



PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147

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Photo courtesy Barry Knott

Swan Solo (or Swanie) swims alongside its new companion in Pinon Lake this week. The new swan's arrival has received a lot of attention, with many hopeful Swan Solo has found a mate.

PAWSD votes to broaden affordable housing waivers

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) Board of Directors voted to expand capital investment fee (CIF) affordable housing waivers following presentations by the Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation (PSCDC) and Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County at its March 14 meeting.

The board previously held a work session on March 7, where the affordable housing waiver program and the board's views on the PSCDC project were discussed in detail.

This discussion was covered in the March 14 issue of The SUN.

The discussion of waivers on March 14 began with a presentation by PSCDC Executive Director Emily Lashbrooke about the PSCDC's affordable housing project in the Trails and Chris Mountain Village II subdivisions.

Lashbrooke opened by explaining that the PSCDC received lots from Archuleta County to create a work-

force housing program and took a "full-circle" approach to the project, including working with local banks, major employers and local governments, and using a public lottery process to select those who will be able to purchase homes in the project.

She stated that the PSCDC intends to build 10 homes in 2024 between 80 percent and 100 percent of the area median income (AMI), meaning that the homes would be affordable for people at those income levels spending 30 percent of their annual income on housing.

She indicated that this range of AMI levels was impacted by available grant funding and that the project was initially planned to cover from 80 percent AMI to 120 percent AMI, but grants could not be obtained within this range.

Lashbrooke explained that the project would build eight two-bedroom homes at 80 percent AMI and two two-bedroom homes at 100 percent AMI in 2024.

She stated that, to help design the project, the PSCDC conducted a

■ See Waivers A7

Intermaggio pleads guilty in pair of cases

Cases involve law enforcement

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

On March 11, Tyler James Intermaggio, 39, of Pagosa Springs, entered guilty pleas in a pair of cases as part of deals that were accepted by 6th Judicial District Chief Judge Jeffrey Wilson.

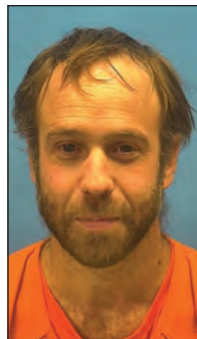
Under the deals, Intermaggio pleaded guilty to criminal attempt to commit murder in the second degree and to criminal attempt to commit assault in the first degree.

The plea to criminal attempt to commit murder in the second degree comes in a 2023 case in which two deputies responded to a call for service involving a disturbance be-

tween two male subjects.

According to an Archuleta County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) press release released following the Jan. 4, 2023, incident, "During the incident, one of the male subjects deployed a firearm and attempted to discharge the firearm at an ACSO Deputy. The second Deputy discharged their duty

■ See Guilty A8



Intermaggio

Sean P. Murray appointed district attorney for the 6th Judicial District

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

Last week, Gov. Jared Polis appointed Sean P. Murray as the district attorney for the 6th Judicial District.

This appointment fills a vacancy created by the resignation of District Attorney Christian Champagne and became effective on Saturday, March 16.

"I have been working towards becoming the District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District Attorney for the last 13 years," Murray wrote in an email to The SUN. "I love working with our team at the District Attorney's Office because everyone is a dedicated public servant and committed to safety, fairness, and justice."

According to a press release from the state, Murray was an assistant district attorney for the 6th Judicial District, a position he held since 2022.

Previously, it notes, he was an appellate deputy district attorney in the 6th Judicial Dis-

trict from 2020-2022, deputy district attorney in the 6th Judicial District from 2017-2020, assistant district attorney in the 22nd Judicial District from 2014-2016, deputy district attorney in the 22nd Judicial District from 2013-2014 and public defender with the Colorado State Public Defender in the Durango Office from 2011-2013.

He earned his B.A. and J.D. from the University of Virginia in 2007 and 2011, respectively, according to the press release.

"My plan is to expand the programming that we have been using which has successfully reduced crime in the Sixth Judicial District during Christian Champagne's terms," Murray wrote of his goals in taking over the job. "We will tirelessly pursue excellence in trial and appellate work. We will bring a victim-centered approach to our cases to ensure that victims' voices are heard and that their rights are protected in a manner no less vigorous than the protected [sic] afforded to criminal defendants. We will expand our use of deferred judgments, diversion, and restorative justice to



Murray

help defendant [sic] avoid the unnecessary collateral consequences of criminal convictions. We will strive to dismantle the systemic drivers

■ See Appointed A8



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Green was the color of the day Saturday, March 16, at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church's St. Patrick's Day Festival. The festival included the parking lot parade, as well as green-clad kids of all ages.

County's ethics complaint against Liane Jollon dismissed

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

In a March 1 decision, the Colorado Independent Ethics Commission (IEC) dismissed an ethics complaint brought by Archuleta County Attorney Todd Weaver against former San Juan Basin Public Health (SJBPH) Executive Director Liane Jollon.

The Aug. 29, 2023, complaint raised concerns about the ethics of the \$215,745 in emergency compensation (EC) payments that Jollon received between March 2020 and May 2023.

Weaver argued that these payments violated state law and the Colorado Constitution due to Jollon approving her own EC payments without approval from the SJBPH Board of Health (BoH) and not inputting proper documentation of her activities during the time billed for EC.

He also argues that the payments were a violation of Jollon's contract, which did not allow her to receive overtime pay.

Weaver concluded that these actions amounted to Jollon realizing personal financial gain through her

office through means outside of her employment contract.

The complaint also argues that the IEC has jurisdiction to investigate Jollon.

It states that the section of the Colorado Constitution outlining the jurisdiction of the IEC gives it authority to investigate complaints made against public officers, members of the Colorado General Assembly, local government officials or local government employees.

Weaver states that the laws governing public health districts in Colorado do not differentiate between the duties of public health directors who work for county or district public health agencies like SJBPH.

He adds that county governments, which are subject to the IEC, form district public health agencies, have commissioners who serve as representatives on their boards and provide financial support to these districts.

Weaver notes that a Colorado Supreme Court decision determined that health districts are political subdivisions of the state, setting

■ See Ethics A8

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Opinion

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OUR VIEW

Community conversations

Last week's 4.5-hour meeting of the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) featured some really good, thoughtful conversations on some really important topics.

We're thankful to the PAWSD board for rearranging the meeting's agenda — moving consideration of a moratorium on fee waivers for affordable housing to later in the agenda — to make some of that conversation possible.

We're also thankful to the PAWSD board for ultimately amending the waiver opportunities to allow for in-progress, needed housing projects to continue, despite the fact doing so is financially difficult for PAWSD.

A number of local governmental entities and organizations were represented at the meeting, as were builders, developers, business owners and other citizens, and each brought up important points to keep in mind as we look to lessen some of the challenges this area is facing.

Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation Executive Director Emily Lashbrooke spoke about our community's "perfect recipe" for a housing crisis, while Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta Executive Director Leah Ballard explained that current mortgage rates can make the dif-

ference of hundreds of dollars a month for potential homeowners, lowering buying power.

Those present also talked about the need for housing and incentives for housing for a wider variety of income levels to meet the needs of our community, while PAWSD board member Gene Tautges suggested the community look more into the possibility of apartments to help meet needs.

In the end, the PAWSD board supported the affordable housing projects in front of them at the meeting to help move things forward.

Not every problem was solved, but a lot of people with a lot of different perspectives took part in discussing possible solutions.

These are the kind of community discussions we need and hope to see more of.

There aren't many local districts, nonprofits and others in Pagosa County who aren't currently facing big changes and big needs.

Numerous districts and businesses, PAWSD among them, are facing expensive infrastructure needs, shortages in staffing, changes in funding and a growing list of needs that simply don't fit within their existing budgets.

And so are the area's citizens.

Pagosa Springs took the top spot as the most expensive community to live in in Southwest Colorado last year, and costs continue to go up for the things people need. Many are already making tough decisions about what they can afford and what they can't.

Add to that a lack of houses for sale under \$500,000 and a recent report by Zillow that concludes home buyers in 2024 need 80 percent more income to purchase a home than they did in 2020 and it's clear Archuleta County will continue to be a tough place for workforce and younger families to live and contribute for the time being.

In that time, according to Zillow's report, median income has only risen 23 percent, though we'll note the report is not specific to Archuleta County.

The report also notes the monthly mortgage payment for a typical U.S. home has nearly doubled since January 2020.

There's a lot of progress and investment being made in Pagosa Country, but we're definitely not where we want to be yet. We applaud those bringing ideas to the table, working tirelessly to help get us there in the least painful way possible.

Randi Pierce

LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

100 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
March 21, 1924

The Board of Directors of School District No. One of Archuleta county will hold a referendum on Tuesday, the 25th day of March, 1924, between the hours of two P.M. and five P.M., at the Court House in Pagosa Springs for the purpose of ascertaining the sentiments of the taxpayers of said district relative to the choice of a location for the new school building.

Six sites will be submitted and should any one thereof receive a majority of the votes cast, the board will make every reasonable effort to acquire the location so selected.

For the information of the voters it should be stated that the board has appropriated the sum of Thirteen Thousand Dollars (\$13,000), which is available and may be used for the purchase of grounds for the school, without curtailing funds necessary for the construction of an adequate school building.

It is with the deepest sorrow that we chronicle the death of Mrs. Matilda Lattin, wife of John Lattin, proprietor of the San Juan Livery and Transfer company, who passed away at her home on San Juan street about four o'clock Saturday evening after a week's illness. She gave birth to a little daughter on Saturday, March 8th, and was recovering nicely when appendicitis developed, causing her death at the time stated.

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
March 18, 1949

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Brown have sold their Hidden Valley Ranch on Four Mile. This ranch is known to older residents of the community as the McCormick ranch.

The new owners are Mr. and Mrs. Hilary White of Carlsbad, N.M. They will take possession of the place on May 16.

The ranch is 2160 acres in size and according to County records sold for \$40,000.

There will be a meeting of all members of the community interested in the 4th of July Rodeo at the Legion House on Friday night, April 1. The meeting is for the purpose of organizing a rodeo association to take over the annual 4th of July Rodeo.

The American Legion has expressed its desire to have the show handled by some other group if such a group can be satisfactorily organized. Anyone interested in this organization is urged to attend this meeting.

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
March 21, 1974

This is the time of the year when there is always a large number of house seekers coming in at the SUN looking for rental houses and apartments. This year the demand is unusually large and anyone with any type of living quarters for rent should leave word with the Chamber of Commerce, with real estate agents, or run a classified ad in the SUN.

Taxes are always high, when considered from the angle of the taxpayer. However, a study of tax rates over the state shows that Archuleta County residents are much luckier than most Colorado residents.

This study shows that in 1973 the total levy for rural residents for all tax purposes in the largest portion of the county was fourth lowest in the state. In town the standing was equally low. The school district taxes are also low — by statewide comparison — with other school districts.

The study indicates that in the taxes collected during 1974, 73% will go for school purposes, 15% for county purposes, two percent for special assessments, eight percent for water and sanitation, and two percent for town government.

25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
March 18, 1999

Priorities were established last week for several traffic improvement projects anticipated for the Pagosa Springs area.

"We're holding a series of meetings to help us upgrade our 20-year plan," said Carl Watson, the Regional Planning and Environmental director for the Southwest Transportation Planning Region.

State funding for highway work follows a complicated prioritization process involving Transportation Region planning meetings, Engineering Region planning meetings, a statewide advisory committee meeting, and final funding authorization from the Colorado Transportation Commission.

Pagosa-area projects included in the process are installing stop lights at the Piedra-U.S. 160 intersection, Lewis Street-5th Street-U.S. 160 intersection, and North and South Pagosa intersections with U.S. 160; building four lanes along U.S. 160 between the Pagosa Boulevard intersection and its 8th Street intersection in town, and other projects with lesser priorities.



From the March 18, 1993 Pagosa SUN — Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce directors gave a rousing performance as they marched in the World's Tiniest St. Patrick's Day parade Wednesday. The green-clad marchers attracted a crowd of appreciative onlookers as they braved the early evening traffic on Pagosa Street.

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3/15	45	30	2.5	S	0.25
3/16	44	30	1.8	S	0.25
3/17	44	28	3.0	S	0.45
3/18	50	22	NA	NA	0.03

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READY FOR SOME SPRING WEATHER?

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.

Where we are headed

Dear Editor:
I am putting this out there in the hope that I can convince people to start thinking about where we are headed as a country. You don't have to agree, but I would ask you to seriously consider what I have to say.
As we reflect on the changes that have occurred in this past three years, the work of three theorists, Saul Alinsky and Richard Cloward and Frances Fox Piven, becomes important. Their theories are pertinent because they are predictors of America's future if we don't wake up. You can dispute my premise that we are even headed down this path, but you cannot deny that their strategies are in play.

Cloward and Piven advocate for overloading the welfare system by adding more people than the system can accommodate. All welfare will be Federal, not local, and it will be in the form of universal income. In addition to impoverished Americans who are unable to keep up with the rising cost of living, add the millions of illegal aliens flooding into the country who have few skills yet basic needs. Individual incentive to succeed along with hopes and dreams become impossible, replaced by dependency on

the government support. Socialism has arrived.

The second theorist, a political scientist you should know, is Saul Alinsky. Alinsky developed a process for destroying a country from within. If you recognize Alinsky's name, it's probably because Hillary Clinton, who did her college thesis on his work, is one of his disciples along with President Barack Obama who alluded to Alinsky's work in his books and its impact on shaping his political ideas.

Alinsky developed eight steps to destroy a free country and replace it with Socialism. These steps are:

Control Healthcare. Control healthcare and you control the people.

Increase poverty. Increase poverty to as high a level as possible. Poor people are easier to control.

Debt. Increase debt to an unsustainable level. That way you can increase taxes and create more poor people.

Gun control. Remove the ability of citizens to defend themselves from evil forces including government overreach. This leads to the creation of a police state.

Welfare. Take control over every aspect of people's lives (food, housing, and income).

Education. Take control of what people are allowed to read and listen to, including what children learn in school.

Religion. Remove the belief in God from schools and government.

Class Warfare. Divide people into wealthy and poor - "the haves and the have nots". This will cause discontent and make it more popular to tax the wealthy to support the poor.

I am not here to debate these theories. However, they do underpin our current circumstances. The only exception being gun control which is always on the liberal chopping block. Even if you support the current administration and think the other guy is Hitler personified, you must see that our freedoms are slipping away. If avowed Socialists' ideas have become the path our government is on, maybe we need to change direction.
Milt Dodge

Consider this

Dear Editor:
Many Books have been written about this. During the reign of Hitler during WWII, the wealthy Jewish population in Germany took their money and fled Germany to find safety in other countries. Then, when the war ended. The United Nations, in sympathy for the holocaust victims, granted the lands of Palestine to the Jewish population to create the state of Israel. At that time, Palestine Christians were living peacefully and respectfully with their Jewish and

Arab neighbors.

Of course, the first to arrive and claim the lands were the wealthy Jews who managed to avoid the holocaust during the war. The Palestines were excited for them and planned to welcome them as guests into their homes until they were able to "settle in". However, there was great disappointment. The Jewish occupiers arrived, took over their homes leaving them no place to live. There was no respect for their hospitality. Some of the Palestines managed to immigrate to America; however, many choose to remain in their homeland and work for equality with their new Jewish government.

Soon, ships loaded the holocaust survivors began to arrive, excited about their new homeland. However, the Jewish government would not allow them to enter. They were very poor, had no money, and were not wanted. So, what to do? It is recorded that they turned and headed to America where they were accepted with open arms, of course. All good people. Too bad that the Israeli Jews denied them entry. Over my life-time, I have enjoyed Jewish neighbors, very good-hearted folks and also I have worked closely with some Palestinians, also good folks. So, my message to all is please do not blame our Jewish and Palestinian citizens for what is going on in the Middle East. All came from ancestors who were abused victims of greed

So, I remind all Americans: we are the United States of America, One Nation Under God. There is only one God and our Constitution protects our freedom to worship. Please "practice" the Greatest Commandment: "Love the Lord, Our God, with all your heart, with all your mind, with all your soul and your neighbors as yourselves". That is the American way. Let's "get with it!"

So proud to be an American
Patty Tillerson

Demise of the statesman

Dear Editor:
In the midst of our heated politics, I hear some talk about the age of Joe Biden. Initially it seemed strange that one of our two dominant and expansive political parties cannot come up with another, younger, candidate for president who has acceptable political views. As I have sat with this pre-

dicament, however, I see what might be a deeper and more powerful trend.

I think we are witnessing the demise of the elder statesman and stateswoman. Joe Biden is a career-long Democrat. But a dive into that career reveals a complicated, sometimes fraught, but continuous and energetic commitment to service in Constitutional office. As a senator, Biden served for thirty years, often writing and sponsoring bills, many of which were cosponsored by Republicans. He worked with many different people, across ideological lines, to get things done.

In order to accomplish that kind of work, one has to become a statesman. One must recognize the need to work and compromise with disagreeing parties in order to serve a greater good. Admirers and biographers of past office-holders often elevate the abilities of the stateswoman and statesman—from Abraham Lincoln to Condoleezza Rice, Alexander Hamilton to Colin Powell—to the highest rank. They saw through the intense diversity of American society to the common blessing of constitutional law and liberty.

(Let's be clear: The attribution of "statesman" is not about civility alone. Though an essential discipline in politics, civility does not imply collegiality, unselfish service, or willingness to hear another perspective. One can be civil and entirely self-serving.)

What we lack—Democrat and Republican, I fear—is a general desire for leadership that will seek to "form a more perfect union" amidst the complicated disagreements about what "perfect" means. Perhaps we don't want statesmanship: Our culture's embrace of radical individualism has converted "we the people" into "we my tribe." If this is the case, we must at least be honest about it. The Republican party appears to be the first to jettison the elder statesman model of leadership at the highest level. But I think the Democrats may be just one or two presidential elections behind. Joe Biden's age may be more significant symbolically than physically.

Can we find elder stateswomen or statesmen for our highest offices? Or has that age come to an end? Must we demonize those who disagree with us? Must surrender unity for enmity and peace for struggle?

Emrys Tyler



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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.

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

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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Obituaries

Francisco 'Frank' Orlando Gomez Jr.

Francisco Orlando Gomez Jr., "Frank," passed away on March 6, 2024, at the age of 65. He was born on April 17, 1958, in Santa Fe, N.M. Frank is survived by his daughters Malory and Fiona; grandchildren Cameron, Naima and Asher; mother Cora V. Gomez; siblings Donna Gomez, Frances Garibay (Pablo), Sylvester Gomez (Rosie), Patrick Gomez, Augustine Gomez, Orlin Gomez, Yolandra Gomez (Anthony Pino) and Michelle Gomez (Napoleon Garcia); numerous other relatives including nieces, nephews, cousins; and many friends and neighbors. He was preceded in death by his father, Francisco O. Gomez Sr., and brother, Andrew Gomez Sr.



Frank graduated from Escalante High School and New Mexico State University with a degree in agricultural economics. He worked for the Jicarilla Apache Nation and was also involved in the family's cattle ranch business.

A rosary will be held at 6 p.m. on Thursday, March 14, 2024, followed by Mass at 10 a.m. on Friday, March 15, 2024, both at the St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Lumberton, N.M. Burial will take place following Mass at the Gomez Cemetery in Dulce, N.M.

In lieu of flowers, please donate in his name to St. Francis of Assisi School in Lumberton, N.M.

Frank will be dearly missed by all who knew him. May he rest in peace.

