



PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147 www.PagosaSUN.com VOLUME 116 — NO. 20, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2024

District attorney resigns

Governor announces panel to review applications

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

On Tuesday, Feb. 13, the state of Colorado announced a panel to review applications and recommend finalists for appointment as the district attorney for the 6th Judicial District following the resignation of current district attorney Christian Champagne.

The press release from the state notes that Champagne will step down effective mid-March.

In emails to The SUN, Champagne explains he is leaving to pursue other opportunities.

"I will be pursuing a new opportunity that came together a little more quickly than expected. I also believe the time is right to pass the torch onto my team at the district attorney's office, they are ready willing and able to continue the good work we are doing."

Champagne indicates he resigned

■ See Resignation A8

On to state!



SUN photo/Josh Pike

The eight Pagosa Springs High School Pirate state wrestling tournament qualifiers pose prior to their final practice before departing for the state tournament. The qualifiers include, in back, left to right: Anthony Manzanares, Luke Tressler, Colton Lucero and Antonio Quesada. In front, left to right, are: Laykyn Baxstrom, Samuel Kelly, Conner Kelly and Harley Armijo. The state tournament is being held at the Ball Arena in Denver Feb. 15-17.

New natural gas rates approved

Black Hills Energy

Black Hills Energy announced on Feb. 9 the approval by the Colorado Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to implement new provisional base rates for natural gas usage, effective Feb. 13.

The rate increase recovers approximately \$20 million in critical infrastructure and operational costs to support safe, reliable natural gas service for customers.

Final rates are pending approval by the CPUC, anticipated in May.

Residential customers with an average usage will see an increase ranging from approximately 2.4 percent to 16 percent per month. Small commercial customers with an average usage will see an increase of approximately 5.4 percent to 12.9 percent per month, depending on the region of the state.

The average monthly bill impact for residential customers in the North/Southwest region — which includes communities in Cheyenne, Logan, Morgan, Phillips, Sedgwick,

■ See Rates A8



Space the 'final frontier' for Murray Knudson

By Robert Moore
Staff Writer

Space is truly the "final frontier" for Murray George Knudson, thanks to the efforts of his wife, Peggy.

Murray, who suddenly passed away Oct. 13, 2023, and Peggy were married for 45 years and resided in Pagosa Springs for the past 20 years.

In an interview, Peggy shared that Murray loved all things related to space and aviation. He worked as a private pilot early in his career, as a commercial pilot in Washington state, and finally as an air traffic controller at Chicago O'Hare International Airport.

"He was a 'Star Trek' nut, space enthusiast, I guess you would say," Peggy said. "I used to joke with people if I had to watch another episode of how the universe works, I'd scream."

Peggy added that on multiple occasions she and Murray had watched news reports where "so-and-so's ashes were being sent to space, and we'd always say that, wouldn't that be cool? But who has the millions of dollars to pay for that?"

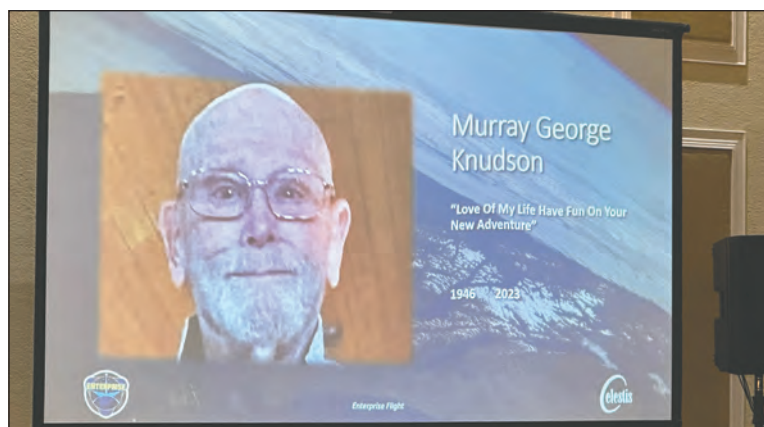
Little did they realize that, one day, that would be exactly what Peggy would accomplish for Murray.

On the Wednesday following the memorial service for Murray and upon the departure of her son, Brian, Peggy shared that she was sitting at home ordering a Hubble telescope urn for Murray and "crying her eyes out" when she was hit with an inspiration.

"I just picked up my phone," she said, "and Googled, 'how do I send my husband's ashes to space?' And, sure enough, celestis.com popped up."

And that simple search triggered a sequence of events that enabled her to provide an amazing

■ See Space A8



Photos courtesy Peggy Knudson

A smiling Peggy Knudson and her son, Brian, stand in front of the Vulcan rocket that would launch the remains of husband and father Murray Knudson (pictured to left) into deep space aboard the Enterprise flight.

Disputes between town and county on rooftop screening continue

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) continued discussions of conflicts with the Town of Pagosa Springs concerning screening of HVAC units on the roofs of county buildings at its Jan. 7 work session.

County Manager Derek Woodman explained that, on Feb. 2, the county had two meetings with the town concerning county buildings in Harman Park.

The first, Woodman explained, included himself, Town Manager David Harris, county Transportation Coordinator Kevin Bruce, town Community Development Director James Dickhoff and the county and town public works directors. It focused on the construction of the county transit facility.

Woodman explained that the town issued a building permit for the transit facility in the summer of 2023, but that it lapsed since there was no activity on the project for six months.

He added that the permit also included the incorrect contractor since the county changed contractors on the project in 2023.

He stated that Bruce reached out to the town to change the contractor

on the permit and have it reissued, but that the town denied the request and refused to issue the permit.

"It was exclusively based on the fact that there was a rumor ... that the county was not going to comply with the town's land use code requirement of having the mechanical apertures on the roof screened," Woodman said.

He stated that screening is included in the building plans and that the county has funds for the screening and is reaching out to the building contractor to secure an estimate for the cost of the screening.

Woodman added that the screening is listed as an alternate in the building plans, but that there are several items listed as alternates in the plans, including heating in the bus bays.

County Attorney Todd Weaver commented that the screening is not in the building code, which should be the basis for a building permit, but is an element of the town's Land Use and Development Code.

Woodman stated that the town is requiring that the county make a written commitment to providing the screening, which Woodman stated he told the town the county would not do despite planning on moving

■ See Disputes A8

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Opinion

The Pagosa Springs SUN

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2/9	37	17	2.7	S	.18
2/10	32	15	.4	S	.02
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2/12	38	8	0	-	-

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OUR VIEW

Goals, accomplishments and elections

Over the next few weeks, you'll see what's become an annual feature in 'The SUN'.

Each year for the last 11 years, we have asked officials, both elected and hired, at several tax-funded entities to reflect on how they did meeting goals they set out for their district for the previous year, outline their goals for the current year and provide you with an idea of how they plan to meet those goals.

In the coming weeks, you'll see answers from officials at the Town of Pagosa Springs, Archuleta County, Upper San Juan Health Services District, Archuleta School District, Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District and the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office.

We hope this will help you to understand a snapshot of the big-picture items each entity has on its plate to help serve all of us.

Unfortunately, there will be a few things you won't see.

You won't see answers from two-thirds of the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners or the county manager.

We find this disappointing.

You will, however, find goals and accomplishments submitted by Commissioner Warren Brown.

From what we understand, the other commissioners opted not to participate because we ask each person to answer individually, knowing they, in the case of the commissioners, each represent different districts filled with residents who may have very different needs and wants. We also

recognize the chief employee of the county organization may also have different goals relating to the function of the entity.

Regardless, we hope you will find the Goals and Accomplishments series informative in the coming weeks.

Elections and reminders

If you, like us, are registered to vote and signed up for BallotTrax, you've likely been notified that your ballot packet for the presidential primary has been mailed.

You'll also notice an article from Archuleta County Clerk and Recorder Kristy Archuleta in this week's paper outlining that, despite your ballot having your middle name twice, the ballot can still be voted without issue.

Registered, active Democrats, Republicans and unaffiliated voters will all receive ballot packets pertinent to their affiliation status. As a reminder, unaffiliated voters can only fill out and return one ballot if they want their vote to count.

Ballots must be returned by 7 p.m. on March 5 to be counted. Postmarks do not count.

Along with the presidential primary, candidates at the local, state and national level are also announcing their candidacies for office and telling you why they might be the best fit for the job.

With political advertising and campaigning increasing rapidly, and folks seeking to share their opinions on candidates, we feel this is a good time to remind you,

our readers and contributors, of our policy relating to letters to the editor in general and in relation to political letters.

Letters should be submitted electronically to editor@pagosasun.com in a format that can be copied and pasted.

To be considered, letters must be 500 words or less, be signed by the author (unless emailed), include the author's address and daytime phone number (for verification purposes, not to be printed) and must be received by noon on Tuesday (unless the deadline is moved up due to a holiday). Letters in all capitals will not be accepted.

The SUN limits letters to two per month per letter writer, and letters quoting other people or sources must contain proper attribution.

Poetry, anonymous letters, letters that are libelous or in poor taste, or that attack a private citizen or business will not be published.

Political letters leading up to elections are generally printed up to three weeks prior to the election. If necessary, letters may be limited to include only one letter pertaining to a candidate or political issue in each edition.

We also remind that there is no guarantee that a letter, or anything submitted to The SUN, will be published.

We thank all those who share their very varied viewpoints with our community and those who seek to foster community conversation.

Randi Pierce

LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

100 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
February 15, 1924

There is nothing particularly new to report in connection with the coming school bond election, which will be held on Saturday, March 1st. The work of tearing down the brick walls of the destroyed building has been in progress the past week, though this morning's storm has prevented activity today. Saturday morning W.R. Jones, superintendent of the Pagosa schools, Chas. A. Day, secretary of the school board, and J.R. Martinez, treasurer of the board, departed on a several days' business trip which will take them to Pueblo, Colorado Springs and Denver, where they will investigate different schools, confer with architects and purchase equipment for the new building to be erected.

We understand from confidential sources that negotiations are in progress for the sale of the springs property, to be followed by the erection of a new and modern hotel building as stated in these columns last week.

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
February 18, 1949

Saturday, February 19, has been set by the State Department of Revenue as the final date when motor vehicle owners may legally use their 1948 license plates.

The State Patrol will start issuing violations tickets on February 20 to owners who drive their vehicles with 1948 plates, according to Gilbert R. Carrel, Chief of the State Patrol.

The newly organized Chamber of Commerce will hold a meeting on Saturday, February 16, at 8:00 p.m. for the purpose of electing officers and considering a proposed constitution and by-laws. To date a great deal of enthusiasm has been shown and a large number of residents in the county have already paid their yearly dues of \$12.

In a display of red hot basket shooting, Cordova and Thomson led the attack last Friday night when the Buccaneers defeated the Ignacio Public team by a score of 67 to 42. Cordova led the scoring by sinking 13 field goals and 1 free throw for a total of 27 points. Thomson accounted for 11 field goals and 4 charity tosses to rack up 26 points for the Bucs.

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
February 21, 1974

Two candidates for the Town Board have filed nominating petitions this week and at present no others have been taken out. Filing the signed petitions were Dewey Lattin and Bob Cooper.

No other candidates have filed at this time. Town election this year is on April 2 and nominating petitions must be filed no later than March 8 at 5 p.m. Ten signatures of registered and eligible voters on a petition are required to nominate a candidate.

Present members of the Board are: Jim Cloman, mayor, and councilmen are Junior Sorenson, Worthe Crouse, W.H. Diestelkamp, Ross Maestas, and Dan Peters. Crouse will be the only holdover member of the board, with a mayor and five board members to be elected.

Nominating petitions may be obtained at the office of the town clerk during regular office hours for the town hall.

The San Juan Historical Society will hold an important meeting at 7:30 p.m. Friday, February 22.

The meeting will be in the REA building and all members are urged to attend. Others, if interested in preserving the records and historical articles of the early days, are also cordially invited. The Historical Society now has a museum building and plans for its completion and furnishing will be discussed.

25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
February 18, 1999

A new fee schedule was adopted Tuesday night by the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District at its director's regular monthly meeting. The action conforms with recent PAWS board policy of reviewing the utility's charges and expenses.

The new fee schedule affects all charges except inclusion fees, currently \$6,500. Board members decided to review conditions relating to inclusion fees before changing that item.

Monthly service charges were raised for the first time since 1990, PAWS general manager Carrie Campbell said.

A minimum service charge of \$27 per month is levied per equivalent unit for 10,000 gallons of water with wastewater service.

A minimum service charge of \$13 per month is levied per equivalent unit, or E.U., for 10,000 gallons of water without wastewater service.

For wastewater service only, \$14 per month per E.U. will be levied.



From the August 4, 1960, Pagosa SUN — These are the Pagosa Springs Volunteer Firemen who competed in the various field day events of the San Luis Valley Firemen's Association last Sunday at Salida. There were eight competing departments, two of them paid departments, and the locals brought home one trophy. The smoke eaters are, left to right, back row: Orrin Ford, George Crouse, Milton Wiley, Bud Patterson, Carlos LaVarta. Front row: Harold Flaugh, Don Warr, George Yanase, Ernest Yamaguchi and Warren Christie.

Archuleta County Commissioners		
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Madeline Bergon mbergon@pagosasprings.co.gov	Brooks Lindner blindner@pagosasprings.co.gov	Gary Williams gwilliams@pagosasprings.co.gov



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WHICH MEANS, THIS TOWN BETTER TAKE THINGS INTO ITS OWN HANDS — LOCALS NEED TO SHOW SELF-RELIANCE!

INDUSTRIAL STRENGTH SELF-RELIANCE!!!

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.

Class project

Dear Editor:
Dear People of the Great State of Colorado,
Hello! I am a third-grade student in Northern Virginia. Our class is learning about the United States, and I will be teaching our school about the state of Colorado. In May, I will create a display for our State Fair that I hope will make you proud.
Although I have gathered facts about your state from books and website, I think that I can receive the best information from the people who live there. This is why I am writ-

ing to you. I am hoping that you would be willing to send me some items to help me learn more about the best things in your state. You might consider sending items such as postcards, pictures, souvenirs, this newspaper article, or any other unique items that would be useful or show your state's pride. Here are a few questions:

- Why do you live in the state?/What first brought your family there?
- How do you make money?/What is your job?
- What does your state look like?
- What do people do for fun?
- What animals live there?
- What traditional food/recipes does your state have?
- What type of music is native to your state?
- Do you have a state athletic team?
- What geographic features are unique to your state?

I will need to gather all of my information by the second week of May. You can mail items to the address below. I really appreciate your help!

Sincerely,
Jane
Miss Campbell's Class
The Langely School
1411 Balls Hill Road
McLean, Virginia 22101

Deranged?

Dear Editor:
Webster's defines "deranged" as "unable to behave and think normally, especially because of mental illness." In my 81 years, I have never been called "deranged." But the Carnley's letter called me that, as well as demonic, Marxist, and anti-American, none of which are accurate. To me, what is truly "demented" is Trump's use of the exact words that Adolph Hitler used to demonize groups of people in preparation for their ultimate persecution. However, the Carnleys never mentioned this element of my letter. Rather, their letter fell back on the classic method of avoiding rational dialogue, they frame everything through the lens of religion. So, anyone who disagrees with them is attacking God.

The Carnleys maintain that Trump was chosen by God to be his messenger. They equate him with Saint Paul. They dismiss Trump's character flaws as "personality ticks (sic)." Wow! Trump is a pathological liar, a greedy egomaniac, a convicted rapist, vengeful and profane. He has cheated on his three wives multiple times (upstanding family support?). He demands absolute loyalty yet gives none to others. He shows absolutely no compassion or empathy. A draft-dodger himself, he called hero John McCain and other military members "losers" and has no concern for our veterans. He abandoned successful relationships with our allies and embraced brutal dictators, leading directly to Putin's invasion of Ukraine.

He claims to be a man of faith, yet never attends church, follows no religious ethical code, and has no clue about the Bible. He declares he can kill someone with impunity. In short, he has none of the moral behaviors that Christians espouse. His trinity is me, myself, and I.

Let me address some of the false political claims the Carnleys made. 90% of the drugs that enter the U.S. from Mexico come through ports-of-entry, smuggled in commercial trucks and cars, in many cases by American citizens. Undocumented migrants are less likely to commit crimes since they fear deportation.

Current migrants don't work hard? Try picking lettuce for 12 hours a day for minimum wage. Just nine foreign-born terrorists entered the United States illegally from 1975 to 2023 and only four were apprehended on the Mexican border. The southern border has been porous for generations, including during Trump's term. Republicans have scuttled many attempts to pass legislation that would impose restrictions on immigration, most recently a week ago at Trump's behest. As to energy, the U.S. is now the largest producer in the world with more petroleum produced under President Biden than under Trump. Finally, no wars during Trump's term? How about Afghanistan, Syria, and Iraq (65 American service members died in combat while serving Trump).

Since the Carnleys base their opinions on religion, let me conclude with a Bible verse from Leviticus 19:33-34, "When a foreigner resides among you in your land, do not mistreat them. The foreigner residing among you must be treated as your native-born. Love them as yourself, for you were foreigners in Egypt." "Amen" to that!

John Porco

Hair on fire

Dear Editor:
The last thing I want to hear, think, or write about right now is our former president. I am so sick of the malignancy he has inflicted on this country that I could tear my hair out. But my hair is on fire right now so I'm compelled to write about his latest treasonous behavior. Trump has publicly stated that, as president, he would abandon our NATO allies and allow Russia "to do whatever the hell they want" to its member states. How

things have changed for Republicans! The leader of their party has signaled to the Kremlin that, if he is elected, he will not defend our European allies! Invertebrates Lindsey Graham and Marco Rubio have said they aren't worried about this. Apparently they are just fine with the leader of their party choosing to side with Putin should he decide to invade other European countries.

Make no mistake, Putin has gotten the message and he will be encouraged to continue his war in Ukraine and is probably upping his game of misinformation directed at Americans via social media. In case you

■ See Letters A5

28th Annual Knights of Columbus Lenten Fish Fry



starts February 16

Every Friday, February 16 to March 22
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Letters

The SUN welcomes letters from readers.

Please submit your letter electronically in a format that can be copied and pasted to editor@pagosasun.com or via the form at www.PagosaSUN.com. Letters must not be in all capitals.

All letters must:

- be 500 words or less
- be signed by the author, unless emailed
- include the author's address and daytime phone number
- 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.

Letters quoting other people must contain proper attribution.

There is no guarantee letters will be published.

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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.

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

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Goals & Accomplishments

SUN staff asked representatives of publicly funded agencies in Archuleta County to individually answer a trio of questions relating to the goals and accomplishments of themselves and their agencies at the turn of the year. Their answers will be printed in The SUN over the coming weeks. Answers are printed as received and are not edited.

Archuleta County

Warren Brown, Commissioner, District 1



What are your three biggest accomplishments of 2023?

As we welcome in the new year, I hope you and your family are well. I would like to restate last year's comment, in that it is virtually impossible for any single commissioner to accomplish much by themselves. Commissioners need to work together for the benefit of our community,

For the first time in more than 70 years, Archuleta County has its very own, fully staffed, and operational Health Department! We have a dedicated facility at no additional costs to the taxpayer and a Health Board was seated. These monumental efforts were made so programs and services could be offered seamlessly to our citizens. The success of our Health Department would not have been possible without the effort and guidance of the Transitional Advisory Committee, comprised of citizen volunteers and staff.

I realize our roads need more timely maintenance and replacement. To this end, we were able to increase the frequency plowing some major graveled roads, install a temporary bridge on County Road 500 and complete several paving projects, which were part of my stated goals from 2022. These projects included County Roads 600, 982, and Talisman Drive. These projects were long overdue and significantly improved the quality of the roadways and increased vehicle and pedestrian safety.

Looking forward, the commissioners selected members for the newly formed Road and Bridge Advisory Committee (RBAC), comprised of locals who have experience in road construction, engineering, and other specialties to assist in the evaluation and planning for road repair, maintenance, and construction.

Lastly, we have partnered with Pagosa Springs Community Development Corp. and Habitat for Humanity to drastically increase housing opportunities. The Board of County Commissioners donated an additional 35 county owned lots to Habitat for Humanity and the

Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation for the construction of new workforce housing.

What are your three top goals for 2024?

In 2024, my goals are directed at our infrastructure. In my opinion, the greatest challenge we face comes from making specific plans to identify, prioritize and fund our infrastructure needs. The infrastructure we need to include within a strategic plan includes our roads, the construction and maintenance of our facilities, and building upon improving our relationship capital.

What is your action plan to meet your goals?

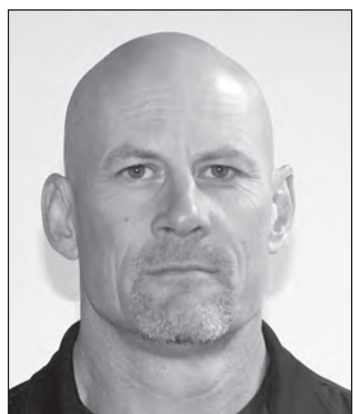
Commissioners can achieve our Road Replacement and Repair schedule through working with our newly formed Road Advisory Committee (RAC), to identify the priority roads, secondary roads, and the feeder roads in need of the most urgent maintenance and replacement. I would also like to see the RAC recommend feasibility studies on our more heavily traveled gravel roads to determine if paving these roads would be more cost effective while providing increased safety.

The commissioners need to follow the recommendations as budgeting will allow and make common sense decisions on prioritizing the road projects and aggressively seek out funding opportunities and options for road projects. This information needs to be made available through multi-source media outlets so we can better communicate with the community in real-time to keep our mobile community up to date.

The Transit Facility is scheduled to break ground in late spring of 2024. We need to work closely with the Mountain Express Transit Transportation Coordinator, the contractor, and the Town of Pagosa Springs, addressing challenges that may arise and cause delays in the project. The timeline and budget submitted by the contractor needs to be reviewed on no less than a 30-day cycle to assure adherence to the contracts in play, allowing for timely adjustments to be made, if necessary, all the while not affecting our current county transportation schedule.

Finally, I have found during my tenure as your District-1 Commissioner, that honest and genuine relationships take a tremendous amount of work, grace, and dedication, but the results can be very rewarding and impactful. We need to select commissioners to committees and groups who are willing and able to actively participate on committees and within groups that have impact upon our County.

Mike LeRoux, Archuleta County Sheriff



Thank you for this opportunity. First let me start by acknowledging that any accomplishments or achievements over the past year should be attributed to the dedication, loyalty, and passion of the staff at Archuleta County Sheriff's Office (ACSO). They have been confronted with many unprecedented challenges and changes during this time, and they have risen to meet them, adapting, and learning every time. It is a privilege to work with such professional, honorable, and capable men and women. I am proud to have served Archuleta County with them

over the past year since taking the Office of Sheriff in January of 2023.

What are your three biggest accomplishments of 2023?

1. Sustaining the Volume and Intensity of Calls for Service in 2023
In 5 years calls for service in Archuleta County have more than doubled, with over 13,000 dispatched calls in 2023.

We also experienced a number of firsts for the county including the largest county fire and the largest and most extensive coordinated search and rescue operation.

