com
Editor Randi Pierce, editor@pagosasun.com
Reporters
Josh Pike, josh@pagosasun.com
Derek Kutzer, derek@pagosasun.com
Robert Moore, robert@pagosasun.com
Intern Hailey Sams, hailey@pagosasun.com
Advertising and Circulation Manager
Shari Pierce, shari@pagosasun.com
Classified Advertising/Front Office
Cristin Flanagan, classads@pagosasun.com
Head Pressroom Robert Penton
Assistant Press Operator Matt McKinnon
Mailroom William Thomas

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Annual In County - \$35
Annual Out of County - \$45
Monthly - \$10

Digital subscriptions available at PagosaSun.com/eedition

ADVERTISING DEADLINES

Display - Noon Monday • Classified - Tuesday 10 a.m.
Legal - Friday 4 p.m.
Deadlines are moved up for holiday weeks.
Please check for an ad in the paper for specific dates and times.

PAGOSA SPRINGS, COLORADO

USPS 418-340
PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY
Periodical newspaper postage paid at
Pagosa Springs, Colorado 81147
Postmaster, Address Service Requested

The following
weather
information
is brought to you as a
public service by



Date	High	Low	Precipitation		
			Depth	Type	Moisture
1/10	27	-7	NA	NA	NA
1/11	26	-4	NA	NA	NA
1/12	19	-13	NA	NA	NA
1/13	32	3	NA	NA	NA
1/14	36	16	NA	NA	NA
1/15	35	14	NA	NA	NA
1/16	34	6	NA	NA	NA

Pagosa Springs
603 S. 8th Street
(970) 247-5786

GUEST EDITORIAL

A looming crisis: Colorado's victim services organizations face decreased funding

For decades, Rise Above Violence has worked to help victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, as well as working to curb the prevalence of such acts now and in future generations through methods such as youth outreach to teach about healthy relationships.

With potential cuts in funding, the local organization is facing a loss of more than \$250,000 in funding, which we believe would have a significant impact on both the organization and our community now and into the future.

Across Colorado, a crisis is unfolding — one that is putting survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, and child abuse at risk of losing access to life-sustaining services and support.

Organizations providing these survivor-centered services rely on Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grant funding, which comes from fines and penalties collected from federal crimes. Because of recent changes in federal prosecutions and fines, the pot of money is running dangerously low.

According to the Colorado Department of Public Safety's Division of Criminal Justice, which manages VOCA grants in the state, Colorado is facing an estimated 50 percent cut from last year.

This would have devastating ripple effects in every community across the state. The impact to Pagosa Springs specifically would be funding cuts for Rise Above Violence, upward of a \$250,000 loss. Rise provides crisis support to survivors of sexual assault and domestic

violence in Pagosa Springs and Archuleta County and typically serves over 400 survivors each year, answering nearly 500 crisis calls and providing approximately 2,500 services to our community members annually.

State leaders play a key role in finding creative solutions to fill the funding gap. While VOCA is federally funded, these cuts will be felt locally, impacting survivors from the San Luis Valley to the Denver metro area and everywhere else in between.

Last year, Colorado's Joint Budget Committee made state history when it allocated \$17 million to victim services for the first time, an act that received statewide recognition and praise. Other states like Texas, Wisconsin and Utah annually invest anywhere from \$25 million to \$73 million in victim services, providing sustainable funding local programs can rely on.

Now is the time for Colorado to join these efforts.

Governor Jared Polis' fiscal year 2024-2025 budget includes \$3.3 million for victim services, which falls nearly \$27 million short of the \$30 million needed to maintain current funding levels. While this is a step in the right direction, we have a long way to go if we want the organizations helping meet the needs of victims and survivors to keep their doors open so they can continue providing these critical services.

Rise Above Violence is joining the Colorado Coalition Against Sexual Assault, Colorado Organization for Victim

Assistance and Violence Free Colorado in calling on Polis and the Joint Budget Committee to ensure adequate funding so victims in all communities across Colorado can receive the wraparound services they need to heal and thrive. Without sufficient investment in victim services, our state's safety, public health and economy will surely pay the price for years to come.

We would appreciate our community members taking an active role in preventing this crisis by contacting our area legislators and asking them to push the Joint Budget Committee to provide adequate victim service funding:

Sen. Cleave Simpson, Senate District 6

Email: cleave.simpson.senate@coleg.gov

Web page: <https://leg.colorado.gov/node/2038826>

Phone: (303) 866-4875

Rep. Barbara McLachlan, House District 59

Email: barbara.mclachlan.house@coleg.gov

Web page: <https://leg.colorado.gov/node/929351>

Phone Number: (303) 866-2914

Joint Budget Committee

Web page: <https://leg.colorado.gov/committees/joint-budget-committee/2024-regular-session>

Phone: (303) 866-3481

Amanda Briggs
Community engagement specialist,
Rise Above Violence

LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

100 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
January 18, 1924

Rushing the season, Mrs. D.E. Mickey has the prize chickens in this county. One of her hens insisted last month on "setting," so eggs and a nest were provided her in the Mickey basement on San Juan street, with the result that on Dec. 31st the mother came proudly forth with a brood of young healthy chicks that are now about three weeks old.

Only fifty-nine forest fires occurred in Colorado during the calendar year just ended. Damage amounting to \$46 was done and the cost of prevention and safety measures aggregated but \$1,039.

County Commissioners Thos. S. Reavis of Pagosa Springs and G.T. Howe of Allison will depart tomorrow for Denver, where they will attend the annual meeting of the county commissioners of the state.

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
January 21, 1949

A joint meeting of the Town Board and businessmen of the town was held at the courthouse on Tuesday night of this week to review the town's finances and to discuss the ways and means of increasing the revenue for operating expenses.

The situation as explained by Mayor Connelley is as follows: for the past several years the town income has not been sufficient to pay operating and maintenance costs and it has been necessary to use funds from the water fund in order to keep the town on a paying basis. Now the point has been reached where these funds from the water department are going to be needed to replace worn mains, improve the reservoir, construct additional supply lines and a filtration plant. Since this money is no longer available for the operation of the town, additional revenue will have to be found. The Mayor also pointed out that the Town Board felt that improvements in the town were not keeping pace with the times due to this lack of funds.

He then asked the businessmen present to present their ideas on methods of increasing the revenue or new sources of revenue that could be added.

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
January 17, 1974

Eight families now have new places to live as a result of the Archuleta Housing Corp.'s low rental project. There will be 44 more such units available between now and early summer.

Leonard Powell, who is acting manager of the project, said this week that construction work is behind schedule but that families would be moved in as fast as the units were ready. There is a total of 52 units in the projects.

Units range in size from the so-called efficiency type to four bedrooms. Biggest demand is for one bedroom units and three is the longest list of applicants for these. The least demand is for the four bedroom size units. Other sizes include two and three bedroom units.

They are designed for families with low incomes. Under the program a family meeting income qualifications may rent a unit by paying one-fourth of its income for rent, which includes utilities and heating costs. In addition a parking place is provided off the street, grounds are maintained, trash is hauled, and sidewalks are kept free of snow.

25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
January 21, 1999

U.S. Forest Service approval of a proposed Wolf Creek Ski Area facilities expansion has been withdrawn, according to a new release from Kim Vogel, the acting deputy forest supervisor of the San Juan/Rio Grande National Forest.

The news surprised ski area officials who learned of the withdrawal by reading about it in The Denver Post, according to Rosanne Haidorfer-Pitcher, marketing and sales director for the ski area.

Failure to include information about the Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout in the environmental assessment document relative to the expansion is listed as the reason for the withdrawal. Carson Forest Citizens Watch Group of Llano, N.M. had pointed out the omission in an appeal of Vogel's decision to approve the proposed expansion.

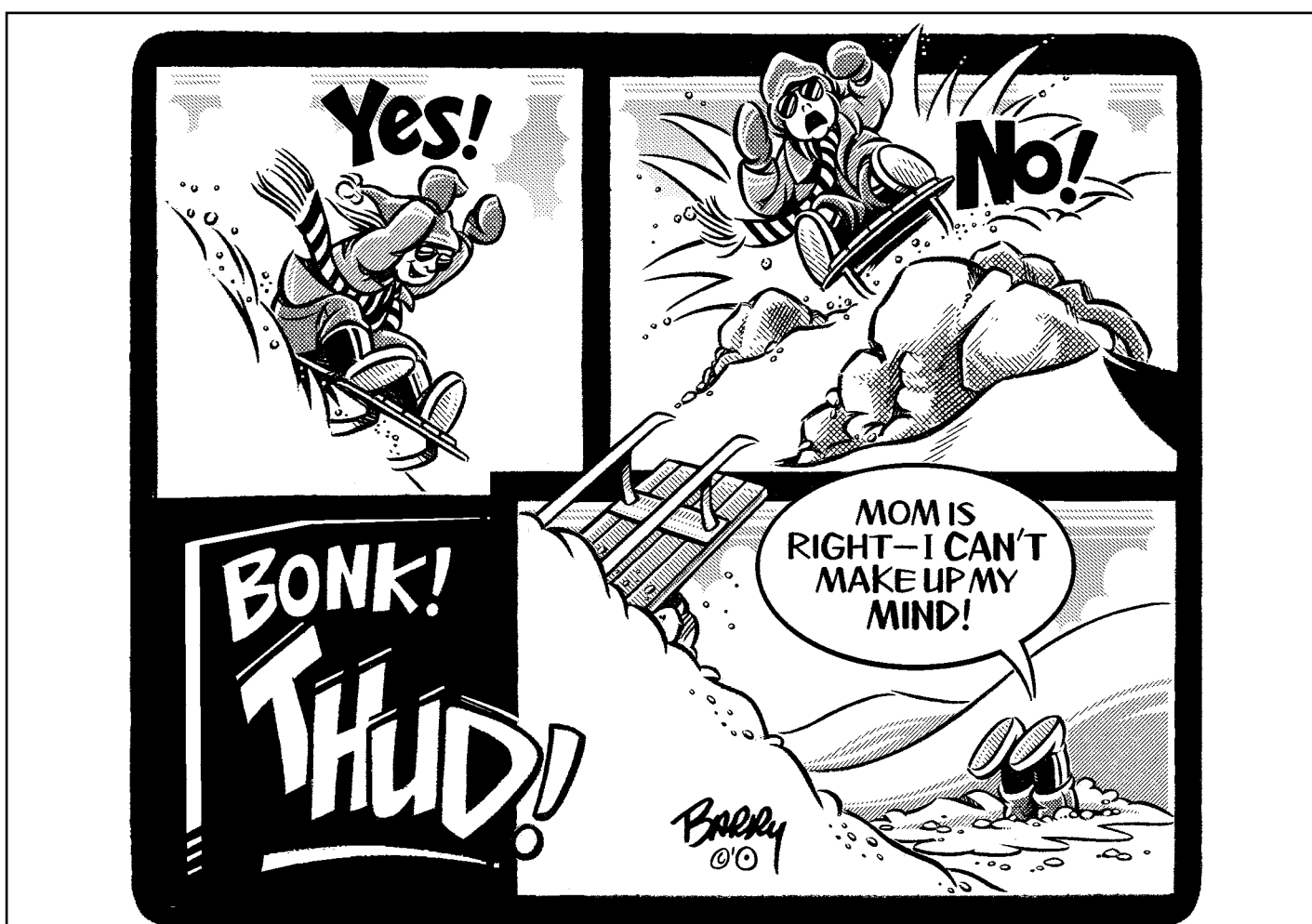
"We were surprised when the trout came up this late in the process," said Steve Hartvigsen, winter sports administrator for the Forest Service. "It was never mentioned earlier in the process. Our fisheries biologist says she sees no problem for the trout."

The Forest Service news release seems to indicate that the agency is complying with the letter of the law by revisiting the environmental assessment, but that the results will be the same.



From the May 15, 1986, Pagosa Springs SUN — PROJECT WILD — Students in Carol Kelley's fourth grade class had a special treat during show and tell last week. Dick Ray brought his lion cub to school as part of the class' unit on wildlife found in the Rocky Mountain region.

<p>Ron Maez, Chair rmaez@archuletacounty.org • (970) 264-8303</p>	<p>Archuleta County Commissioners Warren Brown warren.brown@archuletacounty.org • (970) 264-8300</p>	<p>Veronica Medina veronica.medina@archuletacounty.org • (970) 264-8305</p>
<p>Matt DeGuisse mdeguisse@pagosasprings.co.gov</p>	<p>Pagosa Springs Town Council Mat deGraaf mdegraaf@pagosasprings.co.gov</p>	<p>Leonard Martinez lmartinez@pagosasprings.co.gov</p>
<p>Madeline Bergon mbergon@pagosasprings.co.gov</p>	<p>Brooks Lindner blindner@pagosasprings.co.gov</p>	<p>Gary Williams gwilliams@pagosasprings.co.gov</p>



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.

Forever grateful

Dear Editor:
This week as we honor our Men and Women in Blue, I would like to take a moment to especially thank Deputy Carpenter and Deputy Lett with the Archuleta County Sheriff's Department.

On 12/14/23 our dog Sadie made an unfortunate escape at 10:15 p.m. She is a runner, and that night was the advent of a significant storm. My husband was out as he plays music and was on his way home when I called him to let him know of the situation. We both got in our vehicles and searched until 12:30 a.m. Sadie is dark in color and along with the snow we could not find her.

After a sleepless night we got up and started looking again. We prayed and prayed she would be ok as she is 9 years old now and slowing down. That morning Deputy Carpenter was traveling down North Pagosa by Lake Forest. He was alert enough to spot Sadie

covered in snow with her head barely visible. Thank GOD for his attention to detail as he rescued Sadie and took her to the Shelter where they did an amazing job in stabilizing her as she was slipping into hyperthermia. After a visit to Elk Park Veterinary, they too made sure she was OK.

We would like to take a moment and say Thank You Deputy Carpenter and Deputy Lett. This dog, like so many of yours is family and they saved her life. For that we are forever grateful. We also ask you to stand with the Blue and thank you all of you for your service to our community and the nation. "No greater gift can a man give than to lay down his life for another!"

Pray for our Brave Men and Women!
BACK THE BLUE!

Tammy Brown

Missing wildlife cameras

Dear Editor:
Two wildlife cameras have been stolen in lower Bull Creek. They are being used to do an informal wildlife survey in our efforts to stop more natural gas drilling in the watershed. We need them back. If you would like to help us in our efforts, we welcome you to do so. Email me so I can pick up the cameras. bevkrzsl@gmail.com.

Beverly Compton

Christmas in Pagosa

Dear Editor:

It was so nice to spend 12 days with friends during the Christmas holidays in beautiful Pagosa Springs. We ate at three great restaurants and attended three Christmas programs at the Methodist Church along with a private party with sing-a-long Christmas songs.

I spent New Years Eve at the Tim Sullivan Band's dance, then a breakfast for Vets for Vets.

I was shocked when I read that somebody stole the presents out of a storage meant for local families. The following week the headline read "it is a miracle" that Patrish, and all those involved made a successful Christmas for the Pagosa children after all. It was wonderful of them to contribute like that.

From your friend,
Ron Gustafson, "Mr. Pagosa"

Constitution classes

Dear Editor:
Something is happening in America! More than ever people are hungry for identity, purpose, and truth. Everywhere you turn people are making claims about rights, freedom and principles that should guide citizenship in the US and are looking almost anywhere for answers. But it's not a mystery, the founding fathers called it patriotism.

Dr. Benjamin Rush: "Patriotism is as much a virtue as justice, and is as necessary for support of societies as natural affection is for the support of families. Our amor

patriae [love of country] is both a moral and a religious duty. It comprehends not only the love of our neighbors but of millions of our fellow creatures, not only of the present but of future generations."

The founding fathers demonstrated their patriotism by pledging everything they had to the cause of freedom and to each other; their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor. Their devotion was unwavering to the belief that lack of patriotism was considered selfishness. As George Mason said: "No free government, nor the blessings of liberty, can be preserved to any

■ See Letters A4

FREE RIDES for MEDICAID CLIENTS

anywhere in the State of Colorado
Please call us to get qualified:
970-731-4081

Also Durango Airport Shuttle • Taxi Service • Weddings
Charter Service • Private Parties

Wilderness Journeys Pagosa, Inc
Call 970-731-4081 for scheduling
PUC # 16400, DOT# 2842985, MCT# 0021

Non-emergency medical transportation to Denver, Durango, Farmington, Colorado Springs — Anywhere in Colorado and border state approved cities for Medicaid insured rides to and from Medicaid providers
Pre-approval and 24-hour notice required.



Obituaries

William 'Bill' James Lucero

William "Bill" James Lucero, a native of Colorado, passed away suddenly on Jan. 9, 2024, at his home in Pagosa Springs. Bill was born on May 9, 1964, at Monte Vista Hospital to Joe and Erlinda (Manzanares) Lucero. He is survived by his parents, his children — Chance, Kohbe and Isabella Lucero; his brothers — Anthony Lucero and Danny Lucero; his sisters — Judy Lucero and Jeanette (Randy) Martinez; and many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, and great-nephews, aunts, uncles and cousins.



Bill's educational journey began at Monte Vista Elementary School, and he later graduated from Monte Vista High School. After completing high school, Bill went on to serve his country in the United States Marine Corps from 1984 to 1988. Bill had three aspirations in life: to serve his country, become a police officer and be a teacher. Upon completing his service in the Marine Corps, Bill enrolled in Trinidad Community College and completed the Police Academy. He received his POST certification and landed his first job as a police officer with the Monte Vista Police Department in 1990.

Bill dedicated over three decades of his life to law enforcement, serving with various agencies in Colorado. He worked his way up to the rank of sergeant at the Monte Vista Police Department, continued his service as an officer at the Pagosa Springs Police Department, and became a deputy for the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association (PLPOA) commissioned by the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office. Afterward, he worked as a lieutenant for the Southern Ute Police Department and was a member of their SWAT Team, a deputy for the Rio Grande County Sheriff's Office, the chief of police for the Center Police Department, and a Deputy for the Alamosa County Sheriff's Office and Archuleta County Sheriff's Office, where he concludes his service.

Bill enjoyed several hobbies: coaching football at Monte Vista Jr. High School and Sangre High School, smoking up delicious BBQ, entertaining his guests, and cooking up a storm. He took overwhelming pride in smoking some ribs while enjoying a cold Bud Light. Bill never shied away from a cook-off and always gave his best.

William "Bill" James Lucero completed his journey home with a law enforcement procession from Hood Mortuary in Durango, Colo., to Mountain Valley Mortuary in

Monte Vista, Colo., on Tuesday, Jan. 16, 2024.

A service will be held in the Monte Vista High School gymnasium on Saturday, Jan. 20, at 11 a.m. Finally, he will be laid to rest at the Homelake Cemetery. Following the burial, the family would like to invite law enforcement, family and friends to the Nazarene Church Gym for a celebration-of-life meal. To express condolences for the family, please visit www.mvmortuary.com.

Justin Clay Dermody

Justin Clay Dermody passed away on Jan. 10, 2024, after a sudden fight with cancer, diagnosed just in December. Those who knew him admired his knowledge, integrity and strength and appreciated his humor, sarcasm and ingenious linguistics. He was passionate about creativity, family, work, mechanics, freedom, diversity, animals, nature, the Raiders and travel. This amazing Marine leaves behind a devastated family: wife Chesika; sons Ryder, Craig and Jonathan; sister Kelsey and her children; and his loyal pets and numerous extended family. Derm was born to Jerry and Kerry Dermody, of Pagosa Springs, Colo., on May



5, 1972. He grew up on the beautiful upper Piedra and, in addition to his hometown crew, he has a family from each phase and adventure of his life: CSU, USMC, USS Tarawa, WyoTech, Radio Shacks in southern Colorado, Belize, the mountains and seas of Southern California, and, for the last seven years, Alabama. His most recent amazing work family, SONS Automotive, would appreciate your consideration of donating to their Benefit Jeep Show on Jan. 20, 2024, to help his family with expenses: CASHAPP \$Jeepin4Derm. Until we meet again, Semper Fi.



3D Mammography at PSMC

- Latest state-of-the-art imaging technology
- Screening and diagnostic imaging
- Visualization of dense breast tissue
- Stereotactic biopsies
- On-site radiologist to read scans

PAGOSA SPRINGS | First-Class Care, Close To Home
Medical Center | 970.731.3700 | 95 S. Pagosa Blvd | pagosaspringsmedicalcenter.org



20% OFF

Winter Coats

SHOP Snow Equipment in store or online
AceHardware.com

Cozy Up!



Made in U.S.A.
Petite to Tall
Custom made to order

10% OFF Recliners



20% OFF Dishware



20% OFF Area Rugs

2'x3' to 8'x10'

Prices are as marked. All sales final on discounted items, cash and carry, no returns on sale items, discounts do not apply to sale items, sale prices may not be combined with other discounts. Delivery and set up or installation not included. Some other exclusions may apply. Limited to stock on hand.



See our ads on Terry's ACE.com
Shop www.acehardware.com for free in store pickup

525 Navajo Trail Drive • 731-4022
Mon-Fri 7:30-6 • Sat 8-5 • Sun 9-4

Letters

The SUN welcomes letters from readers.

Please submit to:
PO Box 9,
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
e-mail:
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.

Commissioners discuss mill levy payment to town, certificate of occupancy

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

At a Dec. 19, 2023, session, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) discussed delinquent payments for a mill levy related to road maintenance and the county's efforts to obtain a certificate of occupancy (CO) for the county's justice facility.

Commissioner Veronica Medina raised the issue of the mill levy in the context of a discussion on the 2024 county budget.

Following a discussion between Medina and Commissioner Ronnie Maez about if they should open a discussion on the topic, Medina explained that the Town of Pagosa Springs brought to the county's attention that the county has not paid the town's portion of the Road and Bridge Fund mill levy to the town since 2018.

She added that the 2018 payment was only partial, with the county still owing the town \$1,622 from 2018.

Medina commented that state statute requires the county to pay the mill levy and that this payment should not depend on if the entity receiving payment asks for it or if the commissioners decide to make the payment.

County Attorney Todd Weaver stated that the town is entitled to the payment and Maez commented, "There's a difference."

Maez commented that the county treasurer cannot pay the money to the town if she does not know what to pay and that the formula for determining what should be paid to the town was lost, although Finance Director Chad Eaton was working on finding it.

He added that he spoke with Weaver about the statute of limitations on the payment, which Weaver indicated is two years.

Maez questioned why the issue was not raised by the town until now and speculated that town staff could have been given direction to not investigate the issue based on the fact that he heard a rumor to this effect.

He stated that, if this direction was given by a town administrator, it should be followed.

Medina commented that the issue should have gone to town council and not been decided by staff.

"I'm going to look at this differently, I definitely am," Maez said.

Medina commented that she wanted to raise the issue so that the BoCC could discuss the issue as a group and determine where each commissioner stands.

Commissioner Warren Brown stated that the missing payment is an "opportunity."

He commented that he would like more information on the payment and that, if the county is obliged to make it, "we need to do what we're supposed to do."

Maez asked what the mill levy was set at.

County Manager Derek Woodman explained that the mill levy was set at zero in 2020 and remains so to this day.

Maez noted that half of zero is zero, but that this did not address the "historical" mill levy.

"And that's the part I'm going to have my hang-up on," he said. "You guys want to do the feel-good thing, but what we need to do is the right thing for Archuleta County, too. I mean, that's who I'm elected to represent, and I know the town resides in Archuleta County and I totally understand that, but the town needs to take equal responsibility for this as well."

Brown commented that he was not in the "feel-good part," but in the "do-right part."

He suggested that this would be an opportunity to have a "fresh start" on the county's efforts to obtain a certificate of occupancy for the justice facility.

Previously, the Town of Pagosa Springs demanded additional screening of HVAC systems on the building's roof to bring the building into compliance with its land use and development code.

Following the Pagosa Springs Planning Commission denying the county's attempt to obtain a variance exempting it from the screening requirement on Jan. 10, 2023, the BoCC passed a resolution overruling the commission's decision on Jan. 17, 2023.

Following discussions with the town council, the town attorney responded by issuing a letter to Weaver on April 20 outlining that the town would refuse to provide a CO for the building until the situation is addressed.

Following a debate between Brown and Maez about Brown's

goals with his comments, Maez commented that the county is being "held in abeyance" in terms of the justice facility CO and that "there's money on this side; I think we can have some negotiations as to what we can do and what we can achieve together."

Brown stated he agreed with this approach and commented, "I'm trying to look at this in a way to get things resolved in a way they should be resolved, do the right thing and set..."

"I don't mind doin' the right thing," Maez said, adding that BoCC should pause discussions or negotiations on the issue until the formula for the funding is found.

Brown stated that he does not want to make any decisions until he obtains "the full picture."

"And I think that's where it should be until we get the information, then let's start talking about it," Maez said. "But let's get the information first."

"I'm not the argument you're looking for; I want the same thing," Brown responded.

Medina commented that she raised the issue because all of the commissioners had discussed the information with Woodman, but had not discussed it as a group.

"So now I know where each of you sit, so I appreciate the conversation," she added.

Maez concluded by directing Eaton to work on obtaining the information, although he stated that this issue was not the top priority above completing the 2024 budget.

Woodman commented that was the approach staff is taking.

Later in the work session, discussion continued on the issue of the mill levy, with Maez commenting, "The right thing needs to be done, and I agree with that, but the right thing needs to be done by the town, as well."

Maez stated that state law indicates that the county is exempt from town land use regulations and that the CO not being issued has prevented the county from receiving a \$350,000 Underfunded Courthouse Facilities Fund grant.

He added that the county "fought hard" to obtain this money.

"We're both serving the same people in Archuleta County, the town is and the county is," Maez said, adding that he does not see how "horrific" the lack of screening

on the HVAC system is to justify requiring what Weaver estimated would be \$100,000 in screening.

Maez reiterated his comment that the town and county serve the same people and stated that the county should be issued a CO since it is allowed to not follow the town's land use code by statute.

Weaver commented that the town withholding the CO for a "land use issue" is "completely arbitrary and capricious."

Medina noted that the county did "the right thing" by requesting a variance, which the town denied.

Weaver stated that the commissioners were allowed to overrule the denial by statute, but the town has ignored that.

Medina commented that she would like to "stop the infighting" between the town and county and resolve some of the lingering issues so that the county and town can look forward and cooperate "for the betterment of our constituents."

She added that "this is not a good way to do business for the people of Archuleta County."

Maez pointed out that the town "held the county government as a business" in the matter of the land use code and commented, "We're not just a business. We're servants of the people. Just as they are. And if we get the right formula for the property mill levy from way back when when I think direction was given or what was said to our treasurer was the town ... representative was told to not worry about it. How was that our bad?"

"I think the thing is what we need to do is just move forward and both sides do the right thing."

Medina commented that town staff should keep the mayor and council informed on their actions instead of bringing the issue to the county.

"Absolutely," Maez said. "If we're not communicating, means we're not going to get anything done. And communication just doesn't need to be one-sided either, for either party."

josh@pagosahun.com

Clip 'n Save 10%

Off of 750 ml and 175 ml bottles

WINES & LIQUORS

Non-Sale Items Only • Coupon not valid for beer purchases

264-2749

Next to River Center - Hwy. 160

East Pagosa Springs

Mon.-Sat. Open 9 a.m. - Midnight

Sun. Open 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.

SILVER DOLLAR LIQUORS



Happy Hour!

25% off

At the Bar Stools Only
Tuesday - Friday 4-5:30 pm

Make your reservation at
exploretock.com/alleyhousegrille



The Patio | The Lounge | The Grille

Open Tuesday - Sunday 4pm - 9pm
Happy Hour Tuesday - Friday 4pm-5:30pm at the Bar Stools

(970) 264-0999 | 214 Pagosa St, Pagosa Springs | AlleyHouseGrille.com

Letters

Continued from A3

people but by a frequency recurrence to fundamental principles." That is why it is important to spend time in the past because history provides many of the answers people are searching for and shows us the formula that has made the United States the most successful nation in history.

Current Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas' described our times very well: "As I have traveled across the country, I have been astounded just how many of our fellow citizens feel strongly about their constitutional rights but have no idea what they are, or for that matter, what the Constitution says. I am not suggesting that they become Constitutional scholars - whatever that means. I am suggesting, however, that if one feels strongly about his or her rights, it does make sense to know generally what the Constitution says about them. It is at least as easy to understand as a cell phone contract - and vastly more important."

These excerpts were taken from Constitution Alive classes. A new class is beginning January 15th at

Grace in Pagosa church. Please look for the ad in this paper on how to sign up. The classes are free held one evening a week. I encourage all to attend!

Jamie Scholl

'The meek are strong'

Dear Editor:

The "Good Book" clearly states that "the meek shall inherit the earth". Yes, there is nothing wrong with being "meek", it does not mean weakness but rather humility. Compare the mannerism of President Biden to that of our former President Trump. President Biden projects strength in leadership without arrogance. The other has promoted himself as our savior or something like that. Hmmm. That is not what I learned in Sunday School. I guess he never went to Sunday School.

Where are the good deeds performed by him in his personal life? Does he have a history of service to others? For him, it appears that his true devotion is to "his" money.

Those elected to office should display their desire to "serve" with honor. There is no place for arrogance. Those who are confident in their knowledge and skills do not need self-indulgence - their abilities and desire to "serve" become known and appreciated by others. President Biden's years of service as a Congressman gave him personal experience within our government during many crises that we overcame. Yes, he is one of the meek who are a blessing for sure. Keep that in mind as you determine who will lead our nation.

Yes, the meek are strong and a blessing.

Patty Tillerson

Local reporting that matters.

SQUARE TOP BAR-B-QUE

@ Golf Club
Open to the Public

Authentic Texas BBQ

Winter Hours:
Thursday, Friday, Saturday
noon - 6 pm
Sunday - 11 am - 6 pm

1 Pines Club Place
(970) 398-5267

SquareTopBBQ.com

BBQ, Beer & Bourbon

Full Service
Restaurant & Bar

Voted Best Restaurant
Views in Pagosa
10-years running

Carry Out Available

Let Us Cater
Your Event or Party

Host Your
Event or Party
@ Square Top

Weekly Smoked Specials
Smoked Burger Thursdays
Pork Rib Fridays, after 2pm
Beef Rib Sundays - they go fast!