Moises Christopher Martinez

Moises Christopher Martinez, affectionately known as Moe, passed away peacefully on Saturday, March 9, 2024, at the age of 87. Born on April 11, 1936, in Bayfield, Colo., Moises lived a life rich in love, service and laughter.



In June 1959, Moises married the love of his life, Clara Martinez, at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church in Pagosa Springs, Colo. Together, they embarked on a journey filled with love, dedication and shared purpose until Clara's passing in May 2018.

Moises served his country honorably in the Air Force from 1954 to 1957, after which he dedicated four decades of his life to Titanium Metals before retiring in 1998. Following retirement, he and Clara settled in Pagosa Springs, where they embraced their passions for camping, fishing, and enjoying New Mexico Mexican music and dancing. Moises also found joy in crafting birdhouses, leaving behind beautiful creations for both birds and loved ones to cherish.

Beyond his professional and personal pursuits, Moises was deeply committed to serving his community. Alongside Clara, he served as special minister of Las Guadalupanas, providing comfort and culturally

relevant meals to bereaved families in Archuleta County for over 25 years.

To know Moises was to be touched by his warmth, humor and boundless love. Whether as "Uncle Moe," "Grandpa" or "Dad," his affection knew no bounds, leaving an indelible mark on all who had the privilege of knowing him.

Moises is survived by his children: Michael (Wanda) Poland, Ron Martinez, Dennis Martinez, Sabrina (Craig) Mercadante and Felicia (Joe) Vincent; sister Dolores Perez; and grandchildren Rebekah, Sarah, Noelle, Brianna, Nathan, Quentin, Dante, Isabella, Zain and Carmella, as well as his great grandchildren John Paul, Giuseppe, Zen, Quest, Carson, Lauren, Waylon and Abbykate.

He was predeceased by his wife, Clara Martinez; parents Jose Lucas Martinez and Maria Gorgonia Archuleta Martinez; son John Paul Martinez; grandson Ronald Christopher Martinez; and siblings Juanita Salazar, Corina Valdez, Manuel Martinez, Amadeo Martinez, Clara Martinez, Desiderio Martinez, Wilfredo Martinez and Lucas Martinez.

Services to honor Moises' life will be held at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church in Pagosa Springs, Colo. A rosary and viewing will take place on Friday, March 22, at 7 p.m., followed by a Mass on Saturday, March 23, at 9:30 a.m. with eulogies from the family. Interment will immediately follow at Hilltop Cemetery, with a lunch reception afterward at the Community Center.

The family extends heartfelt gratitude to Moises' visiting angels and all who supported them in caring for their father during his final years. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to the Guadalupana Society at

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church.

Moises Christopher Martinez will be deeply missed, but fondly remembered, for his love, laughter and legacy of compassion. May he rest in eternal peace.

Justin Chad Sweeney

Justin Chad Sweeney, age 48, passed away in the early morning hours of Feb. 21, 2024, in Durango, Colo., his father and brother at his side. He was known for his loving and caring nature, as well as his sense of humor. Chad was a devoted father, survived by his children Tyller Sweeney and Jaycee Sweeney, her husband Kaelan Hill and their two children, Chad's grandchildren Daisy and Malcolm Hill. Also, his daughter Sorcha Sweeney and their children Jeremiah and Willow Sweeney; and his parents David and Vickie Sweeney.



Chad was born in Hobbs, N.M. Chad attended school in Roswell, N.M., and graduated from Goddard High School there.

Chad loved the mountains and spent his time caring for his children.

A private service will be held in his honor. Contributions can be made to Hospice of Mercy, 175 Mercado St., Durango, CO 81301.

Chad was loved very much and will be truly missed by all those who knew and loved him.

State of Colorado Property Tax Deferral Program enrollment open

By Sheena Kadi

Colorado Department of the Treasury

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

"Expanding this program provides both short- and long-term financial relief for homeowners, while also providing an equitable statewide tax-relief measure to taxpayers," Colorado State Treasurer Dave Young stated. "Anytime we can keep folks in their homes and help them find tax relief at the same time is a win for Coloradans."

Colorado's Property Tax Deferral Program has traditionally helped seniors and active military personnel continue to afford to live in their homes by deferring the payment of their property taxes, and was expanded last year to provide relief to homeowners affected by increased property taxes in 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023.

"Due to the special legislative session, counties are sending out tax bills a few weeks later than previous years," Treasury spokesperson Sheena Kadi stated. "All 64 counties have submitted their tax bill information to the state, and homeowners are ready to see if they qualify now."

Homeowners can check eligibility at colorado.propertytaxdeferral.com.

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

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

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

cumulative.

The expanded deferral program does not exempt taxes; it is a loan to assist Coloradans with the payment of property taxes if an application is submitted and the applicant is eligible. The deferral loan is recorded as a junior lien against a participant's property and does not have to be repaid until a later date.

What homeowners need to know

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

"New this year, seniors who rent a room or a portion of their home and active duty military renting while they are out of the country or stationed elsewhere are able to participate,"

Vanda Howell, Property Tax Deferral Program administrator, stated. "New eligibility requirements have changed for active military with VA-backed loans. These changes allow more homeowners more opportunities to participate."

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

Homeowners can visit colorado.propertytaxdeferral.com to learn more about Colorado's expanded Property Tax Deferral Program.

If homeowners have questions:

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

Archuleta County Public Health Department to hold ribbon cutting, informational event April 3

By Ashley Springer

Archuleta County

The Archuleta County Public Health Department (ACPHD), open since Jan. 1, will hold its official grand opening and ribbon cutting on Wednesday, April 3, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

The event will be held at 502 S. 8th St.

Highlights of the event will include a ribbon cutting, tours of the facility and one-on-one time with staff who will be educating the public on the various programs currently being offered.

Programs include Women, Infant and Children (WIC); Food Safety Inspections; Emergency Preparedness; Smoking Cessation; and information about the upcoming Air Quality Awareness Week, happening

May 6-10.

Air quality is an applicable topic due to Pagosa's variable wildfire seasons.

"We'd like to raise awareness of the high pollution days in our county and protective behaviors to reduce health risks," commented Amy Nitchman, health educator and Air Quality Project manager. "ACPHD will be participating in the EPA's Flag Program, where partnering schools and businesses will display the color flag that corresponds to the air quality index each day during that week."

Nitchman will also be educating the public on SafeCare Colorado, a program for families with children 5 years of age or younger which teaches parenting skills and best practices for promoting positive childhood behaviors.

ACPHD's health coverage assistant,

certified by Colorado's Connect for Health, Karen Evans, will be available to educate on enrolling in health insurance while filing your taxes, which can only be done by completing a special section on Colorado returns.

Evans also supports the community via Medicaid and Child Health Plan+ (CHP+) applications, and how to navigate the Connect for Health insurance exchange.

"Tax time opens a special enroll-

ment period for health insurance by simply checking the box on your state tax form DR 0104," said Evans. "I can help with this and other health insurance questions."

The deadline to make this change is April 15.

This event is free, open to the public, and there is no need to RSVP. Families are encouraged to stop in and see all that the ACPHD has to offer.

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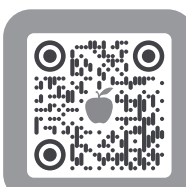
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Business

Hanging basket ordering will open soon

By Mary Jo Coulehan
Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce

With the recent snows, some of us are still trying to grab the last vestiges of winter sporting activities. Others of us can't wait for warmer weather, spring conditions, and playing and planting in our yards and gardens.

In preparation for the spring season, the Chamber of Commerce's annual Beautify Pagosa Hanging Basket program will start Tuesday, April 2.

Registration will open up at 9 a.m. We will again offer 12-inch baskets and 16-inch baskets. The 12-inch baskets are specially grown for the Chamber's program and are \$50 per basket.

They consist of a mix of flowers, including colorful geraniums, begonias, pansies, lobelia, petunias and other beautiful varieties. Mixed in are a variety of greens and trailing vines.

The 16-inch baskets are planted with mostly calibrachoa, but mixed with petunias, and will be \$130. The 16-inch baskets are quite heavy and

require sturdier brackets to support the weight of the basket.

The flowers can be ordered online at www.pagosachamber.com. You can then click on the graphic or link on the home page and it will take you to the order form. You will be able to order both types of baskets on one registration form. Credit card payment will also be taken online. There will be no invoicing available for the flowers.

The 12-inch baskets will be available on the Friday before Memorial Day, May 24. The 16-inch baskets are anticipated to be delivered sometime the week after Memorial Day; however, we will wait to see how the weather performs.

If you are not able to pick up your baskets on the delivery day, we ask that you make arrangements with family or friends to pick up your baskets for you. We are working with the grower and nursery to improve flower delivery this year. Pick up of the flowers will still be at the Visitor Center at 105 Hot Springs Blvd.

Those that ordered flowers will get a notification of when the flowers will be available for pick up. It is usually after noon.

This hanging basket program has grown over the years and we could not do it without our partner nurseries. Along with the baskets, purchasers receive a small pouch of fertilizer as an added thank you for your purchases.

These show-stopping baskets have visitors raving about how beautiful our community looks and often want to purchase some. Add a little color to your business entryway, garden area, deck or porch. Baskets will be available until they sell out.

Chamber board welcomes new board member

The Chamber Board of Directors has had a shift in its nine-member board this year.

Director Blue Lindner with Jann C. Pitcher Real Estate has resigned her position due to her commitment as president of the Pagosa Springs Area Association of Realtors (PSAAR)

and another personal commitment.

As per the Chamber bylaws, the board reached out based on the election results of the most recent board election. Candidate Ricardo Martinez with Axis Integrated Health Systems has accepted the position on the Chamber board to complete the two-year term.

While we are disappointed that we will lose Lindner's insight and input on the board which she has demonstrated this past year, we understand that life changes and throws curve balls at us. We wish her well in her leadership position with the PSAAR. We also welcome Martinez's position on the board, his significant involvement with the health care industry and the Hispanic population of business owners in this community.

While board elections will not be held for another 10 months, if you are interested in running for the Chamber Board of Directors, please contact Mary Jo to find out more about the responsibilities of a Chamber board member.

Residents and business owners raise concerns about CDOT's Main Street Reconstruction Project

By Derek Kutzer
Staff Writer

Concerned business owners and residents packed a meet-and-greet event held at the Riverwalk Inn on March 12. The subject of the event was the upcoming Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) U.S. 160 reconstruction project through downtown Pagosa Springs.

The project is slated to break ground in the spring/summer of 2024 and pick up again in the spring/summer of 2025.

The event was hosted by the Pagosa Springs Main Street program, with CDOT Region 5 Communications Manager Lisa Schwantes on hand to answer questions from concerned business owners and residents who will be impacted by the construction.

A survey conducted by the Main Street program shows that the top concerns about the project have to do with downtown business access and restricted parking during the construction.

Kathleen McFadden, director of the Main Street program, explained to the audience that the Main Street Advisory Board has created what it calls the Cone Zone Care Committee to serve as a liaison between business owners/residents and CDOT as the construction takes place.

"We are here for you," she said, saying that while the construction will surely cause some temporary pain for residents and business owners, the community will come out on the other end "better" once the reconstruction project is completed.

She touted wider sidewalks, upgraded street lamps, the construction of bike lanes throughout downtown from 1st to 8th streets, safer pedestrian crossings and, most of all, a brand-new concrete surface for the road that will "hopefully" prevent potholes.

Rick Holter, chairman of the Main Street board, noted some of the primary concerns expressed by downtown business owners and residents from the previous meet-and-greet event held in February.

He explained that there were "six CDOT officials there for that first meeting" and that the most current meeting was based on "some common threads" from that previous meeting and a survey conducted by the Main Street program gauging concerns about the upcoming

construction.

Holter stated that some of the major ideas and concerns expressed by residents at the previous meeting included: "parking, ideas for a potential shuttle service through downtown, the importance of timely and accurate information ... and another idea that came up was the idea of some sort of business resiliency fund or support of something like that."

He added that the reconstruction project will cause "a lot of pain over the next two years, and we are gonna be straightforward about that. Our purpose as a group is to try to help businesses and this town fight through that pain and get to a better place."

Schwantes then took the floor. "We really are happy to be here and very grateful that we have the opportunity to come and talk to you about this project that will be coming, for better or for worse. But, in the end, it will be better for this community. We truly believe that," Schwantes said.

She described the reconstruction project slated for downtown Pagosa Springs as "very important to us" and turned her focus on three main points for the audience.

"I'm gonna talk about three things: the construction management team, the prime contractor and CDOT's regional transportation director," she said.

CDOT was "conducting interviews this week" to determine which construction management team will "manage this project for us," with that hopefully announced in the next two weeks, she explained.

"We hope that, by the next meeting, we will be introducing you to that team, and included in that team is going to be" a sort of public communications point person who will be "communicating with you all" about the progress of the project, she said.

She added, "Accurate and timely information is very, very important to us, and to have someone on that management team, on that firm, as a staff person, is very, very important."

She explained to the audience the difference between the construction management team and the prime contractor, saying that the prime contractor will be the contractor that "will be responsible for the actual work that's going on."

The prime contractor agreement "went out to bid last week and will be open for three weeks, so it's gonna

be a little bit of time before we know who is going to be the prime contractor on this, but hopefully by the end of April we will know who we will be designating as the prime contractor for this project," she said.

She then pointed out that the regional transportation director, Julie Constan, is "a Pagosa gal" who grew up in the community and that the project is "very close to her heart."

She added that it's not typical to have someone on board with a "particular vested interest in a project."

She assured the audience that Constan will be heavily involved in selecting and hiring the primary contractor and she will be "very hands-on" throughout the project.

"We are very open to what the contractor can bring to the table, their ideas, their innovations, and so we are anxious to see ... how this project is going to occur and what sequence of events will happen throughout the corridor, your business corridor," she said.

She told the audience this project has Constan's attention. "What she is going to do is work very hard to listen to what your concerns are and what your questions are, and hopefully be able to accommodate those and minimize the impacts that you will feel," she said, adding, "It's gonna be a long, challenging process."

Rosanna Dufour, Main Street board member and co-owner of PJ's Fine Bamboo Rods, relayed to the audience that she is spearheading an effort through the "cone zone task force" to work on the parking issues during the construction, reminding the audience that there will be no parking downtown during peak periods of construction.

"We are planning for the worst and hoping for the best," she said, estimating that around 180 parking spots downtown will be unavailable during the peak construction periods.

She added the task force is searching far and wide for potential parking lots near downtown to serve as pedestrian traffic to the downtown business district.

The idea is to "see if we can arrange for temporary parking within walking distance to downtown," she said. This could be a temporary solution until a more "remote" parking lot and shuttle service could be arranged to transport people into the downtown area, she explained.



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Photos courtesy Pagosa Springs Elementary School

Pagosa Springs Elementary School staff and students celebrate fundraising for the American Heart Association (AHA) by glitter-bombing the school's specials teachers. The school participated in the Kids Heart Challenge, with the school's heart heroes surpassing the school's \$14,000 goal by raising \$16,203.52. In addition to raising funds for the AHA, students also had the opportunity to learn hands-only CPR and how to keep their hearts healthy. The school reported the top three classes for fundraising were Renea Smith's first-grade class with \$1,960.44, Scott Galabota's third-grade class with \$1,616.50 and Laura Frey's third-grade class with \$1,056.14. The top three students were Henry R. with \$1,235.73, Harper F. with \$1,085.76 and Amelia E. with \$602.98.

Commissioners discuss options for new admin building

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) discussed potential locations and next steps for building a county administration building at its March 5 work session.

County Manager Derek Woodman raised the issue during his administrative report, starting by pointing out that a potential deal with a developer to construct an administrative building for the county through a lease-to-own arrangement has "essentially fallen through."

He added that the county will have to vacate the old county courthouse in four years and needs to break ground on a new building in no more than two and a half years from now.

Woodman asked the commissioners if they would be interested in moving forward and funding an administrative building with county funds and other financial support, such as certificates of participation (COPs).

He commented that the county currently has more than \$3 million in unallocated funds that could be directed toward this project.

Commissioner Ronnie Maez asked what the cost of the previous project with the developer was expected to be.

Woodman explained that the developer initially cited a cost of between \$6 million and \$7 million for the project, but that it fell through due to the developer attempting to charge the county a large amount more than the project costs.

Maez commented that the county has "a couple options" to fund the building, including financing it with loans or other arrangements and seeking voter approval for a sales tax increase.

He added that he suspected that the public would be unlikely to approve a sales tax increase, although it might be possible to pass such an increase with proper messaging, such as by highlighting the financial impact of the county renting a building.

Maez commented that a sales tax increase would ensure that much of the building cost is paid by tourists and that the tax increase could sunset once the building is paid for.

"Like I said, in this community, when are we gonna start being proud of who we are and what we are?" Maez said. "Are we gonna keep skimpin', steppin' over a dollar to save a dime? Or, are we gonna start reinvesting in ourselves? ... We need to be good stewards of what we own

and what we have. That's the message we need to send to the people. But, if we don't, it's all for naught and we're going to be back where we're at and people will keep pointing the finger at us because we didn't do what they think is our job. But, all we can do is represent to them the options. ... The people can choose it, but, it's like I always told my kids, you can choose your choices, but you can't choose your consequences. But, I think there's a possibility if we could all get on board with it and that would serve the least impact to your county government."

Commissioner Warren Brown commented that it would be "prudent" to set money aside for an administration building as he does not feel that there is an "appetite" to authorize additional tax funding for entities other than the school and fire districts.

Maez stated that the county could put out a survey to gauge interest in a sales tax increase.

Commissioner Veronica Medina commented that she believes the community has been telling the county "loud and clear" about its concerns about current high prices, including messages from community members and hostile interactions between county staff and the public.

"This is something that we absolutely need to do and, the more time we continue to talk about it, the price continues to go up," she said. "I definitely feel like we need to put the money aside, we need to get a [request for proposals (RFP)] together, put it out and see what some of the bids would come back as, and we need to start moving forward."

Medina then raised the issue of where the county could locate the building, noting that the county could locate the building on county-owned property or seek another location.

Woodman asked if Medina was suggesting creating an RFP for the building or for the funding.

Maez commented that the funding should be first.

Medina stated that the county should first put the \$3 million and any additional Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) money it receives aside and then create an RFP for the building, land and potential financing options.

She noted that the RFP could be divided so that the bidders could bid on one or multiple elements of the project.

Medina commented that she is confident the county can obtain financing, and Woodman added that he has spoken to lenders who would be willing to finance the county

building.

Brown stated that this approach might alleviate voter concerns about the county taking on additional debt.

County Attorney Todd Weaver explained that loans for capital projects require voter approval, but that COPs do not.

He added that he has another option in mind, but that he felt it would be subject of negotiation and would be best covered in an executive session.

In response to a question from Woodman, Weaver explained that COPs are similar to bonds and added that utilizing them is a complicated process.

He stated that the county would have to hire outside legal counsel to manage the COP process.

Weaver also commented, in response to a statement by Maez, that the creation of the county strategic plan could be an ideal mechanism to engage the public about funding options for the administration building.

The group then discussed options for where to locate the facility, including the county property in Cloman Park or in Harman Park.

However, Maez noted that the Cloman Park location would be difficult for the public to access, and Woodman and Medina stated that the county property in Harman Park is currently "maxed out" with the construction of a new county transit center and has a lack of parking.

Medina suggested that the county could move the transit building to another location, but Maez and Brown expressed opposition to this idea.

Brown questioned if the county could consider a land exchange to find other property, with potential land exchange options including a parcel of land in Harman Park that is too small to build a county administration building on.

The board discussed the issues with constructing a building in Harman Park, including higher expenses due to having to pursue a more vertical design and lack of parking, before Woodman proposed the idea that the building could be located in Chris Mountain Village II or Trails.