With careful management and dedicated staff, we were able to successfully respond, and provide county wide coverage throughout this unprecedented time.

2. Staff Recruitment and Retention
We were able to aggressively recruit 16 new employees across the ACSO, finally filling long-term vacancies. In close collaboration with the Board of County Commissioners we focused on attraction and retention strategies by looking for hourly rate increases and incentives for current positions, culminating in a notable \$4.44 per hour increase by January 2024, across the board. This now makes the task of recruiting moving forward a more competitive proposition. We also committed to promotion from within, providing additional training to enable suitability and providing positions at the law enforcement training academy for existing staff.

3. Technological and Resource Advances
In an effort to improve efficiencies we invested in numerous improvements in technology, equipment, and gear. Some of these resources include: a foreign language interpretative service; performance uniforms and tactical gear; drug identification apparatus; speed trailers; and a drone program that has already been used successfully in the apprehension of suspects, locating, and sizing up fires, assessing vehicles over the

edge and search & rescue operations.

What are your three top goals for 2024?

What is your action plan to meet your goals?

Goal 1: Staff Recruitment and Retention
After a period of aggressive recruitment, we are focusing on stabilizing the staff contingent we now have, creating a cohesive team of experienced professionals across the ACSO remit of Administration, Operations, Detentions, and Emergency Operations.

Action plan
We are developing career and training paths and opportunities for those who show potential for long-term team fit. In response to the current law enforcement industry pressures and attrition, we are launching a recruitment video for Archuleta County Sheriff's Office showing the benefits and reward of working in our exciting team environment.

Goal 2: Grant Funding for Training and Technology
We acquired an impressive \$230,000 in grant funding for use in 2024, to fulfill our future plans for further advancements, equipment, technology, gear, training and programs. We are committed to ongoing securing of grant funding opportunities to bolster our income, and to finding additional revenue sources.

Action plan
To this end we have engaged specialist contractors and have committed additional resources to actively pursue grant funding for all facets of the ACSO.

Goal 3: Building on Community Engagement
Our ongoing commitment is to provide frequent, clear, and transparent communication through easily accessible channels; to be approachable and available to engage; and to respond reliably, punctually, courteously and professionally.

2023 saw ACSO staff attend and support an extensive number of community and not-for-profit events as we came together as a team to focus our attention on public engagement and interface.

We also successfully launched a Volunteer Mounted Patrol Unit, which proved very popular with the public at community events. We actively communicated with the public through an exponential increase in press releases relating to incidents within the public arena and internally at the ACSO, making them available through the Pagosa Springs SUN, Facebook, and our website.

Action plan
We are continuing to build on partner relationships within the county and to develop new connections and opportunities to interact with the public, responder agencies, private enterprise, and other stakeholders. Wherever possible we intend to represent the office at public events in support, and to give the public the opportunity to engage with our personnel. We will continue to be committed to communicating frequently and transparently through information releases in public platforms.

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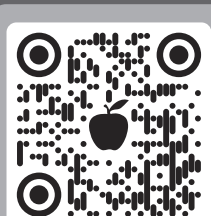
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Obituaries

Lois Carolyn (Wilton) Brinton

Lois Carolyn (Wilton) Brinton, of Pagosa Springs, died on Feb. 7, 2024, at her home, surrounded by family. She was 92.

Lois was born in 1931 to Arthur and Kate Wilton. She was the youngest of six children and enjoyed growing up on the shores of Lake Huron in Lakeport, Mich. After graduating from high school in 1949, she went to junior college in Port Huron and graduated in 1952. That same year, she began working as a medical technologist in Port Huron. She moved out west in 1953 to work at Saint Francis Hospital in Colorado Springs. There, she met Gerald (Jerry) Brinton, of Libby, Mont., shortly before his discharge from the Army. They were married April 1954.

The couple lived in various places across the U.S., including Libby, Mont.; Port Huron, Mich.; Chicago; La Grange, Texas; Reno, Nev.; and San Antonio, Texas. Finally, after years of searching for the right place to raise their five children, they decided to



start a new adventure in Colorado. Jerry, Lois and the children arrived in Pagosa Springs on Jan. 1, 1970, and never left. During their time in Pagosa Springs, Lois helped Jerry manage Hidden Valley Ranch in the early 1970s, then worked with Jerry as a realtor at Brinton Realty until their retirement in the late 1990s. Lois was instrumental in the establishment of Our Savior Lutheran Church and School and remained an active member of the church throughout her life. She had a great sense of humor and loved to laugh, tell stories and read mystery novels. She made excellent rhubarb pie and enjoyed keeping up with the adventures of her many grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Mrs. Brinton is survived by daughters Elizabeth (Freddie) Martinez, Kathryn (Mark) Young and Sara Brinton, all of Pagosa Springs; as well as 14 grandchildren and 21 great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Jerry, infant daughter Sarah Jane, sons David Brinton, of Pagosa Springs, and Scott Brinton, of Durango, and grandson Christopher Young, of Pagosa Springs.

A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 17, 2024, at Our Savior Lutheran Church, 56 Meadows Drive, Pagosa Springs. Memorial contributions may be sent to the Our Savior Lutheran Church.

Lila C. Rivas

Lila C. Rivas, aka Lollipop, was born Candelaria Cruz Chavez in Lone Tree, Colo., on April 17, 1938, to Joe Bernabè Chavez and Juanita Martinez-Chavez. She had one sister, Precilla, and six brothers: Bernie, Ray, Doro (Jean), Ted (Bonnie), David and Jerry.



She loved to share stories about living in Monte Vista, playing in a cow pasture, traveling around picking fruit while living in camps, playing softball and later ending up in Dragerton, Utah. She came to Pagosa often to visit family and that's where she met a skinny "poco feito," Lester, who later would become the love of her life.

Lila married Lester in Dragerton, Utah, on Sept. 12, 1959, came on her honeymoon to Pagosa, and never left. They had four children: Rose (Danny), Jeff (Tanya), Anthony (Jackie) and Isabelle (Todd). They had eight grandchildren: Laurie (Oscar), Danny (Shannon), Ramonsita (Favian), Heath, Seth (Melissa), Karlie (Amie), Amber (Eric) and Richard. They had 13 great grandchildren: Rosa, Stefani,

Naomi, Sebastian, Kayleen, Kyrah, Izaiah, Serenity, Symphony, Gracie, Eric Jr., Boaz and Uriah.

Lila and Lester loved singing all the time for family gatherings, for events in the church with the choir, and of course at karaoke. Lila was well-known for her voice of an angel. She loved cooking and feeding many people, going to bingo with her friends, games on her tablet, cooking channels and "Novella" on YouTube. Most of all, she loved her family.

She was preceded in death by many people she loved, but the two that took part of her heart with them were her son Anthony and her beloved Lester. She was never the same after their passing. She tried so hard to be her perky self, but her little body just wouldn't cooperate.

We believe she passed away from a broken heart in the comfort of her own home in the early morning hours of Feb. 3, 2024. She will be remembered by all who knew her for her kindness, awyness, love and, most of all, her red lipstick.

Rest in peace, Lollipop. We will always and forever love you.

Services will be held on Saturday, Feb. 17, 2024, at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church in Pagosa Springs. The rosary will be recited at 9 a.m., the eulogy read at 9:30 a.m., and a Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m.

County planning commission approves new short-term rental regulations

Animal regulations and neighborhood meeting rules also discussed

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

The Archuleta County Planning Commission discussed and approved proposed new changes to the county Land Use Regulations (LUR) related to short-term rentals (STRs) and other items at its Jan. 24 meeting.

The new and revised regulations will go before the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners at its Feb. 20 meeting, according to Development Director Pamela Flowers in a communication to The SUN.

At the planning commission meeting, Flowers outlined the new regulations, including the addition of the concepts related to neighborhood meetings, changes related to STRs and changes to animal regulations.

Flowers and the commission then reviewed the proposed changes in order of their appearance within the LUR, beginning with changes to include neighborhood meetings.

Flowers explained that neighborhood meetings provide an opportunity for developers to present a project to neighbors and other community members and receive feedback.

She stated that such meetings are intended to allow neighbors to shape a proposed project and reduce conflicts later in the approval process.

In addition, Flowers indicated that staff would attend a neighborhood meeting and create a report that will be given to all decision makers reviewing the project and used as a reference to determine how an application has or has not addressed concerns raised during the meeting.

She noted that the meeting report could also be the basis for planning staff asking for review of the project by additional agencies to assess neighbor concerns.

The commission heard a comment commending the value of including neighborhood meetings prior to voting to approve this section of the regulations.

The commission then reviewed the types of projects and locations that will require neighborhood meetings, including mining operations, helipads, airports and bars or gas stations in residential areas, among other types of projects.

Flowers then moved on to discussing changes to STR regulations, explaining that many of the changes were intended to add current planning department policies to the LUR in addition to incorporating the recommendations of the county's citizen STR task force.

She began with the changes to STR permit submittal process, which include the removal of a requirement that STR permit applications provide a property deed and changes to the process of submitting advertisements for review. According to Flowers, under the new regulations, new permit applications and renewals must include a listing of the booking and advertising platforms used to promote the STR while new permits must also submit draft advertisements for review.

She added that, at the recommendation of the STR task force, applicants must submit proof that the homeowner's insurance policy for the STR contains STR coverage.

In response to questions from the planning commission, Flowers noted that homeowner's insurance is required by the state and that the change is intended to protect guests staying in the STR by ensuring it has the proper insurance.

At the recommendation of planning commission members, Flowers stated that she would add language requiring that the STR owner or operator provide notification to the county of changes or cancellations of homeowners insurance to prevent STR owners from

buying STR coverage for the property to secure a permit and then canceling it after obtaining the permit.

Flowers then discussed changes to the rules concerning property deeds, which included the addition of a 30-day grace period following a change of ownership for the new STR owner to submit an application for a STR permit.

She explained that the STR owner could not have advertisements active until the new permit is approved and that the change is intended to prevent STR owners from having to cancel bookings due to a change of ownership.

The commission then discussed whether the rules requiring advertising to be removed during the grace period should remain in the regulations, with Flowers explaining that the advertising removal provision was added partially to cover potential changes in how the STR would be run between owners.

Following the discussion, the commission decided that the rules requiring the removal of advertising should stay in the LUR.

Next, Flowers covered more changes to the permitting process, including changes tightening the timelines for STR permit reviews and the addition of fees for failures to appear for a scheduled STR inspection.

The commission then voted to approve the STR permitting changes presented with the changes discussed.

Flowers moved on to presenting a potential change to the standards for how many guests are allowed at wilderness lodges, which would change the standard from 0.5 guests per acre to a flexible number based on the infrastructure for the site.

The commissioners expressed concerns about the current number of guests being too low but the new standard being too open ended.

Following a discussion where Flowers expressed a desire for the new standard to be based on a measurable factor like infrastructure and not on an arbitrary number, the commission

agreed to keep the new standard as presented.

Flowers then returned to STR standards, beginning with a change to remove a loophole in the LUR that currently allows STRs to count as owner occupied even if the owner vacates the rental while guests are present.

She explained that the intention was for owner occupied STRs to operate with the owner being present while guests are at the STR.

Flowers added that such owner occupied STRs were given a break in fees due to the belief that the owner being present would reduce the likelihood of disruptive activities or excessive noise being produced by the guests.

Flowers continued with new standards on roles and responsibilities for those owning and operating an STR, including a rule requiring that the emergency contact person for an STR must live within 30 minutes of the STR.

The previous standard, she stated, was that the emergency contact must live within 60 miles of the STR.

She then covered new rules for how many STR permits are required for a parcel, including provisions that, with some exceptions, a property with multiple dwelling units must have an STR permit for each dwelling unit.

Flowers stated that only one permit is required if one of the dwelling units is occupied by the owner or a long-term renter and that multiple dwelling units that connect to each other internally only require a single permit but may not be rented to multiple parties.

Flowers explained that, with the current rules, it is difficult for the county to ensure that properties with multiple dwelling units are not being rented to multiple separate parties of guests under one permit.

She then reviewed the updated rules for the number of guests allowed in an STR, explaining that the number of guests allowed is two per approved bedroom plus two guests if the property

Letters

Continued from A3

missed or are confused about the conclusions of the Mueller report, Russia worked very hard to alienate Americans from each other via social media during the 2016 campaign. And has continued to do so. Our former guy is continually communicating his servility to Putin via his speeches, and this last NATO comment must have pleased Vladimir. Russia specialist Anne Applebaum noted on social media: "He invited

Russia to invade NATO. It was not a joke and it will certainly not be understood that way in Moscow."

Meanwhile, the Senate is about to try to pass a new aide bill for Ukraine, Taiwan and Israel, stripped of the border funding because Trump wants to keep immigration alive as a campaign issue. But what's this? Mike Johnson, Speaker of the House, has already said it's dead on arrival because it doesn't include border funding! It's tempting to call these people crazy but they

remind me more of spoiled toddlers — always insisting on having things their way and then changing their minds when they get it.

There are still old school Republicans in Congress. But they seem very afraid of mob boss Donnie — I suspect they are receiving threats more substantial than job loss. There are a few standing up to him and I hope there will be more but let's face it — Republican voters who are true conservatives and still have some

sense of morality will have to help vote this scary clown off the stage. Please listen to Liz Cheney — she thinks the country can survive four more years of a president whose policies she doesn't agree with, but doubts we can survive an unhinged tyrant who is aiming to destroy democracy. This isn't a football game where you always root for your team no matter how bad they are. This is the future of our democracy and the world order. Give him the gate. Lee Stopher

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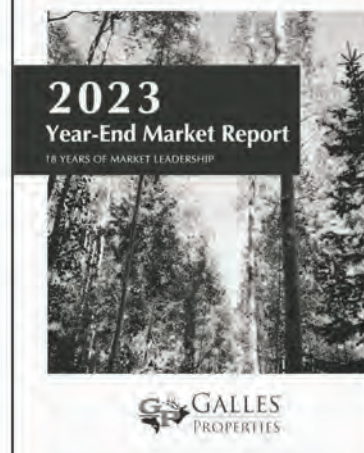
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Business



Photo courtesy Jeff Laydon

Attendees listen to Town Manager David Harris at the Chamber's annual Community Conversation and Celebration Feb. 9 at the Tennyson Building Event Center.

2023 Community Award winners honored

By Mary Jo Coulehan
Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce

At the Chamber's annual Community Conversation and Celebration on Feb. 9, numerous entities and individuals were honored for their contribution to the Pagosa Springs and Archuleta County community.

The event began with pertinent information from new Archuleta County Public Health Department director, Ashley Wilson, and new town manager, David Harris.

With new services, hours and programs on tap at the public health department, it is important for employers to know what our new entity has available for many residents in Pagosa. From immunizations to WIC to wellness, please research for your employees what they might take advantage of. The later hours and some weekend availability is scheduled to help our shift and 8-5 workers. Check it out at <https://archuletacounty.org/771/Public-Health-Department>.

Harris reviewed some of the town's priorities for 2024 including sanitation, roads, wage scale, housing and more. With many businesses within the town's boundaries, it was important that our businesses hear what may affect them this next year.

Following the Community Conversation, the Community Awards were held, honoring nominees and winners alike in the following categories: Citizen, Volunteer, Small Business and Non-Profit of the Year.

Winning the Citizen of the Year award was Bob and Robin Brobst. Known for their philanthropy of time, talent and treasure, these individuals are no strangers to organizations such as the Pagosa Springs Medical Center, Seeds of Learning, the Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library Foundation, Pagosa Center for the Arts, the Humane Society and many more. Their philanthropic contributions and commitments have affected the economic component of the community by adding services, equipment, culture and resources for residents and visitors alike.

The Volunteer of the Year award went to Ken Rogers. Known for his extensive work with Vets for Vets, Rotary, St. Patrick's Episcopal Church and other organizations, Rogers is a hands-on volunteer, often serving on boards of directors, spearheading to run events and transporting people to Durango for medical services. A "quiet force" was one description of him in his nomination.

The Small Business award went to FootPrints. While in business for over

10 years, it changed hands over three years ago and has grown exponentially. Helping to create several retail marketing and community events, FootPrints is also an extremely generous business supporting numerous nonprofit agencies through their events, product and gift certificate donations. They also created a scholarship program.

The Pagosa Nordic Club was selected as the Non-Profit of the Year. Starting with a handful of members, this group now has a membership of more than 450. The Nordic Club grooms all the cross-country ski trails for free, all with a volunteer base and sometimes even using their own equipment. They provide free clinics, events and trail maps. Embracing the winter months, this group has grown the cross-country arena in Pagosa Springs, also attracting visitors who want to enjoy our great outdoors and thereby contributing to our economic vitality.

Congratulations to all the winners for 2023. All the nominees were worthy candidates, and we hope to see some of them back on the nomination ballot next year.

Archuleta County child care survey

The Archuleta County Early Child-

hood Council is conducting a survey to better determine the child care needs and makeup of our community.

The survey is online and should only take a few minutes. It is available in English and Spanish.

By completing the survey, you can also be entered into a drawing to win \$100 for participating. The survey will be available until March 3. Please help spread the word in your business about completing the survey.



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Photo courtesy Jeff Laydon

James Dickhoff accepts the award for Non-Profit of the Year at the Chamber's Community Conversation and Celebration Feb. 9.



Photo courtesy Jeff Laydon

Ken Rogers accepts the award for Volunteer of the Year at the Chamber's annual Community Conversation and Celebration.

Big Spring Clean set for May 3 and 4

By Ashley Springer
Archuleta County

Archuleta County, the Town of Pagosa Springs and the Pagosa Springs Area Tourism Board met on Tuesday, Feb. 6, to discuss the 2024 Big Spring Clean event. The event, held annually, is slated for May 3 and 4.

Aimed at cleaning up trash and

debris uncovered after snowmelt, this year's event will have several similarities to years past, including low- and no-cost trash dumping.

Last year's event boasted hundreds of bags of garbage collected and a record number of appliances and electronics to the landfill and transfer stations.

The 2024 committee had minor

changes for a better event this year with focus on landfill hours, roll-off "dump" locations and the exclusion of some items which were allowed in the past.

New this year will be increased communication via amplified signage in both English and Spanish, as well as rotating message boards on County Road 500/Trujillo Road to alleviate issues with overflow. The Yamaguchi Park after-party will conclude this year's event complete with a BBQ, live music and the now-famous ice cream contest, open to any participant.

For more information, stay tuned in to archuletacounty.org, pagosapings.com, visit pagosapings.com or call (970) 264-8300.

Card of Thanks

La Plata Electric Association

San Juan Back Country Horsemen (SJBCH) says "thank you" to La Plata Electric Association for the \$2,500 LPEA Round Up grant awarded to SJBCH. The grant will support our on-the-ground volunteer efforts to keep forest trails open and accessible to all. SJBCH is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit.



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Photo courtesy Jeff Laydon

Bob and Robin Brobst accept the award for Citizens of the Year at the Chamber's annual Community Conversation and Celebration.



Photo courtesy Jeff Laydon

Dallas Weaver and Kay Smith, owners of FootPrints, accept the award for Small Business of the Year from the Chamber on Feb. 9.

Pacific Lutheran University awards local student prestigious scholarship

By Annika Peterson
Pacific Lutheran University

Pacific Lutheran University (PLU) recently announced that Natalie Mashue, a student at Pagosa Springs High School, has been named a President's Scholar, earning a scholarship of \$34,000 per year.

Mashue was part of an applicant pool of more than 500, of which 133 president's scholars were selected. All applicants met a rigorous standard of academic excellence; however, students awarded this scholarship displayed exemplary qualities in leadership, service and academics while also displaying the potential to enrich the school's campus community in the classroom and beyond.

This year's president's scholars have a cumulative average weighted GPA of 4.10.

These top students were invited to join the university on campus this February to interview for the next tiers of PLU scholarships — the \$40,000-per-year Harstad Scholarship and full-tuition Regents' Scholarship.

Ballots mailed with address label error

By Kristy Archuleta
Archuleta County Clerk and Recorder's Office

Ballots are hitting mailboxes, and an error has been brought to our attention.

On the mailing address, the voter's middle name was unfortunately printed twice.

This will in no way invalidate or cause any issues with your ballot. The error by our new vendor will not affect the counting or tabulation of votes.

Moving forward, we will work with our vendor to ensure that this does not happen again.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to the Archuleta County Election's Office at (970) 264-8331.



Celebration

Anthony Ponzio

Anthony Ponzio, of Pagosa Springs, was named to Fort Lewis College's Dean's List for the fall 2023 semester. Ponzio's major is business administration.

To be eligible for the Dean's List, a student must carry a semester GPA of 3.6 or better in no fewer than 15 credit hours of graded college-level work and have completed all work for which they are registered by the end of the semester.

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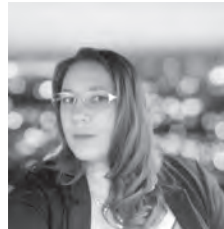
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Disputes

Continued from front

He added that the town could get the change order for adding the screening once the county receives a cost estimate from the contractor.

However, Woodman stated that, without a building permit, the building cannot move forward, putting the contractor in a "tough place."

He commented that he told the town that the situation is similar to the county's interactions with the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD), where the county waived review requirements

for PAWSD's Snowball Water Treatment Plant expansion project due to PAWSD being a special district and thus exempt from county land use regulation requirements.

"But it's like we'll walk the walk and we're doing what we're saying that we're supposed to be doing that we wish the town would be doing," Woodman said. "It's an effort to work with the town, and we'll have the building permit and move forward with it."

Woodman then covered a second meeting between Pagosa Springs Mayor Shari Pierce, Commissioner

Veronica Medina, Woodman, Weaver, Dickhoff and Harris which concerned rooftop screening for HVAC systems on the roof of the county courthouse that the town is requiring.

The county previously attempted to apply to the town planning commission for a variance from the rooftop screening, but was denied on Jan. 10, 2023.

The BoCC then passed a resolution on Jan. 17, 2023, overruling the planning commission's decision, but the town subsequently refused to issue a certificate of occupancy (CO) for the building, as explained in an

April 20, 2023, letter from the town attorney to Weaver.

Woodman commented that the courthouse was completed two years ago and the town is still refusing to issue a CO for the building, thus preventing the county from receiving approximately \$35,000 in grant funding for building the courthouse.

He stated that the county has made "zero progress" on explaining its position and legal justifications to the town.

Woodman commented that he expected the meeting to include "some concessions" from the town on the issue, but "there were zero" and the town is still demanding the screening be installed.

He added that he directed staff to design and get estimates for installing rooftop screening on the courthouse.

Medina commented that while "it may not have been an acceptable meeting in the middle of what the

town offered," the town suggested that the county could put up "cattle fencing" around the HVAC units, and Pierce and Dickhoff also offered to assist in putting up the fencing.

"Those were the suggestions of making it, one, less expensive and, two, trying to assist the county in completing that," Medina said.

Woodman noted that the courthouse has a 3-foot-high "parapet wall" around the rooftop and that the HVAC units are potentially protruding 12 inches beyond this.

He also commented that any screening would not involve penetrating the roof lining.

