



PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147

www.PagosaSUN.com VOLUME 116 — NO. 27, THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 2024

## San Juan National Forest acquires V Rock private land inholding

By Kristen Allen  
San Juan National Forest

The San Juan National Forest recently acquired 160 acres of elk and mule deer habitat within an important migration corridor on the Pagosa Ranger District.

The joint effort, which began in 2021 between the U.S. Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) and the Saunders family, who resides in Albuquerque, N.M., was completed through a conveyance from RMEF to the San Juan National Forest. The Land and Water Conservation Fund funded the acquisition and received broad support from sportsman's and conservation groups, as well as the Southern Ute Indian Tribe and Archuleta County.

"This would not have happened without the conservation vision, ethic, and passion of the Saunders family," said Kyle Weaver, RMEF president and CEO. "We salute and thank them as well as our San Juan National Forest partners for working together to conserve this important landscape."

The property is located 14 miles southeast of Pagosa Springs, along National Forest System Road 663 (Buckles Lake Road).

It features aspen stands, mountain meadows, scattered ponderosa pine and mixed conifer forests, two ponds, intermittent streams, and

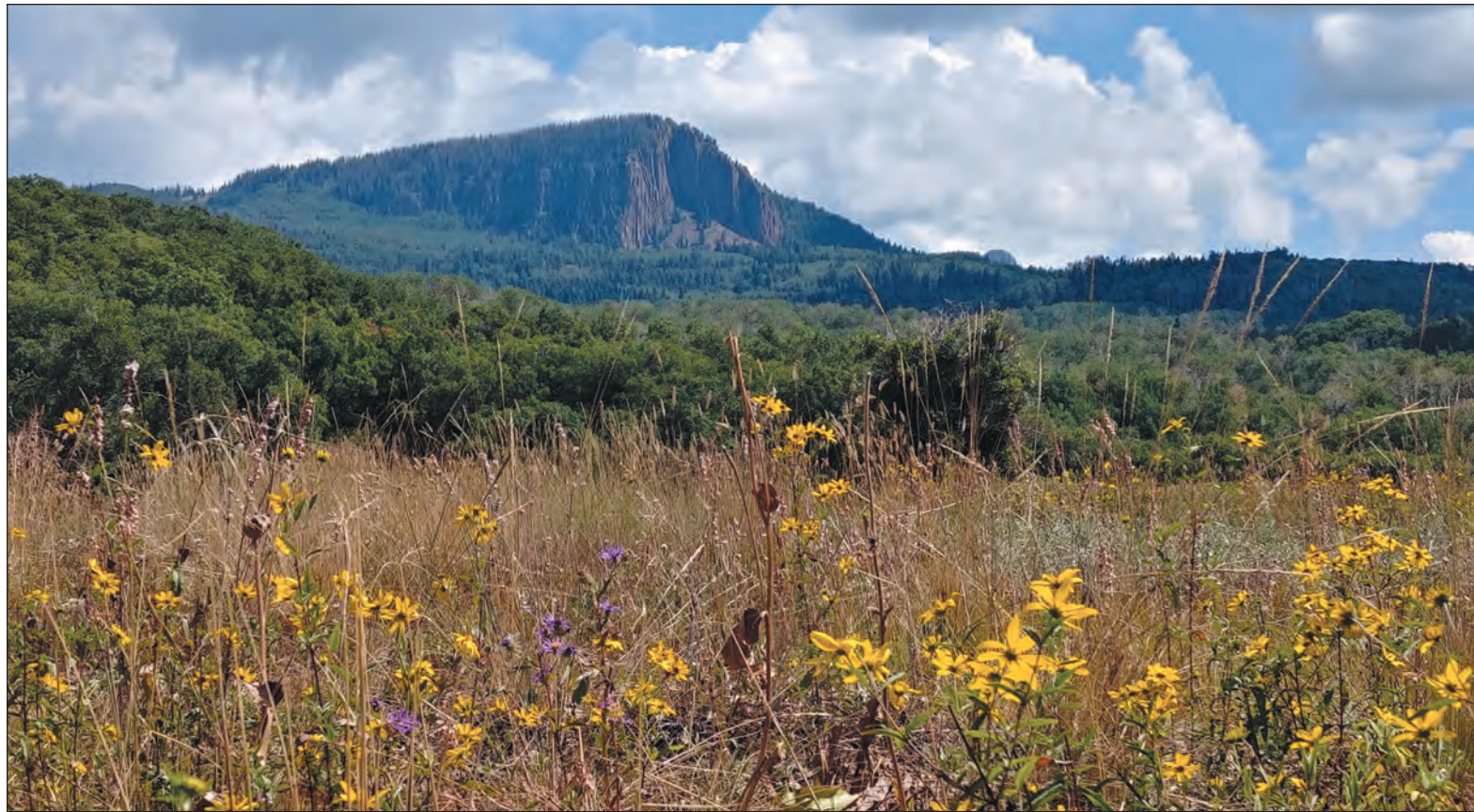


Photo courtesy Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation

Through a joint effort, the San Juan National Forest recently acquired 160 acres of elk and mule deer habitat located 14 miles southeast of Pagosa Springs.

scenic views of V Rock Mountain.

The parcel is important transitional habitat for elk and mule deer within one of the major migration routes from the San Juan Mountains

to lower-elevation winter ranges.

It will now be open to nonmotorized public use and managed similarly to the surrounding National Forest System lands.

In addition to conserving important habitat, acquisition of the parcel provides for more efficient wildfire management. Developed inholdings can pose challenges during fire

suppression as fire managers prioritize protection of structures, often investing significant resources into that protection.

■ See V Rock A8

## Fire district discusses approaches to expanding funding

By Josh Pike  
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Fire Protection District (PFPD) Board of Directors discussed options for increasing district funding at its March 5 meeting.

Fire Chief Robert Bertram opened the discussion by noting that Archuleta County Sheriff Mike Le Roux had discussed the possibility of an emergency services mill levy with the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) at its Feb. 20 work session.

He stated that wildfire suppression for those who live outside the fire district is a county responsibility, but neither the county nor the PFPD receive tax revenues to support this.

Bertram commented that a primary issue is that the people who live in the county but do not live in the fire district still receive services from the district.

The PFPD, he explained, responds to calls outside its service area because it is the "right thing to do," but does not receive property tax payments.

He explained that the PFPD and

■ See Funding A8

## Town looking at alternate parade routes due to construction

By Derek Kutzer  
Staff Writer

At the April 2 Pagosa Springs Town Council meeting, town staff expressed concern about how the Colorado Department of Transportation's (CDOT) U.S. 160 reconstruction project through downtown will impact the annual Fourth of July Parade.

The highway reconstruction through downtown is slated to take

■ See Parade A8

## County moves forward with road projects

Contractor selected for U.S. 160, North Pagosa Boulevard intersection reconstruction

By Josh Pike  
Staff Writer

At its April 2 meeting, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) approved two proposed road projects and awarded the contract for reconstruction of North Pagosa Boulevard from Bastille Drive to U.S. 160 and a portion of Navajo Trail Drive adjoining North Pagosa Boulevard.

At a work session earlier in the day, the BoCC heard an update on road projects from Public Works Director Mike Torres.

Torres opened his update by explaining that road striping was delayed last year and the department plans to start early on it this year.

He added that, due to the increased cost of striping, the department would have to transfer \$12,000 to the striping budget line to cover the increased costs.

Torres stated that, following a previous presentation to the BoCC covering county paving work plans for the year, he spoke with contractor Dustrol Inc., who performs milling and recycling of the "first few inches" of asphalt on a road and re-lays it, creating an "essentially new road" with a smooth surface.

"The cost savings on that is huge," he said, adding that the department is looking at having this recycling performed on 8.2 miles of county roads this year.

Torres indicated that Dustrol is the

■ See Projects A8

## County awards \$300,000 housing contingency grant

By Josh Pike  
Staff Writer

The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) approved a \$300,000 grant for the Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation (PSCDC) at a March 29 special meeting to cover construction contingency funds requested by the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) Division of Housing for a PSCDC affordable housing grant application.

At a March 26 BoCC work session, the board discussed the need for contingency funds and the formulation of deed restrictions for the PSCDC affordable housing project with PSCDC Executive Director Emily Lashbrooke.

Lashbrooke opened the discussion by presenting a proposed deed restriction for the affordable homes, which she indicated includes restrictions that the home must be owner-occupied, cannot be a short-term rental, has a 3 percent per year cap on return on in-

vestment and must be sold to someone within the same area median income (AMI) level as the home was originally designated at.

She added that the AMI thresholds on these homes could be between 80 percent AMI and 120 percent AMI and they could be sold to someone at a lower AMI than the original buyer, but could not be sold to someone with a higher AMI.

Lashbrooke stated that the buyer's income qualifications to purchase a home would be assessed upon purchasing the house and that they could exceed the AMI level the home is designated for at a later date if their income increases, although this would not increase the AMI at which the buyer can sell the home.

She indicated that the deed restrictions also include a provision waiving the work requirement for living in the home if the occupant becomes permanently disabled and cannot work.

Lashbrooke added that the deed

■ See Grant A7

## Chimney Rock works to preserve stories in the sky

By Josh Pike  
Staff Writer

Efforts to obtain International Dark Sky Park certification for Chimney Rock National Monument continue, including partnerships with local organizations and dark sky-focused updates to the monument kiosk and visitor center, U.S. Forest Service (USFS) Environmental Protection Specialist Kenar Houghton explained in an interview.

According to the Dark Sky International website, the International Dark Sky Places

■ See Sky A9



Photo courtesy Larry Lunsford



Photo courtesy Pat and Holly Hasenbuhler

Much of the programming at Chimney Rock National Monument, including the "Mystery of Chaco Canyon" film showing and lecture by University of Colorado professor Dr. Erica Ellingson that occurred on Sept. 16, 2023 (bottom), connects to astronomy and astronomical phenomena, according to U.S. Forest Service Environmental Protection Specialist Kenar Houghton. She indicated that the significance of astronomy and dark skies to the site is a key driver of the ongoing efforts to obtain International Dark Sky Park certification for the monument. The challenges and potential of preserving dark skies at Chimney Rock are illustrated in the top photo, which shows both the beauty of the night sky at the monument from the Pinnacles lookout point overlooking a kiva at the Great House Pueblo and the dome of human-produced light from Ignacio that partially illuminates those skies.

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# Opinion

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## OUR VIEW

### Awareness

There are a lot of weeks and days that celebrate and bring awareness to causes — some that are serious and some that are not so serious.

Today, April 4, for example, is National Burrito Day, National Chicken Cordon Bleu Day, National Walk Around Things Day and National Hug a Newsperson Day (we promise we didn't make that up), among other things, according to nationaldaycalendar.com.

But April is also dedicated to bringing awareness to other, more important causes, many of which have been highlighted by the Pagosa Springs Town Council and Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners in recent weeks.

Hearing those proclamations and the reasons behind the awareness efforts helps us realize just how much we take for granted on a daily basis — which is exactly what they're designed to do. We realize we take for granted that we can pick up the phone and call for help; walk in the library and use a computer, read a book or learn something new for free; go stand in the shade of a tree while we watch our kids play at the park; or walk along the river or a lake and take in the sights and sounds of nature.

Below are just a few of the awareness efforts happening locally, and we encourage you to look up the proclamations to learn a little more about each one.

The town and county both recently approved proclamations for Sexual Assault Awareness Month, with those proclamations brought forward by Rise Above

Violence.

On Monday, we had the honor of being invited to sit in on the Sexual Assault Awareness Month virtual kickoff event held by the Colorado Coalition Against Sexual Assault, where Rise Above Violence and Amanda Briggs, Rise's community engagement specialist, were honored and highlighted for the work being carried out in Pagosa Country.

This year's theme for the month is "Building Connected Communities," and we certainly believe that's a concept that helps lessen more problems than sexual assault.

On Tuesday, the commissioners approved a proclamation for National Public Health Week, which is April 1-7.

That week has a little different meaning for the county this year with the launch of the Archuleta County Public Health Department, and all of the commissioners spoke about the hard work that went into launching a department to serve the county's residents before happily approving the proclamation.

The town and county both also approved proclamations in support of National Library Week, which is April 7-13.

We believe strong libraries are vital for the health of a community. Libraries are a place where you're not expected to spend money, where anyone can find something they're interested in and learn something new. They're also, among other things, good for the economy, providing resources and support for job seekers, entrepreneurs and business owners.

The county also proclaimed the week of April 14-20 National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week locally to match the national effort.

The world we live in would be much worse without public safety telecommunicators personnel.

As Archuleta County Combined Dispatch Director of Emergency Communications Devin Moffat read, "Public Safety Telecommunicators are the first and most critical contact our citizens have with emergency services."

They're often the first line of help for someone in distress, and help people who are in the midst of what could be the worst day of their lives while simultaneously paging out emergency responders and monitoring the safety of the responders.

The town also approved a proclamation for Arbor Day, which is April 28, and upcoming events hosted by the Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership and Southwest Organization for Sustainability will soon bring attention to Mother Nature for Earth Day, which is April 22.

We need not say much about the importance the natural environment has on so many levels, including our physical and mental health — just take a look out the nearest window and take in the beauty that surrounds us.

Now, we're off to take advantage of the nice weather, walk around things and find some food — burritos or chicken cordon bleu sound good.

Randi Pierce

## LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

### 100 years ago

Taken from SUN files of April 4, 1924

With only one exception the Business Mens ticket, headed by S.H. Dickerson for mayor, was elected at the town election in Pagosa Springs Tuesday over the Taxpayers, headed by G.S. Hatcher, present incumbent. The vote polled, 343, was one of the heaviest in the history of the town, showing the keen interest taken by the electors.

The trustees elected for two years are: W.E. Colton, Taxpayers, S.E. Edmisten, nominated on both tickets, and H.D. Shiles, Business Mens. The trustees for one year are Geo. W. Carther, nominated on both tickets, A.W. Olson and Ray W. Smith, both Business Mens candidates.

The greatest interest centered on the mayorship, and the result was in doubt until every vote had been counted. Mr. Dickerson nosing out as victor with a majority of 7 votes. Edmisten polled the largest vote of any candidate, receiving all but 58 of the votes cast.

A majority of the deals for the purchase of school site property have been closed by the board with the owners. It is now thought that the net cost of the site will be about \$12,000.

### 75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of April 1, 1949

#### CITIZENS OF PAGOSA.

We, the teenagers of Pagosa have been watching our recreation spots gradually decrease. We agree that there have been many juvenile delinquents from Pagosa. BUT ... WHY? Don't you think you're partly to blame, if not all to blame? Where can we go other than the theater? This costs money, more than it does to bowl, dance, play pool and many of the other places we have been excluded from. We ask you, what harm is there in dancing, bowling, etc.? Who is supposed to be setting the examples around here??? We sometimes wonder. We are the future citizens of Pagosa, if you want us to be decent citizens, we suggest you do something quick. And not just talk! Isn't there someplace you could fix for us? Think it over, we're just as desperate as you are.

#### THE TEEN-AGERS OF PAGOSA

Published elsewhere in this issue of the SUN is a letter from the "teen-agers". It is not the policy of the SUN to publish letters without a personal signature.

In this case an exception was made due to the fact that a large group was represented and the letter seemed to express the opinion of the majority concerned. The letter is also of great importance to the people of the community in that it very clearly expresses the opinion of the youth here.

### 50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of April 4, 1974

Town election is over with Ben Larry Lynch being elected as the new member of the Board. Mr. Lynch was also high vote getter in the election. The new board will consist of five incumbents, Junior Sorenson, Dan Peters, W.H. Diestelkamp, Worthen Crouse, Ross Maestas, and Mr. Lynch. Jim Cloman was re-elected mayor and the board will hold its first meeting next Monday night.

Building permits during the month of March totaled \$23,900.00, according to building director Milt Schweining. This is an early start for building permits and indications are that 1974 will be another record year for building within the town.

State sources report a 48.1% increase in retail sales in Archuleta County for the last quarter of 1973 as compared to the last quarter of 1972, biggest percentage of increase was in automotive sales, with eating and drinking falling behind the same period in 1972.

### 25 years ago

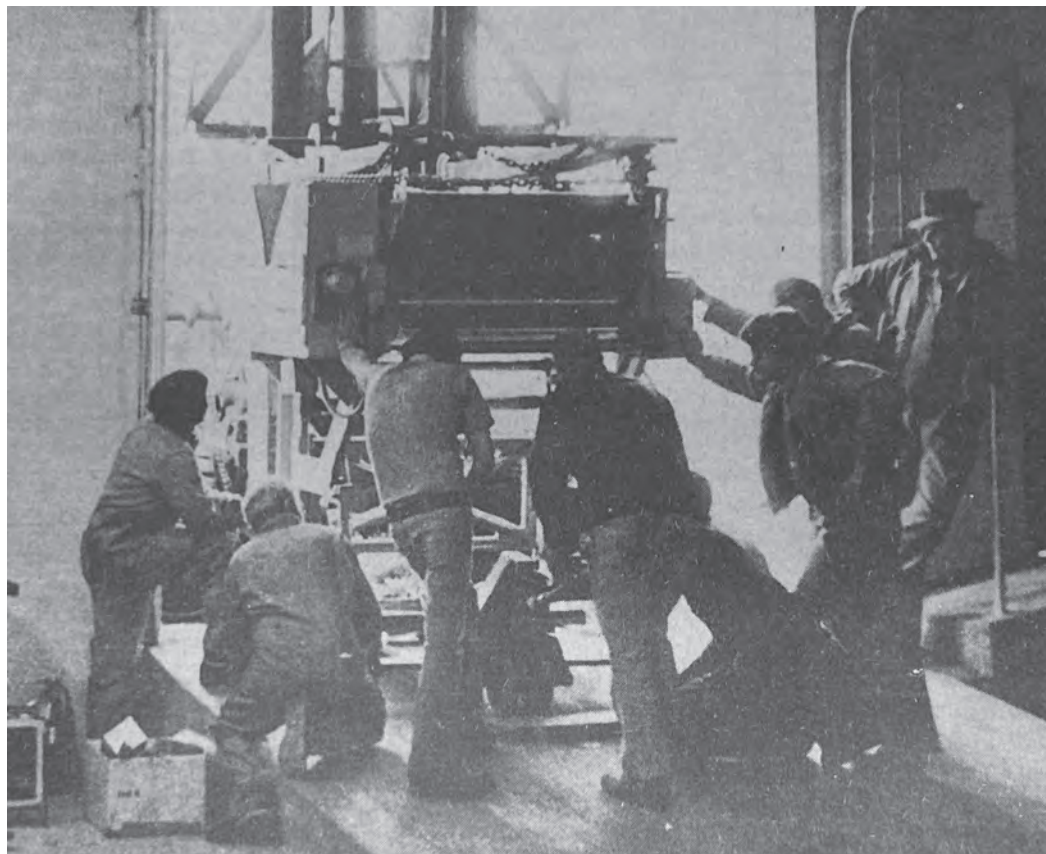
Taken from SUN files of April 1, 1999

A record building year appears to be underway in Archuleta County, based on the number of building permits issued by the county through March 26. So far this year, 88 permits of various kinds have been issued by the building permit department. Through March of last year, 70 permits were issued.

"If the present pace continues, 1999 will be a record year for building since we started keeping these kinds of records in 1995," said Julie Rodriguez, assistant technician and office manager in the county building department. "Good early season weather may be responsible for the large number of permits so early in the year, but that is a guess," Rodriguez said.

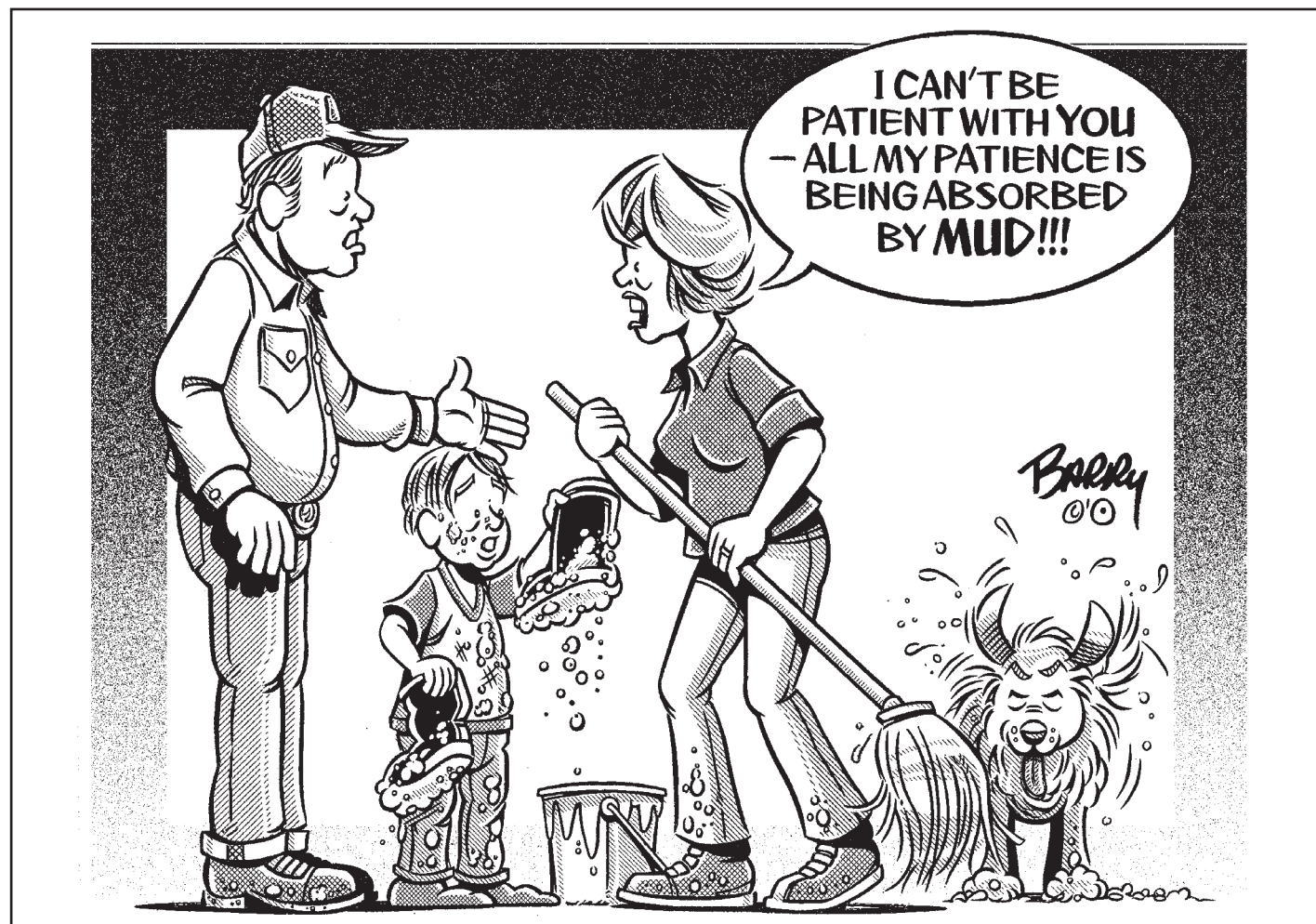
The previous year was 1998, when 536 permits were issued. The years immediately preceding 1998, 446 permits were issued in 1997, 442 permits in 1996, and 504 permits in 1995.

## LOOKING BACK



From the March 9, 1978, Pagosa SUN — IN THE DOOR — Paul Day used his big fork lift truck to bring a printing press unit from one building to another. The units weighed better than three tons apiece and the moving was a delicate, as well as heavy job.

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3/27	44	23	NA	NA	0.03
3/28	54	21	NA	NA	0
3/29	51	32	NA	NA	0
3/30	59	31	NA	NA	0
3/31	51	30	NA	NA	0
4/1	47	29	0.5	S	0.13

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# Letters

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

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

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

## Dividing times

Dear Editor:  
We are living in such dividing times. Each day it seems we say to each other...Oh no!...that is worse than yesterday!

We turned on Fox Prime Time, Jessie Waters, he was in the midst of a segment, White House Biden "Easter" Celebration and Proclamation Transgender Visibility, March 31, 2024. We cried, apologizing to "Our Heavenly Father" for this abominable Biden act. His evil neglecting our most Holy Resurrection Day of our Lord Jesus Christ,

with some self-proclaimed (barely 1% of USA Population) group. Biden said "Got your back transgenders"! We publicly proclaim as Christians, "Jesus' back has already taken the stripes for anyone to have a chance, "Redemption-Eternal Salvation Plan", Jesus died for our sins, has risen, "Is Alive"! That's the only Easter Celebration! We, as all Christians, are called to read, live, bare witness of God's Holy Bible. God is the "Omnipotent Creator". He made each one by "His Plan - male or female" and no one has such authority but God Almighty!

In Jessie's program was another heart break. A photo of a trailer load of Bibles burned in front of a church during Easter service in Tennessee, called "The Bible Belt! Tears, prayers of apology to "Our Lord God"! All the while in New York City, St. Patrick's Cathedral, Holy Service is interrupted by a mob defending terrorist evil Hamas Palestine against Israel, who on October 7, 2023, committed unthinkable atrocities. They cut Israeli babies out of their mother's wombs, burned babies in their home's ovens, murdered children before their parents, whole families murdered, beheaded, women violently raped, took hostage, including Americans. Some are still there and have died there. Israel is America's best ally and Christians' best friends because of "God's Covenant" made with Abraham set forth in the Bible. Current Biden/Harris, Senate leader Schumer,, demo liberal Congress & Senate members have sided with this demonic evil against Israel!

"Easter Son-Day, Pres. Trump spoke a beautiful message on Truth Social. He gave glory, Almighty God, for the Redemption Salvation HOPE-JESUS IS ALIVE! The truth will set us free! Each Fox programs defended "Christ is Easter"! Victory Channel, Flashpoint News, Newsmax are the sources of truthful news. The others defending evils of Biden are not!

We celebrated with our three children and their beautiful families, what our God has done for us. "The Hope Proclamation" only in "What Jesus Did"! Our services were not interrupted. We are humbly grateful. We extend to our fellow Christians, do not be silent, deceived by this current evil leftist America. "The Body of Christ" is mandated to pray, change leadership, defend our faith we celebrated on Easter everyday, act. America will be changed and saved! Our hope your hearts are broken as ours about the demonic evils happening in our America. "The truth will set us free..." John 8.

Jan and Tom Carnley

## Duty and results

Dear Editor:  
For past generations, the term "duty" meant that we take care of our own responsibilities in life. Today, our society tends to let, or even force,

others to take care of their personal responsibilities.

Many today don't understand they have responsibilities, or duties. When others do for us what we should be doing, the results may end up being subpar. Unless the person doing the tasks for you has a high level of integrity and expertise, thoroughly understanding the end results you expect, you will likely end up disappointed. The old saying goes: "If you want it done right, do it yourself". Although others can sometimes do it better, you could still get unsatisfactory results because they did the work, and not you. However, you have little room to complain because you didn't take the time to learn how to do the task in the first place.

For example, what happens when we allow government bureaucrats to enter into every aspect of our lives? First, it makes us lazy. Second, we don't get the results we hope for. And third, we have no room to complain because we failed in our duties.

Some examples of this are public education, child care, government handouts, border control, misunderstanding the Constitution (misinterpreting "general welfare" as individual welfare), and nearly everything else the government touches. Why? Because many government officials don't do their duty. They refuse to understand they work for the people in America, not the people for them. They care more about their careers than the people. They take your money, fund over priced projects, expect more from you after it is spent, and then burden the future generations with tens of trillions of dollars, all because of bad policies, greed, or pride. Some bureaucrats want "true democracy", that only ever ends in chaos and anarchy.

Are the results we're experiencing building up the country you want to leave to your children and grandchildren? Probably not, unless you happen to be with those that want to tear our system down. Yet, do you vote? And do you vote down ballot, for every election from the President down to every local position? If not, you have no right to complain. Don't expect someone else to save you from whatever tyranny you may face. But never forget, you have a right to vote. Use it! If you don't, that right will also be taken away by those doing your duty for you, just like the rights they

are trying to take currently.