NATURAL GROCERS

JANUARY 16-20
RESOLUTION RESET
RESET YOUR RESOLUTIONS FOR A HEALTHIER YOU

VISIT

NaturalGrocers.com/Resolution-Reset

TERMS & CONDITIONS APPLY. SEE STORE FOR DETAILS.

5-DAYS ONLY • JANUARY 16-20 • ALL LOCATIONS

EPIC SAVINGS
UP TO 48% OFF
SELECT ITEMS



Enter In-Store for
a Chance To Win
1 YEAR OF FREE GROCERIES



(N)power Members Only

FREE TUNA
5 OZ Can of
Natural Grocers® Brand
Limit 1 per (N)power member.



Business

Sales tax revenues down 2.7 percent in November

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

Sales tax revenues for Archuleta County in November 2023 fell compared to November 2022, according to a report released by the Archuleta County Finance Director Chad Eaton.

Sales tax revenues previously rose by 6.5 percent in October 2023 compared to the previous year.

The report notes that the town and the county jointly received \$1,391,273 in gross sales tax revenue for the month of November 2023, with \$694,613 going to the town and \$696,660 going to the county.

November 2023 gross sales tax revenues are 2.7 percent, or \$38,755, lower than November 2022.

According to the report, the categories that are up in comparison to November 2022 include:

- Finance and Insurance at 158 percent, or \$1,078.
- Professional, Scientific and

Technical Services at 157 percent, or \$14,364.

- Other Services (except public administration) at 3 percent, or \$583.

- Miscellaneous at 2 percent, or \$3,176.

Categories that were down for November 2023 in the month-to-month comparison include:

- Construction at 41 percent, or \$14,956.

- Manufacturing at 16 percent, or \$10,392.

- Retail Trade at 1 percent, or \$6,774.

- Information at 30 percent, or \$8,368.

- Real Estate and Rental and Leasing at 23 percent, or \$6,829.

- Accommodation and Food Services at 5 percent, or \$10,637.

The report notes that on the year-to-date comparison, sales tax revenues for January through November of 2023 are 1 percent, or \$160,146, lower than January through November 2022.

According to the report, the categories that are up in the yearly comparison include:

- Professional, Scientific and Technical Services at 158 percent, or \$144,266.

- Finance and Insurance at 23 percent, or \$3,006.

- Other Services (except public administration) at 5 percent, or \$11,066.

The categories down in the year-to-date comparison include:

- Construction at 5 percent, or \$17,876.

- Manufacturing at 11 percent, or \$75,218.

- Retail Trade at 1 percent, or \$87,482.

- Information at 10 percent, or \$29,907.

- Real Estate and Rental and Leasing at 21 percent, or \$82,072.

- Accommodation and Food Services at 0.5 percent, or \$14,116.

- Miscellaneous at 1 percent, or \$163,875.

josh@pagosasun.com

El Pomar Foundation awards \$112,000 organizations in southwest region

El Pomar Foundation

El Pomar Trustees approved \$112,000 allocated to 13 nonprofit organizations and government entities in the southwest region at the foundation's December trustees meeting.

Through the foundation's grant-making process, the following organizations were awarded grants:

- Archuleta Seniors Inc. (Pagosa Springs) — \$10,000 in general operating support; competitive.

- Community Connections Inc. (Durango) — \$5,000 for programs for intellectually and developmentally disabled; competitive.

- Compañeros: Four Corners Immigrant Resource Center (Durango) — \$10,000 in general operating support; competitive.

- Dr. Mary Fisher Medical Foundation (Pagosa Springs) — \$15,000 for building for oxygen storage; competitive.

- La Plata County Humane Society (Durango) — \$7,500 for digital X-ray machine; Hambrick Fund.

- LASSO (La Salle) — \$7,500 for direct care of equines; Sally Beck Fund.

- Reaching Out to Community and Kids (Dove Creek) — \$5,000 in general operating support; competitive.

- Rico Fire Protection District — \$12,000 for tanker equipment and wildland boots; Wildland Fire Fund.

- Riverhouse Children's Center, Inc. (Durango) — \$10,000 in general operating support; competitive.

- Silverton Family Learning Center, Inc. — \$15,000 in general operating support; competitive.

- Startup Colorado (Durango) — \$5,000 in general operating support; competitive.

- Veterans for Veterans of Archuleta County (Pagosa Springs) — \$5,000 for general operating support; competitive.

- Women's Resource Center in Durango — \$5,000 in general operating support; competitive.

Founded by Spencer and Julie Penrose in 1937, El Pomar Foundation has an established legacy of general-purpose grant making. The competitive process remains the foundation's primary vehicle for organizations to receive funding. Additionally, over the last 85

years, El Pomar has either developed or been entrusted with the stewardship of a number of other funds, as well as presenting merit grants in each region recommended by trustees and regional council members. Competitive applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

The Freda Hambrick Fund supports nonprofit organizations that prevent cruelty to animals, provide direct care and medical assistance, and offer educational programs for the proper care of and attention to animals within the state of Colorado.

The Sally Beck Fund supports organizations providing direct care to equines, therapeutic riding programs, equine education programs and equine-related disaster-response programs.

The Wildland Fire Fund assists with immediate emergency needs of volunteer firefighting agencies and first responders throughout the state of Colorado.

To view a full listing of El Pomar's funds and grant-making areas, please visit our website at <https://www.elpomar.org/grant-making/>.

Public Meetings

The following meetings are subject to change.

Thursday, Jan. 18

Archuleta County Board of Health meeting. 3 p.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St. For more information, visit: <http://archuletacounty.org/agendacenter>.

Monday, Jan. 22

San Juan Water Conservancy District work session. 4 p.m., 46 Eaton Drive, Suite 5. Visit <https://www.sjwcd.org/> for Zoom option.

Tuesday, Jan. 23

Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation quarterly membership meeting. 8-9:30 a.m., South Conference Room, Community Center, 451 Hot Springs Blvd. Join by Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83638357338?pwd=YWY2b0dyNkZyS0lrS1NXaEllakxpQT09>, meeting ID: 836 3835 7338, passcode: 962257.

38357338?pwd=YWY2b0dyNkZyS0lrS1NXaEllakxpQT09, meeting ID: 836 3835 7338, passcode: 962257.

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>.

Upper San Juan Health Service District Board of Directors meeting. 5 p.m., Pagosa Springs Medical Center board room, 95 S. Pagosa Blvd. View the meeting on Microsoft Teams using Meeting ID: 211 697 380 209, passcode: 72rBqf.

Wednesday, Jan. 24

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

information, visit: <http://archuletacounty.org/agendacenter>.

Thursday, Jan. 25

Pagosa Springs Town Council meeting. 5 p.m., Town Hall, 551 Hot Springs Blvd. See town website for participation information: <https://pagosaspings.civicweb.net/portal/>.

Tuesday, Jan. 30

Archuleta School District Board of Education special meeting. 5 p.m. via Google Meet. See www.mypagosaschools.com for more information.

Thursday, Feb. 1

Main Street Advisory Board work session. 4 p.m., Pagosa Senior Center dining room, Ross Aragon Community Center, 451 Hot Springs Blvd. See town website for participation information: <https://pagosaspings.civicweb.net/portal/>.

Tuesday, Feb. 6

Pagosa Fire Protection District Board of Directors meeting. 5:30 p.m., administration office, 165 N. Pagosa Blvd.

Thursday, Feb. 8

Main Street Advisory Board meeting. 4 p.m., Pagosa Senior Center dining room, Ross Aragon Community Center, 451 Hot Springs Blvd. See town website for participation information: <https://pagosaspings.civicweb.net/portal/>.

Monday, Feb. 12

San Juan Water Conservancy District meeting. 4 p.m., 46 Eaton Drive, Suite 5. Visit <https://www.sjwcd.org/> for Zoom option.

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 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.

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.

Build Your Sleds!



FreeImages.com

Sledz on Rez

January 20, 2024

Free registration and details



www.buildpagosa.org • www.facebook.com/buildpagosa/

Join us for
Family Fun
on

Reservoir Hill

behind Healing Waters Resort & Spa

1:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Stay warm with delicious food & hot drinks

Lots of prizes for sleds & spectators

The sound barrier has been broken.

GENESIS^{AI}

ALL NEW



Genesis AI marks a new beginning for the hearing industry.

Completely reimagined from the inside out, it's the only hearing technology system to feature an **all-new processor, all-new sound, all-new design and an all-new patient experience.**



Starkey
Neuro Processor
It has a mind of its own.

ALL NEW

Neuro Sound Technology

Transparent sound for the clearest hearing yet. Enables wearers to hear soft sounds without noise, distinguish words and speech more intuitively, and significantly reduce their listening effort.

Take advantage of these money-saving offers

\$500 OFF MSRP
Advanced Technology Hearing Aids.
Coupon expires Jan. 24, 2024

FREE Hearing Test
Coupon expires Jan. 24, 2024

Call 970-731-4554

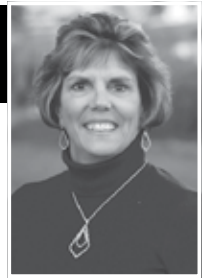
Ears 2 U Hearing Aid Center

Locally owned and operated for 18 years

190 Talisman Rd. Ste. C-3 • Pagosa Springs

Call 970-731-4554 to schedule your appointment
coloradohearingaid.com

Gennette Erickson
Owner,
Hearing Aid Specialist



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 July and August.

July

In early July, the Colorado Department of Transportation announced the completion of the McCabe Creek culvert replacement project on U.S. 160 in Pagosa Springs.

The Fourth of July in Pagosa Country again featured a number of traditional events, including the parade (led by grand marshal Jann Pitcher), the Red Ryder Roundup Rodeo, fireworks, Freedom Float, arts and crafts festival, live music, live theater and more.

In early July, Gov. Jared Polis and the Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade announced the first 46 recipients of the Opportunity Now Colorado grant program to support the creation and expansion of innovative workforce and talent development initiatives across the state, including that Build Pagosa would receive about \$50,000.

Andrew Bowles, 18, achieved the rank of Eagle Scout on July 8. For his project, Bowles built a table that is now located at Veterans Memorial Park.

At its July 12 special meeting, the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) Board of Directors disputed proper conduct at meetings of other boards with a focus on the San Juan Water Conservancy District (SJWCD).

The conversation stemmed from PAWSD board treasurer Peter Hurley noting that secretary Bill Hudson made a public comment at the June 19 SJWCD meeting and indicated board members need to be careful when speaking to not mention PAWSD.

He added that Hudson's comment had been "very ambiguous" whether it was his opinion or PAWSD's opinion.

Hudson denied the allegation, stating that he had indicated he was "not speaking for the board."

"You said, 'I'm speaking for PAWSD, but only as an individual,'" Hurley replied.

"I think that was accurate," Hudson responded.

"You can't say that," Hurley said. "I gotta warn you, 'cause that caused us judicial problems before. You can't say that."

The PAWSD Board of Directors approved three contracts and a main line extension on Hot Springs Boulevard to serve the expansion of The Springs Resort at its July 12 special meeting.

A vehicle stolen in Archuleta County the morning of July 16 was found abandoned along Interstate 70 later that morning.

Stage 1 fire restrictions were implemented for parts of Archuleta County in mid-July.

According to the National Weather Service (NWS), Pagosa Springs hit a high of 94 degrees on July 17, breaking the record of 91 set in 1910. Temps reached 91 on July 18, just shy of the record of 92 set in 1909.

On July 17, Sixth Judicial District Chief Judge Jeffrey Wilson accepted a guilty plea in the case of a 2021 homicide.

Chance Ryan Remlinger, 24, of Pagosa Springs, entered a guilty plea of murder in the second degree related to the 2021 death of Daniel Fitzpatrick, 52, also of Pagosa Springs.

Wilson explained in court the plea deal included a stipulated sentence of 22 years in the Colorado Department of Corrections with a term of parole after.

At its July 18 meeting, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) heard a report of valuation for 2023 from Archuleta County Assessor Johanna Tully-Elliott.

Tully-Elliott stated that, as of July 11, real property in the county was assessed at \$658,867,470 and personal property in the county was valued at \$3,642,320 for a total valuation of \$662,509,790.

In 2022, real property in the county was valued at \$378,843,700 while personal property was valued at \$19,931,090 for a total value of \$398,765,790, according to the assessor's 2022 report of valuation.

The Pagosa Springs Area Tourism Board was informed of "bad

news" at its July 18 meeting, learning that lodging tax revenues had gone down 30 percent in the month of May, equating to \$20,000, according to Director Jennifer Green.

"This May was a little cooler, wetter," Green said in her director's report, adding, "From my perspective, it feels as busy as any summer as felt; it could just be people aren't spending money on lodging."

At its July 20 meeting, the Pagosa Springs Town Council announced Greg Schulte as the finalist to be interim town manager following the departure of Andrea Phillips, who announced she would not be renewing her contract with the town.

Community members and pickleballers congregated near Yamaguchi Park on July 20 to celebrate the construction and opening of new pickleball courts.

The Colorado Independent Ethics Commission (IEC) ruled that two ethics complaints submitted by local attorney Matthew Roane concerning two Archuleta County commissioners are "non-frivolous," according to a July 21 notice received by Roane.

The complaints were related to the fact that the county had recently begun paying Archuleta County Commissioner Warren Brown and then-commissioner Alvin Schaaf mileage for traveling to and from their homes for work.

On July 24, Pagosa Springs Medical Center (PSMC) CEO Dr. Rhonda Webb announced the center received a \$1 million grant from the Colorado Department of Local Affairs to renovate a property purchased the previous year into the PSMC Medical Wellness Building.

The BoCC discussed progress on the Pagosa Junction bridge at its July 25 work session and instructed staff to move forward with a temporary bridge at the location.

At an over-capacity meeting on July 26, the Archuleta County Planning Commission voted to table a proposed private helipad project and request an environmental impact study on its potential impacts on wildlife in the area.

The Colorado Broadband Office held a meeting hosted by the Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation in Pagosa Springs on July 26 to discuss upcoming broadband funding opportunities and needs with regional stakeholders.

The Pagosa Fire Protection District (PFPD) Board of Directors voted to move forward with Robert Bertram to fill the role of retiring Fire Chief Randy Larson at a July 28 special meeting.

Bertram was one of six candidates interviewed by the hiring committee and emerged from that process as the top-rated candidate.

The July 29 return of the Spanish Fiesta event drew hundreds to the Archuleta County Fairgrounds to enjoy live music, folklorico dancing, food, drinks and time together.

August

On Aug. 1, the BoCC, acting as the transitional board of health, approved recommendations on initial programs for the Archuleta County Public Health Department from the County Health Department Transitional Advisory Committee.

At the same meeting, the BoCC approved an extension request for the 2022 audit.

Finance Director Chad Eaton explained that his department had to clarify "a number of things that were not done last year," including capital assets that were not entered into the system.

He stated that the department had done a trial balance which did not balance and had to subsequently spend time finding discrepancies.

He added that he had been working on additional audits, which also caused delays.

Eaton explained that the audit was nearly complete.

In early August, it was reported that the SJWCD Board of Directors approved moving forward with a contract with Rick Ehat for engineering consultation on the district's reservoir project and discussed a lease agreement for river

access on a 20-acre parcel jointly owned by SJWCD and the PAWSD.

The 72nd annual Archuleta County Fair was held the first weekend of August. The traditional event provided fun, entertainment and competition for folks of all ages in both 4-H and open classes.

The 73rd annual Red Ryder Roundup Rodeo committee and the board of the Western Heritage Event Center honored Jess Ketchum with the 2023 Red Ryder Award for his great love for rodeos, his outstanding contribution to the western culture of this community, for his service and his friendship.

A number of fires started in the area in early August, with the two largest fires burning on the Pagosa Ranger District of the San Juan National Forest (SJNF).

The Pagosa Springs High School (PSHS) Pirate golf team teed off its season on Aug. 8 in Cortez at the Montezuma Cortez Tournament No. 1.

The Pirates finished seventh out of nine teams at the event, with Pirate sophomore Jonathon Smith taking fourth out of 41 competitors.

At its Aug. 8 meeting, the Archuleta School District Board of Education approved moving forward with a mill levy override extension ballot question for the November ballot.

Following an executive session at its Aug. 8 meeting, the PFPD board voted to approve a contract with Bertram for the position of fire chief.

By mid-August, three large fires were burning on the Pagosa Ranger District of the SJNF, while other regional fires were putting up smoke plumes visible in the Pagosa area.

There was no containment on the three fires, the Quartz Ridge Fire, the Bear Creek Fire and the Mosca Fire.

The county closed the sale of the former county courthouse to Ronnie Urbanczyk on Aug. 17.

In August, a suspect was arrested in the death of Michael Kroll, formerly of Archuleta County.

According to a press release issued by the Pagosa Springs Police Department (PSPD) on Aug. 18, Kroll was reported missing from the Pagosa Springs area on Oct. 19, 2021, and his remains were later located in a remote area of La Plata County on Sept. 25, 2022.

The suspect, 60-year-old Glen Canyon Lee Hunt, formerly of Archuleta County, was identified through a joint investigation by the PSPD and the Colorado Bureau of Investigation, the press release notes.

The BoCC heard an update from County Manager Derek Woodman at its Aug. 22 work session on recent issues with road paving and landfill operations involving unauthorized work that was occurring without contracts in place.

Woodman opened his update by noting that issues arose late the previous week and that the county would be releasing information to the press on the events.

He explained that, at the landfill, repairs on the liner of cell 4A had been occurring without a contract for "the last few months," though this work had "ceased."

On the subject of roads, Woodman explained that there were several roads in the "final stages" of preparation for paving and the county hoped to get those roads completed soon.

"Late last week, learning that by the time we added up all of the contracts, the invoices, there were several roads that work had been done without contracts ... and essentially without approval, without knowledge, and, in adding everything up, came up with a fair amount over budget," Woodman said.

Some of the road projects were stopped, while others were finished.

Commissioner Veronica Medina asked how much over budget the unauthorized spending had left the county. Woodman stated that, "in round numbers, if everything went forward, it would be almost a million dollars."

At its Aug. 17 meeting, the town council enacted Stage 1 fire restrictions within town limits, effective as of midnight on Aug. 18.

In August, it was reported that a hiker, 70-year-old Rich Moore, and his dog, Finney, had gone missing in the area of Blackhead Mountain after going out to hike the mountain on Aug. 19.

On Aug. 22, Polis and Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) announced the 2023 funding recipients of the Human-Bear Conflict Reduction Community Grant, with one being the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association (PLPOA).

"This grant program provides funding for local communities, municipalities, businesses and nonprofit organizations working to create innovative ways to reduce human-bear conflict and keep communities safe," a press release from Polis' office explains.

PLPOA won the grant for a "Community Bear Prevention Program," according to the release.

PLPOA won \$99,149, and announced plans to use it to "purchase bear-resistant trash cans for qualified residents, support education efforts and recruit local volunteers to help implement CPW's Bear Aware Program," states the release.

PLPOA planned to deploy the cans in the Vista subdivision.

In August, a trio of buildings with ties to the history of Archuleta County were moved from Harman Park to their permanent homes near the Archuleta County Fairgrounds.

On Aug. 24, Archuleta County issued a press release offering further details on issues with unauthorized road and landfill projects related to the previous public works director as well as the potential temporary closure of the county landfill.

The press release opens by noting that the county is seeking a new public works director and stating, "The discovery of improper oversight regarding the county landfill, lack of communication, improper budgeting for road projects and verbal commitments to spend funds not approved by county leadership, have opened this vital county position."

A second-degree murder charge was filed against Hunt, the suspect in the death of Michael Kroll, in August.

Hunt appeared before Archuleta County Court Judge Justin Fay on Aug. 24 for the filing of charges, with Fay explaining the allegation that on or about Oct. 16, 2021, Hunt caused the death of Kroll.

The PSHS cross-country teams opened their season in Ignacio at the Ignatius XC Invitational on Aug. 25, with the boys' team taking first place and the girls' team taking second.

The Pirate football team opened its season with a home win the same day, defeating the Centauri Falcons 20-16.

Multiple agencies lifted their fire restrictions in late August, but warned that fire danger remained.

A three-car crash on Aug. 30 resulted in the death of a 29-year-old pregnant woman. No medical update was released on the baby.

The Pagosa Springs SUN was acquired by O'Rourke Media Group on Aug. 31.

SNOW REMOVAL

Ranch Driveways • Driveways • Roofs
Call today to get on our client list now for better rates



970-507-1542
42belowconstructioncompany@gmail.com
Local and Proudly Serving Pagosa Springs for seven years

ROAD MAINTENANCE

Driveways • Ponds • Underground Utilities • Clean Up
Dozer Work • Land Leveling • Foundations



NEXT GEN EXCAVATION
20+ years local experience | Michael Preuit | Cell: (970) 946-7303 | Bonded & Insured

Shuttle to Wolf Creek!

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED
Please call 970-731-4081 24 hours prior to reserve your spot!

\$20 One Way • \$30 Round Trip*
**All return trips depart at 4:15 p.m. sharp. Don't be late! We are running on a tight schedule!*

Monday-Sunday from (by reservation only)			
Wilderness Journeys	Alpen Haus	Quality Inn	Summit Ski & Sports
7:30 am	7:40 am	7:50 am	8:00 am

Return shuttle from Wolf Creek at 4:15pm
**CUSTOM rides may be scheduled based upon AVAILABILITY*

Wilderness Journeys Pagosa, Inc
970-731-4081 to reserve your ride!
PUC# 16400 Or, book online at GoWJIP.com

LIVE MUSIC

at the Springs Resort =
5-7 pm in the Lodge Atrium



Friday, January 19
Bob Hemenger

Saturday, January 20
Maxwell Miller

Tuesday, January 23
Jackson Mountain Ramblers

Friday, January 26
Maxwell Miller

Charcuterie Board \$45
available for purchase during live music

323 Hot Springs Blvd.
800-225-0934
pagosahotspings.com



CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT

6- or 12-month term

5.03% APY*

Minimum balance to open this CD is \$1,000.
This CD is offered for a limited time.

Also available for an Individual Retirement Account (IRA).
**Annual Percentage Yield. Substantial penalty for early withdrawal. Fees incurred on the account may reduce earnings. Minimum balance to earn APY on a CD or IRA is \$1,000. Effective January 2, 2024.*



970-731-4701
www.RGBank.bank
Member FDIC Equal Housing Lender

Visit us
at
Pagosa SUN.com

Board of Education discusses master planning, budgets, mill levies

By Robert Moore
Staff Writer

Among other business at its Jan. 9 meeting, the Archuleta School District Board of Education certified its mill levy and discussed timelines for the budget for the next fiscal year and for revising the district's 2023-2024 budget.

The board also approved, as part of its consent agenda, an updated salary schedule that changed the hourly pay for student employee's from \$13.65 per hour to \$14.42 per hour to comply with the state's new minimum wage amount.

District reports

The district reports section of the meeting began with a review of the proposed budget calendar which, per the agenda, "guides the District in the development and adoption of the 2024-2025 Budget" for the school district.

Michael Hodgson, finance director, indicated that discussions will be held in March and May to understand "what the board's thinking" and hear priorities from the district and the Colorado Legislature.

He stated he will also present a budget to the board in late May to be formally adopted in June.

He indicated that an important date outside of the district is "probably about the 20th of March," when the revenue forecast from the Legislature will come out.

Also under the district reports portion of the agenda, as the month of January is designated as School Board Recognition Month, the district leadership team took time to honor board members Dana Guinn, Bob Lynch, Butch Mackey, Amanda Schick and Tim Taylor.

Superintendent Rick Holt expressed his appreciation in par-

ticular for the board's "diverse backgrounds, experiences and areas of expertise," adding, "I get a very balanced perspective on our community as a whole."

Holt next reported, as requested by the board in the December meeting, on the status of the district's master plan, indicating that he had reviewed the previous plan from 2017-2018.

He identified the plan as the "Facilities Planning Process" and stated that it is recommended that districts renew and update their plan every five years.

Holt proposed that the board entertain pursuing a renewal of the current master plan.

Holt then shared for those unfamiliar with the process that "it involves going through each of our buildings and identifying what things need to be repaired or updated, to what degree we're able to meet the needs of the students' educational environment. It's very comprehensive. And so, as a result of the previous master plan, we engaged in district-wide improvements."

Noting that this is not an action he could take on his own, Holt said that "at the advisement of the board, we could pursue speaking to some organizations that do that work."

Holt recommended working with the group RTA Architects, which the district worked with previously, to see what it might recommend and explore the potential cost and timeline and bring a report back to the board in February.

Several members of the board expressed support for moving forward, and Lynch, board president, shared his insight from attending a Colorado Association of School Boards presentation, saying, "I was pleased with what a master plan is in the sense of what the assessment

covers, everything from the suitability of the building, educational goals, to the safety of the environment ... across a broad spectrum of all interests."

Hodgson added that the cost for the last master plan was approximately \$10,000, and it was agreed that Holt would report back to the board at the February meeting.

Revised budget discussion

The next agenda item for the board was a discussion on the revised budget.

Hodgson began with a short summary of the revised budget, explaining, "We do a revised budget because the state allows school districts to do a revised budget anytime before the end of January."

He added that the primary reason the budget is revised is because the money received is based on estimated student count from May or June and "we now have accurate numbers, so we get to make an adjustment."

Hodgson further explained only two kinds of adjustments can be made to the budget after the end of January. One is moving money between categories within the existing budget, and the second is when there is an unexpected influx of revenue, such as a grant.

Hodgson proposed a short virtual meeting on Jan. 30 since little would be changed by then, explaining, "The types of changes that will be in the budget are the student count, we know what that is, assessed values, we have those certified by the counties."

He indicated that the amount of property tax to be received will be increasing substantially, which will cause the support from the state to go down, but that both of those changes, as well as grant changes, title amount changes and carry-forward amounts, will be reflected in the revised budget.

The Jan. 30 meeting is set for 5 p.m.

The board next adopted the 2024 Board Meeting Resolution as presented, which states that the board will meet the second Tuesday

of each month except for July and that the agenda will be posted in a public place, which will be the district's website, www.mypagosaschools.org.

Mill levy certification

Hodgson also presented the mill levy certification to the board for adoption, which establishes the mill levy rate for 2023 for taxes to be collected in 2024 at a total rate of 27.085 mills.

Hodgson noted that three separate mill levies feed into the general fund.

He identified the first as the total program mill levy, which generates the property tax revenues and provides the majority of the district's money for the general fund, which goes toward paying salaries, utilities, and supplies and more.

"That is set by state law," explained Hodgson. "It is going up one mill every year until it reaches 27. We started at 24.014, and we have another three years until we hit 27."

The second is the mill levy override which, according to Hodgson, is 3.012 mills and a significant decrease from last year.

The third, Hodgson noted, is an abatement mill, or "money that we are allowed to tax to cover the various tax abatements that counties, primarily, and other units of government, have given to taxpayers" so that units of government such as the school district are not hurt by the abatements.

He added that the total would be 27.085 mills and that there is no bond redemption mill as that was paid off "years ago."

In response to a question from Lynch, Hodgson confirmed that the resolution needed to be passed to include the subcomponents as the district receives and reports the monies separately.

After minor clarifications, the board voted to adopt the mill levy certification resolution.

The board's next regular meeting will be at 6 p.m. on Feb. 13 in the Pagosa Springs Middle School library.

robert@pagosahun.com

Need \$100? Need \$5,000?
Come see us now!

\$ CASH LOANS \$


Short-term loans based on collateral only, we take collateral on the following:
Cars • Trucks • Trailers • ATVs • Motorcycles
Guns • Gold • Jewelry • Silver & More

★ Got Gold? Get Cash! ★

We buy gold, silver, guns, ammo and more.


Turn your old, broken jewelry into CASH TODAY

San Juan Trading Post
635 San Juan St. (Hwy 160) • (970) 731-PAWN (7296)



Pizza & Pours

Enjoy delicious oven-fresh pizza and your favorite brews on tap.



MOUNTAIN PIZZA & TAPROOM

Law Enforcement, Firefighters, EMTs & our Veterans always receive 20% off!

175 PAGOSA STREET • 11 AM TO 10 PM DAILY
Order On Line: MountainPizzaTapRoom.com

Free Medicare webinar set for Jan. 23

By Caryn Hill
San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging

Learn what's new in Medicare for 2024.

This year there are several new changes to Medicare's prescription drug program as well as Part A (hospital coverage) and Part B (medical coverage) premiums and co-pays.

Join this no-cost webinar and learn how the changes may affect

you.

A SHIP (State Health Insurance Assistance Program) Medicare counselor with the San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging will hold a webinar on Tuesday, Jan. 23, at 3 p.m.

To register for the webinar, go to the San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging website at sjbaaa.org and click on Medicare tab. Or, to register by phone, leave a message at (970) 264-0501, ext 2.

Closure

■ Continued from front
would be eroded if the walls are not built, causing the same issues that led to the 2023 replacement.

Torres indicated that this would cause the same issue and that part of the failure of the old culverts was caused by erosion around the previous retaining wall.

County Manager Derek Woodman explained that there was also erosion under the old culverts.

Torres stated that the project would cost \$122,585 for concrete work and \$16,360 for the additional dirt work for a total \$138,945.

He stated that the other bid for the project by Concrete Connection of Pagosa was \$150,650.53.

Commissioner Ronnie Maez asked what caused the difference between the bids.

Torres explained that the specifications for both bids were the same, but that one bid was higher.

Commissioner Veronica Medina pointed out that the bid from Mastercraft was not itemized while the Concrete Connection bid was partially itemized.

Commissioner Warren Brown asked what the timeline of the project would be.