"What we need to recognize is this is taxpayer dollars, bottom line," Commissioner Ronnie Maez said. "Who are we working for and who we save money for — and that's the taxpayer."

He commented that he read an article about how screening could

damage heating units and that he feels the county needs to further investigate the issue and determine "what are we allowed to do and what are we not allowed to do."

Maez noted that the county is exempt from the town's regulations and stated that he would not interfere with a town project in the county.

"You know, just to get your way, throw up some cattle fence," Maez said. "Yeah, just to say, 'Yeah, they comply! ... That doesn't even make sense to try to get a win on one side or the other. The people that benefit from the win are the taxpayers. And if we don't have to do it, then why are we even doing it or why are we even talkin' about it? State statute's state statute. If not, let's go to court. Let's figure this out and get it done for once and be over with it.'"

Maez noted that the two entities have to coexist and stated that he

■ See Disputes A9

Space

Continued from front

and fitting tribute to Murray, given his love for space.

Peggy discovered on the Celestis website that Celestis is a Texas company that provides space-based memorial services and that it was launching a memorial Enterprise mission that would send the cremated remains of several people associated with the original "Star Trek" series into deep space, along with others who had paid to send their loved ones on the flight.

Per the Celestis website, the flight would carry "Star Trek" creator Gene Roddenberry, his wife and "First Lady of Star Trek" Majel Barrett Roddenberry, the DNA of their son Eugene "Rod" Roddenberry, the DNA of Michelle Nichols ("Lt. Uhura"), the DNA of Nichols' son Kyle Johnson, the DNA of "Dr. McCoy" DeForest Kelley and the ashes of "Mr. Scott" James Doohan.

In addition, the Enterprise flight would also carry the DNA of Presidents George Washington, Dwight D. Eisenhower and John F. Kennedy.

Peggy stated that her excitement at discovering this opportunity quickly turned to dismay as she realized that she had missed the deadline to reserve a spot on the Enterprise flight by two days.

Remembering her mother's words, "if you don't ask, you don't get," Peggy called Celestis to see if there was any possibility of getting Murray's remains onto the flight, and Celestis accommodated her request as the flight had been delayed. And with her son Brian chipping in to help, Peggy was able to book Murray's ticket to space.

Brian, a retired U.S. Air Force pilot and now a United Airlines pilot who shared his father's love for aviation, also accompanied Peggy to Cape Canaveral, Fla., to witness the En-



Photo courtesy Peggy Knudson

Peggy Knudson takes command of the Starship Enterprise at the Celestis memorial service.

terprise launch scheduled for Jan. 8, and to attend the memorial services.

Upon her return to Pagosa, Peggy shared that it was a wonderful yet physically and emotionally exhausting trip, and complimented Celestis for the treatment that all the attendees received, saying, "It was a great trip, and Celestis did a wonderful job in setting things up and making it very special."

The night before the launch, according to Peggy, Celestis hosted a memorial service that started on a somber note, but which turned into a "celebration" as families and friends shared remembrances of their loved ones.

She also shared that she was able to meet Gene Roddenberry's son, Michelle Nichols' son and the wife of James Doohan.

Peggy also had her picture taken on a set that replicated the deck of the starship Enterprise, saying, "So, that was me commanding the Enterprise, and, yes, it just brought some levity

that everybody really appreciated."

On the morning of the launch Peggy noted that the Celestis team "took us to an area to watch, and ... they had a big-screen TV set up so you could see it up close ... they certainly took care of us."

The launch of the Enterprise flight on Monday morning, Jan. 8, was successful — even though the Peregrine mission on the same rocket failed to land on the moon due to a fuel leak. Despite that, the remains of those on board, including Murray, were able to continue their trek to orbit around the sun.

Per the Celestis website, when the Enterprise flight reaches its orbit around the sun, it will then be known as the Enterprise Station and become the human race's "furthest outpost - where it will journey endlessly, perhaps awaiting discovery by a distant-in-time civilization," per Celestis President Colby Youngblood in an interview with MassLive.

Peggy reflected on how the entire experience also helped her with the healing process, saying, "I have been much lighter since I've been back. I have my sad periods, but I can look at [Murray's] picture now without crying ... it seemed to have taken me over a grief hump. And I think ... the other thing that was good for me, too, is I got to speak to other widows, widowers, daughters, sons, nieces. I'm sure that helped my mental process a bit. And it was like being with family because we were all there for the same reason."

Peggy also shared that it will be special for her and her family to be able to "look up and wave [to Murray] ... And Brian will have a story to tell. My granddaughter will have a story to tell."

She also noted that in about two years, Celestis will send out the coordinates of the Enterprise Station orbit and also will provide an online tracker for all to trace the journey of their loved ones aboard the Enterprise.

She continued, "I did something really fun and cool for my husband, and, by the way, I mean, I'm a Celestis believer ... I was just so impressed with everything they set up and how they did things. That's unusual these days to get that kind of care and support from a company."

When asked if Murray would be more excited to be traveling with the three presidents or the "Star Trek" folks, Peggy answered, "I think he'd be more excited to be with the 'Star Trek' folks."

And so, thanks to his wife Peggy and son Brian, Murray will boldly go where no Knudson has gone before.

Additional information on the Enterprise flight can be found at <https://www.celestis.com>. robert@pagosasun.com



Photo courtesy Celestis

The Enterprise flight launches into the night sky and a dream is fulfilled for long-time Pagosa resident Murray Knudson.

Rates

Continued from front

Washington, Weld, Archuleta, La Plata, Mineral and Yuma counties, including the towns of Akron, Wray, Pagosa Springs, Bayfield and Yuma — is as follows:

- Current average monthly bill: \$99.21.
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Resignation

Continued from front

through direct communication with the governor's office.

In a separate email, Champagne shares, "While I am excited to pursue new opportunities, it is bittersweet and has been a true honor and privilege to serve as the district attorney in the sixth judicial district."

Champagne was elected to the position in 2016.

"I encourage well-qualified attorneys who want to serve the public and help make Colorado one of the safest states in the nation to apply

to be the chief prosecutor in the 6th Judicial District," said Gov. Jared Polis via the press release.

According to the press release, panel members include:

- Gov. Bill Ritter, former district attorney for the 2nd Judicial District (Denver).
- Alexis King, district attorney for the 1st Judicial District (Jefferson and Gilpin counties).
- Dan Rubenstein, district attorney for the 21st Judicial District (Mesa County).
- Anne Kelly, district attorney for

the 12th Judicial District (Alamosa, Conejos, Costilla, Mineral, Rio Grande and Saguache counties).

• Kara Veitch, chief legal counsel to Polis.

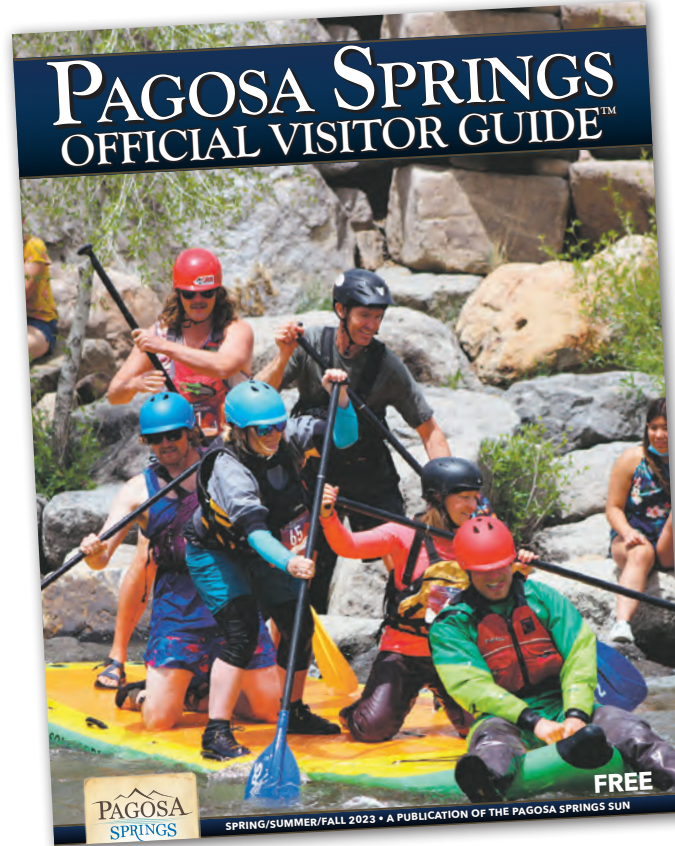
The application process will remain open until qualified candidates are found.

Interviews will begin the week of March 4.

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Disputes

■ Continued from A8

would like to direct staff to investigate if the county can issue its own building permit.

He added that not completing the building could cause the loss of both \$4 million in grants for the transit facility and a \$10 million grant for the Town-to-Lakes Trail for the town.

Maez stated that there are many other buildings with unscreened HVAC units in the town and commented that “common sense ain’t that common anymore, and I think we need to start using common sense and start seeing who we really actually work for and who we’re supposed to save money for.”

Commissioner Warren Brown commented that being “good partners” is a “give and take.”

“I’m concerned that this may end up going to court to see if the county’s position or the town’s position is correct,” Brown said, “because ultimately there’s going to be a lot of dollars lost in grant money, there’s going to be projects that are not completed, and, Ronnie, as you pointed out very solidly, at the end the folks that are losing out are not only the residents here, but those folks that come to visit and spend their money that would definitely use and benefit from the trails, the transit and so on.

“For the life of me ... I don’t know why it is the way that it is. It doesn’t make sense. I wanna be a good community partner as a commissioner. I wanna work with the town and other entities. I want to do the things that are right and the goal should be to work together to accomplish these projects, whichever projects are at hand, and not to delay them.”

Brown noted that the town is requesting money from a Road and Bridge mill levy that the county owes the town and that he supports paying this money.

“Every time we collectively work together, it needs to be together,” he said. “Being a good partner is that — together — give and take and to work together as often as you can. So, I think that I would like to see the town reconsider their position and let’s go forward.”

He noted that the county is allowing other government entities and special districts to be exempt from county land use regulations in the

same way that the county believes it is exempt from town land use codes.

Weaver outlined that the BoCC passing a resolution overruling the town planning commission means that county has a “valid and legally binding” variance from the screening

Maez asked if the county can issue its own building permit for the transit building, with Weaver stating he is unsure.

Weaver commented that “the town is refusing to recognize state law.”

Maez added, “We need to either move forward, one way or another, and if there’s no other way around it, the only way around it is to settle it in court.”

He stated that a decision on this issue would safeguard any expansions by any other special districts in governments in the area.

Weaver commented that the only authority the town and county have over other special district and government projects is “location and extent review.”

He added that the town does not have location and extent review in its land use code, which he commented is “another issue” and is required by the state.

Weaver stated that other home rule communities, such as Fruita and Glenwood Springs, have recently included location and extent in their codes to review special district and government projects.

He indicated that the resolutions adopting such review in both communities noted that it is required by state law.

Maez commented that, if the county does not begin building the transit facility this spring, it will lose the grants supporting it.

He stated that he does not want to lose the grant money and directed staff to look into issuing a building

permit for the facility.

Maez then asked Medina what her opinion on the issue was.

“I was really hopeful, and that’s why ... the mayor and I had a conversation about sitting down, bringing everybody to the table to discuss what we can do to meet in the middle and see what it is that we can do,” Medina said. “Unfortunately, we didn’t come out with much. ... I was disappointed because I felt like we could really make some headway in being able to move not only the relationship between the county and the town forward in a better, but also for the constituents to see that we are working together and we’re working well together and that’s this, you know, whatever it was in the past of issues that were just between certain people. That we were moving forward and we were going to work together. But, unfortunately, that didn’t happen.”

Maez questioned if the town would allow a commercial or private development to screen rooftop appliances with cattle fencing.

“It’s interesting,” he concluded.

In an email to The SUN, Dickhoff explains that the county transit facility building permit was reissued Feb. 7 following “clarification on required mechanical equipment screening.”

In an interview, he added that he received verbal clarifications on the plans for screening from county staff that he decided were sufficient to move forward with reissuing the building permit.

He also highlighted that the International Building Code, which the town uses, requires the withdrawal of a building permit if no construction activity has occurred on the project for six months after the issuance of the permit.

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Sports



WRESTLING



Photo courtesy Pagosa Springs High School

Pagosa wrestler Antonio Quesada grapples with his opponent during the Region South Region 2 tournament in Colorado Springs on Feb. 9 and 10. Quesada took third in the 285-pound weight class, qualifying him for the state tournament.

Six Pirates qualify for state tournament

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate boys' wrestling team competed at the South Region 2 tournament in Colorado Springs on Feb. 9 and 10, with six athletes advancing to the state tournament.

The Pirates took fourth at the regional tournament with the 142.5 points, placing behind Brush, Pueblo Central and The Classical Academy.

Coach Dan Janowsky commented that the tournament was a success for the team and displayed an improvement in performance compared to the Intermountain League championship dual on Feb. 1 against Centauri.

He added the team was able to realize and expand upon the high-quality wrestling that the team member's displayed during many of the matches at the dual against Centauri.

Janowsky commented that the region is highly challenging, with a large number of other schools with strong wrestling programs.

In the 106-pound weight class, Anthony Manzanares took third place and scored 22 points. Manzanares won in the first championship round and quarterfinals with pins before losing the semifinals by decision. He then won the consolation semifinal and third-place matches with pins.

Janowsky explained that Manzanares' first championship round match was against a highly ranked opponent, with the lead alternating between the wrestlers through much of the match before Manzanares achieved a pin.

He added that Manzanares' loss in the semifinal was largely due to the points from one successful move by his opponent.

Deegen Hoffschneider, wrestling in the 113-pound weight class, received a bye in the first championship round and was pinned in the quarterfinals. He received another bye in the second consolation round before being pinned in the third.

In the 120-pound weight class, Stetson Osborn received a bye in the first championship round before being pinned in the quarterfinals. He received another bye in the second consolation round and was then pinned in the third consolation round.

In the 126-pound weight class, Tucker Jacobsen was pinned in the first championship round before receiving a bye in the first consolation round and being pinned in the second.

In the 132-pound weight class, Hudson Mazur scored three points. He received a bye in the first championship round before being pinned in the second round. He pinned his opponent in the second consolation round before being pinned in the third round.

Luke Tressler, competing in the 138-pound weight class, took second place and scored 22.5 points. Tressler won the first championship round with a technical fall and the quarterfinals with a major decision. He then won in the semifinals with a pin before losing the first-place match by decision.

The coach explained that Tressler had been unable to practice for approximately three weeks due to a knee injury which had slowed his reflexes.

He added that Tressler's opponent from Alamosa in the first-place match

has a unique ability to predict Tressler's wrestling moves, making him a particularly challenging opponent.

Colton Lucero, in the 144-pound weight class, took first place and scored 30 points. He won in the first championship round, quarterfinals and semifinals with pins before pinning his opponent in the first-place match.

Janowsky commented that Lucero's first-place match was the most challenging and that he won the match through displaying superior athleticism.

He added that Lucero's first-place finish will give an advantage in the bracket at the state tournament.

In the 150-pound weight class, Wyatt Hoover scored three points. He was pinned in the first championship round before receiving a bye in the first consolation round and winning the second consolation round with a major decision. He was then defeated by decision in the third consolation round.

In the 157-pound weight class, Nico Schroder scored one point. Schroder was pinned in the first championship round and won the first consolation round by decision. He was then defeated by decision in the second consolation round.

Janowsky noted that Schroder was substituting for Seth Aucoin, who could not attend the tournament due to a shoulder injury.

"It's very unfortunate for him personally and for us as a team," Janowsky commented on Aucoin. "He's come a long, long ways. He took a chance going out for wrestling his senior year when he hadn't been doing it his first three years and it was heartbreaking ... for him and for us because I think he had

a very, very good chance of advancing as well."

He added that Schroder did a "very good job" and was highly competitive in the matches he wrestled.

In the 175-pound weight class, Derek Carter placed sixth and scored nine points. He received a bye in the first championship round before winning the quarterfinals with a pin. Carter then lost by forfeit in the semifinals, consolation semifinals and the fifth-place match.

The coach explained that Carter was ill at the tournament and had to withdraw from the bracket due to illness.

In the 190-pound weight class, Conner Kelly placed second and scored 18 points. Kelly received a bye in the quarterfinals before winning in the semifinals with a pin. He was then defeated by decision in the first-place match.

Janowsky explained that Kelly's first-place match was "unfortunate," with Kelly holding a one-point lead for much of the contest before ending up behind 2-1 due to penalties and being forced to make more "risky" plays that ultimately resulted in a 7-2 defeat.

In the 215-pound weight class, Harley Armijo took second place and scored 18 points. Armijo won in the quarterfinals with a pin before winning the semifinals by decision. He then lost the first-place match by decision.

Janowsky commented that all three of Armijo's three matches were close due to him being "an undersized 215-pounder."

He explained that this means that Armijo has to pursue a highly "strategic" approach and that his matches are

■ See Wrestling A11

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WRESTLING

Baxstrom first state qualifier for Pagosa girls' wrestling division

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School (PSHS) Lady Pirate girls' wrestling division competed at the Girls West Region 3 tournament on Feb. 9 and 10, with one Lady Pirate advancing to the state tournament.

The Lady Pirates took 18th out of 26 teams at the tournament with 23 points.

Coach Dan Janowsky commented that the regional tournament was "far and away" the most difficult tournament on the division's schedule, with a large number of teams.

"We're proud of the effort that they put in and the way they wrestled," he said. "It is really exciting and really cool to be able to say that Laykyn Baxstrom is our first girls' state qualifier. And there'll be others, and there'll be some others hopefully next year or out of that little group, but to be that kind of a pioneer, to do that, is really exciting. She started wrestling last year — all of our girls did. They don't have the time into it yet that a lot of those kids they were wrestling do and yet they were very much in it."

In the 105-pound weight class, Madisen Stretton received a bye in the first championship round before being pinned in the quarterfinals. She was then pinned in the second consolation round.

Assistant coach Nate Stretton explained that the 105-pound weight class was the largest bracket at the tournament and contained a range of challenging opponents, although many of them had limited records,

which made their skills difficult to judge before the tournament.

He stated that Madisen Stretton's quarterfinals match was against a "fairly dominant" wrestler who took third in the tournament overall, while her defeat in second consolation round was against another talented wrestler.

Daltin Hoover, competing in the 120-pound weight class, was pinned in the first championship round. She received a bye in the first consolation round before being pinned in the second consolation round.

In the 130-pound weight class, Kyle Matyniak scored three points. She received a bye in the first championship round before being pinned in the quarterfinals. She then pinned her opponent in the second consolation round and was defeated by decision in the third round.

Nate Stretton commented that Matyniak's defeat in the second consolation round was at the hands of a wrestler from Ignacio who has beaten her several times before and that the match was a highly competitive 1-0 contest until right before the end, when the Ignacio wrestler scored two points to finish 3-0.

He added that this match was a significant improvement on previous contests where Matyniak was pinned by the same opponent.

In the 190-pound weight class, Baxstrom took second place and scored 20 points. In the quarterfinal, Baxstrom pinned her opponent. She achieved another pin in the semifinals before being pinned in the first-place match.

Nate Stretton commented that Baxstrom's match in the semifinal against Larissa Espinosa from Ignacio was a highlight of the tournament.

He explained that Espinosa has defeated Baxstrom five or six times this year in various tournaments, with Baxstrom's one victory over her occurring at a scrimmage.

He stated that he and other coaches worked with Baxstrom on approaches to avoid the patterns of wrestling that led to her previous defeats.

"But the last thing I told her was that, if she walks into your head and arm, don't pass on it, and Larissa walked into the head and arm and that's Laykyn's signature, for sure," he said. "And she flipped her and pinned her within 30 to 45 seconds. ... That made her tournament right there, getting to come out against her and come out with a win."

Nate Stretton explained that Baxstrom's first-place match defeat was against a senior wrestler from Grand Junction with superior experience.

He added that, with another year of experience for Baxstrom, "It would have been a much different match."

The assistant coach explained that the state tournament will be another step up in intensity and quality of competition compared to regionals.

"She's obviously gonna have another step of intensity she's gonna have to make to get up there and compete," he said. "We're hoping for the best, for sure. I think she's ready. She's gonna practice hard the next few days and she's gonna come out guns a blazin."

PSHS Principal Sean O'Donnell commented on Baxstrom's placement: "In our inaugural year of girls wrestling, we couldn't be more excited and proud of [Laykyn] for qualifying to compete at the [Colorado High School Activities Association] State Wrestling Championships. Her hard work and persistence have truly paid off."

The state tournament will occur at the Ball Arena in Denver from Feb. 15 to Feb. 17. Wrestling will begin at noon on Feb. 15 and at 9 a.m. on Feb. 16 and 17.

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Wrestling

Continued from A10
typically close.

The coach indicated Armijo's victory in the semifinals was a highlight of the tournament, commenting, "He's wrestling a kid who I believe is ranked fifth. They have wrestled each other twice. Harley did get one of the wins, the second time the guy just overpowered us. Harley's seeded third and he's seeded second and that was a seesaw match. Three times in that match we were behind by five points. And we were noticeably smaller than the other guy."

"We'd be behind five to nothing and then we'd claw back and make it 5-4, and the next thing you know we'd be down 9-4 and then we'd claw our way back, and then we'd be down ... 15-10. And then we tied it and ... we thought we were going into overtime. There was like 30 seconds left when we finally tied it. And the gym is going insane. Everybody on our side is screaming for Harley and everybody on [the opponent's] side is screaming and then there are people that aren't invested in the outcome that are just having a blast watching the two guys go. And I thought we were probably going into overtime on that one and I thought we'd maybe have an advantage because sometimes the bigger guy ... has the advantage early in the match, but he was starting to fatigue a little bit. That was just my sense of it and he did take a shot on us and ... our reactions were still pretty solid and we ran behind him and stayed on top for 10 or 15 seconds at the most and rode that one out and got a clutch 17-15 win."

Antonio Quesada, in the 285-pound weight class, placed third and scored 18 points. He won in the quarterfinals with a pin before losing by decision in the semifinals. He then won in the consolation semifinals and third-place match with pins.

Janowsky explained that Quesada's loss in the semifinals was driven by a failed attempt to escape that ended with his opponent trapping Quesada on his back, scoring the points needed to win the match.

The coach added that, other than this match, Quesada was "quite dominant" in his matches and has greatly improved his wrestling skills compared to last season.

"He's made himself into a good heavyweight," he said. "A good anchor to our lineup."

Janowsky explained that Lucero, Tressler and Kelly all participated in the state tournament last year, while Manzanares, Armijo and Quesada did not.

He added that Tressler, Kelly and Armijo will graduate this year and that he is "glad" to have several underclassmen qualify for the state tournament to provide an anchor for the team next year.

In addition to the six boys' team athletes, the Pirates will also take Samuel Kelly, who wrestles in the Unified division, to the state tournament.

The state tournament will occur at the Ball Arena in Denver from Feb. 15 to Feb. 17. Wrestling will begin at noon on Feb. 15 and at 9 a.m. on Feb. 16 and 17.