Maez commented that he believes that Cloman or Harman Park would be an ideal location.

Medina stated that she would be interested in building in Harman Park, although she noted that this would require a land swap or purchases.

Maez stated that he would give staff direction to investigate potential properties and move forward with the project.



END-OF-SEASON INFO

OUR LAST DAY of the season is March 31.

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The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners is seeking volunteers to serve on a task force to review current state and federal marijuana laws in order to recommend changes to the current county marijuana ordinance.



Letters of interest can be sent to County Paralegal Mary Helminski at mhelminski@archuletacounty.org or mailed to the County Administration Building, PO Box 1507, Pagosa Springs, CO 8114. Deadline for submitting letters of interest is April 5, 2024.

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SUN photos/Josh Pike

Members of the Art Adventures Class supported by Aspen House and the Pagosa Community Initiative unveil and display their paintings at the Great Unveiling event at PS FroYo on March 15. The paintings were created through a partnership with Karen Roberts of Picasso and Vino and involved participants using tape, paint and contact paper to create patterns on art pieces Roberts created, with the tape and paper being removed and the final products revealed at the event.

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Pagosa Catholic Community HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

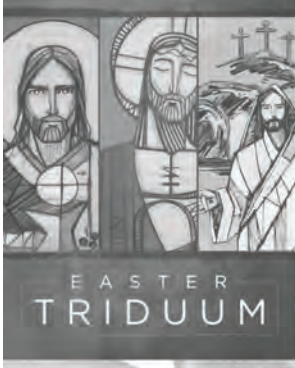
Lenten Penance Service
 March 26, Tuesday
 5:00 p.m. at JP II

March 28, Holy Thursday
 7:00 p.m. Mass at Pope John Paul II

March 29, Good Friday
 Good Friday Pilgrimage from IHM to JP II
 We'll gather at IHM at 2:00 p.m.
 4:00 p.m. Divine Mercy Chaplet at JP II Sanctuary
 4:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross at JP II
 5:30 p.m. Good Friday Liturgy at JP II

March 30, Holy Saturday
 12:00 Noon Blessing of Easter Baskets at JP II
 8:00 p.m. Easter Vigil at JP II

March 31, Easter Sunday
 9:00 a.m. Mass at JP II
 11:15 a.m. Mass at IHM



Reconstruction

Continued from A5

lot of businesses," he said. Schwantes explained that CDOT will have to wait until the primary contractor is chosen until the proposed work schedule is known and "what the sequencing of events will be."

"But we definitely will have stipulations, in terms of if we will approve what they have proposed for their work schedule. As you mentioned, your months that are important to you, we would never allow them to do that most impactful work during that time," she said.

However, she also said, "The one thing I need to let you know, and it's not a secret, is CDOT uses a low bid process, so whatever contractor comes in and gives us the lowest bid, is gonna likely be the one who wins that contract."

Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation Executive Director Emily Lashbrooke clarified that "it doesn't matter if it's the cheapest guy or the most expensive guy," the chosen primary contractor will still need to follow the stipulations laid out by CDOT.

Kirsten Skeeahan, co-owner of Pagosa Baking Company, asked Schwantes, "Can you dictate things, like you have to do half of the road at a time, as opposed to block by block? How much can you dictate post-contract?"

"Yes. Right now it stipulates that we have to maintain two-way traffic within the downtown corridor. There's no way they could completely block off a couple of blocks and require a detour through your side streets. They cannot do that," Schwantes replied.

Resident J.R. Ford offered comments critical of CDOT's low bid process.

"As somebody who has already lived through this project in Monte Vista, watched it in Grand Junction, the state does go with the lowest bid, and that's what the problem was over there," he said.

He expressed worry that "what they will do, because they are the lowest bidder, they will tear up a whole chunk of the downtown and we will lose most of our parking."

He urged CDOT that "before you pick a contractor, you have to get somebody that is committed to doing it bite-sized by bite-sized as you go down the street. Is it more expensive? Yes. But the reality of it is you don't do what you did to Monte Vista."

"I hate to say this, but I'm gonna do it anyway. I owned buildings in Monte Vista at the time. I had eight tenets. By the time the two-year project was over in three years, how many of those tenets were still in business in downtown Monte Vista? Zero.

"So, you can do it wrong," he said,

adding that he wanted to know that CDOT has really learned from their mistakes in these other places, "because if you don't limit them to a bite-size on the amount of street they can work on, you're gonna do the same thing over here."

Schwantes replied that one of the stipulations of the contract would be "that we are going to be working on every other block, so that there is always access."

Ford retorted back, "Sorry to be so argumentative, but that's what you did in Grand Junction, and what happened there is you lost all the downtown parking."

Marty Rose, owner of the Alley House Grille, asked if Schwantes could tell the audience what exactly the stipulations in the contract specify.

"Presumably, your contract specifications already says how many blocks they can work at a time and how to do it. Can you just tell us what that is? What the contract's going to specify? One block at a time? Two blocks at a time? Skip blocks? Can you tell us about that?" he asked.

Schwantes replied, "I cannot at this moment, sir, but I can definitely take that question back and we can get some information to you all and get more specifics of what is being required in the contract."

The next meet-and-greet meeting

concerning CDOT's main street reconstruction project, will be held at Hidden Track Speakeasy from 4:30 to 6 p.m. on April 16.

derek@pagosasun.com

Building

Continued from A6

would also like the county to put aside the \$3 million in unallocated funds for building construction.

Following a discussion of the amount of PILT money the county might receive and if the commissioners would be interested in putting aside excess PILT revenue, the board agreed to set aside \$3 million and up to an additional \$1 million in excess PILT funds for future county infrastructure.

Maez noted that the county is on a tightening timeline to complete this construction and suggested that the county poll taxpayers on their interest in a sales tax increase and, if the responses are negative, begin investigating financing options.

"No, staff has direction to look at the COP, see what that process, is what we need to do," Medina said. "Staff has direction that we need to start putting that money aside ... and do an RFP — get it out there. I think that the more time that we spend trying to ask taxpayers if they will allow an increase, I know it's gonna be a no. Just from the interactions and conversations that I've had with constituents."

"Well I know it's gonna be a no," Maez responded. "But the thing is, you're gonna have some of the people, 'Why aren't you asking? You didn't ask. What about transparency? Why didn't you guys ask us? You did the certificate of participation without our asking, how come?' And

I know we got that. We got that when we built the other building."

"And we'll get it again, and there's going to be some people that are not going to be happy," Medina said. "Unfortunately, this is part of the decisions we have to make. Hard decisions have to be made, and we need to do it strategically so that it doesn't cost the taxpayers even more money. The longer we push this out, the more expensive it's gonna get."

"Sometimes, the best decision made is the one where nobody's happy," Maez concluded.

"That's what they say a good settlement is," Weaver said. "Each party is equally unhappy."

josh@pagosasun.com

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Sports

SOCCER



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Lady Pirate Elizabeth Currier fires off a successful shot during the Lady Pirates' game against the Lake County Panthers on March 19. The Pirates won the game 5-0, with Currier scoring three goals.

Lady Pirates beat Panthers 5-0 in home opener

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirate soccer team established a winning streak with a 5-0 victory over Lake County Panthers at home on March 19.

The team previously defeated Del Norte 10-0 in Del Norte on March 7 to open its season.

Coach Trevor Gian expressed satisfaction with the victory, although he noted that the team has a range of areas for improvement.

The Lady Pirates started the game strong with a solo goal by Elizabeth Currier in the first minute of the game, followed by another goal by Lauren Monterroso in the game's second minute.

Currier followed this up by scoring another goal in the game's third minute off a cross from Monterroso.

Following these goals, Gian com-

mented that the Panthers moved to a more defensive position to reduce breakthrough opportunities by the Lady Pirates and give the team opportunities to defend close to the goal.

He commented that, following these adjustments, the shape of the Pagosa team "tended ... to get a little flat in areas."

"Defensively, they were able to get behind us the way we reacted to their pressure. Offensively, instead of keeping our shape we started trying to run at them and they were putting bodies on us, which started slowing things down. That's where we need to find our shape and maintain possession — control the ball and work it the way we want to and try to hold diamonds on the field instead of just running straight at the goal."

Gian added that, despite these challenges, the team held its shape well for portions of the game and had periods of high-quality passing and play.

Currier scored another goal 13 minutes into the game, bringing the score to 4-0.

The Lady Pirates' final goal was from a penalty kick against Lake County taken by Adison Johnson three minutes into the second half.

Gian commented that the Lake County goalkeeper did "fantastic" for the second half of the game and that the Lady Pirates' shots "weren't necessarily as quality as we wanted" for the latter part of the first half and the second half, with the shots often falling too close to the opposing goalkeeper's position and making them easy to stop.

He noted that improving the quality of shots is a key focus in the team's practices and will improve with further experience.

Gian highlighted that the Lady Pirates were also making adjustments throughout the game and frequently rotated players both to find their ideal positions and to give

less-experienced players on the team game time.

"The results will come and go, but we're really looking at the development, finding out where do these players fit on the field," Gian said, adding that this is only the team's second time playing on a full-sized field.

The coach commented that the team is also working on "effort, attitude and hard work" as a foundation for the team culture.

"I couldn't be prouder of this group," he said. "They're fantastic. ... The positivity, the attitude, the effort, everything they're showing is just amazing. It's fun to work with. ... It's a fun group to be around."

Following a week off of games for spring break, the Lady Pirates will next face Telluride on April 3 at 4 p.m. in Telluride, followed by a home match against Alamosa on April 5 at 4 p.m. in Golden Peaks Stadium.

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TRACK

Bayfield meet postponed due to weather

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

Despite an unusual start to the season that saw the Pagosa Springs High School Pirate track and field teams be able to start practicing on the track earlier than most seasons, the program's first meet of the season was postponed due to inclement weather.

The Pirate squads were slated to open the season on Friday, March 15, at the Bayfield Meet.

"Last week's weather was not ideal for training," coach Connie O'Donnell wrote in an email to The SUN Tuesday. "We were running in the hallways for a few days, but it also was a reminder to be thankful since we didn't get on the track until early April last year. The annoying thing about the meet from last week getting postponed is that we won't get a meet in before spring break. Some teams have already been to one or two meets."

O'Donnell reports the Bayfield Meet will now take place on April 2 — when the team will be missing 10 athletes who will be competing at the state competition for Future Business Leaders of America.

The postponement also means the teams will now open the track and

field season on March 30 at the Pine River Invite in Bayfield.

O'Donnell notes the Pirates will be short athletes at that meet, as well.

"We will probably only have a handful of kids competing on the 30th since it is during our spring break," she wrote. "The kids who go to that meet will have a chance to focus on some individual events."

The meet is slated to begin at 9 a.m.

O'Donnell indicates the program won't have a full team until the April 6 Abel Velasquez Invite in Ignacio.

But, despite the late start to competition and lower-than-normal numbers expected at the coming meets, O'Donnell notes that several athletes are looking "really strong" this season and points out highlights from the team's practice Monday.

"Rylie Carr was first in our 100 meter runoff in practice yesterday," O'Donnell highlights. "She has the school record in the 100 and 200. I'm hoping that she can improve both of those times."

"Sienna Rose came in right behind Rylie. She is looking really good in our 400 workouts. I can tell that she is stronger than last year. I expect her times at the beginning of the season to be close to her times at the end of

last season."

O'Donnell also notes Blake Laner, who is running track for the first time as a senior, was second in the 100-meter runoff Monday.

"I'm just excited to see what he can do in sprints and jumps. I think that he could be the missing piece to our boys' relays. They were so close to qualifying last year."

She adds of the boys' squad,

"Colton Lucero won the 100 meter runoff yesterday. He is already stepping into a leadership role at practice as a sophomore."

"Harley Armijo is leading by example. He works hard and makes track practice fun for his teammates."

O'Donnell also wrote that, as a whole, both teams "just look faster and stronger."

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BASKETBALL



Photos courtesy Joel Priest

Lady Pirates Annie O'Donnell and Daveyann Snarr take part in the 2024 Colorado Coaches of Girls' Sports All-State Basketball Games on March 17 in Aurora. The games honor the state's top senior athletes. O'Donnell and Snarr played on the 4A blue team, which was coached by Lady Pirate coach Sarah Osborn and assistant Emily Buikema. The blue team fell 47-33, but O'Donnell scored 10 points and had 13 rebounds, and Snarr had six rebounds, an assist and a block.

BASEBALL

Pirates win two at Delta Tournament

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate baseball team improved to 4-1 on the season following a pair of wins at the Delta Tournament last week, with coach Ben Garcia highlighting the team's ability to find a way to win.

The Pirates were originally slated to play three games at the tournament, but Garcia explained, five or six teams canceled due to weather. The tournament usually features about 18 teams.

"We were trying anyway we could to get a third game," Garcia said, adding it was a long way to go for two games, but other teams faced issues with the weather and injuries, among other things.

On Friday, March 15, however, the Pirates picked up a 7-5 win over the Gunnison Cowboys.

The Pirates picked up a run in the top of the first before the Cowboys countered with three runs in the bottom of the inning.

The Pirates brought two around in the top of the second to tie the game at three, and the score remained tied until the bottom of the fourth, when Gunnison scored two.

The Pirates again tied the game the following inning.

The Pirates scored their final two runs of the game in the top of the seventh and secured the 7-5 win.

The Pirates' notched nine hits and one walk in the game, as well as stealing seven bases on seven attempts. One Pirate reached after being hit by a

pitch. The team struck out nine times.

Chris Martinez went 3-for-4 on the day with two RBIs, three runs scored, three stolen bases and a sac fly to lead the Pirates' offense.

Hunter Pouyer and Ty Richey each picked up two hits on the day, with Pouyer also logging two RBIs and two stolen bases.

Jaden Tuggle-Reed and Riley Laugel each had one hit, with both coming in the form of triples. Tuggle-Reed also scored a run, with Laugel drawing a walk, stealing a base, and tallying an RBI and two runs scored.

Zach Pouyer scored a run and stole a base.

Laugel and Martinez took the mound for the Pirates and combined to allow five runs (four earned), on six hits and six walks while striking out six.

The Pirates committed one error in the game.

"The thing that I really am pleased with is the ability for our players, young and seniors, to be able to make the adjustments," Garcia said, adding, "Even if we haven't played our best baseball, we've found ways to put them in situations where they've made mistakes, we've taken advantage of 'em, and then we've had some key hits along the way, too. So, you know, I'm really pleased with that."

The coach added, "If we can put it all together, we're really gonna be a pretty good team, but right now we're doing what we need to win and to be able to find a way to get the score in our favor, so that is huge to me. That really shows a lot of character — you

know, playing the way they need to in adverse situations."

The coach noted that is what happened in Gunnison — the Pirates made some mistakes and didn't pitch their best, but found ways to win.

The Cowboys had the bases loaded with one out a couple times, but the Pirates made good plays to get out of it, Garcia relayed, crediting the team's defense and ability to step up when the pressure was on.

"They did a great job," he said. Garcia also highlighted the play of the team's veteran catcher, Hunter Pouyer, who has caught all five of the team's games in tournament settings.

"It's a lot of wear and tear because our pitchers ... they're sometimes all over the place. They throw the ball in the ground, he's able to block it with runners on third base. So, he has done an outstanding job," Garcia said, pointing to the senior as one of the reasons the team is 4-1 on the season.

He added Hunter Pouyer makes great blocks, throws runners out and contributes timely hits.

The coach also highlighted Martinez and Laugel as part of the team's leadership on the field.

The following day, the Pirates defeated the North Fork Miners 3-1.

Neither team scored until the fifth inning, with the Pirates bringing two runs around in the top of the inning and the Miners scoring one in the bottom of the inning.

Cooper Ralston pitched a no-hitter going into the fifth inning, Garcia highlighted. ■ See Baseball A11



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Waivers

■ Continued from A8

nally, Walsh commented that, although the district needs to make up for the waivers granted through CIF or surcharge increases to meet the revenue projections of its rate study, he does not believe that the increased affordable housing construction would impact the construction market for new homes at market price.

He added that providing waivers for the PSCDC could set a benchmark for the community benefits and contributions that would be required for PAWSD to grant waivers in the 80 percent AMI to 100 percent AMI range, thus giving the district leverage to shape other projects in that income range.

Hudson then moved to adopt a resolution amending the PAWSD affordable housing fee waiver policy to provide full waivers to projects below 80 percent AMI if they have deed restrictions to maintain their affordability for 15 years, and to provide a 50 percent waiver to projects between 80 and 100 percent AMI with a note that the board has discretion to grant further waivers to projects with extensive community support.

Walsh seconded the motion, stating that there are "a lot of attractive things" about the proposal and that it is a "good compromise."

Tautges commented that he feels the highest need is at 80 percent AMI and below and that increasing monthly service fees further would negatively impact the people who benefit from affordable housing projects.

He added that he believes PAWSD should focus on supporting multi-family and apartment projects and, although he sees some merit to the board having discretion to grant waivers for projects between 80 and 100 percent AMI, he feels the board's focus should be elsewhere.

Hansen commented that he would support Hudson's proposal, but he would want a provision for it to be reviewed yearly.

"I was really totally sold on this 80 percent deal, but this thing here looks good to me," Smith said. "I could make an exception for this."

Walsh summarized the board's views as that it would grant waivers for projects building housing at 80 percent AMI or below, while exercising discretion in granting waivers for projects above 80 percent AMI.

Hudson commented that he would not support waivers for any project above 100 percent AMI.

Walsh noted that Hudson's ideal policy would offer waivers only for projects at lower AMIs than his present proposal and commented that he appreciated his willingness to

compromise.

The board then heard additional public comments on revisions to the fee waiver policy, including from Town Community Development Director James Dickhoff, Town Manager David Harris, Archuleta County Commissioner Ronnie Maez, Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Mary Jo Coulehan, PSCDC board member Rosanna Dufour, PSCDC board member and PSMC Chief Financial Officer Chelle Keplinger and local real estate agent Kim Moore.

Dickhoff emphasized the importance of providing affordable housing fee waivers above 100 percent AMI, the lack of inventory for these housing types and the lack of state incentives to encourage such projects, making local incentives critical.

Walsh commented that the greatest housing difficulties experienced by town residents are concentrated in lack of housing below 100 percent AMI.

Coulehan commented that she was encouraged by the PAWSD board's support of the PSCDC project and reiterated Dickhoff's comments on the importance of supporting housing up to 120 percent AMI, highlighting the importance of such housing for providing places to live for local workers.

Dufour pointed out that many people above 100 percent AMI are at that level due to taking on extra work and jobs and that they are also struggling with affording housing in the community.

Keplinger commented that the high cost of housing has a negative impact on the affordability of health care in the community due to the hospital having to raise staff salaries to ensure they can afford housing, which necessitates increases in fees and cuts in services.

She added that having waivers at 100 percent AMI or 120 percent AMI would benefit PSMC, which has employees at a wide range of income levels.

Maez noted that he and his family experienced difficulties with affording and keeping housing in his childhood, and that the lack of affordable housing projects negatively impacts the community.

He concluded that he encouraged PAWSD to take action to support the PSCDC and "do the right thing," even though he acknowledged the right thing is often difficult.

Harris commented that he recognizes the difficulties that PAWSD faces given his previous experience running sewer and utilities organizations and that the town is happy to do what it can to support PAWSD.

Moore pointed out the increases in home pricing in the area and commented that she believes that all community organizations contributing to helping fund affordable housing is critical.

Walsh commented that PAWSD has to "spread the pain" of the state-mandated plant upgrades for the district and "focus the benefits."