Torres stated that the project would likely start in February and

would last a week, with North Pagosa Boulevard being closed for a "couple days while the trucks are in there" during this period.

Brown requested that Torres work with Public Information Officer Ashley Springer to distribute advance notice of the closure to the public.

Torres indicated he would do so. At the BoCC meeting later in the day, the board considered the selection of a vendor.

Torres explained to the board that, following the discussion of why the Mastercraft bid was cheaper, he examined the bids again and learned that the Concrete Connection bid included 61.98 more cubic yards of concrete than Mastercraft.

Because of this difference and the likelihood that Mastercraft would require a change order during the project to increase the amount of concrete, he recommended that the county move forward with Concrete Connection.

Following a brief discussion of the amount more concrete that would be applied, the BoCC unanimously voted to select Concrete Connection as the contractor for the project.

josh@pagosahun.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

BLUE PITCHER LINDNER | MANAGING BROKER CRS, RENE



"Blue is the perfect realtor. She is prompt, courteous, and conscientious. She was patient and took the time to thoroughly explain each step of the process." - Erin Felber

LEE RILEY | BROKER ASSOCIATE CRS, GRI



"Even though we had a small one acre parcel to sell, we got the same attention and help as if we were selling a million dollar property." - Herman Valdez

KALEI PITCHER | BROKER ASSOCIATE



"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



Grant

■ Continued from front

County receiving one award.

The region as a whole received approximately \$30 million out of the about \$112 million in CPF grants awarded statewide, Hittle indicated.

"We're really happy about it and I think it will bear good fruit," he said. "I was hopeful for at least one. To get two is even better."

Hittle explained that the first project awarded funds is by Visionary Broadband and involves bringing fiber to homes in the Lake Hatcher area and areas south of it to serve a total of 1,034 addresses.

According to the CBO website, the award for the project was \$3,913,702, with Visionary providing \$1,304,568 in matching funds.

Hittle stated that the project will also include installing a feeder line to the Lake Hatcher area, which will likely go along Escobar Avenue and through Twin Creek Village to near Steven's Field airport to connect to existing fiber lines.

He explained that the project will build fiber to the home for the addresses along this route, as well, although they were ineligible for the CPF grant funding.

A Visionary representative indicated that this will likely add between 300 and 500 addresses to those served by the project, Hittle stated.

He added that the cost per address with the ineligible addresses

will likely be near \$1,500, which he described as "right in the sweet spot" for the economics of fiber and broadband construction.

Hittle also explained that the project will build fiber to the Hatcher water tower, facilitating the construction of an additional cell tower for the area at that site.

County Attorney Todd Weaver asked what the Internet speed requirements for these projects are.

Hittle stated that he was unsure of the precise requirements.

He then moved on to discussing the second project awarded grant funding, a project by Clearnetworx including the Pagosa Meadows units one through four, the Timber Ridge subdivision, Alpha subdivision and some areas near the margins of these developments.

According to the CBO website, the project will build fiber to 561 households and involves \$6,104,736.70 in CPF grant fund supplemented with \$2,034,912.30 in matching funds from Clearnetworx.

Hittle explained that the cost for the project will be approximately \$3,000 an address.

He commented that he believes the grants — along with a project by the Southern Ute Indian Tribe (SUIT) to build fiber to the home to 400 addresses in Arboles — will continue momentum on the build-out of fiber to area homes.

He highlighted that these projects will serve close to 3,000 homes

overall, a third of the 9,000 homes that the Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation estimated need service in the area.

Hittle also commented that these projects will take build-out of fiber further than he expected during the CPF grants cycle.

He added that the business model established with these grants will prepare the area for the upcoming Broadband Equity Access and Deployment (BEAD) program funds that will be coming to the state in the future.

Commissioner Ronnie Maez commented that he is "really excited" about the grant awards and that, without these grants, the associated projects would likely not be completed in the next 10 or 15 years.

Hittle highlighted the importance of the county's prior investment in broadband infrastructure and middle-mile projects in preparing the area to receive the CPF grants.

Commissioner Warren Brown commented that the collaboration across the region has also been valuable in advancing broadband access and allowing the county to secure grants.

Hittle expressed agreement with Brown and thanked the BoCC for its continued support of broadband expansion.

Weaver asked if Hittle knew the timelines for the completion of the funded projects.

Hittle explained that he hopes that the projects will start this summer as this would integrate well with the timing of BEAD program grants and allow construction on the CPF grant-funded projects to flow directly into construction on the BEAD program-funded projects.

He added that he hopes, by the end of the BEAD program funding, that the county will have fiber to 85 percent of homes.

This work will occur without any matching funds from local governments, Hittle explained, and will only require continued letters of support and legal assistance from the county.

He then discussed potential additional projects in the area, including fiber improvements in the downtown Pagosa Springs area integrated with Colorado Department of Transportation work on U.S. 160, elements of the fiber installation on Wolf Creek Pass and in South Fork, and a gap in fiber lines between Three Springs and Durango that needs to be completed to finish a fiber backbone going from Durango through SUIT lands to Pagosa.

He explained that some of these projects could potentially be funded through money from the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) and that an application for a grant would need to be assembled soon to be presented to DOLA in the spring.

Hittle noted that the costs of Internet access provided by these

projects will vary; they will likely be more affordable than many other options in the community.

He also raised the issue that he would need to speak with county Road and Bridge staff, Visionary and Clearnetworx to develop a protocol for installing fiber underground into road rights of way since this may be necessary for portions of these projects.

Commissioner Veronica Medina asked if any of the projects will help improve redundancy and create consistent connections for the area.

Hittle explained that projects such as bringing fiber over Wolf Creek Pass or through the SUIT reservation from Durango would assist in creating redundancy and that, if properly utilized, these redundant lines would stabilize Internet and phone service in the community and help prevent failures.

Weaver added that these improvements would hopefully make such outages "old news."

Hittle commented that the county's and Town of Pagosa Springs' support and investment of funds are the reasons why these improvements are occurring.

"It's money well invested," Maez said, adding that the new lines will allow Internet and cellular service to be rerouted if one route fails.

Hittle expressed agreement, noting that there are ongoing efforts to create similar redundancy statewide by developing multiple

interlocking rings of fiber connectivity in the Southwest Colorado region.

He added that these rings will require work to ensure they are effectively maintained and managed by the local governments and economic development districts that operate them in addition to ensuring they are not solely controlled by one vendor and thus fail if that vendor stops operating.

Medina thanked Hittle for his "hard work and diligence."

Brown also expressed his appreciation.

"Been a long haul, but you got it hauled," Maez said.

Hittle also explained to the BoCC that he expects a start date for a new cell tower in southern Hinsdale County up Piedra Road to be announced soon.

He stated that this will significantly improve cellular service in the area, especially with the potential additions of cell towers near Cloman Boulevard and Lake Hatcher.

Maez and Weaver pointed out the long process of installing the Hinsdale cell tower and its potential impact on the community.

Maez and Weaver concluded the meeting by commending Hittle for his work and thanking other partners in the project at La Plata County and the Region 10 League for Economic Assistance and Planning.

josh@pagosasun.com

Trail

■ Continued from front

Avenue, Dickhoff explained.

The town would need two easements from the property owners for these sections of trail to move forward — one from the school district for the segment running through the elementary school frontage and one from the Stanger property on the west-end segment of the trail.

"It is expected that engineered construction plans will be completed in 2024, with construction occurring in 2025 in conjunction with the Pagosa Views trail construction," states the agenda document.

There is currently no existing pathway on either side of U.S. 160 in this area for pedestrian traffic.

In 2019, the town was awarded Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Improvement Program funds for the design and construction of the trail.

Since these CMAQ funds are federal dollars funneled from the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) and the town will be receiving the funds through CDOT, it's required that the town enter into an IGA with CDOT for the project.

From this funding stream, the town would receive \$662,320 and is obligated to contribute \$137,680 of its own dollars for a 17 percent match in funds, for a total project cost of \$800,000.

Dickhoff explained that design of the trail will begin in 2024 and that this is budgeted for in the approved 2024 budget.

"Construction is anticipated in 2025, after the design is approved by CDOT," he said, adding that the estimated cost for construction of the town's portions of trail would amount to \$703,000, with the town receiving a \$582,000 reimbursement, for a total "out-of-pocket" cost to the town coming in at \$121,000 for 2025.

"I think it's just great that this project continues to move forward, although slowly ... but this is one of the first things that, when I moved to town back in 2008, I got involved with," council member Mat deGraaf said, reflecting on the long-term community vision to connect downtown to uptown via a multiuse trail.

He added, "I'm really thankful for all the work that's been done. It's an expensive trail. And we know that,

but I'm constantly just amazed at the strategy and the way in which resources are brought in to help with the cost of this trail in an incredible way."

Council member Brooks Lindner asked Dickhoff why the property owners of the Pagosa Views development were responsible for paying for the construction of the trail, but not the other two property owners.

Dickhoff explained that the "trigger for the obligation" to contribute to the trail system was development, pointing out that "there's no development" being proposed on those properties to trigger the obligation.

He added that a "selling point" for obtaining easements from the school district and Stanger is that "if we can get those trail easements and get the grant funding to build it, then it takes that obligation away from them or a future developer" since the trail will already be built.

Dickhoff explained that it would "provide a financial benefit to that property," adding that both the school district and Stanger have voiced support for the trail in the past.

"I'm most excited that this is in our budget already, so we are not asked to do a budget amendment right away" in the new fiscal year, Mayor Shari Pierce said. "Thank you for that."

Dickhoff explained that his staff was also looking at a "federal no-match grant" to bring before the council at the Jan. 9 meeting.

The grant, he noted, is part of the federal infrastructure funding and "could help us get the rest of it done."

According to the Town-to-Lakes Trail Master Plan, created in 2011, the original vision for the trail was to connect downtown and the San Juan River to the existing trail network in the Pagosa Lakes area.

The intention was to create "a trail and 'greenway' network along the four-mile urban corridor between the San Juan River in downtown Pagosa Springs and Pagosa Boulevard in Pagosa Lakes," according to the plan.

Dickhoff noted that this larger trail project is the type of project that "is very eligible for these funds, so we are trying to strategize how we want to approach that."

The grant could be upward of \$3

million to \$4 million, and could help the town complete the trail system beyond Great West Avenue, "all the way up to Aspen Village," Dickhoff added.

"That's exciting," Pierce added. When a motion was made to approve the IGA with CDOT for the expenditure of CMAQ funds for the trail, authorizing the town manager to sign the IGA, the motion was carried unanimously by the council.

On Jan. 9, the council unanimously approved giving the town the blessing to apply for a Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant to help complete the additional segments of trail.

Agenda documentation for the Jan. 9 meeting indicates that the town would need to spend upward of \$10,000 "preparing for the submission of the grant application, to cover costs associated with Engineers Cost Estimates, Mapping, a Benefit Cost Analysis, and other consultant services as needed."

The document notes this was not budgeted for in the 2024 budget.

"However, staff believes we will see reductions in a number of other general fund budget line items (empty staff positions for example) that can offset this \$10,000 investment," the document states.

If awarded, this would help the town extend the trail beyond Great West Avenue, resembling the original idea laid out in the master plan.

Projects Manager David Hilborn explained the grant opportunity would support "funding the completion of the Town-to-Lakes Trail."

He added the opportunity was "pretty rare, and it's pretty amazing in the fact that we can have the ability to apply for the rest of the funds necessary to complete the project."

The scope of this additional project would include the trail extending from Great West Avenue to Harman Park, redoing the Harman Park traffic circle, a connecting road from Harman Park to Cornerstone Drive, and a trail from Pinon Causeway to South Pagosa Boulevard, he explained.

The Town-to-Lakes Trail Master Plan can be found on the Town of Pagosa Springs' website at www.pagosasprings.co.gov/planning-department/webforms/plans-and-guidelines.

derek@pagosasun.com



SUN photo/Shari Pierce

Recent cold temperatures have led to frosty mornings in downtown Pagosa Springs, as was seen Tuesday morning along South 6th Street.

Fix

■ Continued from front

the Loma Linda Booster Station," Connor states, adding that this station increases the water pressure to provide service to all homes in the Loma Linda and Holiday Acres subdivisions.

"The crew isolated the leak around 7:30 p.m. and called for emergency locates to make sure there were not any other utilities in the area where digging would need to occur," Connor continues. "It took approximately two hours to clear all

of the utility locates and in that time the crew prepared tools and their cold weather gear as it was clear they would be working well into the night. The location of the leak necessitated an immediate repair otherwise 676 homes in the area would have been without water."

He indicates that the crew worked on the leak from 5:30 p.m. to 7 a.m. the next day in extremely cold temperatures.

According to the National Weather Service Weather and Hazards

DataViewer, temperatures in Pagosa Springs were around 24 degrees Fahrenheit at 5 p.m. on Jan. 11 and fell steadily over the night to a low of -20 degrees at 7 a.m. on Jan. 12.

"Not all leak repairs take this long, but in these temperatures the work is slow, and the power tools do not function well," Connor explains. "Upon inspection, the crew found the cause of the leak to be a valve gasket that had blown out. The crew replaced the gasket and installed a grip ring

on the valve to ensure the gasket would not blow out again. A grip ring is a solid connection that can be installed on fittings or valves in the distribution system to make the piping more rigid."

He states that, once the leak was repaired and the crew began to reopen the system, they noticed another valve starting to leak.

He indicates that PAWS staff plan to repair this valve during the week of Jan. 15.

PAWS District Engineer/Man-

ager Justin Ramsey stated in an interview with The SUN that leaks and breakages of this kind are common in the extremely cold conditions the area has experienced recently.

He added that PAWS has addressed a large number of such leaks in the recent weeks.

Ramsey explained that the public will primarily observe leaks by seeing water flowing in areas where it would not normally be present, such as pooling of water in odd locations or normally dry ditches

having flowing water, although in rarer instances they could also notice pressure drops or dirty water due to dirt being sucked into a line through a breach.

Connor also states that water leaks are common in such conditions and notes that potential water leaks can be reported by calling the PAWS offices at (970) 731-2691 or by reporting the leak at <https://www.pawsd.org/customer-care/report-a-concern-/>.

josh@pagosasun.com

Sports

BASKETBALL

Lady Pirates extend winning streak to eight

By Robert Moore
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirates continued their winning ways with two more victories over the last week as the team defeated the 3A Centauri Falcons on Friday 39-35 and then went on the road Saturday to defeat the 3A Ignacio Bobcats 41-29.

The two wins improved the Lady Pirates' overall record to 9-3 and extended their winning streak to eight games.

The Centauri game was a hard-fought battle for the Pirates with the outcome remaining in doubt until late in the fourth quarter.

Centauri exerted control early in the game. The Falcons outscored the Pirates 11-6 in the first quarter and 12-8 in the second quarter to post a halftime lead of 23-14.

Coach Sarah Osborn indicated the team's defense was critical to keeping them in the game, saying, "We were always down to Centauri, but there was never a gap big enough that they [the Pirates] couldn't come back from. And it was frustrating them [Centauri] enough that they never got momentum to pull away."

Daveyann Snarr took a critical charge about halfway through the third period, which Osborn noted was a turning point in the game as "the team kind of pulled together and said we're going to do this for each other instead of trying to do it individually. And I think from then on the momentum kind of shifted in our direction."

Pagosa was able to close the gap to 32-24 at the end of the third quarter, but the Lady Pirates dominated the fourth quarter, outscoring the Falcons 20-7.

With approximately five minutes left in the game, the Lady Pirates implemented a full-court press, which provided an obstacle for Centauri, with Osborn saying, "I love our press ... when we needed it, they turned it on."

With about three minutes left, the Pirates went into a stall game and closed out the game by making eight of 12 free throws down the stretch, winning by a final score of 39-35.

The Lady Pirates' scoring was led by Elizabeth Currier with 14 points, followed by Annie O'Donnell with 12, Kylie Ketchum with eight, Daveyann Snarr with seven and Karsyn Shahan with three.

O'Donnell led the team in rebounding with 10.

Currier followed with nine rebounds. She also logged three assists and two steals.

Daveyann Snarr had two rebounds and Adelyn Hittle pulled down one.

Shahan added one rebound, two assists, five steals and one block.

The team gathered 23 rebounds in the game, committed nine turnovers and shot 65 percent from the free-throw line, making 13 of 20 attempts.

In their next game, the Lady Pirates defeated the Ignacio Bobcats 41-29 in a game dominated by defense from both teams.

Ignacio and Pagosa had three



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Karsyn Shahan goes in for a layup in front of a Centauri defender during the Lady Pirate's come-from-behind win.

blocks each in the first quarter, with neither team able to score until approximately four minutes were left in the opening period. The teams were tied at 11 at halftime.

The Pirates played a strong second half, scoring 30 points to the Bobcat's 18, to win by a final score of 41-29.

"When our offense is struggling, ... we have a lot of set plays where I can get different girls scoring and make [the other team] kind of change who they're guarding or adjust their defense a little bit. And that really kind of brought us alive in that second half of scoring," Osborn said.

Ketchum and Currier scored in double figures with 12 and 11 points, respectively, followed by Daveyann Snarr with eight, O'Donnell with six and Shahan with four.

O'Donnell added six rebounds

and three steals; Shahan added five rebounds, two assists and two steals; Amber Snarr had four rebounds and one assist; and Ketchum posted three rebounds, two assists and three blocks.

The team grabbed 22 rebounds while committing 15 turnovers and shot 57 percent from the free-throw line, making four of seven attempts.

The two wins improved the Lady Pirates' record to 9-3 and Pagosa moved up to No. 3 in the 4A Ratings Percentage Index (RPI) standings, which help determine postseason seedings.

Centauri's record is 7-3, and the Falcons are currently ranked No. 6 in the 3A RPI standings.

Ignacio's record now stands at 4-6, and the Bobcats are currently ranked No. 9 in the current 3A RPI standings.

Up next for the Lady Pirates is an

away game against the 4A Alamosa Mean Moose on Friday, Jan. 19, at 5:30 p.m.

Alamosa is 8-4 on the season and is ranked No. 12 in the 4A RPI standings.

Focusing next on the upcoming Alamosa game, Osborn said, "They switch defenses a lot. They just try and create chaos. So, it's maintaining our composure in that chaos ... So, I've got to be ready with a good game plan on how to stay consistent in our offense and not let them create the chaos."

The Lady Pirates will hit the road the following day to face the 3A Bayfield Wolverines on Saturday, Jan. 20, at 3:30 p.m.

The Wolverines are 1-6 on the season and ranked No. 46 in the 3A RPI standings.

robert@pagosasun.com



SUN photo/
Randi Pierce

The Lady Pirates celebrate their come-from-behind 44-39 victory over Centauri as coach Sarah Osborn looks on.

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL INSPECTIONS

Are you
Buying or Selling
a Property?

Contact Greg Pohlman
at Complete Home Inspection LLC
970-846-4712

"Providing quality inspection services since 1997."



www.completehomeinspection.us

Your One-Stop
HOME
INSPECTION
SERVICE

- Safety
- Structural Integrity
- Equity



Greg Pohlman
Certified Master
Inspector



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.



- ★ Know your Rights!
- ★ Gain more Constitutional Knowledge than 99% of Americans!
- ★ Learn Tangible Action Steps for Preserving Liberty!
- ★ Entertaining! Inspiring! Educational!
- ★ Learn the Biblical, Historical, and Constitutional Foundation of Freedom!

Grace
IN PAGOSA
1044 Park Ave
Pagosa Springs



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.

New Year! New Home!



420 Ponderosa Drive
Views! Location! One level, 2023 sq. ft. 3 bedroom, 3 bath home with 8-car heated garage, 5 minutes from downtown. Fenced yard.
MLS 809732 • \$1,123,500



1382 County Road 973, Arboles
Water, water, water, 20 shares, pond, irrigation, 2 bedroom, 1 bath on 10.14 acres, remodeled in 2021.
MLS 807938 • \$619,000



145 Hills Circle
Close to National Forest, fishing, paddle boarding, 2 bedroom + loft, 2 bath, 2-car detached garage. New windows, log beam accents, in-floor radiant heat.
MLS 804534 • \$478,000



59 E. Cotton Court
Lake Forest area. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, Brand new home, stocked lake, backs to National Forest and motorized trails, granite, upgraded countertops.
MLS 808568 • \$472,000



11 Pinon Hills Place
Huge Navajo Lake and La Plata Mountain views from this 3 bedroom, 2 bath on 1 acre lot. Includes 40x30 shop, convenient to Navajo Lake.
MLS 804419 • \$275,000



141 Hollow Drive
1.1 acre, no HOA, new engineered septic system, ready for your home.
MLS 802483 • \$68,500



46 Gala Place
Great location, near fishing and National Forest. Treed lot with southern view.
MLS 806764 • \$35,000



6 Laurel Drive
.31 acre lot in Twin Creek Village, easy access, sits above Dutton Canyon open space, near National Forest.
MLS 798968 • \$35,000



Debbie Loewen
Employing Broker
debbie@ownpagosa.com
448 Pagosa Street
(970) 946-3480



2016 & 2018 SPIRIT AWARD, 2019 REALTOR OF THE YEAR

BASKETBALL

Pirates top Falcons in close game, extend win streak to 10

By Robert Moore
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirates chalked up two more victories this past week as the team narrowly defeated the 3A Centauri Falcons on Friday 39-37, then took down the 3A Ignacio Bobcats 54-37 on the road Saturday.

The two wins improved the Pirates' overall record to 11-1 and extended their winning streak to 10 games overall and their home-court winning streak to four.

The Centauri game was a defensive battle for both teams, with coach Wes Lewis commenting, "They're good defensively and points were hard to come by for both squads."

The Pirates opened with an early eight-point lead in the first quarter and led Centauri 10-4 at the end of the quarter.

Foul trouble for the team, and Colt Lewis in particular, allowed the Falcons to stay close in the second period, with Centauri hitting a 3-pointer at the end of the first half to pull within three, trailing the Pirates 20-17.

In the third quarter the Falcons pulled within one, but the Pirates played well the last two minutes of the period to extend their lead to 32-24 at the end of the quarter.

The teams battled back and forth in the fourth quarter.

A "flop" technical was called on Blake Laner with two minutes remaining in the game. A "flop" technical is called when a player tries to draw a charge, but the official rules there is no contact.

"That was a tough one for sure ... and not only do they hit the jumper, but they get the two free throws plus possession," the coach said. "So, that could have been a really big swing."

Laner blocked a shot and Centauri missed a 3-pointer at the end of the game to seal the victory for the Pirates, with the final score 39-37.

Laner led the team in scoring with 15 points and Colt Lewis added 10 points. Chase Harper and Nathaniel Kinsley each scored five points, while Ridge Wilson and Creede Dozier added two points each to round out the Pirate scoring.

Laner led the team in rebounding with nine to go with his two steals and four blocks; Wilson had five rebounds, two assists and one block; Kinsley added three rebounds, one assist, and one block; Colt Lewis had three rebounds, three assists and one steal; Dozier contributed two rebounds and one steal; Harper had one rebound and two assists; and Seth Ziegler had an assist.

The team gathered 23 rebounds in the game while committing six turnovers and made six of 15 free-throw attempts for 40 percent.

In the Ignacio game, Wes Lewis indicated the Pirates fell behind by eight in the first half, but "we got it going a little bit better in the second quarter ... We got some things going for us. Our defense was still pretty good. Ignacio's a tough gym to play in."

After halftime, Wes Lewis stated, "We made a little adjustment on offense and they were playing a little



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Colt Lewis skies over several Centauri defenders in an attempt to score. Lewis picked up 10 points against Centauri in the Pirates' win.

one-two-two zone and so we kind of found what we thought would be a crack in it, if you will, and we exploited that two or three times in the second half and kind of went from being up six to getting it to double digits ... and then we ... kind of got in the driver's seat a little bit."

The final score of the game was Pagosa 54, Ignacio 37.

The Pirates received scoring contributions from a number of players, as Laner scored 15, Colt Lewis added nine, Wilson had eight, Harper and Kinsley each scored seven, Dozier hit six, and Ziegler

added two.

A strong team rebounding effort (32 total) was led by Laner with 12 rebounds to go with his three assists and two steals. Wilson had eight rebounds, two assists and one steal; Colt Lewis had four rebounds, three assists and two steals; Harper had three rebounds and two assists; Dozier added three rebounds, two assists and five steals; Kinsley had two rebounds, one assist, and five steals; and Seth Ziegler had one rebound.

The Pirates made 18 of 27 attempts from the free-throw line for 67 percent.

The two wins improved the Pirates' record to 11-1 and Pagosa moved up to No. 2 in the 4A Ratings Percentage Index (RPI) standings, which help determine postseason seedings.

Centauri's record is now 6-4, and the Falcons are ranked No. 17 in the 3A RPI standings.

Ignacio evened their record at 5-5, and the Bobcats are ranked No. 21 in the 3A RPI standings.

Next up for the Pirates is an away game against the 4A Alamosa Mean Moose on Friday, Jan. 19, at 7 p.m.

Pagosa Springs is 2-8 against Alamosa since January of 2020. The Mean Moose are 8-3 on the season and ranked No. 20 in the current 4A RPI standings.

The Pirates will then square off against the 3A Bayfield Wolverines on Saturday, Jan. 20, at 4 p.m. in Bayfield.

The Wolverines are 1-9 on the season and are ranked No. 48 in the 3A RPI standings.

Looking toward the upcoming games with Alamosa and Bayfield, the coach said, "Alamosa on Friday, they're always tough. They've got a really nice big guy. He's about 6-4 ... good athlete, good player, blocks a lot of shots, can shoot the three ... and then they've got a lot of complementary pieces around him ... So, it'll be a big one for us as it always is in the league. And then follow them up with Bayfield on Saturday, and Bayfield is getting better."

robert@pagosahun.com



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Chase Harper gets ready to pass against a Centauri Friday night. The Pirates won the defensive matchup 39-37.



More Than Just Signs!

- DECALS & WINDOW GRAPHICS
- VEHICLE GRAPHICS & WRAPS
- STORE FRONTS
- PROMOTIONAL PRODUCTS
- APPAREL PRINTING
- NEON & ELECTRIC SIGN REPAIR
- MEMORIAL STONES

LOCATED AT 57 MAJESTIC DR. PAGOSA SPRINGS, CO

JIM GARRETT

◆ ATTORNEY ◆

Protecting your interests

LITIGATION, CRIMINAL DEFENSE
BUSINESS, REAL ESTATE, WILLS

New location: Downtown, above the theatre
422 PAGOSA ST., NO. 5
970-880-0468 • 412-508-1060
P.O. BOX 3265, PAGOSA SPRINGS • jyg44law@gmail.com



Custom Builders

Our local in-house energetic and experienced team, with New Zealander Dan Aitken at the helm, have a broad skill set and the equipment to keep up with Quality and also Timing-logistics with full Integration of trades producing a higher seamless standard of build. Let us handle your project from vision — design — planning — reality. We pride ourselves on transparency to our clients throughout the process, establishing long-lasting friendships in our small mountain town.

Established and Insured

Call Dan at 970-799-6278 for more information.

42Belowconstructioncompany@gmail.com • Media source: Instagram 42below_construction_co
Located at 91 Stevens Lake Road, Pagosa Springs, Colorado

The journey matters— let Hart Custom Builders guide the way

- Fine Custom Homes
- Commercial and Municipal Buildings
- Infrastructure



Serving:
Pagosa Springs, Bayfield,
Durango, South Fork,
and surrounding areas

Follow Hart on Facebook
@HartCustomBuilders

250 Pagosa Street • (970) 264-0110 • hartbuilders.com

ENERGY EFFICIENCY REBATES

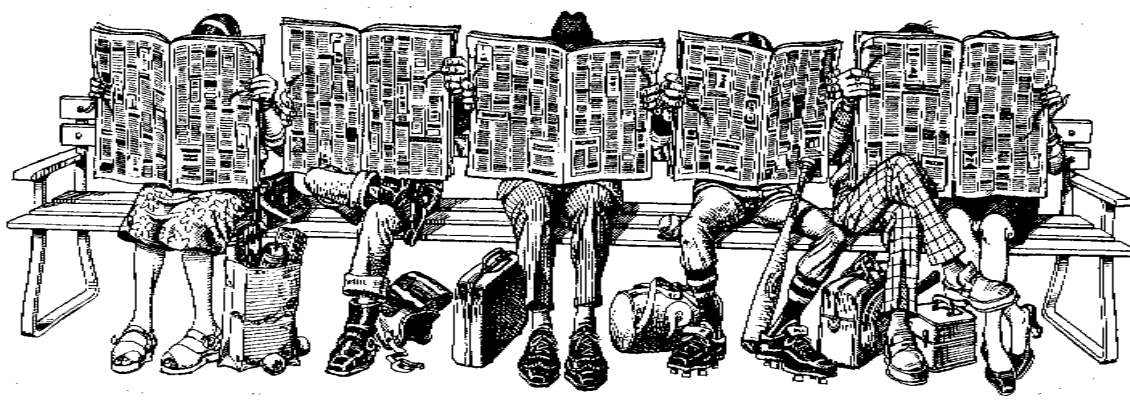
In the market for a new clothes washer?

Receive a \$30 rebate for qualifying Energy Star® appliance
Application/information on the LPEA web site



La Plata Electric Association 970.247.5786 | www.lpea.coop

Thursday wouldn't be Thursday without ...





Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Mastercard Visa Check enclosed

Account number _____

Expiration date _____

Signature _____

In county \$35 yearly

Out of county \$45 yearly

The Pagosa Springs Sun
PO Box 9
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
(970) 264-2100

SWIM



Photo courtesy Heather Miller

Gemma Slingerland does the breaststroke in Durango. Slingerland competed in more than a half dozen events over two days.



Photo courtesy Heather Miller

Grace Cram swims freestyle in Durango last week. This week, the Lady Pirates will take part in meets in Delta and Grand Junction.