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BASKETBALL



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Colt Lewis scores over the outstretched arms of two Wolverine defenders on Feb. 9. The Pirates defeated Bayfield 73-38 in Friday night's game.

Pirates capture league championship, notch three more victories

By Robert Moore
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate basketball team posted three more victories over the last week as the team defeated the 3A Bayfield Wolverines, the 3A Montezuma-Cortez Panthers and the 2A Monte Vista Pirates.

The win against Bayfield clinched the Intermountain League (IML) championship for Pagosa's Pirates, who finished with a perfect 10-0 record in IML play.

The wins improved the Pirates' overall record to 21-1 and extended the team's winning streak to 21 games.

Pagosa won at home Friday, Feb. 9, against Bayfield by a score of 73-38, followed that with a road win Saturday, Feb. 10, against the Panthers by the score of 61-48, and on Tuesday, Feb. 13, the Pirates defeated Monte Vista 57-23.

In the Bayfield game, the visitors played a strong first quarter with 3-point shooting, and Bayfield tied the Pirates at the end of the first quarter at 14 points each.

The Wolverines opened the second period with five straight points, but Pagosa answered with an 11-0 run to take control and led Bayfield 27-22 at the half.

The Pirates started quickly in the third period and embarked on a 22-2 run to blow the game open, with the score 56-28 at the end of the quarter. The Pagosa reserves saw playing time in the fourth quarter and outscored the Wolverines 17-10 to close out the 73-38 victory.

"I just think Bayfield has gotten better, and it's always tough when you play a team three times," coach Wes Lewis said. "We were able to come out in the second half and tighten up our defense a little bit, and kind of walked away with it."

A number of Pirates had strong games against Bayfield, and Nathaniel Kinsley led the way with 18 points, four rebounds, one assist and four steals. Blake Laner contributed 15 points, six rebounds, and four assists. Colt Lewis also added 15 points to

go with his two rebounds, five assists and four steals. Creede Dozier had nine points and one steal, while Ridge Wilson added six points, five rebounds, two assists, one steal and two blocks. Chase Harper chipped in five points, one rebound, five assists and one steal. Jaxten Schiel had two points and four rebounds, and Trey Garcia contributed two points, one rebound and one assist. Seth Ziegler had one point, five rebounds, one assist and one block. Ty Ritchie grabbed one rebound.

For the game, Pagosa tallied 29 rebounds, 19 assists, 11 steals and three blocks. The team committed seven turnovers and made eight of 17 free throws to shoot 47 percent from the line.

On Saturday, the Pirates defeated the Montezuma-Cortez Panthers 61-48.

The Pirates held a 16-14 lead at the end of the first quarter.

Colt Lewis opened the second quarter scoring for Pagosa with a 3-pointer that led to a 7-0 scoring run by the team. Montezuma-Cortez countered with a run of its own late in the period, but the Pirates carried a 36-28 lead into halftime.

Both teams struggled to score at the start of the third quarter, but Pagosa finally made its first basket of the second half three minutes in. The Panthers answered with seven straight points to cut the Pirates' lead to three. The Pirates then outscored Montezuma-Cortez by four for the rest of the quarter to lead the Panthers 46-39 at the end of the third period.

Montezuma-Cortez scored the first four points of the fourth quarter to trim the lead to four. A basket and the "and one" by Laner, followed by a Colt Lewis fast-break score, extended the Pirate lead to 11 with just over two minutes remaining. Pagosa extended its lead to 13 to win the game by a final score of 61-48.

"They shot the ball pretty well over there at their place. They were better offensively," said Wes Lewis. "We had a few breakdowns defensively that allowed them to maybe be a little bit better offensively ... [but] we got

the win."

The Pirates were led by Laner, who contributed 17 points, five rebounds, three assists, two steals and four blocks. Colt Lewis had 14 points, two rebounds, four assists and one steal. Harper chipped in 10 points, three rebounds, three assists and one steal. Wilson added eight points, nine rebounds, two assists and three blocks. Kinsley had six points, nine rebounds, three assists and one steal. Dozier added four points, four rebounds and one steal. Zeigler had two points and one rebound, and Schiel added three rebounds and one steal.

For the game, Pagosa had 35 rebounds, 15 assists, seven steals, seven blocks and eight turnovers. The team made eight of 12 free throws for 67 percent.

On Tuesday evening, the Pirates played a home game against the 2A Monte Vista Pirates.

Pagosa scored first on a steal and layup by Kinsley, and moved to a 6-0 lead before Monte Vista scored just over three minutes into the game. Trading baskets and turnovers the remainder of the period, Pagosa led 10-5 at the end of the first quarter.

Monte Vista scored first in the second quarter to pull within three points, but a pair of Wilson putbacks put the Pirates up 14-7. The teams battled back and forth until a scoring spurt by Pagosa late in the second quarter staked the Pirates to a 25-13 lead at halftime.

Monte Vista again scored first to open the third quarter, but Kinsley answered with a 3-pointer. Pagosa outscored Monte Vista 12-7 in the third period to lead 37-20 at the end of the quarter.

Pagosa scored 17 points to Monte Vista's seven to win the game by the final score of 54-27.

"We left some points on the floor," Wes Lewis said. "It was a low-scoring game to some degree. Monte Vista was very deliberate on offense ... you got to give some credit to Monte Vista for their game plan coming in to slow the game down, shorten the game."

Additional statistics for the game were not available by press time
■ See Pirates A13



Photo courtesy Pagosa Springs Middle School

Pagosa Springs Middle School students and staff take each other on in a special game Thursday, Feb. 1. The staff, coached by Junior Lister, edged out the Lady Pirate team 14-13 in the defensive affair. The game was planned after the day's opponents, Miller Middle School, did not have as many teams as the Pirates, leaving one of the Pirate C teams without an opponent. The event was reportedly a hit and there are plans to make it a yearly matchup.



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BASKETBALL

Lady Pirates clinch Intermountain League title

By Robert Moore
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirate basketball team won three games over the last week as the team defeated the 3A Bayfield Wolverines, the 3A Montezuma-Cortez Panthers and the 2A Monte Vista Pirates.

Pagosa defeated Bayfield 58-15 on the Friday, Feb. 9, traveled to Cortez to vanquish the Panthers on Saturday, Feb. 10, and returned for a home game Tuesday, Feb. 13, against Monte Vista, which they won 56-23.

Pagosa's Lady Pirates' overall record now stands at 18-4 and the team clinched first place in the Intermountain League (IML) with a 9-1 record.

The outcome in the Bayfield game was never in doubt as the Pirates opened a 21-3 lead in the first quarter. Pagosa outscored Bayfield 14-3 in the second quarter to take a 35-6 lead into halftime.

The Lady Pirates continued to run away with the game in the third quarter, leading 52-10 at the end of the period, and coach Sarah Osborn gave her reserves playing time in the fourth quarter. The final score of the game was Pagosa 58, Bayfield 15.

After the game, Osborn indicated that the team hit almost all their goals.

"We wanted less than 10 turnovers — we hit that goal. We wanted 15 plus assists and we had 19. So, we gave ourselves a lot of goals that we wanted to be reaching in each game as we head into the postseason. And we hit, I think all of them except 70 percent from the free-throw line," she said.

The Lady Pirates were led by Elizabeth Currier with 18 points, four rebounds, five assists and eight steals, followed by Annie O'Donnell with 13 points, two rebounds, three assists and two steals. Karsyn Shahan added 12 points, three rebounds, three assists, two blocks and two steals. Kylie Ketchum chipped in seven points, five rebounds, three assists and four steals. Daveyann Snarr added four points, three rebounds, four assists, four steals and two blocks. Amber Snarr contributed two points, two rebounds, one assist and one steal, and Adelyn Hittle added two points, two rebounds and two steals.

Pagosa chalked up 21 rebounds, 19 assists, 24 steals, five blocks, and committed 10 turnovers in the game while making nine of 16 free throws for 56 percent.

The Pirates played in Cortez the next day against the Panthers and won 60-37.

The game was a tale of two different halves, as the Panthers took a 24-18 lead into halftime.

According to Osborn, the Lady Pirates "were just flat. We weren't connecting. We started with too many turnovers again on offense and we were pressing, but nothing was really connecting on our press.... We weren't finding the right passes to pick off in the middle. And the half-court defense was mediocre at best."

A different Pagosa team came out after halftime, going on a 16-0 scoring run in the first three minutes of the third quarter to swing the momentum to the Pirates.

"We got a little fired up at halftime," Osborn said. "We had a phenomenal second half... The girls played well; they executed their defense almost perfectly. Our offense came alive and they started executing."

The Lady Pirates outscored the Panthers 42-13 in the second half to clinch the victory by a score of 60-37.

Pagosa was again led by Currier with 23 points, four rebounds, three assists, two steals and one block. Daveyann Snarr tallied 10 points, 11 rebounds, six assists, four steals. Shahan followed with 10 points, two rebounds, three assists, four steals and one block. O'Donnell added eight points, three rebounds, and three assists. Ketchum contributed five points, four rebounds, seven assists and seven steals. Hittle chipped in four points and one rebound. Amber Snarr had a rebound,



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Lady Pirate Elizabeth Currier skies to score two of her game-high 18 points during the team's 58-15 victory over the Bayfield Wolverines on Feb. 9.

an assist and three steals.

The team totals for Pagosa were 26 rebounds, 23 assists, 20 steals, four blocks and 16 turnovers in the game, with the team making five of seven free throws for 71 percent.

On Tuesday evening, Pagosa's Lady Pirates played at home against the Monte Vista Pirates, with Pagosa winning by a score of 56-23.

Both teams started slowly, with the score only 4-4 until about three minutes were left in the first quarter, at which point the Lady Pirates went on a 9-0 run to lead the game 13-4 at the end of the period.

Pagosa dominated Monte Vista in the second quarter, outscoring the Monte Vista Pirates 16-7 to take a 29-11 lead into halftime.

Pagosa widened the gap in the third, leading Monte Vista 51-17 to start the final period.

Osborn played the team's reserves in the fourth quarter, and Pagosa clinched the victory by a final score of 56-23.

After the game, Osborn shared in an email to The SUN, "we had a true team effort yesterday and the girls were all playing extremely well together. They overwhelmed Monte Vista quickly with their full court pressure and the girls used the steals they got to go ahead early and then maintained that lead the rest of the game... I am extremely proud of how the girls came out and got after it every minute they were on the floor."

The scoring attack for the Lady Pirates was led by Currier with 19

points, which went with three rebounds, two assists, one steal and one block. O'Donnell added 13 points, eight rebounds, one assist and four steals. Shahan followed with nine points, two rebounds, three assists, five steals and one block. Ketchum contributed eight points, three rebounds, four assists and one steal. Daveyann Snarr added four points, four rebounds, three assist, and one steal. Amber Snarr had two points and two rebounds, and Lexi Campbell added another point to round out Pagosa's scoring.

Hittle posted five rebounds, one assist and one steal. Charity Domingo had one rebound, and Ximena Garcia added a rebound and a steal.

For the game, Pagosa had 29 rebounds, 14 assists, 15 steals, two blocks and 16 turnovers, and made 10 of 14 from the free-throw line for 71 percent.

With the wins, the Lady Pirates' moved up to No. 3 in the current 4A Ratings Percentage Index (RPI) standings, which help determine postseason seedings.

Bayfield's record stands at 1-14 and the Wolverines are currently ranked

No. 44 in the 3A RPI standings.

Montezuma-Cortez's record is 8-9 and the Panthers are ranked No. 18 in the current 3A RPI standings.

Monte Vista's record now stands at 13-2, and the team is ranked No. 8 in the current 2A RPI standings.

Osborn also states in her email, "we are playing some of our best basketball going into the end of the season and that is exactly where we want to be. We are looking forward to Friday to finish the season strong and celebrate our two seniors Annie and Daveyann."

The Lady Pirates will face the 2A Del Norte Tigers at home on Friday, Feb. 16, at 5:30 p.m. as they close out the regular season.

The Tigers are 8-9 and are ranked No. 29 in the current 2A RPI standings.

Following the close of the regular season, state brackets will be released Sunday, with that seeding using the Colorado State High School Activities Association's Seeding Index.

In that index, the Lady Pirates are ranked fifth in 4A.

The state tournament will begin with girls' first-round games on Feb. 20.

Pirates

Continued from A12
Wednesday.

With the three wins, the Pirates' improved their record to 21-1 and remained at No. 3 in the 4A Ratings Percentage Index (RPI) standings, which help determine postseason seedings.

Bayfield's record is 3-15, and the Wolverines are ranked No. 42 in the 3A RPI standings.

Montezuma-Cortez's record stands at 6-12, and the Panthers are ranked No. 31 in the 3A RPI standings.

Monte Vista's record is 10-6, and the Pirates are ranked No. 25 in the 2A RPI standings.

The Pirates have one game on the

docket this week to close out the regular season.

The team will face the 2A Del Norte Tigers at home on Senior Night, Friday, Feb. 16, at 7 p.m.

The Tigers are 6-11 and are ranked No. 36 in the 2A RPI standings.

Following the close of the regular season, state brackets will be released Sunday, with that seeding using the Colorado State High School Activities Association's Seeding Index. In that index, the Pirates are ranked fourth.

The state tournament will begin with boys' first-round games on Feb. 21.

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Planning

Continued from A5

is on a public sewer and additional guest beds are provided.

Flowers added that lofts or other open spaces may be used as sleeping quarters for guests but will not be counted towards the number of approved bedrooms.

For STRs on septic systems, Flowers stated that the number of allowed guests will be determined by the capacity of the onsite wastewater treatment system.

She indicated that compliance with the number of permitted beds is determined by the number of guest beds present in the home.

She added that guest beds are those that are accessible to guests and that all guest beds must be located in rooms that meet fire and safety code standards.

Flowers then explained the standards for guest sleeping rooms, including the requirements for the size and dimensions for guest sleeping rooms and the types of beds allowed for guest beds.

The commission discussed whether water beds, which are not included in the regulations, should be allowed or prohibited before ultimately deciding to not include such beds in the regulations since they are rarely used.

Flowers then discussed structural and fire safety standards with a particular emphasis on the rules for emergency escape routes from bedrooms.

She explained that the standards surrounding the size of escape windows are problematic due to the building code having different standards depending on the number of guests in the home.

Flowers added that having rules on window sizes in the LUR would give an opportunity to clarify the issue.

Following a discussion, the commission agreed to adhere to the rules presented by Flowers that at- or below-grade escape windows must have a 5 square foot opening while above-grade windows must have a 5.7 square foot opening.

Flowers explained that the window-sill of an escape window must be no

higher than 44 inches off the floor and that the rules would allow for two 20 inch high approved emergency escape steps to provide access to windows that are too high to meet the requirement.

She then covered the requirements for detectors and meters, including a requirement for noise meters at all entrances to an STR that was recommended by the STR task force.

Flowers stated that having such meters would give an opportunity to validate noise complaints, which is currently extremely difficult to do.

The commission discussed the issue and the potential pros and cons of requiring noise meters before ultimately deciding to move forward with the requirement.

Flowers then covered a list of STR specific LUR violations, split into a list of critical violations that are considered especially severe and operational violations that are deemed less severe.

Among the critical violations Flowers listed were operating an unpermitted STR, overbooking an STR, illegal advertising or falsifying an STR permit

application.

The operational violations are centered on guest behavior and include excessive noise, illegal parking and trespassing, Flowers explained.

Flowers noted that the operational violations and the remedies for STR permit violations she covered were recommended by the STR task force.

The remedies Flowers listed include the denial of STR permit applications currently in progress, the revocation of a currently existing STR permit, STR permit suspension, after-the-fact fines and per instance fines.

Flowers explained that critical violations would be grounds for denial or revocation of a STR permit while operational or critical violations could be the grounds for STR permit suspension.

She stated that after-the-fact fines would be charged in cases where it was discovered that an STR has been operating without a permit during the permitting process.

She added that per instance fines would be charged for validated operational violations, such as noise

complaints.

Flowers then moved on to discuss changes in the animal regulations, where she proposed that a new category be added for goats, pigs, sheep and miniature horses due to them requiring less acreage than animals like cows or horses.

Following a discussion, the commission agreed to move forward with this change and Flowers indicated that she would consult with the Colorado State University Extension office to determine what the exact parameters for how many animals are allowed per acre should be.

Following a vote to approve the remaining STR permitting and other changes, the commission heard a public comment expressing disappointment that the changes to STR regulations did not include neighborhood density caps.

Flowers stated that the STR task force did not initially decide to consider density caps and approved to disband before addressing the density caps.

She encouraged the commenter to

make a comment to the BoCC when they consider the regulations to ensure they hear all perspectives on the issue of STRs.

Flowers then reviewed the new definitions introduced as part of these regulations.

Following approving the definitions, the commission discussed the prospects of developing guidelines on neighborhood density for STRs, with some commissioners expressing support for the idea.

Flowers explained that she tried two previous times to bring forward such density regulations but that these efforts were rejected by the BoCC, who formed the STR task force to discuss density caps as a response to her second effort.

However, Flowers stated, the task force decided to not address the density issue first and disbanded before any discussion of density could occur.

Flowers proposed that the commission could consider potential density regulations and discuss them at its February meeting.

DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, STATE OF COLORADO
 Court Address: Archuleta County District Court
 PO Box 148
 Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
 Case #: 2023CV030086
 Division: 1
 Plaintiff: PAGOSA LAKES PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION
 v.
 Defendants: AARON BOWMAN
 Attorneys for Plaintiff: ORTEN CAVANAGH HOLMES & HUNT, LLC
 Hal R. Kyles, #23891
 1445 Market St., Suite 350
 Denver, Colorado 80202
 Phone Number: (720) 221-9780
 Matter ID #11019.0807

SUMMONS [BY PUBLICATION]
 THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS:
 You are hereby summoned and required to appear and defend against the claims of the complaint filed with the court in this action, by filing with the clerk of this court an answer or other response. You are required to file your answer or other response within 35 days after the service of this Summons upon you. Service of this summons shall be complete on the day of the last publication. A copy of the complaint may be obtained from the clerk of the court.

If you fail to file your answer or other response to the complaint in writing within 35 days after the date of the last publication, judgment by default may be rendered against you by this court for the relief demanded in the complaint without further notice.

This is an action of foreclosure pursuant to Rule 105, C.R.C.P. to the real property situate in Pagosa Springs, Colorado more particularly described as Lot 361, Pagosa Highlands Estates according to the plat thereof recorded February 7, 1972 at Reception No. 75409, and as recorded in Book 156 Page 60, in the office of the Clerk of Records, Archuleta County, Colorado. Dated: February 6, 2024.

ORTEN CAVANAGH HOLMES & HUNT, LLC
 By: /s/ Hal R. Kyles
 Hal R. Kyles, #23891
 Published in The Pagosa Springs Sun
 First Publication: February 15, 2024
 Last Publication: March 14, 2024

This Summons is issued pursuant to Rule 4(g), Colorado Rules of Civil Procedure.
 Published February 22, 2024 at 11:24 AM, 2024 in The Pagosa Springs SUN. (228581)

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 January 2024, for Archuleta County.

2024CV3002 Application for Finding of Reasonable Diligence. 1. Applicant: Bobbly Fredrickson 1999 Trust, c/o Jeffrey M. Kane, Southwest Water and Property Law LLC, 10 Town Plaza, No. 422, Durango, CO 81301; (970) 422-5510; jkane@swpropertylaw.com. Water rights originally decreed in Case No. 2010CV63 (Aug. 29, 2011) with diligence entered in Case No. 2017CV14 (Dec. 21, 2017). **A. JEM Springs No. 4 (Pitch)**, a Location: NE¼ NW¼, Sec. 25, T35N, R2W, NMPM, being 913 feet from the North Sec line and 1544 feet from the West Sec line of said Sec 25, UTM N 4123948, E 321394 Zone 13 NAD 83; b. Source: Spring tributary to the San Juan River; c. App. date: July 14, 2010; d. Amount: 0.033 cfs (15 gpm). Conditional; e. Use: Irrigation of 0.30 acres and livestock watering. **C. JEM Springs No. 3 (Shamrock)**, a Location: NE¼ NW¼, Sec. 25, T35N, R2W, NMPM, being 796 feet from the North Sec line and 1408 feet from the West Sec line of said Sec 25; GPS Location: N 4123984, E 3213535 Zone 13 NAD 83; b. Source: Spring tributary to the San Juan River; c. App. date: July 14, 2010; d. Amount: 0.033 cfs (15 gpm). Conditional; e. Use: Irrigation of 0.30 acres and livestock watering. **C. JEM Springs No. 3 (Shamrock)**, a Location: NE¼ NW¼, Sec. 25, T35N, R2W, NMPM, being 796 feet from the North Sec line and 1408 feet from the West Sec line of said Sec 25; GPS Location: N 4123984, E 3213535 Zone 13 NAD 83; b. Source: Spring tributary to the San Juan River; c. App. date: July 14, 2010; d. Amount: 0.033 cfs (15 gpm). Conditional; e. Use: Irrigation of 0.30 acres and livestock watering. **C. 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Weminuche Audubon Society announces upcoming events

By Jean Zirnhelt
Weminuche Audubon Society

The Weminuche Audubon Society invites you to celebrate the beauty of birds with us in two February events.

First up is the Great Backyard Bird Count — four days in February when the world comes together for the love of birds.

It is a global event organized by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, National Audubon Society and Birds Canada.

Beginning on Friday, Feb. 16, and extending through Monday, Feb. 19, you can participate by counting birds for as little as 15 minutes or for as long as you like wherever you are and then entering your observations on ebird.org.

Documenting bird populations

across the globe before one of their annual migrations helps scientists understand how bird populations are faring.

For more information on the count, see birdcount.org. Weather permitting, we invite you to join us in the count to look for birds on the Riverwalk on Saturday, Feb. 17. Bring your binoculars and meet at the native plant garden near the Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership domes at 8:30 a.m. This is a family-friendly event, but please leave dogs at home.

On Wednesday, Feb. 21, join us at our monthly meeting for a tour of birding in Arizona led by Jeffrey Reichel.

Reichel is an experienced birder and hiker and excellent photographer

who lives in Pagosa Springs, but also spends some time in Arizona looking for new and beautiful birds. This will be our opportunity to leave winter behind for an hour or so when he shares his knowledge and photographs of birds we don't get to see here.

To get you thinking about the annual crane festival in Monte Vista, we will end the meeting with some of Herb Grover's beautiful photos of sandhill cranes.

Take a trip over the hill to Monte Vista for the festival events between March 8 and 10 and be wowed by the thousands of cranes and other birds that stop at the National Wildlife Refuge before heading off to northern breeding grounds.

The public is invited to join us at the Methodist Church on Lewis Street

on Feb. 21. We will meet at 6 p.m. for socializing before the meeting starts at 6:30 p.m. Please enter through the side door off the parking lot. In appreciation for our meeting space, we welcome donations of nonperishable food for the church food bank.

Weminuche Audubon is currently accepting applications from area youth between the ages of 13 and 17 for a scholarship to attend Camp Colorado in June.