He added that he understands that every level of the market is facing difficulties, but that he feels that the difficulties faced by individuals at 120 percent AMI are less than those faced by lower income levels.

However, Walsh stated that, if other districts facing less-significant financial burdens would like to provide incentives at those levels to supplement PAWSD, he would support this.

He also commented that giving waivers at 120 percent AMI would likely impact open market housing construction and that PAWSD may need to dedicate funds to addressing inflow and infiltration problems that may impact a proposed 50-unit Low-Income Housing Tax Credit project in Aspen Village.

Smith expressed agreement with Walsh that PAWSD cannot solve "everybody's problems" and that he was focused on the PSCDC and Habitat projects currently and that the board could make further affordable housing plans later.

"There's a lot of ... inspiring ideas, but I think, in front of us, we've got an actual inspiring ... project that's building on some colossal mistakes we made," Walsh said, adding that the project would benefit from PAWSD's infrastructure investments in the Chris Mountain Village II and Trails areas.

Hudson reiterated the terms of his motion and noted that it was on the floor for the vote.

Walsh highlighted his desire for board discretion in approving projects above 80 percent AMI.

Tautges commented that the policy will result in a loss of revenue for PAWSD that will require fees to be increased elsewhere and reiterated his view that PAWSD should focus on promoting the development of apartments.

The board then briefly discussed Hansen's proposal that an annual review be included in the affordable housing policy, with the group deciding that the policy could be reviewed at any time, but that a specific timeline did not need to be included in the motion.

The board then voted on Hudson's motion, with Hudson, Walsh, Hansen and Smith voting in favor and Tautges voting against.

Following this vote, the board considered imposing a moratorium on awarding affordable housing waivers until a public hearing could be held on the surcharge and CIF increases that will be required to fund the updated policy.

After a discussion of the project timelines for the PSCDC and Habitat projects and when the waivers would be needed, the board unanimously voted to reject imposing a moratorium.

As part of this discussion, the board also agreed to hold a public hearing on the CIF and surcharge increases on April 18, which will also be the date for the April PAWSD board meeting.

According to the notice for the hearing posted on the PAWSD website, the hearing and meeting will occur at 5 p.m. at the PAWSD administrative offices at 100 Lyn Ave.

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Baseball

■ Continued from A10

"Cooper Ralston pitched an absolutely great game," Garcia said.

The Pirates picked up their third run in the top of the sixth, which allowed them to log the win.

The Pirates logged three hits and four walks in the game, with one Pirate hit by a pitch and two reaching on errors. The Pirates struck out nine times.

Laugel, Martinez and Kaeden Iguchi each had a hit in the game. Laugel, who hit a triple, also had two RBIs. Martinez also scored a run in the affair. Iguchi's hit came in the form of a double.

Richey and Zach Pouyer also

scored runs in the game.

Ralston threw 89 pitches, allowing four hits, one unearned run and one walk while striking out eight.

"For someone to pitch seven innings and only have ... [89] pitches, that tells you he's throwing strikes," Garcia said, adding, "Cooper did a great job of giving us an opportunity to be able to compete, and then we found a way again. We made a couple key hits where we had an opportunity to bring in some runs with two outs."

Garcia noted the Pirates didn't play really well in the game, but again found a way to win and were defensively sound.

The Pirates will now have a break

from official action until April 4.

"It's tough when you're taking off two weeks to keep that competitive edge and do what you need to," Garcia said, adding he hopes to have intersquad games and possibly an alumni game to help keep the team engaged and have some fun.

He indicated the team has a lot of potential, adding the goal is to get a little better each time you play or practice, and he feels the Pirates are doing that.

"If we can continue to play better, those wins will just continue to multiply and we'll be competitive in every game," he said.

randi@pagosasun.com

Public Meetings

The following meetings are subject to change.

Thursday, March 21

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 Springs Town Council meeting. 5 p.m. Town Hall, 551 Hot Springs Blvd. See town website for

participation information: <https://pagosasprings.civicweb.net/portal/>.

Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District meeting. 5 p.m. Town Hall, 551 Hot Springs Blvd. See town website for participation information: <https://pagosasprings.civicweb.net/portal/>.

Monday, March 25

Archuleta County Road and Bridge Advisory Committee meeting. 2 p.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners'

meeting room, 398 Lewis St. For more information, visit <http://archuletacounty.org/agendacenter>.

San Juan Water Conservancy District special meeting. 4 p.m., 46 Eaton Drive, Suite 5. Directors will consider inclusion and deadlines for federal funding. For more information, visit sjwcd.org.

Public meeting information should be sent to editor@pagosasun.com with "Public Meeting" in the subject line. The deadline is noon Monday each week prior to publication for that week's issue.

To unknown fathers of I.M.R last know address Pagosa Springs, CO

There is a hearing on April 2, 2024 for concerns of the long term guardianship of child I.M.R born 6/26/2021.

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St. Patrick's Day Festival

SUN photos/Randi Pierce

The St. Patrick's Day Festival at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church on March 16 featured, among other things, the "world's shortest" parade complete with an honor guard, baton twirlers, bagpipers, dancers, the Wiernemobile and more, as well as Irish folk dancing, vendor booths and food.

JIM GARRETT

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Wednesday, March 27 • 5 p.m..
\$50 per participant includes all materials.
Space is limited to 10 participants, so register early!



Wednesday Bouquet

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(Put Hill in front of Pagosa Pines RV Park)
DesignerK@WednesdayBouquet.com
970-443-4775



On behalf of everyone at the
Humane Society of Pagosa Springs

we'd like to extend our gratitude
to Robson Reyes
for your years of dedicated service
as our Executive Director.

Your leadership, passion, and unwavering commitment to animal welfare have left an indelible mark on our organization. Helping elevate our offerings to the community we serve has allowed more owners to be able to keep their pets. Your tireless efforts have helped countless animals find loving homes and have inspired us all to work towards a better future for animals in need.

Thank you for your outstanding contributions, and we wish you
all the best in your future endeavors.



Pagosa Bible Church

209 Harman Park Dr. (behind Wells Fargo)

Join us for our
Good Friday Service
March 29 at 6pm

Our service will include a
time of singing, scripture
reading, communion and
a short message.

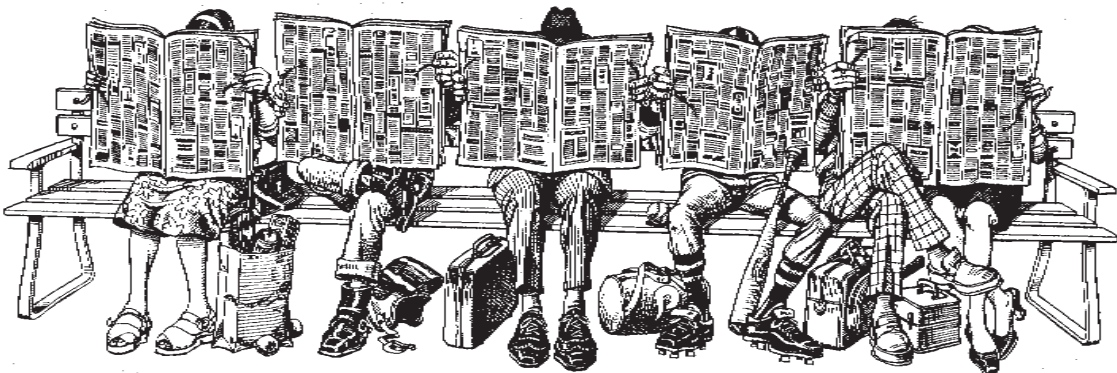
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(Come at 9:00am for some
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6:45 AM - March 31st
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8:00 AM 9:30 AM 11:00 AM

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Kids Coloring Contest!

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Turn in completed coloring page
before any main service

Winners recognized & prizes awarded
during 11:00 AM service



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graceinpagosa.org

Outdoors



Help preserve history at Chimney Rock National Monument

By Mont McAllister
Chimney Rock Interpretive Association

My volunteer work at Chimney Rock has multiple benefits in my life.

To start with, it helps me get my steps in when I'm out walking the upper and lower trails being a roving interpreter. I enjoy all the aspects of volunteering, but if I were to pick a favorite, it is school week when the fourth-graders come out to experience the history. Every year I ask them what they think will be found in our midden piles 1,000 years from now. I get a re-sounding, "Plastic" from all the classes.

It's an honor for me to walk around where some pretty fantastic people left their legacy for us over 1,000 years ago. Today we get visitors from all over the United States and the world. I enjoy hearing their stories and answering their questions. The ones that are present for our full moon events always let me know how special it was for them. Through volunteering, the little I've learned about the people and communities that were here over a thousand years ago makes me wonder what they are going to say about us a thousand years from now.

It's peaceful here at Chimney Rock and the full history is a mystery to me, so I keep coming back to help preserve a little bit of the history in our area. With all the man-made structures around the world, it's special that this is the only natural structure that captures the 18.6-year cycle of the moon. The major lunar standstill is just part of the history of the ancestors that were here. I'm still amazed how in tune with the cycles of earth and the moon they were, and the community effort it took to build and live around Chimney Rock.

There is a great community with all the other volunteers and the Forest Service staff that keep this national monument open, and I want to thank them for allowing me to participate as long as I can.

To learn about the various volunteer opportunities at Chimney Rock National Monument, the Chimney Rock



Photo courtesy Chimney Rock Interpretive Association

Mont McAllister volunteers at Chimney Rock National Monument. The first of two volunteer recruitment events for the Chimney Rock Interpretive Association is set for March 27.

Interpretive Association (CRIA) will host a volunteer recruitment event at the Ruby Sisson Library on March 27 from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Another recruitment event will be held at the Ross Aragon Community Center on April 11 from 5 to 6 p.m.

A number of CRIA volunteers will be on hand at each event to introduce guests to volunteer positions available for the 2024 season — May 15 to Oct. 21. Some of the volunteer positions include: gift shop, mesa host, night programs, plaza host, tour guide and youth workshop.

In addition, CRIA offers a yearly volunteer orientation for those of you interested in joining our team.

This year, the volunteer training will take place on April 26 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Methodist Church, located at 434 Lewis St. The second day of training will take place on April 27 at the monument from 9 a.m. to noon.

If you cannot attend one of our volunteer recruitments events, you can find more detailed information about the various volunteer positions on our website: www.chimneyrockco.org.

A volunteer form can easily be filled out online and submitted electronically, or feel free to call our office at (970) 731-7133.

For more information about Chimney Rock National Monument and volunteer opportunities, we encourage

you to stop by one of our two volunteer recruitment events. Come join our team and "meet the world" through our many visitors at Chimney Rock.

CRIA is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that runs the gift shop and interpretive programs/tours at Chimney Rock National Monument in partnership with the USDA Forest Service and the San Juan National Forest.



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Good luck, Pirates!

Audubon members to hear about protecting wildlife in the Rio Grande National Forest

By Jean Zirnhelt
Weminuche Audubon Society

We hope that you will join Weminuche Audubon members this month when we welcome Doug Clark, wildlife biologist with the Rio Grande National Forest.

Clark's career as a biological technician and now wildlife biologist, with the U.S. Forest Service has spanned more than 30 years.

GOCO board awards Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust \$100,000 for new staff member

Great Outdoors Colorado

The Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) board awarded the Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust (CCALT) a \$100,000 grant to employ a new regionally located staff member.

This grant is part of GOCO's planning and capacity program, which invests in projects that address opportunities, explore issues, engage communities and examine outdoor trends.

This staff member will manage CCALT's newly opened office in Del Norte. The position will help enhance connections and relationships with communities, partners, and landowners in the San Luis Valley and surrounding regions of southern Colorado. It will also support the organization's existing and future conservation services and easements in the region.

With this funding, CCALT expects to be able to significantly expand its conservation work in southern Colorado. CCALT's Agricultural Resiliency Fund will assist landowners in further leveraging the Natural Resources Conservation Service's Environmental Quality Incentives Program and other resources to advance restoration and enhancement projects and outcomes throughout southern Colorado. CCALT will be better positioned to become actively involved in water issues and other discussions important to southern Colorado communities.

He currently works out of Del Norte, but past projects have found him working in Alaska, Colorado and South Dakota in a variety of wildlife surveys including Canada lynx, wolves, bats, birds and black-footed ferrets, to name a few.

The goal of a wildlife biologist on the national forest is to ensure diverse and sustainable populations of the native plants and animals that call the forest home. In this role, Clark provides guidance for interdisciplinary projects such as timber, recreation and fuels treatments that occur on the forest.

He will talk about his work to protect some of the species of conservation concern, threatened and endangered species, and birds of conservation

concern that can be found in the Rio Grande National Forest.

The public is invited to join us for our meeting on Wednesday, March 27, at the Community United Methodist Church on Lewis Street.

We will gather at 6 p.m. for socializing and the meeting will start at 6:30 p.m.

Please enter through the side door off the parking lot or let us know to open the main door for handicap entry. In appreciation for our meeting space, we welcome donations of nonperishable food for the church food bank.

Prior to the meeting, a link to join on Zoom will be posted on our website, <http://weminucheaudubon.org>, for those unable to attend in person.

Join us for Easter Services

Palm Sunday March 24 9:00 am	Holy Thursday March 28 6:30 pm
Good Friday March 29 12:00 pm & 6:30 pm	Easter Sunday March 31 7:00 am & 10:00 am

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RESOURCES

Register at the Ross Aragon Community Center beginning April 1st

Camp runs Monday, June 3 through Friday, August 2
Monday - Thursday 7:30 am - 5:30 pm
Friday 7:30 am - 4:00 pm
Scheduled activities run 9 am - 3 pm each day

One-time application fee of \$15 per child
Weekly camp fee \$110 per child, \$80 per each additional child in the same household
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Weekly registration required.

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ARTS & LIFE



March 21, 2024

Habitat for Humanity announces informational event

By Monica Nigon

Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County

Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County will be hosting Night at the Library on April 5 from 5 to 6 p.m. where we'll discuss our application process and what it looks like to build a house with Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County.

Child supervision will be provided.

There are many options for homeownership, and Habitat Archuleta has two routes available for this community. Information presented at our Night at the Library will primarily be about the 18-month path to affordable homeownership by building a new home with Habitat Archuleta.

Because partnering to build with Habitat Archuleta is a competitive process, we offer mortgage financing to families who apply but are not invited to partner to build. Due to wait lists and staff workload, the mortgage financing runs on a similar timeline

to our construction process. The Rural Development mortgage financing is advantageous to workforce families, but a very different process from conventional mortgage loans — even those with down-payment assistance or other affordability guidelines.

Habitat Archuleta knows we can't fulfill our mission without local workforce families to partner with. Families who partner to build with Habitat Archuleta do not get a free house.

Our partner families purchase the home they help us build with a USDA Rural Development 502 Direct Loan, which is only available through nonprofit entities or directly through the USDA's Rural Development office in Cortez.

Habitat Archuleta is currently accepting applications to partner on our three 2025 builds, in the Trails and Chris Mountain Village II neighborhoods of the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners' Association. These all-electric homes will be equipped

with rooftop solar to dramatically reduce utility expenses for long-term affordability.

Habitat Archuleta subcontractors and volunteers equip modular homes with heat pump air handlers and are selected to fit the family and the neighborhood.

Families who partner with Habitat Archuleta will own a home with 30-year deed restrictions, which serve to both protect the equity for the homeowner and preserve the donations grantors and the community have provided.

Annual household income to participate in the program is limited to \$69,600 for a household of one to four people. For households of five to eight people, the income limit is \$91,850.

Applications for 2025 are available and will be accepted through July 1. You can find those applications on our website (www.habitatarchuleta.org) or swing by our office at 703 San Juan St., Suite 201.

Calling all artists



REGISTER ONLINE



Join us for an informative meeting for artists interested in participating in this year's Studio Tour
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Friday

The Springs Resort lodge atrium: San Juan Mountain Boys, 5 p.m.
Cork & Board: Maxwell Miller, 6 p.m.

Saturday

The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Maxwell Miller, 5 p.m.

Sunday

The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Glen 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.

Shop the SUN classifieds.

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SUN

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Lunar eclipse will take place March 25

By Joan Mieritz
San Juan Stargazers

The lunar eclipse on Monday, March 25, will be visible in North America from 1 to 5 a.m.

It will be a penumbral eclipse, which means the moon's disk will

only darken slightly when the moon passes through the Earth's faint outer shadow or penumbra. Picture in your mind that the Earth is between the sun and the moon, but the three bodies do not form a straight line.

I can't personally recommend getting up and watching the entire event, but I'm certain there will be many people who do. If you do get up during the night and notice something seems different, you will know that there is an eclipse in process. It

is possible that it could offer some spectacular sites and amazing photos. We'll have to wait and see.

As the San Juan Stargazers Astronomy Club, we want to keep our community aware of what's going on in the night sky. If you ever get curious enough to want to learn more about our amazing universe, we are here, along with the National Astronomical League, to help you learn as much as you want. Check out our website at sanjuanstargazers.org.

WHIPS luncheon set for March 26

By Nancy Ford
Women Helping in Pagosa Springs

WHIPS, Women Helping in Pagosa Springs will have its monthly luncheon on Tuesday, March 26 at 11:30 a.m.

It will be a full dinner and costs \$15. We require an RSV Ptd (970) 946-1895 by Sunday night, March 24. All women are welcome.

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



at Cork & Board
Friday, March 22, 6-9 p.m.

Springs Resort Atrium
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Wednesday, March 27 • 5 p.m.

\$50 per participant includes all materials.
Space is limited to 10 participants, so register early!





Wednesday Bouquet

Seasonal Floral & Home Décor LLC

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(Put Hill in front of Pagosa Pines RV Park)

DesignerK@WednesdayBouquet.com
970-443-4775



Photo courtesy Southwest Organization for Sustainability

Pagosa Wetland Partners, a program of Weminuche Audubon, is a regular participant at local Earth Day celebrations and will lead a tour of the wetlands. The wetlands are home to 189 species of birds many of which are migratory plus native grasses and plants. The hot springs that feed the wetlands keep them open year-round. This is a local treasure and a tour not to be missed.

Participants invited for April 21 Earth Day Celebration

By **Pauline Benetti**

Southwest Organization for Sustainability

This notice comes to you from the Earth Day Planning Team sponsored by the Southwest Organization for Sustainability. We are deep into planning for the 2024 Earth Day Celebration on April 21 to take place on the Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership (GGP) site in Centennial Park and along the Riverwalk close to the amphitheater.

Our Earth Day Celebration will follow the GGP Environmental Film Festival on April 19 and 20; both events will prepare us for Earth Day, April 22.

We invite you to be involved this year. All are welcome to join in and there is no cost. This is an opportunity to celebrate our planet and bring awareness to your part in the community. Please plan a booth that

will hopefully include some attraction — an activity, contest, raffle, a gift, something that will add to the experience of those who have come to celebrate.

Plan to join us on April 21. Set up must be complete by 10 a.m. and take down is at 2 p.m.

Simply contact us by email or call (see below) if you plan to participate this year with any information involving your set up.

Regarding sales at the Earth Day event: We are limiting sales to only those goods that are good for the earth; if you are interested, please let us know what you want to sell and explain how it is good for the earth. The Earth Day Planning Team will evaluate your request.

We would like to hear from you as soon as possible and no later than April 13.

We welcome you to this wonderful

community event that aims to build community and convey the message of our responsibility to care for our planet. As we did last year, we will have a map showing the location for your table/booth and will share it with you as soon as we can.

Please feel free to request a location; we will try to accommodate.

