



PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147

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# Trout in the Classroom



SUN photos/Randi Pierce

Pagosa Springs Middle School sixth-graders release rainbow trout they hatched and raised into the San Juan River on May 2.

## Middle school students raise, release trout

**By Randi Pierce**  
Staff Writer

On Thursday, May 2, sixth-graders in Terri Lindstrom's Pirate Time advisory class rolled a cooler down to Town Park, then carried it to the edge of the river.

There, the students used river

water to acclimate the temperature of the water in the cooler — the transport for 75 rainbow trout fingerlings who were being taken to be released in the San Juan River.

As they waited for the fish to acclimate, the students read messages they wrote after spending the school year helping and watching

the fish grow.

Lindstrom's class raised and released the fingerlings through a partnership with the Trout in the Classroom program and Trout Unlimited.

"In September, we received 200 eggs," Lindstrom explains in an email to The SUN. "After a bit of

attrition and a broken filtration system, we watched 75 fish grow to fingerlings."

The eggs, she explains, started out in a hatching box that measured 4 inches by 10 inches by 4 inches that was in a 50-gallon fish tank.

■ See Trout A8

## Commissioners vote to not renew county manager contract

### Manager departs county employment

**By Josh Pike**  
Staff Writer

The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) voted 2-1 to not move forward with appointing a negotiator for the renewal of County Manager Derek Woodman's contract at a May 7 meeting, indicating that the BoCC would not be retaining Woodman beyond the December 2024 end of his current contract.

Woodman departed county employment the following day, BoCC chair Commissioner Veronica Medina indicated in an interview.

The discussion at the May 7 meeting opened with Medina asking the board if there was a desire to move forward with negotiations for renewing Woodman's contract.

Commissioner Warren Brown stated that there was a "strong desire" to negotiate a renewed contract

"based upon the performance of the last two and a half years."

He added that the county has had "very strong performance" from Woodman and that the county has seen "significant improvement" from its previous position to now.

"And I think that that would be beneficial to our county and to the ... constituents," he added.

"I appreciate your insight on that Warren," Commissioner Ronnie Maez said. "You and Derek are really good friends, you have been from day one and everything, and I wouldn't expect you to say anything less but, in my

■ See Manager A8



Woodman

## High winds cause power outages, delays

**By Clayton Chaney and Randi Pierce**  
Staff Writers

More than 7,300 La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) members lost power early Monday morning, May 6, following high winds.

According to LPEA, there were widespread outages, with crews dispatched immediately.

The crews, LPEA explains in a message to members, isolated a broken cross-arm on a transmission line, as well as some scattered tree debris due to the high winds at the time.

LPEA's website showed the power outages began shortly after midnight, with the message to members stating power was restored to all members by 6:18 a.m.

According to Pagosa Weather's Shawn Prochazka, the peak wind at Steven's Field airport was 51 mph at 12:55 a.m. on Monday.

The peak wind at the Lobo over-

look on Wolf Creek pass was 83 mph at 12:35 a.m. on Monday, according to Pagosa Weather.

Pagosa Fire Protection District (PFPD) Deputy Chief Karn Macht explained the PFPD was dispatched to respond to several downed power lines, but those downed lines resulted in no fires.

The power outage caused a number of delays around the community, including a two-hour delay for Archuleta School District and delayed openings for organizations such as Archuleta County.

Archuleta County Combined Dispatch Emergency Communications Director Devin Moffat explained in an email to The SUN that it operated on back-up and generator power for about seven hours during the outage.

During that time, nonemergency lines were down and the Durango La Plata Emergency Communications Center was receiving Archuleta

■ See Wind A8

## Attorney general set to visit county Friday


**By Clayton Chaney**  
Staff Writer

Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser will be visiting Archuleta County tomorrow, Friday, May 10.

Weiser will hold a community meeting at the county administration

building located at 398 Lewis St. from 9 to 10 a.m.

According to a press release from Weiser's office, the purpose of the visit is to discuss affordable housing, workforce and local development topics, and other timely priorities for Archuleta County.



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# Opinion

## OUR VIEW

### Be ready for wildfire season

Our hearts dropped Tuesday afternoon, shortly before 1 p.m., when we received notice from La Plata County of a wildfire burning west of Durango.

According to the press release we received, the initial estimate put the fire at 3 acres, but it also acknowledges, "high winds give the fire a high potential to spread quickly."

Residents of a nearby mobile home park that includes about 85 residences were put on pre-evacuation notice.

Thankfully, shortly after 2 p.m., it was announced that a full line had been established around the fire, at that point deemed to be 2 acres, and all pre-evacuation orders had been lifted, though a heavy fire department presence was still on scene due to the high wind gusts.

It was also announced that fire investigators were at the scene.

Firefighters continued to work on hotspots within the containment line on Wednesday.

We are happy that the situation had a quick and happy ending, knowing it could have very easily been much worse.

We also know something similar could happen here at any time.

Already this spring we've seen one agri-

cultural burn get a little bigger than intended. Thankfully, it was swiftly taken care of with no damage to structures.

We've also experienced downed power lines due to high winds, and we're considering it lucky no fires started.