Lady Pirates take on challenges in Durango meets

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirate swim team swam back into action on Jan. 12 and 13 in Durango, taking part in a pair of meets to open the 2024 portion of their schedule.

"Overall both meets went very well," coach Heather Miller wrote in an email to The SUN.

Miller explains that several Lady Pirate swimmers were tasked with taking on events challenging to them at the meets.

"We asked some of the swimmers to swim some challenging events for them and they stepped up to try them," Miller wrote.

"Most notable," Miller highlights, were Asia Gorman and Chloe Gantt swimming their first legal 100-yard butterfly events; Gemma Slingerland, Natalia Monterroso and Becca Stewart swimming their first 200-yard individual medleys; and Chloe Gantt and Marlowe Hedgecock swimming their first 500-yard freestyle races.

Additionally, Miller points out Marie Smith, Bella Gutierrez and Lucia Rivera swam their first 200-yard freestyle events.

"We had some mistakes in some of these swims which resulted in disqualifications but overall great efforts from all," the coach wrote.

Miller also highlighted that Gorman and Smith had best times with every swim during the meets.

The Lady Pirates first took part in the DHS Friday Nite Home meet on Friday, Jan. 12.

Miller notes that, due to issues with the meet setup, no team scores were kept for the meet, which featured Durango, Pagosa and Sargent.

In the 200 freestyle, Karis Blackman took fifth with a time of 2

minutes, 55.50 seconds, while Slingerland took seventh with a time of 3:04.93.

Gorman took fifth in the 200 individual medley with a time of 3:16.67.

Seven Lady Pirates took part in the 50-yard free, with Gantt finishing eighth with a time of 33.70 seconds, Leah Blackman taking 10th with a time of 35.37 seconds, Stewart finishing 11th with a time of 36.78 seconds, Smith taking 13th in 45.48 seconds, Natalie Talley finishing 14th in 44.11 seconds, Gutierrez finishing 15th in 40.55 seconds and Rivera finishing 16th in 46.28 seconds.

In the 100 butterfly, Gorman finished in 1:43.10 to take fourth.

In the 100-yard freestyle, Karis Blackman took eighth with a time of 1:15.63, Cram finished ninth with a time of 1:19.15, Stewart finished 11th in 1:24.50 and Rivera finished 13th in 1:41.21.

Gantt swam the 500-yard freestyle in 7:26.37 to finish sixth.

Two Lady Pirate teams competed in the 200-yard freestyle relay.

The team of Gantt, Slingerland, Leah Blackman and Karis Blackman finished fifth with a time of 2:19.08.

The team of Monterroso, Gutierrez, Talley and Stewart finished seventh with a time of 2:33.09.

Seven Lady Pirates took part in the 100-yard backstroke, with Cram finishing fifth with a time of 1:29.67, Slingerland finishing sixth with a time of 1:40.31, Monterroso finishing next with a time of 1:48.09, Leah Blackman finishing eighth in 1:50.15, Smith taking ninth with a time of 1:55.93, Talley finishing 10th in 2:01.28 and Gutierrez following with a time of 2:12.06.

In the 400-yard freestyle relay, the Lady Pirate team of Gorman,

Cram, Leah Blackman and Hedgecock took fifth with a time of 5:16.36.

The following day, the Lady Pirates were back in action in Durango, where they took third in the three-team meet.

Miller noted that, due to the previous day's issues, Saturday was switched to invitational scoring.

The Lady Pirates picked up 179 points on the day, which followed Durango's 345.5 and Sargent's 424.5.

In the 200 medley relay, the Lady Pirate team of Gorman, Karis Blackman, Gantt and Hedgecock picked up 22 points after finishing fourth with a time of 2:30.23.

Six Lady Pirates competed in the 100 freestyle.

Cram earned seven points after finishing seventh with a time of 2:59.11. Leah Blackman followed in eighth with a time of 3:16.99 to earn five points. Smith took 10th and earned three points with a time of 3:40.97. Gutierrez followed in 11th with a time of 3:49.40 to earn two points. Rivera added one point to the team's total after finishing 12th in 4:00.17. Talley finished in 13th with a time of 4:09.51.

Karis Blackman took third and earned 12 points in the 200 individual medley with a time of 3:17.25. Slingerland followed in fourth with a time of 3:35.78 to earn 11 points.

Gorman finished seventh and earned seven points after swimming the 50 freestyle in 31.60 seconds. Hedgecock earned one point after finishing 12th with a time of 37.10 seconds. Monterroso finished 14th in 37.10 seconds.

Gantt finished second in the 100 butterfly with a time of 1:32.88 to earn 13 points.

Five Lady Pirates swam the 100 freestyle. Slingerland earned one point

after finishing 12th with a time of 1:24.73. Leah Blackman took 14th with a time of 1:28.18. Gutierrez finished 15th in 1:36.01. Smith followed in 16th with a time of 1:36.73. Talley logged a time of 1:51.37 to finish 17th.

In the 500 freestyle, Gorman finished first and earned 16 points with a time of 7:38.90. Cram earned 13 points with a second-place finish in 8:03.75. Hedgecock swam a time of 8:17.13 to finish third and earn 12 points.

In the 200 freestyle relay, the team of Gantt, Slingerland, Leah Blackman and Karis Blackman finished fifth with a time of 2:22.75 to earn 20 points.

Karis Blackman finished sixth in the 100 breaststroke with a time of 1:30.60 to earn nine points. Gantt finished 11th and earned one point with a time of 1:41.57. Rivera logged a time of 1:58.88 to finish 14th.

In the 400 freestyle relay, the team of Gorman, Cram, Leah Blackman and Hedgecock logged a time of 5:19.15 to finish fourth and earn 22 points.

Next up, the Lady Pirates will head to Delta and Grand Junction.

The Lady Pirates will face the Delta Panthers in a 3 p.m. meet at the Delta Rec Center.

The following morning, the team will be in action at the Grand Junction Invitational at Colorado Mesa University, with action beginning at 9 a.m.

According to Miller, the goal for both events "is to clean up some of the issues we had in Durango with false starts on relays and to be quicker into and out of turns. Our focus for Delta is swimming off events, new or not normal events, and for Grand Junction the focus is working on each swimmer's best events since this is where we will swim our conference meet in a couple weeks."

She added that the team's focus over the next few weeks will be working on stroke techniques, turns and race strategies. randi@pagosasun.com

WRESTLING

Six Pirates place at Lady Bronco Invitational

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate girls' wrestling division competed at the Lady Bronco Invitational on Jan. 13 in Kirtland, N.M., with four Lady Pirate wrestlers placing at the event.

The team overall placed sixth out of nine teams at the event.

Coach Dan Janowsky highlighted that the athletes, like many in girls' wrestling, are young, and that they are "wrestling well."

"I really like their development in terms of their skill level," he said. "They do practice as a girls' team, but they are in the same practice with the boys and they work really hard, and I think it's paying off for them. ... They've done some really good things. As I tell them often, they're pioneers blazing the trail for others."

He added that the event included a new wrestler, Halle Munyon, who recently became eligible to compete.

In the 107-pound weight class, Madisen Stretton took second place and scored 12 points for the Pirates.

She defeated her opponent in the first championship round by decision and pinned her opponent in the second round. In the third round, she was defeated 3-2 in the ultimate tiebreaker period.

The coach explained that Stretton lost in a "triple-overtime nail-biter right at the buzzer."

In the 114-pound weight class, Munyon was pinned in the quarter-

final and first consolation rounds.

In the 120-pound weight class, Dalton Hoover scored four points.

She received a bye in the first championship round before being pinned in the quarterfinal. She then received another bye in the second consolation round before winning by forfeit in the third consolation round. She was pinned in the consolation semifinals.

In the 132-pound weight class, Kylie Matyniak was pinned in the first, second, third and fourth rounds to take fifth place.

In the 145-pound weight class, Aspen Salazar placed fourth and scored three points for Pagosa.

She was pinned in the first

round and pinned her opponent in the second round before being pinned two more times in the fourth and fifth rounds.

In the 235-pound weight class, Laykyn Baxstrom placed second and scored 18 points for the Pirates.

She pinned her opponents in the quarterfinal and semifinal rounds before losing the first-place match by decision.

Janowsky noted that this is the second time Baxstrom has achieved a second-place finish this year.

The Lady Pirates will next compete at a quad in Ignacio on Jan. 17 beginning at 5 p.m. josh@pagosasun.com

Triple Impact Student-Athlete of the Week

Marie Smith
Cross-country, swim, track

Favorite subject: Art

Comments from coaches Heather Miller and Darcy DeGuise: "Marie Smith has shown tremendous promise as a swimmer since joining the swim team her senior year. Marie is always one of the first swimmers in the water on practice days. She is extremely coachable and takes instruction from her coaches to heart, constantly trying to improve her stroke: be it flip turns, underwater breakouts, or diving. Even though this is her first year on the team, as a senior, she is a quiet leader always demonstrating 100% effort, focus, a growth mindset, and a positive attitude. Outside of the pool, Marie is an excellent student athlete: she earns high marks in all of her classes, which also sets a great example to our younger swimmers on how to balance her academics with the sport. We are so happy that Marie decided to swim this year. She has been a wonderful addition to her team and to the sport of swimming!"

Affordable Kitchens

Masterpiece Cabinetry
(Lifetime Warranty)

970-749-4335



Merillat.com

Proudly serving Pagosa Springs for 25 years.

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

Sewer Inspection Cameras

Sewer Snakes

Dehumidifier

Wood Chippers

Man Lifts

Dump Trailers

Skid Steers

Excavators

Log Splitters & more



See our full line of equipment on pinevalleyrental.com

Shop local for your equipment rental needs



305 Bastille Drive
(970) 731-4410

Ruts Driving You Nuts?

Save money on gas and maximize your tire life with a high-definition digital wheel alignment using the latest technology from HawkEye™ and Pagosa Springs' most qualified technicians.

10% OFF

Vehicle Alignment

Bring in or mention this ad for this limited time offer. Shop supplies and tax not included. May not be combined with any other offer. See the friendly Pros at Piedra Automotive for details. Offer ends 2/29/24

10% OFF

Full Service Oil & Filter Change

Bring in or mention this ad for this limited time offer. Shop supplies and tax not included. May not be combined with any other offer. See the friendly Pros at Piedra Automotive for details. Offer ends 2/29/24

Piedra Automotive

(970) 731-3335
505 Piedra Rd.
Open 8:00 - 5:30 Mon. - Fri.

24 Hour TOWING & EMERGENCY ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE

Winter 2024 Showroom Sale!

January 22-26 • 10AM to 4PM



X5L Standard

Regular price: \$10,272.95
Inventory: Acorn/Sunset (2)
Showroom Model: Acorn/Almond

Sale Price
\$8,400

SAVINGS!
\$1,872.95

X6R Standard

Regular price: \$10,323.28
Inventory: Storm/Granite (1)
Acorn/Almond (1)
Showroom Model: Storm/Granite

Sale Price
\$8,450

SAVINGS!
\$1,873.28

X6L Standard

Regular price: \$12,058.95
Inventory: Storm/Granite (2)
Acorn/Sunset (1)
Showroom Model: Storm/Granite

Sale Price
\$9,800

SAVINGS!
\$2,258.95

A5L Select

Regular price: \$16,138.95
Inventory: Timber-Ebony/Platinum (1)
Showroom Model: Timber-Ebony/Platinum

Sale Price
\$12,500

SAVINGS!
\$3,638.95

A6L Standard

Regular price: \$15,036.28
Inventory: Woodland Brown/Almond (1)
Showroom Model: Woodland Brown/Almond

Sale Price
\$12,000

SAVINGS!
\$3,036.28



SAVE an additional **\$500** on each Showroom Model

HOMESPUN HOT TUBS

HomespunHotTubs.com • 301 N. Pagosa Blvd. #B-6 • (970) 344-8437

WRESTLING



Photo courtesy Pagosa Springs High School

Pirate Harley Armijo works to pin his opponent while competing at the Jan. 12 and 13 Mel Smith Invitational in Florence. Armijo placed fourth in the 215-pound weight class at the tournament and was one of four Pirates to finish in the top four.



Photo courtesy Pagosa Springs High School

Pirate Seth Aucoin works to bring his opponent to the mat during the Mel Smith Invitational in Florence on Jan. 12 and 13. Aucoin scored four points for the Pirates at the event, where the team placed 11th overall.



Photo courtesy Pagosa Springs High School

Pagosa grappler Luke Tressler struggles with his opponent during a match at the Jan. 12 and 13 Mel Smith Invitational in Florence. Tressler placed second in the 138-pound weight class at the tournament.

Pirates place 11th at Mel Smith Invitational, to host final home dual Thursday

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate boys' wrestling team competed at the Mel Smith Invitational on Jan. 12 and 13, taking 11th place overall and having four wrestlers place.

Coach Dan Janowsky commented that the tournament was a "quite good" success for the team, noting that the Pirates did not have a full lineup due to injuries and other issues.

"We sat close to the bottom for the first two rounds," he explained. "Then, as the rounds advanced, our team score started to advance up."

He stated that the team's goal is to have wrestlers place in the top three at the state championship and that the tournament allowed the Pirates to see "nearly all" the wrestlers they will be competing against at the championship.

"So, we know we're close with four guys," Janowsky added, referencing the four Pirates who placed in the top four at the tournament.

He also noted that the wrestlers who did not place "showed a lot of improvement," facing tough opponents and wrestling well.

The Pirates took 11th place out of 34 teams in the tournament with 94 points, placing behind regional rivals Centauri, who took fifth place, and Brush, who took second, but ahead of Alamosa, who took 16th, and Manitou Springs, who took 25th.

In the 120-pound weight class, Stetson Osborn was pinned in the first championship round, received a bye in the first consolation round and was pinned again in the second consolation round.

Tucker Jacobsen, competing in the 126-pound weight class, was pinned in the first championship round, received a bye in the first

consolation round and was defeated with a pin in the second.

In the 132-pound weight class, Hudson Mazur scored four points for the Pirates.

He was pinned in the first championship round and received a bye in the first consolation round before pinning his opponent in the second consolation round by decision.

In the 138-pound weight class, Luke Tressler took second place and scored 26 points for Pagosa.

He pinned both of his opponents in the first and second championship rounds before winning the quarterfinals by decision. Tressler then pinned his opponent in the semifinals before losing the final match by decision.

The coach highlighted Tressler's semifinals match, explaining that his opponent defeated him last year, but that Tressler wrestled "really well against him."

"The fact that Luke won isn't necessarily surprising, but the way he went about it was pretty surprising," Janowsky said highlighting Tressler's victory with a pin in the match.

Colton Lucero, wrestling in the 144-pound weight class, placed second and scored 25 points for the Pirates.

He won both the first and second championship rounds with pins and defeated his opponent in the quarterfinals by a major decision. He then won in the semifinals by decision before losing the final match by decision.

Janowsky highlighted that Lucero lost the final 2-0, with the first and third periods being scoreless and Lucero's opponent scoring on a reversal in the second period.

"We were in on the tying shot when time expired," he added. "So, it was very close. He got one score and

we got none. But I think we learned a lot in that match that is gonna help us moving forward."

He explained that Lucero's opponents have to make a "special plan" to wrestle him due to his "unique skills," and there are "a couple guys" in 3A who have the skills to execute such a plan, which he noted often includes efforts to slow Lucero while in neutral position while outperforming him on the ground, particularly in terms of scoring reversals and escapes.

"It's the last chance to see some really exciting wrestlers, and some of our seniors, it's their last time to wrestle in our gym," he said. "Some of them are really fun to watch. I'd love to see people make some time and come out and support them and show their appreciation for them."

Coach Dan Janowsky

"And when they get us, they kind of show us a few things that they're doing that we have to prepare for," he said.

He added in reference to Lucero being outscored on the mat, "We have to be sure we're really working hard to improve that so they can't get away with that because how we've

lost twice now. ... One score on the mat has beat us two weeks in a row."

He noted that working on these issues will be a team effort and a potential area for overall team improvement.

In the 150-pound weight class, Wyatt Hoover lost the first championship round by decision, received a bye in the first consolation round and was defeated by major decision in the second.

In the 157-pound weight class, Seth Aucoin scored three points for Pagosa.

He received a bye in the first championship round before losing the second by decision. He pinned his opponent in the second consolation round, but lost the third by a major decision.

In the 190-pound weight class, Conner Kelly took fourth place and scored 16 points for Pagosa.

Kelly received a bye in the first championship round before winning the second with a pin and the quarterfinal match by decision. He was then defeated with a pin in the semifinals before winning the consolation semifinals by decision. Kelly lost the third-place match by decision to take fourth place.

Janowsky explained that Kelly was seeded sixth for the tournament and "got a couple of nice wins."

The coach highlighted Kelly's victory in the quarterfinals, explaining that Kelly had defeated this opponent before, but "we had to be really, really, really on our game in order to stay ahead of him and I thought Conner wrestled really, really intelligently in that match and in the others mostly."

Harley Armijo, in the 215-pound weight class, took fourth place and scored 16 points for the Pirates.

He received a bye in the first championship round before pinning his opponent in the second and be-

ing pinned in the quarterfinals. He won the fourth and fifth consolation rounds by decision, as well as the consolation semifinals. He was then pinned in the third-place match.

The coach stated that, in the quarterfinals, Armijo faced the top-ranked wrestler in the state for the weight class, traded points with him and was leading him before he was pinned.

"Harley is really getting a feel for the techniques that he's good at and can use them to win matches against really good opponents," Janowsky added.

He also highlighted Armijo's opponent in the second championship round and the third-place match, explaining that Armijo was able to pin his opponent while behind in the second championship round, but was bested in the third-place match.

"That guy will be a regional opponent and we're gonna have to take a look at those matches and make a plan," he commented.

In the 285-pound weight class, Antonio Quesada scored five points for Pagosa.

He received a bye in the first championship round and was pinned in the second. Quesada received another bye in the second consolation round before winning the third consolation round with a pin and the fourth by decision. He was then pinned in the fifth consolation round.

The Pirates will compete next in the team's final home event of the season, a dual against Bayfield on Jan. 18 set to begin at 6 p.m. at Pagosa Springs High School.

Bayfield previously defeated Pagosa 43-36 at a tri in Bayfield on

Dec. 1, 2023.

Janowsky commented that both teams have had "a lot of time to improve" since this dual and that he hopes the Pirates will be able to field a strong lineup, although he noted that the team's dual meet lineup has been especially impacted by certain injuries within the team.

However, he added, he is unsure how or if Bayfield's lineup might be impacted by injuries as well.

Janowsky stated that the event will also include a junior varsity dual starting at 5 p.m. and will be the team's senior night.

"It's the last chance to see some really exciting wrestlers, and some of our seniors, it's their last time to wrestle in our gym," he said. "Some of them are really fun to watch. I'd love to see people make some time and come out and support them and show their appreciation for them."

Following this event, the Pirates will participate in the Randy and Naomi Keys Tri at Centauri High School in La Jara on Jan. 20.

According to Janowsky, this event will include challenging duals against Centauri, who defeated the Pirates 47-36 at the Demon Duals event in Buena Vista on Dec. 2, 2023, and Buena Vista, who Pagosa has not faced.

He indicated that Centauri could be a particular challenge due to having a strong lineup and matching up well with Pagosa in terms of strong weights.

He added that a lack of familiarity with the other teams' lineups, as well as injuries, illnesses and burnout, could make the results of the tri more unpredictable.

josh@pagosasun.com

Good luck, Pirates!

STAY ON TOP OF IT ALL!
Subscribe Today!

PagosaSUN.com
(970) 264-2100
\$35 annual in county
\$45 annual out of county

Upgrade to include our website for the month of February only \$50

Half Page Ad Buy One, Get One FREE!

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

Requirements: A minimum of 2 half-page ads must run in February 1 through 29, 2024 editions. Must be the same ad for both insertions, runs do not need to be consecutive. Business' main office must be located in Archuleta County. Offer not available for color ads. Limited to the first 10 advertisers.

It's the Best Deal of the Year. What Are You Waiting For?

Call your friendly, knowledgeable and experienced advertising representatives to reserve your advertising space today.

970.264.2100

The Pagosa Springs SUN
Publishing Visitor Guides in Pagosa Springs for over 30 years
Publishing the Official Newspaper of Archuleta County since 1909

Outdoors



Photo courtesy Pagosa Nordic Club

The Pagosa Nordic Club will host the 15th annual Red Ryder BB Gun Biathlon on Saturday, Jan. 20, at Yamaguchi Park. The event includes a competitive 16km, citizens 4km and a KidK with racers shooting at targets between course laps with the supplied BB guns. Costumes are encouraged, with prizes for the best top three outfits. Registration and event information can be found at PagosaNordic.com under the events tab.

Continental Divide Trail Coalition announces Jan. 24 virtual town hall event

Continental Divide Trail Coalition

Later this month, the Continental Divide Trail Coalition (CDTC) will host a virtual town hall meeting to report on the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail (CDT) and related initiatives and public engagement projects.

The CDT town hall will highlight recent projects and trail improvements implemented across the states that encompass the CDT: New Mexico, Colorado, Wyoming, Idaho and Montana.

Projects and priorities range from trail maintenance and events to policy and advocacy, and the CDTC collaborates with other organizations, tribal authorities, agencies, trail users and CDT Gateway Communities.

"The CDT is more than just a trail—it's a pathway to strengthen-

ing connections between community members and leaders, outdoor enthusiasts, land managers and landowners while creating more opportunities for the collaborative stewardship of lands and waters in the Rocky Mountain West," said L. Fisher, CDTC trail policy manager.

The virtual town hall will take place on Wednesday, Jan. 24, at 5:30 p.m. Presentations will be followed by a question-and-answer period.

This event is free and open to the public, and community members connected to the CDT are encouraged to attend.

"This is an opportunity for the CDT community to come together," said CDTC Community and Outreach Program Manager Liz Schmit. "It underscores CDTC's commitment to collaboration, transparency and community

engagement as we work together to protect, promote and complete the trail."

Participants may register to attend the live event on the CDT Coalition website: continentaldividetrail.org/event/continental-divide-trail-town-hall-2024.

For more information, please contact communications@continentaldividetrail.org.

About the CDT

The CDT is one of the world's premiere long-distance trails, stretching 3,100 miles from Mexico to Canada along the Continental Divide.

Designated by Congress in 1978, the CDT is the highest, most challenging and most remote of the 11 national scenic trails. It provides recreational opportunities ranging from hiking to horseback riding to

hunting for thousands of visitors annually.

While 95 percent of the CDT is located on public land, approximately 150 miles are still in need of protection.

About the CDTC

The CDTC was founded in 2012 by volunteers and recreationists hoping to provide a unified voice for the CDT.

Working hand-in-hand with the U.S. Forest Service and other federal land management agencies, the CDTC is a nonprofit partner supporting stewardship of the CDT.

The mission of the CDTC is to complete, promote, and protect the CDT as a world-class national resource.

For more information, please visit continentaldividetrail.org.

BLM Southwest District Resource Advisory Council to meet Feb. 7

By D. Maggie Magee
Bureau of Land Management

The Bureau of Land Management's (BLM's) Southwest District Resource Advisory Council will hold a meeting on Feb. 7 at the Tres Rios Field Office, located at 29211 Colo. 184 in Dolores, from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

The meeting is open to the public, and participants unable to attend in person can join via the Zoom platform. To request virtual access, please register in advance at <https://blm.zoomgov.com/>

meeting/register/vJlscuevpzM-rGonLSC-Z6qj-1SzFecD08w.

"The Southwest District Resource Advisory Council's unique perspective serves the BLM well as we work to ensure the health and productivity of southwest Colorado's public lands," said District Manager Stephanie Connolly. "I want to express my gratitude to the council members and commend them for their continued commitment to public service."

Planned agenda items include updates from the three Southwest District field offices and a discus-

sion on livestock grazing allotments in Tres Rios Field Office.

A public comment period is scheduled for 2:30 p.m. Individuals who wish to make a statement during the comment period are encouraged to submit a written copy for the administrative record.

The Resource Advisory Council will also attend a field trip in Canyons of the Ancients National Monument on Feb. 6.

The meeting agenda is available online at <https://www.blm.gov/get-involved/resource-advisory-council/near-you/colorado/southwest-rac>.

All 15-member resource advisory councils in Colorado are forums for providing advice and recommendations to the BLM on various resource and land management issues. The Southwest Resource Advisory Council advises the BLM Colorado Southwest District, consisting of the Gunnison,

Tres Rios and Uncompahgre field offices.

For more information or to RSVP for the field trip, please contact Maggie Magee at (970) 240-5323 or dmagee@blm.gov.

PAWSD

Continued from front

He also commented that some of the pipes will be upsized, some of the pipe materials will be changed and certain lines will be relocated.

Burns explained that the total cost of the work will be about \$250,000 and that the \$75,000 in project funding would bring 2024 funding for the work to \$125,000.

He stated that the transportation capital line item decreased due to the district completing the office vehicle acquisition planned for 2024 in 2023 and substituting rebuilding a truck for purchasing a cab and chassis for another PAWSD truck that has a crane on it and is heavily used.

Burns indicated that the budget includes \$102,000 in additional funding for the replacement of a failed "A-basin mixer bearing" and an associated mixer at the Vista Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Ramsey explained that the basin will need to be operational again by the spring, when infiltration and inflow increases.

Burns stated that the budget for collection system upgrades was decreased by \$50,000 due to the bids for the Lift Station 8 rebuilding project coming in unexpectedly low.

He then discussed the mill levy recalculations and certification, explaining that the values for both

districts in PAWSD came down following actions by the Colorado Legislature and subsequent recalculations of property taxes.

He stated that the final assessed value for PAWSD District 1 is \$225,639,760, up 55.7 percent from 2023, while the final assessed value for PAWSD District 2 is \$175,600,130, up 43 percent from 2023.

He explained that the Colorado Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (TABOR) calculation and restriction for District 1 sets the mill levy at 3.809 mills, while the calculation for District 2 sets it at 1.353 mills, both lower than the voter-approved mill levies.

Burns added that the funds from the mill levies go into the general fund and explained, in response to board member questions, that none of the tax funds go toward paying for the loan on Running Iron Ranch and that the mill levy decreases are both temporary.

The board then approved and certified the mill levies with four board members voting for the resolution and new board member Paul Hansen abstaining.

Burns then asked the board if it had additional questions about the budget.

PAWSD board member Gene Tautges asked what efforts PAWSD

See PAWSD A15

Need an extra hand?

The reliable Errand Bunny is here for you! From grocery runs to odd jobs to help with pets (and much more), we've got your to-do list covered. Fast, friendly and ready to assist — let us handle your tasks so you can focus on what matters.

Call to book today.

Available for a wide range of business or personal tasks.

Contact today for inquiries and/or rates!

Email: errandbunnyps@gmail.com
Phone: 970-903-6715



A1 Taxi

970-585-4903

Reliability Matters!

Fully licensed and insured!
Smoke-free vehicles!
Local discount system- just ask!

Courtesy Counts!

8am-8pm daily or by appointment!
PUC 16400, MCT 0021, DOT 2842985

GO

A1 TAXI

.com

Thanks to Quiller Electric, Harmony Mechanical, All American Plumbing, & Todd Lundy HVAC

Thanks to the Trades for your essential work in completing three Habitat homes for workforce families in 2023. .



Be a part of our plan to Build 15 homes in 5 years. Find out how you can help by calling 970.264.6960 or email office@HabitatArchuleta.org. Your donation of time, money or advocacy provides a hand-up to Archuleta workforce families.

EXCAVATION WORK THAT MAKES THE GRADE

Schedule your project today!

970-731-7071

Tim Brown
CONSTRUCTION INC.

DRIVEWAYS • FOUNDATIONS • PONDS • BACKFILLING
FILL DIRT & GRAVEL HAULING • SEPTIC SYSTEMS • UTILITY WORK



BJ Jones and Lars Schneider, owners, have spent a combined total of over 45 years in Pagosa Springs.

As long-time locals, we operate with small-town hospitality without the "Pagosa-time mentality." Your time is as valuable as ours, so we operate with punctuality.

Mountain Men Disaster Mitigation is here to service you and your family through providing quality in our work, and being timely and efficient.

Don't forget to check your crawl spaces for standing water. Water mixed with the normal environments produced in a crawlspace is the perfect breeding ground for microbial growth. We also offer sump pump system installations and repairs as well as moisture barriers. Call today for a free evaluation!

Pipes froze and flooded your home?

Call us for 24/7 Emergency Response
Call 970-946-0238 or 970-749-9028

DISASTER RESTORATION
FLOOD MITIGATION
CRAWLSPACE INSPECTIONS/WORK



Fire Restoration Mold Remediation Smoke and Odor Removal
Water Extraction Structural Drying

Lars Schneider
970-946-0238

BJ Jones
970-749-9028

MountainMenDM.com • mail@mountainmendem.com

NATIONALLY LICENSED INSURED LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED



ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS – TO BE HELD FEBRUARY 14, 2024

The Annual Member Meeting of RG BANK, a Savings and Loan Association (the "Bank") will be held Wednesday, February 14, 2024 at the **Monte Vista Chamber of Commerce**, 947 First Avenue, Monte Vista CO, 81144, at 4:00 p.m.

Business to come before the meeting: (i) Election of two Directors for 3-year terms, (ii) Presentation of the Annual Report of the Bank, and (iii) Consideration of any other business that may come before the meeting. The Bank's annual Disclosure Statements are available upon request by mail from RG BANK, PO Box 29, Monte Vista, CO or by telephone (719) 852-5933 directed to the Bank's President. The first copy of the annual disclosure statement shall be provided to a member at no charge.

Only Members of RG BANK, a Savings and Loan Association are permitted to attend the meeting. A notice of the meeting has been mailed to account holders. The proxy committee for this meeting consist of Eric Kimberling, Charles Bryant, and Danielle Anderson, or their assigned appointees, should this become necessary.