If you like where our country is headed, fine, you'll get what you want. But if your eyes are open and can see the damage done recently, then do your duty for better results. Vote a proper moral compass. Stand on decent principles and values for all citizens and your posterity. Don't expect others to fulfill your duties, and then complain about bad results. Remember, bad government destroys all it touches, especially the people and their freedoms.

E. Fisk

## Missed the point

Dear Editor:  
This is in response to the letter to the editor entitled "Mean Girls," which was printed last week. Sir, respectfully, I do believe you missed the point (as did two young teenagers who attended and promptly bullied a cast member).

First, there WAS quite a long speech given by cast-members before the show even began, letting the audience know that the show was indeed PG13, with cursing and situations that some people may find offensive. One would think that someone offended by any of that would have made their exit at that point. You, however, chose to stay . . . as did I. And I am so glad I did. You should be offended by what you saw! But perhaps not for the reason you so piously believe. You should be offended by the fact that Mean Girls shows the reality that our children face every day. If you visit our local high school on any given day (and I have), you will hear FAR worse cursing than you heard in that show. Any teacher can attest to that! Our teens are faced with cursing and alcohol and sex and drugs nearly every day of their lives. Worse than any of that, in my opinion, they are faced with bullies, both in-person and online. I've seen the damage a bully can inflict and I am all for educating people on the dangers of bullying. This show was just that . . . an education on the dangers of bullying and the dangers of what our children face every day. So, by all means, be offended. But be offended at the right thing. And perhaps, instead of railing against the very children brave enough to bring these situations to our attention, do something to help with the problems

See Letters A4

## Letters

The SUN welcomes letters from readers.

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

All letters must:

- be 500 words or less
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- 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

## Faye Cordova

Faye Cordova was surrounded by all her children when she was called home to heaven on March 28, 2024.

She was greeted by her loving husband, Joe Cordova, and her two sons, Robert and Michael Cordova.



Faye was born on Nov. 16, 1934, to Rolland Lee and Gerti May Anderson in Winchester, Va. Faye met the love of her life in 1952.

They started their life together in his home in Pagosa Springs, Colo., where they raised their nine children. Faye was a homemaker and was always there for her children, and loved all her grandchildren — each of them had a special place in her heart. In her spare time she loved to go to bingo and the casino; eating out was also one of her favorite things to do with her family.

She had lots of dear friends and loved listening to country and gospel music. She loved sitting outdoors in the summer evenings visiting with family and friends. She is survived by her children Sharon (Joe) Quintana, Jane Caye, (John) Snarr, Frances (Gilbert) Martinez, Theresa (Manuel) Trujillo, Rita (David) Prokop, Joey (Renee) Cordova and Anthony (Becki) Cordova; and numerous grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren. Funeral services will be held on April 6 at 9 a.m. at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church.

## Warren Joseph Grams

Warren Joseph Grams passed away at home on March 13, 2024.

Warren was born on Dec. 1, 1937, in Glen Cove, N.Y. He grew up on Long Island and met Kathleen (Kay) Thurston in high school. After high school, they were married on June 28, 1958. Warren joined the United States Navy, and he and Kay traveled to many different duty stations; he was



stationed in Japan, Hawaii, Texas and San Diego. Warren retired from the military with honors as a chief petty officer.

In 1980, Warren and Kay moved from San Diego to Pagosa Springs, Colo. They bought the house on Mesa Drive with a VA Loan and have lived there since. Warren started his job as a mechanic at the Texaco Station with his longtime friend Pee Wee. During that same year, Warren joined the Pagosa Springs Volunteer Fire Department; in 1986, he became the fire chief.

In 1988 the fire district expanded, and he became assistant chief and then was promoted to chief again in 1991. Warren remained the chief and continued to build the department right up until he retired in 2007.

Warren and Kay retired from their work with the fire department and many other boards, groups and services in Pagosa, but remained active in the community. These include the Friends of the Library, Upper San Juan Search and Rescue, Colorado Fire Fighters Academy, Red Ryder board of directors, the Winterfest snowmobile program, Rotary, and Vets for Vets.

While retired, Warren spent his time on the local golf course, mowing the yard, camping and working for his friends. In February of 2011, Kay passed away from cancer; they had been married for 53 years.

The community, the fire department and his family kept Warren busy until he met Kathleen (Kathy) in September of 2012. Their first date was looking at the fall colors. Warren and Kathy were married on May 15, 2014, and would have celebrated their 10-year anniversary this May.

Warren is survived by his wife, Kathy; his daughter, Leslie Lattin; his grandchildren, Matthew Lattin and Roxanne Lattin (Danny); his sister, Susan Grams (AL); his brother, Brian Grams (Rona); his aunt, Ruby Haar; his great-grandson, Grayson Eli Warren Lattin; and many nieces and nephews. He was also blessed with Kathy's family to include her daughters, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at the Ross Aragon Community Center on Saturday, April 6, 2024, at 10 a.m. Chief Grams and his family, including his fire department family, will be making his final code 3 response from PFPD Station 1 to the Community Center at 9:30 a.m. that morning and the service will be concluded with military honors.

## Alta Lee Kimble

Mrs. Alta Lee Kimble, age 82, passed away Monday, March 25, in Pagosa Springs, Colo. She resided in the Beehive of Pagosa Springs since moving back to the area in June 2023. She and her late husband, Thomas "Gary" Kimble, had a home in Pagosa for 40 years, using it as their home base while traveling and working both abroad and stateside. In 2015, due to Gary's health, they relocated to Mesquite, Nev., for three years then to St. George, Utah. Upon his passing in May 2023 after 60 years of marriage, Alta returned to the area.



Born in Silver City, N.M., July 6, 1941, Alta and her two brothers were raised by their single mother in that area. She dreamed of traveling, and after she and Gary married in 1963 their journey began. Moving to Texas, Oklahoma, Wyoming and California, they built a family of three girls and a son. She told him enough kids, but let's keep moving. In 1973, the overseas adventure began as they moved to Saudi Arabia working for ARAMCO, Arabian American Oil Company. Alta went to work as a helicopter scheduler in addition to raising the children. While abroad, the family enjoyed trips such as exploring Europe by train, shipping a car to Amsterdam and driving back through the Middle East to Saudi Arabia, and traveling the Far East through Hawaii, the Philippines, Hong Kong, Singapore and Thailand.

Upon returning to the U.S., their home was a 40-acre property located in Brooksville, Ind. This was where they began building an equine business of buying, breeding and selling quarter horses. Alta enjoyed working with the horses, driving the tractor, mending fences and still found time for a beautiful vegetable garden. She was an excellent seamstress and quilter. No matter where she lived, she always had an activity room as she enjoyed cross-stitching, macramé, reupholstering and a number of crafts. She never let her hands remain idle. In 2003 they retired and moved the business to Pagosa Springs.

Alta was a faithful woman and always found a church home and Christian family wherever they lived.

Active in the church Grace in Pagosa, she opened her home for Bible studies and social events. She could stretch a meal and would always offer a seat at her table.

Alta loved to spend time with her grandchildren and as "Grandma" made memorable adventures for them all. She was "GGMA" to her 12 great-grandchildren. Remembered fondly by those lives she touched, she was a beautiful soul inside and out and was ready with a smile until her passing day.

She is survived by her daughters, Anja (Steve) Potter, of Edgewater, Fla., and Leslee Vause, of Pagosa Springs, Colo.; and brother Forest Wayne (Linda) Goforth, of Gallup, N.M. She is also survived by her granddaughters: Annie (Trevor, Rory, Ryn) Gian and Haley (Damien) West, of Pagosa Springs; Serena Colten Stark, of Oahu, Hawaii; Keenan Walker, of Dallas, Texas; Kaitlyn Talamante (Juanito, Wyatt, Jonathon), of Victoria, Texas; and Johanna Potter, of Cary, N.C. Also, her grandsons: Todd Logan Thompson, of Pagosa Springs; London Walker (Brooke, Roman, Elijah), of Little Rock, Ark.; Brandon Stark (Briana, Mika, Andre, Cory), of Colorado Springs; and Bronson Stark (Daniela, Jeremiah, Jackson, Jordan, Isabella), of Albuquerque, N.M.

## Robert K. Wall Jr.

Robert was born Jan. 24, 1950 in St. Louis, Mo., to Robert and Neoma (Steinhans) Wall. He grew up in Cahokia, Ill., and Alhambra, Ill. He joined the Army in 1971. He has a son, Brad McAtee, and a daughter, Alyssa Wall. He is survived by his children, brothers and sisters listed below, grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews. He enjoyed working out, antiquing and hunting for gold. Robert left this life March 13, 2024, at Pine Ridge Extended Care in Pagosa Springs, Colo.

Robert is predeceased by his father, Robert K. Wall Sr.; mother, Neoma Alanis; and brother, Eddie Holderfield.

Robert is survived by his son, Brad McAtee, and daughter, Alyssa Minor, of Illinois; sister and brother-in-law Barbara and Bob Zielinski, of Texas; brother Gary Wall, of Arkansas; brother and sister-in-law Dana and Cece Wall, of Arkansas; sister and brother-in-law Julia and Tom Bowen, of Illinois; brother Marshall Roberts, of North Carolina; brother and sister-in-law Tracy and Judy Roberts, of Virginia; sister and brother-in-law Valerie and Bob Zykan, of Missouri; brother Chris Roberts, of North Carolina; and brothers Jim and Tom Wall, of Cahokia, Ill.

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## Thank you from the Moises Martinez family

The Celebration of a Life Well Lived, for our Father/Grandfather/ Uncle and Friend Moises Martinez, would not have happened on Friday and Saturday, March 22 & 23, 2024, without the help of many in this community and his friends and neighbors from Henderson, Nevada.

We are grateful to the Visiting Angels, the Boulder City Veteran's Home and Nathan Adelson Hospice Care as well as his local medical team led by Aaron Singh, for the incredible care during his final phases. We appreciate the support we received from the Immaculate Heart of Mary/JPII Catholic Church and Father Samuel Auta as well as the Rivas Family Spanish Choir, Hood Mortuary especially Ryan Phelps and Danielle Holcomb and Bobby Mcmeens/Mountain Peaks Rental for helping us expand the capacity of the church by double, the services were incredible. The Town of

Pagosa Springs was very helpful in terms of the interment and thanks to the staff of the Community Center who helped us host the reception following interment. We are grateful to the Archuleta County Veterans for the flag ceremony, the Mariachi Amigos de Nuevo Mexico for the sendoff and music at the reception and to Las Guadalupanas for facilitating the meal. Finally, we are incredibly grateful to Diane Morrell and our many friends and family for supporting the potluck nature of the home cooked meal. We appreciate the many who traveled from as far away as Alabama, Seattle, Washington, Washington DC, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Ohio, California, Arizona, Utah, and Nevada. Our family and friends proudly supported Uncle Moe's desire to support Las Guadalupanas, as many made donations in his honor. We are grateful to all who helped, Thank you.

# Letters

Continued from A3

Volunteer to help at the schools. Our teachers and administrators are certainly doing the best they can in a modern world with modern problems. So, rather than bullying these kids through the paper, purpose to be part of the overall solution. I'm so disappointed in you. I am so proud of these kids.

Brandye Kiker

## Good, bad and ugly

The Good, Bad and Ugly. What an enjoyment to see the Good in the 2023 "Beauty and the Beast." Skipping past the bad, attention turns to the ugly: the 2024 production of "Mean Girls the Musical." While the subject may be relevant, the language was not. If this language is acceptable to the administration in the auditorium and the gymnasium is attached, then certainly it must be acceptable to use in the bleachers at volleyball and basketball games. It must be okay to use in the classrooms and hallways. It becomes appropriate in parent, student, teacher conferences also. Or is there a double standard here? Fine

arts students okay but all others forbidden? Try enforcing that standard on the campus. Oh I'm in the drama department so it's okay for me.

As a retired teacher with 37 years of experience, that language was not acceptable anywhere on the campus in any situation. If my children spoke that way they would either had their 6 o'clock tanned or ingested a small bar of soap. Perhaps this should be applied to the administration, faculty and participating actors. This speech flood the internet and entertainment industry. It need not find a place in the public schools.

Philip Kuhl

## Democracy or Trump

DEMOCRACY OR TRUMP  
That's on the ballot in 2024. Listen & hear what Trump is saying. On Fox News at a own hall meeting, Sean Hannity asked Trump if he would be a dictator. Trump said on his first day as President he would be a dictator and get rid of all the immigrants.  
If you think Trump is not dangerous, listen & hear what Trump will do as a dictator like his Russian buddy Putin.

Not in any particular order, Trump said:

1. Terminate the Constitution of the U.S. of America. This has been the law of the land & protected democracy for over 200 years,
2. Discontinue Social Security & Medicare for the elderly & disabled, which the American people paid into their entire working lives.
3. Get rid of Obamacare, health care for 40 million Americans.
4. Overrule the Insurrection Act & control the military at his discretion.
5. Pack the White House with men & women loyal to Trump. Loyalty is Trump's mantra.
6. Control the media. Trump wants people to see & hear only what he decides is the truth.
7. Dispose of all his political rivals. Remember Trump said, "I can shoot someone on Fifth Ave. & get away with it." Emulating Hitler, his hero.

Trump means what he says & says what he means—there is no in between!  
Sounds like fiction—Sad to say IT'S TRUE!!!  
Maya Angelou said "When someone shows you who they are, believe them!"

See Letters A5



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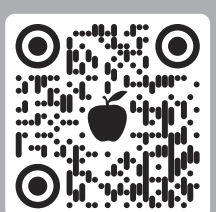
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# Business

## Public invited to tourism conference

By Jennifer Green  
Visit Pagosa Springs

The Pagosa Springs Area Tourism Board would like to invite you to attend the 2024 Pagosa Springs Area Tourism Conference on April 23 and 24.

This educational event will feature sessions on industry trends, hands-on workshops, educational sessions and networking opportunities. Attendees will be able to explore advertising opportunities, forge new partnerships with other area businesses

and learn more about how Pagosa Springs is reaching tourists.

The entire event is free of charge and open to the public. Let's grow tourism together.

Our lineup of expert speakers will present on a variety of tourism- and marketing-related topics, including the current and future state of tourism, destination stewardship and the value of tourism, leveraging the Colorado Tourism Office and Colorado.com, building connections to elevate your brand, developing an engaging presence on social media

and creating effective paid social campaigns, understanding international tourism, available business resources, working with Visit Pagosa Springs, planning and organizing events in Pagosa Springs, updates on the upcoming Colorado Department of Transportation construction projects, and much more.

### April 23

- Tour Colorado meeting: 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Ross Aragon Community Center.
- Hands-on social media work-

shop: 3 to 5 p.m., Community Center.

- Conference kickoff and networking event: 5:30 to 7 p.m., Liberty Theater.

### April 24

- Conference sessions: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Community Center.
- Lunch: 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.

The complete conference agenda can be viewed at <https://bit.ly/TourismConferenceAgenda>.

To register, please complete the form at <https://bit.ly/TourismConferenceRegistration>.

## Hanging baskets now on sale, order online

By Mary Jo Coulehan  
Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce

The annual Pagosa Pride Hanging Basket Program is now in full swing. Beautiful 12- and 16-inch baskets may be purchased until sold out.

Thanks to our nursery partners here in Pagosa and in Bayfield, we have been able to host this program every year for more than 20 years. These baskets, and many other baskets, of course, grace our businesses and homes, bringing color and inviting people to well-decorated decks, patios and entrances.

The 12-inch baskets are grown specifically for our program and include colorful varieties such as geraniums, pansies, petunias, begonias, greens, and trailing vines. The 16-inch baskets are primarily calibrachoa or mini petunias. These baskets are quite large and need sturdy brackets to handle the weight of the baskets, especially when watered.

To order your baskets, visit the Chamber's website and click on the flower graphic on the home page. This graphic will take you to the

registration link. You can then order your baskets.

The 12-inch baskets are scheduled to be delivered and ready for pickup on May 24. The 16-inch baskets typically are delivered the week after Memorial Day; however, the weather may also dictate the schedule. If you are not available to pick up your baskets on the day of delivery, we ask that you find a neighbor or friend to pick up your baskets as it is Memorial Day weekend.

If you have any questions concerning your order, do not hesitate to contact the Chamber at (970) 264-2360. We look forward to watching Pagosa color up and to continue to get rave reviews from people visiting our community who comment on these gorgeous flowers every year and about how lovely Pagosa looks.

### Workforce housing eligibility pre-application and lottery process now open

After years of planning, collaborating, raising funds and getting appropriate documents in place,

the Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation's (PSCDC) four-year workforce housing project is now open for pre-application for qualified homebuyers.

Ten houses will be built in 2024, with another 10 planned for 2025 and the additional phase planned for 2026 and 2027. The homes are located in the Chris Mountain Village II and Trails areas.

Buyers who are interested in the first 20 homes that will become available in 2024 and 2025 are invited to complete the eligibility application.

This program would not have been made available without the hard work and grants secured by the PSCDC as well as the contributing partnerships with banks, the Town of Pagosa Springs, Archuleta County, the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association and utility companies.

These homes will be deed restricted, so certain criteria and income levels will need to be met. On the link, there is a homebuyer information document spelling out the required criteria. To access the housing information, visit the PSCDC website at [www.pagosapscdc.org](http://www.pagosapscdc.org).

This is a monumental achievement for our community. Help spread the word in your business about this important housing project.

### Internship interest applications due April 5

Businesses interested in hiring youth for paid summer intern programs have until Friday, April 5, to complete their applications of interest.

This program, in its multiyear existence through a grant received from the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment, offers businesses the opportunity to hire youth in our community as they explore avenues for career development. Businesses can get reimbursed up to \$3,500 per intern in this win-win program. Students get matched up with businesses where they can explore their interest in a particular career, and businesses provide valuable work experience for our youth.

If you are interested in hiring a student intern, contact Kat at the PSCDC at [kat@pagosapscdc.org](mailto:kat@pagosapscdc.org).

## Fire district discusses issues at airport

By Josh Pike  
Staff Writer

At a March 5 meeting, the Pagosa Fire Protection District (PFPD) Board of Directors discussed issues relating to water and foam supply at the Steven's Field airport owned by Archuleta County.

Fire Chief Robert Bertram updated the board on the issues occurring at the airport, noting that Archuleta County conversations about the topic have been featured in The SUN.

He explained that Capt. Kelly Robertson, who serves as fire marshal and oversees fire inspections for the district, has been unsuccessfully advocating for improvements in the amount of water supply available for fire suppression at the airport hangars for about five years.

Bertram stated that, in July of 2023, two new hangars were being constructed and that new construction requires water supply in accordance with the fire code.

He added that the district cannot retroactively require older hangars to have enhanced water supply, but refused to approve issuing building permits for the new hangars until the water supply issue for those hangars is addressed.

However, Bertram explained that construction on the hangars proceeded, although the district is now refusing to approve granting certificates of occupancy (COs) for the hangars until the water supply issues

are addressed.

He stated that the county is having the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) perform a water study to determine what modifications will be needed, but "we want some kind of definitive thing saying that they are going to address this water supply issue to be able to move forward because right now we do not meet the requirements to meet fire flow to fight a fire over there."

Bertram added that a hangar in the area, which was built without the district's knowledge, was built in front of a fire hydrant, further complicating firefighting access in the area.

He stated that, previously, the PFPD did not review plans for hangars and noted that hangars contain a variety of dangerous substances and objects, including jet fuel, planes and other vehicles.

"So, that's where we're holding up the CO on two of them until we can have some kind of definitive thing of what we're going to do for this water flow," Bertram said.

He added that the Archuleta County commissioners raised the issue that many buildings in downtown Pagosa Springs do not have sufficient water supply either during a discussion of the topic.

Bertram commented that the district cannot impose requirements on existing structures, such as those in the downtown area.

"All we can do is prepare for the future, and we have those requirements," he said.

PFPD board member James Martin asked if the district has had any interactions with the new fixed-base operator (FBO) for the airport.

Bertram stated that he did not believe the district has had any interactions with the new FBO so far.

"We looked at the fact that our services are undervalued ... — and that's a nice way to put it — and that needs to change, so somebody's going to have to address it," Martin said.

Bertram commented that the issues with the water supply have primarily been discussed with the county and that the county is trying to determine who is responsible for paying for the infrastructure improvements that will be necessary to improve water flow.

He added that, in most development projects, the builder of a new project would be responsible for paying for the infrastructure improvements.

Bertram stated that the county building official is currently supporting the PFPD by refusing to issue COs for the hangars until the water supply is improved.

Martin commented that the issue

of how to provide water supply ultimately rests with the county and PAWSD, and that determining how to do this would not be difficult, but could involve confronting "squeaky wheels."

"It's not our responsibility to figure out how they're gonna accomplish this," Bertram said.

Martin expressed surprise that more review was not done before the hangars were permitted.

"We've had a lot of stuff that's happened over the years," Bertram commented, adding that the district is improving its review procedures and doing cleanup work for previous issues.

The group also discussed the supply of firefighting foam at the airport, with Deputy Fire Chief Karn Macht explaining that the district is working on obtaining foam to fight fires at the airport.

In an interview, Bertram explained that the foam the district previously used for such fires was recently banned due to research indicating that it causes increased risks of cancer in people exposed to it.

■ See Airport A6

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## Letters

Continued from A4  
VOTE FOR DEMOCRACY!  
Pray for Peace.

Sarah Maketansky  
Toms River, N.J.

### Blasphemy

Dear Editor:  
Oh my goodness, I wonder how "that" Trump guy's Bible sales are going. I don't know if his Bible is the same as our "Holy Bible." "Holy Bibles" have been available in book stores for centuries. I would not purchase his Bible for many reasons. He is selling it for profit. I am concerned that he has hired someone to edit and change certain passages to reflect his personal

beliefs which he will probably refer to during the final days before the November election. We cannot be certain that his Bible is the same as the "Holy Bible" which families have studied throughout their life times?

Most families have a "Holy Bible" in their home that has been handed down by generations past. Yes, the original "Holy Bible" can still be purchased through most bookstores.

Yes, "that" Trump guy using a "Bible" to raise money for himself is an insult to those of faith who read and study their "Holy Bibles" as a major guidance for their daily lives.

So disgusting,

Patty Tillerson



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# Early Childhood Council of Archuleta County assesses local child care challenges

By Laura Mijares  
Early Childhood Council of Archuleta County

The Early Childhood Council of Archuleta County (ECCAC) has completed a comprehensive assessment, a family survey and a series of focus group meetings to understand and address the community's critical child care needs. The findings make clear families' challenges in accessing reasonable and quality child care, particularly regarding availability, affordability and waitlists.

In February, the ECCAC's survey received a robust response, with more than 150 participants sharing their insights. In addition, the ECCAC gathered anecdotal data from three focused discussion groups. The key takeaways from this comprehensive research highlight the need for solu-

tions to bridge existing child care gaps.

Among the significant findings, it was revealed that residents of Archuleta County are allocating nearly 15 percent of their income toward child care expenses. This exceeds the recommended threshold set by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services of 7 percent, indicating a substantial financial burden on families. Ninety percent of surveyed parents reported leaving or pausing their careers to care for their children at home, with 40 percent expressing a desire to rejoin the workforce as soon as possible.

Infant care emerged as a critical issue, as Archuleta has only six licensed placements available in the county, though about 100 babies are born yearly. Furthermore, many families face extensive waitlists for child care services, with 60 percent

of surveyed households reporting being on waitlists and 50 percent of these children already enrolled in child care but awaiting placement in preferred facilities.

The affordability of child care is a significant concern, often dissuading families from seeking employment opportunities. However, the ECCAC is working to increase the number of available child care slots.

The ECCAC is the conduit for various state initiatives to promote emerging and expanding licensed care and education, including grants and required training.

Also, the ECCAC advocates for resources such as the Colorado Child Care Assistance Program (CCCAP), which assists eligible households in securing affordable child care. Approximately 25 percent of households in Archuleta County are eligible for

CCCAP assistance, which is accepted at various child care facilities, including Wings Early Childhood Center, Seeds of Learning, Head Start, Our Savior Lutheran School and Tiff's Lil' Cubs Childcare.

The ECCAC remains committed to collaborating with community stakeholders, policymakers and child care providers to develop and implement effective strategies that address the child care needs of Archuleta County residents. By advocating for increased access, affordability and quality of child care services, the ECCAC aims to support families in achieving economic stability while ensuring young children's healthy development and well-being.

To learn more about the ECCAC and to view the 2023 Community Assessment, visit <http://eccarchul-etacounty.org>.

# El Pomar Foundation approves \$229,176 for organizations

## Healthy Archuleta awarded \$5,000

By Seth Lindsay  
El Pomar Foundation

El Pomar Trustees approved \$229,176 allocated to 14 nonprofit organizations and government entities in the Southwest region at the foundation's March trustees meeting.

Through the foundation's grant-making process, Healthy Archuleta Inc. received \$5,000 for Community-Based Food and Health Youth Educa-

tion and Service program from the regional council.

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

Additionally, over the last 85 years, El Pomar has either developed or been entrusted with the stewardship of a number of other funds, as well as presenting merit grants in each region recommended by trustees and regional council members. Competitive appli-

cations are accepted on a rolling basis.

In an effort to increase impact and establish connections across the entire state, the Regional Partnerships program was established in 2003. Each of the foundation's 11 regional councils advises El Pomar Trustees and recommends grants to help support its communities.

The Southwest Regional Council recommends grants in Archuleta, Dolores, La Plata, Montezuma and San Juan counties. Council members are regional leaders in the business, nonprofit and public sectors and provide firsthand information about current

needs in their own communities.

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

El Pomar Foundation is one of the largest and oldest private foundations in Colorado. El Pomar contributes approximately \$25 million annually through grants in the areas of arts and culture, civic and community initiatives, education, health, and human services, as well as community stewardship and leadership development programs to support Colorado nonprofit organizations.

# Medical center sees positive bottom line in February

By Randi Pierce  
Staff Writer

For the second straight year, the Upper San Juan Health Service District (USJHSD), which operates as Pagosa Springs Medical Center (PSMC), had a positive bottom line for February.

The USJHSD Board of Directors heard the news at its March 26 meeting, with Chief Financial Officer Chelle Keplinger explaining it was a "great month."

For the month of February, PSMC had a positive bottom line of \$418,085. PSMC ended February 2023 with

a positive bottom line of \$85,584.

During her presentation, Keplinger explained gross revenue for the month totaled \$6,223,791 — \$33,360 more than the budget and \$370,027 more than February 2023.

Year to date through February, PSMC's gross revenue totals \$12,787,50 — \$46,124 more than the budget and \$981,695 more than the same period in 2023.

Of that, PSMC saw \$3,554,524 in net patient revenue for the month of February, which is \$426,505 more than the budget and \$564,304 more than the previous year.

Year to date, net patient revenue

totals \$6,680,425, which is \$288,785 more than the budget and \$272,108 more than the previous year.

Expenses for the month of February came in \$103,019 less than what was budgeted but \$229,322 above the same month in 2023 — something Keplinger explained was expected.

Year to date, PSMC's expenses are \$7,107,119 — \$151,056 less than the budget and \$267,817 above the same period in 2023.

That left the medical center with a positive bottom line for both February and for the year to date.

The year-to-date bottom line is

\$40,029 — \$194,411 more than the budget and \$160,164 more than the prior year.

Following Keplinger's presentation, board member Martin Rose asked if PSMC should start to expect to be profitable in February since PSMC has had a positive bottom line in February two years.

Keplinger responded that it's hard to say and that she'd like to see a third year's data.

Board member Mark Floyd also noted that February's bottom line is "incredibly rare," adding it was a "terrific month."

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

# State reminds Coloradans of income tax filing deadline

By Derek Kuhn  
Colorado Department of Revenue

As the income-tax-filing season nears its end, the Colorado Department of Revenue, Taxation Division reminds taxpayers that they need to file by April 15.

Taxpayers who miss the deadline will receive an automatic, six-month extension to Oct. 15 to file a return.