For those not interested in having a display at the celebration, perhaps joining the planning team is of interest. If so, please email or call and we will send out notification of date, time and location for our next planning meeting.

If neither of these options work, then just be sure to come on down and enjoy the show as an observer participant. For more details, watch for our beautiful poster that will be up all over town soon.

Contact information: Email so-spagosa@hotmail.com or leave a message at (970) 264-5232.

ARCHULETA COUNTY REPUBLICANS

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SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2024

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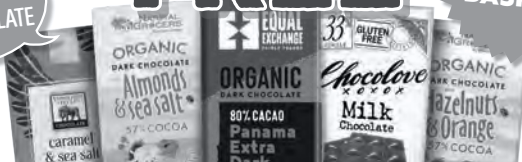
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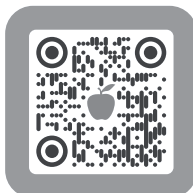
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Create Care Pagosa to hear program on 'Planet vs. Plastics'

By Sarah L. Riehm
Creation Care Pagosa

Creation Care Pagosa is honored to bring eminent scientist Dr. Terry L. Root to our community to speak on the 2024 Earth Day theme: "Planet vs. Plastics."

She will speak on April 26 at 6 p.m. at the Community United Methodist Church (CUMC), located at 434 Lewis St. For those of you who attended her previous talk at the Weminuche Audubon Society, you know she is a fun, energetic and engaging speaker.

Admission is free; donations are welcome to further environmental education here in Pagosa Springs.

"The plastic polymer was invented in 1907," said Root. "But the use of plastics did not really take hold until around 1950s. Since that time, the production of plastics has grown exponentially. To date, over 8 billion tons of plastic have been produced, yet only 9 percent of that has ever been recycled. The projection for plastic to be produced just in 2050 alone is about 1.75 billion tons. For every pound of plastic produced, 6 pounds of CO2 is emitted into our atmosphere. Consequently, about 10.5 billion tons of CO2 could be emitted in 2050 just due to the making of plastics (CO2 stays in the atmosphere warming our climate for about 1,000 years, roughly 40 generations). Currently, a total of about 8 million tons of plastic are dumped into our oceans yearly. To help stem that tide, 12 states have banned the use of plastic bags statewide, including Colorado. Yet 15 states have literally banned the banning statewide of plastic bags. The plastic in the oceans is greatly affecting five different types of marine animals: sea turtles, seals and sea lions, seabirds, fish, and cetaceans (whales and porpoises). Thankfully there is lots each of us can do and must do.

"For example, we all can easily stop using plastic bags, plastic bottles, plastic straws, plastic wrap and



Dr. Terry L. Root

Styrofoam, which we all must do."

Root is professor emerita at Stanford University.

She was a lead author of the Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change 4th Assessment Report that in 2007 was co-awarded the Nobel Peace Prize with Vice President Al Gore. Also, she was a lead author for the 3rd Assessment Report (2001) and a review editor for the 5th Assessment Report (2014).

In addition to other honors, Root was awarded the Spirit of Defenders Award for Science by Defenders of Wildlife in 2010, and the Lifetime Achievement Award in 2016 for the conservation organization Point Blue.

She served on the National Audubon Board of Directors from 2010 to 2019, currently serves on the board of Defenders of Wildlife, Birds Caribbean and is on numerous science advisory boards, including the Renewable Energy Wildlife Institute.

Rev. Ken Daniell, pastor at CUMC, is a passionate advocate for environmental stewardship. Daniell believes that CUMC, with its central downtown location, provides an ideal venue for environmental education to serve all the people of Archuleta

County.

Quoting from the Methodist Book of Resolutions, "As we continue to call for bold leadership and advocate for policies rooted in justice and sustainability, we understand that God is calling each of us to respond and that, as a denomination, we cannot hope to transform the world until we change our way of being in it."

Creation Care Pagosa is a faith-based environmental stewardship organization open to everyone in the community. We meet on the fourth Thursday of every month (except for March) at CUMC.

If you have questions or would like to join our mailing list, please contact Sarah.Riehm@gmail.com.

Shuttle to Wolf Creek!

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

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

\$20 One Way • \$30 Round Trip*

*All return trips depart at 4:15 p.m. sharp.

Don't be late! We are running on a tight schedule!

Monday-Sunday from (by reservation only)

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Alpen Haus
7:40 am

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7:50 am

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8:00 am

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EASTER HUNT EGG

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Sunday, March 31st at 10:00AM
Ages 3-5 & 6-10

Bring your own Easter basket!

Easter Bunny pictures
9:30 to 10:30

END-OF-SEASON INFO

OUR LAST DAY of the season is March 31.

SEASONAL RENTAL RETURNS after ski area closes — April 8-10

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Environmental Film Festival invites Pagosa to celebrate water

By Sally High
Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership

The Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership (GGP) welcomes supporters to its 2024 Environmental Film Festival on April 19 and 20.

The GGP's film festival kicks off Pagosa Springs' Earth Day celebration on April 21.

Proceeds from the Film Festival benefit the GGP's educational operations.

The GGP's Environmental Film Festival, a Caravan of Colorado Environmental Film Festival (CEFF), is bringing nine films to Pagosa Springs, chosen from over 60 films shown at the four-day CEFF in Golden in February.

Pagosa film festival supporters gather each year to celebrate the GGP's partnerships that promote environmental awareness, sustainable agriculture and renewable energy. A water theme flows through Pagosa's 2024 festival.

The GGP operates an educational park in Centennial Park on the San Juan Riverwalk. The nonprofit GGP manages three teaching dome greenhouses, a public amphitheater, the Rotary Xeric Garden and the Audubon Native Plants Garden.

The Tennyson Building Event Center will host the GGP's film festival this year. On April 19, the Premiere Gala will begin at 5 p.m. with a catered gourmet stand-up dinner. Favorite Pagosa chefs Kellie and Todd Stevens will provide savory selections. Kathy Keyes will provide sweet selections. Jenelle Syverson will add sweet treats to the festival fare.

The upscale Friday evening features two films. Friday night wristbands allow guests to view films on Saturday as well. A Premiere Gala wristband is \$60.

All nine films will be shown on April 20. A Saturday wristband is only \$10. Seating at the Tennyson Building Event Center is limited to 120 guests at a time.

The nine films slated for the GGP's film festival include two CEFF award-winners.

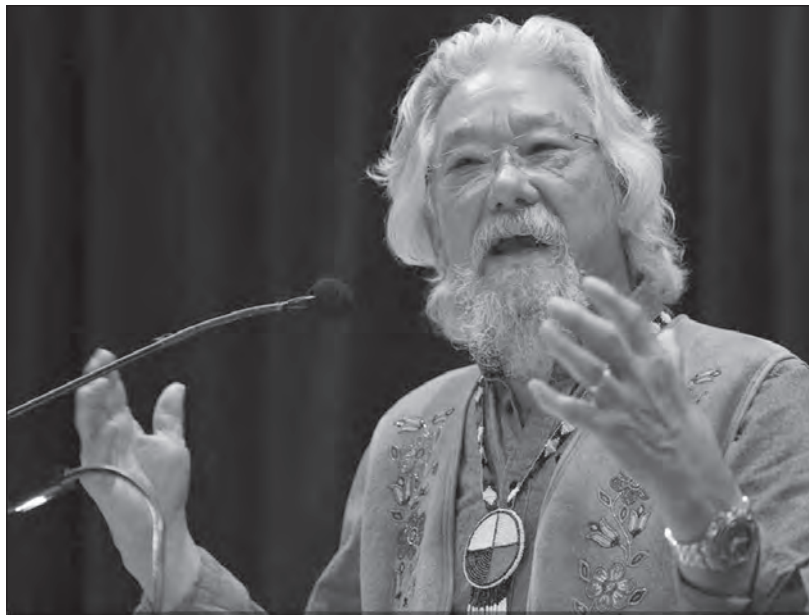


Photo courtesy Canadian Broadcast Corporation

David Suzuki is a fearless 87-year-old environmental activist, author and television host. Many call him a radical. "True Survivors" is a film made by his daughter, Sarika, and features his grandchildren. The entertaining and provocative film relates what it was like being raised by a radical ecologist. The Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership will show "True Survivors" on April 20. Visit www.pagosagreen.org/environmentalfilmfestival for more information and tickets.

"Flyways: The Untold Journey of Migratory Shorebirds" is CEFF's Best of Fest for 2024. "Covenant of the Salmon People" was awarded Best Feature Film at the Golden festival in late February.

A precise schedule of films will be published in coming weeks. The nine films to be shown at the festival include:

- "Documerica"
- "Flyways: The Untold Journey of Migratory Shorebirds"
- "Covenant of the Salmon People."
- "Dark Sacred Night."
- "Native Suns: Sustainable Spirits."
- "Paddle Tribal Waters."
- "A Reason for Hope."
- "Requiem for a River."
- "True Survivors."

All tickets can be purchased at <https://www.pagosagreen.org/environmentalfilmfestival>.

LIVE MUSIC

at the Springs Resort =
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Friday, March 22
San Juan Mountain Boys

Saturday, March 23
Maxwell Miller

Sunday, March 24
Glenn Unrath and Jack Ellis

Tuesday, March 26
Dustin Burley

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On behalf of everyone at the
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we'd like to extend our gratitude
to Robson Reyes

for your years of dedicated service
as our Executive Director.

Your leadership, passion, and unwavering commitment to animal welfare have left an indelible mark on our organization. Helping elevate our offerings to the community we serve has allowed more owners to be able to keep their pets. Your tireless efforts have helped countless animals find loving homes and have inspired us all to work towards a better future for animals in need.

Thank you for your outstanding contributions, and we wish you
all the best in your future endeavors.



Photo courtesy Whatchamawhozit Summer Theatre Camp

The 2024 Whatchamawhozit Summer Theatre Camp is a two-week day camp that will focus on putting on a production of "Finding Nemo KIDS."

Registration open for Whatchamawhozit's Summer Theatre Camp

By **Tim Moore**
Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts

The Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts is a lively place in the summers, this year with three major musicals running in repertory — "Beautiful: The Carole King Musical," "Escape to Margaritaville" and "Beauty and the Beast" — with more than 30 professional artists, designers and performers rehearsing and performing — dancing, singing, acting — for four months straight.

And right in the middle of it all is the Whatchamawhozits Children's Theatre Summer Camp. This super fun and wildly popular summer camp is in its 13th summer at the Center for the Arts.

The camp works with 7- to 14-year-olds (you can inquire about special requests for 6-year-olds) and is taught by the professional performers that come in for Thingamajig's main stage shows.

From singing to costume design, from dancing to character development and storytelling, from painting with lights to aerial silks — theater is the place where all the art forms come together and create collaborative masterpieces. Theater teaches students the valuable skills of teamwork, collaboration, public speaking, articulation, critical thinking, self-confidence, physical fitness and, above all, empathy.

This summer the two-week camp runs from July 1 to 12, Monday

through Friday (there will be no camp on the Fourth of July) from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with public performances of "Finding Nemo KIDS" on July 13, 14, 15 and 16.

Camper registration includes an invitation to see the professional main stage production of "Beauty and the Beast" on Wednesday, July 10, at 7 p.m., which features all the camp counselors.

Campers are encouraged to attend Audition Day on June 29. Kids 7-10 years will audition from noon to 1:30 p.m. and kids 11-14 will audition from 1:45 to 3:30 p.m. If your child cannot attend, a video audition is welcome. An Audition Day song will be sent out to all the registered kids in time to prepare for this super fun day that helps us organize the casting.

What parents say:

"THANK YOU for your awesome work with the kids during the Improv class. It was great fun to watch their growth."

"Many thanks for your invaluable instruction & encouragement to all the kids in the Whatchamawhozits program. [My son] had a blast and it was a fun program to watch."

For more information or tickets, visit pagosacenter.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

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Healthy Archuleta's Siembra la Cena to start in April

Healthy Archuleta

Spring is in the air, and Healthy Archuleta is excited for its upcoming garden education activities.

Back by popular demand, Siembra la Cena is starting in April. This five-week Spanish-language garden course will be co-facilitated by past instructors and graduates. The class will be offered in Spanish and takes place on Tuesday evenings in the month of April. Spots are filling quickly. To reserve your spot, please register at <https://forms.gle/v52d-2v7kbbmmSEKN6>.

Archuleta Food Summit

Interested in gardening and local food? Mark your calendar for the Archuleta Food Summit on May 11 at Pagosa Springs High School.

This fun-filled and informative half-day event will connect you with

local growers and producers, offer gardening and growing educational opportunities, and feature a farm-to-table lunch.

Participants can also enjoy a tour of the high school's growing dome and composting system at the end of the event.

To learn more, please visit <https://www.foodcoalition4archuleta.org/archuleta-food-summit.html>. Registration information will be shared in the coming weeks.

Healthy School Meals for All

Archuleta School District (ASD) families: Did you know all students can eat breakfast and lunch at school at no cost to families?

Thanks to the Healthy School Meals for All program, this is a great benefit to our local families.

However, it is still critically important that all families fill out the Free and Reduced Lunch application to ensure that there is funding to pay for these nutritious meals.

If you have not yet filled out your application this school year, you can do it today by following these simple steps:

1. Visit the ASD website at <https://www.mypagosaschools.com/>.
2. Click on the popup "Free and Reduced Lunch Application" in the upper right-hand corner.
3. Complete the application and submit it.

Follow these steps to complete your application and support our youth. To learn more about Healthy Archuleta's efforts, please email us at fsfearchuleta@gmail.com or visit <https://www.foodcoalition4archuleta.org>.

Holy Week and Easter Services

Following are the Lent, Holy Week and Easter services that were submitted to *The PREVIEW*. Events may be submitted to editor@pagosahun.com.

Friday, March 22

Stations of the Cross. 7 p.m., John Paul II Catholic Church.

Sunday, March 24

Eucharist and Palm Procession. 8 a.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd.

Palm Sunday Service. 9 a.m., Our Savior Lutheran Church, 56 Meadows Drive.

Eucharist and Palm Procession with Choral Music. 10 a.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd.

Tuesday, March 26

Lenten Penance Service. 5 p.m., John Paul II Catholic Church.

Wednesday, March 27

Rosary/Stations of the Cross. 4 p.m., Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church.

Thursday, March 28

Potluck Soup Supper. 5 p.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd.

Maudy Thursday Liturgy with the Stripping of the Altar. 6 p.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd.

Maudy Thursday Service. 6 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St.

Holy Thursday Service. 6:30 p.m., Our Savior Lutheran Church, 56 Meadows Drive.

Mass. 7 p.m., John Paul II Catholic Church.

Keeping Vigil with Christ. Overnight, St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd.

Friday, March 29

Good Friday Liturgy. Noon, St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd.

Good Friday Service. Noon, Our Savior Lutheran Church, 56 Meadows Drive.

Good Friday Self-Guided Prayer Stations. Noon-2 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St.

Good Friday Pilgrimage. 2 p.m., Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church.

The Divine Mercy Chaplet Recited. 4 p.m., John Paul II Catholic Church Prayer Garden.

Stations of the Cross. 4:40 p.m., John Paul II Catholic Church Prayer Garden.

Good Friday Liturgy. 5:30 p.m., John Paul II Catholic Church.

Good Friday Service. 5:30 p.m., Grace in Pagosa, 1044 Park Ave.

Good Friday Service. 6 p.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park

■ See Services on next page

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Martha and Mary: sisters like us, part two

By Richard Gammill
PREVIEW Columnist

Howdy, y'all. In Luke 10:38-42 we have been learning about two sisters who lived in the village of Bethany, just a stone's throw from Jerusalem. Jesus and his disciples were walking to that village in the miserable heat and humidity of the day. And, I asked

A Matter of Faith

you to join me in walking with them. Martha had invited Jesus, his

disciples and us into her house for a well-deserved respite. Martha, trained since childhood to provide strict hospitality, was busying herself with food preparation, refreshments, soothing water, seating, even tending to sore and dirty feet. Mary was trained to join her sister if Martha motioned or hinted for assistance.

■ See Faith on next page

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Holy Week and Easter Services

- continued from previous page Drive.
- Good Friday Service.** 6:30 p.m., Our Savior Lutheran Church, 56 Meadows Drive.
- Saturday, March 30**
- Blessing of the Easter Baskets.** Noon, John Paul II Catholic Church.
- Easter Vigil.** 8 p.m., John Paul II Catholic Church.
- Sunday, March 31**
- Sunrise Service.** 6:45 a.m., Grace in Pagosa, 1044 Park Ave.
- Easter Sunday Service.** 7 a.m., Our Savior Lutheran Church, 56 Meadows Drive.
- Eucharist with Instrumental Music.**

- 8 a.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd.
- Easter Celebration Service.** 8 a.m., Grace in Pagosa, 1044 Park Ave. A kids' Easter egg hunt will follow.
- Easter Sunday Service.** 8:15 a.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St.
- Mass.** 9 a.m., John Paul II Catholic Church.
- Easter Egg Hunt and Coffee Hour.** 9:15 a.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd.
- Easter Celebration Service.** 9:30 a.m., Grace in Pagosa, 1044 Park Ave. A kids' Easter egg hunt will follow.
- Easter Sunday Service.** 9:30 a.m.,

- Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. Refreshments will be available at 9 a.m.
- Easter Sunday Service.** 10 a.m., Our Savior Lutheran Church, 56 Meadows Drive.
- Festival Eucharist with Choral Music.** 10 a.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd.
- Easter Service.** 10 a.m., Restoration Fellowship, 264 Village Drive.
- Easter Sunday Service.** 11 a.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St.
- Easter Celebration Service.** 11 a.m., Grace in Pagosa, 1044 Park Ave. A kids' Easter egg hunt will follow.
- Mass.** 11:15 a.m., Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church.

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Weekly camp fee \$110 per child, \$80 per each additional child in the same household
One-day drop in fee \$30 per child (upon availability) includes morning and afternoon snack
Weekly registration required.

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Faith

■ continued from previous page

After all, Jesus, the disciples, along with us, were nearly overwhelming her house.

But, Mary did the unthinkable that reverberates to this day; women are no longer to be seen in the back, treated like second class within the Body of Christ. Paul, the apostle, even records his hearty approval in Galatians 3:28, "There is no more Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male or female. For you are all one in Christ Jesus." Clearly, the Holy Spirit was breaking the chains and Mary bravely complied.

In using the Greek renderings for "sat" and "listened," we actually have a clearer understanding of those words. In short, Mary not only weaved her way through the disciples to sit up front, she placed herself at the side of Jesus, a position of note. As Jesus spoke, she didn't just listen, she sought to hear his words as if straining her ear and leaning forward. What an example she set for us.

Martha was "distracted" with all of the cooking, the rendering being "over-occupied, driven hard" and took note that Mary wasn't helping her. After continually signaling Mary for help and getting none, Martha took charge. She went straight to Jesus and said, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me alone to serve? Tell her to help me."

When we delve deeper into her words, we see much come to light that our English fails to note. When Martha "went over to Jesus," it further meant "to suddenly stand over one." In short, she became a flaming arrow and, with Jesus sitting, stood over him. Now it was Martha who brazenly

broke a tradition, not openly confronting a man. But, she was angry with Mary, and frustrated that Jesus was not telling Mary to move away and help her.

That sometimes happens to all of us. When situations befall us, we can feel deeply hurt, overwhelmed, alone, ignored, disrespected or unimportant. It's a normal response to get miffed and demand that the Lord intervene now. Martha felt just like that when Jesus seemingly ignored her plight.

When Martha went over to Jesus, in front of all, the word "said" is expanded as being "to direct, command, tell." She was exasperated and forcefully told Jesus to do something about Mary. I have been there, acting as though I needed to forthrightly remind the Lord that he was not caring about me.