Shon R. Davis
President

RG BANK
Published January 18, 2024 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*, (226825)

COMBINED NOTICE - PUBLICATION CRS §38-38-103 FORECLOSURE SALE NO. 2023-009

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) June J. Travis & James 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 (Receipt No. and/or Book/ Page No.) 21606226
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 6, 1971 as Reception No. 74567, 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.

WHEREFORE, 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 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: Cantafio & 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. 2023-010**
To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with regard to the following described Deed of Trust: On November 9, 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 (Receipt 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.

WHEREFORE, 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 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: Cantafio & 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. 2023-010**
To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with regard to the following described Deed of Trust: On November 9, 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 (Receipt 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.

WHEREFORE, 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 # 23CO00165-1
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
vs.
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: dgeggleston@k-law.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 court of the complaint without further notice.

This is an action to quiet the title of the Plaintiff in and to the real property situate 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, 2011 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)

DISTRICT COURT, WATER DIVISION 7, COLORADO WATER RESUME
(This publication can be viewed in its entirety on the state court website at: www.courts.state.co.us.)
TO: ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN WATER APPLICATIONS IN SAID WATER DIVISION NO. 7
Pursuant to C.R.S. 37-92-302, you are notified that the following is the resume of all water right applications filed in the Office of the Water Clerk during the month of December 2023, for Archuleta County.
23CW3059 IN ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO. APPLICATION FOR FINDING OF REASONABLE DILIGENCE. Applicant, Alpine Cascade Corporation; c/o J. R. Ford; P.O. Box 4490, Pagosa Springs, Colorado 81157; Telephone: 970-264-5000; E-mail: frontdesk@pagosalandcompany.com. Please send all correspondence to Applicant's attorneys: Michael A. Kopp, #43204, Luke O'Brien, #58014; Trout Raley, 1120 Lincoln Street, Suite 1600, Denver, CO 80203; Telephone: 303-861-1963; E-Mail: mkopp@troutlaw.com; lbrien@troutlaw.com. 2. **Name of structure:** West Mesa Storage System, consisting of Bridge Pond, Waterfall Pond, and Lodge Pond. 3. **Description of conditional water right:** A. **Date of original decree:** August 12, 2002, Case No. 00CW21, District Court, Water Division No. 7. B. **Subsequent decrees awarding findings of diligence:** Case No. 16CW3044, District Court, Water Division 7, December 7, 2017; Case No. 08CW61, District Court, Water Division 7, November 15, 2010. C. **West Mesa Storage System:** (i) **Bridge Pond:** The center of Bridge Pond dam is located in the NE1/4 NW1/4 of Section 23, Township 34 North, Range 2 West, N.M.P.M., in Archuleta County, Colorado, at a point whence the

North 1/2 Corner of said Section 23 bears North 62°30' East, a distance of 370 feet, (ii) **Waterfall Pond:** The center of Waterfall Pond dam is located in the SW1/4 SE1/4 of Section 14, Township 34 North, Range 2 West, N.M.P.M., in Archuleta County, Colorado, at a point whence the Northeast Corner of said Section 11 bears North 31°10' East, a distance of 2,880 feet, D. **Source of water:** (i) **Bridge Pond:** Inflow from an unnamed tributary on which Bridge Pond is located, local drainage tributary to Bridge Pond, and water pumped from the San Juan River via one or two pipelines from the points of diversion described in Paragraph 3.E. (ii) **Waterfall Pond:** Inflow from an unnamed tributary on which Waterfall Pond is located, local drainage tributary to Waterfall Pond, and water pumped from the San Juan River via one or two pipelines from the points of diversion described in Paragraph 3.E. (iii) **Lodge Pond:** Water pumped from the San Juan River via one or two pipelines from the points of diversion described in Paragraph 3.E. and local drainage tributary to Lodge Pond. E. **San Juan River points of diversion:** The West Mesa Storage System, consisting of Bridge Pond, Waterfall Pond, and Lodge Pond, may be filled from the San Juan River by pumping pipelines from one or a combination of the following points of diversion: (i) **San Juan River Intake:** A point of diversion near the west bank of the San Juan River at a point South 61° 30' East, 2,900.0 feet from Northwest Corner of Section 12, T34N, R2W, N.M.P.M., in Archuleta County, Colorado. (ii) **Pit Park Ditch Head-gate:** A point of diversion on the west bank of the San Juan River in the SW1/4 NE1/4 of Section 13, Township 34 North, Range 2 West, N.M.P.M., in Archuleta County, Colorado, at a point whence the North 1/4 Corner of said Section 23 bears North 23° 53' 41" West, a distance of 2,801.0 feet. (iii) **Gazabo Park Infiltration Gallery:** A point of diversion approximately 150 feet west of the west bank of the San Juan River in the SE1/4 NW1/4 of Section 12, Township 34 North, Range 2 West, N.M.P.M., in Archuleta County, Colorado, at a point whence the Northwest Corner of said Section 12 bears North 40° 30' 26" West, a distance of 2,951.1 feet. F. **Rate of diversion:** 6.0 cfs from all points of diversion. G. **Appropriation Date:** June 15, 1999 for all ponds. H. **Amount:** 125 acre-feet, of which 13.47 acre-feet is absolute and 111.53 acre-feet remains conditional, with the right to fill and refill in priority. Pursuant to the decree in Case No. 00CW21, water may be stored up to the decreed amount of 125 acre-feet in any combination of the three ponds as alternate places of storage for the West Mesa Storage System water right. Each pond was decreed with the following estimated capacities: (i) **Bridge Pond:** 42 acre-feet. (ii) **Waterfall Pond:** 55 acre-feet. (iii) **Lodge Pond:** 28 acre-feet. I. **Uses:** (i) Irrigation; livestock watering; fire suppression; dust control; domestic uses associated with low-density residential development; recreational and fish and wildlife propagation uses associated with storage in Bridge Pond, Waterfall Pond, and Lodge Pond; and augmentation and exchange uses by release from storage, if necessary, water may be released from storage under a separately approved plan for augmentation for out-of-priority depletions to the San Juan River that may be caused by the use of wells associated with the low-density residential development, or for other augmentation purposes. Water stored in the West Mesa Storage System ponds may also be used to replace evaporative depletions associated with the underground water right decreed for the Pit Park Gravel Pit Well in Case No. 23CW111, the event that there is a valid claim to the San Juan River at the Pit Park Gravel Pit Well. (ii) Applicant also intends to pump water on a direct flow basis to the West Mesa Storage system ponds pursuant to the Applicant's ownership of a portion of the San Juan River Intake direct flow right decreed in Case No. W-10673-73 for the purposes of recreation and fish and wildlife propagation in and below the West Mesa Storage System ponds. (iii) The Northwest Corner of said Section 12 bears North 40° 30' 26" West, a distance of 2,951.1 feet. (iv) Legal description of irrigated acreage: 1. **Gazabo Park:** an irregular parcel of land lying on the west bank of the San Juan River in the NW 1/4 of Section 12, Township 34 North, Range 2 West, N.M.P.M., containing 12.2 irrigated acres, the northermost corner of which is located at a point whence the Northwest Corner of said Section 12 bears N 67°38'58" W a distance of 2,748.98 feet, 2. **Middle Park:** an irregular parcel of land lying on the west bank of the San Juan River in the SW 1/4 of Section 12 and the NW 1/4 of Section 13, Township 34 North, Range 2 West, N.M.P.M., containing 14.0 irrigated acres, the northermost corner of which is located at a point whence the Southwest Corner of said Section 12 bears S 49°41'04" W a distance of 2,148.26 feet, 3. **Pit Park:** an irregular parcel of land lying on the west bank of the San Juan River in the NE 1/4 and the SE 1/4 of Section 23, Township 34 North, Range 2 West, N.M.P.M., containing 27 irrigated acres, the northermost corner of which is located at a point whence the North 1/4 Corner of said Section 23 bears N 29°14'34" W a distance of 2,210.64 feet, 4. **Low-Density Residential Area on Mesa:** approximately 55 irrigated acres lying between Trujillo Road and the edge of the mesa overlooking the San Juan River canyon within the East 1/2 of Section 11, the West 1/2 of Section 12, the NW 1/4 of Section 13, and the NE 1/4 of Section 14, Township 34 North, Range 2 West, N.M.P.M. 1. **Detailed outline of what has been done toward completion of the appropriation:** A. During the diligence period, the Applicant rebuilt the diversion structure for the Perkins Pit Well ponds, at a cost of approximately \$13,282. B. During the diligence period, the Applicant completed a river restoration project in the area of the Perkins Pit Well ponds at a cost of approximately \$315,378. C. During the diligence period, the Applicant incurred approximately \$725 in legal fees and expenses developing water rights for Applicant's property and opposing water rights applications with the potential to harm the subject water rights. 5. **Claim for finding of reasonable diligence in part:** A. Applicant seeks a finding of reasonable diligence for the remaining conditional portion of the Perkins Pit water right. 6. **Name(s) and address(es) of owner(s) or reputed owner(s) of the land upon which any new diversion or storage structure, or modification to any existing diversion or storage structure, or will be constructed or upon which water is or will be stored, including any modification to the existing storage pool:** Applicant. (6 pages)

THE WATER RIGHTS CLAIMED BY THE FOREGOING APPLICATION(S) MAY AFFECT IN PRIORITY ANY WATER RIGHTS CLAIMED OR HERETOFORE ADJUDICATED WITHIN THIS DIVISION AND OWNERS OF AFFECTED RIGHTS MUST APPEAR TO OBJECT AND PROTEST WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY STATUTE, OR BE FOREVER BARRED. YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT YOU HAVE UNTIL the last day of February 2024, to file with the Water Clerk, a verified Statement of Opposition, setting forth facts as to why a certain application should not be granted or why it should be granted only in part or on certain conditions. A copy of such Statement of Opposition must also be served upon the applicant or the applicant's attorney and an affidavit or certificate of service shall be filed with the Water Clerk, as prescribed by Rule 5, CRCP. (Filing fee: \$192.00; Forms are available through the Office of the Water Clerk or on the Judicial web site at www.courts.state.co.us.) Jason Poyer, Water Court Specialist, 1060 E. 2nd Ave., Room 106, Durango, CO 81301; (970-247-2304) */s/ Jason Poyer*
Water Court Specialist
Published January 18, 2024 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*, (226229)

DISTRICT COURT, WATER DIVISION 7, COLORADO WATER RESUME
(This publication can be viewed in its entirety on the state court website at: www.courts.state.co.us.)
TO: ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN WATER APPLICATIONS IN SAID WATER DIVISION NO. 7
Pursuant to C.R.S. 37-92-302, you are notified that the following is the resume of all water right applications filed in the Office of the Water Clerk during the month of December 2023, for Archuleta County.
23CW3060 IN ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO. APPLICATION FOR FINDING OF REASONABLE DILIGENCE. Applicant, Alpine Cascade Corporation; c/o J. R. Ford; P.O. Box 4490, Pagosa Springs, Colorado 81157; Telephone: 970-264-5000; E-mail: frontdesk@pagosalandcompany.com. Please send all correspondence to Applicant's attorneys: Michael A. Kopp, #43204, Luke O'Brien, #58014; Trout Raley, 1120 Lincoln Street, Suite 1600, Denver, CO 80203; Telephone: 303-861-1963; E-Mail: mkopp@troutlaw.com; lbrien@troutlaw.com. 2. **Name of structure:** Perkins Pit (a.k.a. Pit Park) Gravel Well. 3. **Description of conditional water right:** A. **Date of original decree:** October 18, 2002, Case No. 95CW110, District Court, Water Division No. 7. B. **Subsequent decrees awarding findings of diligence:** Case No. 17CW3027, District Court, Water Division 7, December 29, 2017. C. **West Mesa Storage System:** (i) **Bridge Pond:** The center of Bridge Pond dam is located in the NE1/4 NW1/4 of Section 23, Township 34 North, Range 2 West, N.M.P.M., in Archuleta County, Colorado, at a point whence the

North 1/2 Corner of said Section 23 bears North 62°30' East, a distance of 370 feet, (ii) **Waterfall Pond:** The center of Waterfall Pond dam is located in the SW1/4 SE1/4 of Section 14, Township 34 North, Range 2 West, N.M.P.M., in Archuleta County, Colorado, at a point whence the Northeast Corner of said Section 11 bears North 31°10' East, a distance of 2,880 feet, D. **Source of water:** (i) **Bridge Pond:** Inflow from an unnamed tributary on which Bridge Pond is located, local drainage tributary to Bridge Pond, and water pumped from the San Juan River via one or two pipelines from the points of diversion described in Paragraph 3.E. (ii) **Waterfall Pond:** Inflow from an unnamed tributary on which Waterfall Pond is located, local drainage tributary to Waterfall Pond, and water pumped from the San Juan River via one or two pipelines from the points of diversion described in Paragraph 3.E. (iii) **Lodge Pond:** Water pumped from the San Juan River via one or two pipelines from the points of diversion described in Paragraph 3.E. and local drainage tributary to Lodge Pond. E. **San Juan River points of diversion:** The West Mesa Storage System, consisting of Bridge Pond, Waterfall Pond, and Lodge Pond, may be filled from the San Juan River by pumping pipelines from one or a combination of the following points of diversion: (i) **San Juan River Intake:** A point of diversion near the west bank of the San Juan River at a point South 61° 30' East, 2,900.0 feet from Northwest Corner of Section 12, T34N, R2W, N.M.P.M., in Archuleta County, Colorado. (ii) **Pit Park Ditch Head-gate:** A point of diversion on the west bank of the San Juan River in the SW1/4 NE1/4 of Section 13, Township 34 North, Range 2 West, N.M.P.M., in Archuleta County, Colorado, at a point whence the North 1/4 Corner of said Section 23 bears North 23° 53' 41" West, a distance of 2,801.0 feet. (iii) **Gazabo Park Infiltration Gallery:** A point of diversion approximately 150 feet west of the west bank of the San Juan River in the SE1/4 NW1/4 of Section 12, Township 34 North, Range 2 West, N.M.P.M., in Archuleta County, Colorado, at a point whence the Northwest Corner of said Section 12 bears North 40° 30' 26" West, a distance of 2,951.1 feet. F. **Rate of diversion:** 6.0 cfs from all points of diversion. G. **Appropriation Date:** June 15, 1999 for all ponds. H. **Amount:** 125 acre-feet, of which 13.47 acre-feet is absolute and 111.53 acre-feet remains conditional, with the right to fill and refill in priority. Pursuant to the decree in Case No. 00CW21, water may be stored up to the decreed amount of 125 acre-feet in any combination of the three ponds as alternate places of storage for the West Mesa Storage System water right. Each pond was decreed with the following estimated capacities: (i) **Bridge Pond:** 42 acre-feet. (ii) **Waterfall Pond:** 55 acre-feet. (iii) **Lodge Pond:** 28 acre-feet. I. **Uses:** (i) Irrigation; livestock watering; fire suppression; dust control; domestic uses associated with low-density residential development; recreational and fish and wildlife propagation uses associated with storage in Bridge Pond, Waterfall Pond, and Lodge Pond; and augmentation and exchange uses by release from storage, if necessary, water may be released from storage under a separately approved plan for augmentation for out-of-priority depletions to the San Juan River that may be caused by the use of wells associated with the low-density residential development, or for other augmentation purposes. Water stored in the West Mesa Storage System ponds may also be used to replace evaporative depletions associated with the underground water right decreed for the Pit Park Gravel Pit Well in Case No. 23CW111, the event that there is a valid claim to the San Juan River at the Pit Park Gravel Pit Well. (ii) Applicant also intends to pump water on a direct flow basis to the West Mesa Storage system ponds pursuant to the Applicant's ownership of a portion of the San Juan River Intake direct flow right decreed in Case No. W-10673-73 for the purposes of recreation and fish and wildlife propagation in and below the West Mesa Storage System ponds. (iii) The Northwest Corner of said Section 12 bears North 40° 30' 26" West, a distance of 2,951.1 feet. (iv) Legal description of irrigated acreage: 1. **Gazabo Park:** an irregular parcel of land lying on the west bank of the San Juan River in the NW 1/4 of Section 12, Township 34 North, Range 2 West, N.M.P.M., containing 12.2 irrigated acres, the northermost corner of which is located at a point whence the Northwest Corner of said Section 12 bears N 67°38'58" W a distance of 2,748.98 feet, 2. **Middle Park:** an irregular parcel of land lying on the west bank of the San Juan River in the SW 1/4 of Section 12 and the NW 1/4 of Section 13, Township 34 North, Range 2 West, N.M.P.M., containing 14.0 irrigated acres, the northermost corner of which is located at a point whence the Southwest Corner of said Section 12 bears S 49°41'04" W a distance of 2,148.26 feet, 3. **Pit Park:** an irregular parcel of land lying on the west bank of the San Juan River in the NE 1/4 and the SE 1/4 of Section 23, Township 34 North, Range 2 West, N.M.P.M., containing 27 irrigated acres, the northermost corner of which is located at a point whence the North 1/4 Corner of said Section 23 bears N 29°14'34" W a distance of 2,210.64 feet, 4. **Low-Density Residential Area on Mesa:** approximately 55 irrigated acres lying between Trujillo Road and the edge of the mesa overlooking the San Juan River canyon within the East 1/2 of Section 11, the West 1/2 of Section 12, the NW 1/4 of Section 13, and the NE 1/4 of Section 14, Township 34 North, Range 2 West, N.M.P.M. 1. **Detailed outline of what has been done toward completion of the appropriation:** A. During the diligence period, the Applicant spent \$11,900 to rebuild and repair irrigation pumps serving Waterfall Pond and Bridge Pond along with other water rights owned by Applicant. C. During the diligence period, the Applicant spent \$725 on legal fees related to protecting and developing the West Mesa Storage System right. 5. **Claim for finding of reasonable diligence in part:** A. Applicant has not yet constructed Lodge Pond, Bridge and Waterfall Ponds may be enlarged in the future. Applicant seeks a finding of reasonable diligence for the remaining 111.53 acre-feet of the West Mesa Storage System to be filled by Applicant and local drainage to the Ponds. B. Applicant has not yet constructed a pipeline to pump water from the San Juan River to the West Mesa Storage System. Applicant seeks a finding of reasonable diligence for the West Mesa Storage System in the full amount of 125 acre-feet to be filled with water diverted from the San Juan River at the points described in paragraph 3.E. 6. **Name(s) and address(es) of owner(s) or reputed owner(s) of the land upon which any new diversion or storage structure, or modification to any existing diversion or storage structure, or will be constructed or upon which water is or will be stored, including any modification to the existing storage pool:** Applicant. (6 pages)

THE WATER RIGHTS CLAIMED BY THE FOREGOING APPLICATION(S) MAY AFFECT IN PRIORITY ANY WATER RIGHTS CLAIMED OR HERETOFORE ADJUDICATED WITHIN THIS DIVISION AND OWNERS OF AFFECTED RIGHTS MUST APPEAR TO OBJECT AND PROTEST WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY STATUTE, OR BE FOREVER BARRED. YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT YOU HAVE UNTIL the last day of February 2024, to file with the Water Clerk, a verified Statement of Opposition, setting forth facts as to why a certain application should not be granted or why it should be granted only in part or on certain conditions. A copy of such Statement of Opposition must also be served upon the applicant or the applicant's attorney and an affidavit or certificate of service shall be filed with the Water Clerk, as prescribed by Rule 5, CRCP. (Filing fee: \$192.00; Forms are available through the Office of the Water Clerk or on the Judicial web site at www.courts.state.co.us.) Jason Poyer, Water Court Specialist, 1060 E. 2nd Ave., Room 106, Durango, CO 81301; (970-247-2304) */s/ Jason Poyer*
Water Court Specialist
Published January 18, 2024 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*, (226229)

DISTRICT COURT, WATER DIVISION 7, COLORADO WATER RESUME
(This publication can be viewed in its entirety on the state court website at: www.courts.state.co.us.)
TO: ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN WATER APPLICATIONS IN SAID WATER DIVISION NO. 7
Pursuant to C.R.S. 37-92-302, you are notified that the following is the resume of all water right applications filed in the Office of the Water Clerk during the month of December 2023, for Archuleta County.
23CW3060 IN ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO. APPLICATION FOR FINDING OF REASONABLE DILIGENCE. Applicant, Alpine Cascade Corporation; c/o J. R. Ford; P.O. Box 4490, Pagosa Springs, Colorado 81157; Telephone: 970-264-5000; E-mail: frontdesk@pagosalandcompany.com. Please send all correspondence to Applicant's attorneys: Michael A. Kopp, #43204, Luke O'Brien, #58014; Trout Raley, 1120 Lincoln Street, Suite 1600, Denver, CO 80203; Telephone: 303-861-1963; E-Mail: mkopp@troutlaw.com; lbrien@troutlaw.com. 2. **Name of structure:** Perkins Pit (a.k.a. Pit Park) Gravel Well. 3. **Description of conditional water right:** A. **Date of original decree:** October 18, 2002, Case No. 95CW110, District Court, Water Division No. 7. B. **Subsequent decrees awarding findings of diligence:** Case No. 17CW3027, District Court, Water Division 7, December 29, 2017. C. **West Mesa Storage System:** (i) **Bridge Pond:** The center of Bridge Pond dam is located in the NE1/4 NW1/4 of Section 23, Township 34 North, Range 2 West, N.M.P.M., in Archuleta County, Colorado, at a point whence the

Public Notices

in the Perkins Pit Gravel Pit ponds was granted by the Board of Examiners of Water Well Construction and Pump Installation Contractors on February 14, 2002. D. **Legal Description:** The Perkins Pit Gravel Pit Well is located in the SE 1/4, Section 23, Township 34 North, Range 2 West, N.M.P.M., Archuleta County, Colorado, in alluvial deposits on the west side of the San Juan River. The Perkins Pit Gravel Pit Well consists of three ponds joined by a channel with a combined surface area of 8.86 acres. The locations of the individual ponds are as follows: (i) **North Pond:** The centroid of the North Pond is located at a point from whence the Southwest Corner of said Section 23 bears South 55°53'39" West, a distance of 4,087.16 feet. (ii) **Middle Pond:** The centroid of the Middle Pond is located at a point whence the Southwest Corner of said Section 23 bears South 66°56'39" West, a distance of 3,485.38 feet. (iii) **South Pond:** The centroid of the South Pond is located at a point whence the Southwest Corner of said Section 23 bears South 74°11'57" West, a distance of 2,994.75 feet. E. **Source of water:** Alluvial ground water tributary to the San Juan River. F. **Date of Appropriation:** June 5, 1980. G. **Amount:** 1,420 gpm (3.163 cfs). (i) 70 gpm (0.163 cfs), absolute, for evaporation, recreation, and fish and wildlife propagation (Case No. 08CWV74). (ii) 1350 gpm (3.0 cfs) for irrigation, stock watering, domestic, fire suppression, and dust control, as well as augmentation and exchange. 765 gpm (1.7 cfs) absolute for irrigation, dust suppression, stock watering, and fire suppression. 2,583 gpm (1.3 cfs) conditional for irrigation, dust suppression, stock watering and fire suppression. 3,150 gpm (3.0 cfs) conditional for domestic, augmentation and exchange. H. **Uses:** (i) Evaporation from 8.86 surface acres of exposed ground water. Ground water exposed to the atmosphere in the ponds evaporates at a calculated net evaporation rate of 2.65 acre-feet per acre per year. The maximum exposed surface area of 8.86 acres causes a total annual evaporation of 23.57 acre-feet per year. The estimated maximum net evaporation rate will be approximately 70 gpm. (ii) In addition to evaporation, water in the ponds is beneficially used for fish and wildlife propagation and recreation purposes. (iii) Water may also be pumped from the ponds at a maximum estimated rate of 3.0 cfs, or 1,350 gpm, for irrigation, stock watering, domestic, fire suppression, and dust control uses or stored in the ponds for augmentation and exchange. (iv) **Legal description of irrigated acreage:** 1. **Gazabo Park:** an irregular parcel of land lying on the west bank of the San Juan River in the NW 1/4 of Section 12, Township 34 North, Range 2 West, N.M.P.M., containing 12.2 irrigated acres, the northermost corner of which is located at a point whence the Northwest Corner of said Section 12 bears N 67°38'58" W a distance of

Town council weighs criteria for child care funding

By Derek Kutzer
Staff Writer

On Jan. 9, the Pagosa Springs Town Council discussed the criteria it wants to set for early child care and education organizations seeking funding from the town in 2024.

Historically, the town has budgeted money to help fund child care organizations.

In 2023, the biggest recipients of town funding were Wings Early Childhood Center (\$93,667), Seeds of Learning (\$25,667) and Pagosa Peak Open School (\$20,000).

However, 2023 also saw some of these organizations ask the Pagosa Springs Area Tourism Board (PSATB) for additional funding from a line item earmarked for tourism-related infrastructure.

This led to discussions by both the tourism board and town council about more sharply defining the criteria for tourist-related infrastructure funding, and if early child care and education organizations qualify for such funding.

It was decided to more narrowly define tourist-related infrastructure, and some applications for the funding were denied on that basis.

Another headwind facing local child care organizations seeking funding in 2024 is that the town's sales tax revenues are projected to be down by about 6 percent compared to the years following the COVID pandemic.

To reflect this downward trend in sales tax revenue, the total pot of funding for early child care and education in 2024 is budgeted at \$88,000, compared to \$150,000 in 2023.

At the meeting, the issue of the application's criteria language came before the council, where Town Manager David Harris said, "What we have here before you is the annual discussion about early childhood education funding."

He explained that town staff wished to get direction from the council about how it wanted to proceed with the application process.

He added that the application forms had been recently updated

for the council's consideration, but that the forms could be further edited if the council so desired.

Mayor Shari Pierce noted that she thought that the "process we have developed over the years has worked well, so I'm good with proceeding."

Council member Leonard Martinez said that "a part that's missing for me," in the application language, is the word "affordable."

He noted that the community already has "high quality" early childhood services, but that it's not affordable for many in the community.

"I don't know how we could integrate" language in the application that would address the issue of affordability, but that affordability would "speak to something that is very, very important for the community," he said.

"It's pretty clear to me that high-quality early education is one of the major factors in breaking the cycle of generational poverty," he said.

Pierce informed Martinez that he could always make affordability a major part of his decision making about whether or not to fund a particular organization and for how much.

Council member Mat deGraaf mentioned that Seeds of Learning works on a "sliding scale" with its customers, even though it's not "overtly stated" in the application.

Council member Matt DeGuise asked why the council couldn't just be "more transparent" in the language about affordability and just "list it as one of our criteria" for awarding funding, which would address some of Martinez's concerns.

Council member Madeline Bergon suggested that the language could read something like the following: "We are trying to accommodate a wide demographic of children in our community. How are you [the applicant] taking measures to include a variety of demographics in your program?"

Council member Gary Williams added that in the past the town has used "town money to increase the number of [child care] slots. For me,

the issue is a sustainable workforce for our town, because the kind of community we are requires a certain kind of workforce."

He added that Pagosa's workforce participation is "much lower than the state average, ... so every parent that we can provide early childhood education for is then able to join the workforce ... so, it's a more efficient way of getting people in the workforce and keeping them here and having all the benefits of early childhood education associated with it."

He agreed with deGraaf that "many of the kids" currently enrolled in the various child care centers "are already subsidized and, so, I would argue ... for us, I see our role as helping increase the number of slots, because that is ultimately what's best for our workforce."

He added that the town is still well below the number of child care slots needed in the community to foster the workforce.

"We're still short of a lot of slots," he said.

Martinez replied that he did not think that Williams' answer addressed his concern about affordability.

He acknowledged there are not enough slots, citing the waiting lists at many child care centers around town, but that parents who "are not even on the waiting lists are the poorest" in the community.

"That, to me, is kind of the double punch there. It's because that cycle never breaks if you don't deal with affordability in some way shape or form for those who don't have as many resources," Martinez said.

Pierce pointed out that she was in favor of honoring Martinez's request to add some language about affordability into the applications, adding that she thought DeGuise's suggestion about adding it into the section about criteria for funding was a good idea.

She suggested putting the language in the town's criteria for funding section, in point three, and suggested it read "support of organizations aiding families in the local workforce with affordable child care."

"Let's just add those words, 'with affordable child care,' there," she said, asking Martinez if that would be OK with him.

Martinez said, "If you put it into the criteria then it's a conscious thing, and that's what I'm looking for, that at a conscious level we are thinking about it," adding that this language would work for him, but that he's also interested in increasing capacity.

Council member Brooks Lindner noted he also supported adding the language, but that he thought it should have its own criteria point, to avoid it "getting watered down" as part of another criteria point. He was fine with the word affordability being in two places.

Martinez stated that he just wanted to find ways to get closer to affordability, saying that he liked the idea of adding the language to the criteria, "then people can figure out how to get there."

He added that too many parents in the community don't even attempt to find child care because of the costs associated with it.

He said that the town did not have to be "prescriptive" about it.

"Don't tell people how to do it, but present it and say, 'Listen, let's try to do something here,' then I think you can find ways to get there," saying the criteria language would be a way to accomplish this.

It was decided that town staff will draft a new version of the application for funding that will include language about affordability, both in point three and an additional sixth point that will focus on "organizations demonstrating increased accessibility to demographics of our community," per Bergon's request.

Harris explained that this gave his staff some "good direction" to further edit the application forms for child care funding.

derek@pagosasun.com

ROOFING

Standing Seam/Pro Panel Roofing, Roof Heating Ice Melt Systems, Roof Repair, Sheet Metal and Excavation Services

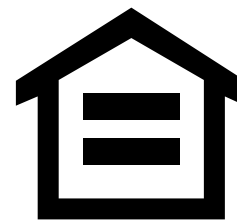


(970) 799-6278

42belowconstructioncompany@gmail.com

Local and Proudly Serving Pagosa Springs for seven years
91 Stevens Lake Rd., Pagosa Springs

HUD Publisher's Notice



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

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

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

Sell it in the classifieds

Cars • Bikes • Houses • Land • Saddles • Hay • Goats
Horses • Boats • Tools • Furniture • You name it!