However, there is no extension to pay the tax due. This means taxpayers who need to remit funds to the state will need to pay 90 percent of their tax liability before April 15 to avoid penalties.

Coloradans who need to file state income taxes can do so through RevenueOnline, third-party tax-preparation services or by mail. The department recommends the use of digital tax options to cut down on processing time,

the potential for errors and issues in transit.

Up-to-date information, including the status of state income tax refunds, is at [Tax.Colorado.gov](http://Tax.Colorado.gov) — just click on the "Where's My Refund" banner. It usually takes about seven to 10 business days for the U.S. Postal Service to deliver the refund checks, but occasionally it can take up to 30 days. If it has been more than 30 days and you have not

received your refund check, please visit this webpage to learn about the refund check reissue process.

Taxpayers who need low- or no-cost help filing state income tax returns should visit [Tax.Colorado.gov/Community-Tax-Help](http://Tax.Colorado.gov/Community-Tax-Help) for additional resources.

For more information about Colorado taxes and Taxation Division services, please visit [Tax.Colorado.gov](http://Tax.Colorado.gov).

# Airport

Continued from A5

He added that this ban disrupted the supply of foam products for fighting fuel fires due to most producers manufacturing the now-banned foam products.

At the meeting, Macht stated that the district is moving forward with acquiring a new foam product, and Martin emphasized the importance of such foam to fighting fuel fires, which are not suppressed by water.

Martin also noted that the current fees collected for fighting fires at the airport do not cover the expenses of products like foam that are primarily useful for airport fires and questioned what mechanisms the district has to force an increase in the fees paid by the county for airport fire service.

Bertram commented that many airports do not pay additional monies for fire service because they fall within a fire protection district, but that Steven's Field is a "unique situation" due to it being owned by the county.

He also explained that the cost of foam can be significant.

PPFD board member Wayne Hooper commented that the PPFD should not, in his view, be paying for these foam products.

He added that the board has previously discussed the issue of the costs of fighting fires at the airport compared to the \$1,200 the district receives annually for providing this service.

Bertram commented that the situation would be easier if the county would sell the airport, thus allowing

the district to collect taxes on it from a private owner.

Martin stated the FBO is likely also concerned about safety and might be willing to assist the district in supporting the expenses of fire suppression for the airport.

Bertram commented that, if the airport was private, the property taxes collected by the district would total "at least \$4,000 a year."

Martin added that the district needs to keep moving forward with securing foam for airport fires and reiterated his concerns about PPFD

personnel having to fight fuel fires with insufficient resources.

"We've been really lucky," he said. "We haven't had anything to speak of in the time I've lived here, but it only takes one to hurt somebody."

He added that it would be "worth opening discussion" with the FBO owner, as he understood that the owner is "pretty easy to work with" and is investing a large amount of money into the community currently.

"Definitely," Bertram concluded. [josh@pagosasun.com](mailto:josh@pagosasun.com)

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# Grant

■ Continued from front

restrictions cover a large number of “what ifs” covering a range of possible circumstances and unforeseen events.

She indicated that the restrictions allow the owner to meet the work requirements for owning a home by being self-employed, assuming they file their taxes in Archuleta County.

Lashbrooke explained that she is negotiating with the Archuleta County Housing Authority (ACHA) and believes that it will agree to manage ensuring that the occupants of the homes continue to meet the requirements for owning a home as well as assisting occupants in determining what price they would be allowed to sell their home for.

She commented that she hopes to create a bank of potential buyers for these homes through the lottery process where the initial buyers will be selected and that the ACHA could notify this bank when one of the homes comes onto the market and manage the transaction if someone in the bank chooses to buy the home.

In response to a question from Commissioner Warren Brown, Lashbrooke stated that all potential buyers in this bank would be notified and who could purchase the home would have to be determined by lottery due to federal regulations.

She stated that, if the owner defaults on the loan for the house, the ACHA would have the right to force a sale of the home to prevent it being foreclosed upon.

She indicated that having forced sales upon default would prevent any entity from having to rescue the mortgage for the home and that the buyer of the home would again be selected by lottery.

Lashbrooke added that the PSCDC does not have the capacity to manage deed restrictions and that the restrictions were designed to remove the organization from managing the home once construction and sale is complete.

She stated that the ACHA would also likely manage complaints raised about the home by neighbors or the bank providing the loan.

The deed restrictions will remain in place for 33 years, Lashbrooke added.

She then raised the possibility that, in later phases of the project, some of the homes could be sold to local businesses to provide temporary housing for their employees.

She indicated that this possibility would be built into the deed restrictions and that the rents on the homes would be restricted by the AMI level they are designated for.

Commissioner Ronnie Maez asked if there would be limitations on how many homes could be bought by local businesses, commenting that having all the homes owned by local businesses “wouldn’t be good.”

“That’s not our mission either,” Lashbrooke said, adding that the business buyers would primarily become relevant if the PSCDC is unable to otherwise sell the homes.

She commented that having these guaranteed buyers would supply banks providing loans for the project with additional security.

“They would love for someone else to build their housing for them and occupy them and they just pay for it,” she said. “They would love for that to happen. That’s not our goal or our intention. We would only sell to businesses if, all of a sudden, affordable housing became plentiful and we’re struggling to sell these houses.”

She added that the deed restrictions also include a provision where, if the occupant of the home has to move out of the area for work, they can rent the house to another person.

Commissioner Veronica Medina questioned how businesses would qualify to meet the AMI required to purchase these homes.

“I haven’t thought that through, to be quite honest,” Lashbrooke replied. “I would have to go back and check with my consultant on how that could work.”

The group then discussed how these qualifications could work and how the restrictions on rents for the properties operate, with Lashbrooke clarifying that the option to rent the home while the owner is out of the area requires that the rental cost meet the AMI levels the home was initially designated for.

Medina commented that she is opposed to businesses being able to purchase homes, to which Lashbrooke responded that the rent controls related to business are being integrated into the deed restrictions “in case this ever happens.”

Lashbrooke added that the formatting of the deed restrictions could be changed for homes built later in the project, and the group briefly discussed if the deed restrictions on the properties could be altered later, with Lashbrooke emphasizing that doing this would be challenging.

She added that the local capacity grant that the PSCDC and the Town of Pagosa Springs obtained would support a community affordable housing

coordinator who would help design a deed restriction that could be broadly used in the community.

In response to a question from Maez, County Attorney Todd Weaver indicated that the county cannot change the county deed restrictions on the properties in the future since it will not own the properties anymore.

Lashbrooke added that the ACHA would be the only one with the power to change the deed restrictions.

Medina questioned how to prevent the deed restrictions from being changed in the future, and Maez proposed that the agreement with ACHA concerning management of the deed restrictions would likely be a powerful tool in this regard.

Lashbrooke added that these deed restrictions will be monitored by the Colorado Division of Housing.

County Manager Derek Woodman noted that the deed restrictions require the occupant to be employed in Archuleta County and asked what would happen if the occupant is employed in La Plata County but still resides in Archuleta County.

Lashbrooke stated that one member of the household has to be employed in Archuleta County and that, if this is not the case, the occupant would be notified and would have to come before the BoCC to ask for relief of this restriction.

“But that’s not the goal of this project,” Lashbrooke said. “The goal is to employ our employees and our residents here.”

She added that questions still exist about those who live in Archuleta County but are employed in Hinsdale or Mineral counties, particularly given that many area residents work at Wolf Creek Ski Area in Mineral County.

Lashbrooke added that there are a range of ways to address this and that she would like recommendations from the BoCC on the issue.

Medina questioned why requests for relief from the employment restrictions would come before the BoCC given the county does not own the homes or control the deed restrictions.

Instead, Medina proposed, these requests would likely be handled by the ACHA since it manages the deed restrictions.

Lashbrooke expressed agreement and noted that the ACHA would likely have to report back to the BoCC if this situation arises and ask for its position on the issue.

Maez commented that the decision should remain with the ACHA, and Weaver questioned what authority the BoCC would have to intervene in that situation due to the county not owning the properties.

Maez then allowed resident and affordable housing advocate Bill Hudson to ask a question.

Hudson asked how the deed restrictions would interact with occupants who retire while still living in the home and if these retired occupants would be ejected from their homes due to no longer working in the county.

Lashbrooke explained that the deed restrictions allow the occupant to continue living in the house once they retire assuming they have occupied it for 10 years prior to retirement.

“What we don’t want is someone who’s going to retire in one year to occupy a workforce housing home,” she said.

She added that, according to the Division of Housing, workforce housing units tend to be owned for about 10 years before re-entering the marketplace.

Medina asked Lashbrooke to let Weaver review the deed restrictions before they are finalized.

Weaver commented that, although he had not yet reviewed the restrictions in detail, he did feel that spelling out who has enforcement authority in the deed restriction is critical.

Brown asked that the ACHA be required to give the BoCC a quarterly update on the homes to ensure the board remains up to date on the project.

Maez stated that a quarterly report would be valuable at the beginning of the project and that they could potentially become semiannual later on.

Lashbrooke commented that the ACHA’s involvement with the project would mostly occur when homes are initially purchased or sold.

Lashbrooke then shifted focus to the issue of the PSCDC’s need for additional contingency funding, explaining that, as part of an application for a Division of Housing grant, she is required to guarantee a certain amount of funding that she is applying for grants to cover.

She indicated that she would not hear back from these grants until after the Division of Housing grant application closes.

Lashbrooke added that the Division of Housing is requesting that the PSCDC put in a contingency of 10 percent of the affordable housing project’s cost into the project budget, which she stated is about \$385,000.

She noted that this contingency will

cover any overruns of the anticipated project costs.

Lashbrooke stated that the division is requesting that the PSCDC have a commitment guaranteeing its contingency up to \$300,000.

She added that there are several grants that she is looking at to cover these costs.

Lashbrooke stated that the grant application is due April 1 and that, because of the short timeframe available, she was asking the county to supply funds to guarantee the \$300,000 contingency needed for the grant.

She then outlined the county’s risk in guaranteeing this contingency, noting that the PSCDC has a fixed-price contract with builder BWD and that any budget overruns would have to be reviewed and approved by the PSCDC Board of Directors, although she added that she would be willing to add BoCC review and approval of budget overruns if the county provides the contingency funds.

“I fully anticipate and expect that I will cover this funding before it ever comes to the BoCC with funding, with stakeholder interest and participation, I have several different options,” she said. “I just can’t close anything before the 31st of this month.”

She stated that the primary grant she is pursuing to cover this contingency is a \$300,000 request to the Colorado Healthcare Foundation, which she will receive a decision on in the next three months.

Brown asked when these contingency funds would be needed in the “worst-case scenario” that they are necessary.

Lashbrooke stated that they would be required at the end of the project in November or December.

She added that it is “highly unlikely” that the contingency funds would be needed due to the nature of the building contract and that the PSCDC would be aware of any likely budget overruns once the foundations for the homes are in place.

“So, it’s just kind of like a little type of reserve thing to get us through April 1,” Maez said.

“It’s a safety net honestly that the ... Department of Housing is asking for, just to say, ‘OK, if we’re going to give you all this fund to offset the costs of your house, you look like you’re about \$300,000 short,’” Lashbrooke said. “Well, I have several other options to go after, it’s just the window hasn’t opened yet. Who’s gonna guarantee that contingency?”

She added that she could not foresee the PSCDC project using more than \$50,000 in contingency.

She noted the Colorado Health Foundation is “very interested” in the project.

Brown asked if the contingency request is a “gap guarantee request” for a short period of time that would not be due for up to nine months, which Lashbrooke confirmed.

Maez highlighted that Lashbrooke might obtain more funds for the project, thus preventing the county from spending any money.

Maez then asked Woodman about what funding the county could use to fulfill this request.

Woodman stated that the county has \$667,000 in Payment in Lieu of Taxes and Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency monies available.

Weaver noted that he would have to think about how to implement providing this funding since the Colorado Constitution forbids counties from pledging credit to other entities.

Following consideration, Weaver stated that the most effective way to provide the contingency would be to set the money aside for contingency and arrange that the PSCDC could apply for a grant to obtain the funding if necessary.

He added that the county would have to be “creative” in how it structures this process to ensure it complies with the Colorado Constitution.

Lashbrooke expressed confidence that the PSCDC will not need the funds.

Weaver proposed that the county could award a grant to the PSCDC that would reimburse the organization for contingency costs up to \$300,000.

Brown asked if a provision could be included in the grant agreement that any project savings on the PSCDC project would be applied to the contingency prior to using county grant funds.

Lashbrooke stated that this would be acceptable.

Maez emphasized that he is focused on ensuring the funding is in place by April 1, as needed for the PSCDC grant.

Weaver reiterated that the best way to approach this issue would be with a reimbursement grant similar to those the county used when awarding American Rescue Plan Act funding.

“It’s too important of a project to not try to make it happen,” Maez said.

“I agree, Ronnie,” Brown added.

Lashbrooke emphasized how close the PSCDC is to completing funding the project and stated that she learned of the requirement due to a phone call

from the Division of Housing the Friday before the work session.

Medina asked Lashbrooke if the reimbursement grant arrangement Weaver proposed would meet the grant requirements.

Lashbrooke stated she believed it would, but she would check with the Department of Housing.

“And I will work really tirelessly as normal to make sure that we get more grant funding in to offset that cost,” Lashbrooke said.

Medina asked Weaver what steps would need to be taken to rescind the grant to the PSCDC if funding to cover the contingency is found elsewhere.

Weaver commented that the grant could be set to expire at the end of the year and stated, because it would be a reimbursement grant, “if no receipts were submitted, basically the grant goes away.”

Lashbrooke concluded the discussion by stating that, if she obtains funding from another source, she will notify the county so the funds can be released to cover other county needs.

At the March 29 BoCC special meeting, Woodman presented a grant agreement with the PSCDC for a \$300,000 grant along with a resolution appropriating \$300,000 in Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund monies to the PSCDC grant award and a letter of commitment for the grant to be presented to DOLA.

Brown highlighted that the grant funds would cover the gap if the PSCDC does not receive all the grant funds it is applying for.

Maez expressed agreement with this assessment and Woodman added that the PSCDC has a “top final number” with its building contractor that the project costs will not exceed, although he noted that the project could be impacted by increases in material or product cost increases.

“There is no anticipation that these funds will be needed,” Woodman said, adding that the grant is necessary for the PSCDC to move forward on the project and on obtaining other DOLA grants.

“I hope that these funds are not needed and they revert back to the county,” Maez said.

“Me, too,” Brown added. The board then approved the grant agreement, the resolution and the letter of commitment.

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# Funding

## Continued from front

the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) are working on developing a solution for this issue, including potentially creating a mill levy which would help support county fire operations and potentially the purchase of equipment to fight structure fires, which the county currently lacks.

Bertram added that another option would be to attempt to add more properties into the fire district to reduce the amount of properties the county is responsible for and that are not paying for fire service.

He commented that the current arrangement is "not fair" and that he was hoping to "open the conversation" on the issue.

PFPD board member James Martin noted that an emergency services mill levy would likely have to cover the entire county, including those in the PFPD, which could make its passage a "struggle."

Bertram commented that the PFPD and ACSO supporting each other with whatever approach is ultimately taken would be critical.

He noted that including more

properties in the district would require voter approval and that the complex structure of the PFPD and the other fire districts which also enter the county complicate the issue.

PFPD board member Wayne Hooper noted that another question is whether the area wants two fire departments or wants a single combined fire department.

Martin stated that the district has cost recovery for fires outside the district, but that there is a relatively low rate of recovery and the amounts that can be charged are low.

He commented that this issue has been discussed multiple times before and come up to "the same road block."

"How do you get this done? You can't be non-compassionate and not service, but, at the same time, you can't work for free," he said.

The group then discussed fire service in nearby areas of Mineral County and Hinsdale County, with Bertram noting that the district does not receive compensation from these counties for responses in their areas, but that it has an ethical responsibility

to fight fires that occur there.

PFPD board member Ronald Beckman commented that he appreciated Bertram updating the board on the issue and stated that he feels staying in alignment with any efforts that the ACSO undertakes is critical.

Bertram commented that expanding the district could raise issues about if the district is prepared to fully accept responsibility for fire suppression in the increased area.

Martin commented that the district is currently not well prepared or planned for expansion and that one key step is increasing district revenues, which could be done by expanding the district, but would also likely require increasing the district's mill levy.

"If we don't start now, it's never going to happen," he said. "We have to somehow start that process and it may not be popular, but that's the least of the concerns. It will be real unpopular when somebody dies in a burning house we didn't get to in time. So, the reality of it is just, let's bite the bullet, put our hand out there and let somebody slap it. At least they know now, 'Hey, here's the reasons why we

have to do this.'

"Right now there's no discussion, the community thinks they're covered. This community thinks everything's just wonderful because you're making sure they're covered even though you're flatlining right now. Your equipment's gonna die, your facility's going to require maintenance, and you don't have the revenue stream for it. We need to force the community to support this facility better. So, how do we do that?"

Martin commented that the district needs to start discussing how to increase its revenues and start taking steps to do so.

Discussion then returned to the issue of whether an emergency services mill levy or an expansion of the district would be desirable, with Bertram stating that the county is currently working on determining if a mill levy could be imposed on only the areas of the county not covered by a fire district.

Martin commented that the county commissioners need to be informed about the financial needs of the fire district as they currently do not appear

to be aware of them and are focused on "all these other screwups" consuming county funds and attention.

The board continued discussion of the mill levy, with board members highlighting the importance of ensuring that those currently not contributing to fire services do so and raising community awareness of the need for increased fire services funding, particularly with large development projects moving into the area.

Beckman proposed that the board should review the fire master plan for the district at its April meeting to help continue moving the process forward.

Bertram commented that he is currently focusing on revising internal district policies and documents before beginning to focus on the strategic plan.

"There's this old adage that it's hard to remember you came to drain the swamp when you're up to your butt in alligators," Martin said, adding that amount of work Bertram is facing is likely overwhelming, but that the district needs to keep moving on long-term issues like funding as well.

Bertram commented that he did

not expect to have to be addressing many of the issues he is currently facing and that addressing them often involves "realizing where it is, drawing that line, and moving forward and correcting stuff and continuing to go."

"We can't look back," Martin said. "It doesn't do us any good. We can only look forward, and you tell us what you need to continue to move forward. ... I'm going to whine about things that I think could cost a firefighter's life or a community member's life. That's what I'm going to whine about. The rest of it to me is minutiae. We need to keep you guys alive, and we need to keep the public alive ... and that's all that matters."

"And how do we get there? We sure as hell can't get there without a budget, so the county has to help somehow. We're not in a position to say, 'No, you can't issue these building permits because we can't support it.' So, it's their responsibility to help somewhere or provide a vision of how they're going to fund these services even though they don't seem to think it's their responsibility."

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# Parade

## Continued from front

place in the spring/summer of 2024 and the spring/summer of 2025.

At the meeting, Administration Services Manager Kathy Harker explained that there would definitely be an "impact" to the parade route since the CDOT reconstruction project will be taking place "right smack dab in the middle" of the town's traditional parade route.

Harker added that, "with all the unknowns" due to CDOT not yet selecting a contractor for the project and therefore not yet having solidified plans about the sequencing and schedule for the construction, "it's very hard for staff to try to plan for something like this."

"We feel that the traditional route may not be the best one to pursue at this time. We are investigating other routes, other options" that would hit "all the key points to keep people here and happy during the construction," she said.

Parks and Recreation Director Darren Lewis also chimed in to say, "We have to plan this ahead of time. We can't wait too much longer."

He added, "Knowing that we don't know where the construction is going to be on July 4, decisions will have to be made that if we maintain the current route that we've always done in the past, we would need to start planning that by May 1."

Town staff wanted to bring this issue in front of the council as sort of "an FYI that staff is looking at moving the parade off of main street for this year," Lewis said.

He added that the town would need to get the community acclimated to the idea that the parade would likely take place "off of main street for a few years because of the construction."

Council member Mat deGraaf explained that the council has been told in the past "what a Herculean effort goes into planning this parade in normal years. I personally would

have no problems with just canceling the parade during this time of construction."

Mayor Shari Pierce retorted, "I'm not in favor of that. And I feel like if we cancel this parade, it may never come back, and that would be a tragedy for our community and the thousands of people who come here."

Harker explained she wanted the council to know that town staff was not at the meeting to recommend canceling the parade, to which deGraaf said, "I understand. I'm recommending it."

Harker noted that the parade is a "tradition here" that should continue. Later in the discussion, council member Brooks Lindner jokingly suggested looking at a parade route "that goes by council member deGraaf's house," in reference to deGraaf's suggestion to cancel the parade. This drew laughter from the council and audience.

However, Lewis noted he wanted to be clear that while this year's parade would likely happen in some form or fashion, it will be "a very different-looking parade," adding that town staff is just now starting to look at alternative routes and what "a mobile parade would even look like" considering the upcoming construction.

"There are different ideas. A walking parade. A much smaller, you know, having it more kid-friendly. There's just lots of ideas that are out there right now," he said.

Lewis told the council town staff was not bringing any concrete options in front of the council at the meeting, but will have some options soon.

"Just be open-minded that this will probably not be your typical" parade, with "lining up floats and going down the road. There's a possibility of that," he said.

"I encourage you to find another route. It doesn't have to be main street, but let's keep the parade," council member Leonard Martinez

said, stressing that it's an important gathering for families in the area.

Pierce asked if the town could put in more than one permit with CDOT so that the town could have "a couple of options. And then when we know a little bit more about where they are actually gonna start the construction, then we can make a choice."

She pondered, "Do we go up 8th Street and come down 6th? Or do we go up 6th and come down Hot Springs [Boulevard] depending on where CDOT's contractor is?"

She also reminded everyone about an upcoming meeting being held this Thursday, April 4, at the Ross Aragon Community Center from 5 to 7 p.m., where the town and CDOT will provide the most recent project updates, giving residents and business owners the opportunity to ask questions and share their thoughts and ideas about the upcoming downtown construction.

She further talked about if the town should "put in a request" to CDOT at the upcoming meeting to "write it into the [construction] contract ... that we would have access to the highway for this year, and then we talk about next year after that."

She added, "I think there's some things we can do to try to make this happen."

Harker told the council, "We are definitely looking at some options. We just wanted to put it out there that things might be different this year ... We're looking at solutions, we just don't have any yet."

Pierce thanked the town's staff for diving into the difficult issue and urged her fellow council members to reach out to Town Manager David Harris with any ideas about alternative parade routes so that he could pass those ideas along to town staff.

"Let's see what we can come up with for our community. This is, I think, very important for our whole community," she said.

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SUN photo/Shari Pierce

The Good Friday Pilgrimage, led by the Pagosa Catholic Community, sets off from the Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church downtown.

# Projects

## Continued from front

only vendor who performs such work in this area.

He stated that the proposed roads to receive this treatment include 2.8 miles of North Pagosa Boulevard from Piedra Road to the "end of the split lane on the south side of the split lane," 1.3 additional miles of North Pagosa Boulevard from Aspenglow Boulevard to Edgewater Drive, 0.7 miles of Navajo Trail Drive from the end of the proposed North Pagosa Boulevard paving project to Vista Boulevard, 1.7 miles on Hatcher Circle and 1.7 miles on South Pagosa Boulevard from Cameron Place to Meadows Drive.

Torres added that this project would be on the agenda for approval at the BoCC meeting that day and that he wanted to explain how the project was developed.

He indicated that these roads are in need of maintenance and are showing surface cracks and potholes, and that this treatment would help extend the life of these roads, particularly with the addition of chip seal over the recycled roads.

Torres then covered the bids for the North Pagosa Boulevard intersection reconstruction project, indicating that the county received four bids, with PAP LLC coming in at the lowest bid.

However, Torres stated that the county has had "some issues with them in the past" and that he recom-

mended instead selecting the second lowest bidder, Four Corners Materials, which has a history of successfully completing projects for the county.

He stated that the PAP bid was at \$304,915.50 and the Four Corners bid was priced at \$487,325.

Torres commented that the costs were "a little bit" higher than last year's bids on this project but that paving a section of Navajo Trail Drive likely contributed to this cost increase.

He added that Sunland Asphalt also entered a bid at \$564,457.65 and Elam Construction entered a bid of \$655,158.

Commissioner Ronnie Maez asked if the county is making progress on obtaining bids for paving work on County Road (CR) 119, also known as Light Plant Road.

Torres stated that the pre-bid meeting will occur "in the next couple weeks" and that the bids would likely be presented by the end of May.

Commissioner Warren Brown asked, on the topic of striping, if the companies involved completed their work from last year and if they were still bound by last year's contract.

Torres stated that the work from last year was finished last year and that the county is moving forward with new contracts this year.

He added that the contractor wanted to begin the striping earlier this year.

Commissioner Veronica Medina

asked if the chip seal that Torres proposed should be applied to the roads recycled by Dustrol would be done this year or later.

Torres stated that it would be done later in the year and that the chip seal would add an "additional layer of protection" on the roads.

Medina asked if this is a better process than laying new asphalt, adding that she was unsure what the cost difference between this process and new asphalt would be.

Torres stated that the cost of Dustrol milling and recycling asphalt on 8.2 miles of roads is \$740,067.28 and that he estimated the cost of chip seal on these roads would be similar.

He added that this is likely 10 percent of the cost of laying new asphalt on this length of road.

County Manager Derek Woodman explained that last year the county had a project on Piedra Road which laid 0.75 miles of new asphalt for \$1.5 million.

At the BoCC meeting later that day, the board approved the project with Dustrol at a cost of \$740,067.28 and the road striping project to be completed by Branson Road Works at a cost of \$96,500.

The board also selected Four Corners Materials as the contractor for the North Pagosa Boulevard reconstruction project at a cost of \$487,325.

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# V Rock

## Continued from front

"When we can work with willing sellers to reduce potential development within the national forest boundary, it makes sense from a fire management perspective," said Pagosa District Ranger Joshua Peck. "As Pagosa continues to grow and develop, new structures in the wildland interface are a real challenge we need to acknowledge."

The V Rock land acquisition is located within the Rio Chama Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Project (CFLRP) area that spans

3.8 million acres across four national forests in southwest Colorado and northern New Mexico.

The overarching goal of the CFLRP is to increase the pace and scale of forest and watershed restoration across all lands using a collaborative approach to planning and implementation.

The V Rock land acquisition supports CFLRP goals associated with maintaining wildlife habitat quality and connectivity for native and desired non-native wildlife species and the ability to expand wildfire response decision space, improve wildfire outcomes, and increase protection of homes and infrastructure across the landscape.

"Conserving land in the public trust is at the core of the Forest Service mission," said Dave Neely, forest supervisor for the San Juan National Forest. "With the invaluable assistance from our partners at RMEF, this acquisition enhances that conservation mission for current and future generations."

For information on the San Juan National Forest, call (970) 247-4874 or visit the forest website.

RMEF has carried out extensive conservation work in this part of the state over the years and holds four voluntary conservation agreements protecting 12,119 acres of wildlife habitat just 10 miles to the south of V Rock Mountain.

## Correction

In the March 28 article titled "Wastewater districts approve agreement to research new plant and potential consolidation," Public Works Director Karl Johnson was incorrectly identified as Karl Onsager in portions of the article.

The SUN regrets the error.





# Sky

Continued from front

program, of which Dark Sky Park certification is a part, “certifies communities, parks, and protected areas around the world that preserve and protect dark sites through responsible lighting policies and public education.”

There are more than 220 Dark Sky-certified places in the world, the website indicates, including cities, parks, nature preserves and other areas.

It adds that Dark Sky certification involves the implementation of light fixtures and policies that preserve dark skies and prevent light pollution, as well as outreach and education about the value and importance of dark skies.

Houghton explained that dark skies were critical to many ancient cultures, such as those represented at Chimney Rock, and that preserving them helps preserve the cultures and histories they impact.

“Even outside of Native American culture, when we look at a lot of ancient civilizations, a lot of their belief systems, the way that they interpreted the world and navigated the world was based on astronomy,” she said. “So, the stars told the stories of their gods, of their role models, of the way that they did things. And when you think about the way that the skies looked thousands of years ago before we had cities that gave off all this artificial light, they were able to see so much more to build out these culturally significant stories and belief systems and religious practices.”