Jesus' response was to call Martha's name twice, "Martha, Martha." In biblical culture it was a "hear what I am saying to you" moment. In the Bible, the Lord spoke to but a few that way, declaring that they needed to give ear to him for he was going to give them an important mission or calling.

A few examples: Abraham (Genesis 22:11-12) called to total obedience and faith in God. Jacob (Genesis 46:2-3) called to not fear going to Egypt, that God would make him a great nation. Moses (Exodus 3:4) called to lead the Hebrews out of Egypt's bondage. Peter (Luke 22:31-32) called to strengthen his fellow disciples when they faltered. Saul/Paul (Acts 9:3-4) called to take the good news of Jesus to the Gentiles.

So, Martha also heard her name

twice, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; but few things are needed — indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better [excellent, pleasant, useful], and it won't be taken [removed, cut off] from her."

Martha's angst was understandable, but, at times, we just don't see very far down the road to understand our priorities. Martha was caught up in the Jewish tradition of required hospitality. In and of itself, hospitality is great; we are all called to be lovingly hospitable to others and those in need. But, our greater priority is to listen to our Lord.

Luke 8:8 records, "Jesus called out, 'Anyone who has ears to hear should listen and understand.'" Mary positioned herself in the best place to listen and stretched her ear to understand her Savior. In Mark 8:18, Jesus called out, "You have eyes, can't you see? You have ears, can't you hear?"

In life, we hear many things, but there are times when we don't really understand what is said. I'm famous for saying, "Huh?" Having lost much of my hearing, I really need to understand a conversation. We all, and I mean all, need clarity when listening to our Lord and others.

To the dismay of Martha and the disciples, Jesus made it clear that God's people are often following what seems right rather than knowing what is right. Since the beginning of time our world has been littered with, "Well, I thought I was right," "OK, OK, I blew it," or "I can't believe I totally missed the boat on that."

Jesus clearly announced to all

■ See Faith on next page

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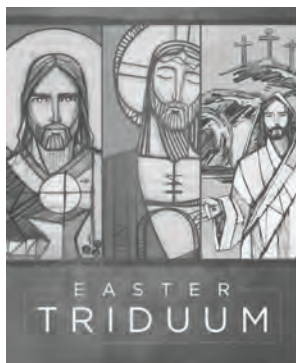
**Join us for our
Good Friday Service
March 29 at 6pm**

Our service will include a time of singing, scripture reading, communion and a short message.

**Come and celebrate our
Risen Savior!
Easter Sunday**

March 31 at 9:30 am
(Come at 9:00am for some refreshments before the service.)

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Pagosa Catholic Community HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Lenten Penance Service
March 26, Tuesday
5:00 p.m. at JP II

March 28, Holy Thursday
7:00 p.m. Mass at Pope John Paul II

March 29, Good Friday
Good Friday Pilgrimage from IHM to JP II
We'll gather at IHM at 2:00 p.m.
4:00 p.m. Divine Mercy Chaplet at JP II Sanctuary
4:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross at JP II
5:30 p.m. Good Friday Liturgy at JP II

March 30, Holy Saturday
12:00 Noon Blessing of Easter Baskets at JP II
8:00 p.m. Easter Vigil at JP II

March 31, Easter Sunday
9:00 a.m. Mass at JP II
11:15 a.m. Mass at IHM

Join us for Easter Services

Palm Sunday
March 24
9:00 am

Holy Thursday
March 28
6:30 pm

Good Friday
March 29
12:00 pm & 6:30 pm

Easter Sunday
March 31
7:00 am & 10:00 am



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Preview Calendar

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

Thursday, March 21

Ruby's Writers Guild. 9-11 a.m., Sisson Library. Ruby's Writers Guild welcomes 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.

Virtual Author Talk: Madeline Miller. 5 p.m., virtual. Listen live or recorded. Featuring Madeline Miller. For details and to register, go to

■ See Calendar on next page

Easter Sunday Service
 March 31st 8:15 am & 11:00 am

He is Risen!!!

Maundy Thursday Service,
 March 28th 6 pm

Good Friday Self-Guided Prayer Stations,
 March 29th 12 pm – 2 pm

Community United Methodist Church
 434 Lewis St. Downtown Pagosa Springs



New Thought Center to meet Sunday

By Shayla McClure

New Thought Center for Inspirational Living

The Sunday service on March 24 at 11 a.m. will be with Elaine Harding on "Increase Your Life Force Using the Power of Quantum Entanglement."

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

March 23, 6 p.m.: Quintangled game night with Julie Loar. Love donation. Costumes optional.

March 24, 11 a.m.: Sunday service with Elaine Harding.

March 28, 6 p.m.: Illuminations free lecture series on Thursday evenings. Various subjects and speakers on health and expansion of the body, mind and spirit will be offered to the public. Donations will be accepted.

April 4, 6 p.m.: Illuminations free lecture with Julie Loar.

April 18, 6 p.m.: Illuminations free lecture with Susanne Bryant on "Lavender, The Versarility of its Benefits and Uses."

April 26-28 weekend: Mayhill, N.M., spiritual retreat with Janie and George Garms.

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

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

May 12, 11 a.m.: Mothers Day Wolfwood Refuge tour and picnic

in Ignacio.

June 15: Blessing of the Animals Celebration.

June 21: Celebrating the summer solstice with Maggie Red Eagle and Shayla White Eagle.

About us

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

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

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

Faith

■ continued from previous page that Mary would not be cut off from listening to him; it was her spiritual right and no one was to send her to the back any longer. We need to know that Almighty God wants to speak to us; yes, us. Our hearts become full of refreshing joy when we truly listen

and understand him.

Coming soon: Martha, Mary and Lazarus.

This column may include both fiction and nonfiction, and views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN. Submissions can be sent to editor@pagosasun.com.



FOODS FOR BRAIN HEALTH (Part 3)

The human brain can generate about 23 watts of power (enough to power a light bulb). All that power calls for some much needed rest and nutritious foods. Adequate sleep helps maintain the pathways in your brain. Additionally, sleep deprivation can increase the build up of a protein in your brain that is linked to Alzheimer's disease. It's also a myth that you only use 10 percent of your brain. You actually use all of it, even when sleeping. Finally, 60% of the human brain is made of fat. Not only does that make it the fattiest organ in the human body, but these fatty acids are crucial for your brain's performance. Today will discuss 2 more food groups that help power your brain and keep it healthy



NUTS AND SEEDS

Eating nuts has been linked with a reduced risk of depression as well as improved cognitive function, learning, memory, and mood. The combination of healthy fats (especially omega-3 fats found in walnuts and seeds like chia and flaxseeds) and nutrients with antioxidant and anti-inflammatory properties found in nuts may protect vital functions of the brain and strengthen its blood vessels.

FERMENTED FOODS

Fermented foods are created when carbohydrates in food are converted into bioactive compounds by live microorganisms such as bacteria, yeasts, and/or enzymes. Eating fermented foods containing live and active cultures, such as sauerkraut, kimchi, or tempeh, may improve gut health and reduce anxiety. A review of the research on fermented foods and cognition found promising signs for improved learning, memory, and brain cell health.

For more information and heart-healthy recipes, visit sanitarium.com.au.

"O how I love thy law! It is my meditation all the day..." Psalm 119:97

Fun Bible Facts: "The word 'Calvary' is mentioned only once in the Bible, in Luke 23:33

A public service from your Adventist friends & neighbors at Pagosa Springs Seventh Day Adventist Church. Disclaimer: This and all our Nature's Remedies are for health information purposes only. The Seventh Day Adventist Church is not responsible for results.



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Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

<https://libraryc.org/pagosalibrary/upcoming>.

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

Pagosa Springs High School Presents 'Mean Girls the Musical'. 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium, 800 South 8th St. Tickets are \$15 in advance for all students and adults, and \$20 at the door. Tickets can be purchased in advance at <https://our.show/meangirlspshs>. This show is rated PG-13.

Friday, March 22

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.

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.

Teen Great Stories Club. 2-4:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Celebrate Indigenous voices and artists in our community. Participants will hear from local Indigenous artists who will share about their work and inspiration, and get a chance to do some art of their own. Everyone will also come away with a free book.

Pizza will be provided.

Knights of Columbus Fish Fry. 4:30-6:30 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd. Carry-out meals are available for \$15.

Pagosa Springs High School Presents 'Mean Girls the Musical'. 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium, 800 South 8th St. Tickets are \$15 in advance for all students and adults, and \$20 at the door. Tickets can be purchased in advance at <https://our.show/meangirlspshs>. This show is rated PG-13.

Saturday, March 23

Pagosa Piecemakers Quilt Guild. 9:30 a.m., Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. Enjoy social hour from 9:30 to 10:30, then stay for a crumb quilting class and a demonstration of the log cabin block and its many variations. Please use the rear entrance.

GriefShare. 10-11:30 a.m., Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. GriefShare is a 13-week program providing support and encouragement after the death of a family member or friend. Contact Marie Rascoe at marierascoe67@gmail.com or call the church office at (970) 731-2205. There is no cost for this program, and you may start at any time.

Knitters Circle. 1-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Join new or experienced knitters to get help with your project, or sit and knit.

Pagosa Springs High School Presents 'Mean Girls the Musical'. 2

p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium, 800 South 8th St. Tickets are \$15 in advance for all students and adults, and \$20 at the door. Tickets can be purchased in advance at <https://our.show/meangirlspshs>. This show is rated PG-13.

DivorceCare. 4-5:30 p.m., Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. DivorceCare is a program that provides a safe environment for

■ See Calendar on next page

**HUD
Publisher's Notice**



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

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

SUDOKU

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

Level: Advanced

Fun By The Numbers

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

Here's How It Works:

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

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

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Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page**

persons who have gone through, are going through or are considering going through a divorce. You may begin classes at any time throughout the session. For more information, please contact Lorena Medina at loremedina0817@gmail.com or the church at admin@centerpointpagosa.com. You can also register online at www.divorcicare.org. Click on "find a group" and follow the prompts or register at any of the meetings. There is a \$20 fee for the cost of your workbook. Scholarships are available.

Pagosa Springs High School Presents 'Mean Girls the Musical'. 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium, 800 South 8th St. Tickets are \$15 in advance for all students and adults, and \$20 at the door. Tickets can be purchased in advance at <https://our.show/mean-girlspshs>. This show is rated PG-13.

Monday, March 25

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

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. Andy Zach will speak.

Women's Fellowship. 9-11 a.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms.

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.

Senior Conversations. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

Puzzle Swap. 2:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Bring a puzzle, take a puzzle. We will have puzzles for all ages.

Healthy Aging and Yoga Therapy Class. 2:30-3:30 p.m., Senior Center.

Deepening the Faith Classes. 6-8 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms.

Tuesday, March 26

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.

Women Helping in Pagosa Springs (WHIPS) Luncheon. 11:30 a.m., The Den. All women are welcome. The cost is \$15. RSVP by Sunday

night, March 24.

All-ages Watercolor Painting. 1-2 p.m., Sisson Library. All ages are invited to explore different watercolor techniques at a free session.

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.

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, March 27

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.

Mindful Drawing. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

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

Weminuche Audubon Meeting. 6 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. We will gather at 6 p.m. for socializing and the meeting will start at 6:30 p.m. Please enter through the side door off the parking lot or let us know to open the main door for handicap entry. In appreciation for our meeting space, we welcome donations of nonperishable food for the church food bank. Prior to the meeting, a link to join on Zoom will be posted on <http://weminucheadubon.org> for those unable to attend in person.

Thursday, March 28

Ruby's Writers Guild. 9-11 a.m., Sisson Library. Ruby's Writers Guild welcomes 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.

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Friday, March 29

Pickleball. 8-11:30 a.m., Community

■ **See Calendar on next page**

Trinity Anglican Church



invites you to join us at 10:00 AM as we celebrate Holy Communion this Palm Sunday.

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8:00 AM 9:30 AM 11:00 AM

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Darren Cordova Y Calor to headline 22nd annual Spanish Fiesta

By Rose Chavez
PREVIEW Columnist

You are invited to the 22nd annual Spanish Fiesta on July 27, sponsored by Archuleta Seniors Inc. (ASI).

This year we celebrate "La cultura cura!" — a transformative health and healing philosophy that recognizes the importance of cultural values, traditions and Indigenous practices on the path to healthy development, restoration and lifelong well-being.

Enjoy the 22nd Annual Spanish Fiesta in Pagosa Springs, where Spanish, Mexican, Native American and Anglo cultural traditions intertwine to create the strong heritage we have today here in Southwest Colorado.

Food, music, dancing, libations, vendors, color and good company provide the ingredients of a party to delight all the senses and to make memories for a lifetime.

This year is the 22nd anniversary of the Spanish Fiesta in Pagosa Springs after being dormant for some



20 years before it was revived in 2023.

The Spanish Fiesta committee of ASI is working to make this year memorable.

The headliner for the day's activities will be the famous New Mexican artist Darren Cordova and his band Y Calor at the Archuleta County Fairgrounds.

Activities will begin at 3 p.m., but come earlier to get your seat and enjoy authentic Hispanic cuisine of southern Colorado and northern New Mexican plus a variety of other food trucks, artisan vendors, music from Candace Vargas and Northern 505, and folklorico dance performances from local artists.

We will feature scholarship recipients, the Spanish Fiesta royalty and the Archuleta County Fair royalty.

Proceeds from this event will support older adults of Archuleta County through the services of ASI and an intergenerational BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, people of color) youth and elder scholarship fund.

Admission is for an afternoon and evening from 3 p.m. to 10 p.m. filled with fun for all. Tickets will go on sale in late April. Interested in volunteering, being a sponsor or vendor? Please call (970) 264-2167.

Spanish Fiesta royalty update

Please join us on April 13 at the Archuleta County Extension building as we bring back the timeless tradition of Spanish Fiesta royalty.

Archuleta County's Hispanic and Latino youth will compete for the coveted positions of king/queen to junior prince/junior princess.

Let's support our youth in keeping the traditions of our Hispanic, Latino and Archuleta County heritage alive.

Purchase tickets from 1 of the 15 contestants at <https://givebutter.com/SFRoyaltyCompetition>.

Join us for an enchilada dinner and the Spanish Fiesta royalty competition from 5 to 7 p.m.

There will be live music featuring Los Mitotitos starting at 7:30 p.m. Crowning of our 2024 royalty will take

■ See Senior on page 16

Preview Calendar

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Center. Loaner paddles are available.

Saturday, March 30

GriefShare. 10-11:30 a.m., Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. GriefShare is a 13-week program providing support and encouragement after the death of a family member or friend. Contact Marie Rascoe at marierascoe67@gmail.com or call the church office at (970) 731-2205. There is no cost for this program, and you may start at any time.

DivorceCare. 4-5:30 p.m., Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. DivorceCare is a program that provides a safe environment for persons who have gone through, are going through or are considering going through a divorce. You may begin classes at any time throughout the session. For more information, please contact Lorena Medina at loremedina0817@gmail.com or the church at admin@centerpointpagosa.com. You can also register online at www.divorcecare.org. Click on "find a group" and follow the prompts or register at any of the meetings. There is a \$20 fee for the cost of your workbook. Scholarships are available.

Monday, April 1

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.

Senior Conversations. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

Healthy Aging and Yoga Therapy Class. 2:30-3:30 p.m., Senior Center.

Tuesday, April 2

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.

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.

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.

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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 canvasback.

Open water has invited waterfowl back to area lakes. Some will stay until ice again forces their departure, but others like the canvasback will only stop for a while before traveling farther north for the summer. North America's largest diving duck is named for the male's clean, white back and sides, which reminded English settlers of canvas fabric.

The male's white body contrasts with his maroon-colored head and thick neck. His sloped forehead, which ends in a long, dark bill, gives his head a distinctive triangular shape. Grayish-brown females share the same profile.

The canvasback rarely spends time on dry land, sleeping on water with head tucked, and typically building its nest over water on floating mats of vegetation. These ducks often dive to depths of around 7 feet to feed on submerged plants, but can also go as far as 30 feet. A favorite food is aquatic wild celery, the source of its species name, valisneria, and nearly the cause of its extinction.

Hunters found that celery in its diet gave a tasty flavor to this duck's flesh. The introduction of more efficient shotguns and refrigeration after the Civil War resulted in a surge in commercial market hunting and a high demand for this bird on the menus of city restaurants. Protections given by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act in 1918 which outlawed uncontrolled hunting saved this and other bird species from extinction.

Most canvasbacks breed in the prairie pothole regions, an area of wetlands and grasslands that extends across five northern states and three Canadian provinces. These depressional wetlands which fill with snowmelt and rain in spring are known as "America's Duck Factory." According to Ducks Unlimited, this area is one of North America's most threatened waterfowl habitats, with only 40 to 50 percent of the original wetlands remaining undrained today.

Last year a Supreme Court ruling severely reduced the protections on our country's wetlands afforded by the Clean Water Act. Colorado's lawmakers are currently considering legislation to restore these protections to Colorado's wetlands.

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

To unknown fathers of I.M.R last know address Pagosa Springs, CO

There is a hearing on April 2, 2024 for concerns of the long term guardianship of child I.M.R born 6/26/2021.



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Senior

■ continued from page 14

place between 9 and 10 p.m.

The proceeds will benefit the Spanish Fiesta royalty youth. The Spanish Fiesta royalty committee seeks to provide our Hispanic and Latino youth in Archuleta County the opportunity of representing their community and celebrating their cultural heritage as well as providing them with numerous learning opportunities and valuable leadership skills.

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

Fresh local produce for older adults to be available this summer

This 2024 growing season, ASI and Terrawalk Farms are partnering with Nourish Colorado to bring low-income older adults (age 55 and older) in Archuleta County locally grown, seasonal, organic produce shares through Community Supported Agriculture (CSA).

CSAs, or farm memberships, are a means of creating a mutually beneficial connection between consumers and their farmers. These partnerships result in a bi-monthly bounty of vegetables for the subscriber.

If you are interested in participating in this free fresh produce program, you must meet one of the minimum requirements to be selected as a subscriber: being a new or current client of ASI through our congregate, Meals on Wheels, or pickup/Grab-N-Go meal program, or being a resident of the low-income senior housing community (Socorro, Archuleta Housing for the Elderly, Casa De Los Arcos or Lake View Estates).

Participating subscribers will receive a fresh, local, organic produce box alternating weeks throughout the growing season, which spans from June 2 to Sept. 29. Subscribers will pick up their bi-monthly fresh

produce boxes either on site at the Ross Aragon Community Center on Tuesdays or at a to-be-determined location on the weekends. Details are still being finalized and subscribers will be notified.

In addition to your weekly food, you will receive the following perks:

- A quarterly newsletter that includes simple, relevant recipes, musings and photos of the farm you support.

- The opportunity to directly support young farmers.

- Optional opportunities to learn and work on the farm. There will be two community days throughout the season. One will be in July and the other in September.

- Attend monthly recipe tastings during ASI's upcoming Fresh Conversations nutrition education and healthy aging circles from April through September.

Please call (970) 264-2167 or stop by the ASI office at 451 Hot Springs Blvd. to sign up to be considered for this Older Adult Fresh Local Produce Box program.

The first 30 interested clients who meet the minimum requirements will become subscribers and will be eligible to receive their fresh produce boxes throughout the growing season of 2024.

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

Senior Discount Card

The Senior Center is continuing its annual tradition of providing a local discount card for those ages 60 and better.