This week-long camp centered near Rocky Mountain National Park is an incredible experience open to youth with an interest in birds and exploring the outdoors. Please see the scholarship tab on our website, weminucheaudubon.org, for further information on the camp and directions to apply.

Public Meetings

The following meetings are subject to change.

Thursday, Feb. 15

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>.

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

Archuleta County Republican Central Committee meeting. 5:30 p.m., Ross Aragon Community Center, 451 Hot Springs Blvd.

Tuesday, Feb. 20

Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners work session. 8:30 a.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St. View Zoom meeting at: <https://zoom.us/j/91609048375?pwd=d1FFV0J1cGVKa1NHWHFsa2taeGxtZz09>, meeting ID: 916 0904 8375, passcode: 4141885. For more information, visit <http://archuletacounty.org/agendacenter>.

Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners meeting. 1:30 p.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St. View Zoom meeting at: <https://zoom.us/j/91609048375?pwd=d1FFV0J1cGVKa1NHWHFsa2taeGxtZz09>, meeting ID: 916 0904 8375, passcode: 4141885. For more information, visit <http://archuletacounty.org/agendacenter>.

Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners and Pagosa Springs Town Council joint work session. 5:30 p.m., Archuleta

County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St. See town or county websites for more information.

Wednesday, Feb. 21

Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation meeting. 5 p.m., West Conference Room, Community Center, 451 Hot Springs Blvd. Join by Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83552743149?pwd=Z0RXejNJQXo0TkNNZmlyM0h4UHB5QT09>, meeting ID: 835 5274 3149, passcode: 191160.

Thursday, Feb. 22

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

Archuleta County Planning Commission meeting. 6 p.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St. View Zoom meeting at: <https://zoom.us/j/91609048375?pwd=d1FFV0J1cGVKa1NHWHFsa2taeGxtZz09>, meeting ID: 916 0904 8375, passcode: 4141885. For more information, visit <http://archuletacounty.org/agendacenter>.

Tuesday, Feb. 27

Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners work session. 8:30 a.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St. View Zoom meeting at: <https://zoom.us/j/91609048375?pwd=d1FFV0J1cGVKa1NHWHFsa2taeGxtZz09>, meeting ID: 916 0904 8375, passcode: 4141885. 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.

Tuesday, March 5

Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners work session. 8:30 a.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St. View Zoom meeting at: <https://zoom.us/j/91609048375?pwd=d1FFV0J1cGVKa1NHWHFsa2taeGxtZz09>, meeting ID: 916 0904 8375, passcode: 4141885. For more information, visit <http://archuletacounty.org/agendacenter>.

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

Tuesday, March 12

Main Street Advisory Board meeting with Colorado Department of Transportation. 5:30-7:30 p.m., South Conference Room, Ross Aragon Community Center, 451 Hot Springs Blvd. To join on Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88554742993?pwd=N0theitOZ013YzVQWgkzS2dzTWtHdz09>, meeting ID: 885 5474 2993, passcode: 525329. A meeting to address needs prior to and during the downtown reconstruction project.

Tuesday, March 26

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



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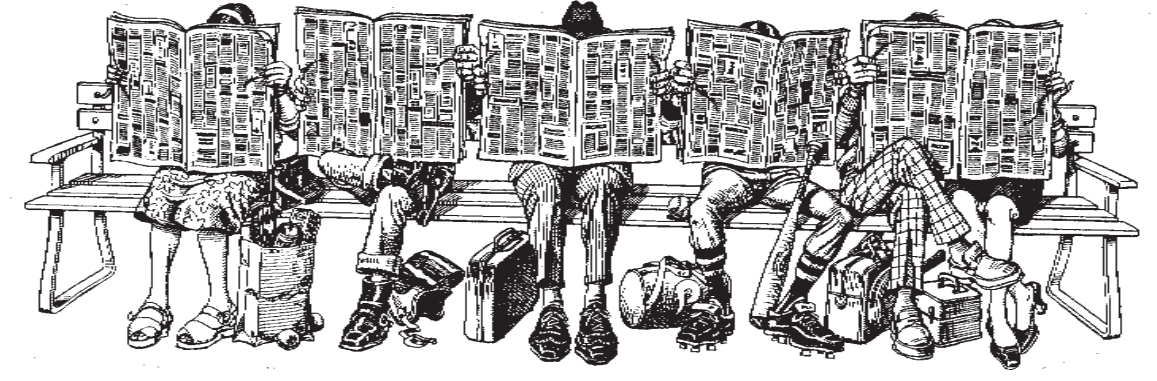
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County provides update on road maintenance

By Ashley Springer
Archuleta County

Due to an unusual winter and warmer than average early spring temperatures, several roads around Archuleta County will not be in an ideal state.

Please be patient with Archuleta County Road and Bridge Department staff as they work to treat both paved and dirt roadways to the best

of their ability, given the current circumstances. Cold patching potholes on paved roads is being done throughout the county; however, is a temporary fix which cannot be relied on long-term.

Due to the amount of mud and slush currently on roadways, grading will only worsen the problem. Once the weather cooperates and the roads begin to fully dry out, grading will begin.

Road and Bridge is looking to have

a very productive summer season and is currently working on equipment to do so. Road maintenance and repair is scheduled to include North Pagosa Boulevard and Light Plant Road.

In the meantime, Road and Bridge personnel is aware, they do care, and ask for patience from residents while they evaluate roads and solutions to their conditions.

For more information, please call (970) 264-5660.

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Photo courtesy Buck Kois

February 8, 2024



Photo courtesy Ruby Sisson Library Foundation and Friends

The Mountains of Opportunity steering committee for the Ruby Sisson Library Foundation and Friends is Livia Lynch, Lisa Scott, Ming Steen, Robin Brobst, Cindi Galabota and Jann Pitcher.

Live Performers



- Friday**
The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Maxwell Miller, 5 p.m.
- Saturday**
The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Jason Rose, 5 p.m.
- Monday**
The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Glenn Unrath and Jack Ellis, 5 p.m.
- Tuesday**
The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Dustin Burley, 5 p.m.
- Wednesday**
The Den: Karaoke, 8 p.m.

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Library foundation seeks community support

By Cindi Galabota

Ruby Sisson Library Foundation and Friends

The library expansion team with the Ruby Sisson Library Foundation and Friends is hard at work raising funds and awareness of our Mountains of Opportunity campaign to expand and renovate your Ruby Sisson Library.

We are excited to announce that we are over halfway to our \$4 million goal. And, we owe a huge debt of gratitude to everyone in our community who has supported our building campaign thus far.

With your ongoing support, we are well on our way to building a state-of-the-art library in our incredible community. But, we still have work to do, and we still need your help. This year, we are asking everyone to help us close the gap in our fundraising efforts and raise \$500,000. With the power of everyone in our community, we can raise the funds needed to expand and renovate your Ruby Sisson Library.

While local fundraising efforts continue, since we are over halfway to our goal, we are now able to show foundations and other grantors that the community backs this much needed expansion.

Staff is diligently securing as many grants as possible from regional, state and national foundations.

Jann Pitcher, chair of the Mountains of Opportunity building campaign steering committee, recently shared, "I am honored to support this vital building campaign. My family and I have utilized the Ruby Sisson Library for many years, and continue to enjoy its many programs and resources available to everyone in our community. I truly believe in the transformational power of the Ruby Sisson Library. With this great town that we live in, I have no doubt that we will reach our goal."

We hope to wrap up our campaign fundraising efforts in April 2025 with our final and best Library Affair event.

We want to hear from returning decorators and other creatives anxious to be part of the fun. It's never too early to formulate your ideas, gather your committee and start collecting items for these amazing tables. Now is a good time to let us know who you are and that you are in.

Your Ruby Sisson Library offers a variety of programs, services, and resources to people of all ages and backgrounds. We help to bridge the digital divide, support job seekers and entrepreneurs, supplement educational opportunities, improve health and wellness, and more.

The library sees an average of 6,500 people each month. The building is not large enough to contain all of the programs, resources

and services the community expects and needs at their public library. Pagosa is poised for continued growth, and a larger library will allow for increased programming, additional computers and digital resources, a dedicated children's room and garden, an engaging space just for teens and tweens, and more community services.

To learn more about your Ruby Sisson Library and our Mountains of Opportunity building campaign,

please speak to any one of our steering committee members. Information also is on display at the Ruby Sisson Library, located on the corner of U.S. 160 and 8th Street. Finally, you may visit pagosalibrary.org to learn more and make a donation.

Please consider a gift to the Ruby Sisson Library Foundation and Friends in support of our Mountains of Opportunity building campaign. Together, we can make a difference.



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Wear Orange Day brings awareness to teen dating violence

By Amanda Briggs
Rise Above Violence

Today is Wear Orange Day for Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month.

February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month, and today is the local Wear Orange Day to support teens in our community.

This month, we raise awareness regarding the heartbreaking realities of violence teens face in their romantic relationships.

One in 10 high school students has experienced being purpose-

fully hit, slapped or physically hurt by a romantic partner; one in three girls in the United States is a victim of physical, emotional or verbal abuse from a dating partner; and only 33 percent of teens in an abusive relationship ever told anyone about the abuse.

Despite these startling statistics, many people believe teen dating violence does not exist. We are here to change that misconception.

Youth Above Violence here in Pagosa Springs is dedicated to improving the lives of youth in our community through education

regarding healthy beliefs and behaviors, and establishing positive social norms regarding relationship violence.

We have a robust educational campaign about teen dating violence on our Rise Above Violence social media platforms this month, so follow along, wear some orange with us today and check in on the teens in your life.

Our 24/7 hotline can be reached at (970) 264-9075 if you need to talk to an advocate. All programs and services are free and confidential.

Locals attend Night to Shine

By Joanne Irons
Special to The PREVIEW

The Tim Tebow Foundation sponsors the Night to Shine across the globe the Friday before Valentine's Day every year for adults with special needs.

The Night to Shine is an unforgettable prom night experience, centered on God's love, for people with special needs, ages 14 and older. We are blessed to be a part of this growing worldwide movement through the local churches where

thousands of people with special needs are celebrated, given the royal treatment and reminded of God's love for them.

The Pagosa Springs community was well represented with our adults with all different abilities.

The event was held in Farmington, N.M., at Hills Church on Friday night, Feb. 9.

Each attendee had a one-on-one buddy, as parents and caregivers were treated to a catered dinner in a different building.

With more than 200 volunteers

and 175 adults with special needs, the prom was well organized and attended. The event had awesome activities which included a red-carpet entrance, photo booth, karaoke room, limo rides, corsages and boutonnieres, dinner, and a DJ.

At 8:30 p.m., all attendees were crowned by their buddies as kings and queens with an appearance on screen by Tim Tebow and his wife sharing the faith based message from them. By 9 p.m., all were happy and exhausted and grateful that they were included.

Friends of the Library to host member gathering

By Cindi Galabota
Friends of the Library

Friends of the Library, mark your calendar for our first Friends of the Library member gathering of 2024.

Join us on Wednesday, Feb. 28, at 4:30 p.m. at your Ruby Sisson Library to meet and mingle with other Friends, discover our exciting plans for a fun and engaging year in 2024 and beyond, and learn how

you may become involved in the Friends committee.

A pizza dinner will be served. Please RSVP if you are able to attend by calling (970) 264-2209 or emailing friends@pagosalibrary.org.

Your membership donation to Friends of the Library helps the Library Foundation and Friends continue our critical work of supporting your Ruby Sisson Library. We hope you will find benefits in

this membership as well. We offer a monthly book giveaway, book sales, special discounts at Library Foundation and Friends events, and more.

Not sure of your Friends of the Library membership status? Reach out to Cindi Galabota, Ruby Sisson Library Foundation and Friends executive director, at (970) 264-2209 or friends@pagosalibrary.org.

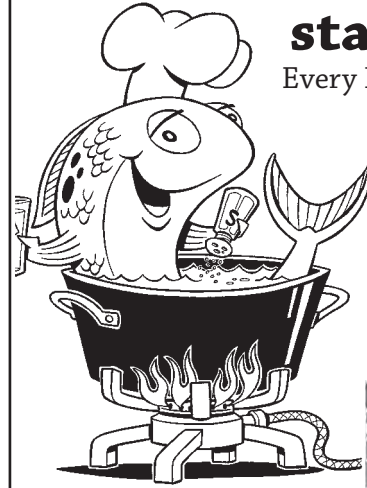
We hope to see you on Feb. 28.

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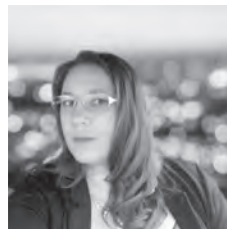
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- ♥ Dancing with the Stars, Seeds of Learning
- ♥ Golf Tournament, Veterans
- ♥ Women Helping in Pagosa Springs
- ♥ Spanish Fiesta, Senior Center
- ♥ Christmas Bazaar, Senior Center
- ♥ Halloween Hootenanny
- ♥ Park the Bus School Supplies
- ♥ Festival of Trees, Senior Center
- ♥ Toys for Tots
- ♥ Veterans Fly Fishing
- ♥ Scholarships in Escrow
- ♥ Bucks for Bikes
- ♥ Aspen House Pagosa
- ♥ Ruby Sisson Library
- ♥ Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs
- ♥ Sullivan Foundation
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Library Director Meg Wempe resigning for second career in nursing

By Carole Howard
PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

Many of us consider ourselves lucky to find one job that we love. But Meg Wempe, library director, is heading for what she calls “an ideal combination” — two satisfying decades as a librarian followed by a second career as a nurse starting in May.

Wempe will leave the library to become an RN specializing in elderly care and hospice at a local assisted living facility. Her mother and two older sisters recently retired as longtime nurses, and Wempe first was attracted to health care as a candy striper hospital volunteer in high school.

She sees similarities between being a librarian and being a nurse, because both involve helping people.

To her family in South Carolina the transition is natural. In fact, they call nursing “the family profession.” So, they were not surprised when Wempe began using her library vacation days to attend nursing school at Northwest Technical College in Minnesota in 2021 on a part-time basis. She graduated in May 2023 with a perfect 4.0 point GPA and was named “most outstanding student.”

Wempe’s personal philosophy is, “If there’s something you want to do in the world, you should just get going and do it. If it doesn’t work out, move on and do something else. You don’t want to look back and say, ‘I should have ...’”

She leaves an impressive legacy from her 11 years at our Sisson Library.

Wempe was hired as adult services librarian in 2013 and promoted to director in 2016. She launched our adult book club and DIY series, broadened our computer offerings, brought our community’s ESL programs into the library, and worked to create a foundation to fundraise for the library’s impressive expansion plans.

“It has been a joy to work with our skilled staff, supportive board and involved patrons,” she said. “Pagosa is a very special place.”

A huge fan of our community, Wempe said another plus about her new job is that it means she and husband Mark don’t have to move for her to achieve her nursing dream. Both are avid outdoors people, with a special love of powder skiing at Wolf Creek. She also is pleased to be able to remain a member of Pagosa’s Rotary Club.

“Meg has been an amazing leader and advocate for the library and its programming,” said Andrea Cox, president of the board of trustees. “We will miss her and wish her all the best.”

Library News

The board’s search for Wempe’s successor is underway now. Wempe’s last day at the library will be April 24.

Library closure

Your library will close Monday, Feb. 19, in celebration of Presidents Day.

Curbside service available

As we progress further into the winter germ season, we wanted to be sure you know that we continue to offer curbside service for those of you who prefer to have us bring your items outside to you to help limit your exposure to — or sharing of — potential germs. Or, you may have concerns about walking on snow or ice.

To take advantage of this service, simply phone us at (970) 264-2209 when you’re outside in the parking lot and we will be happy to bring your items to you.

Virtual author talks

Our highly popular free online author talks continue with two more opportunities for you to interact with New York Times best-selling authors and ask questions in February.

For details and to register, go to <https://library.org/pagosalibrary/upcoming>.

On Tuesday, Feb. 20, at 2 p.m., we will explore identity, love and being Black in America with Jason Mott.

Wednesday, Feb. 28, at noon will showcase Kim Scott.

Knowledge Bowl today

Our free Knowledge Bowl for tweens and teens is today, Thursday, Feb. 15, from 4 to 5 p.m. Test your trivia skills on a wide range of subjects.

Preschool class tomorrow

Our free “Ready, Set, Learn” that helps build important preschool skills such as tracing a line, cutting, identifying letters and holding a pencil happens on Friday, Feb. 16, from 10 to 11 a.m. We are hoping this will become a monthly program.

Messy art tomorrow

Get messy and create beautiful swirling artwork tomorrow, Feb. 16, from 3 to 4 p.m. at this free art session. All ages are welcome and all supplies will be provided.

LEGO Club Saturday

Kids aged 6-11 are invited to the free LEGO Club on Saturday, Feb. 17, 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 free club is for you. Bring your cards on Saturday, Feb. 17, from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Teen/tween art camp

Each month we explore a different style or medium at this free event. In February it’s pastels. Join us Monday, Feb. 26, from 4 to 5 p.m. Registration is required.

Spanish conversation

Practice your Spanish in a free group setting on Tuesday, Feb. 20, from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. No minimum

■ See Library on next page

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Where Elections Begin

March 9, 2024

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Location and Time

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Local reporting that matters.

Library

■ continued from previous page
 skill level is needed. This group now meets twice a month, on the first and third Tuesdays.

Adult strategy change sessions

“Strategize Change in Your Life in 2024” is a free weekly program for adults on Wednesdays from 1 to 2:15 p.m. that happens only in February.

Led by a licensed professional counselor named Jennifer, the group focuses on goal setting and making positive changes to identify and change unwanted behaviors. Attendance is limited, so preregistration is required.

New basic quilting classes

Adults are invited to a free quilting class every Wednesday until March 6 from 1 to 3 p.m. led by Wanita Martin, a local quilter. Pre-registration is required and classes are limited to six participants.

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

Dungeons and Dragons

Next Thursday, Feb. 22, from 4
 ■ See Library on next page



Photo courtesy Carole Howard

Director Meg Wempe is resigning from the Ruby Sisson Library to begin a second career as an RN specializing in elderly care and hospice at a local assisted living facility. Her mother and two older sisters recently retired as longtime nurses and they call nursing “the family profession.”

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Library

■ continued from previous page

to 5:30 p.m., join our Dungeons and Dragons game free for teens and young adults. Preregistration is required because space is limited. Contact Josie@pagosalibrary.org to join.

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.

Please note that tutoring will be taking a two-week break Feb. 21 and 28.

Family storytimes

Wednesdays from 10 to 11 a.m., join 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 classes

Free in-person evening classes take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays, with 4 to 5 p.m. reserved for beginners, 5 to 6 p.m. for intermediate and 6 to 7 p.m. for advanced students. Please help us share the word about these classes.

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 the library's online resources.

No appointment is needed for these drop-in sessions, but please bring your device's charger and passwords with you.

Note there will be no Tech Time Tuesday, Feb. 20.

Pagosa Adult Learning Services (PALS)

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

Activities calendars

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

Downloadable books

CloudLibrary has a wide variety of downloadable e-books and audiobooks for all ages. To access this free digital collection, download

the cloudLibrary app, answer a few simple questions, select AspenCat Union Catalog for the name of your library, then enter your library card number and four-digit PIN. Library staff are happy to help you set up your device if you need assistance.

Books on CD

"The Waters" by Bonnie Jo Campbell features a mother and her three estranged daughters in a small Michigan town. "The Night Island" by Jayne Ann Krentz is the first book in the Lost Night Files romantic suspense trilogy. "The Heiress" by Rachel Hawkins follows the family of North Carolina's richest woman after her death. "Only If You're Lucky" by Stacy Willingham is a thriller about three young women living together in off-campus housing.

How-to and self-help

"More Life" by podcast host Taylor Thompson offers practice guidance and actionable steps to help you live life to the fullest. "Gut Check" by Dr. Steven R. Gundry reveals details about healing your gut and preventing disease. "1000 Words" by Jami Attenberg features advice from more than 50 writers, including New York Times bestsellers and Pulitzer Prize winners, to help motivate your writing. "This Book May Save Your Life" by Dr. Karan Rajan details lessons and advice to help you thrive when things go wrong. "The Busy Brain Cure" by Dr. Romie Mushtaq is a guide to overcoming chronic stress, anxiety and burnout.

Other nonfiction

"The Last Fire Season" by Manjula Martin is a combination memoir and natural history book about living in California during wildfire times. "Everyone But Myself" by Julie Chavez is a memoir of an elementary school librarian and mother of two dealing with anxiety.

Large print

"The Night Island" by Jayne Ann Krentz is the first book in the Lost Night Files romantic suspense trilogy. "The Heiress" by Rachel Hawkins follows the family of North Carolina's richest woman after her death. "Worthy" by Jada Pinkett Smith is a memoir of a woman who went from rebel youth to successful actress, singer-songwriter and talk show host. "Where You End" by Abbott Kahler follows twins after one wakes up from a coma with few memories. "Alone With You in the Ether" by Olivie Bale is a love story about two people who meet at the Art Institute of Chicago. "The Mistress of Bhatia House" is book four of the Perveen Mistry mystery series set in India. "Easy Money" by Ben McKenzie with Jacob Silverman is an investigative look at cryptocurrency, its crash and criminal fraud.

"Bet on Jack" by Diane Capri is a mystery featuring Jack Reacher and an FBI special agent.

Large print short stories

"Bright Skies and Dark Horses" by John D. Nesbitt is a collection of the author's short western stories. "Under Western Stars" edited by Richard Prosch is a collection of short western stories by 22 different authors.

Thanks to our donors

We are grateful to Susan and Terry Arrington for their generous donation.

Quotable quote

Responding to a question about the toughest lesson to teach a teen: "Put your phone away. That's one of the things that I think all parents struggle with, is that most kids don't look up any more. Everyone is looking down. Look around you, the world is so beautiful around you, just look up." — Tiger Woods, American professional golfer, speaking of daughter Sam, 16, and son Charlie, 14. Woods is tied for first in PGA Tour wins, is second in men's major championships and is widely regarded as one of the greatest golfers of all time.

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>.



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Methodist Church announced 'Introduction to the Church Organ' workshop

Community United Methodist Church

The Community United Methodist Church is offering a free workshop, "Introduction to the Church Organ," which will be held from 10 to 11 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 17.

The church is located at 434 Lewis St., and the class will be held in the sanctuary.

This workshop is open to the public and is geared toward people who are proficient on the piano and interested in expanding their keyboard skills to play the king of instruments; however, all are welcome at this introductory session.

"Playing the organ is becoming a lost art," said workshop leader Sarah Riehm. "We need more people, especially in rural areas, to learn organ skills and enjoy the many blessings of playing in worship."

If you play the piano at an intermediate level (Bach, Mozart), you can easily transition to playing the organ.

The Community United Methodist Church recently purchased a new Rodgers three-manual Inspire model electronic organ, due to generous donors from the community and the church. It is truly a magnificent instrument and has some amazing bells and whistles that make it a joy to play. The workshop will concentrate on the main differences between the piano and the organ. Everyone will have a chance to test drive this great instrument during the class.