“So, I think that, and I don’t want to speak for them in any way, but my assumption, just based on the general idea of how astronomy has influenced human culture over time, I think one of the biggest things is being able to see all of the stars that helped build those stories.”

The San Juan National Forest webpage for the monument also emphasizes the importance of astronomy to its history and archaeology, commenting, “The pinnacles that give Chimney Rock its name frame multiple astronomical alignments. The Ancestral Puebloans incorporated their knowledge of astronomy into the design of their community. Today Chimney Rock is one of the best recognized archaeo-astronomical resources in North America, with alignments with the northern lunar standstill, summer solstice, equinoxes and Crab Nebula.”

USFS Pagosa District Archaeologist Lindsey Smith explains in a communication to The SUN that the monument has a lengthy history with dark sky-adjacent concepts prior to the beginning of work on a Dark Sky certification in 2023.

“The [San Juan National Forest] completed preliminary Dark Sky studies as part of the Environment Assessment (EA) under [the National Environmental Protection Act] and the Monument Management Plan, both put out for public review/comment and finalized after the monument was designated in 2012,” Smith states. “The Forest had full support from our partner CRIA (Chimney Rock Interpretive Association) and the [San Juan Stargazers Astronomy Club] in 2017.”

She adds that an advisory team for the monument, “discussed Dark Sky interpretative materials when we completed the Interpretation and Education Plan in 2017.”

Houghton explained that the Dark Sky-certification process begins with a pre-application where the eligibility of the site seeking certification is reviewed by DarkSky staff and the applicant submits documentation outlining the current dark sky conditions at the site, their general goals and the type of certification they are seeking.

This step is one of the most challenging in the certification process, Houghton commented, noting that, in her understanding, most sites that are eliminated are eliminated at this stage.

She added that the availability of DarkSky staff to assist projects is also a potential factor in if a site can move forward.

However, Houghton noted, “They try to be more inclusive than exclusive because the importance of dark skies outweighs the unique marketability of it.”

After completing the pre-application review, she explained, the applicant pays an application fee, which goes to support a DarkSky representative who assists the applicant in completing the application and understanding the application requirements.

One key requirement of the application is a restoration project, Houghton stated, adding that this project is intended to demonstrate the applicant’s contribution to dark sky preservation and messaging.

For many parks, she added, this

project focuses on changing lights at the park to make them compliant with DarkSky requirements.

However, Houghton explained that the DarkSky certification process at Chimney Rock is unique due to the visitor center at the monument already integrating in dark sky-friendly lighting.

“Usually, when you go through this process, they tell you, ‘Oh, well you’re not compliant. You need to have a restoration project that makes you compliant. Here’s your light management plan,’ and all that stuff,” Houghton explained.

She stated that already having the visitor center meet Dark Sky standards helped the certification process move forward more quickly since it did not involve extensive retrofits or redesigns of the center.

Smith explains that the USFS created an advisory group that worked

*“So, the stars told the stories of their gods, of their role models, of the way that they did things. And when you think about the way that the skies looked thousands of years ago before we had cities that gave off all this artificial light, they were able to see so much more to build out these culturally significant stories and belief systems and religious practices.”*

**U.S. Forest Service  
Environmental Protection  
Specialist Kenar Houghton**

from 2017 to 2019 to assist in designing the updated visitor center and park accommodations.

“The advisory group’s overall desire in the design and usage of the new footprint was ‘exploring and enjoying nature/being in a natural landscape’ on the upper mesa and around the lower parts of the monument,” Smith states. “There was a strong push for minimizing interior (enclosed) spaces and maximizing outside spaces – this would reduce the need for heating/cooling, lighting and additional security.”

Smith indicates that the pathways at the park are lit with downward-facing lights that are manually activated, meaning that the outdoor portions of the park accommodations are not lit at night unless a special event is occurring.

She states that, due to government safety regulations, interior safety lights and illuminated exit signs remain on at the visitor center at night, spilling some light into the surrounding environment.

However, she adds, the other buildings at the monument are not illuminated and “there are no lights on the upper mesa – that includes the parking area, trails or any place near prehistoric architectural features.”

Due to already meeting Dark Sky standards at its buildings, Houghton explained that the monument had to pursue an alternative approach to its restoration project, with a focus on outreach about the cultural significance of dark skies and their importance to wildlife.

“We’re doing more outreach outside of Chimney Rock itself to help fill that requirement for the restoration project,” she said.

She stated that the restoration project involved collaboration with local organizations such as CRIA, the Weminuche Audubon Society and San Juan Stargazers, who have helped write letters of support for the project, promote dark skies and craft messaging.

Houghton indicated that this messaging will be used to update the kiosk outside the park, which is planned to include information on the Dark Sky certification for the monument, the history of dark sky efforts there and the importance of dark skies to both the cultures represented at the site and the surrounding environment.

She added that the visitor center will contain additional information on dark skies at the park and general dark sky practices, including ways to diminish light pollution while camping.

Houghton stated that the monument also hopes to bring these materials to a location in Pagosa Springs

where they will have additional exposure.

She indicated that these updates are planned to occur in the late spring or early summer of 2024 and to be in place when the monument opens for its summer season.

The monument also offers a range of programs that depend on dark skies, she added, including stargazing and celestial body viewing events with the San Juan Stargazers.

She commented that 60 to 70 percent of the monument’s programming is dependent on dark skies or “astronomically motivated,” including upcoming programs related to the lunar standstill in 2024 and 2025.

In addition to astronomy programs, Houghton added that the monument’s daytime programming has deep connections to astronomy, given the history and purposes of the site.

In addition to the restoration project, another requirement for certification is collecting dark sky quality readings at the site, Houghton stated, which include latitude, longitude and sky quality meter (SQM) readings for a variety of locations, including those commonly visited by park users and less-traveled locations.

She explained that the number of SQM readings required for certification varies depending on the size of the area being certified, with larger areas requiring more readings.

Houghton stated that the SQM measures the brightness of the sky in magnitudes per square arcsecond, which indicates the magnitude (brightness) a celestial object would have to display to match the amount of light present in a square arcsecond area of the sky.

She added that a higher number on this scale means that the sky is darker and that differing types of Dark Sky certification must meet different thresholds of sky darkness to qualify.

Houghton explained that the park certification that Chimney Rock is pursuing is more restrictive in terms of light levels and other requirements than the certification for municipalities, but is less restrictive than the certifications for reserves (a certification for large areas of about 173,000 acres or more) or sanctuaries (a certification for remote locations that includes more stringent standards for sky darkness).

She explained that the required sky darkness readings for Chimney Rock include five points in the monument, and that two SQM readings are taken at each site and averaged out.

Although Houghton indicated that there is not a specific sampling protocol required for certification, she stated that Chimney Rock is doing four sets of SQM readings at each site, with one reading for each season.

She added that the SQM readings are done in absolute darkness, but that there is not a specific stipulation for what time of night the readings are performed.

Houghton explained that, once the Dark Sky application is completed and the appropriate SQM readings are collected, the application is reviewed by the DarkSky representative, who may provide comments or feedback, and then passed on to the state Dark Sky Committee, which reviews the application, requests edits if necessary and ultimately makes a decision on awarding the certification.

She stated that, once the certification is approved by the committee, the applicant can start using the certification in marketing or education materials at the site.

Houghton stated that she hopes to have the application for certification completed and submitted this summer, with the certification hopefully occurring by the late summer or fall.

The Dark Sky certification must be maintained, Houghton explained, which requires yearly SQM readings and ongoing outreach efforts.

She stated that ongoing dark sky messaging and outreach is an element of the management plan for the site, drafted in collaboration with tribal partners and the CRIA.

The presence of these elements in the management plan will help sustain dark sky outreach efforts, and thus the certification, Houghton commented, adding that many nighttime programs at the monument currently integrate in dark sky messaging and advocacy.

In the long-term, she explained that dark sky messaging may be folded into additional programming presented at the site, although she noted that this process will require input from the tribal partners who help manage the site and who collaborate with the USFS and others to build the management plan and design programs.

Houghton stated that these tribal partners all have “culturally significant ties to the monument and the archeology that’s there.”

Smith adds that the tribal partners for the site include the Pueblos of Acoma, Cochiti, Hopi, Isleta, Jemez, Kewa, Laguna, Nambé, Ohkay Owingeh, Picuris, Pojoaque, Sandia, San Felipe, San Ildefonso, Santa Ana, Taos, Tesuque, Zia, Zuni; the Navajo Nation; the Jicarilla Apache Indian Tribe; the Southern Ute Indian Tribe; the Ute Mountain Ute Indian Tribe; and the Northern Ute Indian Tribe.

Additionally, Houghton commented that one of the main goals of the project is to inspire dark sky advocacy and activity outside the boundaries of the park.

“One of the biggest impacts is being able to show people that you can contribute to dark sky preservation outside of just the national parks doing it or outside of just the national monuments doing it,” she said. “It’s a great way to get people who are passionate about astronomy also passionate about preservation because a lot of the time I think, especially if you grow up in a city like I did — I didn’t even see the milky way until I moved out here to Durango, it was my first time seeing it at Chimney Rock — it’s something that people don’t necessarily consider or think about. A lot of the stuff that we think of when we think of preservation is, ‘Oh, we don’t cut down trees,’ ‘Oh, we need to make sure we protect wildlife habitat by doing x, y and z,’ but this is like ... the opposite side of the same coin.”

“I think that building off the astronomical events that Chimney Rock puts on for visitors to really promote this dark sky messaging, not only for the park itself but also for people and the way that they individually recreate or the way they add lights to their house, I think that’s where a lot of the impact comes from.”

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# Sports

## TRACK



Photo courtesy Gerry Lindstrom

Jordan Lindstrom clears the bar on the high jump during the March 30 Pine River Invite in Bayfield. Lindstrom won the event.



Photo courtesy Gerry Lindstrom

Sienna Rose runs during the Pine River Invite in Bayfield on March 30. Rose won the 100-, 200-meter and 400-meter dashes at the meet.

## Pirates open season with pair of meets

By Randi Pierce  
Staff Writer

A portion of the Pagosa Springs High School Pirate track and field team opened the season on Saturday, March 30, at the Pine River Invitational in Bayfield, with the meet taking place over the Pirates' spring break.

That was followed by another meet on April 1 that featured only part of the team due to many being out for the Future Business Leaders of America state competition.

"Even with just a fraction of our team entered, I felt like the meet went very well," coach Connie O'Donnell wrote in an email to The SUN about the March 30 meet. "We didn't run any sprint relays and so our sprinters were able to concentrate on individual events."

That effort resulted in multiple first- and second-place finishes for Pirates in individual running events.

In the 100-meter dash, Sienna Rose took first with a time of 13.20 seconds, while Lexi Campbell took fifth with a time of 14.26 seconds and Nevaeh Evans finished 17th in 15.26 seconds.

Rose finished second in the 200-meter dash with a time of 28.71 seconds, with Campbell taking third with a time of 29.40 seconds. Evans followed in 14th with a time of 32.44 seconds.

Rose also finished first in the 400-meter dash with a time of 1 minute, 4.03 seconds.

"Sienna Rose is usually in several relays and it was really good for her to be able to run 3 open events and get times," O'Donnell wrote. "She got a personal record in the 100 Meter and won the event. Her 400 time is several seconds faster than this time last year. I think it gave her some motivation to keep working hard. Her goal is really to do the best she can and qualify for state in the 400."

On the boys' side, Colton Lucero finished fourth in the 100 with a time of 11.59 seconds, Harley Armijo finished 11th in 12.12 seconds and Gavin Lindahl finished 16th in 12.37 seconds.

"Colton Lucero ran a full second faster than his first 100 last year," O'Donnell wrote. "That is an insane amount of time to cut off in a 100 Meter. He just kept getting faster last year and I expect him to do the same this year. It's fun when a sophomore boy can compete with seniors. You just don't see that too often."

The same trio competed in the 200, with Lucero finishing fifth with a time of 24.05 seconds, Armijo taking 12th in 25.26 seconds and Lindahl finishing 19th in 25.91 seconds.

"Harley Armijo is faster than his first meet last year," O'Donnell points out. "He is running over a second faster in the 200 than he did a year ago."

In the 400, Milo Dietemeyer took 15th with a time of 1:00.55, Aidan Vega finished 22nd with a time of 1:04.77 and Eli Nehring finished 25th in 1:07.83.

The Pirate teams also took part in several other events on the day.

Five Lady Pirates took part in the 800-meter run, with Madisen Stretton finishing 10th in 3:06.69, Honestye Sweet taking 14th in 3:20.13, Marie Smith finishing 16th in 3:23.91, Jayslynn Perea following in 17th with a time of 3:24.25 and Gwendolyn Tyler finishing 21st in 3:49.30.

Stretton took ninth in the 1,600-meter run with a time of 6:52.43, with Sweet following in 12th in 7:05.29, Smith finishing 13th in 7:13.40 and Perea taking 15th with a time of 7:58.09.

Jordan Lindstrom finished first in the high jump with a jump of 5 feet.

Lindstrom finished 10th in the long jump with a distance of 13 feet, 3.75 inches. Evan followed in 18th with a jump of 11-11.5.

Campbell took third in the triple jump with a distance of 30-8.

Abigail Nehring won the discus with a throw of 108-8. Makaela Denton finished 26th with a throw of 45-6.

Abigail Nehring took fourth in the shot put with a throw of 30-8.50, and Denton finished 27th with a throw of 17-6.

O'Donnell notes Abigail Nehring recorded personal records in both throwing events.

"She is currently ranked 10th in shot and 2nd in discus," she wrote. "It is so fun to see her get off to such a successful start. She really has a great chance of being a contender at state in both throwing events."

O'Donnell also highlights Lind-



Photo courtesy Gerry Lindstrom

Nevaeh Evans eyes her landing during the long jump at the March 30 Pine River Invitational. Evans finished 18th with a distance of 11 feet, 11.5 inches.

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## BASEBALL



SUN photos/Shari Pierce

Pirates past and present and parents take part in the baseball program's alumni game on Saturday, March 30. The current Pirate athletes were victorious in the lighthearted affair.

### 3A Pirates set to take on slate of 4A opponents

By Randi Pierce  
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate baseball team will return to action today, Thursday, April 4, at the Roaring Fork Tournament.

The Pirates last played an official game on March 16, before spring break, when they defeated the North Fork Miners 3-1.

The Pirates are 4-1 on the season and are the No. 9 team in the 3A Selection and Seeding Index, which helps determine postseason seeding.

The 3A Pirates have five games scheduled against 4A teams over the next week, including three at the Roaring Fork Tournament.

"It'll be a good weekend because we play some pretty decent teams," coach Ben Garcia said, adding, "That'll give us a good indication of where we're at and get us ready for

league."

League, he noted, is what the team is building up for — winning the league or doing as well as possible to go into the playoffs with a good seed.

He added he'd like the team to go out and surprise some people, which he believes it's capable of.

The Pirates had limited practice opportunities over spring break, but Garcia noted that a good portion of the team's athletes were at practice, though kids were in and out all week.

That, he indicated, allowed for more individual work on mechanics and other facets of the game.

The team also got to take part in an alumni/parent game on Saturday, (which the Pirates won).

"It turned out really nice," he said. "It was a beautiful day."

The team returned to normal practices Monday.

"[Monday's] practice was really

good, so I think we'll be OK," Garcia said, adding, "The only thing is lack of playing, lack of pitching, those kinds of things, against an opponent... We just really need to play good defense, is what I told them, and let the other stuff come together."

He added the team will be looking to not make mistakes, hustle, make routine plays and have Pirate pitchers throw strikes to give the team an opportunity.

Garcia noted he's also excited that the team has Tyler Henderson back, calling Henderson a "huge asset from the standpoint of hitting" who will help plug gaps in the lineup.

He added Henderson is also a good catcher.

Garcia also highlighted that Ty Richey and Dylan Dempster are really coming on and working hard, with the coach adding he's excited for the trio's progress.

The Pirates will kick off tournament play against the Glenwood Springs Demons at 4:30 p.m. today.

The Demons are 2-2 going into the tournament and are the No. 48 team in the 4A index.

Tournament play will continue tomorrow, April 5, at 9 a.m. against the Canon City Tigers.

The Tigers hold a 1-4 record entering the tournament and are the No. 37 team in the 4A index.

On Saturday, the Pirates will play another game, with the opponent and time of that game being determined through play at the tournament.

On Tuesday, April 9, the Pirates will be back on the road, this time for a doubleheader against the 5-3 Durango Demons.

The Demons are the No. 33 team in the 4A index.

Play will begin at 2 p.m. [randi@pagosasun.com](mailto:randi@pagosasun.com)

## Track

Continued from A11

14th in 2:29.87 and Stetson Osborn finished 22nd in 3:06.22.

"Jesse Beck didn't place, but his 800 is already 11 seconds faster than his first 800 last year," O'Donnell wrote.

Beck took 21st in the 1,600 with a time of 5:52.68, Thomas finished 22nd in 5:54.51, Trevor Faber finished 25th with a time of 6:24.26 and Jackson Chaney finished 27th in 6:59.25.

A Pirate relay team finished the 4x800-meter relay fifth with a time of 11:49.9.

In the 110-meter hurdles, Jaxten Schiel finished 12th in 20.50 seconds.

Schiel also finished eighth in the high jump with a height of 5-6, while Dietemeyer finished 15th with a height of 5-2.

Schiel took fifth in the long jump with a distance of 19-2. Lucero finished sixth with a jump of 18-9.5 and Vega finished 30th with a jump of 10-2.75.

"Jaxten Schiel had a great first meet after missing most of last sea-

son," O'Donnell wrote. "He jumped a foot farther in long jump and already increased 2 inches in high jump. He really loves track and I think that he is looking at competing this season with no regrets."

Vega finished 18th in the discus with a throw of 83-2.

On Tuesday, the Pirates were back in Bayfield for the Bayfield Invitational, which was previously postponed due to weather.

"The meet was a bit windy, but that didn't seem to interfere with jumps and sprints," the coach notes. "It did get really cold when the sun set, but we only had a few races left by then."

Rylie Carr won the 100 at the meet with a time of 12.68 seconds. Annabelle Parker followed in third in 13.83 seconds, Campbell finished fourth with a time of 14.13 seconds and Aspen Pitcher took fifth with a time of 14.14 seconds.

Carr also took first in the 200, running a time of 27.27 seconds. Rose followed in second with a time of 28.35 seconds.

Rose won the 400 with a time of 63.79 seconds. Hadley Phillips finished fourth in 7.80 seconds and Evans finished seventh with a time of 76.57 seconds.

Perea took ninth in the 800 with a time of 3:21.35.

Stretton won the 1,600 with a time of 6:49.13, while Perea finished sixth with a time of 7:42.68.

Marie Smith took first in the 3,200 with a time of 15:43.99 and Sweet took second with 15:45.41.

In the 100-meter hurdles, Kylie Ketchum finished eighth with a time of 20.13 seconds. She was followed by Eden Conner in ninth with a time of 21.87 seconds.

Conner finished 14th in the 300-meter hurdles.

The Lady Pirate team of Carr, Parker, Rose and Pitcher took first in the 4x100-meter relay with a time of 52.32 seconds.

The team of Campbell, Carr, Parker and Rose took first in the 4x200-meter relay with a time of 1:51.15.

The team of Parker, Ketchum,

Pitcher and Phillips finished second in the 800-meter sprint medley with a time of 2:08.27.

Lindstrom finished third in the high jump with a height of 4-10, Ketchum finished tied for fifth at 4-04 and Malorie Morton finished tied for 11th with a height of 4-02.

Lindstrom finished 10th in the long jump with a distance of 13-09.50 and Evans finished 16th with a jump of 12-04.50.

Campbell took fourth in the triple jump with a distance of 30-01.00 and

See Track A12

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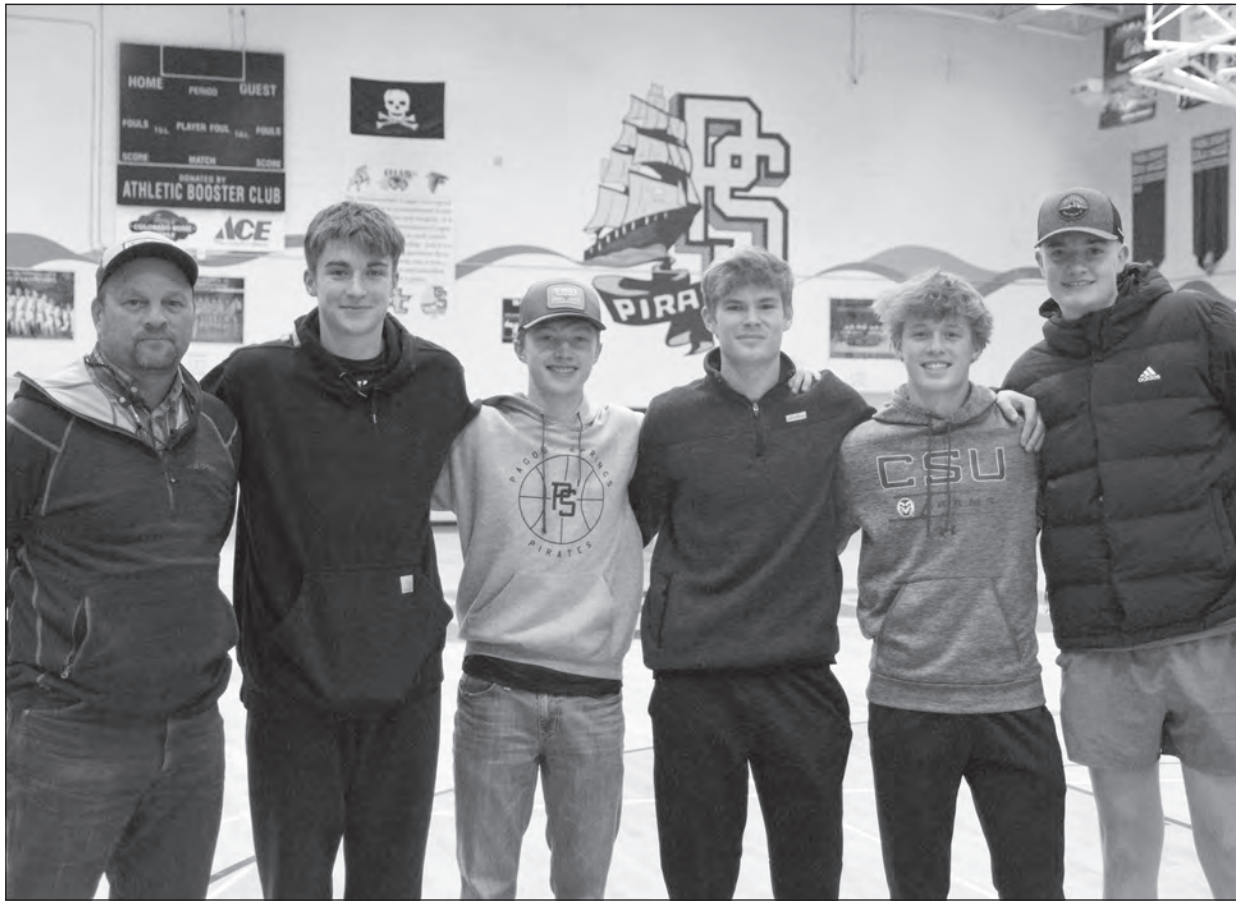
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# BASKETBALL



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Members of the Pirate basketball program recently received honors for their work over the winter season. From left are coach Wes Lewis (Intermountain League Coach of the Year), Blake Laner (Intermountain League all-conference first team, Intermountain League co-Player of the Year, all-state second team), Colt Lewis (all-conference first team, Intermountain League co-Player of the Year, all-state honorable mention), Nathaniel Kinsley (all-conference first team, all-state honorable mention), Chase Harper (all-conference honorable mention) and Ridge Wilson (all-conference honorable mention).



Photo courtesy Payton Shahan

Several members of the Lady Pirate basketball program recently garnered honors. In back, left to right, are: Annie O'Donnell (Intermountain League all-conference first team all, Colorado Coaches of Girls Sports all-state team, all-state honorable mention and Colorado High School Coaches Association all-state team), coach Sarah Osborn (Intermountain League Coach of the Year) and Daveyann Snarr (all-conference honorable mention, Colorado Coaches of Girls Sports all-state team). In front, left to right, are: Kylie Ketchum (all-conference honorable mention), Elizabeth Currier (all-conference first team, all-state honorable mention) and Karsyn Shahan (all-conference first team, all-state honorable mention).



Photo courtesy Gerry Lindstrom

Trevor Faber takes to the track at the Pine River Invitational on March 30. Coach Connie O'Donnell notes Faber has the potential to be a great distance runner.

## Track

Continued from A11  
Lindstrom finished seventh with a distance of 28-08.50.

Morton took ninth in shot put with a throw of 25-07.00, Laykn Baxstrom finished 14th with a distance of 22-04.50 and Reagan Vanatta finished 25th with a distance of 15-07.00.

Baxstrom finished 16th in the discus with a throw of 61-01, Morton finished 19th with a throw of 60-00 and Vanatta finished 31st with a distance of 44-00.

O'Donnell highlights Carr's work on the day, which included setting a new record.

"Rylie Carr broke the stadium record in the 100. It had been there since 2011," the coach wrote. "She really looked smooth in that race as well as the 200. She also anchored both of our sprint relays that won. She

is currently ranked 3rd in class 3A and is in the top ten of the 200. Both relays are in the top ten in state rankings."

Lucero won the 100 with a time of 11.41 seconds. Armijo took ninth with a time of 12.22 seconds, Gavin Carter finished 10th in 12.28 seconds and Nathaniel Kinsley finished 12th in 12.37 seconds.

With a time of 24.92 seconds, Blake Laner took sixth in the 200, with Armijo finishing 12th in 25.66 seconds.

In the 400, Jeremiah Dean finished 18th with a time of 59.40 seconds. Jeremiah Jones followed in 19th with a time of 59.45 seconds. Wyatt Carr finished 22nd in 64.73 seconds.

Thomas finished fourth in the 800 with a time of 2:25.21 and Eli Nehring finished 14th in 2:57.22.

Eli Nehring finished sixth in the

1,600 with a time of 6:22.78.

Thomas took second in the 3,200 with a time of 12:32.40, Chaney finished 11th in 13:57.86, Faber finished 12th in 13:57.87 and Osborn finished 14th in 16:51.08.

Cole Harper finished 10th in the 110 hurdles with a time of 20.39 seconds, Schiel finished 11th with a time of 21.06 seconds and Tristan Frame finished 14th in 23.73 seconds.

In the 300-meter hurdles, Harper finished ninth with a time of 48.03 seconds.

The Pirate team of Armijo, Lucero, Creede Dozier and Laner finished second in the 4x100 with a time of 44.71 seconds.

The team of Armijo, Kinsley, Lucero and Carter took second in the 4x200 with a time of 1:36.45.

The team of Vega, Dean, Carter

and Jones finished sixth in the 4x400-meter relay with a time of 4:14.47.

Dozier won the high jump with a height of 5-10, with Laner and Schiel tying for fourth with heights of 5-06.

Dozier also won the long jump with a distance of 20-04.00. Lucero finished fourth with a jump of 19-06.75, Schiel finished seventh with a distance of 18-01.00 and Laner finished 12th with a distance of 16-07.00.

Dozier won the triple jump, as well, logging a distance of 41-00.50. Schiel followed in third with a distance of 37-03.75 and Frame took 11th with a distance of 27-11.50.

Emile Schneider took 11th in the shot put with a throw of 29-05.50 and Mark Ray took 26th with a distance of 18-07.75.