The Pagosa Springs SUN
To place your classified ad, call
(970) 264-2100

PAWSD

Continued from front
is planning to reduce leaks and infiltration in 2024.

Ramsey explained that the district plans to hire a sounding company to assess pipes for leaks.

Tautges noted that two significant leaks that PAWSD found in prior months were near water bodies and suggested that the sounding focus on areas near water.

Walsh highlighted that the fund balance in the general fund by the end of 2024 will be higher than the district has typically aimed for and suggested that the district could transfer money from the general fund to the wastewater fund if it does receive state wastewater grants in 2024.

The board then discussed what size of transfer might be required before Burns moved on to explain that the water enterprise fund budget for 2024 includes \$31 million for the Snowball Water Treatment Plant expansion project as well as \$1.7 million in other water plant upgrades.

He explained that these changes will translate to a 27 percent increase from 2023 in water fund expenditures while the general fund is down 34 percent in expenditures compared to 2023, which he attributed to the lack of transfers to the two enterprise funds.

Burns stated that the wastewater fund includes \$1.756 million for engineering on upgrades to the Vista Wastewater Treatment Plant in addition to roughly \$600,000 in funding for other wastewater treatment equipment and projects.

He stated that, overall, the expenditures for the wastewater fund decreased by 4 percent from 2023.

Burns indicated that work on the Vista plant is currently being paid for by PAWSD funds, although he hopes that the district can acquire grants for the project when it is fully planned.

In response to a question from Tautges about the costs of the upgrades, Ramsey explained that the overall project is estimated at \$10 million, with \$2 million to be paid by the Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District.

Board member Bill Hudson then raised the issue of the district's affordable housing surcharge and associated waivers of fees for affordable housing projects, highlighting that \$13,000 that will be collected with the waste water surcharge will

potentially only cover waiving fees on one home.

Walsh noted that the board previously discussed having the surcharge cover waiving fees on 10 homes and that this policy would need to be revised or part of the surcharge integrated into CIFs since residents would likely object to increases in the surcharge on rates.

Following a discussion of if the current surcharge would cover the upcoming Habitat for Humanity projects, which board members commented is one of the few organizations building at the rates PAWSD allows waivers for, Walsh spoke to the board on the subject of other upcoming affordable housing projects.

"But, be prepared, we're going to have people coming forward that are building quote unquote affordable housing units at \$400,000, which are aimed at people at 140, 160 percent [area median income (AMI)] who are gonna want complete free deferrals for houses where the occupants have ... an AMI of ... \$95,000 a year," Walsh said. "That's kind of how distorted that market is getting."

"Yeah, but those ones are easy to deny," Ramsey commented.

"You think so," Walsh responded. "You think so, Justin, but you're gonna have a full-court press by everybody involved in the town, county and the [Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation] and developments. So, just be prepared. That's all I think, as a board we should be prepared to issue a tough 'no' or issue a pretty tough, 'Hey, what are you bringing to the table?' ... Our fees just result in hard capital plants and a lot of the fees ... that other entities waive are just paper fees. Anyway ... that's just my Spidey sense, is this is going to be very controversial."

"Up to this point it's been a headache, for sure, so I don't see it getting any less painful," Ramsey said.

Hudson asked if there was a way to make the waivers simpler.

Ramsey responded that he did not see a way, but that the situation had improved since the PAWSD board made it clear that they would only consider projects that matched the criteria included in the resolution that established the surcharge.

Walsh noted that PAWSD's fees are increasing, adding, "More

people are going to be coming in at much higher AMIs asking for relief from much higher fees. I'd love to be wrong here and I'm often wrong, but I do think this is going to become controversial."

Ramsey commented that he believed Walsh was correct and proposed that the board should discuss ways to revise the surcharge and the policy at a future meeting.

"I don't mind even getting out in front of it and letting people know, 'Listen, if you're going to be coming in with any projects outside of our strict policy, you'd better be coming in with the real money that you're willing to concede and the benefits to our workforce that we would see as well,'" Walsh commented. "Absent that ... we're building a \$45 million plant and the state is imposing upgrades and a plant anywhere from \$50 million to \$80 million on us. ... So, ... what we can do for folks making \$80,000, \$90,000 a year is extremely limited."

"All good topics for a meeting," Tautges said.

The board then discussed staffing at PAWSD, with Ramsey explaining the district has had two vacancies in its staff for much of 2023.

Ramsey also pointed out that the district will likely not have to hire additional staff for inspections of lead and copper pipes due to both changes to regulations that required these inspections and the project progressing smoothly.

The board then voted to adopt the budget, with four board members voting for the budget and Hansen abstaining.

Schedule and meetings

At the meeting, the PAWSD board also approved its meeting schedule for the upcoming year, with meetings planned to occur monthly with the exception of July and November.

Meetings will be held on the second Thursday of the month at 5 p.m. at the PAWSD offices at 100 Lyn Ave. with the exception of July and November.

The board also passed a resolution designating the PAWSD website as the location for the posting of meeting notices for the board with the 100 Lyn Ave. location to be used as a secondary location when posting electronically is not possible.

josh@pagosasun.com



SAN JUAN
DENTAL



Sharing our Core Values with you each day through our work

Care • Compassion • Communication • Commitment

Call today for your appointment!

970-264-9436

www.pagosa.dentist • Conveniently located downtown at 308 Pagosa Street

Accounting

JJ ACCOUNTING SERVICES

We can assist you with the following:

- Bookkeeping and Accounting Services
- Payroll and Payroll Taxes • W2s & 1099s
- Income Taxes:

Personal • LLC • Partnerships
Corporations • Electronic Filing

264-5330 • 80 County Road 600 • FAX 264-4451

Attorney



Daniel L. Fiedler
Attorney at Law

Estate Planning • Wills • Trusts
Probate • Elder Law

970-507-8528

190 Talisman Drive, Suite D-6
next to Restoration Church, behind City Market

Professional Directory

Storage & Office

Pagosa Springs Mini Storage

14th St. at 15th Place
behind Home Expo Center

Prices start
at \$25⁰⁰

Sizes available: 5'x5', 5'x10',
10'x10', 10'x15', 10'x20', and 10'x30'

For rental information call
Chris (970) 749-2867



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

A NEW PROPANE PROVIDER

IS COMING YOUR WAY

POSTAL PATRON

PRST STD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PAGOSA SPRINGS, CO 81147
PERMIT 17
ECRWSS

preview

ARTS & LIFE

WinterFest

Jan. 19-21



Photo courtesy Jeff Laydon

January 18, 2024



Photos courtesy Jeff Laydon

WinterFest weekend will kick off Friday evening with the WinterFest Bonfire and Concert and continue throughout the weekend with a variety of events.

Live Performers

Friday
The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Bob Hemenger, 5 p.m.

Saturday
The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Maxwell Miller, 5 p.m.

Tuesday
The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Jackson Mountain Ramblers, 5 p.m.

Wednesday
The Den: Karaoke, 8 p.m.

PREVIEW is a publication of

The Pagosa Springs
SUN

©Copyright 2023
O'Rourke Media Group — Pagosa Springs, LLC
ISSN 2835-3994 (Print) ISSN 2835-4001 (Online)

(970) 264-2100
PagosaSUN.com

Physical address: 457 Lewis Street
Mailing address: PO Box 9, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

Publisher
Jim O'Rourke, jorouke@orourkemediagroup.com

Editor
Randi Pierce, editor@pagosasun.com

Reporters
Josh Pike, josh@pagosasun.com
Derek Kutzer, derek@pagosasun.com
Robert Moore, robert@pagosasun.com
Intern Hailey Sams, hailey@pagosasun.com

Advertising and Circulation Manager
Shari Pierce, shari@pagosasun.com

Classified Advertising/Front Office
Cristin Flanagan, classads@pagosasun.com

Head Pressroom Robert Penton
Assistant Press Operator Matt McKinnon
Mailroom William Thomas

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Annual In County - \$35 • Annual Out of County - \$45
Monthly - \$10
Digital subscriptions available at PagosaSun.com/edition

ADVERTISING DEADLINES
Display - Noon Monday • Classified - Tuesday 10 a.m.
Legal - Friday 4 p.m. • Deadlines are moved up for holiday weeks. Please check for an ad in the paper for specific dates and times.

Karaoke Dance Party



The Den

Restaurant • Sports Bar

Every Wednesday
8pm-Midnight

729 San Juan St
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
970-264-3005

Shuttle to Wolf Creek!

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

Please call 970-731-4081 24 hours prior to reserve your spot!

\$20 One Way • \$30 Round Trip*

*All return trips depart at 4:15 p.m. sharp.

Don't be late! We are running on a tight schedule!

Monday-Sunday from (by reservation only)

Wilderness Journeys 7:30 am	Alpen Haus 7:40 am	Quality Inn 7:50 am	Summit Ski & Sports 8:00 am
---------------------------------------	------------------------------	-------------------------------	---

Return shuttle from Wolf Creek at 4:15pm

*CUSTOM rides may be scheduled based upon AVAILABILITY



Wilderness Journeys Pagosa, Inc

970-731-4081 to reserve your ride!

PUC# 16400

Or, book online at GoWJP.com



Pizza & Pours

Enjoy delicious oven-fresh pizza and your favorite brews on tap.



Law Enforcement, Firefighters, EMTs & our Veterans always receive 20% off!

175 PAGOSA STREET • 11 AM TO 10 PM DAILY
Order On Line: MountainPizzaTapRoom.com

WinterFest events to kick off Friday

By Mary Jo Coulehan

Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce

We have snow, and it's perfect timing for the 2024 WinterFest weekend events.

Grab the family, invite your friends and attend one of the many events as a spectator or participant.

Here is the schedule of events.

On Friday evening, Jan. 19, from 5 to 8 p.m. the WinterFest Bonfire and Concert will take place at the Archuleta County Fairgrounds at 344 U.S. 84. Admission is free.

There will be food vendors, a hot and cold/alcoholic and non-alcoholic drink bar and, of course, the bonfire.

The entertainment for the evening will be the popular Jackson Mountain Ramblers. We hope to make this a recurring event as we recycle people's Christmas trees as fuel for the bonfire. It is a family-friendly event and a great way to kick off the WinterFest weekend.

On Saturday and Sunday mornings beginning around 8 a.m., the hot air balloons will take to the skies — weather permitting. The balloons will launch on the west side of town on both days.

The launching takes place in various fields and parking lots around the Park Avenue and North Pagosa Boulevard areas that will accommodate the balloons.

With winter conditions, we ask the community's indulgence as it is more difficult for the pilots to land their balloons. We hope there is minimal impact; however, balloons may land for a brief time in a roadway as they move their balloon off to the side of the road.

We ask the public not to park or stop along U.S. 160 to view or take pictures of the balloons. While we know that stretch of road offers beautiful vistas with the lakes in the foreground and the snow-capped mountains framing the balloons, it is dangerous to park along the highway. Parking creates congestion and dangerous situations with people walking along the highway. Please adhere to the no-parking signage.

Saturday's festivities start off with the Nordic Club's BB Gun Biathlon, to be held in Yamaguchi Park beginning at 9:15 a.m. with registration and the first class of racers taking to the field and targets at 10 a.m. There are classes for freestyle competitors, freestyle citizens and a Kids K. Costumes are encouraged, but not required. Visit www.pagosanordic.com to register. Walk-ins for the race are welcome.

At 10:30 a.m., people and their pets can rendezvous in Town Park for the start of the annual Barkus Parade beginning at 11 a.m. The route takes you along the Riverwalk, over to The Lost Cajun and

then back to Town Park.

Of course, costumes are encouraged and awards will be given out. For a recommended donation of \$10 to Rugby's Rescue House, participants will be treated to a delicious bowl of gumbo.

Hardy souls braving the frigid waters of the San Juan River will start to register for the Penguin Plunge at noon at the Visitor Center. Spectators can line the Riverwalk across from the Visitor Center

and up to the Overlook to view the antics, which begin at 1 p.m.

Since the plungers don't stay in the river long, the plunge lasts for only about 20 minutes. Be on time and don't miss the fun.

Currently you can support the Humane Society of Pagosa Springs, Special Olympics/Aspen House, Chimney Rock Interpretive Association and Habitat for Humanity. You can still enter yourself or your

■ See WinterFest on next page

*Celebrating our
Third Anniversary!*

Saturday, Jan 20th & Sunday, Jan 21st

<p>Keen Targhee III shoes/boots 25% off</p> <p>Vans BOGO 50% off <small>(MTE's excluded)</small></p> <p>Receive a free gift with purchase of \$25 or more (while supplies last).</p>	<p>Additional 20% off items already on sale.</p>  <p>Foot Prints - Shoes & More -</p>	<p>Win a pair of Kamik Snow Boots!</p> <p><i>Earn one ticket for every \$25 spent.</i></p> <p>Drawing held 1/21/24 at 4pm. You do not need to be present to win.</p>
--	--	---

458 PAGOSA STREET footprintspagosa.com (970) 264-FOOT (3668)



Cozy Up!



20% OFF

Winter Coats



10% OFF

Recliners

Made in U.S.A.
Petite to Tall
Custom made to order



20% OFF

Dishware



20% OFF

Area Rugs

2'x3' to 8'x10'

SHOP

Snow Equipment in store or online

AceHardware.com



See our ads on TerrysACE.com

Shop www.acehardware.com for free in store pickup

525 Navajo Trail Drive • 731-4022

Mon-Fri 7:30-6 • Sat 8-5 • Sun 9-4

Prices are as marked. All sales final on discounted items, cash and carry, no returns on sale items, discounts do not apply to sale items, sale prices may not be combined with other discounts. Delivery and set up or installation not included. Some other exclusions may apply. Limited to stock on hand.



Photo courtesy Thingamajig Theatre Company

“Last Call at the Riptide” received four major honors for Pagosa’s Thingamajig Theatre Company in the 2023 statewide BroadwayWorld competition, including best performer in a play for Ivy King, right, and top-five best supporting performer in a play for Karisa Bruin, left. Both talented actors will play leading roles in Thingamajig’s next production, “Tiny Beautiful Things,” opening Feb. 16. “Riptide” also garnered top-five finishes for best direction of a play for Melissa Firlit and best new play for local artist and playwright Karl Isberg.

Thingamajig wins big in BroadwayWorld statewide competition

By Carole Howard
Thingamajig Theatre Company

Thingamajig Theatre Company excelled in the 2023 statewide competition sponsored by BroadwayWorld Denver with four first-place wins as well as 11 top-five finishes, according to results announced in Denver Jan. 10.

BroadwayWorld oversees the largest live theater audience-favorite awards on the globe, covering

Broadway in New York, the West End in London and many other key artistic locations in the U.S. and worldwide.

Thingamajig Theatre is located in the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. Its actors, directors and designers consistently have been winners in this prestigious statewide competition for many years.

Four winners

■ See Competition on next page

WinterFest

■ continued from previous page
group to plunge in the river. Pledge forms are on the Chamber’s website at www.pagosachamber.com/winterfest. Enter now or make a pledge to one of these organizations for their bravery.

Following the Plunge, stay downtown and walk up to Reservoir Hill and watch the crazy Sledz on Rez festivities. “Build It, Ride It, Win It” is this event’s motto. Homemade sleds race down the freshly groomed hill displaying their creativity and sense of adventure.

There will be numerous prizes for the sled entrants, delicious food and drink, including warm and comforting green chile, will also be available. This is a hilarious event really showing off people’s creativity and design capability. Enter as a group, family or individual. There is no cost to enter.

Sunday’s events kick off again with the hot air balloon mass as-

cension.

The only other event on this day will be the “Learn to Cross-Country Ski Clinic.” This very popular, free event fills up quickly, so preregistration is required. You can do so at www.pagosanordic.com. With the different ski types and abilities, it is important that the organization is prepared to give you the best clinic experience possible.

The event will take place at Cloman Park with registration at 9:45 a.m. and the clinics beginning at 10 a.m. Many of our wonderful ski rental and sporting good facilities are also offering discounted ski rentals if you mention you are participating in the clinic. This is the year to get out there and enjoy this winter wonderland.

For more information on all the events, visit www.pagosachamber.com/winterfest.

Don’t just shovel snow, get out there and enjoy the magic of winter — cold weather and all.

Subscribe to The SUN

LIVE MUSIC

at the Springs Resort =
5-7 pm in the Lodge Atrium



Friday, January 19
Bob Hemenger

Saturday, January 20
Maxwell Miller

Tuesday, January 23
Jackson Mountain Ramblers

Friday, January 26
Maxwell Miller

Charcuterie Board \$45
available for purchase during live music

323 Hot Springs Blvd.
800-225-0934

pagosahotsprings.com



Subscribe to The SUN
www.PagosaSUN.com



SQUARE TOP BAR-B-QUE

@ Golf Club
Open to the Public

Authentic Texas BBQ

Winter Hours:
Thursday, Friday, Saturday
noon - 6 pm
Sunday - 11 am - 6 pm

1 Pines Club Place
(970) 398-5267
SquareTopBBQ.com

BBQ, Beer & Bourbon

Full Service
Restaurant & Bar

Voted Best Restaurant
Views in Pagosa
10-years running

Carry Out Available

Let Us Cater
Your Event or Party

Host Your
Event or Party
@ Square Top

Weekly Smoked Specials
Smoked Burger Thursdays
Pork Rib Fridays, after 2pm
Beef Rib Sundays - *they go fast!*

San Juan Stargazers to hear about eclipses Jan. 18

By Joan Mieritz
San Juan Stargazers

At the San Juan Stargazers' Astronomy Club monthly meeting —

which was postponed to Thursday, Jan. 18 — our speaker will be Barbara Sanborn. She will be sharing her three most exciting eclipses. The Stargazers postponed their

monthly educational meeting due to bad weather. It will be held Thursday, Jan. 18, at the Community United Methodist Church at 434 Lewis St. You can use the parking lot and enter at the side door right off the parking area. (We leave the front doors locked.)

There is a social hour starting at 6
■ See Stargazers on next page

Competition

■ continued from previous page

Here are the four Thingamajig artists who won first place in their category for 2023:

- Best performer in a play: Ivy King, "Last Call at the Riptide."
- Best costume design for a play or musical: Alexandra Saeger, "Jersey Boys."
- Best scenic design for a play or musical: JD Madsen, "Great American Trailer Park Musical."
- Best sound design for a play or musical: Tim Moore, "Great American Trailer Park Musical."

Eleven top-five finishes

Here are the 11 Thingamajig actors, directors and designers who placed in the top five in their category in 2023:

- Best direction of a musical: Dennis Elkins, "Jersey Boys."
- Best direction of a play: Melissa Firlit, "Last Call at the Riptide."
- Best performer in a musical: Trevor Brown, "Jersey Boys."
- Best supporting performer in a play: Karisa Bruin, "Last Call at the Riptide."
- Best music direction: Boni McIntyre, "The Great American Trailer Park."
- Best ensemble: "Jersey Boys."
- Best choreography of a play or musical: Dani Loewen, "Jersey Boys."
- Best lighting design of a play or musical: Mackenzie Lowe, "Godspell."
- Best new play or musical: "Last Call at the Riptide," written by local artist and playwright Karl Isberg.
- Best theatre for young audiences production: "Newsies Jr."
- Favorite local theatre: Thingamajig Theatre.

Reaction from Thingamajig

"These BroadwayWorld awards give us an opportunity to celebrate

the impressive talents of the actors, directors and designers who helped us put on so many amazing live-theatre shows in 2023," said Tim Moore, artistic director and co-founder of Thingamajig. "It was a joy for our audiences to experience the outstanding skills of some of our most popular favorites from previous years, as well as to be introduced to talented new performers who came to Pagosa for the first time. Seeing Thingamajig's name repeated so often at the top of the ballot makes us very proud."

Thingamajig Theatre Company was co-founded in 2011 by Tim and Laura Moore. It is an award-winning professional nonprofit 501(c)(3) theater in residence within the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. Its talented actors, directors and designers come from across the U.S. and around the world to produce musicals, comedies and dramas year-round.

High-caliber competition

BroadwayWorld's global theater audience awards cover Broadway in New York as well as many other key artistic locations in the U.S. and worldwide, including in Australia, Austria, Canada, Germany, Ireland, Norway, Sweden and South Africa.

Thingamajig competes in the impressive Denver regional professional theater market, with this year's nominees also coming from Rocky Mountain Repertory Theatre, Vintage Theatre, Merely Players, Front Range Theatre Company, Arvada Center, Boulder Dinner Theatre, Cherry Creek Theatre and many more.

This means that the caliber of the statewide competition is extremely high, and Thingamajig's many wins over the years make our community very proud of our professional theater.

Airport Shuttle & Taxi Service

PUC 55878

Food & Grocery Delivery • Doctor's Visits
Serving Durango to South Fork and metro Pagosa

Why pay more?

PAGOSA CAB

Call today to schedule! (970) 398-0123

Build Your Sleds!



FreeImages.com

Sledz on Rez

January 20, 2024

Free registration and details



Join us for Family Fun on

Reservoir Hill

behind Healing Waters Resort & Spa

1:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Stay warm with delicious food & hot drinks

Lots of prizes for sleds & spectators

SMOKEN MOE'S



UNREAL BBQ

Perfect for your football party!
AFC, NFC, SUPERBOWL SPECIAL

Order by Friday for Saturday pickup

- Full Rack of Ribs
- 2 LB Sliced Brisket
- 1 LB Unsauced Pulled Pork
- 4 Hot Links
- 4 Chicken Leg Quarters
- 6-16 oz sides (BBQ Beans, Potato Salad or Coleslaw)

\$165
plus tax & gratuity

OPEN WED- SAT 11 AM to 6 PM
68 Bastille Dr., off North Pagosa
970-731-MOES (6637)

SmokenMoesUnrealBBQ.com
facebook.com/SmokenMoesUnrealBBQ/

www.buildpagosa.org • www.facebook.com/buildpagosa/

Build Pagosa, others complete design charrette exercise

Build Pagosa

With the participation of more than 45 school district, students, local and regional government, and business representatives, Build Pagosa accomplished a major milestone toward the design and construction of the future regional workforce center, to be located on the Pagosa Springs High School (PSHS) property.

On Thursday, Jan. 11, in collaboration with PSHS and the Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation, Build Pagosa commissioned consultants from Colorado State University's Institute for the Built Environment to facilitate a design charrette to capture the vision, values and ideas of the multitude of community stakeholders in attendance.

A design charrette is a type of participatory planning process that assembles an interdisciplinary team, typically consisting of the primary users of the project,

local/regional and state officials, local businesses/industry partners, architects, community members and other stakeholders to create a design and implementation plan for a specific project.

A key component of a design charrette is time compression. The design charrette process encourages collaboration between groups that would not traditionally work together in a planning process. It allows a number of different options and scenarios to be explored, provides designers with insights into a community's needs and values they may not otherwise have considered, and provides community members the opportunity to be directly involved in the design process. Our participants worked together in brainstorming sessions, smaller working groups, sketching workshops and other exercises for a solid eight hours.

According to the U.S. National Charrette Institute, "the French word, 'charrette' means 'cart' and

is often used to describe the final, intense work effort expended by art and architecture students to meet a project deadline. This use of the term is said to originate in Paris during the 19th century, where proctors circulated a cart, or 'charrette', to collect final drawings while students frantically put finishing touches on their work."

Highlights from the event include the enthusiasm of the five career and technical education student participants who impressed the community members with their confidence, sharing insights with the attendees who were previously unfamiliar with the current facilities' space limitations. The students presented their ideas and vision for programming and design concepts for the future of the building, as well as future students.

Many creative and humorous thoughts were shared during one of the activities where attendees were asked to write a postcard from **See Design on next page**

Stargazers

continued from previous page p.m. with coffee/tea and treats. You can bring something to share if you would like.

2024 Deep Space Mysteries Calendars, "Tours of the Night Sky" booklets and additional sheets for those who already have the notebook will all be available.

There also is a very important letter to the Dark Sky International Association supporting Chimney Rock to be designated an Official Dark Sky Area. Instead of just our club president's signature, we would like every Stargazer to add their name showing their personal support.

At 7 p.m. the meeting will begin. It will be available on Zoom for members. At 7:10 p.m., Sanborn, who is a club member, will give her exciting presentation, which includes many photos.

She said that it is more like a travel log with scientific information about eclipses. She will talk about an eclipse she observed in Chile, South America; one that she saw from a ship on the Pacific Ocean; and the eclipse from 2006, seen in Libya, where Muammar Gaddafi added much political excitement and intrigue.

There will be an important eclipse this year on April 8. It will cross North America, passing over Mexico, the U.S. and Canada. In the U.S. it will be visible from Texas to Maine.

The next total solar eclipse that will be visible over North America will not happen until 2045. This year might be an important one for you to catch if you want to see totality.

The eclipse will be visible in Pagosa as an approximate 64 percent partial eclipse, which should still be exciting and will require special glasses for you to safely view.

After the presentation, Dena Lateraz will share packages of needed telescope parts and accessories gifted by club members from her wish list.

This January and February, our club will be spending time picking dates, times and activities for our summer night sky programs at Chimney Rock and other astronomy events to be presented for the public right here in Pagosa Springs.

We would like all members to participate in at least one event, and hopefully many members will want to attend many events. Make sure you add your name to the sign-up sheets before you leave. We need your commitment now to make better plans.

If you would like to join the San Juan Stargazers and the National Astronomical League of which you automatically become a member, you will also get an excellent astronomy magazine for the annual membership of only \$25 per family. You can join the club at any of our events or you can join using PayPal at sanjuanstargazers.org. Check out our constantly improving website with new information and fabulous photos.

This month's program should be excellent and exciting. Everyone is welcome to join us to learn more about the amazing universe that we all are part of.

Ruts Driving You Nuts?

Save money on gas and maximize your tire life with a high-definition digital wheel alignment using the latest technology from HawkEye™ and Pagosa Springs' most qualified technicians.

10% OFF

Vehicle Alignment

Bring in or mention this ad for this limited time offer. Shop supplies and tax not included. May not be combined with any other offer. See the friendly Pros at Piedra Automotive for details.

Offer ends 2/29/24

10% OFF

Full Service Oil & Filter Change

Bring in or mention this ad for this limited time offer. Shop supplies and tax not included. May not be combined with any other offer. See the friendly Pros at Piedra Automotive for details.

Offer ends 2/29/24

Piedra Automotive

(970) 731-3335

505 Piedra Rd.

Open 8:00 - 5:30 Mon. - Fri.

24 Hour TOWING & EMERGENCY ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE



3D Mammography at PSMC

- Latest state-of-the-art imaging technology
- Screening and diagnostic imaging
- Visualization of dense breast tissue
- Stereotactic biopsies
- On-site radiologist to read scans

PAGOSA SPRINGS
Medical Center

First-Class Care, *Close To Home*

970.731.3700 | 95 S. Pagosa Blvd | pagosaspringsmedicalcenter.org





Photo courtesy Build Pagosa

Community representatives take part in a design charrette exercise for Build Pagosa's future regional work-force center.

Design

■ continued from previous page

15 years in the future and describe their experience in Pagosa Springs because of the impact of the new building. Several community and business participants fostered new connections with other like-minded attendees, and new collaborations have already begun.

The event was a great success. We will share more details about recommendations from the consultants when they share their report of findings, and suggestions for next steps.

Sledz on Rez

Be sure to join us for our next event — WinterFest's Sledz on Rez — this Saturday, Jan. 20.

Sledders of all ages, enter your

homemade, decorated sled and try to sled down the fresh snow on Reservoir Hill.

Sledz on Rez is a free event and everyone is welcome. Register online with the QR code in this week's ad in The SUN and PREVIEW, or visit bit.ly/41jxJsl.

Day-of registration begins at 1 p.m., and the sledding begins at 2:30 p.m. on Reservoir Hill.

Sponsorships and donations benefit the Pagosa Springs High School SkillsUSA Team, who will be participating in the SkillsUSA competition in Durango on Friday, Jan. 19.

Delicious food and hot beverages will be served. We'll see you on the hill.

For more information about

Build Pagosa, please visit our website, www.buildpagosa.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:

Kips, Sage, Rosie's Pizzeria, Chow Down, Paws in the Pines, Pagosa Paws, Pequin Pups Dog Treats, Buckaroos Horse Drawn Sled Rides, Overlook Spa, Pagosa Adventures.



Laissez les bons temps rouler!

Open 11am • 438 Pagosa St. in Downtown Pagosa Springs • (970) 264-0608
check out our FB page for more information

Winter 2024 Showroom Sale!

January 22-26 • 10AM to 4PM



X5L Standard

Regular price: \$10,272.95
Inventory: Acorn/Sunset (2)
Showroom Model: Acorn/Almond

Sale Price
\$8,400

SAVINGS!
\$1,872.95

X6R Standard

Regular price: \$10,323.28
Inventory: Storm/Granite (1)
Acorn/Almond (1)
Showroom Model: Storm/Granite

Sale Price
\$8,450

SAVINGS!
\$1,873.28

X6L Standard

Regular price: \$12,058.95
Inventory: Storm/Granite (2)
Acorn/Sunset (1)
Showroom Model: Storm/Granite

Sale Price
\$9,800

SAVINGS!
\$2,258.95

A5L Select

Regular price: \$16,138.95
Inventory: Timber-Ebony/Platinum (1)
Showroom Model: Timber-Ebony/Platinum

Sale Price
\$12,500

SAVINGS!
\$3,638.95

Sale Price
\$12,000

SAVINGS!
\$3,036.28

A6L Standard

Regular price: \$15,036.28
Inventory: Woodland Brown/Almond (1)
Showroom Model: Woodland Brown/Almond



SAVE
an additional
\$500
on each
Showroom
Model

HOMESPUN HOT TUBS

HomespunHotTubs.com • 301 N. Pagosa Blvd. #B-6 • (970) 344-8437



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.