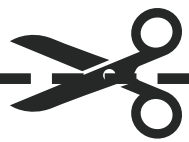
Ready to learn more about the "King of Instruments"? Contact Sarah Riehm at sarah.riehm@gmail.com to reserve your spot in the class, or if you have further questions.



Photo courtesy Community United Methodist Church

Sally Neel; Kathy Isberg, music director at the Community United Methodist Church; Nancy Bush; Rick Seaton of Church Organs of Colorado; and organist Sarah Riehm pose with the church's new organ when it was installed. The church will host a workshop, "Introduction to the Church Organ," on Feb. 17.

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TWO OLD CROWS GALLERY

Unitarian Fellowship to learn about The Cornerstone Project, human trafficking

By Joan Y. Ward
Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Please join the Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship on Sunday, Feb. 18, at 10:30 a.m., in-person or on Zoom, to hear about The Cornerstone Project with Michelle Johnson.

The Cornerstone Project exists to educate, advocate and eradicate sex trafficking by offering restorative alternative solutions.

Sex trafficking is the second largest illicit crime ring in the United States and it is growing. Trafficking is about commerce and is a human rights issue.

Currently, the Cornerstone Project is engaging in public education and private speaking engagements, and is working with youth programs and other organizations to dispel the myths of sex trafficking in the United States. On the coattails of Hollywood productions that depict trafficking in a sensationalized way, the project is working to educate communities as to what sex trafficking looks like in America, who is at risk, needs of survivors and how the community can get involved.

How can you get involved? The goal is to unite the community to provide different avenues for thrivers to excel, whether it is through cooking classes, education classes, holistic avenues of health, counseling, art, music, gardening or whatever talent/enterprise a community member/business can provide. Maybe your connection looks like financial support, construction support for building homes or ranchettes, or joining through prayer.

The Cornerstone Project has raised six months of the expenses needed to open a home. The project is currently looking for a home to rent as there are waiting lists across the United States for those looking for restorative solutions.

The long-term vision is for a 20-plus-acre ranch where five acres will be dedicated to women 19-34, five acres for girls ages 4-18 and five acres for boys through age 18. The other acreage would be used for growing domes, equestrian,

common buildings, a rec room and educational space.

The Cornerstone Project is a registered 501(c)(3) and is recognized as a nonprofit in good standing.

Johnson is a sex abuse survivor/thriver who resides with her husband, Jon, and two dogs.

Johnson was born and raised in the south, and moved to Colorado in the 1980s, where she quickly learned the mountains were her home. Johnson is the mom of two biological sons and three amazing step children. Johnson is the CEO of TCI LLC and has spoken at many public events on various topics regarding business, growth, leadership and social justice.

Most recently, Johnson started her heart's work of The Cornerstone Project.

Johnson's heart is to hold space and love for those who have experienced such a violation, and give every survivor a chance to find hope, freedom and the love she/he has been shown in order to restore, heal and live fully in the purpose to which they were created.

Join on Zoom at <https://us-02web.zoom.us/j/8991941305>, Meeting ID: 899 194 1305, call-in number (346) 248 7799.

Masking continues to be optional and social distancing is encouraged.

Our fellowship offers each individual support in their 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.

Find us in Unit B-15 of the Greenbriar Plaza, 301 N. Pagosa Blvd., on the north side facing the mountains.

Services are on the first and third Sundays of the month at 10:30 a.m. Meditation, based on cultivating the "Four Immeasurables" (love, compassion, joy and equanimity) is on the second and fourth Sundays at 9 a.m.

If there is a cancellation due to winter weather, a notification

will appear on pagosauu.org by 8:30 a.m.

For more information about the fellowship, our services and the other activities, please see the website www.pagosauu.org or email info@pagosauu.org.

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- 100% of donations go to Archuleta Seniors Inc "ASI"

This Valentine's season let's come together to make a lasting impact by opening up our hearts and wallets... it's all for a great cause!



How to donate:

- Checks may be made out to: ASI (Archuleta Seniors Inc) P.O. Box 3444 Pagosa Springs CO 81147
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Vendors sought for St. Patrick's Day parade event

By Tony Aldwell
Saint Patrick's Episcopal Church

Vendors are welcome to participate in the activities which accompany the St. Patrick's Day parade on Saturday, March 16, at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church.

Nonprofit and for-profit individuals and groups are welcome to set up booths on the sidelines of the parade in the church's parking lot.

This event promises to be a fun-filled happening featuring "The World's Shortest Parade," drinks and free food, children's activities and more.

Consider being a part of this traditional community event.

For more information and to request space at the parade, please contact Lynne McCrudden, pagosagirl@gmail.com, or call St. Patrick's at (970) 731-5801.

Creation Care to hold workshop on recycling, waste disposal

Creation Care Pagosa Springs

Creation Care Pagosa Springs is offering a workshop on recycling at its next meeting on Thursday, Feb. 22, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the Community United Methodist Church (CUMC).

Creation Care is a Christ-centered environmental stewardship organization dedicated to appreciating, protecting and preserving the natural beauty in our community and beyond.

Workshop leaders will be Heidi and Chris Tanner, managers of Elite Recycling and Disposal. Both have been long-time community

advocates for best practices in recycling and waste disposal. Bring your questions.

This workshop is free and open to anyone in the community.

Starting or increasing your personal recycling is one way everyone can help the environment. Friends of the Earth lists six ways recycling helps the planet:

1. Recycling conserves natural resources.
2. It protects ecosystems and wildlife.
3. It reduces demand for raw materials.
4. It saves energy: Materials manufactured from recycled mate-

rials require less energy than those created from raw materials.

5. It cuts climate-changing harmful emissions generated in landfills.

6. It reduces the overall costs of waste disposal.

Find out more at our next meeting.

Meetings are held in the fellowship hall at CUMC, located at 434 Lewis St.

The group offers a communal meal prepared by members, so if you are interested in coming, please contact organizer Sarah Riehm at sarah.riehm@gmail.com so we have enough food.

New Thought Center to meet Sunday

By Shayla McClure

New Thought Center for Inspirational Living

The Sunday service on Feb. 18 at 11 a.m. will be with Shayla White Eagle McClure on "Connecting to the Universal Heart Through Faith and Self-Love."

"Faith is the most important

thing in your life. It is impossible to arrive at the grandeur of its possibility through petty thinking and small ideas. The whole mental scope must be broadened and deepened, the whole expectancy must reach out to more, the whole imagination must lend its feeling to grateful acceptance and joyous

recognition." — Ernest Shurtleff Holmes, "This Thing Called You."

Upcoming events

SpiritHeart Band practice is Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. We welcome musicians and singers to join the SpiritHeart band. Please text/call

■ See Center on next page

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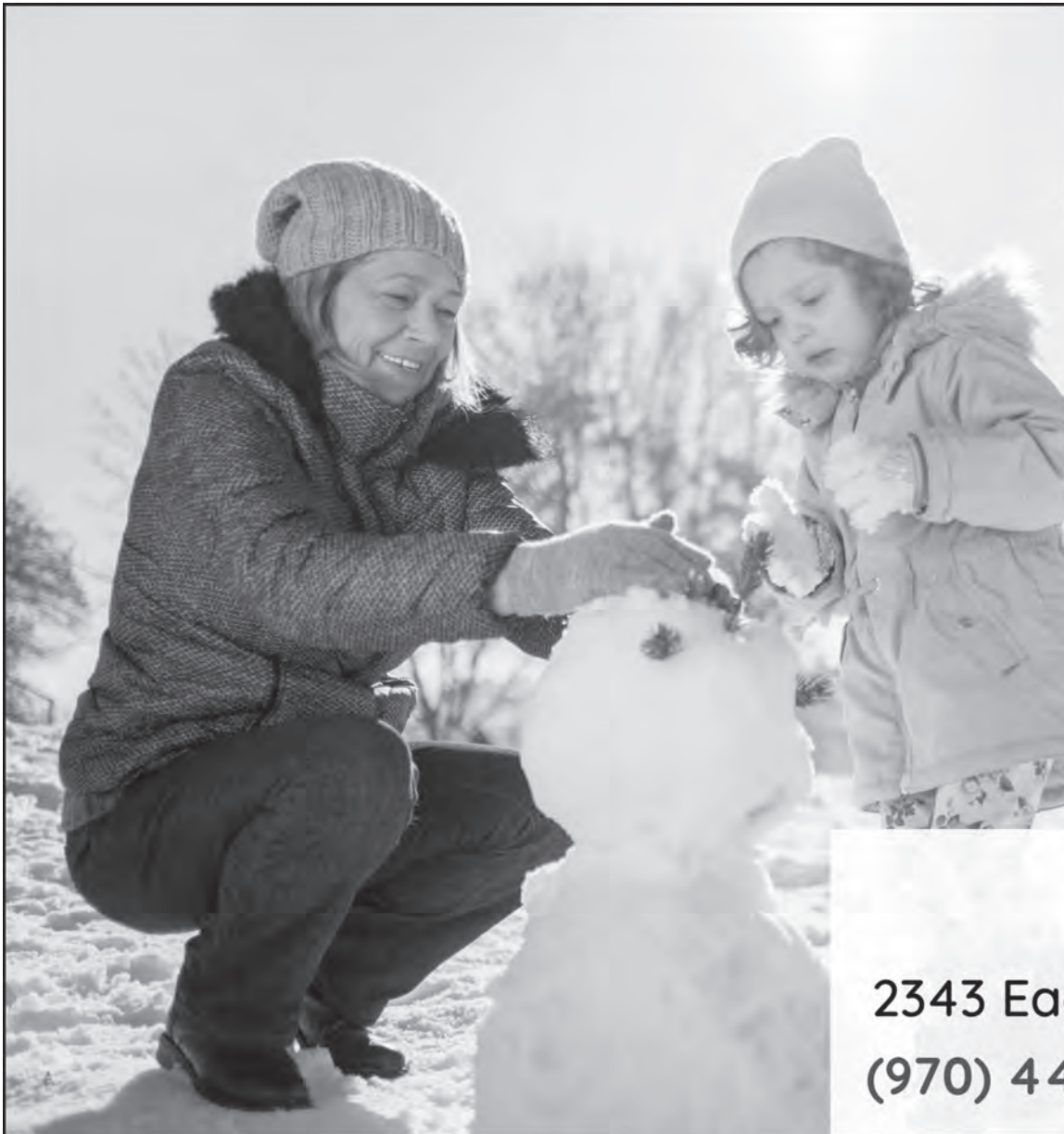
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Spiritual Experiences Group to discuss 'Inner Guidance Connections: Special Ways to Get Divine Help in Daily Life'

By **Laurah Brock Young**

Spiritual Experiences Group of Pagosa Springs

Are you looking for answers, guidance or protection in your daily life?

Did you know that help can come as a nudge, a dream, a vision or a quiet voice within you?

All of us can have inner guidance; it is simply a matter of recognizing it. You can connect with the ever-present divine guidance using techniques and spiritual exercises designed to open a doorway to greater confidence and recognition of your inner self.

At this upcoming spiritual discussion, we will talk about how to listen for the voice of God, work with an inner guide and benefit from dreams, waking dreams and golden-tongued wisdom. These are all aspects of inner guidance.

Open your heart and let God's voice speak to you.

Join the Spiritual Experiences Group of Pagosa Springs on Sunday, Feb. 18, at 1 p.m. for a lively discussion about "Inner Guidance Connections: Special Ways to Get Divine Help in Daily Life."

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 a spiritual resource for people of all faiths and beliefs.

It is an individual, creative practice to experience our unique relationship with the divine.

To join The Spiritual Experiences Group of Pagosa Springs visit <https://www.meetup.com/pagosa-springs-spiritual-experiences-group/>.

To learn more about Eckankar, visit <https://www.eckankar.org> or <https://eckankar-colorado.org/>.

Center

■ continued from previous page

Shelly at (937) 657-5972 for band information.

Feb. 18, 11 a.m.: Sunday service with McClure.

Feb. 25, 11 a.m.: Sunday service with Dr. Elaine Harding.

March 3, 11 a.m.: Sunday service with Stephanie Morrow.

March 10, 11 a.m.: Sunday service with Morrow.

March 17: St. Patrick's Day celebration with live music, food and fun.

April: New Mexico spiritual retreat.

April 28, 11 a.m.: Sunday service with Paul Kreischer.

May 5, 11 a.m.: Wolfwood Refuge tour and picnic in Ignacio.

About us

The New Thought Center is a 501(c)(3) and promotes philosophies similar to Centers for Spiritual Living and Agape Centers. We honor all lifestyles, cultures and religious paths to the divine. The vision of the New Thought Center

is to empower possibility through revelation of spiritual truth, and to enhance our members' life experience through self-empowerment, inner peace and being part of an all-inclusive community. Our mission is to create a world that works for everyone through awareness of a higher power. We are the Good Vibe Tribe that practices Science of Mind principles of positive thinking.

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

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

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		3			1			
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	3				5			1
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Level: Beginner

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

ANSWER:



Shop Pagosa Springs first.

CSU Extension welcomes fair manager

By Robin Young
PREVIEW Columnist

Tonya Steadmon is joining the staff at the Colorado State University (CSU) Extension office as the county fair coordinator and support staff.

Steadmon is no stranger to this position as she has served as the Archuleta County Fair coordinator in 2020 and served as president and board member for the last three years. She brings a wealth of knowledge to the position.

Steadmon grew up in southern New Mexico and moved to Pagosa in 1996. She raised two daughters and worked a variety of jobs including ranch management, home care taking and owned her own business for more than 20 years. She has always loved the community and the way people help each other out.

“The pioneers of this town did a good job of welcoming outsiders to become a part of the community,” she said.

In her first year as the county fair coordinator and Extension support staff, Steadmon wants to help the fair grow, encourage more people to volunteer for the fair, be involved with CSU Extension programs and support 4-H. She wants to bring people back to their roots through the traditions of the county fair and

Extension Viewpoints

Extension.

Steadmon encourages anyone to enter their goods in the fair.

“The county fair needs volunteers and people to enter the exhibits. Come out and support all the folks involved in the county fair including, 4-H’ers, vendors, educational exhibitors all while enjoying the many things to see and do at the fair,” she said.

There are open classes in many areas. If you have a specific talent that you would like to showcase at the county fair, please bring your goods and sign up on the Tuesday before the fair. Steadmon encourages everyone to come out and have a good time.

Steadmon also supports the fairgrounds with other events and celebrations.

“Last year at the grand opening of the Hughes Pavilion, we showcased the things that are in the works for the entire grounds,” she said. “I want to encourage the public to support and be patient while the grounds

are being completed and running smoothly. I’m excited for the many opportunities that this will bring to the fairgrounds and whole community”.

Pagosa is home for Steadmon, and she is excited to work and help grow the fair and be a part of the CSU Extension team. The county fair and Extension will benefit from Steadmon’s passion and enthusiasm for the work that lay ahead.

Save the dates

• Feb. 20, 22: Livestock and Forage Growers Updates.

Feb. 20: Weather updates, market updates and irrigation strategies.

Feb. 22: Biosecurity, current diseases and outbreak issues, emergency preparedness, and influences on meat quality.

Go to <https://abm.extension.colostate.edu/lfg-update/> for more information.

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

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

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

Registration is coming soon.



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February 27, 2024

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Your gift is not for you

By Betty J. Slade
PREVIEW Columnist



On the evening of March 28, 1990, the Chicago Bulls played the Cleveland Cavaliers. Michael Jordan led his team to victory, 117-113. His scoring brought him to a career high of 69 points, giving him a legendary title in basketball.

A rookie, Stacy King, also played for the Bulls. King took four foul shots and missed. On the fourth, missing his first shot, the ball went into the basket on the second one.

After the game, the newscasters crowded around Jordan. A reporter found King and asked him about the game. King said to the reporter, "I'll always remember this as the night that Michael Jordan and I had a combined score of 70 points."

I laughed when I heard this story and thought of all the people on my team who have helped me look good in my writing career bolstering points for me. Many writers have given me their knowledge, time and help to score some winning articles and write some great novels.

One Sunday morning in 1987 I sat in church, shaking like a leaf. The next day I was about to face the biggest trial of my life. I needed a word from God.

A man, who had been given a gift of singing and a superb voice, stood in front of 3,000 people and sang, "We are standing on holy ground."

We knew from his excellent delivery he had prepared years for this moment. The man sang with perfection. His gift of music opened my heart to the Lord. I knew I would be OK.

When he finished, the audience stood and clapped. He shook his head and pointed to the heavens.

He did not know me or that I was facing a criminal trial as a witness against two brothers and an art company the next day. Two brothers had provided fraudulent art to their salesmen to sell.

For three years, I sold the signed and numbered prints as authentic and many people invested thousands of dollars. They were boiler room productions of worthless art. I did not know I had been selling fake art. My clients were forgiving.

I sat on the witness stand for two days, being drilled about my involvement with the company. I carried that song in my heart, knowing I was standing on holy ground and God was with me. I held the singer's gift in my heart, which gave me the faith I needed to stand.

With great clarity, I answered targeted questions that could have incriminated me. The owners of the company were found guilty and faced the fiery furnace. Not one hair on my head was scorched as I walked out of that fiery trial.

He did not know me or that I was facing a criminal trial as a witness against two brothers and an art company the next day.

The Apostle Paul told the Corinthians they were given speaking and teaching gifts to encourage and to bring others to an intimate knowledge of Jesus. The gifts were not for them, but for those who needed to believe.

"In Him, you have been made extravagantly rich in every way. You have been endowed with a wealth of inspired utterance and the riches that come from your intimate knowledge of him." — 1 Corinthians 1:5 (TPT).

It took Jordan's 69 points along with King's one point to total 70. The singer paid hours, months and years in practice and prayer to give his gift so that I could stand victoriously.

Final brushstroke: Do we know the gifts that have been given to us are not for us, but for others who might need them and are struggling? That man will not know this side of heaven what he did for me as I carried his gift into the courtroom and stood against hostile people.

Comment from a reader: "Dear Betty, I just have to write to you to tell you how much I look forward to reading your column. I so relate to what you say, and how you love the Lord. When I read your essays, I feel the Holy Spirit speaking through you to me. Our closeness to Jesus is so overwhelming and wonderful. I hope you continue to write your articles for many, many more years. I want you to know my wife Joan was responsible for suggesting I read your column awhile back. She often suggests things I might enjoy. She is a fan of yours. ... We have a place in the Upper Blanco Basin that originally was built by Joan's Grandparents around 1949. We live in Texas and have spent time up there every year of our 44 married years. We subscribe to the Pagosa Sun to keep up with things.

"P Everett, Texas"
Send your comment to betty-slade.author@gmail.com.
Views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN.

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Dundee native
- 5 Scene with stuntmen
- 10 Traveler's aids
- 14 Use a whetstone
- 15 Skating sites
- 16 Equipped
- 17 Not real-world
- 19 Eastwood film, "___ Torino"
- 20 Footnote word
- 21 Motionless
- 23 One of the Brontë sisters
- 25 Pot pie tidbits
- 26 Wind instrument
- 29 Small boater's woe
- 32 WWII female
- 33 Busch Gardens locale
- 35 Not at any time
- 36 "This is Us" network
- 37 Calgary's province
- 39 Ostrich's cousin
- 40 Campaign word
- 42 Cut and ___
- 43 Slice (off)
- 44 Close copy
- 46 Wall Street worker
- 48 Handyman's need
- 49 Martin or McQueen
- 50 80s Soviet policy
- 53 Winter hand warmer
- 57 Piercing place
- 58 Stubble-free cut
- 60 Night fliers
- 61 Singing Carpenter
- 62 Top spot
- 63 Actress Amanda
- 64 Perspiration

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			

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- 65 Pre-Easter period
 - 27 Monthly bill
 - 28 Satisfactory
 - 29 Western prop
 - 30 Audition tapes
 - 31 Fly off the handle
 - 34 Part of w.p.m.
 - 38 Slum dwelling
 - 41 Like a best friend
 - 45 Time machines?
- ### DOWN
- 1 Ocean liner
 - 2 Musical ending
 - 3 Washington bills
 - 4 Movie promo
 - 5 Jackson hit, "Smooth ___"
 - 6 That guy's
 - 7 On pins and needles
 - 8 "Laugh-In" segment
 - 9 Make a run for it
 - 10 Business bigwig
 - 11 In a rude way
 - 12 Something to hatch
 - 13 Mailed out
 - 18 Handicap
 - 22 "The Accidental Tourist" Oscar winner
 - 24 Sorority letter
 - 26 Deed holder

- 47 "___ Weapon"
- 49 Cache
- 50 Icky stuff
- 51 Rob who hosts "The Floor"
- 52 Picnic dish
- 54 Scotch ___
- 55 Roulette bet
- 56 Counter call
- 59 Mermaid's home

Answers to Previous Crossword:

N	A	S	A	S	A	L	S	A	G	A	R	M		
A	I	L	S	W	R	A	P	S	A	Q	U	I		
P	R	O	S	P	E	C	T	U	S	S	U	N	S	
A	S	W	E	L	L	T	R	E	S	P	A	S	S	
			S	E	L	F	E	S	T	E	E	M		
W	A	S	S	A	I	L			S	E	D	A	T	E
A	W	E		S	N	O	W	S		K	A	R	E	N
L	A	R	K		G	R	A	C	E		L	I	N	T
L	I	V	E	S		A	R	O	M	A		N	O	R
S	T	I	R	U	P			P	E	P	P	E	R	Y
			C	O	L	L	A	T	E	R	A	L		
I	C	E	S	K	A	T	E		G	R	O	V	E	L
T	I	M	E		S	T	R	E	E	T	W	I	S	E
C	A	A	N		M	A	S	O	N		E	S	P	N
H	O	N	E		A	R	E	N	T		D	A	Y	S

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Free nutrition education available via text

By **Rose Chavez**
PREVIEW Columnists

Whether you are trying to maintain your healthy lifestyle or are looking for tips to improve your health, the Text2LiveHealthy (T2LH) text message program is for you.

T2LH is a program designed to help you increase the number of fruits and vegetables you eat, increase your physical activity and reduce sedentary behaviors, and increase how much water you drink while decreasing your sugary beverage intake. This is all by simply receiving a few text messages each week.

The texts are motivational messages to make or maintain a behavior change. They may also provide links to videos and creative recipes or information about local wellness-related events. Learn about easy, low-cost ideas to eat healthy and new ideas to stay active and independent.

Ready to sign up? It's simple. Just text "FRUIT" to 97699. There are no strings attached, you don't have to purchase anything and can opt-out at any time by texting "STOP." Message and data rates apply.

Text "HELP" for information. Text "STOP" to 97699 to opt out. No purchase necessary. This is a sponsored program of Archuleta Seniors Inc. (ASI) and is open to all ages.

For the privacy policy and terms and conditions, visit <https://coloradosph.cuanschultz.edu/text2livehealthy>.

Free seasonal art class

The next free arts class at the Pagosa Senior Center will be Tuesday, Feb. 27, at 1:15 p.m.

We will be creating a leprechaun from a wooden spoon and felt in honor of St. Patrick's Day.