Vega finished 13th in the discus

■ See Track A13

## Public Notices

DISTRICT COURT  
ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO  
Court Address: 109 Harman Park Drive  
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147  
Phone Number: (970) 264-8160  
Attorney for Plaintiff:  
Daniel L. Fiedler #47916  
190 Talsman Drive, Suite D-6  
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147  
(970) 507-8528  
Case Number 2024CV30012  
Plaintiff:  
PATRICK H. DISNER  
v.  
Defendants:  
BRAD LEE WHITTIER, ARCHULETA COUNTY PUBLIC TRUSTEE, and All Unknown Persons Who Claim Any Interest In The Subject Matter Of This Action,  
**SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION**  
**PLAINTIFF: PATRICK H. DISNER**  
**TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS AND ALL UNKNOWN PERSONS WHO CLAIM ANY INTEREST IN THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THIS ACTION YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED** and required to appear and defend against the claims of the Plaintiff to Quiet Title Pursuant to Rule 105 filed with the Archuleta County District Court in this action, by filing with the clerk of this Court an Answer or other response. You are required to file your answer or other response within 35 days after service of this summons upon you. Service of this summons shall be complete on the last day of publication. A copy of the Complaint may be obtained from the clerk of the court.  
If you fail to file your answer or other response to the Complaint in writing within 35 days after the date of the last publication, judgment by default may be entered against you by the Court for the relief demanded in the Complaint without further notice.  
This is an action to quiet the title of the Plaintiff in and to the real property situated in Archuleta County, Colorado more particularly described as follows:  
LOT 21 OF BLOCK 29 IN ASPEN SPRINGS SUBDIVISION NO. 4, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF FILED FOR RECORD AUGUST 20, 1971 AS RECEPTION NO. 74785  
Respectfully submitted this 13th day of March, 2024,  
s/ Daniel L. Fiedler  
Daniel L. Fiedler  
Published March 21 & 28 and April 4, 11, & 18, 2024 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (231667)

DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO  
109 Harman Park Drive  
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147  
Plaintiff: The Board of County Commissioners of Archuleta County, CO  
v.  
Defendants: Pagosa Homes and Land LLC, Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association, Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District, Archuleta County Public Trustee, and all Unknown Persons Who Claim Any Interest in the Subject Matter of this Action.  
Case Number 2024CV30006  
Attorney or Party Without Party:  
Todd A. Weaver, Reg. No. 31708  
P.O. Box 1507  
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147  
Phone Number (970) 264-8321  
Fax Number: Withheld Pursuant to Rule  
Email: TWeaver@ArchuletaCounty.org  
**SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION**  
**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO**  
**TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT: PAGOSA HOMES AND LAND LLC**  
You are hereby summoned and required to appear and defend against the claims of the complaint filed with the court in this action, by filing with the clerk of this court an answer or other response. You are required to file your answer or other response within 35 days after the

service of this summons upon you. Service of this summons shall be complete on the day of the last publication. A copy of the complaint may be obtained from the clerk of the court.  
If you fail to file your answer or other response to the complaint in writing within 35 days after the date of the last publication, judgment by default may be rendered against you by the court for the relief demanded in the complaint without further notice.  
Dated: March 13, 2024  
Published in *The Pagosa Sun*.  
First Publication: March 21, 2024.  
Last Publication: April 18, 2024. (231809)

DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO  
109 Harman Park Drive  
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147  
Plaintiff: The Board of County Commissioners of Archuleta County, CO  
v.  
Defendants: NRLL East LLC, Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association, Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District, Archuleta County Public Trustee, and all Unknown Persons Who Claim Any Interest in the Subject Matter of this Action.  
Case Number 2024CV30008  
Attorney or Party Without Party:  
Todd A. Weaver, Reg. No. 31708  
P.O. Box 1507  
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147  
Phone Number (970) 264-8321  
Fax Number: Withheld Pursuant to Rule  
Email: TWeaver@ArchuletaCounty.org  
**SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION**  
**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO**  
**TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT: NRLL EAST, LLC**  
You are hereby summoned and required to appear and defend against the claims of the complaint filed with the court in this action, by filing with the clerk of this court an answer or other response. You are required to file your answer or other response within 35 days after the service of this summons upon you. Service of this summons shall be complete on the day of the last publication. A copy of the complaint may be obtained from the clerk of the court.  
If you fail to file your answer or other response to the complaint in writing within 35 days after the date of the last publication, judgment by default may be rendered against you by the court for the relief demanded in the complaint without further notice.  
Dated: March 13, 2024  
Published in *The Pagosa Sun*.  
First Publication: March 21, 2024.  
Last Publication: April 18, 2024. (231836)

DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO  
109 Harman Park Drive  
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147  
Plaintiff: The Board of County Commissioners of Archuleta County, CO  
v.  
Defendants: Pagosa Homes and Land LLC, Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association, Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District, Archuleta County Public Trustee, and all Unknown Persons Who Claim Any Interest in the Subject Matter of this Action.  
Case Number 2024CV30009  
Attorney or Party Without Party:  
Todd A. Weaver, Reg. No. 31708  
P.O. Box 1507  
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147  
Phone Number (970) 264-8321  
Fax Number: Withheld Pursuant to Rule  
Email: TWeaver@ArchuletaCounty.org  
**SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION**  
**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO**  
**TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT: PAGOSA HOMES AND LAND LLC**  
You are hereby summoned and required to appear and defend against the claims of the complaint filed with the court in this action, by filing with the clerk of this court an answer or other response. You are required to file your answer or other response within 35 days after the

service of this summons upon you. Service of this summons shall be complete on the day of the last publication. A copy of the complaint may be obtained from the clerk of the court.  
If you fail to file your answer or other response to the complaint in writing within 35 days after the date of the last publication, judgment by default may be rendered against you by the court for the relief demanded in the complaint without further notice.  
Dated: March 13, 2024  
Published in *The Pagosa Sun*.  
First Publication: March 21, 2024.  
Last Publication: April 18, 2024. (231840)

LLC  
You are hereby summoned and required to appear and defend against the claims of the complaint filed with the court in this action, by filing with the clerk of this court an answer or other response. You are required to file your answer or other response within 35 days after the service of this summons upon you. Service of this summons shall be complete on the day of the last publication. A copy of the complaint may be obtained from the clerk of the court.  
If you fail to file your answer or other response to the complaint in writing within 35 days after the date of the last publication, judgment by default may be rendered against you by the court for the relief demanded in the complaint without further notice.  
Dated: March 13, 2024  
Published in *The Pagosa Sun*.  
First Publication: March 21, 2024.  
Last Publication: April 18, 2024. (231837)

DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO  
109 Harman Park Drive  
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147  
Plaintiff: The Board of County Commissioners of Archuleta County, CO  
v.  
Defendants: George S. Fleischmann, Jovita Fleischmann, Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association, Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District, Archuleta County Public Trustee, and all Unknown Persons Who Claim Any Interest in the Subject Matter of this Action.  
Case Number 2024CV30010  
Attorney or Party Without Party:  
Todd A. Weaver, Reg. No. 31708  
P.O. Box 1507  
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147  
Phone Number (970) 264-8321  
Fax Number: Withheld Pursuant to Rule  
Email: TWeaver@ArchuletaCounty.org  
**SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION**  
**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO**  
**TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT: GEORGE S. FLEISCHMANN AND JOVITA FLEISCHMANN**  
You are hereby summoned and required to appear and defend against the claims of the complaint filed with the court in this action, by filing with the clerk of this court an answer or other response. You are required to file your answer or other response within 35 days after the service of this summons upon you. Service of this summons shall be complete on the day of the last publication. A copy of the complaint may be obtained from the clerk of the court.  
If you fail to file your answer or other response to the complaint in writing within 35 days after the date of the last publication, judgment by default may be rendered against you by the court for the relief demanded in the complaint without further notice.  
Dated: March 13, 2024  
Published in *The Pagosa Sun*.  
First Publication: March 21, 2024.  
Last Publication: April 18, 2024. (231840)

District Court, Archuleta County, State of Colorado  
Court Address: 109 Harman Park Dr, P.O. Box 148  
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147  
Tel. 970.264.2400  
**Wyndham Vacation Resorts, Inc.**  
Plaintiff  
v.  
**ERIC SCHNOEBELE, THERESA E FISHER, RONALD R FISHER, JR., Defendants**  
**Case No.: 2022CV30062**  
**COMBINED NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE OF TIMESHARE INTEREST AND RIGHTS TO CURE AND REDEEM**  
**Sheriff Sale 2024-01**  
This Notice of Public Judicial Foreclosure Sale is given

pursuant to separate Mortgages recorded in the office of the County Clerk and Recorder for Archuleta County, Colorado, under the information provided in Exhibit "A".  
Under a Judgment and Decree of Foreclosure entered January 4, 2024, in the above entitled action, I am ordered to sell certain real property, improvements and personal property secured by the Declaration, including without limitation the real property described as follows:  
See Exhibit "A" attached hereto and made apart hereof  
Owner(s) of Record: **ERIC SCHNOEBELE THERESA E FISHER, RONALD R FISHER, JR.**  
Evidence of Debt: Recorded mortgages in the office of the County Clerk and Recorder for Archuleta County, Colorado, being further identified in Exhibit "A".  
Current Holder of evidence of debt secured by the Declaration: Wyndham Vacation Resorts, Inc.  
Obligations Secured: Underlying note for the purchase of the Timeshare Property identified in Exhibit "A".  
Agent: Christopher B. Conley, Reg. No. 51651, 700 South 21st Street, Ft. Smith, Arkansas 72901  
Payments Due to: Wyndham Vacation Resorts, Inc.  
Debtor(s) & Amount Due: See attached Exhibit "A"  
Amount of Judgment: See attached Exhibit "A"  
Type of Sale: Judicial Foreclosure Sale of Timeshare Interest being conducted pursuant to the power of sale granted by the Mortgage, the Colorado Property Code, and the Colorado Common Ownership Act  
**NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE OF TIMESHARE INTEREST**  
THEREFORE, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT I will, at 10:00 o'clock A.M., on **May 15, 2024, Sale Number: 2024-01**, in the Office of the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office, 85 Harman Park Drive, Pagosa Springs, Colorado, 81147, sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property described above, and all interest of said Grantor and the heirs and assigns of said Grantor therein, the Lender may bid credited to the Debt up to the amount of the unpaid Debt secured by the Mortgage at the time of sale, for the purpose of paying the judgment amount entered herein, and will deliver to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, as provided by law.  
First Publication: 3/21/2024  
Last Publication: 4/18/2024  
Name of Publication: Pagosa Sun

**NOTICE OF RIGHTS**  
YOU MAY HAVE AN INTEREST IN THE REAL PROPERTY BEING FORECLOSED, OR HAVE CERTAIN RIGHTS OR SUFFER CERTAIN LIABILITIES PURSUANT TO COLORADO STATUTES AS A RESULT OF SAID FORECLOSURE. YOU MAY HAVE THE RIGHT TO REDEEM SAID REAL PROPERTY OR YOU MAY HAVE THE RIGHT TO CURE A DEFAULT UNDER THE DEED OF TRUST BEING FORECLOSED. A COPY OF THE STATUTES WHICH MAY AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS IS ATTACHED HERETO.  
A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE PURSUANT TO §38-38-104 C.R.S., SHALL BE FILED WITH THE OFFICER AT LEAST FIFTEEN (15) CALENDAR DAYS PRIOR TO THE FIRST SCHEDULED SALE DATE OR ANY DATE TO WHICH THE SALE IS CONTINUED.  
**IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED.**  
A NOTICE OF INTENT TO REDEEM PURSUANT TO §38-38-302 C.R.S. SHALL BE FILED WITH THE SHERIFF NO LATER THAN EIGHT (8) BUSINESS DAYS AFTER THE SALE.  
THE LIEN BEING FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.  
IF YOU BELIEVE THAT A LENDER OR SERVICER HAS VIOLATED THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT IN §38-38-103.1 OR THE PROHIBITION ON DUAL TRACKING IN §38-38-103.2, YOU MAY FILE A COMPLAINT WITH THE COLORADO ATTORNEY GENERAL (1-800-222-4444), THE

CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU (1-855-411-2372), OR BOTH, BUT THE FILING OF A COMPLAINT WILL NOT STOP THE FORECLOSURE PROCESS.  
The name, address, and business telephone number of each of the attorneys representing the holder of the evidence of debt are as follows:  
Christopher B. Conley, Reg. No. 51651, 700 South 21st Street, Ft. Smith, Arkansas 72901  
INTENT TO CURE OR REDEEM, as provided by the aforementioned laws, must be directed to or conducted at the Sheriff's Department for Archuleta County Sheriff's Office, 85 Harman Park Drive, Pagosa Springs, Colorado, 81147.

**THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED MAY BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.**  
DATED at Archuleta County, Colorado, this 21st day of February, 2024.  
By: Lorena Medina, Office Manager  
Archuleta County, Colorado

**Exhibit A**  
**Peregrine Townhouses Phase IV**  
Property Owners: **ERIC SCHNOEBELE**  
Building Number: 18  
Lot (Unit) Number: 7835 - 7836  
UDI Points: 84,000 / 17,743,000  
of **Peregrine Townhouses Phase IV**, as depicted on the Plat recorded in Reception Number 98002629, subject to First Supplemental Declaration of Protective Covenants and Interval Ownership for Peregrine Townhouses recorded at Reception Number 98002628, and any amendments and supplements thereto, all in the Office of the County Clerk and Recorder in and for Archuleta County, Colorado.  
Together with a vested remainder over in fee simple absolute, as tenant in common with the other owners of all Unit Weeks in the described Units in Peregrine Townhouses in that percentage interest determined and established by said Declaration for the above described real estate.

	Amount
<b>Principal Amount Due:</b>	<b>\$4,720.79</b>
<b>Accrued Interest:</b>	<b>\$2,570.19</b>
<b>Late Fees:</b>	<b>\$140.00</b>
<b>Costs:</b>	<b>\$464.41</b>
<b>Attorney's Fees:</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$8,895.39</b>

**Teal Landing Condominium Phase Four**  
Property Owners: **THERESA E FISHER and RONALD R FISHER, JR**  
Building Number: 14  
Lot (Unit) Number: 1411-1416, 1421-1226  
UDI Points: 294,000 / 63,185,500  
of the **Teal Landing Condominium Phase Four** - as depicted on the Plat recorded in Reception No. 20203146, subject to Declaration of Condominium for Teal Landing Condominium recorded as Reception Number 20007580, First Amendment to Declaration of Condominium for Teal Landing Condominium recorded as Reception Number 20009604, Second Amendment to Declaration of Teal Landing Condominium recorded as Reception Number 20102923, Third Amendment to Declaration of Condominium for Teal Landing Condominium recorded as Reception Number 20104161, and First supplemental Declaration of Condominium for Teal Landing Condominium recorded as Reception Number 20105651, and Second Supplemental Declaration of Condominium for Teal Landing Condominium recorded as Reception Number 20106880 and Third Supplemental Declaration of Condominium for Teal Landing Condominium recorded as Reception Number 20203147 and any future supplemental Plats or Declarations thereto, all in the Office of the County Clerk and Recorder in and for Archuleta County, Colorado.  
Together with a vested remainder over in fee simple absolute, as tenant in common with the other owners of all Unit Weeks in the described Units in Teal Landing Townhouses in that percentage interest determined and established by said Declaration for the above described

	Amount
<b>Principal Amount Due:</b>	<b>\$18,591.76</b>
<b>Accrued Interest:</b>	<b>\$10,579.06</b>
<b>Late Fees:</b>	<b>\$150.00</b>
<b>Costs:</b>	<b>\$464.41</b>
<b>Attorney's Fees:</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$30,785.23</b>

Published March 21, 28 & April 4, 11, 18, 2024 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (230249)

**INVITATION TO BID**  
Separate sealed BIDS for the **Light Plant Road Resurfacing** project will be received by **Archuleta County, Colorado** at the office of Davis Engineering Service, Inc. located at 188 South 8th Street, P.O. Box 1208, Pagosa Springs, Colorado 81147, until 2:00 P.M. local time on **May 2, 2024**, and then at said office publicly opened and read aloud.  
The project consists of resurfacing an existing asphalt roadway being approximately 2.1 miles of Light Plant Road (County Road 119) from approximately 500 feet south of the intersection with Apache Street in the Town of Pagosa Springs then south and east to approximately 100 feet west of U.S. Highway 84. The project will be pursued as a Full Depth Reclamation (FDR) project on a road that was last reconstructed in 2001. The project generally maintains the existing horizontal and vertical alignments, with minor longitudinal and cross slope corrections as appropriate. Guardrail will be installed for approximately 430 linear feet (including end sections) near the sharp corner over Mill Creek.  
Project work includes, but is not limited to asphalt pulverization, excavation, embankment removal, drainage structures, gravel placement, erosion control, asphalt paving, shouldering, ditching, pavement marking, guardrail, signage, traffic control, seeding and mulching, and other items typically associated with road construction.  
Copies of the CONTRACT DOCUMENTS and PLANS may be obtained on or after **April 8, 2024**, at the office of Davis Engineering Service, Inc. located at the address mentioned above, upon payment of \$100.00 for each set. No refund will be made for returned copies. A mandatory pre-bid conference and inspection trip for prospective Bidders will be held at the office of Davis Engineering Service, Inc. (phone number (970) 264-5055), located at the address mentioned above, at 2:00 P.M. local time on **April 23, 2024**.  
Date: April 4, 2024  
Published April 4 & 18, 2024 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (233084)

**Request for Proposal:** The Town of Pagosa Springs is soliciting proposals from qualified entities to provide design, permitting, engineering, and construction services for the Recreational and Ecological Enhancement of the San Juan River - Yamaguchi South Project. A required pre-bid site visit is scheduled for April 10, 2024, at 1 p.m. Responses due Monday, April 22, 2024, at 4 p.m. Please visit the Town's website at [www.pagosaprisings.co.gov](http://www.pagosaprisings.co.gov) under the Bids & RFPs button for details and instructions.  
Published March 28 and April 4, 2024 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (233088)

**Request for Qualifications:** The Town of Pagosa Springs is accepting proposals for engineering consultant services for the Town-to-Lakes Trail: 10th Street to Great West Avenue Project. Required pre-proposal meeting April 9, 2024, at 10 a.m. Responses due Friday, April 26, 2024, at 4 p.m. Please visit the Town's website at [www.pagosaprisings.co.gov](http://www.pagosaprisings.co.gov) under the Bids and RFPs button for details and instructions.  
Published March 28 and April 4, 2024 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (232415)

# PUBLIC NOTICES: YOUR RIGHT TO KNOW



Photos courtesy Kevin Bruce, Wolf Creek Ski Area

Wolf Creek Ski Area hosts its final fun race of the season, the Easter Bunny Race, on March 30. The ski area's final day for the season will be April 7.

# Easter Bunny Fun Race results released

By Shelley Raymond  
Wolf Creek Ski Area

Wolf Creek ski area hosted the Easter Bunny Race on March 30. This was the final fun race of the series and season.

There was a great turnout of 45 racers from around the area, as well as Golden, Dallas and Austin. The

course was groomed splendidly and the recent snowfall from earlier in the week as well as morning sunshine made for fun, soft conditions.

Colorado racers dominated the race with lightning-fast speeds. The overall winner of the day, Cody Anderson, from Windsor, came in with a race time of 25.32 and was the only racer in the men's 26-30 group.

Our second- and third-place finishers in the division were in the men's 41-50 group and both hailed from Pagosa Springs. Justin Fay's 27.49 race time was barely a second ahead of Matt DeGuise's 28.54 time, making for a close finish in the group.

An honorable mention goes out to our boys' 12-14 group skier, Rylan Soden, of Pagosa Springs, who was

less than three-tenths of a second behind the third-place finisher with his time of 28.83.

The ladies' race was also a fast one, with girls' 12-14 participant Isabelle Ratcliff, of Pagosa, finishing with a time of 26.81. The ladies' 51-60 group was dominant; Michelle Kelble, of Golden, came in with a time of 28.67, with Lynn Robinson, of College Station, Texas, right on her heels with a 30.61 time, finishing out the top three.

Wolf Creek Ski Area's ski season is coming to a close, with April 7 being the closing date. But not all the fun is gone. The Super Fun, the Wolf Creek Ski Team Challenge Series Super-G race, will be Saturday, April 6, and will be located from the top to the bottom of Powder Puff. The race is open to skiers, boarders and telemark skiers in all age divisions. Signup will be at the Base Camp Lodge and signup fees are based on age. Check out wolfcreekski.com for more information.

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## T-ball, adult soccer registrations open

By Matt Zaborowski  
Town of Pagosa Springs

The Recreation Department is now accepting registrations for its T-ball league. The T-ball league is for 4- and 5-year-olds and the cost is \$45.

The deadline to register is April 21, and play will begin May 7.

Registration for adult coed soccer is also now open. The team registration fee is \$300 total with no individual fees. The deadline to register a team is April 21, and play will begin April 29.

Online registration is available through the town website at pagosasprings.co.gov or in person at the Ross Aragon Community Center.

Please call the Recreation Department with any questions, (970) 264-4151, ext. 524.

### RECREATION NEWS

## Track

Continued from A12  
with a throw of 84-07, Schneider finished 19th with a throw of 75-00 and Ray finished 33rd with a throw of 47-00.

O'Donnell again highlighted Lucero after Tuesday's meet, writing, "Colton Lucero ran a terrific 100 and won in a photo finish. He is currently ranked 8th in class 3A. As a sophomore boy, that is exceptional. This kid is just so athletic and coachable. We are lucky that he chooses to be a track athlete. Colton barely scratched what would have been a 20' long jump. He really has potential to qualify there as well. He started both

of the sprint relays. The 4x1 was second and currently ranked in the top ten in class 3A. One of the handoffs wasn't great, so there is much room for improvement. Our 4 x 2 ... would have had a much better time, but Colton couldn't hear the start. The officials should have noticed and had a restart. We will just have to run a better race next time."

O'Donnell also pointed out Dozier's wins.

"Creede Dozier had himself a day! He won high jump, long jump, and triple jump," she wrote. "All three were personal bests for him and put him in the top 10 in class 3A for all

three jumps. He ran a fast leg of the 4x1 as well and is going to be a huge contributor to the success of our boys team this year."

This week, the Pirate teams will be in action at the Abel Velasquez Invite in Ignacio on Saturday, April 6.

O'Donnell notes a goal of the team is to log some good times in relays and see where the Pirates stand compared to the rest of the state.

Another goal, she adds, is to "Continue to try to build a sense of community in a mostly individual sport."

Action is set to begin at 9 a.m. randi@pagosasun.com

## Public Meetings

The following meetings are subject to change.

**Thursday, April 4**  
**Main Street Advisory Board meeting.** 4 p.m., Visitor Center, 105 Hot Springs Blvd.

**Colorado Department of Transportation Project Open House.** 5 p.m., Ross Aragon Community Center, 451 Hot Springs Blvd. See town website for participation information: <https://pagosasprings.civicweb.net/portal/>.

**Combined Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.** 5:30 p.m., Town Hall, 551 Hot Springs Blvd. See town website for participation information: <https://pagosasprings.civicweb.net/portal/>.

**Tuesday, April 9**  
**Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners work session.** 8:30 a.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St. View Zoom meeting at: <https://zoom.us/j/91609048375?pwd=d1FFV0J1cGVKa1NHWHFsa2taeGxtZz09>, meeting ID: 916 0904 8375, passcode: 4141885. For more information, visit <http://archuletacounty.org/agendacenter>.

**Archuleta School District Board of Education regular meeting.** 6 p.m., Pagosa Springs Middle School, 309 Lewis St. Visit [www.mypagosaschools.com](http://www.mypagosaschools.com) for more information.

**Wednesday, April 10**  
**Archuleta County Fair Board Meeting.** 6 p.m., CSU Extension office, 344 U.S. 84. For more information, visit <http://archuletacounty.org/agendacenter>.

**Thursday, April 11**  
**Main Street Advisory Board meeting.** 4 p.m., Visitor Center, 105 Hot Springs Blvd. See town website for participation information: <https://pagosasprings.civicweb.net/portal/>.

**Tuesday, April 16**

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

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

**Main Street Advisory Board meeting with Colorado Department of Transportation.** 4:30-6 p.m., Hidden Track Speakeasy, 251 Pagosa St. A meeting to address needs prior to and during the downtown reconstruction project.

**Wednesday, April 17**

**Upper San Juan Library District Board meeting.** 4 p.m. Zoom meeting at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83398449146>.

**Pagosa Peak Open School Board of Directors meeting.** 5 p.m., 3133 Cornerstone Drive. For more information, visit [pagosapeakopen-school.org](http://pagosapeakopen-school.org).

**Thursday, April 18**  
**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 Area Water and Sanitation**

**District regular meeting.** 5 p.m., PAWSD administrative offices, 100 Lyn Ave. Visit [pawsd.org](http://pawsd.org) for more information.

**Monday, April 22**  
**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>.


**Tuesday, April 23**  
**Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners work session.** 8:30 a.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St. View Zoom meeting at: <https://zoom.us/j/91609048375?pwd=d1FFV0J1cGVKa1NHWHFsa2taeGxtZz09>, meeting ID: 916 0904 8375, passcode: 4141885. For more information, visit <http://archuletacounty.org/agendacenter>.

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

**Thursday, April 25**

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

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



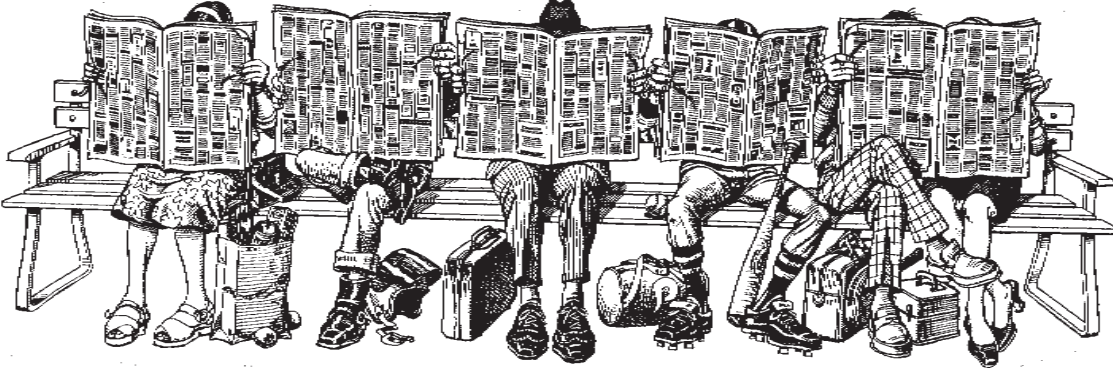
Pagosa Springs Elementary School invites you to  
**Kindergarten Orientation Family Night**  
Mrs. Vining and the PSES Kindergarten teachers invite all preschool families entering Kindergarten (age 5 by October 1st, 2024) for the 2024-25 school year to drop-in orientation. Come meet our Kindergarten teachers, who can't wait to meet their future students.

**4-6 pm Tuesday, April 9th**

- Participate in fun activities
- Meet our amazing teachers
- Meet our Area Preschool Directors & Principal Vining
- Explore the classrooms
- Ask questions

Check us out on our Facebook page to see what a school year looks like for our students:  
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**The Pagosa Springs SUN**

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# Outdoors



Photo courtesy Betsy Carpino  
A recent sunrise brings picture-perfect colors to the sky, set off by the spring snow.

## Volunteer opportunities available at Chimney Rock National Monument

By Sue Fischer  
Chimney Rock Interpretive Association

Why do I volunteer for the Chimney Rock Interpretive Association (CRIA)? It is fun and rewarding.

I love archaeology and learning about the first Americans, especially the Ancestral Puebloans. They were, and still are, an incredibly resilient people.

I love to give guided interpretive tours at Chimney Rock and try to increase the public's understanding of how the Ancestral Puebloans built their homes, how they used their environment to provide food and medicine for their families, and how they organized their society. This is not only a history lesson involving a cultural experience; it is also relevant to today's problems with drought, resource depletion and social unrest, all of which lead to lively discussions with visitors.

Although this sounds rigorous, and it is, the fun part of giving tours is interacting with visitors. Every tour is different, with visitors asking different questions and having different perspectives. Almost all the visitors are interested in learning about Chimney Rock and its place in the prehistory of the Southwest. The Mystery Tours are the best because

they take place before or after the monument is open, which is perfect for allowing visitors to quietly enjoy the views and take time for photographs.