The discount card encourages seniors to support local recreational, restaurant, medical and retail services by obtaining a senior discount card for a small fee that serves as a fundraiser for ASI.

These local businesses provide a discount ranging from 5 percent to

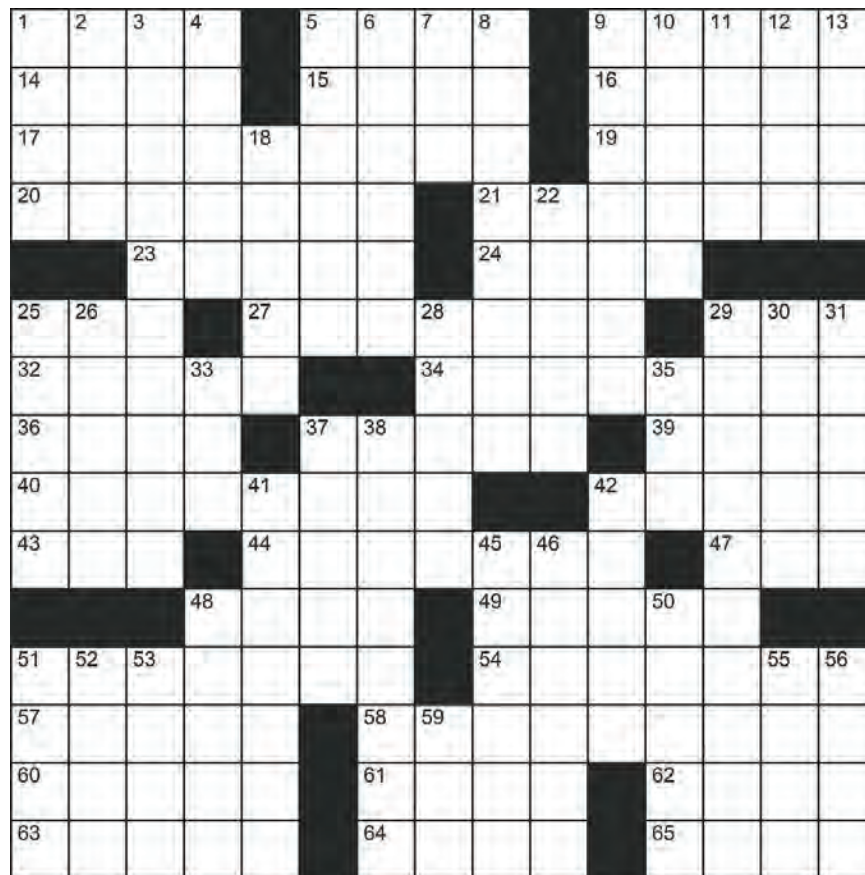
■ See Senior on next page

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Basil, e.g.
- 5 "Dark Angel" star Jessica
- 9 Brilliant display
- 14 Say it's so
- 15 Lumber defect
- 16 River by the Louvre
- 17 Dairy-farm equipment
- 19 Singer profiled in "Sweet Dreams"
- 20 Get a rise out of
- 21 Naples native
- 23 Wheel on a spur
- 24 Partners of gowns
- 25 Autumn mo.
- 27 Sheryl Crow song, "Can't Cry _____"
- 29 "Just as I thought!"
- 32 Fuss over oneself
- 34 Showed up for
- 36 Gives a hand
- 37 Not quite right
- 39 In the thick of
- 40 Turned loose
- 42 Stand for
- 43 Give it a whirl
- 44 Hoover competitor
- 47 Elton John, for one
- 48 Root beer brand
- 49 Watermelon waste
- 51 Ms. magazine co-founder
- 54 Running back's stat
- 57 Long-_____
- 58 Versatile, as a tool
- 60 Insect stage
- 61 Grimm story
- 62 Spanish custard
- 63 Mortise's mate
- 64 Regarded
- 65 Mobile home?



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DOWN

- 1 Door securer
- 2 Anon's partner
- 3 Supposedly
- 4 Shout of approval
- 5 Greet the day
- 6 Johnny-come-_____
- 7 Certain sib
- 8 Peachlike fruits
- 9 Coop flier
- 10 Prison units
- 11 Ovid's 53
- 12 "____ and the King" (Foster film)
- 13 Arcade patron
- 18 Martin's partner of old TV
- 22 Bakery treats
- 25 Eyeball benders
- 26 News source of yore
- 28 Eight a-milking, in song
- 29 Like some evidence

- 30 Klum of "Project Runway"
- 31 Viper
- 33 Oahu-to-Maui dir.
- 35 Get the drop on
- 37 Parenthetical comment
- 38 Chow-hall friend
- 41 Leave in the lurch
- 42 Ready
- 45 Musical run with four sharps
- 46 Did an axel, say
- 48 Muralist Rivera
- 50 "Rough" writing
- 51 Opening
- 52 Cell phone display
- 53 Welsh form of John
- 55 Lean anagram
- 56 Shipped
- 59 Calendar box

Answers to Previous Crossword:

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

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■ continued from previous page

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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.

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 \$6, but no one will be turned away. There is a \$10.50 charge for guests under the age of 60.

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, March 21 — Sliced ham with cherry sauce, scalloped potatoes, garden salad, fruit, vanilla cake and milk.

Friday, March 22 — Stuffed portabella mushroom caps, roasted cauliflower, garden salad, fruit, Bavarian cream puffs and milk.

Monday, March 25 — Beef Marsala with mushroom sauce, mashed potatoes, roasted beet blend, garden salad, cottage cheese, fruit and milk.

Tuesday, March 26 — Greek spanakopita pie with spinach and feta cheese, white bean shakshuka, garden salad, fruit, brownies and milk.

Wednesday, March 27 — Thai chicken with peanut sauce, sugar snap peas, brown rice, chai pudding, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Thursday, March 28 — Pork ziti pasta with marinara sauce, broccoli, focaccia bread, garden salad, fruit, carrot cake and milk.

Friday, March 29 — Crispy codfish with tartar sauce, glazed carrots, garden salad, strawberry rhubarb crisp 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 \$6 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.

Text reservations

Don't forget that we offer a con-

venient 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 for your personal use. These kits are available to anyone in the public who needs affordable access for health promotion and disease prevention.

Mahjong

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

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

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.



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

WORDS

- ACRE
- AERIAL
- AEROPONICS
- AGRICULTURAL
- AGROECOLOGY
- BALE
- BIODYNAMIC
- BORDER
- BROADCAST
- BUCKING
- BUSHEL
- CALVES
- CARRYOVER
- COMPOST
- CULTIVATION
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- GRAINS
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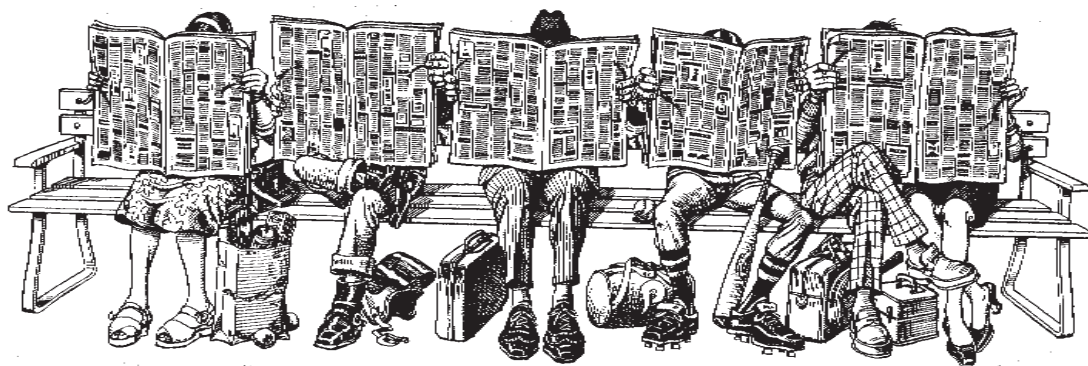
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Back by popular demand: two more free tax help sessions set

By Carole Howard
PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

Our first free tax help session earlier this month was such a success that two more are now scheduled — with longer hours that go into the evening to accommodate more people.

If you would like help with your taxes, please call Kathy at (970) 553-9150 or email her at kathy.taxhelp@gmail.com for an appointment for a free session at your library.

A representative of VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) will meet with those who have signed up in individual sessions next Tuesday, March 26, and April 9 between 9 a.m. and 8 p.m. Registration is required in advance.

Free tax forms

We have 1040 federal tax forms and instructions, as well as 0104 Colorado tax forms and instructions, available free while supplies last.

If you need other forms, we will pull them up online and print them out for you for free, but there is likely to be a charge for the instructions when they are long, multipage documents.

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 bestselling authors and ask questions in March.

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

Today, Thursday, March 21, at 5 p.m., we'll interact with Madeline Miller discussing "On Retelling Greek Classics: An Exploration of Modern Epics."

Cardboard construction contest

Creative people of all ages are invited to show off your building skills by competing in our free cardboard construct-a-thon that offers prizes for each of five age categories: Ages 0-5, ages 6-8, ages 8-11, ages 12-17 and ages 18 and up.

Entries need to be brought to the library by Friday, March 29, at 5 p.m.



You must be able to carry your entry in and out of the building without help of library staff. Winners will be contacted on March 30.

Entries may not exceed 36 inches by 36 inches by 36 inches and must be built ahead of time. Your creation must be made entirely of cardboard — but tape, glue, paperclips or brads may be used to hold pieces together. While you are welcome to decorate your creation, please note that we will be judging based on construction and not final decorations.

Entries must be your own creation, not a kit or other pre-built structure.

Cardboard is available at the library, or you are welcome to use your own. One entry per person.

Dungeons and Dragons

Today, March 21, from 4:30 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.

Preschool learning tomorrow

Preschoolers are invited to a free Ready, Set, Learn session tomorrow, Friday, March 22, from 10 to 11 a.m. to build preschool skills.

Paws to Read tomorrow

Friday, March 22, from 2 to 3 p.m., youngsters are invited to share their favorite books with Muppet or Maple, therapy dogs who love stories, at a free Paws to Read session.

Teen Great Stories Club tomorrow

Our free Great Stories Club for teens tomorrow, Friday, March 22, from 2 to 4:30 p.m. for ages 13 and up celebrates Indigenous voices and artists in our community. They will share their work and help teens create artwork of their own. Everyone also will come away with a free book. Pizza and beverages will be provided.

Adult knitting

Join new and experienced knitters this Saturday, March 23, for our free Knitters Circle from 1 to 3 p.m. It is for anyone over the age of 18 who would like to knit together or get some help if you are stuck on your project.

Puzzle swap

Bring a puzzle, take a puzzle on Monday, March 25, at 2:30 p.m. We

will have puzzles for all ages.

All-ages watercolor painting

All ages are invited to explore different watercolor techniques at a free session Tuesday, March 26, from 1 to 2 p.m.

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.

Elementary tutoring sessions

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

Family storytimes

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

■ See Library on next page

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Library

■ **continued from previous page** 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.

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.

Two local authors

"The Adventures of a Horse Named George" is a collection of stories by multiple authors for ages 8-80 compiled by local author Lynn Moffett about George, a swayback Appaloosa, and his best friend Nancy, a white miniature horse.

"Messengers: Two with a Guide" by Julie Loar explores if the sands of Giza in Egypt hide secrets of the lost civilization of Atlantis through the eyes of a trio who risk it all to fulfill an ancient promise.

As well, there are many other books by these two talented and prolific local authors available for your reading pleasure in your library's collection.

Local history

"My Pioneer Life: The Memories of Abner E. Sprague" is a collection of writings and photographs by this Colorado pioneer. He came with his family from the Midwest in a covered wagon to settle in Estes Park and then played a role in America's railway expansion and operated two successful ranch resorts. You'll find his autobiography in the Hershey Collection section of your library along with other local history books.

Large print

"Six Gun Justice" edited by Richard Prosch is a collection of 13 stories by some of the best of western writers. "Gunmetal Mountain" by

John Shirley is book two in the Cleve Trewe western series. "The Longmire Defense" by Craig Johnson features Sheriff Walt Longmire and Dog. "No Reserve" by Felix Francis is a Dick Francis horseracing mystery.

Novels

"Pelican Girls" by Julia Malye features young French women sent to New Orleans in 1720. "The Great Divide" by Christina Henrequez is a novel about the people involved in constructing the Panama Canal. "Remember Me" by Mary Balogh is book two of the Ravenswood historical romance series. "Redwood Court" by DeLana R.A.

Dameron explores the lives of a Black family living in a working-class suburb of Columbia, S.C. "A Love Song for Ricki Wilde" by Tia Williams tells of two people meeting in 1920s Harlem.

"The American Daughters" by Maurice Carlos Ruffin features a clandestine society of enslaved spies. "Family Meal" by Bryan Washington follows a man trying to recover after the death of the love of his life. "Lioness of Boston" by Emily Franklin is the story of the life of American art collector Isabella Stewart Gardner. "How to Love Your Daughter" by Hila Blum begins with a grandmother spying on two granddaughters she has never met.

DVDs

"Dunkirk" features soldiers and their families who were involved the Allied war effort. "Four Daughters" is a nonfiction film in Arabic with optional English subtitles. "Mayor of Kingstown" is season two.

Nonfiction

"Grief is For People" by Sloane Crosley is a memoir by a woman dealing with the death of a friend and mentor. "The Darkest White" by Eric Blehm explores the death of legendary snowboarding pioneer Craig Kelly in an avalanche. "White Rural Rage" by Tom Schaller and Paul Waldman looks at the views and power of white rural voters.

"Supercommunicators" by Charles Duhigg explores the skills necessary to unlock the language of connection through conversation. "The House of Hidden Meanings" by RuPaul is a memoir by this artist who brought drag into the cultural limelight.

"Steve Kerr" by sports journalist Scott Howard-Cooper is a biography of the championship NBA player and head coach of the record-breaking Golden State Warriors.

"Tough Broad" by Caroline Paul explores the science and psychology of the outdoors and its value to women's physical and emotional health as they age. "Protect Your Peace" by Trent Shelton puts forth principles, strategies and tools to help you thrive in a chaotic world. "Fifty Places to Fly Fish Before You

Die" by Chris Santella contains 50 essays with photographs that share recommended locations, how-to hints and anecdotes about the meccas of the fly-fishing world.

Quotable quote


"Thousands of tired, nerve-shaken, over-civilized people are beginning to find out that going to the

mountains is like going home, that wilderness is a necessity, and that mountain parks and reservations are useful — not only as fountains of timber and irrigating rivers but also as foundations of life." — John Muir (1838-1914), Scottish-born American naturalist, author and environmental philosopher. He founded the Sierra Club and was an early advocate for


the preservation of wilderness areas in the U.S.

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>.



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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Freed wolves move into their old niche

By **Clint McKnight**
PREVIEW Columnist

What was it like for 10 captured Oregon wolves when Colorado Parks and Wildlife opened their crates on a December day last year? The wolves had been chased by helicopter, drugged, blindfolded and collared, then moved to remote public land in central Colo-



Photo courtesy of Jerry Neal, Colorado Parks and Wildlife

A gray wolf is released in Colorado in December 2023.

The wolf races through the snow-covered grass. As the paths of prey and predator converge, he leaps and seizes the laggard's rear leg. She kicks and he lets go. He falls back and is startled to see her stop and turn to face him. The ailing elk is already spent. He leaps again, his jaws clamping down on her throat. She stands for only moments before collapsing. In minutes she is dead.

The meadow is quiet again. The wolf is suddenly overwhelmed with hunger as he tears into the elk's belly, powerful jaws ripping open the hide.

As his own belly fills, the wolf feels the fear of these last days falling away, and in that moment he sees, among the pinyons and junipers, a pair of eyes watching him. It is another captured wolf that had been released, a coal-black female.

She emerges from the shadows, head and tail down, but walking without hesitation. She comes before him and raises her muzzle to lick the blood off his. He does not object.

He turns back to the kill. She comes closer, then pauses to weigh his reaction. There is none, and the black wolf eagerly feeds.

In the weeks to follow, the gray wolf and the black wolf explore their new home. When they hear the howl of another wolf, they reply: "We are here. You stay there."

They find a location for a den and learn to hunt well together. In time, their prey will learn things, too, and both they and the landscape itself will be better for it.

As winter turns to spring, the black wolf shows signs that a new pack is being created. A family in a tradition as old as the ancient hills themselves — is being born.

Clint McKnight is a contributor to Writers on the Range, writersontherange.org, an independent nonprofit dedicated to spurring lively conversation about the West. He is a former national park ranger and natural history illustrator. Views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN.

Opinion: Writers on the Range

rado. One of those animals might have had this experience.

The gray wolf in the metal crate tenses as the door unexpectedly opens. Through the bright threshold, he sees a field of winter grasses laced with snow and a line of juniper trees. After a moment, he bolts for the trees, disappearing into their shadows. And he keeps running.

Only after his captors are far behind does the wolf come to a stop. Panting with exhaustion, his heart pounding, he sniffs at the breeze and looks about. His pack — his family — is nowhere to be seen.

He throws back his head and unleashes a plaintive howl. The tone rises and falls and rolls across the landscape. Its meaning could not be clearer: "I am here. Where are you?" But there is no answer.

The wolf explores, nose to the ground. He ignores a scolding raven. Of far greater fascination is the discovery of an elk bedding area. Pawing at the flattened grasses, he notes they were there just this morning. This is good to know.

Always alert, he climbs a ridge above a broad, tree-lined meadow. He knows he must find his pack, but he has no idea how to start searching when there is no wolf scent.

The short winter day is ending. Now the wolf feels the full weight of fatigue after his sleepless three-day ordeal. He finds a shallow depression next to a fallen tree. He circles, lies down.

And the wolf dreams. He dreams he is running through a forest. Up ahead, he can just see the bounding prey he is chasing, but he cannot gain any ground. He yips in frustration and abruptly wakes to a pink sky dawning in the east.

A meadow below is shrouded in fresh snow and stillness. Then — a movement that electrifies his attention. A small herd of female elk is browsing among the trees.

He rises into a crouch and silently descends the ridge on an intercepting path. The elk pause upon reaching the meadow, then begin to cross the open space. One of them has a hitch in her walk and lags behind.

The wolf immediately explodes into a run. Simultaneously, the elk launch into a panicked flight.

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Water 101 with Colorado Water Center Director John Tracy

By Robin Young
PREVIEW Columnist

Extension Viewpoints

Ahead of World Water Day on March 22, John Tracy, director of the Colorado Water Center at Colorado State University, previously shared answers to common water questions — and his main concern for the future of water in the United States.

One thing he isn't worried about: water supply. There's plenty to go around, as long as it's used wisely.

However, water infrastructure, workforce and education are all real issues, he said.

As water users, we are all decision-makers. The Colorado Water Center is working to educate Coloradans, Tracy said, so they have a basic understanding of water resources and can productively participate in water decisions.

Is there a water shortage in the United States?

It depends on how you define shortage. Is there enough water for everybody to use water in a way without thinking about it? No, there's not enough. Is there enough water to keep everybody healthy, happy and productive — both economically and socially — as well as the ecosystems? Absolutely, yes, there is enough.

Do you recommend filtering drinking water?

For any water utility that's meeting EPA requirements for the Safe Drinking Water Act, I'd say it's pointless. When you filter water, you're filtering out all kinds of things, including minerals and different constituents that affect the taste. Some of those constituents might make the water taste bad, but others you might want in your water. In New York City, people swear that the city's water is why their bagels are so good, and there's some validity to this argument.

If you're in a situation where the pipes are old and that's affecting the water, maybe it's not a bad idea. But just blanketly filtering water without knowing what water's coming out of your pipes is a ridiculous expense.