No art skill is required for this class, just a desire to have fun. No reservations are required, but space is limited, so be there by 1:15 p.m. All materials will be provided including the scissors, wooden spoon, felt, glue and paint.

All ages are invited, so bring a friend along. Perhaps you will be able to make one and give one to a friend.

Our teacher will be Denise Fisk, who is a retired elementary art teacher from Iowa. She loves sharing art techniques with her classes. So, come and have fun with us at the Senior Center.

Grant available for adult learners

Are you a BIPOC adult age 55 or better living in Archuleta County eager to pursue further education? Here's your chance.

ASI, in coordination with the Spanish Fiesta Committee, is delighted to announce a \$1,000 educational grant available exclu-



sively for these adult learners in our community.

The grant aims to support individuals seeking to enhance their skills, pursue new career paths or simply satisfy their thirst for knowledge. Whether you aspire to enroll in a vocational program, attend workshops or pursue a degree, this grant can provide the financial boost you need to turn your educational dreams into reality.

ASI and members of our local Spanish Fiesta Committee believe that education is a lifelong journey and it's never too late to invest in oneself. This grant is designed to remove financial barriers and empower adults in our community to pursue their educational goals.

To be eligible for the grant, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Reside in Archuleta County.
- Be 55 years of age or older.
- Be Black, Indigenous or a person of color.
- Demonstrate a commitment to furthering their education.
- Submit a compelling application outlining their educational goals and how the grant will be utilized.

Applications are now open and will be accepted until March 20. A scholarship selection committee composed of community leaders will review all applications and select the most deserving candidates.

ASI encourages all motivated BIPOC, 55-and-older adults in Archuleta County to take advantage of this opportunity. Whether you're looking to advance your career, explore new interests or simply expand your horizons, this grant can be the catalyst for your educational journey.

Don't let financial constraints hold you back from pursuing your dreams. Apply for the \$1,000 educational grant today and take a significant step toward a brighter future.

For more information and to access the application form, contact the ASI office at (970) 264-2167 or stop by the office.

Fresh Conversations volunteer opportunity

Do you love your community and have a passion for helping your fellow community members live their healthiest lives?

ASI has an opportunity for a volunteer position to teach one Fresh Conversations session each month.

Fresh Conversations is a healthy-living program for people

60 and older who are living on a budget and want to maintain their health and independence. Topics of discussion include heart disease, diet trends and preventing cancer, to name just a few.

Each session is held in-person or virtually and lasts approximately

■ See Senior on page 18

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- Mountain Men Disaster Mitigation
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- Our Home Pagosa
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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 mountain chickadee.

In winter, it is common for small birds of different species to flock together as an aid in locating food and avoiding danger. Often when a predator like a pygmy owl, sharp-shinned hawk or house cat shows up, it is the chickadee who sounds the alarm to keep flock members on guard.

Mountain chickadees are birds of the dry, evergreen forests of Western mountainous regions. Except during nesting season when they use cavities in aspen trees, they more often inhabit coniferous than deciduous woods. In summer they are found climbing and hanging upside down in conifers, picking off spiders and a variety of insects, including destructive ones like bark beetles.

In winter they rely on seeds, berries and some fruits and depend on seed caching to survive times when food is scarce. Shivering to generate body heat is one of their adaptations to get through cold winter nights. Especially at the end of the day, they need a source of fat calories to fuel this activity.

Where their ranges overlap, mountain chickadees are often found with their close cousins, black-capped chickadees. Mountain chickadees are grayish overall with white cheeks and black cap and throat. A thin white eyebrow distinguishes them for the similar, but more colorful, black-capped, whose flanks are buff-colored.

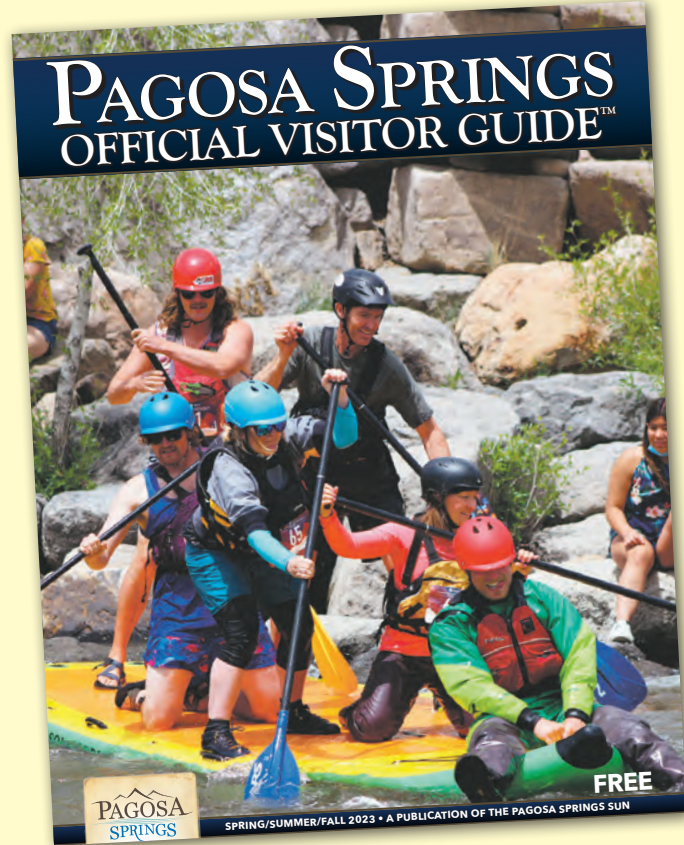
Mountain chickadees are common feeder birds who can become quite tame around people. One will grab a sunflower seed and fly off to shell it by holding it between its feet and hammering it apart with its beak. They spend so little time at the feeder that it's hard to tell if there is one bird making repeated trips or several hiding out in the bushes.

They will also eat suet and consider meal worms a real treat.

Feederwatch.org, the website of Project Feederwatch, operated by Cornell Lab of Ornithology and Birds Canada, is a wealth of information on adding joy to your life and contributing to science by feeding and observing birds.

For information on events visit, www.weminucheaudubon.org and www.facebook.com/weminucheaudubon/.

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Senior

■ continued from page 15

60 minutes. The time commitment is about one hour to facilitate each session plus preparation time, and you do not need to be a dietician or an expert in nutrition. We'll provide you with training materials.

If you are interested, contact Rose Chavez at rosa@psseniors.org.

Healthy aging yoga therapy class series

This winter, a healthy aging yoga series will be offered as a hybrid class at the Senior Center on Mondays from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Classes will be structured by therapeutic yoga tools and techniques with chair movement, standing stretches, gentle postures, breathing practices and reflective meditative moments.

Monthly themes for the series will include topics such as sustainable strength for healthy aging individuals, brain health, heart and cardiovascular health, mental and emotional well-being, community connections, and stress management, to name a few.

Classes will be educational for participants to utilize practices in daily life and are meant for all levels of experience with yoga.

The class is hosted by local yoga therapist AJ Connors, with a hybrid focus for the winter months, blending in-person, online and, occasionally, recorded classes. Zoom sessions will be streamed at the Senior Center to provide the community experience to practice together or can be accessed at home if weather is a factor.

Mats and chairs will be provided at the Senior Center; some blocks and Therabands are available, too. The addition of yoga props is always welcomed.

We are requesting that individuals who are new to joining the series arrive early for intake inquiries and to please communicate with AJ directly by emailing ajconnorslove@gmail.com.

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 Feb. 23, March 8, March 15, April 5, and April 19.

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

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. 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 is not a martial art, but rather a tool for self-healing. Softness, flow and effortlessness are the guiding principles in this practice.

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 more information, call (970) 264-2167.

Senior Conversations

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

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

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

Share lunch Monday through Friday

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, Feb. 15 — Salisbury steak with mushroom sauce, roast-

ed potato medley, garden salad, fruit, carrot cake and milk.

Friday, Feb. 16 — Baja fish tacos with cabbage and Baja sauce, corn tortillas, refried beans, garden salad, fruit, flan and milk.

Monday, Feb. 19 — Closed for Presidents Day.

Tuesday, Feb. 20 — Chicken Dijon, scalloped potatoes, green beans, garden salad, cottage cheese, fruit and milk.

Wednesday, Feb. 21 — Beef fajitas, tortillas, sour cream, guacamole, baked chili relleno puff, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Thursday, Feb. 22 — BBQ pork ribs, corn casserole, apple crisp, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Friday, Feb. 23 — Penne pasta primavera with Alfredo sauce, garlic bread, broccoli, garden salad, fruit, Bavarian cream puff and milk.

Grab-N-Go meals

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

Meals on Wheels

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

Mobile food pantry service discontinued

The Mobile Food Pantry Service has been discontinued due to funding shortages. Older adults needing a ride to a local food pantry should contact the MET to schedule a ride with its paratransit service. For more information, contact Lavonne at (970) 264-2250.

Text reservations

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

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

COVID-19 test kits available

Stop by the Senior Center to pick up a pack of six free COVID-19 tests kits for your personal use. These

■ See Senior on page 20

Fall in love with your hair!

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HUD Publisher's Notice



**EQUAL HOUSING
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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.

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Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

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- BETROTHED
- BOUQUET
- BRIDESMAID
- BUFFET
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- CENTERPIECES
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- DANCING
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- GUESTS
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- INVITATION
- LIMOUSINE
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- OFFICIANT
- RECEPTION
- RINGS
- SEATING
- VOW
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Senior

■ continued from page 18

kits are available to anyone in the public who needs affordable access for health promotion and disease prevention.

Mahjong

Mahjong is a 19th century Chinese tile-based game that is commonly played with four players. Each player receives 13 tiles with a goal to make matching sets and pairs (like poker). To win, a player must form four sets and one pair.

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

Medicare call by appointment

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

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.

Bridge

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

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

Hand and foot card game

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

This card game involves four rounds of playing until the final round is reached — some two to three hours later. Plan to stay and meet some new friends or catch up with those you have missed over the last couple of years.

No experience is necessary, so come willing to learn.

Supporting ASI

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

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

There is also another way to donate.

Are you 70 and half years old or better? Do you have an IRA from which you need to take a distribution? Did you know you can make charitable donations directly from your IRA without paying taxes on the distribution, up to \$100,000 per year? The donation from the account would be payable to Archuleta Seniors Inc. and sent to P.O. Box 344, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. This gift option is called the IRA charitable rollover or qualified charitable distribution.

Preview Calendar

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

Thursday, Feb. 15

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.

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.

Knowledge Bowl. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. Test your trivia skills in a wide range of subjects.

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

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

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

Friday, Feb. 16

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

Ready, Set, Learn. 10-11 a.m., Sisson Library. A centered approach designed to build preschool skills.

Messy Art: Marbling. 3-4 p.m., Sisson Library. Create beautiful swirling artwork.

Pagosa Springs Varsity Girls' Basketball. 5:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Pagosa versus Del Norte.

Pagosa Springs Varsity Boys' Basketball. 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Pagosa versus Del Norte.

Thingamajig Theatre Company Presents 'Tiny Beautiful Things.'

■ See Calendar on next page



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Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, 2313 Eagle Drive. For tickets and more information, visit pagosacenter.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Saturday, Feb. 17

Weminuche Audubon Society Great Backyard Bird Count. 8:30 a.m., native plant garden near the geothermal greenhouse domes. Weather permitting, join us in the count to look for birds along the Riverwalk. Leave dogs at home.

Pagosa Piecemakers Quilt Guild. 10 a.m. Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. Enjoy fellowship and snacks. Please park in rear.

LEGO Club. 11 a.m.-noon, Sisson Library. For kids 6-12 years old. We have the LEGO bricks, all you need to bring is your imagination. Contact the library at (970) 264-2209 for further information.

Pokémon Club. 12:30-2:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Bring your cards to battle against others who love Pokémon too. No experience required. Contact the library at (970) 264-2209 for further information.

Thingamajig Theatre Company Presents 'Tiny Beautiful Things.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, 2313 Eagle Drive. For tickets and more information, visit pagosacenter.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Sunday, Feb. 18

Thingamajig Theatre Company Presents 'Tiny Beautiful Things.' 3 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, 2313 Eagle Drive. For tickets and more information, visit pagosacenter.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Bingo. 5:45 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd. Doors open at 5 p.m., early-bird bingo at 5:45 p.m., bingo from 6-8 p.m. Concessions and cash prizes. No outside food or drink.

Monday, Feb. 19

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

Women's Fellowship. 9-11 a.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms.

Wolf Creek Christian Writers Network-Critique Groups. 9-11 a.m., Grace in Pagosa Community Room, 1044 Park Ave. A meeting to fellowship, inspire, encourage, critique and study the practice of writing.

Line Dancing. 9:30-11:30 a.m., PLPOA Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Beginners at 9:30 and advance group at 10:30. If you have not attended before, call Beverly at (970) 264-2064 for more information.

Archuleta County Democratic Club. 11:30 a.m., Beny's Restaurant, 180 E. Pagosa St. Josh Kurz will speak

about water resources. RSVP to lynnfrederick1@gmail.com.

Senior Conversations. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

Healthy Aging and Yoga Therapy Class. 2:30-3:30 p.m., Senior Center. Zoom.

Boy Scout Meeting. 4 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Boys aged 11-17 are invited to attend meetings. Scouts learn outdoor and leadership skills, teamwork, support our community and, above all, have fun. Contact Jennifer Walterscheid at (970) 986-0387 or scoutmaster807@gmail.com for more details.

Deepening the Faith Classes. 6-8 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms.

Tuesday, Feb. 20

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.

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.

Mahjong. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

Virtual Author Talk: Jason Mott. 2 p.m., virtual. Listen live or recorded. Featuring Jason Mott. For details and to register, go to <https://library.org/pagosalibrary/upcoming>.

Humane Society of Pagosa Springs Annual Meeting. 3 p.m., Humane Society Thrift Store. Members must be in good standing to participate. Please contact the administration office at hsadmin@pagosahumane.org or (970) 264-5549 to make arrangements to participate.

English as a Second Language. 4-7 p.m., Sisson Library. Your library offers English as a second language classes. These classes are free. Call (970) 264-2209 or email for more information. Beginning students are encouraged to attend from 4-5 p.m., intermediate students from 5-6 p.m. and advanced students from 6-7 p.m.

Conversational Spanish. 4:30-5:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Practice your Spanish conversation skills in a group setting. No minimum skill level required. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

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, Feb. 21

Pickleball. 8-11:30 a.m., Community

■ See Calendar on next page

Trinity Anglican Church

invites you to join us this Sunday
as we celebrate Holy Communion
on the first Sunday in LENT.

246 Harman Park Dr.
trinityanglicanchurch.org



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Aspen House will be the first home in the Pagosa Springs area that will provide supervised housing and support services for adults with developmental disabilities.

Aspen House/Aspen Services Mission: To cultivate an environment of success for adults with developmental disabilities and their community.



Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

Center. Loaner paddles are available.

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.

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.

Strategize Change in Your Life in 2024. 1-2:15 p.m., Sisson Library. Registration required. Learn proven techniques to identify and change unwanted behaviors.

New Basic Quilting Class. 1-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Registration is required.

Mindful Drawing. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

Bridge. 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 hall, Ross Aragon Community Center. All are welcome.

Pagosa Springs High School Booster Club. 5:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School.

Weminuche Audubon Society meeting. 6:30 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Meet at 6 p.m. for socializing, meeting starts at 6:30 p.m. Enter through the side door off the parking lot. In appreciation for our meeting space, we welcome donations of nonperishable food for the church food bank.

Thursday, Feb. 22

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.

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.

Dungeons and Dragons. 4-5:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Join the adventure. Preregistration is required because space is limited. Contact Josie@pagosalibrary.org to join.

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, Feb. 23

Free ECG Heart Screenings. 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs Middle School, 309 Lewis St. Register at whoweplayfor.org/colorado-archuleta.

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

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

PAWS to Read. 2-3 p.m., Sisson Library. For all ages. Read with Muppet or Maple, therapy dogs who love stories. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

Board Game Central. 3-4 p.m., Sisson Library. Come and play a favorite game or bring one of your own to share.

Murder Mystery. 4-5:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Registration required. Everyone is a suspect. Solve the clues to discover who the real murderer is. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

Thingamajig Theatre Company Presents 'Tiny Beautiful Things.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, 2313 Eagle Drive. For tickets and more information, visit pagosacenter.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Saturday, Feb. 24

Knitters Circle. 1-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Join new or experienced knitters to get help with your project, or sit and knit.

Thingamajig Theatre Company Presents 'Tiny Beautiful Things.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, 2313 Eagle Drive. For tickets and more information, visit pagosacenter.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Monday, Feb. 26

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

Women's Fellowship. 9-11 a.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms.

Wolf Creek Christian Writers Network-Critique Groups. 9-11 a.m., Grace in Pagosa Community Room, 1044 Park Ave. A meeting to fellowship, inspire, encourage, critique and study the practice of

writing. Lynn Moffett will speak. **Line Dancing.** 9:30-11:30 a.m., PLPOA Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Beginners at 9:30 and advance

■ See Calendar on next page



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Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

group at 10:30. If you have not attended before, call Beverly at (970) 264-2064 for more information.

Senior Conversations. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

Healthy Aging and Yoga Therapy Class. 2:30-3:30 p.m., Senior Center.

Boy Scout Meeting. 4 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Boys aged 11-17 are invited to attend meetings. Scouts learn outdoor and leadership skills, teamwork, support our community and, above all, have fun. Contact Jennifer Walterscheid at (970) 986-0387 or scoutmaster807@gmail.com for more details.

Tween/Teen Art Camp. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. Registration required. Art classes for tween and teens. Each month will explore a different style or medium.

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. 6-8 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms.

Tuesday, Feb. 27

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.

Seasonal Art Class. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center. Create a leprechaun from a wooden spoon and felt in honor of St. Patrick's Day. No reservations required, but space is limited. All ages are invited.

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.

Mahjong. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

Dungeons and Dragons. 4-5:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Join the adventure. Preregistration is required because space is limited. Contact Josie@pagosalibrary.org to join.

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, Feb. 28

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

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.

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.

Strategize Change in Your Life in 2024. 1-2:15 p.m., Sisson Library. Registration required. Learn proven techniques to identify and change unwanted behaviors.

New Basic Quilting Class. 1-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Registration is required.

Mindful Drawing. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

Bridge. 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.

Thursday, Feb. 29

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.

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.

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.

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THE CASE FOR LEGUMES (Part 1)

While many of us are aware of the benefits of eating more fruits, veggies, and whole grains, the humble legume often gets overlooked!

Legumes are a powerhouse of nutrition, not to mention delicious, budget-friendly, and easy to use. So here's what you need to know about them, why they're good for you, and how to use them.

Legume is a broad term that refers to all types of beans and peas from the Fabaceae (or Leguminosae) botanical family.

These include chickpeas (garbanzos beans), butter beans, kidney beans, cannellini beans, lentils, and soybeans (plus many more). They come in a variety of shapes, sizes, and colors. You can buy them canned or cooked, frozen or dried, and even ground into flour or made into milk. In fact, there are nearly 20,000 different species of legumes!

Eat Legumes Often! Try to include a 3 to 4 ounce serving of legumes at least two to three times per week. But you don't need to stop there. If you're already enjoying legumes, try including them in even more meals to make the most of their health benefits. A serving could be 1 cup of cooked kidney beans, a half can of drained chickpeas, or about half of a 16-ounce block of tofu.

Next week we will discuss the many healthy benefits of Legumes and the legumes with the highest amount of protein.

"The heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament shows His handiwork." Psalm 19:1

Fun Bible Facts: The Bible has been translated in whole or part in some 2,000 languages. Today some part of the Bible appears in a new language or dialect about every 6 weeks.

A public service from your Adventist friends & neighbors at Pagosa Springs Seventh Day Adventist Church.

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PAGOSA SCENE . . .

NIGHT TO SHINE

Photos courtesy Joanne Irons

Scene ... celebrating a Night to Shine with the Tim Tebow Foundation in Farmington, N.M., on Feb. 9. Local adults with special needs attended the prom event while parents and caregivers were treated to a catered dinner.



Habitat for Humanity presents build season by the numbers

By **Monica Nigon**

Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County

We at Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County couldn't be more excited to announce that our 2023 partner families have moved into their homes.

We want to thank everyone who volunteered or donated to affordable homeownership in Archuleta County this year.

In 2023, we helped three families build their own homes alongside volunteers and obtain an affordable mortgage, impacting five adults and nine children who

range in age from newborns to high schoolers. This tripled our annual build capacity.

This security of homeownership helps to maintain four jobs in our county.

Also in 2023, 10 additional families are now homeowners in Archuleta County due to Habitat Archuleta offering USDA Direct mortgage origination for financially qualified applicants who were not selected as Habitat partners.

Thirty-four local businesses and organizations generously contributed more than \$77,000 of in-kind labor. Grants and donations to help

build affordable workforce homeownership exceeded \$278,600.

Three new rooftop solar installations were added to our energy-efficient homes. As part of a pilot project with LPEA, solar batteries and additional energy-efficient appliances were added to one of our homes, providing stored energy from sunny days and increasing the efficiency of the rooftop solar.

The donated tax-lien lots from the county that the Habitat homes were built on now provide tax revenue and homeowner association dues of over \$3,600 annually, a reinvestment back into our community.

We hosted eight AmeriCorps volunteers as part of the National Civilian Conservation Corps program.

The volunteers, aged 18-23, learned how to use all the power tools on-site, assisting in the stitching of three modular homes and stick-building two garages.

We were able to host one high school intern thanks to the building trades program at Pagosa Springs High School and Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation.

During our build season, we had 45 unique volunteers for a total of 3,915 hours.

Since 1994, Habitat Archuleta has built 33 homes and repaired 30, impacting 122 children and 85 adults.

Looking ahead to the 2024 build season

We are now transitioning to planning for our 2024 build season.

This will be year three of our campaign to build 15 homes in five years.

Three families have been selected as Habitat partner families who will help build homes alongside volunteers and pay an affordable mortgage. Five adults and seven children will have an affordable place to call home.

Five local employers — in outdoor recreation, construction, retail and restaurant industries, and the school district — will retain employees who have the security of homeownership.

We have seven homes to go in our campaign in 2025 and 2026.

To learn more about how to get involved in affordable homeownership in Archuleta County, email Monica at office@habitatarchuleta.org or call (970) 264-6960.

Red Cross encourages CPR training for National Heart Month

By **Josh Egbert**

American Red Cross of Western Colorado

The American Red Cross of Western Colorado is celebrating the 60th anniversary of American Heart Month by challenging all Coloradans to have at least one person in their homes who knows CPR or hands-only CPR.

February is National Heart Month — the perfect time to register for a CPR class because every second counts when someone is having a heart attack or in cardiac arrest. Knowing what to do can help save that person's life.

"CPR can double or triple the chances of survival after cardiac arrest," said Paula Deegan, regional disaster preparedness manager for the American Red Cross of Colorado and Wyoming. "And keeping blood flow active — even partially — extends the opportunity for a successful resuscitation once trained medical staff arrive on-site. We want to encourage everyone to learn CPR or hands-only CPR (chest compressions without rescue breathing) and be ready to act quickly, with confidence and knowledge, if an emergency happens."