Another rewarding aspect of volunteering is interactions with other volunteers. They are a wonderful, supportive group of people who are amazingly hardworking and imaginative. Collectively, they represent a remarkable collection of all types of skills — and are happy to teach them to new (and old) volunteers. I also like that there are a variety of ways to volunteer, from helping with school week to helping staff at the gift shop in the visitor center and, of course, giving various types of tours.

Want to have fun, learn new things and help people? Be a CRIA volunteer.

To learn about the various volunteer opportunities at Chimney Rock National Monument, CRIA will host a volunteer recruitment event at the Ross Aragon Community Center on April 11 from 5 to 6 p.m.

A number of CRIA volunteers will be on hand 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](http://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.

## How to prepare for hummingbirds

By John Porco  
Weminuche Audubon Society

The hummingbirds will be arriving in Pagosa Country in the next few weeks, providing a flash of color in our gloomy days.

Scout birds arrive early to identify feeders, so it is important to get the feeders out by mid- to late April.

So, courtesy of the Weminuche Audubon Society, here are a few guidelines.

### Feeders

There are many good feeders on the market. The most important criteria when selecting a feeder is that it be easy to clean and easy to fill.

In order to be a responsible host, you must keep your feeder very clean and full of fresh nectar. Feeders should come apart so that all parts are open and available for cleaning.

Red attracts the hummingbirds. If your feeder isn't red, tie a red ribbon on it or use red tape.

Hummingbirds are very territorial. If you put out more than one feeder, try to put the two feeders in locations out of sight of each other. Feeders attract bears, so keep your feeders out of bear range.

### Food

In nature, hummingbirds eat flower nectar for energy and bugs for protein.

Here is the recipe for making hummingbird nectar: Mix 4 parts water to 1 part white table sugar in a pan. For example, use 1 cup sugar to 4 cups water.

Do not use honey, Jell-O or powdered or brown sugar. Especially do not use artificial sweeteners, as putting hummingbirds on a diet will kill them. They burn prodigious amounts of energy for their size and need real sugar. Do not use red food coloring or buy premade red nectar. It is unnecessary and can harm the little hummers even in low concentrations, because they eat so much nectar. Do not add anything else — just sugar and water.

Bring to a boil then remove from the heat. Stir it while it is heating until all of the sugar is dissolved. Don't boil it for long because that will change the ratio as water is boiled off.

The reason for boiling is not to make syrup, but to drive out the chlorine in the water and to kill mold and yeast spores that might be in the sugar. This will help make the nectar last longer both in the feeder and in

your refrigerator. Cover and allow to cool before using or pouring into a storage bottle.

We recommend making a large batch of nectar and storing it in the refrigerator.

### Cleanliness

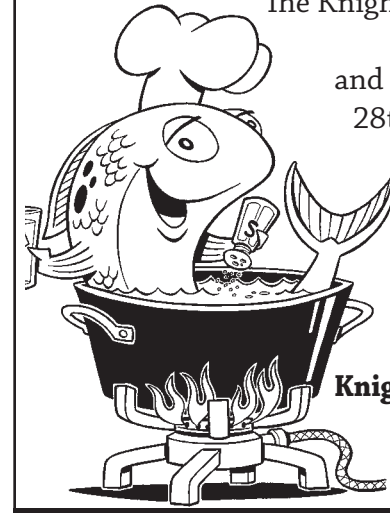
Sugar water is a very rich growth medium. Yeasts like to eat it, causing fermentation, which can harm hummingbirds. Mold and bacteria grow in it and can also harm the birds. If you see black spots inside your feeder, this is mold and you will need to scrub it out with a good bottle brush.

You must change the nectar frequently to avoid contaminants. In cooler temperatures, we recommend changing it every seven days. If the temperatures are getting above 70 degrees, clean every three days.

Clean the feeder thoroughly using a mild detergent. You can use a mild bleach solution (1 part bleach to 9 parts water). In any case, rinse the bottle thoroughly. Some pet stores sell specialized brushes made to fit into feeder bottles and the holes in the base.

So, get your feeders out and enjoy the antics of these wonderful and colorful little birds through the fall.

## Thank you



The Knights of Columbus would cordially like to Thank the community and visitors for their support of the 28th year of our Lenten Fish Frys.

Net proceeds will support community non-profits in Pagosa Springs and Archuleta County.

We hope to see you next year.

Sincerely,

Knights of Columbus Council #7560

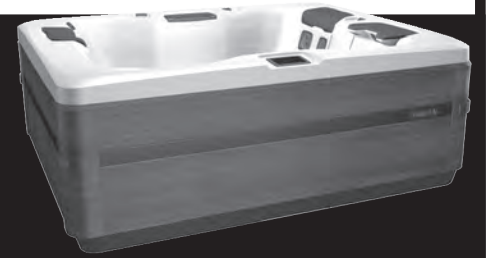
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# preview

ARTS & LIFE



Photo courtesy Lesann Young

April 4, 2024



Photo courtesy Colorado Environmental Film Festival

Four dams interrupt the natural flow of the Snake River in Idaho. The survival of the Nez Perce people has depended on the native salmon in the Snake River for untold generations. Now the salmon are seriously endangered and the voices of the Nez Perce are important to a solution for everyone. For more information on or to purchase a ticket for the Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership's Environmental Film Festival, visit [www.pagosagreen.org/environmentalfilmfestival](http://www.pagosagreen.org/environmentalfilmfestival).

## Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership's Environmental Film Festival will feature nine films

By Sally High  
Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership

The Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership (GGP) welcomes the Pagosa community to the Tennyson Building Event Center for its 2024 Environmental Film Festival, opening Earth Week. Films will be shown on April 19 and 20.

Wristbands are on sale now at [www.pagosagreen.org/environmentalfilmfestival](http://www.pagosagreen.org/environmentalfilmfestival). Seating is limited.

Friday night's Premiere Gala films are two feature-length award-winners from the Colorado Environmental Film Festival (CEFF). CEFF's Friday evening Premiere Gala is from 5 to 10 p.m. and will open with the acoustic guitar of Steve Blechschmidt. A stand-up, gourmet dinner features a savory menu by Kellie and Todd Stevens and a sweet menu by Kathy Keyes.

Blechschmidt, the Stevens and Keyes are each long-time GGP supporters. A "stand-up" dinner means that

■ See Festival on next page

### Live Performers

- Friday**  
The Springs Resort lodge atrium: John Blackdog, 5 p.m.
- Saturday**  
The Springs Resort lodge atrium: John Blackdog, 5 p.m.
- Tuesday**  
The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Bluegrass Cadillac, 5 p.m.
- Wednesday**  
The Den: Karaoke, 8 p.m.

The PREVIEW is a publication of

# The Pagosa Springs SUN

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Wolf Creek Gun and Bow Assoc. members receive \$50 discount ([www.wolfcreekgunandbow.org](http://www.wolfcreekgunandbow.org))  
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# Festival

■ **continued from previous page**  
 the room at the Tennyson will be set up for theater seating with occasional tables around the perimeter of the room. The outstanding caterers and a cash bar will provide plenty of refreshments. A wristband for the Premiere Gala is \$60 and includes admission to all nine films on Saturday. "Covenant of the Salmon People" won Best Feature Film at the CEFF in 2024. The film explores the relationship between the Indigenous Nez Perce people, their Snake River homeland and their dangerously threatened salmon. The story is told through a diversity of voices, but a Nez Perce point of view.

The CEFF Best of Fest for 2024 will be shown Friday evening and Saturday mid-day.

"Flyways: The Untold Journey of Migratory Birds" is an Australian production with amazing cinematography and a breath-taking soundtrack. "Flyways" is sure to be a favorite among Pagosans who value birds and their riparian habitats.

Nine films, all new to Pagosa Springs, will be shown in Saturday beginning at 10 a.m. The doors will open at 9 a.m. The last film of the day will begin at 7 p.m.

The GGP provides films, licensed by the filmmakers, from the CEFF, held each year in February. A water theme runs through Pagosa Springs' 2024 selection, illustrating the value that GGP supporters place on our rivers.

Some films will be shown twice on Saturday so that all environmental film enthusiasts have a chance to see each film.

Saturday's schedule of films is shown here in order:

- "A Reason for Hope" (10 a.m. start).
- "Documerica."
- "Paddle Tribal Waters."
- "True Survivors."
- Lunch break.
- "Flyways: The Untold Journey of Migratory Shorebirds (1 p.m. start).
- "A Reason for Hope."
- "Native Suns."
- "Dark Sacred Night."
- "Documerica."
- "Paddle Tribal Waters."
- "True Survivors."
- "Requiem for a River."
- "Covenant of the Salmon People" (7 p.m. start).

The CEFF and GGP share a common goal.

The CEFF states, "With a growing public awareness of the environment, CEFF aims to inspire audiences through films to motivate them to make a difference in their community."

The GGP's supporters certainly make a difference in the Pagosa Springs community.

Round up your friends and purchase your tickets today. Go to [https://www.pagosagreen.org/envi-](https://www.pagosagreen.org/envi-ronmentalfilmfestival)

ronmentalfilmfestival. Ticket holders do not receive paper tickets. Your names will be at the registration table, where GGP volunteers will welcome and wristband you.

The GGP thanks the Pagosa community of environmentally aware supporters for enthusiasm about local stewardship. The GGP is "growing food and community with local energy." We'll see you at the film fest. April 21 is Earth Day, so the GGP will see you on the Riverwalk.

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# Creation 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: Innocent Wildlife and Plastic Don't Mix."

She will speak on April 25 at 6 p.m. at the Community United Methodist Church (CUMC), located at 434 Lewis St.

Why does this matter?

Microplastics are everywhere. These plastic particles, which range from smaller than a single virus particle to as large as the width of a pencil, have been found in the trillions in oceans and tissues of sea animals, as well in drinking water, rain, air, human tissue and breast milk.

According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), since microplastics don't break down quickly and cells in the body that manage waste can't degrade them, microplastics accumulate in organisms, wildlife and people alike.

Creation Care is trying to raise awareness of the dangers of plastics

in our environment. Chuck Riehm, vice chair of the San Juan Water Conservancy District Board of Directors, reports, "In more than 200 people undergoing surgery, scientists found that nearly 60 percent of patients had microplastics or even smaller nano-plastics in the plaque build-up in the main neck artery. Those patients were 4.5 times more likely to experience a heart attack, a stroke or death in the approximately three years after the surgery than were those whose arteries were plastic-free" (Source: EPA).

Herb Grover, noted local scientist and professor, says, "What we are coming to understand is that the use of various forms of plastics in household and industrial applications has resulted in contamination of our entire planet with litter and debris that is harmful to all of creation, but more importantly, microplastics we now find in biological tissue everywhere. Recent studies have documented the potential health effects of microplastics, in particular the association of blood-borne microplastics with increased risk of stroke and cardiovascular disease.

Public education and government intervention through more stringent regulations on the production, use, and cleanup of 'forever' chemicals, including plastics, is our only option for stemming these eternal threats to human health and the sustainability of the biosphere."

"As a member of United Women in Faith, I have a strong interest in climate justice," said Laura Lunsford, district president of United Women in Faith and co-founder of Creation Care Pagosa. "I look forward to what Dr. Root has to share about plastics, not only as a non-biodegradable waste product, but also as a pollutant during the manufacturing process. Through education and action, I believe we can reverse the destructive impact of plastics on our community."

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.

# Curtains Up Pagosa to hold auditions for summer production

By Dale Scrivener  
Curtains Up Pagosa

Curtains Up Pagosa is looking for local actors and musicians for our upcoming production of "Once Upon a Mattress." This show is family-friendly, and everyone ages 8 and up are allowed to audition. The show will perform on June 12-16.

"Once Upon a Mattress" is a satiric adaptation of the Hans Christian Anderson fairy tale of "The Princess and the Pea."

Many moons ago in a far-off place, Queen Aggravain decreed no couples could marry until her son, Prince Dauntless, found a bride. Princesses came from far and wide to win the

hand of the prince, but none could pass the impossible tests given to them by the queen. That is, until the "shy" swamp princess, Winnifred the Woebegone, showed up. Would she be able to pass the sensitivity test, marry her prince and help Lady Larken and Sir Harry to the altar?

Carried on a wave of wonderful songs, by turns hilarious and raucous, romantic and melodic, this rollicking spin on the classic tale "The Princess and the Pea" provides some side-splitting shenanigans. For, after all, a princess is a delicate thing.

For the auditions, please prepare a one-minute monologue and one minute of solo singing. Auditions will be held in the Pagosa Springs

High School band room on April 11 and 12 from 6 to 9 p.m. Auditions are first come, first serve for time slots. There is no dance requirement for this show.

Auditions will also be accepted via video audition. Video submissions, must be sent to director.curtainsup@gmail.com no later than 6 p.m. on April 12.

If you wish to participate backstage or in the orchestra pit, please email curtainsuppagosa@gmail.com with your name and information, and what you are interested in helping with.

If you have questions, or for more information, feel free to email either of the emails listed above.

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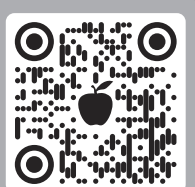
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# Thingamajig Theatre Company announces Broadway summer musicals season

By Carole Howard  
Thingamajig Theatre Company

At a wine and cheese event exclusively for season ticket holders at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts on March 24, Tim Moore, artistic director of Thingamajig Theatre Company, previewed the three Broadway musical hits, a fundraising gala event and a special children's show that will make up the live professional theater's exciting Broadway in the Mountains season this summer.

Guests took advantage of the occasion to purchase discounted summer season and Broadway Gala tickets.

Thingamajig's three summer musicals are Jimmy Buffett's "Escape to Margaritaville" opening May 31, "Beautiful: The Carole King Musical" opening June 14 and "Beauty and the Beast" opening June 28. They will run in rotation until late August. All are family-friendly shows.

"Finding Nemo Kids," playing July 13-16, will be the theater's What-chamawhozits children's summer camp show.

This year's fundraising Broadway Gala will take place July 30 with a newly imagined format showcasing the incredible talents of the summer performers.

## Returning favorites plus new talent

A highlight of the season ticket holders event was Moore's introduction via personal stories and audition videos of the professional actors, directors and production experts who are arriving in May from cities across the country to direct, sing, dance and perform in this summer's shows.

More than 30 artists, designers and performers will be coming to Pagosa.

Eight of the actors are much-admired favorites with local and out-of-town audiences from previous performances at Thingamajig. They are Justin Autz, Alexandria Bates, Cassandra Brooks, Dennis Elkins, Dominic Girolami, Bonnie McIntyre, Keenan Pasqua and Tyler Price Robinson.

Others on stage will be talented new faces.

The summer actors were recruited by Moore on a month-long nationwide audition trip that took him to New York City, Michigan and the Unified Professional Theater Auditions in Memphis. He met with about 5,500 artists in person and some 10,000 more online before choosing the final cast.

Moore said, "I'm looking forward to a really fantastic season this summer, and I know our audiences will love these amazing shows and performers."

Thingamajig's talented performers head to Broadway and to larger theaters after their careers bring



Photo courtesy Carole Howard

**Hugely popular actor Tyler Price Robinson will return to Pagosa Springs to star as the Beast in Disney's "Beauty and the Beast" during Thingamajig Theatre Company's Broadway in the Mountains live theater season this summer at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts.**

them to Pagosa. During his presentation, Moore updated the enthusiastic audience on where some of our favorite past performers can be seen onstage throughout the country — on Broadway, with Broadway touring shows and at other prestigious regional theaters.

## Favorite directors take leadership roles

Three popular directors will return to Pagosa to direct the musicals.

Andrew Barratt Lewis will come from Utah to direct "Escape to Margaritaville."

He is associate professor of musical theater at Weber State University in Utah and well-known here as a talented director and choreographer. Also a Thingamajig favorite, he directed "Bright Star" in the summer of 2022, as well as the Christmas shows "Grand Night for Singing," "Miracle on 34th Street" and "All is Calm" for the past three years.

Melissa Firlit is coming from New York City to direct "Beautiful: The Carole King Story." She is greatly admired by Thingamajig audiences for her work as director of multiple hits from serious dramas like "Red," "Proof" and "Marrow" to blockbuster musicals like "Jekyll and Hyde," "Aida" and "West Side Story." She also serves as artistic director of the Thingamajig Playwrights Festival, which develops and workshops the

plays of emerging playwrights.

Ann Evans Watson will come from Michigan to direct and choreograph "Beauty and the Beast" after making her directorial debut at Thingamajig last summer with "The Great American Trailer Park Musical." She is associate professor of musical theater at the University of Michigan, an Equity actor, vocal instructor and coach.

Many of her students have performed on Broadway and have won prestigious acting awards.

In addition to his acting roles, Dominic Girolami will be music director for all three shows. He was both music director and a performer last Christmas in "All is Calm" in his first visit to Pagosa.

Costumes will be the responsibility of Nanette Cheffers, Lexi Saeger and Kirri Schaefer. Mackenzie Lowe is returning as lighting designer. The choreographer will be Davey Burton Midkiff.

## Three hit Broadway musicals

"Beautiful: The Carole King Musical"  
■ See Musicals on next page

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# Four nonprofits selected to benefit from 19th Hole Concerts

By Rachel Rosenthal

Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado

The Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado has selected the four local nonprofits that will benefit from this summer's 19th Hole Concerts at the Pagosa Springs Golf Club.

Each organization represents a different sector addressing the needs of the community and will be highlighted at one of the concerts held in June.

This year's recipients are the Ruby M. Sisson Library Foundation, the Cornerstone Project, San Juan Back Country Horsemen and the Early Childhood Council of Archuleta County.

The 19th Hole Concerts are community fundraisers that feature local

musicians and local nonprofits each Thursday evening in June, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., at the Pagosa Springs Golf Club.

The cover charge is a \$10 donation that supports the four nonprofits. Corporate sponsors cover event expenses, allowing all proceeds at the end of the series to be pooled and distributed equally to the featured organizations. The collaborative approach to the concerts is vital to their success. Last year's concerts raised more than \$2,600 for each participating organization.

The Ruby M. Sisson Library Foundation will be represented at the June 6 concert. The foundation was formed in 2018 to help raise funds to support the programs, resources, services and facilities of the library. This year, it will complete its largest capital campaign, Mountains of Op-

portunity, to expand and renovate the Ruby Sisson Library. It will be joined by musical guests Jason Rose and Denise Chaney of the Jackson Mountain Ramblers.

The Cornerstone Project is a nonprofit with a mission to support survivors of human trafficking. Through education and advocacy, they work to offer restorative, alternative solutions to help survivors reintegrate into society with hope and purpose. The Cornerstone Project will be part of the June 13 concert along with musical guest Bo DePeña.

San Juan Back Country Horsemen works to ensure public trails remain open and accessible to recreational livestock and pedestrian use. It solicits donations to fund the trail work needed to stabilize areas in dire need

■ See Concerts on next page

## Musicals

■ continued from previous page

cal" is the story of the early life and career of one of the most successful female singer-songwriters in the latter half of the 20th century. One reviewer praised the show for its "bounce and Broadway glitz." It was honored with multiple Tony nominations and one win, plus a Grammy for best musical theater album.

"Escape to Margaritaville" showcases the songs of Jimmy Buffett. The plot revolves around a bartender and a singer in a run-down hotel bar in the Caribbean who meet and romance two women vacationing from Cincinnati. Newsday called it "a delightful, energetic frothy drink of a show."

"Beauty and the Beast" returns to the Thingamajig stage for a 10th anniversary revival after being a big hit here in 2014. The Disney musical made news as Broadway's 10th longest-running production in history, renowned for its poignant story, popular songs, elaborate costumes and clever transformation of actors into beloved animated characters. Its movie version won two Academy Awards and five Grammys for its music.

### Season ticket benefits

To ensure you don't miss any of the three summer musicals, consider buying season tickets. Multiple benefits go along with being a season ticket holder, including invitations to exclusive events, a free drink on opening weekends, discounted tickets, no ticketing fees, reserved seats, unlimited ticket exchanges at no extra charge, come-again tickets to see a show again while bringing a paying guest when you attend an opening weekend performance, and an invitation to the wine and cheese winter

season announcement in August.

A new special perk this summer is the open rehearsal and cast welcome dinner on May 19 from 3 to 6:30 p.m. Season ticket holders will be invited to meet the new company and hear the first sing-through of "Escape to Margaritaville" and then stay for dinner with the actors and directors.

Season tickets are \$120 per person and \$260 for the gala. Reserved seats are \$210 per person and \$350 for the gala. They are available on the theater's website at pagosacenter.org or by phoning the box office at (970) 731-SHOW (7469). Individual tickets and all show dates also are available on the website. There are special lower prices for kids 12 and under because all three musicals are family-friendly.

### Friends of the Theatre benefits

You also can pay your annual Friends of the Theatre dues of \$35 per person on the theater's website.

Becoming a Friend brings you many exclusive interactions with the actors and directors throughout the year, including multiple social gatherings like welcome and farewell parties, an exclusive summer cabaret concert, invitations to Tech Tuesday potlucks and Behind the Scenes presentations, plus excursions to Williams Lake for water sports in the summer and Wolf Creek for skiing in the winter.

### About Thingamajig Theatre Company

Thingamajig Theatre Company was co-founded in 2011 by Tim and Laura Moore. It is an award-winning professional nonprofit 501(c)(3) theatre in residence within the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. Its tal-

ented actors, directors and production experts come from across the U.S. to produce musicals, comedies and dramas year-round. Thingamajig also is dedicated to providing theatrical experiences and educational opportunities for youth and teens in our community.



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# Countywide Women's Bible Study meeting weekly

By Stan Counsell  
Countywide Women's Bible Study

Our Pagosa winter was a disappointment with less than the required snowfalls. But, what has not been a disappointment is the Bible study for all the women in the county, from all the churches, including women currently without a church home and those seeking just what is our Christian faith.

The Countywide Women's Bible Study isn't denominational where one belief system is taught. It encompasses various views of interpretation so that all hear, ponder and share their honest opinions. Imagine going to a buffet and finding only one entree available. You like what you see and delight in gorging, but you wish there was a variety of goodies offered to make your taste buds go bonkers. All Christian churches have a treasure of biblical beliefs that another might not have, so all benefit from listening and asking questions.

'Bert Counsell, the tour guide or facilitator of this Bible study, always seeks to unearth things that appear overlooked. A recent example was when the study reached the place in John's gospel of the Last Supper. Jesus had much to say and do with his disciples. His arrest, illegal trial, horrendous beatings, crucifixion and resurrection were at hand. He knew this would put the disciples in extreme panic, thereby giving birth to desertions, denials and hiding so as to not get arrested and killed.

Jesus clearly mentioned the horrors lying just around the corner, but promised the Holy Spirit, who would guide them with lasting peace. Peace? Just how was that going to happen? Everything would become frighteningly beyond chaotic, armed soldiers, crowds close to rioting, many screaming for Jesus' execution. The dreams of the disciples would appear crushed, a waste of three years of following their

messiah.

Each terrifying issue would be lengthened into how it also applied to the ladies in their daily walk and commitment to the Lord. It is so refreshing, exhilarating and joyful to have Bible passages not be just knowledge, but opened up to how it relates to one another. Candles of thought and conviction expand to 1,000 watt LED light bulbs. It is so exciting to leave having taken a deeper, yet simpler, tour of the Bible.

Counsell holds an active women's ordination with a worldwide evangelical Christian organization spanning more than 5,000 churches in 122 countries that recently experienced almost 40,000 new spiritual converts. Lectures are not Counsell's style; she loves feedback, questions, opinions and lots of laughter.

The women meet Tuesday mornings in Grace in Pagosa's comfortable fellowship hall from 10 to 11:30 a.m. The church address is 1044 Park Ave., near the Rec Center. All, of any age, are welcome for fun, chitchat and interesting studies in God's Word.

Currently, they are near finishing up the Book of John. Counsell and the "gang" hope to see you and make new friends.

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## Concerts

■ continued from previous page

of repair. The organizations will be highlighted at the June 20 concert with musical guests the San Juan Mountain Boys.

The Early Childhood Council of Archuleta County was founded to support families of young children by supporting and sustaining a comprehensive, high-quality, accessible early childhood system that prepares children for success both academically and personally. It will be featured at the June 27 concert with the music of Bob Hemenger.

"The 19th Hole Concerts are a fun way for everyone to rally behind our local nonprofits and learn more about this vital sector," said Tracy Pope, deputy director of the Community Foundation. "Local food, local music and local nonprofits come together to create a wonderful summer evening."

As a community facilitator, the Community Foundation works to increase resiliency and success for nonprofits while maximizing effective grantmaking for philanthropists to make Southwest Colorado a better place to live.

### Concert schedule

Concerts will be 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Thursdays in June at the Pagosa Springs Golf Club:

June 6: Ruby Sisson Library Foundation. Jason Rose and Denise Chaney of Jackson Mountain Ramblers — eclectic.

June 13: Cornerstone Project. Bo DePeña — Americana and country.

June 20: San Juan Back Country Horsemen. San Juan Mountain Boys — country, folk, pop and old rock.

June 27: Early Childhood Council of Archuleta County. Bob Hemenger — Dixieland, jazz, blues, soul and pop.

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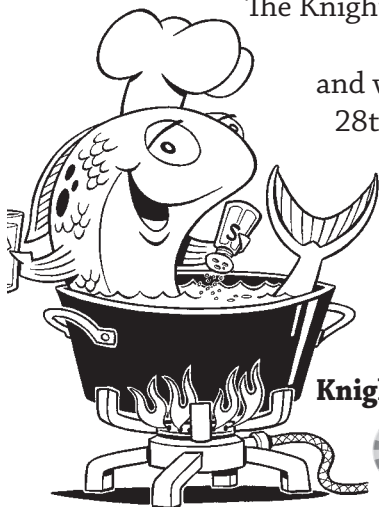
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# Registration open for Archuleta Food Summit

Healthy Archuleta

Registration is now open for the 2024 Archuleta Food Summit on May 11 at Pagosa Springs High School.

The day will feature an opening presentation and two breakout sessions featuring information about our local food system, from food production to eating local foods to food waste prevention and resource recovery.

After the breakout session, attendees will participate in a networking farm-to-table lunch and have the opportunity to join an optional tour of the high school's grow dome and compost system.

To learn more, please visit <https://www.foodcoalition4archuleta.org/archuleta-food-summit.html>.

[www.foodcoalition4archuleta.org/archuleta-food-summit.html](https://www.foodcoalition4archuleta.org/archuleta-food-summit.html).

To register, please follow the link on the Healthy Archuleta website or visit <https://form.jotform.com/240785457148062>.

## 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](mailto:fsfearchuleta@gmail.com) or visit <https://www.foodcoalition4archuleta.org>.



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*A Cut above*

# New Thought Center to meet Sunday

By Shayla McClure

New Thought Center for Inspirational Living

The Sunday service on April 7 at 10:30 a.m. will be with Stephanie Morrow, Reiki master and intuitive, on "Let it Go to Let it Flow."

"This Activity of Light is empowering every man, woman and child to fulfill their Divine Purpose and Reason for Being on Earth during this auspicious time. Through this Activation the mind and emotions of every person are being purified and realigned with their highest Divine Potential." — Patricia Cota-Robles.

## Upcoming events

April 4, 6 p.m.: Illuminations free lecture with Adrienne Young, performing artist, on "Evoke the Divine Feminine Through Honoring Your Sensuality."

April 8, 6 p.m.: New moon drumming circle with Shayla White Eagle. Bring drums, rattles and musical instruments.

April 11, 6 p.m.: Illuminations

free lecture with Julie Loar, award-winning author. Donations will be accepted.

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

April 20, 6 to 8:30 p.m.: Workshop with Young, "Evoke Your Divine Feminine With The Art of Tease." To sign up, contact (970) 510-0309.

April 25, 6 p.m.: Illuminations free lecture with Morrow, "Our Bodies, Our Hearts, Our Souls ... a deeper awakening to the healer in you. The way of Water, energy medicine and beyond." Donations will be accepted.