"In general, the water supply for most cities in the United States is very good quality, and there's no reason to filter it. And, actually, there might be some things that detract from the value of the water if you do filter it," Tracy said.

In general, the water supply for most cities in the United States is very good quality, and there's no reason to filter it. And, actually, there might be some things that detract from the value of the water if you do filter it.

What is the biggest water issue in the United States?

The biggest issue is the water workforce. It is a nondiverse, aging workforce. We're running into problems filling positions, and it is a problem across the nation. When

we look at the biggest water failures — the Flint, Mich., failure was actually a failure of water workforce. In essence, they didn't have someone making this decision of switching a water source and knowing what was going to happen. They didn't test the water quality when they switched the source. They had someone in a decision-making position that didn't know what the outcomes would be, and they should have. That means they didn't have the right people in the workforce.

About 75 percent of the water workforce is a white male over 50, and that is a shrinking part of the population. We need to expand the pool of people interested in working in water. We can have all the technological interventions we want, we can have all the scientific understanding, but if you don't have an educated workforce that knows what to do with that knowledge, it's pointless.

How do we go about finding and educating a new wave of workers?

First, there needs to be more outreach into K through 12 programs and into a much more diverse range of schools to talk to students about what it means to be part of the water workforce. By the time students get to college, if they don't have a preconceived notion that this is an option, they don't even know it exists.

The second level comes down to having more of a coordinated effort when students are getting out of high school and being able to identify where they can go. For example, you don't need a college degree to be a water treatment plant operator. You can get a credential, and maybe that's what they want to do and move up that way. For somebody who doesn't see themselves as an engineer, there are lots of other pathways.

Then once we do get into higher education, I think there needs to be a fundamental change in how we teach society about water. I think there needs to be an introductory, core-level course — like we teach about English and history — that says these are all the elements of water, and then students can go into the specialties if they want to.

Even if they don't, they should have some general understanding. There are economic, legal and social aspects that really are important for understanding our water systems, and even if somebody doesn't see themselves as a water professional, they go home and turn on the faucet. They are part of the water community. They're making decisions on water.

What is the outlook for water in the U.S. West?

Not as dire as people say it is. There are some realities that everybody needs to adjust to. Colorado is growing faster than the rest of the West on average, and the West is growing faster than the rest of the United States.

The vast majority of this population is going to settle in metropolitan areas, so the reality is that we're going to be converting more farmland and rangeland into cities, and it isn't a question of stopping it. It's a question of doing it in a sensible fashion. The conversation needs to be, how do we do this and maintain the quality of life?

The second reality is there's going to be an expectation from people coming into Colorado and the West that water is going to be part of the recreational opportunities. This is why people come to Colorado. They want to fly-fish; they want to go to the high-elevation reservoirs. So, we have to figure out how we are going to have this as a recreational amenity and provide water for cities and agriculture. There are ways to do it, but you have to think through how it all works together and not just say, recreation was here last, so it's last in line, because access to that is part of what drives people to the state.

Colorado is one of the few Western states that does not make rivers public access. In most Western states, you're allowed to float down a river even if you're adjacent to someone's property; it's still public access. Not in Colorado. Those are the types of things that have to be policy considerations, because with a bigger incoming population comes greater expectations of access to this resource and more stress on water management. The water is owned by the people of Colorado. It's not private property. It is public property owned by Colorado, so the public can get together and start forcing these changes.

What's the biggest waste of water, or where is there the most opportunity for water savings?

From a global perspective, water

operates in a cycle, and all the water in the world has existed forever; it's just constantly moving between places and phases. There's no such thing as a global water shortage. It is a lot of local issues that are happening at various locations around the globe.

I think the biggest thing that needs to change is our perspective — becoming very conscious of the value proposition of water use. What value are you getting out of how you use your water? If people think about it from that perspective, you'll start seeing a whole lot of changes in water behavior.

We're to the point now where there's so much competition for water that everybody needs to start thinking about investing in how they view water management, what their value system is, and then align their water use to match that value system.

What can the individual do to use water wisely?

Just become very conscious of your value relationship with water, and then make your decisions on water use based on those values.

The Colorado Water Center at Colorado State University (CSU) is one of 54 Water Resources Research Institutes created by the Water Resources Act of 1964, which collectively form the National Institutes for Water Resources. The center is focused on outreach and engagement, with programs supporting agricultural water management, water workforce development and water equity.

Water Workforce Summit

The Colorado Water Center will host a gathering April 2 in Denver to identify Colorado's most urgent water workforce needs and education/training gaps, connect sectors and organizations, and outline next steps for water workforce development.

A water career and education fair will be held April 3 at the CSU Spur campus to connect students with water-related employment and training opportunities. The summit is geared toward water industry members and employers, water-related educators, workforce development specialists and students.

Visit the Water Workforce Summit website for more information or to register.

CSU has been at the forefront of

hydrology for more than a century since Elwood Mead, the namesake of America's largest reservoir, became the first head of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering in 1883. This special report from CSU Source explores the research happening at CSU and provides insights into the ongoing water crisis across the country and around the globe.

This CSU Source special report was written by Jayme DeLoss.

Landowner Stewardship Series

Save the dates for Tuesday evenings in April at 6 p.m. for the Landowner Stewardship Series.

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 Stewardship Series on best practices on your land:

- April 2: weeds.
- April 9: water.
- April 16: wildlife.
- April 23: fire mitigation and evacuation.
- April 30: range and soil health.

Go to the Extension Facebook page for information and registration. This is a free event, but registration is strongly suggested.

Lifelong Learning Lecture Series

On April 18 from 6 to 7:15 p.m., the Ruby Sisson Library's Lifelong Learning Lecture Series will present "Water, our Most Precious Resource."

What can we do as individuals and a community to preserve what we have?

CPR and first aid classes

CPR and first aid certification classes are offered every other month at the CSU Extension office, generally on the second Monday and Wednesday from 6 to 10 p.m. The cost for the classes is \$80 for combined CPR/first aid and \$55 for CPR, first aid or recertification. Call the Extension office at (970) 246-5931 to register.

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THERE IS A SOLUTION GROUP of Alcoholics Anonymous meets Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, 5:30-6:30p.m. Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. Questions? Richard: (970)903-1456. Diamond: (970)264-1073. More resources: www.aa.org, www.aa-westerncolorado.com, (970)245-9649, (888)333-9649 (24 hours).

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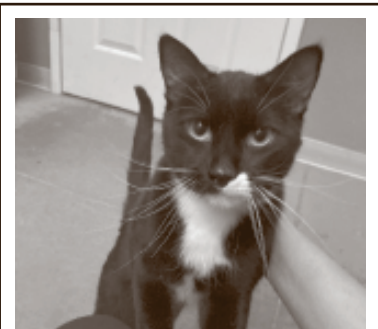
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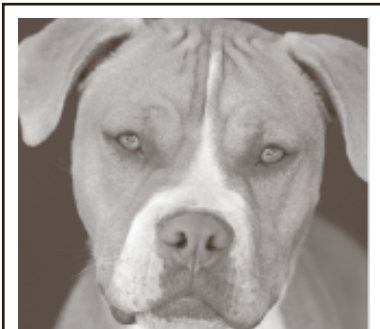


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Bring your fun attitude & apply in person in the River Center

Summit
SKI & SPORTS
 IN THE RIVER CENTER
 970-264-2456

GOODMAN'S DEPARTMENT STORE is looking for a part-time sales associate, Saturdays required. Sales associates must be friendly and self-motivated. Ask about our benefits and employee discounts. Come pick up an application at 402 Pagosa Street.

HOMESPUN HOT TUBS is hiring another spa clean tech. We will train. \$20 / hour. 35-40 hours / wk. Text Stuart @ 818-963-0836.

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 and bonuses in a beautiful facility. Colorado dental hygiene license required. Email resume to office@pagosasmiles.com or drop it off.

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.

JONES MECHANICAL. EXPERIENCE PREFERRED but will train right person. Excellent opportunity to learn the HVAC trade. (970)731-3046.

LOOKING FOR AN ENERGETIC AND CAPABLE couple to caretake and manage a ranch home in Pagosa Springs, Co. Position includes 1 bedroom/ 1 bath with large open loft apartment, utilities and access to a company vehicle. General duties include but are not limited to, daily housekeeping, occasional grocery shopping, meal prepping/preparing, airport runs as needed, general household maintenance and grounds upkeep. Please email letter of interest or resume to jenny@keyahgrande.com.

MOUNTAIN MAMA MASSAGE is looking for LMTs to join our team! Utilize your healing gifts in our fun, relaxed work environment where you are appreciated! TOP PAY \$50 /hour +tips. Email racheldevloo@gmail.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.

NORTH PAGOSA MARATHON is hiring a full-time cashier nights and weekends. Competitive wages. Please apply in person at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN SCHOOL is looking to hire an Aftercare Teacher for our school. Hours are M-Th from 3-5:30 p.m. and Fri from 1:15-5:30 p.m. Please contact Leah Hellerich if you are interested in the position at (816)585-2892.

OWNERS, THERE IS A LONG TERM RENTAL SHORTAGE IN PAGOSA SPRINGS. We have a waiting list for approved tenants. Need all types of rentals. Call us today for lowest commission and highest customer service. All you have to do is wait for your rent check to come in. We do the rest! Rocky Mountain Realty & Rentals (970)507-1192.

PAGOSA ROOTER is hiring a full-time main line camera technician. Job consists of driving a remote control camera inspecting sewer lines. For more info call David (970)946-3692.

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.

PINE VALLEY RENTAL is seeking clerk/front desk help to assist customers in checking in/out contracts, answering the phone, taking equipment reservations, and much more! Must have computer skills, adequate phone skills, good customer service, and work well with others. Full time 8a.m.-5p.m. Apply in person at 305 Bastille Dr. or email resume at ppine000@centurytel.net

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.

SIGN-ON BONUS! 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 \$27 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.

SUMMIT SKI & SPORTS is hiring for Spring Break and into the Summer Tourism season. Full time and part time retail positions available. Customer service experience preferred but not required. Bring a fun attitude and apply in person at Summit in the River Center.

THE SANCTUARY is looking for someone to farm. We have irrigation. 25-30 acres. County Road 551. Please call (970)264-2592 or (970)884-3502.

THE STATE OF COLORADO, Division of Water Resources, has a job opportunity for a WATER COMMISSIONER (EPST I), in the Archuleta County, CO area. It is permanent part-time position generally working a variable/limited number of hours from November through March, and full-time from April through October. For more information on this position, the application process and to obtain any other info, please visit: <https://dnr.colorado.gov/careers>, and search for "water commissioner."

The Town of Pagosa Springs is seeking energetic, fun, responsible team players to serve as Counselors, Assistant Leads, and Leads for the **K.I.D.S. Day Camp**. Staff works collaboratively to implement the program and create a positive learning, exploring, and growing experience for attendees. The K.I.D.S. Day Camp program runs from June 3rd through August 2nd, Monday through Friday. Training for staff begins in Mid May. For more information on the position and to apply, go to the Town's website at www.pagosaspings.co.gov and select Employment.

FOR SALE

2021 10' TWIN TROLLER FISHING BOAT. Like new, only used four times. Perfect for small lakes. Call for photos and more details, (954)309-2837. The boat is in Pagosa.

DOUBLE BED FUTON (COUCH) \$50. Twin bed futon (chair) \$25. Stereo cabinet \$25. Professional grade stone and tile saw \$150. Three bar stools \$15 each. (303)594-5117.

DRY FIREWOOD- PINE. Pick up \$240 a cord. Delivery available. Call for prices. Bayfield. Gabe (970)403-2784.

FIREWOOD FOR SALE. Early spring special. \$200 per cord. Call (970)317-3120.

FIREWOOD SALE. The end of the season dump truck special is back! Get a HUGE load split and delivered for \$475! This will be the cheapest price of the year. Start getting stocked back up now! Only while supplies last. FIRE&ICE (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.

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).

TWO 50-GALLON STEEL DRUMS with lids. Used, great condition, \$45 each. Can be seen on Thursday or Friday at Pagosa Springs SUN, 457 Lewis Street.

LIVESTOCK

TRIMMING AND SHOEING. Accepting new clients. Uncooperative and special needs horses welcome. (719)285-3584.

PETS

ADOPT FROM THE Humane Society. Stop by or call (970)731-4771. You'll be amazed at what we have to offer. www.humanesociety.biz.

AKC GOLDEN RETRIEVER PUPPIES. 1 Female, 3 Male. Ready for new homes 3/28/24. Call (719)641-7617.

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

Terry's Colorado Home Supply and Ace Hardware

Hiring for:

Full time Cashier
Full time Seasonal Garden Associate

Weekend days required.

Starting at \$17/hr.

Must be reliable, motivated and team oriented.

Benefits include discounts, paid time off, profit sharing and more.

Apply in person.

Applications available at terrysace.com



HOUSEKEEPING. Full-time position. MUST be able to work Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays along with holiday shifts. We are looking to add one more team member to our current housekeeping staff. If you have a friendly attitude, an eye for detail, and a strong work ethic, we'd love to hear from you! Healing Waters Resort & Spa, 140 Hot Springs Blvd. Email: sales@pshotsprings.com, Attention Housekeeping, or stop by to fill out an application. Puesto de limpieza a tiempo completo. Debe poder trabajar los Viernes, Sábados, y Domingos. Junto con los turnos de vacaciones. Estamos buscando un miembro mas del equipo a nuestro personal de limpieza actual. Si tienes una actitud amigable, un ojo para los detalles y una fuerte ética de trabajo. Nos encantaría saber de ti el en Healing Waters Resort and Spa, 140 Hot Springs Blvd, Email: sales@pshotsprings.com. Atención al Servicio De Limpieza. O páse por aquí para rellenar una aplicación.

PAGOSA LIQUOR IS HIRING a full-time cashier. Please come and apply in person at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

WANTED Drivers

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



IN NEED OF Maintenance, Kitchen Manager, Cook, Retreat Manager, Store Manager and other roles. Room and board included plus hourly pay. Apply at taramandala.org/connect/employment-opportunities/.

264-2100

Classifieds

264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

"We owned a condominium in the Pagosa Springs area which was a rental property. For many years the firm provided property management services for us and we always found them to be very professional and responsive. If you are in need of a competent, professional property management firm or realtor, we would strongly recommend them. ~ Michael Gamba

www.RMREALTYANDRENTALS.COM



Info@rmrealtyandrentals.com
117 Navajo Trail Dr. Ste E, Pagosa Springs

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150+ SW Colorado
Property Owners Served
19+ Years. Mortgage &
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FULL LT TENANT SCREENING
NATIONWIDE ADVERTISING
ON CALL 24 HR 7 DAYS



PETS

DOGGY DAY CARE 81147.COM. Open 365 days of the year! Full day and half day doggy day care and overnight boarding. Conveniently located just 1 mile from downtown Pagosa. Call (970)264-9111.

FOR POOCH SAKES GROOMING. Appointments available with Kelly (303)819-2015. Mobile appointments with Barb (970)903-1290.

LOVING DOG CARE BY LESLIE N.. Find me on Rover.com using zip code 81147. Boarding, day care, drop ins, house sitting. References and reviews online at Rover.com.

AUTOS

1999 FORD 150 4X4. \$3,000. (303)594-5117.

GUARANTEED CREDIT APPROVAL! 4X4 Auto Sales, 21698 Hwy. 160 West, Durango. (970)385-7940.

VEHICLE FOR SALE. 1969 classic F250 Custom Camper Special with custom engine rebuild. 58k original miles for \$6200 OBO. Call for details. (310)245-0555.

YARD SALES

BE SURE TO CHECK for more yard sales in the Too Late To Classify section.

TRASH TO TREASURES SALE. Friday and Saturday. 9a.m. to 3p.m. Benchmark Storage. 412 Bastille Drive, Unit 4. on backside of building.

COMMERCIAL FOR RENT

1000 SQUARE FOOT COMMERCIAL space for rent. 25' x40' with bathroom and 12' x12' roll up door. Located at 190 Seminole Dr. \$1200 per month. Contact Dean at (970)946-2187.

COMMERCIAL FOR RENT

4 OFFICE SPACES. Freshly remodeled, \$400-\$525. Well suited for spa services, 140-270 sq. ft. Beautiful spacious restrooms. (970)946-3232.

OVER 750 SQ.FT. COMMERCIAL office space. \$850 /monthly. Available April 1. Prefer long term. Call (970)946-7355 for more information.

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.

VACATION RENTALS

OWNERS, WE ARE BOOKED UP AND NEED MORE VACATION RENTAL PROPERTIES! Call us today for lowest commission and highest customer service. All you have to do is wait for your rent check to come in. We do the rest! Rocky Mountain Realty & Rentals (970)507-1192.

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

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.

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

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 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-10. \$1800/month.

EFFICIENCY CONDO in uptown Pagosa Springs for rent. Close to shopping, City Market, coffee shops and more. Pets are welcome. Washer/ Dryer in the unit and it is furnished. Trash and free parking as well. \$1,400 /plus security deposit. Call Angela (970)531-4025.

FURNISHED AND UPDATED 3 bedroom 2.5 bath. 1 car garage condo on golf course. Has air conditioning for the hot summer months. One small pet allowed with \$25/month pet rent. TP-13. \$2300/month. Team Pagosa (970)731-8599 or visit teampagosa.com. Available around 3/15/24.

GREAT LOCATION. 5 minute walk to Pagosa Lake. 2 bedroom, 4-plex coming available. Most utilities paid. Washer/ dryer, dishwasher, stove and fridge. Natural gas, hot water heat, covered deck, seasonal stream. \$1,469, 2 bedroom, 1 bath. 3 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1,569. \$1,000 deposit. No pets. Non-smokers preferred. For details call/ text John, (720)960-4910.

LONG TERM RENTALS AVAILABLE. Call Team Pagosa (970)731-8599, 46 Eaton Drive, Suite #1, pagosaspringsrealty.com.

Nicely furnished 2 bed 2 bath condo. Conveniently located near uptown amenities. Water, sewer, trash and snow removal included in rent. TP-16. \$1750/ month. No smoking. No pets. Team Pagosa (970)731-8599 or visit teampagosa.com.

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

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.

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. AVAILABLE NOW.

UNFURNISHED AND REMODELED 3 bedroom 2 bath. 2 car oversized garage home on rural acreage. Call for more info. TP-18. \$2500/month. (970)731-8599 or visit teampagosa.com.

UNIQUE REMODELED partially furnished studio units. Pets considered with approval, pet deposit, and monthly pet rent. Utilities are extra but include Starlink Internet. Call Team Pagosa (970)731-8599 for availability and sizes or visit teampagosa.com. TP-12. \$850-1295/month.



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, or national origin, or an intention, to make such preference, limitation or discrimination." This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

HOMES FOR SALE

REAL ESTATE SERVICES

Whether Buying or Selling



Call Marcie Lewis
(970) 759-8672



MarcieLewis.com



Christie Calderwood
SRS, ABR, ePRO

Serving Sellers & Buyers
970-946-6856

christie@jimsmithrealty.com



LAND/ BUILDING SITES

MOUNTAIN VIEWS, MEADOWS. Unique high elevation and complete privacy. 5.6 acres bordering national forest, (970)769-3588 blancoretreat@gmail.com.

Email us at
classads@pagosasun.com
to
submit your classified.



WE'RE

OPEN



**MONDAY
TO
FRIDAY**

8 AM - 5 PM



AVAILABLE ANYTIME AFTER HOURS AS WELL!



**Call our regular line to get
service after hours:**

970-264-1301

 intermountainpropane.com