Studies have shown that teaching hands-only CPR greatly increases the bystander response rate because it focuses on a few key basics. During the first five minutes of cardiac arrest, it is crucial to begin care. When individuals learn these skills, they learn to call 911 and jump into action to increase the person's chance of survival while waiting for emergency responders.

To request a hands-only CPR class for your group or organization, please reach out to preparecolorado@redcross.org.

Training: A variety of online, in-person and blended courses are available. If you are taking a course to fulfill a job requirement, check with your employer so you know exactly which course you need.

First aid app and skill: Download the free Red Cross First Aid app for


instant access to information on handling the most common first aid emergencies, including how to perform CPR and use an AED. Those with Alexa-enabled devices can also activate the Red Cross First Aid Skill.

Stock up: Be prepared for emergencies at home, at work and on the go. First aid kits, emergency preparedness kits and supplies are available through our online store.


Be prepared for the moments that matter.

About the American Red Cross

The Red Cross is a nonprofit organization that depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to deliver its mission. For more information, please visit redcross.org or Cruz-RojaAmericana.org.



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.



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Energy guru says energy gap can be bridged

By Dave Marston
PREVIEW Columnist

The experts tell us an energy gap looms. Fossil fuels are phasing out, and solar and wind power can't produce enough electricity to meet the demand in coming decades.

But that's not the thinking of Amory Lovins, the 76-year-old co-founder of RMI, formerly the Rocky Mountain Institute, in western Colorado.

A Harvard and Oxford dropout who's been called the "Einstein of Energy Efficiency," Lovins said recently, "If we do the right things, we'll look back and ask each other, 'What was all the fuss about?'"

Lovins became famous in the 1970s after his research told him that building more polluting coal-fired power plants was a destructive mistake. His solution then was greater efficiency and reliance on renewables, and they, he insists, are still the answer.

"Though it's invisible, efficiency will cut 50 percent of energy use and up to 80 percent if we do the right things," he told me recently. "Most of the energy we use is wasted, which makes it much cheaper to save it, rather than buy it or burn it."

According to a recent Princeton paper, he's right: 84 percent of all energy consumed goes to waste during delivery or by leakage.

To prove it decades ago, he built a passive solar, super-insulated house at 7,100 feet of elevation in Old Snowmass, Colo. It never had a heating system though winters regularly recorded 40 degrees below-zero temperatures.

When I arrived there recently at 8 a.m. it was 12 degrees F. Yet the house featured banana and papaya trees growing in natural light around a koi pond.

We became acquainted when he read my January 2023 "Writers on the Range" column entitled "The energy gap nobody wants to tussle with." I'd advocated building small modular nuclear reactors to bolster the grid when the wind doesn't blow and the sun doesn't shine.

Lovins called to set me straight, and after a second conversation and more research, I'm beginning to think he's right.

Though Lovins has many solutions for the energy gap, he touts

Opinion: Writers on the Range

three major ways to find more energy in what we already do. Tops on the list is changing how we build and retrofit existing structures because buildings consume 75 percent of the electricity we buy.

Most energy jobs in the United States are already increasing efficiency, ranging from upgrading windows and other retrofits, far outpacing the shrinking fossil fuels industry (energy.gov).

As one example, Lovins advocates "outsulation" for older structures, defined as adding exterior insulating panels to save heat. Courtesy of the European Union, my Irish in-laws recently had their house "wrapped" and saw their heating bills plummet.

His second way is demand-response, which Lovins calls flexi-watts. An example is cycling air conditioners off for 15-30 minutes at a time, a barely noticeable adjustment that cuts demand for peaker-power plants, those big emitters of greenhouse gases.

His third way is using renewables more effectively.

Diversifying renewables by location and type within a region evens gaps from windless and cloudy weather.

As for electric cars being a drain on the grid, they will prove to be sources of electricity, he said, as the next generation batteries will be cheaper and likely have double the storage. Daytime solar stored in vehicles will be bi-directional, spooling out power during peak evening demand.

Lovins also cites LED lights dramatically cutting the cost of energy. In just a decade, they've become 30 times more efficient, 20 times brighter and 10 times cheaper.

Lovins is quick to admit that an energy gap remains, but he predicts a single-digit gap — 6 percent — between what renewables produce and what's needed.

That, he said, can be made up by stored, green hydrogen or ammonia, manufactured from water and

air with solar energy, and burned in existing gas plants.

As for nuclear power plants, Lovins said even the best-case scenarios for the next generation of nuclear generators are at least a decade away, and at least eight times more costly than renewables today.

"It's better to use fast, cheap and certain rather than slow, costly and speculative," he said.

Though cutting loose from fossil fuels is a massive undertaking, Lovins said America is on track.

"We are on or ahead of schedule on renewables, with 85 percent of net new additions to the grid from renewables, and \$1 billion invested in solar in the United States daily," he said.

For these reasons and more, Lovins sees our energy future as more of what we're already doing — only smarter and faster.

Let's hope that he's right.

Dave Marston is the publisher of Writers on the Range, writer-sontherange.org, an independent nonprofit dedicated to spurring conversation about the West. He lives in Durango, Colo. Views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN.



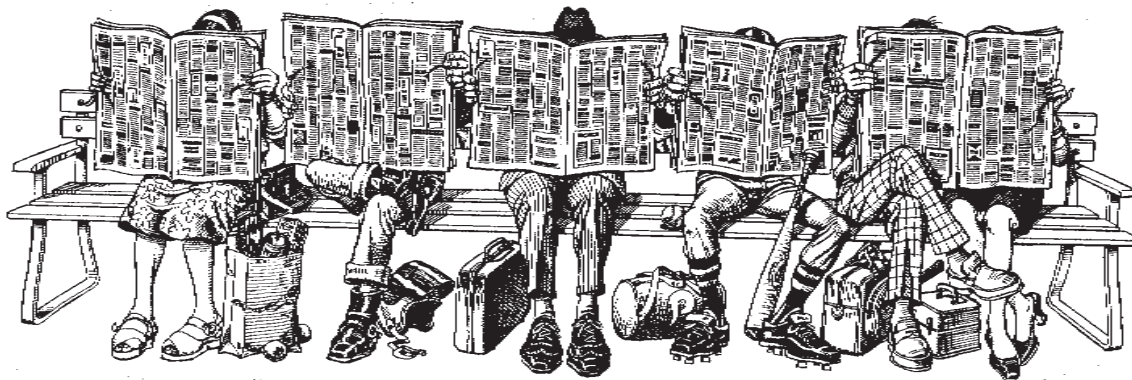
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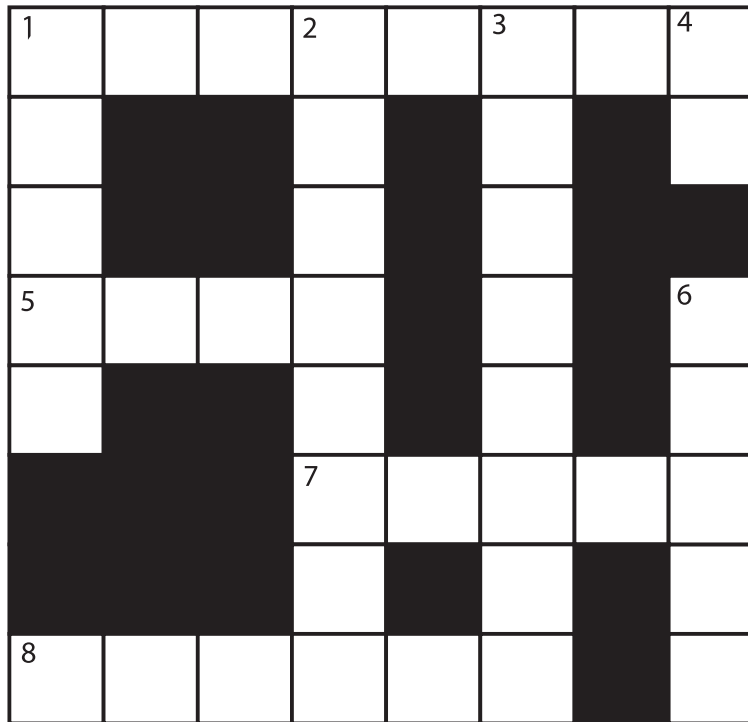
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Crossword Puzzle



THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- **1878:** INVENTOR THOMAS EDISON PATENTS THE PHONOGRAPH.
- **1942:** NEARLY 250 JAPANESE WARPLANES ATTACK THE CITY OF DARWIN, AUSTRALIA.
- **2002:** NASA'S MARS ODYSSEY SPACE PROBE BEGINS TO MAP THE SURFACE OF MARS.



THIS FATTY FOOD CAN HELP BIRDS MAINTAIN A HEALTHY WEIGHT DURING WINTER.

ANSWER: SUET

ACROSS

1. Natural illumination
5. White bird
7. Determine from evidence
8. Dispenses seeds

DOWN

1. Plant's units of reproduction
2. Cuddly bird
3. Push past limits
4. Trademark (abbr.)
6. Winged animals

Down
1. Seeds 2. Lovebird 3. Go too far 4. TM
6. Birds

Across
1. Sunlight 5. Dove 7. Infer 8. Feeder

Answers:



AVIAN

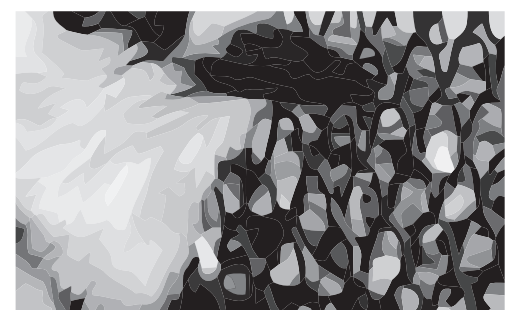
relating to birds

How they SAY that in...

- ENGLISH:** Nest
- SPANISH:** Nido
- ITALIAN:** Nido
- FRENCH:** Nid
- GERMAN:** Nest



SOME HISTORIANS ASSERT THAT BIRD FEEDING TRACES ITS ORIGINS ALL THE WAY BACK TO A SIXTH CENTURY MONK.



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: BIRD AT FEEDER

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PERHAPS? Research which foods are grown with glyphosates (Round-Up a carcinogen) and those treated with PPO, i.e. some almonds.

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).

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1065 W. Hwy. 160
Pagosa Springs, Colo

office and showroom:
(970) 264-2006
www.pagosafireplaces.com

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

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.

SERVICES

TREE REMOVAL. Licensed and insured up to \$2 million. Free estimates. No obligations. Call OR text (970)903-8068.

WE HAUL. WE WILL haul off anything but your marijuana or your mother-in-law. No job too big or too small. We also move buildings. We don't haul pigs. Dan Snow (719)849-8873.

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

ALLEY HOUSE GRILLE. Bartenders 3-4 nights a week. Experience in food service required as well as bar service. Must be available by 3p.m. and weekends and holidays. Send resume to Jim@alleyhousegrille.com.

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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.

CARPENTER NEEDED. Background with finish carpentry, light framing, drywall and painting, and other assorted duties. Please email your resume to frontdesk@pagosaland-company.com. Phone (970)264-5000.

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.

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.

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SERVICES

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.

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.

REACH TOURISTS COMING TO PAGOSA SPRINGS with the Pagosa Springs Official Visitor Guide, summer edition. Promote your business to your customers in 30,000 copies of the guide. These will be distributed locally at The Springs Resort, Walmart, Wyndham, the visitor center and other area establishments, at welcome centers throughout Colorado and mailed to SUN subscribers. View the guide on pagosason.com, explorepagosa.com and visitpagosapragos.com. Deadline for advertising is March 8, 2024. Distribution of the guide will begin in late April. Call The Pagosa Springs SUN today for rates and information at (970)264-2100 or email shari@pagosason.com.

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 with no fee. Closets and hallways always free.

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ROOF REPAIRS, LEAKS, RESCREWS, INSPECTIONS. 35+ years experience. Call Jeff at Blair Roofing. (970)903-6556.

ROOF RESCREWING, CHIMNEY CLEANING, roof repairs, dryer vent cleaning, valley repairs. Arlie's Chimney Sweep. (970)731-2543.

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.

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.

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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

Pagosa Express Lube

Lube Tech

\$21 per hour

Friendly, neat appearance.
Apply in person at 1985 Eagle Drive
or call 970-731-1400
locally owned/operated

GROWING SPACES is hiring an enthusiastic, motivated individual with a passion for organic gardening, healthy living and helping customers succeed in growing their dream gardens. We are looking for a **PARTS AND MAINTENANCE COORDINATOR** who can help customers with parts and maintenance orders. The position requires the ability to identify and diagnose parts of a Growing Dome and replacements needed. This position will also create estimates, schedule, and coordinate maintenance jobs. Computer experience with CRM, Shopify and QuickBooks programs preferred. Full-time position includes paid health benefits, 401(k) match and paid time off. \$20+ DOE. EOE. Go to www.growingspaces.com/employment to print an application, or send resume to employment@growingspaces.com.

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.

HYGIENIST WANTED. Come help us serve our patients! We are blessed to have family oriented hours with weekends and holidays off, great pay (Could you make \$60/hr?), 401K & bonuses in a beautiful facility. Colorado dental hygiene license required. E-mail resume to PagosaSmiles@yahoo.com or drop it off.

264-2100

Classifieds

264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HELP WANTED

RG BANK is looking for a **DEPOSIT MANAGER**

for their

Pagosa Springs Branch

RG BANK is growing and evolving to better meet the needs of our customers and the communities we serve. This is a great opportunity for the right candidate to help build a new, dynamic position while joining a community bank that puts customers first and is proud to support the communities we serve.

For the full description and an application, visit:
<https://rgbank.bank/careers/>



Equal Housing Lender. Member FDIC.

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

PAGOSA CRAFT is looking a full time employee to join our craft fam! This position would be split between bud-tending and packaging in our concentrates lab. Must be 21+, have a current MED badge and be willing to work two 10 hour shifts with the freedom to fill the remaining schedule on days of their choosing. Experience not required. We are happy to train the right individual! Please come in with a resume. Interviews will be held this week.

PAGOSA LIQUOR IS HIRING a full-time cashier. Please come and apply in person at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

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.

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

PINE VALLEY RENTAL SEEKING Shop/Yard person to service equipment, assist customers in loading/unloading goods, maintain gas/ diesel engines. Welding and electrical skills a plus. **MUST BE RELIABLE.** Available to work full time Monday-Friday, 8a.m.-5p.m. Pick up application in person at 305 Bastille Drive or email resume to ppine000@centurytel.net. Come join our rental crew!

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.

REACH TOURISTS COMING TO PAGOSA SPRINGS with the Pagosa Springs Official Visitor Guide, summer edition. Promote your business to your customers in 30,000 copies of the guide. These will be distributed locally at The Springs Resort, Walmart, Wyndham, the visitor center and other area establishments, at welcome centers throughout Colorado and mailed to SUN subscribers. View the guide on pagosasun.com, explorepagosa.com and visitpagosasprings.com. Deadline for advertising is March 8, 2024. Distribution of the guide will begin in late April. Call The Pagosa Springs SUN today for rates and information at (970)264-2100 or email shari@pagosasun.com.

Rise Above Violence is seeking a **Court Advocate** to assist victims involved in the criminal and/or civil justice systems to understand and navigate their rights. Applicant must be proficient in Microsoft Office and be a highly organized, independent worker. Position is FT, 32 hours per week, hourly pay starting at \$20 per hour DOE. Benefits included. Related experience in human services, paralegal or court knowledge, or other field appreciated but not required. Rise is an equal opportunity employer where we celebrate diversity and are committed to inclusion. Visit www.riseaboveviolence.org for complete job description. Email resume to claudia@riseaboveviolence.org.

SELPH'S PROPANE, a Ferrellgas Company, is searching for customer-focused Full-Time Propane Truck Drivers to join our team! Come help us deliver propane to our neighbors in the Pagosa Springs community! Benefits include Medical, Dental, and Vision, 401K, Paid Time Off, and an Employee Stock Ownership Plan. Pay starting at \$25 per hour depending on experience. Minimum Class B CDL is required. Please go to Ferrellgas.com/jobs or stop by the office at 4640 W. U.S. Hwy 160, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147.

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.

WE ARE NOW HIRING! You belong on the Archuleta School District Team! Archuleta School District strives to achieve "Success for Every Student – Every Class - Every Day." Currently accepting applications for the following positions: - **Elementary School Special Education Paraprofessional** (2) Full-time positions for special education paraprofessional with a starting salary \$27,086-\$29,810 for 173 days paid over a 12-month period. - **Bus Drivers/Transportation** Hourly position with a starting hourly pay of \$25.08 up to \$29.16 for 169 days - **High School Assistant Track Coach** for the Spring 2024 season. The Base Stipend is \$3,347 per the district's salary schedule with additional pay for longevity, number of athletes, extended season, and academics. Benefits for all FULL-TIME positions include (but are not limited to) PERA State Retirement, Life Insurance, optional Health and Dental Insurance and paid Discretionary Days. For more details and to apply for these positions click on "Job Postings" on the following web-site: www.mypagosaschools.com. E.O.E.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

ESTABLISHED PORTABLE BUILDING/ SHED business for sale. Excellent Income potential. Quality built and engineered structures, great location. Negotiable terms available. Perfect business for someone wanting to grow the business. (207)285-5723.

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FOR SALE

DRY FIREWOOD- PINE. Pick up \$240 a cord. Delivery available. Call for prices. Bayfield. Gabe (970)403-2784.

FIREWOOD FOR SALE. Pine and aspen. Cut about 16" long, split. Delivered by longbed truckload (about 1 cord). Call (970)946-4450.

LG TOP LOAD Smart Washer & Electric Dryer-White. Purchased new 5 years ago, single owner, light use. Condition- Excellent. Moving, cannot take. New owner responsible for transport from storeroom. Price \$800 for set. Selling as set only. Text (505)695-9643.

NEED FIREWOOD?! Pine/Aspen mix \$300 a cord. Contact FIRE&ICE at (970)582-0006.

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.

ADORABLE STAFFORDSHIRE TERRIER PUPPIES for sale. Downtown location. Please text (970)759-2639 for more information.

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.

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

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

INTEGRATED WALLWORKS IS SEEKING HELP for local projects. We are hiring Plasterers, Lathers, Laborers, & Masons. Would consider applicants with light carpentry experience as well. Excellent Pay based on experience. Please send applications to integratedwallworksjobs@gmail.com.

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.

FIRESIDE CABINS are looking for Full-time or Part-time housekeeper. 3-5 days a week. Starting pay \$18 an hour. Great work environment, will train. Days flexible - Hours vary from 9a.m.-3p.m. but are flexible. English is not a requirement. (OFF ALL MAJOR HOLIDAYS) Fireside Cabins está buscando ama de llaves a tiempo completo o parcial necesaria 5 días a la semana. Comenzando a pagar \$18 por hora. Gran ambiente de trabajo, entrenará. No hay lavandería, los horarios varían de 9a.m. - 3p.m., pero son flexibles. El inglés no es un requisito. (FUERA DE TODOS LOS PRINCIPALES VACACIONES)

Fireside Cabins 1600 E Hwy 160 Pagosa Springs. (East side of Pagosa just past Hwy 84 & 160 junction 1 mile from downtown Pagosa area) must be dependable. For more information call (970)264-9204 or email Johnjessharper@gmail.com. Come in to preview our facility.

264-2100

Classifieds

264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

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"We owned a condominium in the Pagosa Springs area which was a rental property. For many years the firm provided property management services for us and we always found them to be very professional and responsive. If you are in need of a competent, professional property management firm or realtor, we would strongly recommend them. ~ Michael Gamba



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4 OFFICE SPACES. Freshly remodeled, \$400-\$525. Well suited for spa services, 140-270 sq. ft. Beautiful spacious restrooms. (970)946-3232.

MULTI-USE SPACE. 14 feet x 15 feet, in a well established area with sufficient parking. Please text (970)946-5593.

OFFICE SPACE. 170 SF Downtown Metropolitan Hotel. \$270 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, all utilities included. Call (970)946-9780.

COMMERCIAL FOR RENT

OFFICE SPACE. 260 SF Downtown Metropolitan Hotel. Available Feb 1. \$460 per month. Utilities included. Broadband available. Call Jacque (970)946-7636.

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.

HOMES FOR RENT

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. \$3,900/month. TP-3 Call Team Pagosa (970)731-8599, pagosaspringsrealty.com.

BEAUTIFULLY FURNISHED 2 bedroom 1.5 bath w/loft condo at Hatcher Village Condos. Available now. \$1800/month. TP-10 Call Team Pagosa (970)731-8599 for more information. teampagosa.com.

HOMES FOR RENT

BEAUTIFULLY FURNISHED 2 bedroom plus loft 1.5 bath condo. A must see unit just a short walk to Hatcher Lake. 1 small dog allowed. Water, sewer trash and snow removal included in rent. TP-13. \$1800/month.

FURNISHED 3 BEDROOM 2 bath condo across from Lake Pagosa. Pet allowed. Available around January 1, 2024. \$2095 per month. TP-6. Team Pagosa, (970)731-8599, pagosaspringsrealty.com.

LONG TERM RENTALS AVAILABLE. Call Team Pagosa (970)731-8599, 46 Eaton Drive, Suite #1, pagosaspringsrealty.com.

NEWLY RENOVATED APARTMENT. Available downtown Pagosa. No Pets. No Smoking. \$1300 month. Call (720)470-2653.

OVER THE GARAGE APARTMENT. Furnished. 1 bedroom. Living, Dining and Kitchen. Bonus room. Large deck overlooks mountains, sunsets and lakes. Furnished outside deck. Includes WIFI, electric, gas, water, sewer, trash pickup, cable TV, washer and dryer. Walk to City Market and bus. No pets. No smoking. Annual lease. Last month rent plus \$500 deposit. \$1500 month. (970)398-0023.

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.

SUPER NICE UNFURNISHED 3 bedroom 2 bath. 2 car oversized garage townhome. All appliances including a gas fireplace. Great views. Water, sewer, trash and snow removal included in rent. TP-11. \$2500/month. No pets. Team Pagosa (970)731-8599 or teampagosa.com.

UPSTAIRS SMALL EFFICIENCY APARTMENT. \$700 a month. No pets. No Smoking. Water, Gas and Electric included. Call (970)946-0369.

HOMES FOR RENT

UNIQUE REMODELED STUDIO UNITS. All utilities included plus Starlink internet. Pets considered with approval, pet deposit and monthly pet rent. Call Team Pagosa (970)731-8599 for availability and sizes or visit teampagosa.com. TP-12. \$995-1495/month.

VACATION RENTALS

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OPEN HOUSE THIS WEEKEND! Don't miss this perfect opportunity to own the potentially ideal home backing to the golf course and featuring a deck which provides an ultimate view of the spectacular Continental Divide. Great possibilities for investors. 792 County Road 600, aka Piedra Rd. Saturday 11a.m.-1p.m. Sunday 12:00-2:00. Dave Netherton, (719)588-3636. eXP Realty.



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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."

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