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

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

June 15, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.: Blessing of the Animals Celebration at Wolfwood Refuge. Blessing ceremony for your pets. All dogs must be on leash.

Doggie bags will be provided.

## 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 SpiritHeart Band provides live music every Sunday. We welcome local talents to share gifts, aptitudes and knowledge.

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](mailto:pagosacommunitynewthought@gmail.com); mailing P.O. Box 1052, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147; or calling (970) 510-0309.




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Pagosa Springs Elementary School invites you to

## Kindergarten Orientation Family Night

Mrs. Vining and the PSES Kindergarten teachers invite all preschool families entering Kindergarten (age 5 by October 1st, 2024) for the 2024-25 school year to drop-in orientation. Come meet our Kindergarten teachers, who can't wait to meet their future students.

# 4-6 pm Tuesday, April 9th

- Participate in fun activities
- Meet our amazing teachers
- Meet our Area Preschool Directors & Principal Vining
- Explore the classrooms
- Ask questions

Check us out on our Facebook page to see what a school year looks like for our students:  
[www.facebook.com/pagosaspringselementary](https://www.facebook.com/pagosaspringselementary)

# Coming Monday: eclipse viewing party plus teen live event with author

By Carole Howard  
PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

Pagosa will have a 60 percent view of the solar eclipse mid-day Monday, April 8.

You are invited to join us in the library garden from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. to watch. Pick up free special glasses at your library starting April 1 to ensure your eye safety.

Then, later in the afternoon of Monday, April 8, from 4 to 5 p.m., teens and tweens are invited to a free in-person Q-and-A with young adult (YA) author Heather Buchta, who wrote "Chasing After Knight." This popular author will share the process of writing a successful YA book and answer your questions.

## Early library closure

Your library will close early on Monday, April 8, for a staff meeting at 5 p.m. This is our regular staff meeting schedule — on the second Monday of the month.

## Save the dates

The free spring Lifelong Learning Lecture series will take place Thursday evenings, April 18 through May 23, from 6 to 7:15 p.m. with informative presentations on using water efficiently, air quality during wildfire season, Chimney Rock, Mt. Kilimanjaro, our local monsoon forecast and your library foundation. Watch for more details in next week's "Library News" column. The lectures are free and no registration is required.

We also hope you'll join us to say a fond farewell to departing library director Meg Wempe on April 24 from 2 to 4 p.m. Snacks, activities and well wishes will be available.

## National Library Week

If you haven't been to your library for a while, this might be a good time to visit since April 7-12 National Library Week. We'd love to see you.

## Tax help session

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 the third and final free session at your library.

A representative of VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) will meet with those who have signed up in individual session on Tuesday, 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.



## AARP senior program

Seniors aged 60 and above are invited to a free live online Senior Planet AARP program on the first and third Fridays of the month, this month on April 5 and 19, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Judy will connect the group via the video conferencing platform Zoom so that you can join other seniors across the country in discussing aging issues such as loneliness, isolation, making new friends and learning in new hobbies.

She also will show you how to use Zoom free from your home to participate in topics like finance, wellness, fitness, computers and technology on other times and dates if you are interested.

## Special writers' guild anthology

Local writers — both guild members are those who are not — are invited to contribute to a Ruby's Writers Guild anthology collection that will be donated to the library.

Submissions should be sent to Judy by email at judy@pagosalibrary.org by Thursday, April 4, when there will be open readings of submissions from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Blind reviews will take place April 18 from 9 a.m.

to 2 p.m.

For more information, please contact Judy at the library at (970) 264-2209.

## 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.

## Virtual author talks

Our highly popular free online author talks continue with three opportunities in April for you to interact with New York Times bestselling authors and ask questions in April.

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

Tuesday, April 9, at noon will showcase Diane Foley and National Book Award-winner Colum McCann about "From Murder to Atonement: Confronting My Son's Killer."

On Wednesday, April 17, at 6 p.m. we'll focus on a literary examination of power, love and art with Xochitl Gonzalez, author of "Anita de Monte Laughs Last."

## Teen/tween takeover tomorrow

We are setting aside the large meeting room and some of the computers for tweens and teens to use and spend time with friends Friday, April 5, from 2 to 3 p.m.

## All-ages gaming tomorrow

Join us Friday, April 5, from 3 to 4

■ See Library on next page

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# Senior

■ **continued from previous page**  
p.m. for a free all-ages gaming session playing Xbox on the big screen.

## Habitat for Humanity forum tomorrow

On Friday, April 5, from 5 to 6 p.m. our local Habitat for Humanity will host an open forum at your library to share information and answer questions about this important nonprofit organization in our community.

Representatives will discuss their application process, the 18-month path to affordable home ownership and how you can volunteer or donate. Child supervision will be provided.

## LEGO Club Saturday

Kids aged 6-11 are invited to the free LEGO Club on Saturday, April 6, from 11 a.m. to noon. Bring your own LEGOs or use ours to free build.

## Ruby's Book Club next Tuesday

Ruby's Book Club will meet in person from 2 to 3 p.m. on Tuesday, April 9, to discuss "The Book of Longings" by Sue Monk Kidd. Copies are available at your library.

This book club is held the second Tuesday of each month, alternating between fiction and nonfiction titles. Anyone is welcome to attend. Snacks will be provided.

## Therapy dog visit

Next Wednesday, April 10, from 11 to 11:45 a.m., you are invited to come to a free visit with a certified therapy dog. The visits will be limited to 10-15 minutes — just the right amount of time to pet the dog, read to the dog or just say "Hi." This activity is for all ages.

## Dungeons and Dragons

Next Tuesday, April 9, from 4 to 5:30 p.m., join our Dungeons and Dragons game free for teens and young adults. Preregistration is required because space is limited. Contact Josie@pagosalibrary.org to join.

## Elementary tutoring sessions

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

## Family storytimes

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

## Writers' guild

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

## ESL classes

Free in-person evening classes take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays, with 4 to 5 p.m. reserved for be-

ginners, 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.

## Large print

"George Harrison: The Reluctant Beatle" by Philip Norman is a biography of this talented but troubled master guitar player and songwriter. "A Memoir of my Former Self: My Life in Writing" by Hilary Mantel is a collection of stories from this novelist and journalist. "Expiration Dates" by Rebecca Serle is a romance that begins with a blind date. "Three-Inch Teeth" by C.J. Box is a Joe Pickett adventure. "A Traitor in Whitehall" by Julia Kelly is a mystery set in 1940's England.

## Books on CD

"Nice Guys Finish Dead" by William W. and J.A. Johnstone is a western.

## Nonfiction

"Rhett & Link Present: The Mythical Cookbook" by Josh Scherer features recipes and humor by this YouTube star. "Abandoned" by law enforcement veteran Larry Baxter explores the history of Port Chatham, Alaska, a busy fishing village now abandoned.

"Baby Names 2024" contains more than 3,000 baby names with their meanings and origins. "Elevate and Dominate" by Deion "Coach Prime" Sanders offers stories, strategies and motivation to help you win at life. "Autoimmune Cure" by Dr. Sara Szal Gottfried is a program designed to reset your immune system and restore your health.

"The Menopause Brain" by neuroscientist Lisa Mosconi explains hormone replacement therapies, hormonal contraception and life style changes to help you take care of yourself.

## Novels

"Expiration Dates" by Rebecca Serle is a romance that begins with

a blind date. "The Underground Library" by Jennifer Ryan follows three women saving a library's books after a blitz bombing in London.

## Donation guidelines

Many thanks to Medora Bass for her materials donations.

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

Here are the Friends' new guidelines for donations: Yes to popular fiction books published in 2013 or later, nonfiction books published 2018 or later, and children's and young adult books — all in excellent condition, please. No to CDs, DVDs, Blu-ray, VHS or cassette tapes; textbooks, outdated travel books or reference books because they do not sell. No more than two boxes at a time because of space constraints.

## Quotable quote

"Remember the good shots and forget the bad. This is the first rule of golf my father ever taught me. It's the first rule I taught my son. Apply it to every round you play. If you're old, apply it to your life." — Ed Weathers, teacher, magazine writer and editor for Golf Digest magazine.

## Website

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

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# Preview Calendar

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

## Thursday, April 4

**Ruby's Writers Guild Anthology Session.** 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Sisson Library. Local writers are invited to contribute to the Ruby's Writer's Guild Anthology. Submissions should be sent in by Thursday, April 4, when there will be open readings of submissions. Blind reviews will be April 18, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

**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.

**San Juan Outdoor Club Monthly Meeting.** 6-8 p.m., PLPOA Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. A group of club members will present an informative and entertaining look at their travels to the Dolomites and several other locations in Europe during the summer of 2023. Three separate groups from the Outdoor Club planned hiking and biking trips to the Dolomites in northeast Italy. The presentation will highlight their planning process and show the beautiful landscapes they experienced. Their trips took them to some other beautiful locations either en route to the Dolomites or on the way back to Pagosa. Come join us and get inspiration for your trip to Europe. The meeting starts with a social half-hour at 6 p.m. with light refreshments, and the meeting gets started at 6:30 p.m.. For more information, email sanjuanoutdoorclub@gmail.com.

## Friday, April 5

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

**Senior Planet.** 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Sisson Library. A free program created through AARP. Interact via Zoom with other seniors from around the country and discuss aging issues.

**Bingo.** 1:30-2:30 p.m., Senior Center. Free. Those under 18 must have an adult chaperone. For more informa-

tion, contact (970) 264-2167.

**Tween/Teen Art Takeover.** 2-3 p.m., Sisson Library. We are setting aside the large meeting room and some of the computers for tweens/teens to use and spend time with friends.

**All-Ages Gaming.** 3-4 p.m., Sisson Library. Play Xbox games on the big screen.

**Pagosa Springs Varsity Girls' Soccer.** 4 p.m., Golden Peaks Stadium. Pagosa Springs High School vs. Alamosa.

**Habitat for Humanity Informational Session.** 5-6 p.m., Sisson Library. Come learn how to apply, donate and volunteer with Habitat for Humanity of Pagosa Springs.

## Saturday, April 6

**Pagosa Peak Genealogical Society.** 10 a.m., Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. The program will discuss how to get through brick walls in genealogical research. For more information, contact Carolyn Paschal, carolynpaschal@gmail.com, or visit pagosapeakgs.org.

**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.

**Animal Shelter Baby Shower.** 10 a.m.-noon, PLPOA Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Help the Humane Society of Pagosa Springs prepare for the spring influx of kittens and puppies. For tickets and more information, visit www.pagosahumane.org.

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

**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.divorccare.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 8

**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.

■ See Calendar on next page

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## FEELING TOO FULL AFTER A BIG MEAL?

People have asked, What can I do to help me not feel so full after I eat a meal? My food seems to just sit there in my stomach and it makes me feel lazy and lethargic How can I speed up the digestion process, get my energy back and feel better?

### HERE ARE 6 TIPS THAT CAN HELP WITH THIS PROBLEM:

1. Try chewing your food a little longer than you normally do before you swallow. Remember, digestion begins in the mouth.
2. Slow down. Don't eat so fast. Take a little more time eating your meal. You tend to eat too much and eat too fast if you eat your meals while watching TV. Turn the TV off when you eat and enjoy the meal itself and savor the flavors.
3. Try eating a smaller portion. Serve yourself about 80% of the food you normally think you would need (or want). Put away the leftovers before you eat to reduce the temptation of going back for seconds.
4. Don't drink anything with your meal. Wait for at least 1 hour after your meal before you drink anything (and then water preferably). This will also help with proper digestion as liquids dilute the digestive juices in your mouth and stomach and prolong digestion.
5. Eat a plant based meal. Meats, processed foods, cheese, and saturated fats take much longer to digest.
6. This might be the most important tip: Go for a brisk walk immediately after you eat, or do some kind of moderate exercise for 15-20 minutes. (This seems to help more than anything else!)



*"Their future is eternal loss, for god is their appetite: they are proud of what they should be ashamed of; and all they think about is this life here on earth. But our homeland is in heaven, where our Savior the Lord Jesus Christ is; and we are looking forward to his return from there."*  
**Philippians 3: 19, 20 TLB**

**Fun Bible Facts:** Up to the fifteenth century, copies of the Bible were made by hand.

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# Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

**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 meet at 9:30 a.m. and the advance group meets at 10:15 a.m. If you haven’t attended before, please call Beverly at (970) 264-2064 for more information.

**Eclipse Viewing Party.** 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Pick up glasses for the 60 percent viewing, then join to watch the solar eclipse from the library garden.

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

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

**Q-and-A with Young Adult Author Heather Buchta.** 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. Young adult author Heather Buchta, who wrote “Chasing After Knight,” will visit. Learn about the process of writing a young adult book.

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

**Tuesday, April 9**

**Tax Help with VITA.** 9 a.m.-8 p.m., Sisson Library. People who would like help with their taxes are encouraged to call for an appointment. Registration is required. Call Kathy at (970) 553-9150 for an appointment.

**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.

**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.

**Virtual Author Talk: Diane Foley and Colum McCann.** Noon, virtual. Listen live or recorded. Featuring “From Murder to Atonement – Confronting My Son’s Killer” with Diane Foley and Colum McCann. For details and to register, go to <https://library.org/pagosalibrary/upcoming>.

**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.

**Ruby’s Book Club.** 2-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Join to discuss “The Book of Longings” By Sue Monk Kidd. Pick up a copy at the library. Snacks will be provided.

**Dungeons and Dragons.** 4-5:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Join the adventure. Preregistration is required because

space is limited. Contact Josie@pagosalibrary.org to join.

**English as a Second Language.** 4-7 p.m., Sisson Library. Your library offers English as a second language classes. These classes are free. Call (970) 264-2209 or email for more information. Beginning students are encouraged to attend from 4-5 p.m., intermediate students from 5-6 p.m. and advanced students from 6-7 p.m.

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

**Wednesday, April 10**

**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](http://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.

**Therapy Dog Visit.** 11-11:45 a.m., Sisson Library. Stop by and visit with a certified therapy dog.

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

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

**Elementary Tutoring.** 3:30-4:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Build essential skills in core subjects. Registration required. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

**Pagosa Springs Photography Club.** 6 p.m., Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. The program, “Building Your Photographic Website,” will begin at 6:30 p.m.

**Thursday, April 11**

**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.

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

**English as a Second Language.** 4-7

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

■ 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.

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## SUDOKU

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

Level: Beginner

**Here’s How It Works:**

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

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

**ANSWER:**

**Fun By The Numbers**

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

# Preview Calendar

**continued from previous page**

Learning Services, or PALS, can help you with high school equivalency, GED, college prep, financial aid, tutoring and more. Mark can help you develop a plan to achieve your education goals. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

**Friday, April 12**

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

**Preschool Playdough.** 10-11 a.m., Sisson Library. Join for playdough exploration and fun.

**LEGO Club.** 2-3:30 p.m., Sisson Library. For kids 6-12 years old. We have the LEGO bricks, all you need to bring is your imagination. Contact the library at (970) 264-2209 for further information.

**Teen Murder Mystery.** 4-5:30 p.m. Everyone is a suspect. Solve the clues to discover who the real murderer is. Registration is required. Contact the library at (970) 264-2209 for further information.

**Saturday, April 13**

**Chess Club.** 9:30-11:30 a.m., Sisson Library. Learn how to play chess with quick lessons and game time or practice your skills. All ages and abilities are welcome.

**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.

**Pagosa Springs Scrapbooking Club.** 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Senior Center dining room. Bring your scrapbooking projects or any crafting project you may want to work on with the

group.

**Pagosa Springs Varsity Baseball.** 10 a.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Pagosa Springs High School vs. Montezuma-Cortez.

**Pagosa Springs Varsity Girls' Soccer.** 11 a.m., Golden Peaks Stadium. Pagosa Springs High School vs. Montezuma-Cortez.

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

**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.divorccare.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.

**Spanish Fiesta Royalty Competition.** 5 p.m., CSU Extension building. There will be an enchilada dinner, royalty competition and live music. Tickets are available through any of the 15 contestants at <https://givebutter.com/SFRoyaltyCompetition>. For more information,

contact Archuleta Seniors Inc. at (970) 264-2167.

Submit your calendar items to editor@pagosasun.com; mail them to The Pagosa Springs SUN, P.O. Box 9, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147; or deliver them to The SUN office by noon Monday.

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# PAGOSA SCENE . . .

## GOOD FRIDAY PILGRIMAGE

Photos courtesy Gene Tautges

Scene ... taking part in the Good Friday Pilgrimage on March 29. The Pagosa Catholic Community hosts the annual pilgrimage, which begins at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church downtown and ends at John Paul II Catholic Church.



# Photography Club set to meet April 10

By Gregg Heid  
Pagosa Springs Photography Club

The next meeting of the Pagosa Springs Photography Club will be held on April 10 at the Community United Methodist Church on Lewis Street.

We will have social time at 6 p.m., and the program will begin at 6:30 p.m. This month's program will be a discussion of "Building Your Photographic Website," presented by Andy Butler and Doug Coombs.

The meeting will also be available on Zoom.

If you are a photographer, the chances are you like to share your images with others. Whether you just want to show off your photos to family and friends, want to reach a wider audience, or perhaps sell your work, there are numerous online tools available to help.

The choice of which of these tools you might use will vary depending on your goals. For some, social media may be enough. But if part of your audience doesn't partake in social media, or you want a platform where you have more control over your images and their presentation, building your own website to share your photos may be the best choice.

Butler will briefly discuss a variety of different platforms available for photographers to display their images and considerations for choosing between them. Most of the choices make it reasonably easy to create a personalized, attractive site for displaying your photos without a lot of technical knowledge.

Coombs will then demonstrate the basics of creating a site using one popular photo hosting service. Coombs has built a preliminary version of a site which is available to members of the Photo Club to highlight some of your own images, which he will also discuss.

Following the presentation, we'll have our usual image share. Members may bring up to five of their images on a flash drive to share and discuss with the group. If attending by Zoom, please email your photos to abutler@mac.com by April 9. Please save your images as JPEG files, at a resolution of around 2,400 pixels on the long dimension.

## Membership renewal

Thanks to many of you who have already renewed your Photography Club membership for 2024.

Membership remains at \$25 per calendar year or an individual, or \$35 for a family. If you have not already done so, you may bring your membership payment to any club meeting, or mail to Susanne Russell (our treasurer) at 84 Chipper Court, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, or take to Susanne at her shop, Art and Framing of Pagosa, near City Market.

Because of the nature of the club

checking account, please make checks payable to Susanne Russell.

If any of your contact information has changed, please let us know by providing a revised membership application form. You can download this from our website at <https://pagosaphotoclub.files.wordpress.com/2023/12/pspc-memberapplication-2024.pdf>.

## Trinity Anglican Church



invites you to join us at 10am for the Service of Morning Prayer on the first Sunday after Easter.

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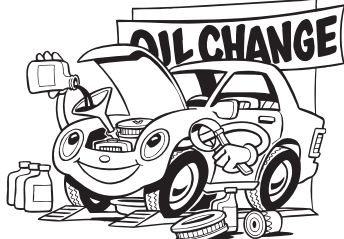
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# Survey and focus group participants sought by Archuleta Seniors Inc.

By Rose Chavez  
PREVIEW Columnist

Community members are encouraged by Archuleta Seniors Inc. (ASI) to provide feedback on the needs of local older adult residents and to comment on how well ASI is meeting these needs.

Several focus group discussions and an online survey are part of a countywide effort to gather data that will inform the ASI Board of Directors as it plans for ASI's senior services provision for the coming three years.

"We want to hear from anyone and everyone interested in maximizing the services and supports available to our community's seniors," said ASI Executive Director Rose Chavez. "It is important that all impacted voices are heard. To this end, we are hosting several focus group conversations, and are making the online survey available in both Spanish and English."

Focus group discussions (sign-up requested) will be held on April 17 (9 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 1:15 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.) and April 18 (3 p.m. to 5 p.m.).

Both clients and non-clients of ASI and the Pagosa Senior Center are welcome to participate; refreshments and door prizes will be provided.

Those interested in completing a short survey may visit [www.ps-seniors.org](http://www.ps-seniors.org) or contact ASI for a printed version of the survey instrument. It is available in Spanish at <https://forms.gle/vBDSkEksaZVZmp6DA> and in English at <https://forms.gle/D7ftzcJFA8HNvrTA8>.

ASI's mission is "To promote independence and advance community resilience by empowering individuals who are 60 years old and better, their families, and other community stakeholders."

Services' delivery is driven by the deeply held value that older adults have an important role in the community, and includes provision of meals, social and educational activities, monitoring systems and other caregiver supports, and local referrals.

For further information, to sign up to attend a focus group gathering or to request a printed survey document, contact Chavez at ASI, (970)264-2167 or [rosa@ps-seniors.org](mailto:rosa@ps-seniors.org).

## Spanish Fiesta royalty event set for April 13

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 any 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 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.

## 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 pick up/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

■ See Senior on next page

## The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

### ACROSS

- 1 Get fast cash for
- 5 Squandered
- 9 Up to the task
- 13 Stay clear of
- 15 Make simpler
- 16 Farsi-speaking land
- 17 Symbolizes
- 19 Hit the runway
- 20 Word after under or water
- 21 From there on
- 23 Like some sums
- 24 Passed out
- 25 Not these or those
- 28 Coloring stick
- 29 Detroit's county
- 30 Oracle
- 31 Church area
- 34 Place for gloss
- 35 Doesn't just ask
- 38 Like some scientists

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12
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47	48							49					
50							51				52	53	54
55						56	57						
58						59				60			
61						62					63		

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- 39 Snow coaster
- 41 Italian tower town
- 42 Fashion magazine
- 44 Enumerate
- 46 Fancy, as clothes
- 47 Dishwasher soap brand
- 49 Complaint
- 50 Fret
- 51 Self-government
- 55 Kuwaiti, e.g.
- 56 West African nation
- 58 Blind trio of song
- 59 Not engaged
- 60 Teams
- 61 Rid of rind
- 62 Winter woe
- 63 Prying

### DOWN

- 1 Angelic strings
- 2 Rove anagram

- 3 Manage
- 4 Hollywood's Dunst
- 5 Actor Noah or Wallace
- 6 Road division
- 7 Repair shop fig.
- 8 Into the sunset
- 9 Part of a plane's wing
- 10 Nike and Nintendo
- 11 Medieval weapon
- 12 Terminated
- 14 In demand
- 18 Beer, slangily
- 22 Stable diet?
- 24 Boxing venue
- 25 Mice catchers
- 26 Shadow
- 27 Four dimensional realm
- 28 Stop
- 30 Clobber, old-style
- 32 Sneakers brand

- 33 "Electric Avenue" singer Grant
- 36 Widespread outbreak
- 37 Lines on a city map
- 40 Sound unit
- 43 Part of a song
- 45 Deep-six
- 46 Lovato or Moore

- 47 Swimming hazard
- 48 Raptor's roost
- 49 Yawning, maybe
- 51 Ship bottom
- 52 Nullify
- 53 Prevaricates
- 54 "No sweat"
- 57 Trouble

### Answers to Previous Crossword:

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

# Subscribe to The SUN PagosaSUN.com

# Senior

■ **continued from previous page** 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 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.

## Pagosa Springs 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.

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

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

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

## Community Cafe menu

Thursday, April 4 — Beef spaghetti, garlic bread, broccoli, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Friday, April 5 — Baked Codfish, orzo pasta, zucchini medley, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Monday, April 8 — Tuscan white bean and kale soup, ciabatta bread, garden salad, fruit, vanilla yogurt and milk.

Tuesday, April 9 — Chicken cashew salad on croissant, deviled eggs, broccoli salad, garden salad, fruit, Key lime pie and milk.

Wednesday, April 10 — Beef pot roast with root veggies, mashed potatoes, garden salad, fruit, sunrise muffin and milk.

Thursday, April 11 — Salmon cakes with tartar sauce, sauteed greens, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Friday, April 12 — Pork tenderloin with Burgundy peppercorn sauce, baked sweet potatoes, garden salad, fruit, banana brunch cake 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.

## Meals on Wheels

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

## Mobile food pantry service discontinued

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

## Text reservations

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

and the days you want to cancel.

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

## COVID-19 test kits available

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

## Supporting ASI

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

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

There is also another way to donate.

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

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

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

## WORDS

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- BRAKES
- CABIN
- CAR WASH
- DIESEL
- ENGINE
- FLUIDS
- HOSES
- INTERVALS
- MECHANIC
- OIL CHANGE
- PLUGS
- PUMP
- ROTATION
- ROTORS
- SERVICE
- STEERING
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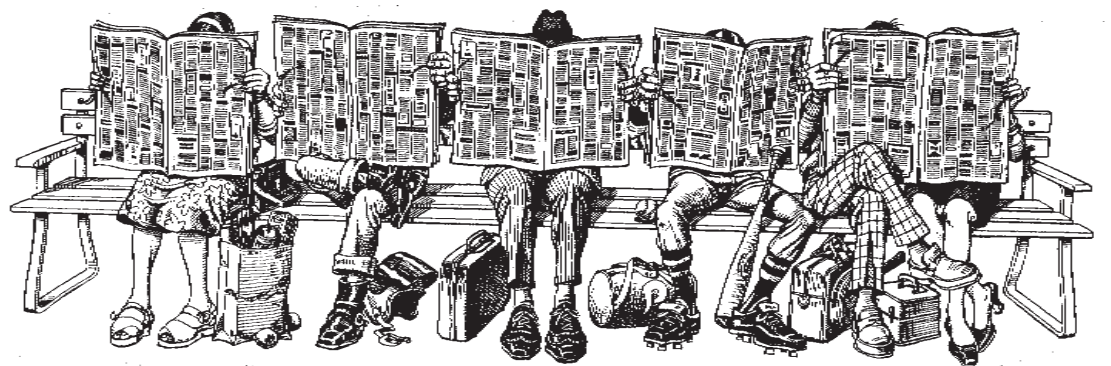
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# CSU beer experts: 'Water is everything to a brewer'

By Robin Young  
PREVIEW Columnist

Perhaps no one is more reliant on high-quality water than brewers. Water makes up more than 90 percent of most beers. The water flowing from the Rockies is pure and clean, which helps explain why hundreds of macro- and microbreweries call Colorado home.

"Water is the canvas that the brewer uses to paint, along with malt, hops and yeast," said Jeff Biegert, Colorado State University's (CSU's) Fermentation Science and Technology Program instructor and brewmaster, whose position is half-funded by New Belgium Brewing. "Water is everything to a brewer."

The scarcity of water in Western states affects agriculture, population, rural communities, infrastructure, industry, the economy, climate, wildlife and more.

"In the face of water challenges in the Western U.S., breweries are increasingly cognizant of their water usage," said Charlie Hoxmeier, an assistant professor at CSU and brewer. "Many are implementing water-saving technologies, optimizing processes and reusing water where possible."

Brewing in Colorado is a more than \$3.2 billion industry with more than 400 breweries. In 2016, Colorado had the second most brewery jobs after California, and the state is home to major employers such as MillerCoors and AB InBev.

In a Q-and-A by CSU reporter Mark Gokavi, Biegert and Hoxmeier addressed how much water is used to brew beer, water conservation efforts at big and small breweries, and how long craft breweries have valued sustainability.

Q: How do brewers optimize water use?

Biegert: All large brewers and most of the smaller ones reclaim hot water from a critical cooling step in the brewing process for use in subsequent brews. There are numerous areas where water use can be optimized, specifically in cleaning and sanitation, utilities and in packaging.

Brewers also monitor and optimize the yield of raw materials, specifically malt, to produce beer with minimal waste.

Q: How important is water caliber to a brewer?

Hoxmeier: Water quality significantly influences the taste, aroma and overall characteristics of our final product. Brewers pay meticulous attention to water profiles, ensuring a complementary mineral content and pH for each beer to drive flavors, but also to help manage the delicate biochemistry that is occurring during the brewing process.

## Extension Viewpoints

Q: What makes Colorado water so good for beer?