Grace
IN PAGOSA
1044 Park Ave
Pagosa Springs



- ★ Know your Rights!
- ★ Gain more Constitutional Knowledge than 99% of Americans!
- ★ Learn Tangible Action Steps for Preserving Liberty!
- ★ Entertaining! Inspiring! Educational!
- ★ Learn the Biblical, Historical, and Constitutional Foundation of Freedom!

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.



Photo courtesy Kelle Carter Bruno

Archuleta Seniors Inc.'s greenhouse allows for year-round production of fruits, vegetables and more, which are served as part of the center's lunch service.

Archuleta Seniors Inc.'s grow dome continues production despite cold

By Kelle Carter Bruno and Rose Chavez
PREVIEW Columnists

Our guest columnist this week is Archuleta Senior Inc. (ASI) grower and farmer Kelle Carter Bruno.

She joined the ASI team in August 2023 when ASI purchased through American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant dollars a 42-foot growing dome.

The purpose of the dome is to provide a year-round location for fresh fruit and vegetable production to supply the Pagosa Senior Center's Community Cafe, which serves the community five days a week, providing tasty and nutrient-dense, seasonally inspired meals.

Senior News

I began working as a horticulturist for the Senior Center this past August with the goal of supplementing the current food program by providing fresh, nutrient-dense, locally grown produce to the kitchen.

This position was made possible by a grant from ARPA, which President Joe Biden signed on March 11, 2021, to combat the public health

and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Of the \$1.9 trillion package, \$1.43 billion is earmarked for the Older Americans Act (OAA), and the national network of Area Agencies on Aging. The San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging is working in partnership with ASI to provide a greenhouse garden to support the Senior Center and the Meals on Wheels program.

Growing food has been a passion of mine for close to two decades. I have a vivid memory of pulling a carrot out of the ground at the age of 17 and feeling like I had answered a question I didn't know

■ See Senior on next page

WINDOW COVERINGS

Always deep discounts

"JUST US ORIGINALS"
est. 1986

HAPPY NEW YEAR! It's time to think about keeping the chill out and the heat in with window coverings.

blinds • shades • verticals • draperies • valances
bedspreads • bed skirts • pillows • cushions • & more

Cathy Justus W.F.C.P. 264-4462

Window Fashions Certified Professional



Thanks to Quiller Electric, Harmony Mechanical, All American Plumbing, & Todd Lundy HVAC

Thanks to the Trades for your essential work in completing three Habitat homes for workforce families in 2023..



Be a part of our plan to Build 15 homes in 5 years. Find out how you can help by calling 970.264.6960 or email office@HabitatArchuleta.org.

Your donation of time, money or advocacy provides a hand-up to Archuleta workforce families.

Semi-Annual Sale!

January 16th - January 20th



20-75% Off
All Undergarments

pfunkytrunk.com • 565 Village Dr. Ste. H

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



Thrift Store
(970) 264-6424
279 Pagosa Street
Mon-Sat 9-5

Senior

■ continued from previous page

I had asked.

Like most gardeners, the end of August is a busy time for me. The garden is exploding and those green tomatoes are finally turning lovely shades of red, purple and orange. It's a time to cook, eat, share and preserve your harvest for the coming winter.

This August I found myself starting seeds and making preparations for a new growing season. The act of placing a seed into the soil is always one of trust and hope. As the season shifted to fall, a time I am usually putting my garden to bed, I found myself beginning a new gardening experiment. Which plants would produce at 7,500 feet above sea level during the cold winter months?

I discussed the needs of the kitchen with the ASI chef, Cynthia Sperry, and paired her desires with the plants that are hardy enough to grow through the cold season. We decided to try collard greens, cilantro, cucumbers, radicchio, dark purple and red lettuces, spinach, fennel bulbs, green and red kale, multicolored chard, dill and cherry tomatoes.

My seeds began to sprout in September. I pulled out the spent plants from the summer season and transplanted the new plant starts. So far I have produced 45 pounds of cucumbers, 50 pounds of lettuce, 33 pounds of kale, 26 pounds of chard, 15 pounds of fennel bulbs and 15 pounds of collard greens in addition to culinary herbs like lemongrass, rosemary and dill.

Cynthia and her team have been making use of the veggies in many of their homestyle meals. The cilantro is used in guacamole that tops Baja-style fish tacos; rosemary adds flavor to vegetarian navy bean and artichoke casserole; the lettuce, cucumbers and grape tomatoes are incorporated in the fresh salad bar; lemongrass is added to red curry codfish and Moroccan stew; the kale and chard have been sauteed up as a nutritious side dish.

It's bitterly cold this Tuesday morning as I head inside the dome to check on the plants. My car thermometer registers a chilly -13 degrees F. Inside the dome it is warm, humid and 45 degrees F. The condensation has frozen to the window and the trim on the door. The plants are working hard; they are not loving these temperature drops, but they are slowly growing. I am adjusting my thought process to harvesting and washing greens while there is snow on the ground. It is incredible that the growing domes provide the ability to allow for vegetable production in the winter. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve the community in this way and to learn from the

plants, as they are always good teachers.

If you would like to sample these locally grown vegetables and freshly prepared meals, stop by the Community Cafe at 451 Hot Springs Blvd. Monday through Thursday to dine in or Monday through Friday for Grab-N-Go. All ages are welcome. Please make your reservation for lunch by 9 a.m. each day by contacting us at (970) 264-2167.

Mindful drawing

Mindful drawing is an easy-to-learn, relaxing and fun way to create beautiful images by drawing structured patterns. Join our friendly instructor, Roberta Strickland.

Classes are every Wednesday at 1:15 p.m. in the Senior Center. This activity is open to all ages. Help us create an intergenerational community. For those under 18 and/or with disabilities, you are welcome to join us, but we kindly ask you to please bring an adult chaperone with you.

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. 19, Feb. 9 and Feb. 23.

The price to participate is free and we ask you bring yourself and a friend for 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 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

■ See Senior on next page

Pagosa Auto Rents

RENT A CAR

Local • Nights & Weekends

Delivery Available!

(970) 585-9181

pagosaautorents.com

\$70
per Day



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 10 (last of this series): OVER INFLATING EXPECTATIONS

People often make dramatic lifestyle changes in the hope of immediate dramatic results. False expectations make it harder to maintain those lifestyle changes. In one recent study, 35% of the participants who failed their New Year's resolutions said they had unrealistic goals. When people don't see the expected results right away, it causes frustrations, often leading them to give up their new healthy lifestyle.

What you can do: Changes to improve your health take patience and commitment. Make changes gradually, and expect gradual results. If you approach weight loss and health improvement realistically, you will be much more likely to succeed. The effort will be challenging and will take time, but the results will be worth it!!!

"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: By one estimate, one verse in every ten in the Bible speaks directly or indirectly of the second coming of Christ.

A public service from your Adventist friends & neighbors at Pagosa Springs Seventh Day Adventist Church.

Disclaimer: This and all our Nature's Remedies are for health information purposes only. The Seventh Day Adventist Church is not responsible for results.



Seventh-day Adventist® Church

A PROTESTANT DENOMINATION

40 Oren Road • 970-731-1005

Senior

■ continued from previous page

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.

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, 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. 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.

Monday, Jan. 22 — Beef spaghetti with garlic bread, peas and pearl onions, garden salad, fruit, German chocolate cake and milk.

Tuesday, Jan. 23 — Moroccan stew, hot artichoke and spinach dip, pita chips, garden salad, vanilla yogurt and fruit, and milk.

Wednesday, Jan. 24 — Chicken fajitas with tortillas, sour cream, salsa and guacamole, garden salad, fruit, flan and milk.

Thursday, Jan. 25 — Crispy codfish with tartar sauce, green beans, dinner roll, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Friday, Jan. 26 — Pork kielbasa, German potato salad, sweet and sour cabbage, garden salad, fruit, Bavarian cream puffs 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.

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.

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/>.

A1 Taxi

970-585-4903

Reliability Matters!

Fully licensed and insured!
Smoke-free vehicles!
Local discount system- just ask!

Courtesy Counts!

8am-8pm daily or by appointment!

PUC 16400, MCT 0021, DOT 2842985



Wishing you a wonderful new year.



Jen Hurst
doctor of audiology

- hearing evaluation
- tinnitus treatment
- ear cleaning
- hearing aids
- adjustment + repair

Hurst Hearing

2343 Eagle Drive, Pagosa Springs, Colorado
(970) 444-2314 • www.hursthearing.com

www.PagosaSUN.com

NATURAL GROCERS®

JANUARY 16-20

RESET YOUR RESOLUTIONS FOR A HEALTHIER YOU

RESOLUTION RESET

VISIT NaturalGrocers.com/Resolution-Reset

TERMS & CONDITIONS APPLY. SEE STORE FOR DETAILS.

5-DAYS ONLY • JANUARY 16-20 • ALL LOCATIONS

EPIC SAVINGS
UP TO 48% OFF
SELECT ITEMS



Enter In-Store for a Chance To Win
1 YEAR OF FREE GROCERIES



{N}power Members Only

FREE TUNA
5 OZ Can of
Natural Grocers® Brand
Limit 1 per {N}power member.



Faith, family and football

By Gregg Heid
PREVIEW Columnist

I don't often watch football anymore. It loses its appeal as I get older.

I did watch the end of the Kansas City/Cincinnati game as it had playoff implications. The game was played in the Chief's stadium with 90,000 screaming, dancing, enthusi-

adult population, and participate less in their faith and worship than in previous decades. "I'm spiritual," is the new buzz word among many of the "Nones."

Over the same time period, those

who attend or watch football games on Sundays increased by 5 percent, according to NFL statistics. Many non-Christian families, and Christians for that matter, put sports and

■ See Faith on next page

A Matter of Faith

astic fans portraying the exuberance for the sport. For the next week, millions of excited, anxious fans would be watching and hoping their team makes the playoffs.

Total attendance for NFL games in 2022 attendance was 18.82 million fans across the regular season (latest statistics from Gallup and Statista). For the NFL, a total of \$18.6 billion (\$10 billion of that revenue from media deals between networks and the NFL) was added to their coffers in 2022 (Statista, Sept. 5, 2023).

In 2022, for 3,777 college games (NCAA divisions I, II and III) there were more than 50 million fans. Millions of those fans will be watching bowl games during the next weeks.

On the other hand, at the end of 2021, Pew Research data showed self-identified Christians made up 63 percent of the American population, a 10 percent drop—mostly among Gen-Zs and Millennials—from the previous decade. The Gallup Research Organization has come up with a similar figure — 69 percent of Americans identify as Christian, yet only 40 percent, or roughly 92 million people, who said they attended worship on the previous weekend.

A Hadaway and Marler Study conducted in the late '90s found Americans tend to exaggerate how often they attend services with only about a fifth of Americans attending church on a weekly basis — half of the Gallup figures.

Today, 30 million more people live in the U.S. than in 2010 (336 million as from our last census and estimates from immigration, according to the Census Bureau). Over that same period, the share of adults who claimed no religious affiliation climbed to 29 percent (Higher Ground). So, the data shows Christianity declined in the last 30 years, while the share of religiously unaffiliated adults—"Nones"—or those who identify with non-Christian religions, grew by almost 30 million over this period. Thirty-two percent of Archuleta County residents identify as religiously unaffiliated.

The data shows that Christians are declining as a share of the U.S.

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

BLUE PITCHER LINDNER | MANAGING BROKER CRS, RENE



"Blue is the perfect realtor. She is prompt, courteous, and conscientious. She was patient and took the time to thoroughly explain each step of the process." - Erin Felber

KALEI PITCHER | BROKER ASSOCIATE



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

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

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

LEE RILEY | BROKER ASSOCIATE CRS, GRI



"Even though we had a small one acre parcel to sell, we got the same attention and help as if we were selling a million dollar property." - Herman Valdez

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

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



More Than Just Signs!

- DECALS & WINDOW GRAPHICS
- VEHICLE GRAPHICS & WRAPS
- STORE FRONTS
- PROMOTIONAL PRODUCTS
- APPAREL PRINTING
- NEON & ELECTRIC SIGN REPAIR
- MEMORIAL STONES

LOCATED AT 57 MAJESTIC DR. PAGOSA SPRINGS, CO



Bird of the Week



Photo courtesy Charles Martinez

This week's Bird of the Week, compliments of the Weminuche Audubon Society and Audubon Rockies, is the merlin.

This is another raptor that we don't find here in summer. Although we know they are around in winter, where to find one is unpredictable. They are too fast in flight to get a good look, but there have been opportunities to catch one perched on a rock near the river or at the top of a tree. Outside the breeding season, these are generally solitary birds.

Merlins occur across the Northern Hemisphere. In medieval times, their small size made them the favored birds of lady falconers. In North America, they primarily nest from Alaska across Canada and spend the winter across states from the Pacific to the western Great Plains and along both coasts.

Unlike many birds that are expanding their ranges north, merlins are breeding farther south as they adapt to life in cities. One reason may be related to the increase in cities of crows, whose abandoned nests merlins repurpose for their own. Another may be the number of house sparrows in urban areas.

Merlins are opportunistic hunters, seeking out the most abundant prey, usually small- to medium-sized songbirds. A merlin can consume as many as 900 birds per year. It generally hunts in horizontal flight in surprise attacks by plowing into a flock of birds at speeds near 30 miles per hour. They will also pick off bats leaving their roosts and large insects.

Merlins are not much longer than the more familiar kestrel, but their heavier weight may confer the appearance of a larger bird. They have the typical long, thin wings and long tail associated with falcons, but lack the distinctive mustache markings of the kestrel. They are heavily streaked below. Three recognized North American subspecies show variations in color. Males may be slaty to dark gray on the back, and females and immatures browner.

According to Partners in Flight, between 1970 and 2014 the merlin population in the United States and Canada more than tripled.

For information on events, visit www.weminucheadubon.org and www.facebook.com/weminucheadubon/.

Faith

■ continued from previous page recreation ahead of their faith.

Watching sports requires no real buy in; just show up, have fun and hope your team wins. Granted, it costs a lot of money and is exciting to watch, but whether your team wins or loses, after a week goes by, the game is behind them and fans go on with their lives.

Being a Christian requires faith and discipline — participation in Sunday services; visiting prisoners, the sick and lonely; education; missions; evangelization; and giving to the poor (Christians give nearly twice as much to charities as do non-Christians, ABS Study, 2023). Christians live a moral life of service and giving.

Does football take people away from church? Yes, but only as it is

representative of the culture we live in today. The real culprits are pleasure, power, money and self-satisfaction. When we, as a culture, lose our common faith in God, we see division in society and loss of morality in the populace. Cultural norms, exemplified by football, becomes problematic when they takes families away from their faith and worship on Sundays — the day of the Lord.

So, enjoy your sports, but keep faithful to your relationship with Christ and make sure your priorities are right: faith, family and football, and not football, family and faith.

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.

EXCAVATION WORK THAT MAKES THE GRADE



Schedule your project today!

970-731-7071

Tim Brown CONSTRUCTION LLC

DRIVEWAYS • FOUNDATIONS • PONDS • BACKFILLING
FILL DIRT & GRAVEL HAULING • SEPTIC SYSTEMS • UTILITY WORK

SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

Fun By The Numbers

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

Here's How It Works:

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

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

ANSWER:

Preview Calendar

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

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 lan-

guage 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.

Pagosa Springs Varsity Boys' Wrestling. 6 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Pagosa versus Bayfield.

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. 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 informa-

tion, 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/>.

Pagosa Piecemakers Quilt Guild. 10 a.m., Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. Renew your membership (\$20 per year by check) and get involved in 2024 activities. Enjoy fellowship and snacks. Please park in the back.

WinterFest Barkus Parade. 10:30
 ■ See Calendar on next page



★★★★★
 JUST FINISHED FAST-BRACES WITH DR. RUTHERFORD AND HIS STAFF. IT WAS ESSENTIALLY PAIN-FREE WITH MINIMAL OFFICE VISITS. AND, THEY WERE VERY GOOD AT WORKING AROUND MY TRAVEL SCHEDULE. DR. RUTHERFORD HAS ALSO TAKEN CARE OF REGULAR CLEANINGS AND SOME NECESSARY CROWNS FOR ME. IT IS ALWAYS A PLEASANT EXPERIENCE!
 JEANNETTE K. 10/23

Save \$1000
 ON FASTBRACES®
 Special not valid with other offers.
 EXPIRES JANUARY 31ST, 2024

\$99
 LIMITED EXAM AND X-RAY
 CALL NOW TO BOOK AN APPOINTMENT
 NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER
 EXPIRES JANUARY 31ST, 2024

970-731-3627
 PAGOSASMILES.COM
 No Insurance? CASH Discounts!
 SERVING THE PAGOSA AREA FOR OVER 29 YEARS!

Upgrade to include our website for the month of February only \$50

Half Page Ad Buy One, Get One FREE!

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

Requirements: A minimum of 2 half-page ads must run in February 1 through 29, 2024 editions. Must be the same ad for both insertions, runs do not need to be consecutive. Business' main office must be located in Archuleta County. Offer not available for color ads. Limited to the first 10 advertisers.

It's the Best Deal of the Year. What Are You Waiting For?

Call your friendly, knowledgeable and experienced advertising representatives to reserve your advertising space today.

970.264.2100

The Pagosa Springs SUN

Publishing Visitor Guides in Pagosa Springs for over 30 years
 Publishing the Official Newspaper of Archuleta County since 1909

Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

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.

WinterFest Sledz on Rez. 2:30 p.m., Reservoir Hill. Sled guidelines and entry forms can be found at 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.

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.

Learn to Knit or Crochet. 2-3:15 p.m., Sisson Library. Learn to knit or crochet. For ages 8 and up. Supplies are provided.

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.

Pagosa Unplugged. 4-6 p.m., Sisson Library. Musicians of all abilities are invited to jam and sing with others. Call Susan at (970) 946-3396 for details.

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 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.

Mindful Drawing. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

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 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.

■ See Calendar on next page

Fall in love with your hair!

Come see your small town Pagosa girls at Tangles!



Tanya

Kasey

Tangles Hair Salon

970-731-2810

2035 Eagle Drive Unit 110

tangles hair

Need an extra hand?

The reliable **Errand Bunny** is here for you! From grocery runs to odd jobs to help with pets (and much more), we've got your to-do list covered. Fast, friendly and ready to assist — let us handle your tasks so you can focus on what matters.

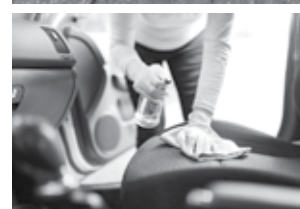
Call to book today.

Available for a wide range of business or personal tasks.

Contact today for inquiries and/or rates!

Email: errandbunnyps@gmail.com

Phone: 970-903-6715



FREE RIDES for MEDICAID CLIENTS

anywhere in the State of Colorado
Please call us to get qualified:
970-731-4081

Also Durango Airport Shuttle • Taxi Service • Weddings
Charter Service • Private Parties

Wilderness Journeys Pagosa, Inc

Call 970-731-4081 for scheduling

PUC # 16400, DOT# 2842985, MCT# 0021



Non-emergency medical transportation

to Denver, Durango, Farmington, Colorado Springs — Anywhere in Colorado and border state approved cities for Medicaid insured rides to and from Medicaid providers

Pre-approval and 24-hour notice required.

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 defend 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.

Shop the SUN classifieds.

Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

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.

Friday Flix. 2-4 p.m., Sisson Library. Enjoy a PG-rated movie and free popcorn.

Backcountry Ski Film. 5 p.m., Pagosa Peak Open School, 3133 Cornerstone Drive. Pagosa Peak Open School is hosting a backcountry ski film for kids and families. The event is promoting human-powered winter adventure and supports the Winter Wildlands Alliance. The cost is \$5 for kids and \$10 for adults.

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.

Saturday, Jan. 27

Knitters Circle. 1-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Join new or experienced knitters to get help with your project, or sit and knit.

Monday, Jan. 29

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. 30

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: Robert Lustig. Noon, virtual. Listen live or recorded. Featuring Dr. Robert Lustig, author of "The Lure and the Lies of Processed Food, Nutrition and Modern Medicine." For details and to register, go to <https://libraryc.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.

Submit your calendar items to editor@pagosasun.com; mail them to The Pagosa Springs SUN, P.O. Box 9, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147; or deliver them to The SUN office by noon Monday.

Clip 'n Save 10%



•Off of 750 ml and 175 ml bottles•

WINES & LIQUORS

Non-Sale Items Only • Coupon not valid for beer purchases

264-2749

Next to River Center - Hwy. 160

East Pagosa Springs

Mon.-Sat. Open 9 a.m. - Midnight

Sun. Open 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.

SILVER DOLLAR LIQUORS

The sound barrier has been broken.

GENESIS^{AI}

ALL NEW



Genesis AI marks a new beginning for the hearing industry.

Completely reimagined from the inside out, it's the only hearing technology system to feature an **all-new processor, all-new sound, all-new design and an all-new patient experience.**



Starkey Neuro Processor
It has a mind of its own.

ALL NEW

Neuro Sound Technology

Transparent sound for the clearest hearing yet.

Enables wearers to hear soft sounds without noise, distinguish words and speech more intuitively, and significantly reduce their listening effort.

Take advantage of these money-saving offers

\$500 OFF

Advanced Technology Hearing Aids.

Coupon expires Jan. 24, 2024

FREE Hearing Test

Coupon expires Jan. 24, 2024

Call 970-731-4554



ROAD MAINTENANCE

Driveways • Ponds • Underground Utilities • Clean Up
Dozer Work • Land Leveling • Foundations

NEXT GEN EXCAVATION

20+ years local experience

Michael Preuit | Cell:(970) 946-7303

Bonded & Insured

Ears 2 U Hearing Aid Center

Locally owned and operated for 18 years

190 Talisman Rd. Ste. C-3 • Pagosa Springs

Call 970-731-4554 to schedule your appointment
coloradohearingaid.com

Gennette Erickson
Owner,
Hearing Aid Specialist



UUs to learn about spiritual alchemy

By **Pauline Benetti**
Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

This Sunday the message at our Unitarian Universalist service, “Alchemy as a Guide for the Spiritual Path,” will be delivered by Stacey Couch.

The alchemy that Stacey speaks of is not really about the medieval practice of turning lead into gold with fire. It is about spiritual transformation, about our union with nature and the divine.

The starting point for ancient alchemy is any base substance or situation while the prima materia for the spiritual alchemist are troubled feelings such as confusion, loss, stuck-ness, listlessness or sadness from which the spiritual alchemical process begins. In this presentation, Couch will share the history and fundamentals of alchemy and will teach how to use this ancient practice as a metaphor for one’s soul work.

As a spiritual advisor, Couch has served people in more than 30 countries and 48 states. She lives in Pagosa Springs with her son, husband, cat, dog and two horses. She has called Pagosa home since 2011 and is the author of “Gracious Wild: A Shamanic Journey with Hawks.”

About the fellowship

Our fellowship offers each individual support in our unique spiritual path and an opportunity to participate in positive social and environmental action. We welcome diversity and invite everyone to share in our faith community.

In-person services are on the first and third Sundays of the month at 10:30 a.m. and are available by Zoom. Join our Zoom meeting at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8991941305>.

Regarding COVID-19 protocols, masking continues to be optional and social distancing is encouraged; please note that tracking of the COVID-19 hospital admissions level in Archuleta County has returned to low.

Find us in Unit B-15 of the Greenbriar Plaza 301 N. Pagosa Blvd., on the north side facing Pagosa Peak.

If the service is canceled due to winter weather, a notification will be placed on pagosauu.org by 8:30 a.m.

For more information about the fellowship, our services and the other activities, please see www.pagosauu.org or email info@pagosauu.org.

Spiritual Experiences Group to discuss daily struggles and spiritual grace

By **Laurah Brock Young**
Spiritual Experiences Group of Pagosa Springs

What is spiritual grace? Would you like to know how to achieve it?

We live in a time of unequaled spiritual opportunity. The daily struggles that life presents are opportunities for spiritual grace. Graceful living is to realize that everything that comes into your life is for the good. It is having the grace to accept God’s will as it appears.

Everything is right when there is neither too much nor too little for the time and place. So it is with your spiritual life. And so it is with spiritual grace.

Join the Spiritual Experiences

Group of Pagosa Springs on Sunday, Jan. 21, at 1 p.m. for a lively discussion about “How Our Daily Struggles Help Us Cultivate Spiritual Grace.” It will be a good beginning to the new year.

We will meet at the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave.

This free event is sponsored by Eckankar as a community service and is a spiritual resource for people of all faiths and beliefs. It is an individual, creative practice to experience our unique relationship with the divine.

Join The Spiritual Experiences Group of Pagosa Springs at <https://www.meetup.com/pagosa-springs-spiritual-experiences-group/>.

New Thought Center to meet Sunday

By **Shayla McClure**
New Thought Center for Inspirational Living

Sunday service on Jan. 21 at 11 a.m. with Julie Loar will be “The Power of Purpose- The Magic of having a Goal.”

“If the Universe has called you to it, there is plenty of room.” — Candy Motzek.

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

New Thought events are held at 3505 W. U.S. 160, on the second floor of the Pagosa Lodge (elevator available).

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Sudden gush
- 6 Defeat decisively
- 10 Rapids ride
- 14 "District 9" figure
- 15 Top-of-the-line
- 16 Rights org.
- 17 Gravy no-no
- 18 Kind of knockout
- 20 Intrinsic nature
- 22 They're followed
- 23 First to arrive
- 25 Grazing spot
- 26 Shirt part
- 29 Put back on the job
- 31 Something to tie up
- 33 Leave in the _____
- 36 Allen of "Candid Camera"
- 37 Henhouse sounds
- 40 Unadorned
- 41 Web site?
- 43 Coyote or wolf
- 45 Exploratory
- 48 Ram's mate
- 49 Duffer's dream
- 51 Scottish tourist draw
- 53 Retreat
- 55 Showed some teeth
- 59 Occurring every third year
- 61 _____ two-shoes
- 62 Mortgage
- 63 Program lines
- 64 Gentle push
- 65 Football gain
- 66 They may be split
- 67 Mighty mount

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			
62					63				64			
65					66				67			

Copyright 2024 by The Puzzle Syndicate

- 5 Catch in a trap
- 6 Lester Holt show
- 7 Caviar
- 8 Mom's brothers
- 9 Command
- 10 Police action
- 11 Pick up speed
- 12 Highway warning
- 13 Oklahoma city
- 19 Regarding birth
- 21 Move sneakily
- 24 Very detailed
- 26 _____ Romeo (Italian auto)
- 27 Easy victory
- 28 New England capital
- 30 Marching band member
- 32 Hubbub
- 34 Cornfield invader
- 35 Roll call response
- 38 Chips in a can
- 39 Dissolve
- 42 Panama port
- 44 Architects' output
- 46 Show the door
- 47 Netflix category
- 49 With precision
- 50 Papal court
- 52 Aardvark feature
- 54 Give for a while
- 56 Lymph bump
- 57 Cruise flick, "_____ of Tomorrow"
- 58 Like Easter eggs
- 60 Put two and two together

Answers to Previous Crossword:

M	I	R	A		S	N	A	K	E		S	H	O	P	
U	S	E	S		C	O	L	I	N		T	O	T	E	
C	L	A	S	S	R	O	O	M	S		A	A	T	O	
H	E	D	O	N	I	S	T		H	E	N	S	O	N	
					C	A	P	E		T	R	A	D	E	
S	T	R	I	C	T		F	O	O	T		G	E	M	
T	W	E	A	K		M	I	N	U	S	C	U	L	E	
R	I	F	T		R	U	L	E	D		R	E	D	S	
U	N	R	E	L	A	T	E	D		L	O	S	E	S	
T	E	A			O	V	E	R		V	E	S	T	R	Y
					C	A	R	E	D		P	E	N	S	
B	A	T	T	E	N		S	A	N	D	W	I	C	H	
O	L	I	O			I	M	P	R	E	S	A	R	I	O
L	O	O	M			N	O	I	S	E		L	O	T	S
T	E	N	S			G	O	N	E	R		K	N	E	E

Subscribe to The SUN
pagosason.com

BATH SAFETY WORD SEARCH

A I D B S T K M B I S L W R R P B C P M
 Y B K G T G R H B U F L E K B O A D B F
 Y I D O N D N D U Y H H I Y R P B E D E
 G S H S H O W E R K C E T G L S N U C L
 O E K L R U I K N A Y E I D H C M N M S
 L I E O M C P T E F F C U U H T A W E O
 S R M O H O C R A A Y S E E M L I A D R
 A T L O H A I N S L U O S Y A T T N U A
 K E S N K Y N S B C L I W B U U S M G I
 D L O L B W D D T B L A O L E M R A N L
 U I B S L B D I H U D L T S F M O T I S
 O O N L F A O H U E R S O S Y T I S F T
 F T B I E N F T U A L E M M N C N P H R
 S T G P C N O W I H L D R I C I E S F A
 O O F U U F L E W F T L G K N M S A L N
 P T P C L T B D Y I O A Y L R E D L E S
 I S D I K S I T N A S R B W G Y D W T F
 S W A B S U W L F I N E T A G H K M R E
 W A F D A E E T T A N K H E W F L I R R
 A S U G K G L Y M S L P T P R S R A B T

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS

- ANTISKID
- BALANCE
- BARS
- BATH
- BENCHES
- ELDERLY
- FALLS
- HANDHELD
- HOT
- INSTALLATION
- LIGHTING
- MATS
- MOISTURE
- RAILS
- REACH
- RETROFIT
- SAFETY
- SEAT
- SENIORS
- SHOWER
- SLIP
- SUCTION CUPS
- TOILETRIES
- TRANSFER

*If you or someone you know
 might be at risk of suicide,
 there is help.*

Call the **National Suicide Prevention Lifeline**
 at 1-800-273-8255, text a crisis counselor at 741741
 or visit suicidepreventionlifeline.org.



BJ Jones and Lars Schneider, owners, have spent a combined total of over 45 years in Pagosa Springs.

As long-time locals, we operate with small-town hospitality without the "Pagosa-time mentality." Your time is as valuable as ours, so we operate with punctuality.