Biegert: The water on the Front Range is primarily first use, meaning water from the rivers running off from the Continental Divide. This water is exceptionally low in mineral content and considered "soft," and it is highly suitable for brewing crisp, clean lager beer. Soft water is also easy to build upon by the addition of minerals for brewing many other types of beer.

Q: How much water is needed to brew a gallon of beer?

Hoxmeier: Large breweries are more efficient with their water use due to highly automated production methods that have reduced their water-to-beer use ratio down to two to four barrels of water to produce one barrel of beer. The small brewers use about 10-20 barrels of water to produce a single barrel of beer.

Q: How else do brewers conserve water; what could get better?

Biegert: Other ways include reuse of rinse water and chemicals in tank cleaning processes, using dry lubricants on packaging lines, reusing or eliminating rinse water used for containers (bottles/cans) on packaging lines and the reclamation of water used to condense steam in the brewing process.

Hoxmeier: Future improvements could involve advanced water treatment technologies and smart water monitoring systems, and some not-so-standard practices may involve on-site wastewater treatment systems where the brewery reuses treated water.

Q: Is the brewing business ahead in water conservation?

Biegert: While I cannot speak for other industries, I can say for any manufacturing facility, reduction and reuse of water is not only sustainable, but it can also be profitable. From my perspective, New Belgium Brewing was really the leader in this area for craft, starting with NBB's original core values and beliefs from 1991 that included specifics such as environmental sustainability and continuous improvement.

Hoxmeier: The brewing industry has shown leadership in water conservation in many ways. This priority emerged as breweries recognized their environmental impact and the importance of sustainable practices and protecting our watershed for future generations.

This is a SOURCE special report:

"Solving the water crisis."

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 SOURCE explores the research happening at CSU and provides insights into the ongoing water crisis across the country and around the globe.

## 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?

## Chamber After Hours

Chamber After Hours will be on April 26 at 6 p.m. at the Extension office. The first 20 people will receive a free Colorado Blue Spruce in celebration of Arbor Day.

## 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.

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

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Avalanches have killed 12 people in the United States this winter.

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# We need to know avalanches inside and out

By Molly Absolon  
PREVIEW Columnist

There's a fine line between learning from the mistakes of others and shaming people for their ignorance.

Twelve people have died in avalanches in the United States this winter, including an expert skier in Oregon who was also an avalanche forecaster. He was killed in early March despite deploying an airbag that kept him from being buried. On average, 27 people die in avalanches in the United States each year.

Three-hundred and fifty avalanches have been reported by the Bridger-Teton Avalanche Center since last September. Many of these incidents were triggered by humans, and four resulted in fatalities.

Some avalanches caused injuries and required complex rescues. In their aftermath, communities in the Northern Rockies have been trying to make sense of the circumstances and decision-making that led to these accidents.

Sometimes that debate gets heated.

I've been part of these conversations, writing always about how unpredictable avalanches are. Feedback can get negative, with some people accusing me of shaming the victims. Others say I don't go far enough in calling people out for putting themselves and others at risk with their behavior.

Discussion also takes place on social media, where anonymity seems to increase the vitriol of commentators. I bet these kinds of conversations take place in every mountain town where avalanches are a winter hazard.

Analyzing accidents in the outdoors has a long tradition. The Amer-

## Opinion: Writers on the Range

ican Alpine Club published the first edition of its annual publication, "Accidents in North American Climbing" (now "Accidents in North American Mountaineering"), in 1948. The goal then — and now — was to share lessons to help us avoid making the same mistakes others have made. The question is, does this kind of analysis really help?

Dale Atkins, a longtime avalanche professional in Colorado, questioned the efficacy of the practice during a talk at an avalanche workshop in Jackson, Wyo., a few years ago.

He said it was too easy for us to examine an incident with hindsight and conclude that we would never make the same mistakes. Knowing the outcome prejudices are our opinions.

Instead, Atkins encouraged people to consider what made the people involved in an accident think they were making a good decision. What personal blind spots might have affected their thinking process?

I know my personal blind spots. I am easily drawn in by untracked powder and my fear of missing out. Other classic vulnerabilities include ego, the sense of being invincible, competitiveness, time pressure or a commitment to a goal.

All of us are driven by something that colors our perceptions and decisions — something that in hindsight can look really stupid.

Why did two seasoned skiers I know get caught by an avalanche

while digging a pit to analyze the risk that day? On the surface, you might conclude these individuals were simply not thinking or were being reckless, when in fact there may have been all sorts of factors contributing to their decision-making. It's understanding those outside factors that can help us learn.

But here's the dark side: We need to remember that behind the clinical, emotionless words found in an avalanche report there are real people.

People who may be facing a long recovery from injuries or who may never be coming home again.

Their partners and the rescuers on the scene may be traumatized. Families and friends are grieving. Analyzing their story is not just an abstract examination of a chain of events. It's an examination of lives that were forever changed during a beautiful day on the snow that turned into a tragedy.

I think we all benefit when we conduct an avalanche analysis with empathy and compassion. The average number of avalanche deaths per year in the United States has stayed the same for more than a decade, despite the growing number of winter backcountry travelers — and that means something is working.

Experts believe education is helping stabilize that number, and education means analyzing how an avalanche broke loose to injure or kill people.

*Molly Absolon is a contributor to Writers on the Range, writer-sontherange.org, an independent nonprofit dedicated to spurring lively conversation about the West. She writes about the outdoors from her home in Victor, Idaho. Views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN.*

# The basics of a solar eclipse

Special to The PREVIEW

The natural world is wondrous to behold. In a given day, there is no shortage of events to capture human attention and imagination, and such occurrences are free of charge.

A solar eclipse is one phenomenon that never ceases to amaze. Millions of people will get a chance to experience this stunning phenomenon on April 8, when a total solar eclipse will be visible from Texas to Maine, according to the National Park Service. In anticipation of the eclipse, readers can learn about these unique events.

## What is a solar eclipse?

According to NASA, a solar eclipse occurs when the sun, the moon and Earth line up, either fully or partially. During a solar eclipse, the moon passes between the sun and Earth, casting a shadow on the planet. That shadow either fully or partially blocks

the sun's light in certain areas.

## How frequently do solar eclipses occur?

NASA reports that solar eclipses happen only occasionally. That's because the moon does not orbit in the exact same path as the sun and Earth.

## Are all solar eclipses the same?

All solar eclipses are not the same. When a solar eclipse occurs, it may be categorized as a total solar eclipse, an annular solar eclipse, a partial solar eclipse or a hybrid solar eclipse.

- Total solar eclipse: A total solar eclipse occurs when the moon passes between the sun and Earth and the face of the sun is completely blocked. According to NASA, the sky darkens during a total solar eclipse, just as if it is dawn or dusk. The outer atmosphere of the sun, also known as its corona, is typically invisible because

the sun is so bright. However, the corona is visible during an eclipse.

- Annular solar eclipse: An annular solar eclipse happens when the moon passes between the sun and Earth when the moon is at or near its farthest point from the planet. That distance is why the moon does not completely cover the sun. NASA notes an annular solar eclipse makes the moon appear as a dark disk on top of larger, bright disk. This creates the awe-inspiring impression that there is a ring around the moon.

- Partial solar eclipse: During a partial solar eclipse, the moon passes between the sun and Earth at a time when all three are not perfectly lined up. NASA notes that the visual effect of this is that only part of the sun appears to be covered, giving it a crescent shape.

- Hybrid solar eclipse: As its name suggests, a hybrid solar eclipse fea-

■ See Eclipse on next page

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# Eclipse

■ continued from previous page  
 tures characteristics of two different types of eclipses. NASA notes that the curved surface of Earth helps to create a hybrid solar eclipse, during which a shift between annular and total eclipse occurs.

A total solar eclipse will occur on April 8. NASA urges all individuals who intend to witness this awe-inspiring phenomenon for themselves to wear eclipse glasses or to utilize an alternative safe solar viewing method, such as a pinhole projector.

More information about solar eclipses and how to view them safely can be found at [science.nasa.gov](http://science.nasa.gov).

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[PagosaSpringsStorage.com](http://PagosaSpringsStorage.com)  
Call 970-731-0007

## New Construction Remodeling • Houses

Garages • Barns • Decks  
Licensed, insured & references  
Plans drawn & submitted

Call Rick (970) 946-1737

## Pagosa SPARKLES

cleaning company, llc.

Detail Oriented, Trustworthy & Reliable Cleaners  
For All Your Housekeeping & Window Cleaning Needs  
Find us on Google & Facebook

Text/call Kim (970) 946-6446

## Tree Removal & Trimming

Fire Mitigation, Lot Clearing  
Licensed & Insured

Call San Juan Arborists LLC  
(719) 849-9515  
(706) 410-4997  
free quotes

**SERVICES**

## Feel the warmth

Wood & Gas Burning Fireplaces & Stoves  
Vermont Casting  
Majestic Hearth  
Isokern • FMI  
Enviro Pellet Stoves

Custom installation & finish work

Chase caps  
Snow splitters

**Pagosa Peak Custom Fireplaces**  
1065 W. Hwy. 160  
Pagosa Springs, Colo

office and showroom:  
(970) 264-2006  
[www.pagosafireplaces.com](http://www.pagosafireplaces.com)

## Paul's Painting

Interior/exterior  
Deck & fence staining

Free estimates  
33 years experience  
Insured • References

Same day callback!

(970) 422-7916

## REMODELING

NEW ADDITIONS  
COMMERCIAL



(970) 731-9700

## PLUMBING

Semi-retired plumber  
30+ years experience  
15+ years in Pagosa  
Reasonable rates • Local references

Michael • 480-685-6191  
I return all calls!

**SERVICES**

## The Water Runner

Certified Bulk Potable Water Delivery  
Cistern Deep Cleaning

You call, we haul!  
Since 1999

(970) 731-5022  
Chadd Carnley, owner

## PAGOSA SECURE STORAGE

80 Bastille Dr. • 970-731-8599  
Storage units & parking spots  
Special rates available  
[pagosaspringsrealty.com](http://pagosaspringsrealty.com)

**BOOKING NOW FOR SEASONAL CLEAN-UP** and summer installments. If you have been thinking about adding in hardscaping —flagstone, retaining walls, patios, walkways— or would like to add garden beds and other landscaping elements. Call Clarks' Custom Landscaping for a free consultation. (505)709-8579 (Rebekah), [clarkscustomlandcape@gmail.com](mailto:clarkscustomlandcape@gmail.com), [clarkscustomlandscaping.com](http://clarkscustomlandscaping.com). Licensed and insured.

**CHOICE CLEANING, LLC.** Commercial, STR/LTR, post construction and move outs. Licensed and insured. Call (970)507-1399.

**CLEANING WITH ATTENTION TO DETAILS.** Residential and commercial. Please call Julie (970)946-8229.

**CUSTOM PICTURE FRAMING.** Reasonable prices. Linda Lerno, (970)731-5173.

**DO YOUR TAXES IN PERSON** with a professional or drop your papers off at H&R Block in Pagosa Springs. Appointments (970)731-1080. 100 Country Center Dr. Suite H.

**ELK PARK CONSTRUCTION.** Garages, Decks, Additions. 45 years experience. Call Steve (970)903-7567.

**EXTERIOR AND INTERIOR HOUSE** painting and staining. Kitchens, bathrooms, decks, granite countertops and more. Call Josh Soniat (970)903-5892.

**FIREWOOD FOR SALE.** Split, delivered and stacked. \$200 per cord. (719)937-8707.

**FLING INTO SPRING.** Do you know studies have shown a clean home helps to relieve stress? AOG Legacy can help you with all your cleaning needs. We specialize in residential, commercial, AirBNB and construction cleaning. Call (801)609-4010 to schedule an appointment.

**HANDYMAN SERVICE.** Noah's Ark Enterprises. (970)901-5298.

**HOME SERVICES— Repair.** Specializing in Rentals and VRBOs Anything in or around your property. INTEGRATED, LLC (970)731-3558.

264-2100

# Classifieds

264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

## SERVICES

**KRITTER GITTERS, SKUNK AND BAT Busters.** We specialize in capturing and removing unwanted rodents and varmints. We don't trap pigs. 50 years experience, lifetime resident. Dan Snow (719)849-8873.

**LET US GIVE YOU A HELPING HAND** with all your home improvement projects, both interior and exterior. We are Handy Helpers and we are here to help! (970)403-9159.

**LOCAL MOVING SERVICES.** Reasonable and reliable. (970)946-2061.

**METAL ROOF REPAIR, TIGHTENING** or replacing. Chimney cleaning, chimney repair. Replacement or new chimney installs. Call (970)731-4585 office, or (970)946-1275.

**MINT ROOFING-ROOF SNOW REMOVAL & ICE DAM MITIGATION** Contact Mint Roofing at (970)426-5255.

**PAGOSA SPARKLES, LLC.** Group of high standard cleaners, reliable, trustworthy and affordable. Window cleaning also available. Text/ call KIM. (970)946-6446.

**PROPERTY MAINTENANCE/ HOME CARE** checks, providing snow removal, landscaping, handyman services. Call Eric (970)946-2061.

**RICHARD DECLARK ELECTRICAL** is available for all your electrical services from remodels to new construction. I have been in Pagosa for 15 years, no job too small or too large. (970)903-1456.

**RIVERSTONE CARPET CLEANING.** 25 cents/sq. ft. and \$3 per stair. No hidden charges. Owner/operator 20 years experience. Professional, trustworthy and punctual. 100% eco-friendly. Call Mike at (970)403-9222. Credit cards accepted with no fee. Hallways and closets always free.

**ROOF REPAIRS, LEAKS, RESCREWS, INSPECTIONS.** 35+ years experience. Call Jeff at Blair Roofing. (970)903-6556.

**SENIOR COMPANION/CARE-ASSIST** Services in Pagosa Springs. Services include a wide range of tasks. Call for questions and pricing at (970)325-3585.

**SKID STEER EXCAVATOR, DUMP** trailer for hire. Driveways, foundations, gravel, septic systems, etc. Call Josh Soniat (970)903-5892.

**TANKLESS/ON DEMAND WATER HEATERS.** Largest inventory in the area, including replacement parts. Same day Installation and service in most cases. We are the only company that extends the parts & labor warranty from 1 year to 5 years. VAIL HOME SERVICES, (760)835-1041.

**TREE REMOVAL.** Licensed and insured up to \$2 million. Free estimates. No obligations. Call OR text (970)903-8068.

## SERVICES

**WE HAUL. WE WILL** haul off anything but your marijuana or your mother-in-law. No job too big or too small. We also move buildings. We don't haul pigs. Dan Snow (719)849-8873.

## HEALTH

**HOT SPRINGS HEALERS.** Sessions at hot springs! Also, cranial sacral, bodywork, massage. Serving Pagosa 27 years, Dr. Dean and Amanda, (970)844-0645, (970)903-5309.

## HELP WANTED

**CITY HALL CAFE** hiring servers and line cooks. Apply within. 2151 Eagle Drive.

**DEDICATED CLEANERS** ranging from \$15-\$20 /hour. Must be detail oriented, trustworthy, reliable and committed. Text Pagosa Sparkles, LLC, (970)946-6446.

**DENTAL ASSISTANT** wanted. We will train you. We work hard and make a great living serving our patients. We are blessed to have weekends and holidays off. Beautiful facility, modern equipment, excellent pay, Get the satisfaction of helping people! Email resume to office@pagosasmiles.com or drop it off.

**FRONT DESK** Part-time, 2-3 days a week. Shifts may include mornings, days, nights, and weekends. If you have a friendly, positive attitude; strong customer service skills; are comfortable with computers; and have a strong work ethic we'd love to talk with you. Healing Waters Resort & Spa, 140 Hot Springs Blvd. Applications can be downloaded at www.pshotsprings.com or stop by to pick one up. Applications can be emailed to: sales@pshotsprings.com, Attention Front Desk Position. We look forward to hearing from you!

**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 en Healing Waters Resort and Spa, 140 Hot Springs Blvd, Email: sales@pshotsprings.com. Atención al Servicio De Limpieza. O pásate por aquí para rellenar una aplicación.

## HELP WANTED

### The Pagosa Springs SUN seeks a GENERAL ASSIGNMENT REPORTER who can do it all.

If you can write strong news stories and compelling features, take solid photographs and are comfortable using digital tools, then you might be a good fit for our newsroom.

A passion for community journalism, inspired storytelling and public service is essential for a successful candidate. Self-motivation and excellent time-management skills are a must.

You must be proficient under pressure and consistent at meeting deadlines.

Common topics in a week would include meeting coverage, coverage and photos from significant community events, school sports and more.

The reporter will work 40 hours per week, including night and weekend hours. However, the position offers some day-to-day flexibility in work hours.

Email resume with cover letter to Chad Richardson, crichardson@orourkemediagroup.com.

Job Type: Full-time

Pay: \$36,000.00 - \$39,000.00 per year

Benefits:

401(k)

401(k) matching

Dental insurance

Flexible schedule

Health insurance

Paid time off

Ability to Relocate: Pagosa Springs, CO 81147: Relocate before starting work (Required)

Work Location: In person

#### ABOUT THE COMPANY

O'Rourke Media Group is a fast-growing company that owns and operates hyper-local, community newspapers, websites, niche publications and a full-service digital agency. We are family-owned and mission-driven to save newspapers and local media companies by investing in the people, resources and technology needed to thrive for many years to come. O'Rourke Media Group now operates in eight states and 28 markets with 41 publications and hyper-local websites.

The Pagosa Springs **SUN**  
an O'Rourke Media Group company

**IMMEDIATE OPENINGS** for kitchen staff, servers and bartenders for the summer season. Experience preferred but will train. Please apply in person at The Buck Stops Here Market and Eatery, 19 Navajo Trail Dr.

**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/.

## HELP WANTED

### CONTRACTOR SALES

**Ponderosa Lumber** is seeking a customer service oriented individual to assist contractors with purchasing building materials. Knowledge of building materials is necessary.

*Responsibilities include:*

- Providing excellent customer service
- Completing required paperwork
- Providing product information
- Data Entry

*Please apply in person at*

**Ponderosa Lumber**

2435 Eagle Drive or call (970) 731-4111

### 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



**Terry's ACE**  
525 Navajo Trail Dr.

**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 integradwallworksjobs@gmail.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.

**NORTH PAGOSA MARATHON** is hiring a full-time cashier nights and weekends. Competitive wages. Please apply in person at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

264-2100

# Classifieds

264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

## HELP WANTED

## HELP WANTED

## HELP WANTED

## FOR SALE

## PETS

**Join the  
RG BANK Team!**  
Pagosa Springs is hiring.

For a job description and an application, go to:  
<https://rgbank.bank/careers/>



Equal Housing Lender. Member FDIC.

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with purpose.**

**Archuleta County is now hiring for  
multiple positions. Benefits could start  
in first month of hire. Let's build a  
better community together.**  
Apply today.



**archuletacounty.org**  
-or call-  
**970.264.8379**

**PAGOSA LIQUOR IS HIRING** a full-time cashier. Please come and apply in person at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

**OWNERS, THERE IS A LONG TERM RENTAL SHORTAGE IN PAGOSA SPRINGS.** We have a waiting list for approved tenants. Need all types of rentals. Call us today for lowest commission and highest customer service. All you have to do is wait for your rent check to come in. We do the rest! Rocky Mountain Realty & Rentals (970)507-1192.

**ROOF LABORER NEEDED** with some construction experience. Will train. \$20-\$25/ hour to start. (970)749-0830.

**SEAMLESS FINISH LLC** is hiring for concrete work. Pay based on experience. No experience required. (970)903-2252.

**SUBWAY IS HIRING.** Enjoy working in a fun environment with a great team? Earn a strong hourly wage with tips while serving our wonderful community. Apply online at subway.com, or in person.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**TIRED OF RENTING?** Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County is seeking applicants now to partner to build their own home in 2025. Applications are open through the end of June 2024. Swing by our office or website to pick one up, or reach out to staff with questions. Home@HabitatArchuleta.org, (970)264-6860, www.habitatArchuleta.org.

## BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

**FOR SALE** Classy Downtown retail store. Inventory and LT lease. \$35,000. Email: winterpeak5@pm.me.

**AVON RAFT.** \$1,500 OBO. (720)353-6253.

**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 FOR SALE.** Split, delivered and stacked. \$200 per cord. (719)937-8707.

**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.

**LONG RIFLE GUN SAFE.** \$300. Holds 6-8. Combination lock. (970)731-9490.

**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.

**SCOTCHMAN 65 TON IRONWORKER** hole Dies-break, 3 PH converter, Lincoln welders, Plasma Cutter, drill presses, miscellaneous steel working equipment. Call for pricing information (970)507-0475.

**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).

**THE SANCTUARY.** Put your order in for organic baby ducks. Sold in 3s only. \$15 each, \$45 for 3. (970)264-2592 or (970)884-3502.

**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.

## GARAGE SALES

**GARAGE SALE** -446 Lake Street. Friday and Saturday 8a.m. -?. Household, camping, tools and lots more.

## LIVESTOCK

**TRIMMING AND SHOEING.** Accepting new clients. Uncooperative and special needs horses welcome. (719)285-3584.

## PETS

**AKC GOLDEN RETRIEVER PUPPIES.** 3 Male. Ready for new homes 3/28/24. Call (719)641-7617.

**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.

**CKC YORKIES** 8 weeks. Boy \$800. Girl \$1200. Tails docked and shots. (970)317-5859.

**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.** Text Pet Info to (469)667-4480. Boarding, day care, drop ins, house sitting. References and reviews available.

## AUTOS

**1999 FORD 150 4X4.** \$3,000. (303)594-5117.

**2006 AUDI.** 4 door. Metallic gray. One Owner. Runs and looks good. Sunroof. All wheel drive. Really clean. \$2,600. 2006 F250 Powerstroke. 4 door. 4 wheel drive. Cover over bed. Body's perfect, needs head gasket. White. \$4,000. (970)264-2592 or (970)585-4508.

**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.

**ESTATE SALE.** Tons of Stuff! Vintage and Antique furniture, vehicles, lots of collectibles and much more! Follow us on Facebook for photos (KP Pawn Durango) FRI 4/5, SAT 4/6, SUN 4/7 (50% Off) 9a.m. -3p.m. Allison, CO. Look for the signs.

**SPRING CLEAN AND MOVING SALE,** Friday, 4/12, 8:30a.m. (Rain day: Saturday, 4/13). Aspen dining table with benches, antique furniture, office chairs, bicycles, e-bike, RV accessories, yard tools, quality clothing, new and used plumbing fixtures, bike travel case, Hellwig helper springs F250, and much more. 80 Bastille Dr., Secure Storage.

**PagosaSun.  
com**



264-2100

# Classifieds

264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

**HOMES FOR SALE**

**HOMES FOR SALE**

**HOMES FOR SALE**

**HOMES FOR SALE**

**HOMES FOR SALE**

*"We owned a condominium in the Pagosa Springs area which was a rental property. For many years the firm provided property management services for us and we always found them to be very professional and responsive. If you are in need of a competent, professional property management firm or realtor, we would strongly recommend them. ~ Michael Gamba*

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117 Navajo Trail Dr. Ste E, Pagosa Springs

*Largest Local Property Management Co.*



150+ SW Colorado  
Property Owners Served  
19+ Years. Mortgage &  
Real Estate Exp  
FULL LT TENANT SCREENING  
NATIONWIDE ADVERTISING  
ON CALL 24 HR 7 DAYS



**YARD SALES**

**TWO FAMILY MOVING SALE.** 279 & 322 Capitan Circle. Thurs. and Fri. 7a.m. -3p.m.

**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.

**HOMES FOR RENT**

**HOUSE FOR LEASE.** 3 bedroom 2 bath house on hilltop on 8 acres. 1700 sq. ft. Large laundry room, sunroom. 2 car garage, end of cul de sac. No traffic. Great views. RV/toy parking. Available April. \$2500/mo. Approximately 1 mile from Hospital. Burt (619)992-9100.

**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.

**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.

**RESIDENTIAL RENTALS**

**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.

**Nicely remodeled** unfurnished 2 bedroom 2 bath condo. Conveniently located near uptown amenities. End unit. TP-17. \$1700/ month. No smoking. No pets. Team Pagosa (970)731-8599 or visit teampagosa.com.

**ONE AND TWO BEDROOM APARTMENTS** available. 303 S. 7th Street, downtown Pagosa. Rent \$1,300 to \$1,750. (720)470-2653.

**ONE BEDROOM.** One bath apartment. Furnished. Utilities included. Close to town. No pets. No smoking. \$1,200 month. (808)330-2000.

**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. Free month with signing of 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.

**RESIDENTIAL RENTALS**

**UNFURNISHED AND REMODELED** 3 bedroom 2 bath. 2 car oversized garage home on rural acreage. Call for more info. TP-18. \$2350/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.

**HOMES FOR SALE**

**Christie Calderwood**  
SRS, ABR, ePRO  
Serving Sellers & Buyers  
970-946-6856  
christie@jimsmithrealty.com  
JIM SMITH REALTY

**REAL ESTATE SERVICES**

*Whether Buying or Selling*  
Call Marcie Lewis  
(970) 759-8672  
GALLES PROPERTIES  
MarcieLewis.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.

**OPEN HOUSES**

**OPEN HOUSE PRICE JUST LOWERED.** 479 & 451 Jack Rabbit Rd. Thu., April 4, 11a.m. -2p.m. New Construction. Gorgeous brand new, 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath with views! Alisha Wagner, Southwest Realty & Outdoors. (970)317-5140.



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.

Email us at  
classads@  
pagosasun.com to  
submit your classified.  
PagosaSUN.com

# 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 western bluebird.

Two of the three species of bluebirds, the mountain and western, are found in our part of Colorado. The third species, the eastern bluebird, occupies a larger range east of the Rocky Mountains and is very similar in appearance and habits to its western counterpart.

Male western bluebirds are shiny blue above with a rust-colored breast patch that extends onto the back. They have a blue neck, thin bill and black beady eyes. Females are duller versions and may appear grayish. Rust color distinguishes western bluebirds from the all-blue mountain bluebirds.

Western bluebirds occupy both deciduous and coniferous woodlands with open areas. They are found less often in the large meadow habitats that mountain bluebirds prefer and thrive in burned or logged areas as long as dead trees remain for nesting and roosting. In summer, they feed mainly on ground-dwelling insects, spiders and snails after scanning from a low perch to locate their prey.

When snow covers the ground, bluebirds in our area may move to lower elevations or a short distance south. In winter they switch to fruits and seeds, and live in large numbers where juniper and mistletoe berries are plentiful.

Typically, males return to breeding areas first, where they may battle over territory with each other. When the females arrive and pair bonds are established, both search for a usable nest cavity. Not having a strong enough bill to excavate a hole, bluebirds are dependent on woodpecker holes and natural tree holes as locations to construct a nest.

Competition for cavities suitable for nesting is fierce. Man-made nest boxes provide alternative nest sites for bluebirds and other cavity-nesting bird species.

The American Bird Conservancy reminds us of the impacts to birds and other animals from the outdoor application of chemicals around our homes. Insecticides kill the food sources that many birds rely on in summer and the pollinators that we need to grow our crops.

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

## Pagosa Peak Genealogical Society to meet April 6

By Carolyn Paschal  
Pagosa Peak Genealogical Society

The Pagosa Peak Genealogical Society will hold its next monthly meeting on Saturday, April 6, at the Community United Methodist Church, located at 434 Lewis St.

The meeting will begin at 10 a.m. We will begin with a short business meeting where you can learn about the upcoming activities of our society and the topic of future programs.

Do you have a brick wall in your family history research?

We will present a brick wall pro-

gram after the business meeting, designed to help hobby genealogists find that elusive relative or important document they need to get past these frustrating roadblocks. Bring your laptop and your brick wall topic and we will work with you to find possible solutions to help you break through your brick wall.

Please come join us as we explore this fascinating aspect of genealogical research.

For more information, please contact Carolyn Paschal, [carolynpaschal@gmail.com](mailto:carolynpaschal@gmail.com), or visit our website, [pagosapeakgs.org](http://pagosapeakgs.org).

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