Mountain Men Disaster Mitigation is here to service you and your family through providing quality in our work, and being timely and efficient.

Don't forget to check your crawl spaces for standing water. Water mixed with the normal environments produced in a crawlspace is the perfect breeding ground for microbial growth. We also offer sump pump system installations and repairs as well as moisture barriers. Call today for a free evaluation!

Pipes froze and flooded your home?

Call us for 24/7 Emergency Response

Call 970-946-0238 or 970-749-9028

DISASTER RESTORATION
FLOOD MITIGATION
CRAWLSPACE INSPECTIONS/ WORK



Fire Restoration
 Water Extraction

Mold Remediation
 Structural Drying

Smoke and Odor Removal

Lars Schneider
970-946-0238

BJ Jones
970-749-9028

MountainMenDM.com • mail@mountainmendm.com

NATIONALLY LICENSED **INSURED** **LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED**

JIM GARRETT

♦ ATTORNEY ♦

Protecting your interests

LITIGATION, CRIMINAL DEFENSE
 BUSINESS, REAL ESTATE, WILLS

New location: Downtown, above the theatre

422 PAGOSA ST., NO. 5

970-880-0468 • 412-508-1060

P.O. BOX 3265, PAGOSA SPRINGS • jyg44law@gmail.com

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

Sewer Inspection Cameras

Sewer Snakes

Dehumidifier

Wood Chippers

Man Lifts

Dump Trailers

Skid Steers

Excavators

Log Splitters & more



See our full line of equipment on
pinevalleyrental.com

Shop local for your
 equipment rental needs



305 Bastille Drive
(970) 731-4410

Fun facts about American book reading habits in 2023

By Carole Howard
PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

Information from a new YouGov survey about the book reading habits of American adults last year yielded a wealth of interesting results.

Here is a summary:

- Just over half of all Americans said they read at least one book in 2023, with 46 percent saying they read no book at all last year. Eighty-two percent read 10 or fewer books.

- Physical books are still more popular than e-books or audio books. More than 40 percent read a physical book, 21 percent an e-book and 19 percent listened to an audio book.

- E-book users were more voracious readers, saying they read or listened to more than 20 books last year.

- Mysteries and histories were the most popular genres for all Americans. Women preferred romance and mysteries while men read more history and sci-fi. Fantasy, historical fiction, biographies and literary fiction were other popular genres.

- If you read or listened to five books last year, this puts you ahead of two thirds of U.S. adults. Readers of 10 books are in the 79th percentile, while Americans who read 20 or more books read more than 88 percent of their peers.

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.

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.

Online author talks

Our highly popular free online author talks continue with two more opportunities for you to interact with New York Times bestselling authors and ask questions this month. For details and to register, go to <https://library.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."

Paws to Read tomorrow

Friday, Jan. 19, from 2 to 3 p.m., youngsters are invited to share their favorite books with Muppet or Maple, therapy dogs who love stories, at a free Paws to Read session.



Craftapalooza tomorrow

You're invited to create a variety of crafts tomorrow, Friday, Jan. 19, when we will have several different craft stations set up for your enjoyment. Stop by anytime between 2 and 3:30 p.m. This is an all-ages event.

LEGO Club Saturday

Kids aged 6-11 are invited to the free LEGO Club on Saturday, Jan. 20, from 11 a.m. to noon. Bring your own LEGOs or use ours.

Pokemon Club Saturday

If you're aged 6-11 and love Pokemon, this club is for you. Bring your cards to a fun, free event on Saturday, Jan. 20, from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. when you can play games with others who feel the same way. No experience is required.

Knitting and crochet lessons

Learn to knit or crochet next Monday, Jan. 22, from 2 to 3:15 p.m. at this free event for ages 8 and up. Supplies will be provided.

Shakespeare is back

The Shakespeare Read-Aloud Club has returned, with "As You Like It" on the agenda. Join us every Monday in Jan. from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Call Jenny at (240) 426-7887 for more information.

Music fun Monday

Pagosa Unplugged is free from 4 to 6 p.m. Monday, Jan. 22, for amateur musicians who would like a safe, supportive, non-bar setting to play, sing or both with other people. For program information, contact Susan at (970) 946-3396.

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.

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

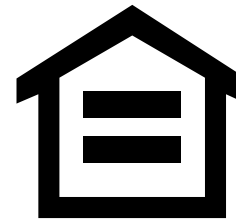
number and four-digit PIN. Library staff are happy to help you set up your device if you need assistance.

Novels on CD

"Reborn as a Demonic Tree" by XKarnation is book one of a new Isekai LitRPG fantasy series. "Manner of Death" by Robin Cook is a medical thriller. "The Last Devil to Die" by Richard Osman is a Thursday Murder Club mystery. "Robert

■ See Library on next page

HUD Publisher's Notice



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

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

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



GH420.COM

SPECIALS, ONLINE ORDERING, & MORE!

HALF OFF!

SELECT CONCENTRATES

WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

PRESENT THIS COUPON TO GET
TWO HALF-GRAM JOINTS FOR

ONLY \$1

WITH ANY PURCHASE
OF \$10 OR MORE

THE GREEN HOUSE COLORADO



SUN2023 - EXP 12-31-24
ONE COUPON PER CUSTOMER, PER VISIT.
DOES NOT STACK WITH OTHER COUPONS.
WHILE SUPPLIES LAST.
VALID AT COLORADO GREEN HOUSE LOCATIONS.

WE'RE HIRING!

DROP OFF A RESUME OR APPLY ONLINE
GH420.COM/APPLY

Library

■ continued from previous page

B. Parker's Broken Trust" by Mike Lupica is a Spenser mystery. "I See London" by Chanel Cleeton is book one of a new International School romance series.

Nonfiction on CD

"How to Plan a Wedding" by Terri Pous is a 12-month guide to weddings large and small, unique or traditional. "Your Journey to Financial Freedom" by podcaster Jamila Souffrant show up to grow your savings and blast through debt. "Starting a Business 101" by Michele Cagan, CPA, covers necessities such as a business plan, budgeting, marketing and making profit.

Mysteries, thrillers and suspense

"Alex Cross Must Die" by James Patterson is the latest in the Det. Cross series. "A Christmas Vanishing" by Anne Perry features a clever grandmother investigating the disappearance of a friend. "The Other Half" by Charlotte Vassell begins with a murder at an elegant black-tie birthday party.

Other novels

"Alice Sadie Celine" by Sarah Blakely-Cartwright follows three women's lives over decades. "The Icarus Twin" by Timothy Zahn is book two in the Icarus Saga sci-fi series. "A Grandmother Begins The Story" by Michelle Porter is a story told by five generations of Metis women as well as the land, bison

and two dogs that surround them. "The Wildest Sun" by Asha Lemmie tells of a young woman's search for a literary figure she believes to be her father. "Vampires of El Norte" by Isabel Canas is a supernatural western. "Where the Dead Wait" by Ally Wilkes is about disgraced man searching for a missing shipmate in the Arctic. "After World" by Debbie Urbanski features AI's documentation of the last human on earth.

Large-print westerns

"The Lonesome Gun" by William W. and J.A. Johnstone is book seven in the Perley Gates western series. "Cade's Redemption" by Robert Vaughan is book three in the Western Adventures of Cade McCall series.

Large print nonfiction

"The Six" by Loren Grush explores the untold stories of America's first women astronauts. "How Not To Age" by Dr. Michael Greger lays out practical strategies for achieving longevity. "Empress of the Nile" by Lynne Olson tells of a French female archaeologist who was instrumental in saving Egyptian ancient temples from being underwater forever.

Other nonfiction

"Growing Up Roosevelt" by Nina Roosevelt Gibson is a granddaughter's memoir of Eleanor Roosevelt. "A Woman I Know" by Mark Haverstick is the true story of a filmmaker whose research leads her to Cold War espionage and CIA secrets. "The World Almanac and Book of

Facts 2024" is America's bestselling reference book.

Donation guidelines

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

"The people who are crazy enough to think they can change the world are the ones that do." — Steve Jobs (1955-2011), American inventor and businessman, co-founder of the technology giant Apple Inc., founder of NeXT, and chairman and majority shareholder of Pixar.

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://pagosalibrary.org>.

New Year! New Home!



420 Ponderosa Drive
Views! Location! One level, 2023 sq. ft. 3 bedroom, 3 bath home with 8-car heated garage, 5 minutes from downtown. Fenced yard.
MLS 809732 • \$1,123,500



1382 County Road 973, Arboles
Water, water, water, 20 shares, pond, irrigation, 2 bedroom, 1 bath on 10.14 acres, remodeled in 2021.
MLS 807938 • \$619,000



145 Hills Circle
Close to National Forest, fishing, paddle boarding, 2 bedroom + loft, 2 bath, 2-car detached garage. New windows, log beam accents, in-floor radiant heat.
MLS 804534 • \$478,000



59 E. Cotton Court
Lake Forest area. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, Brand new home, stocked lake, backs to National Forest and motorized trails, granite, upgraded countertops.
MLS 808568 • \$472,000



11 Pinon Hills Place
Huge Navajo Lake and La Plata Mountain views from this 3 bedroom, 2 bath on 1 acre lot. Includes 40x30 shop, convenient to Navajo Lake.
MLS 804419 • \$275,000



141 Hollow Drive
1.1 acre, no HOA, new engineered septic system, ready for your home.
MLS 802483 • \$68,500



46 Gala Place
Great location, near fishing and National Forest. Treed lot with southern view.
MLS 806764 • \$35,000



6 Laurel Drive
.31 acre lot in Twin Creek Village, easy access, sits above Dutton Canyon open space, near National Forest.
MLS 798968 • \$35,000



Sharing our Core Values with you each day through our work

Care • Compassion • Communication • Commitment

Call today for your appointment!

970-264-9436

www.pagosa.dentist • Conveniently located downtown at 308 Pagosa Street



Debbie Loewen
Employing Broker
debbie@ownpagosa.com
448 Pagosa Street
(970) 946-3480



2016 & 2018 SPIRIT AWARD, 2019 REALTOR OF THE YEAR

264-2100

Classifieds

264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY

TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY

TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY

SERVICES

SERVICES



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



My name is Brownie and I'm looking for my forever home. I am a Lab/Hound-mix boy about 8 months old. I'm very loving and would do great with a family. I love to play and a simple ball makes me happy!

If you're interested, please come visit me at the Humane Society or call (970)731-4771.

BAZ THE HANDYMAN PAGOSA Springs is your one stop shop for wide range of home maintenance and repair solutions. Just call Baz (480)433-1776.

CALL BRYCE'S CONSTRUCTION for your next bathroom remodel, tile job, or handyman odd job. No job too big or small, no grout about it! (309)714-4004.

CHOICE CLEANING, LLC. Commercial, STR/LTR, post construction and move outs. Licensed and insured. Call (970)507-1399.

CLEANING WITH ATTENTION TO DETAILS. Residential and commercial. Please call Julie (970)946-8229.

CONSTRUCTION SOLUTIONS. Remodel, Repair, New. Home, business, space improvement, simple fix-it. Clean up, snow removal, interior, exterior, paint, water seal decks, insulated windows, kitchens, baths, tile flooring, roof repair. Professional, responsible, 20 years in area, references. Happy to help. Any project small or large. (970)317-9280.

CUSTOM PICTURE FRAMING. Reasonable prices. Linda Lerno, (970)731-5173.

EXTERIOR AND INTERIOR HOUSE painting and staining. Kitchens, bathrooms, decks, granite countertops and more. Call Josh Soniat (970)903-5892.

HANDY HELPERS. "We are here to lend a helping hand," snow removal, land clearing, debris haul off, jobsite cleanup, property maintenance & all your indoor/outdoor home projects. Give us a call today for a free estimate, (970)403-9159.

HANDYMAN SERVICE. Snow removal, roof shoveling, ice dam removal. Noah's Ark Enterprises. (970)901-5298.

LOCAL MOVING SERVICES. Reasonable and reliable. (970)946-2061.

METAL ROOF REPAIR, TIGHTENING or replacing. Chimney cleaning, chimney repair. Replacement or new chimney installs. Call (970)731-4585 office, or (970)946-1275.

MINT ROOFING-ROOF SNOW REMOVAL & ICE DAM MITIGATION Contact Mint Roofing at (970)426-5255.

NEED FIREWOOD?! Pine/Aspen mix \$300 a cord. Contact FIRE&ICE at (970)582-0006.

PAGOSA SPARKLES, LLC. Group of high standard cleaners, reliable, trustworthy and affordable. Window cleaning also available. Text/ call KIM. (970)946-6446.

PROFESSIONAL SNOW REMOVAL. - Residential and Commercial. Fully insured. Shovel and salt upon request. Call now for quote. (970)946-4450.

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE/ HOME CARE checks, providing snow removal, landscaping, handyman services. Call Eric (970)946-2061.

RESIDENTIAL SNOW REMOVAL. Driveways, walkways, patios/porches, roof raking, berm removal. Call Clarks' Custom Landscaping (505)709-8579 or email clarkscustomlandscape@gmail.com. Licensed and insured.

RIVERSTONE CARPET CLEANING. 25 cents/sq. ft. and \$3 per stair. No hidden charges. Owner/operator 20 years experience. Professional, trustworthy and punctual. 100% eco-friendly. Call Mike at (970)403-9222. Credit cards accepted.

SENIOR COMPANION/CARE-ASSIST Services in Pagosa Springs. Services include a wide range of tasks. Call for questions and pricing at (970)325-3585.

SKID STEER EXCAVATOR, DUMP trailer for hire. Driveways, foundations, gravel, septic systems, etc. Call Josh Soniat (970)903-5892.



I'm John, and I am a sweet little 10 month old guy who just wants to find a cozy home. Come and meet me and let's see how we connect. I'm ready to rock! Who doesn't need a tall, dark, handsome guy? Call the Shelter (970)731-4771 to apply.

50% OFF SALE

Pre-Retirement Inventory Reduction

- Framed Art
- Unframed Art
- Photo Frames
- Accessories
- Jewelry
- Ready-made Frames

ART & FRAMING CENTER
next to City Market
Mon-Fri 10-4, Sat 10-2

PERSONALS

FREE. CONFIDENTIAL. HELP. 24-hour domestic violence and sexual assault helpline. (970) 264-9075.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

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, www.aa-westerncolorado.com, (970)245-9649, or (888)333-9649 (24 hours).

GREAT MASSAGE PRICES
All Massages include a Soak!



OVERLOOK HOT SPRNGS SPA
Downtown Pagosa 264-4040

THINK HAIR THINK ELIZABETH
970-903-5152

TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY

FIREWOOD. One cord, split, delivered and stacked in the immediate Pagosa Springs area. Only \$300. Call now, (970)903-0731.

PagosaSUN.com

Email your classified line ad to:

classads@pagosasun.com

All classified line ads appear on PagosaSUN.com

Regular categories deadline: Tues., 10 a.m.
Too Late To Classify deadline: Tues., 3 p.m.
Holidays will have alternate deadlines.

264-2100

Classifieds

264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

SERVICES



JD's Cool Water Heating

**Sales, Service & Repair
Boilers &
Tank-less Water Heaters**

27 years in Pagosa Springs • (970) 946-3989
Colorado License PC0001348, Insured



Pagosa Construction Services

Remodels including Kitchen & Bath
Siding • Decking • Drywall • Painting
No Job Too Small

Call (970) 749-4252
Licensed & Insured • 20+ Years Experience



Local Real Estate, Business & Estate Planning Attorney

To schedule your free consultation, email
alex@buscherlaw.com
970-335-9098
422 Pagosa Street,
Suite 10
www.buscherlaw.com

Contracts, Leases, Wills & Trusts
Formation, Securities & Employment
FSBO, Landlord/Tenant & Property Management
MED, Hemp & FDA Compliance
Copyrights & Trademarks

Home Renovation

Maintenance & Security Checks

We can facilitate all your maintenance or remodeling needs - Kitchen, bath, decks & plumbing
PROJECT/RENOVATION MANAGEMENT — Architecture, permitting, engineering & interior design

High Meadows Properties, LLC
A Premier Property Management Company Since 2003
Call today (970) 403-2263
For a more complete list of services and testimonials, go to www.HighMeadowsProperties.com

Excavation • Dirt Work

Asphalt Driveways • Foundations • Ponds • Septic Systems

Skid Steer • Mini Excavator
Seven-ton Dump Truck
Free Estimates

Call Josh at 970-903-5892

Serving Pagosa Springs, Arboles & Chromo

SERVICES

SERVICES

Feel the warmth



Wood & Gas
Burning
Fireplaces
& Stoves

Vermont Casting
Majestic Hearth
Isokern • FMI
Enviro Pellet
Stoves

Custom installation & finish work

Chase caps
Snow splitters

**Pagosa Peak
Custom Fireplaces**

1065 W. Hwy. 160
Pagosa Springs, Colo
**office and showroom:
(970) 264-2006**
www.pagosafireplaces.com

New Construction Remodeling • Houses Garages • Barns • Decks

Licensed, insured & references
Plans drawn & submitted



**Call Rick
(970) 946-1737**

Master Craftsman Handyman Services Remodeling Specialist

Kitchens • Baths
Decks • Basements
Interior Trim • Painting
Exterior Siding Installation
Concrete Work • and more
Large & Small Repair Work

**STEVE
(970) 946-3356**

CUSTOM HOMES



**BWD
(970) 731-9700**

The Water Runner

Certified Bulk Potable Water Delivery
Cistern Deep Cleaning

You call,
we haul!
Since 1999

(970) 731-5022
Chadd Carnley, owner

SERVICES



Fine & Fast Painting

Handyman too!
Experienced • Equipped • Insured
Over 20 years experience

See some of my work at
www.flickr.com/photos/mmmsted

(857) 247-0871
mmmsted@gmail.com

FIREWOOD Snow Removal



FIRE & ICE

Call Dan • (970) 582-0006

Blueprints

Have your plans drawn now.
Don't wait!
Be ready to start your house,
barn, garage or deck on time.



**Call Rick
946-1737**

REMODELING NEW ADDITIONS COMMERCIAL



**BWD
(970) 731-9700**



**Pagosa
SPARKLES
cleaning company, llc.**

Detail Oriented, Trustworthy & Reliable Cleaners
For All Your Housekeeping & Window Cleaning Needs
Find us on Google & Facebook

Text/call Kim (970) 946-6446

Graphic Design

Design . Print . Website

970-317-3279
www.terrancemallory.com

SERVICES



PAGOSA SPRINGS STORAGE

**WINTER
STORAGE SPECIALS**

Protect your property with our
**20' New Storage Containers
available to rent or buy**

Call today!
970-731-0007
PagosaSpringsStorage.com

TANKLESS/ON DEMAND WATER HEATERS. Largest inventory in the area, including replacement parts. Same day installation and service in most cases. We are the only company that extends the parts & labor warranty from 1 year to 5 years. VAIL HOME SERVICES, (760)835-1041.

TREE REMOVAL. Licensed and insured up to \$2 million. Free estimates. No obligations. Call OR text (970)903-8068.

WELDER- 20 YEARS PIPE and structural certified, guaranteed work, custom fabrication, handrails, gates, repairs, fully equipped mobile welding rig ready to bring the shop to you. Call Sean (970)946-0385.

HEALTH

HOT SPRINGS HEALERS. Sessions at hot springs! Also, cranial sacral, bodywork, massage. Serving Pagosa 27 years, Dr. Dean and Amanda, (970)844-0645, (970)903-5309.

HELP WANTED

BANK OF COLORADO is seeking to hire a Teller/New Accounts. Performs regular teller duties, answering phones to assist customers with balances and transfers, and various account maintenance. Bank of Colorado offers PTO, health vision and dental insurance, and a 401K plan. Must be willing to work rotating Saturdays and have a flexible schedule to either open or close. To apply visit www.bankofcolorado.com/careers.

DENTAL ASSISTANT WANTED. We will train you. We work hard and make a great living serving our patients. We are blessed to have weekends and holidays off. Beautiful facility, modern equipment, excellent pay. Get the satisfaction of helping people! E-mail resume to PagosaSmiles@yahoo.com.

FOOD PREPARATION AND PACKAGING NEEDED for the Pagosa Springs Senior Center community cafe. Join our positive professional team in a commercial kitchen dedicated to serving the seniors in our community. Hours 7a.m. to 3p.m., full time or part time with weekends off. Strong communication skills are a must. Competitive pay and daily meal provided. Call (970)264-2167 or stop by to pick up an application.

264-2100

Classifieds

264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HELP WANTED

WINTER WORK!

Full & Part-Time/Holiday Positions:
Winter Seasonal: November - April

Lift Department
Base Operations/Parking
Ski School
Food & Beverage * Baker
Retail * Ticket Office
Snow Removal * Grooming
Custodial & Building Maintenance
Ski Patrol
Onsite Call Center/
Customer Service

ALL POSITIONS OFFER SKIING PRIVILEGES
STARTING WAGE OF \$18/HOUR
Merit increases based on performance & experience

Applications at
WolfCreekSki.com/employment
Send applications and resumes to:
WolfCreekSki@WolfCreekSki.com
P.O. Box 2800 Pagosa Springs, CO
81147

WOLF CREEK
THE MOST SNOW IN COLORADO!



• Superintendent
• Painters
• Framers
• Project Manager
- Good pay, excellent benefits, must have experience for manager roles.
Training Available.

BWD Construction is NOW HIRING!

GENERAL LABORER NEEDED - Asst. duties. Please send job history or resume to frontdesk@pagosalandcompany.com, phone (970)264-5000.

HIRING AN EXPERIENCED CONSTRUCTION SUPERVISOR. Ideal candidates would be experienced in residential and commercial excavation- be comfortable reading plans and grade stakes. Top pay, DOE. Call (970)946-3966.

HOMESPUN HOT TUBS is hiring another spa clean tech. We will train. \$20 / hour. 35-40 hours / wk. Text Stuart @ 818-963-0836.

IMMEDIATE OPENING FOR CDL DRIVER Experience in forestry equipment helpful. Must pass drug test. Local driving only. Please send your resume to frontdesk@pagosalandcompany.com.

LOOKING FOR A CHANGE to get out of the extremely hot weather and work indoors while still being in construction? Mountain Men Disaster Mitigation is hiring! Full time guaranteed 40 hours a week and year round work with competitive wages. We are looking for smart individuals with good critical thinking skills. Call or text Lars at (970)946-0238 or Bruce (970)749-9028. MountainMenDm.com

MOUNTAIN SPIRITS IS SEEKING customer service associates. Must be available nights and weekends. We offer \$16 p/h to start, accrued vacation/personal time, performance-based bonuses twice a year, and employee discounts. Please apply in person.

HELP WANTED

CONTRACTOR SALES

Ponderosa Lumber is seeking a customer service oriented individual to assist contractors with purchasing building materials. Knowledge of building materials is necessary.

Responsibilities include:

- Providing excellent customer service
- Completing required paperwork
- Providing product information
- Data Entry

Please apply in person at

Ponderosa Lumber
2435 Eagle Drive or call (970) 731-4111

WANTED Drivers & Office Help

Salary based on experience.
Bi monthly and Quarterly bonuses.
Paid time off/401k match.
Plus tips.

Please apply within.

WJP/PRO
3505 W. Hwy. 160
in the lobby of the Pagosa Lodge



NORTH PAGOSA MARATHON is hiring a full-time cashier nights and weekends. Competitive wages. Please apply in person at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

OWNERS, THERE IS A LONG TERM RENTAL SHORTAGE IN PAGOSA SPRINGS. We have a waiting list for approved tenants. Need all types of rentals. 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.

PAGOSA LIQUOR IS HIRING a full-time cashier. Please come and apply in person at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

PAGOSA PEAK OPEN SCHOOL is looking to hire a School Director to start in the 24-25 school year. Please visit pagosapeakopen-school.org for the job description and how to apply.

PAGOSA THERAPEUTICS AND THE GREEN HOUSE are looking for friendly and enthusiastic people who are eager to share their knowledge and help customers navigate the wide world of cannabis. Must be 21 years of age. A Marijuana Enforcement Division badge is required to start work. Come join a growing company with opportunities for advancement and involvement in outreach events. Please email your resume to employment@jandjinc.net.

HELP WANTED

PHYSICAL THERAPY TECH. Rocky Mountain Physical Therapy has an opening for a full time Physical Therapy Tech. We are looking for a dependable, energetic multitasker who will enjoy helping people recover from surgeries, injuries, accidents and other health issues to join our team. No prior experience necessary. We offer competitive pay, \$16-18 per hour, and benefits including paid holidays, paid sick leave, 401k plan, and a profit sharing program. Please submit resume to RMPT, 35 Mary Fisher Circle or email to rockymountainpt@yahoo.com

PONDEROSA LUMBER IS SEEKING a person for a yard associate/ driver position. Lumber experience and/or CDL license is a plus, but not necessary. Duties may include delivering loads to job sites, as well as helping customers in the yard, loading/ unloading trucks and providing inventory support. We offer competitive wages based on experience and a benefit package that includes Holiday Pay, Paid Time Off, 401(k) and Medical/ Dental insurance for full-time employees. Please apply in person at 2435 Eagle Drive in Pagosa Springs.

ROOF LABORER NEEDED with some construction experience. Will train. \$20-\$25/ hour to start. (970)749-0830.

SMALL MOTEL AND RV PARK hiring part-time maintenance person. 20 hours per week. Pool and spa knowledge helpful but not required. Pay depending on experience. Call (970)731-5345 for more information.

SUBWAY IS HIRING. Enjoy working in a fun environment with a great team? Earn a strong hourly wage with tips while serving our wonderful community. Apply online at subway.com, or in person.

TILE SETTERS AND LABORERS WANTED for high quality custom tile work. Experience is a plus, willing to train the right person. Pay will depend on experience. Please call Chris at (970)946-7804 or send resume to chrisryan-123@hotmail.com.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

MULTI USE 6,800 SQUARE BUILDING with business in prime location with high producing business .60 acre. lot \$2,350,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

PRIME LOCATION NEAR NAVAJO State Park. Gas station, liquor store, convenience store, restaurant, motel, post office. \$1.7 million. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

FOR SALE

2021 PELOTON TREAD. Great way to kick off your 2024 fitness goals. Like new. Fully assembled, ready to use. Peloton membership not included but can be purchased via Peloton website. Must pick up - will not deliver. \$2000. Text ONLY, NO phone calls please. (505)629-5086.

4 SET TIRES COOPER DISCOVERER 275/60R20 AT3 Good tread \$480 970-946-0305 leave a message.

FOR SALE

4 SET TIRES PATHFINDER 265/70R16 112T AT Good Tread \$320 970-946-0305 leave a message.

CUSTOM-BUILT CHILD'S BED w/ sleeping area above, desk and drawers below. Lots of storage on side and inside stairs. Assembly required. Pick-up/delivery negotiable. \$150. Text ONLY, NO phone calls please. (719)640-1588.

DRY FIREWOOD- PINE. Pick up \$240 a cord. Delivery available. Call for prices. Bayfield. Gabe (970)403-2784.

ESKIMO MAKO M43. 8" Gas auger. Very little use. Excellent shape. \$250 cash OBO. (970)946-6432.

FIREWOOD FOR SALE. Pine and aspen. Cut about 16" long, split. Delivered by longbed truckload (about 1 cord). Call (970)946-4450.

FOR SALE. Gehl 362 mini excavator 2000. Thumb, Peter, side 5 cab tilt. 24" bucket. Recent rebuilt hydraulics. Too much to list. \$13,500. (970)507-0240.

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.

PONDEROSA PINE FIREWOOD. Nice and dry, has been tarped all winter. \$250 per cord. (970)317-3120.

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.

AKC ROTTWEILER PUPPIES ready for their forever homes. One set of shots, puppy well check and micro-chipped, five female, one male. \$1,500. Please call for more information, serious inquiries only. (970)507-1154.

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.

FOR POOCH SAKES GROOMING. Appointments available with Kelly (303)819-2015. Mobile appointments with Barb (970)903-1290.

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.

2012 SUBARU OUTBACK. Great Condition. Silver. 150,000 miles. Original Owner. \$8,500. (970)946-7880.

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.

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.

PagosaSUN.com

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



WWW.RMREALTYANDRENTALS.COM



Info@rmrealtyandrentals.com
 117 Navajo Trail Dr. Ste E, Pagosa Springs

Largest Local Property Management Co.



150+ SW Colorado
 Property Owners Served
 19+ Years. Mortgage &
 Real Estate Exp
 FULL LT TENANT SCREENING
 NATIONWIDE ADVERTISING
 ON CALL 24 HR 7 DAYS



HOMES FOR RENT

HOMES FOR RENT

VACATION RENTALS

HOMES FOR SALE

LAND/ BUILDING SITES

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.

UPDATED 3-2 HOME. All bills paid. Over an acre. Views, privacy, snow removal, Starlink internet, firewood, garage with opener. \$3250/ month. (512)762-0429.

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

Christie Calderwood
 SRS, ABR, ePRO
 Serving Sellers & Buyers
 970-946-6856
 christie@jimsmithrealty.com
 JIM SMITH REALTY

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.

REAL ESTATE SERVICES

Whether Buying or Selling
 Call Marcie Lewis
 (970) 759-8672
 GALLES PROPERTIES
 MarcieLewis.com

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

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.

Subscribe today!
PagosaSUN.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 winter landscape. The truck's tank is the central focus, with the text "ARE YOU READY TO FEEL THE HEAT?" printed on it in bold, red, italicized letters. The truck is positioned in front of a rustic, two-story wooden house with a stone foundation, partially covered in snow. The house has several windows, some of which are lit from within, casting a warm glow. The surrounding trees and ground are heavily laden with snow, creating a serene and cold atmosphere. The truck's tank is white and cylindrical, with a red and white striped safety band near the bottom. The truck's cab is visible on the right side of the frame, and the word "propane" is visible on the side of the tank.

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

A NEW PROPANE PROVIDER

IS COMING YOUR WAY