While we're thankful for rain in the forecast, we also recognize that, with the winds we've experienced so far this spring, it would be easy to have one spark turn into a large-scale fire requiring months of work by firefighters.

Last weekend's cleanup, as well as years of community fire preparation, go a long way in helping our community be prepared for wildfire season, but we need to continue to be diligent and keep our properties and ourselves prepared.

Live Wildfire Ready — a joint effort between Colorado State University, the Colorado State Forest Service, Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control, U.S. Forest Service and the Colorado State Fire Chiefs — urges the following "simple, practical, low-cost actions":

"Regularly clear leaves, pine needles and other debris from your deck, roof and gutters."

"Rake and remove pine needles and leaves 5 feet from your home."

"Store firewood at least 30 feet from your home, preferably uphill, and never on or under your deck."

"Move items under your deck or porch to a storage area."

"Prune branches hanging over your roof and within 10 feet of your chimney."

"Remove flammable material within 6 vertical inches of your home's siding."

"Mow grasses to 4 inches or less within 30 feet of your home."

"Clear brush, shrubs and other plants within 10 feet of propane tanks and gas meters."

"Screen attic, roof, eaves and foundation vents and wall-in areas below decks and stilt foundations with 1/8-inch metal mesh."

We also remind residents to be sure you're signed up for the county's emergency notification system. More information on that system can be found at <https://archuletacounty.org/569/Citizens-Alert--NIXLE>.

In the event of emergencies, we strive to work closely with those in charge to disseminate useful, accurate information as quickly as possible via [www.PagosaSUN.com](http://www.PagosaSUN.com) and our Facebook presence.

Randi Pierce

## LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

### 100 years ago

Taken from SUN files of May 9, 1924

A total of 120,000 brook trout, which were secured from the Durango hatchery, were placed in the San Juan river by J.B. Patterson.

The town board met Monday night and in addition to routine affairs, ordered an investigation of the water pipeline to Hilltop cemetery and passed an ordinance regulating the hitching of horses and teams on Main street. Penalties will be provided for hitching to the new decorated light poles when in place and also for leaving a horse or team unhitched and without some one in charge.

J.L. Giger, town clerk and collector of water rents, announces that all bills for water rent are now due and payable within ten days after bills are rendered. As bills for the quarter ending March 31st were mailed on May 2nd, the ten-day period of grace will expire next Monday, following which the water commissioner will be instructed to cut off the service from the property of all delinquents.

The hot water fountain in front of the Sparks Hdw. Co. store was put in commission this week, being connected with the Sparks well, and once more you may obtain either a drink of the mineral or city water at that point.

### 75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of May 5, 1949

The new school consolidation bill as passed by the last session of the legislature will have a far reaching effect on the schools in Archuleta County. The bill provides for the consolidation of the schools in the county into one or more large districts. A committee of school presidents will be appointed by the County Superintendent of Schools to study the local situation. The committee will make their report in the form of a recommendation which will then be voted on by the voters of the county.

The bill provides that each new district must have a school population of not less than 450 or shall embrace the area of an entire county, or shall embrace an area of 1000 square miles. There are just a few more than 1000 square miles in the county, so the entire county may be in the one district.

The Board of County Commissioners this week hired Mr. Lee Cox as County Road Supervisor. Mr. Cox will be in charge of all the road work in the county.

The road supervisor system is being adopted by more and more counties in this state and has proved most advantageous. Mr. Cox will coordinate the work of the crews, as well as the purchasing for all road work. This should affect a very substantial savings for the county, as well as being very efficient.

### 50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of May 9, 1974

County Commissioners this week accepted the resignation of County Sheriff Norman Ottaway, who submitted the resignation several days ago and official action was taken by the Commissioners this week. Commissioners said that written applications for the position are being accepted, and that a replacement will be named soon. Applications must be written.

At their regular monthly meeting held in the REA building, on May 2nd, the members of Troop "F" Colorado Mounted Rangers elected R.D. Hott for a two year term as Captain, and Troop Commander to replace Mitchell Swanson, who has moved to Durango.

"F" Troop operates the only ambulance service in Archuleta County. The troop is probably best known for this one thing, (did you know they bought and equipped the ambulance?) The Rangers have been called out on many occasions to locate lost hunters, skiers, pilots, and just plain everyday vacationers who have strayed from camp.

### 25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of May 6, 1999

A discussion of county road maintenance attracted about 75 people to the county extension building Tuesday night for an informational meeting conducted by county officials.

Those in the audience learned what they already knew. The county plans to stop maintaining roads within subdivisions. The scope of those roads will not be maintained by the county expanded when the county reiterated a plan to maintain only collector and arterial roads and not within subdivisions and abandon the maintenance of all other roads.

Included in "the all other roads," in addition to subdivision roads, are all roads within the county not designated as collector or arterial roads, the county also plans to stop plowing snow from all roads dropped from county maintenance.

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From the June 5, 1986, Pagosa SUN — RED HOT — Leslie Lattin mans the nozzle as Pagosa Springs firefighters win a trophy. Members of the Red Hot Embers, Pagosa Springs Volunteer Fire Department women's auxiliary, had the best time in the six-man stationary relay race during the Powder Puff segment of last Sunday's 37th Annual Firefighters Field Days Tournament.

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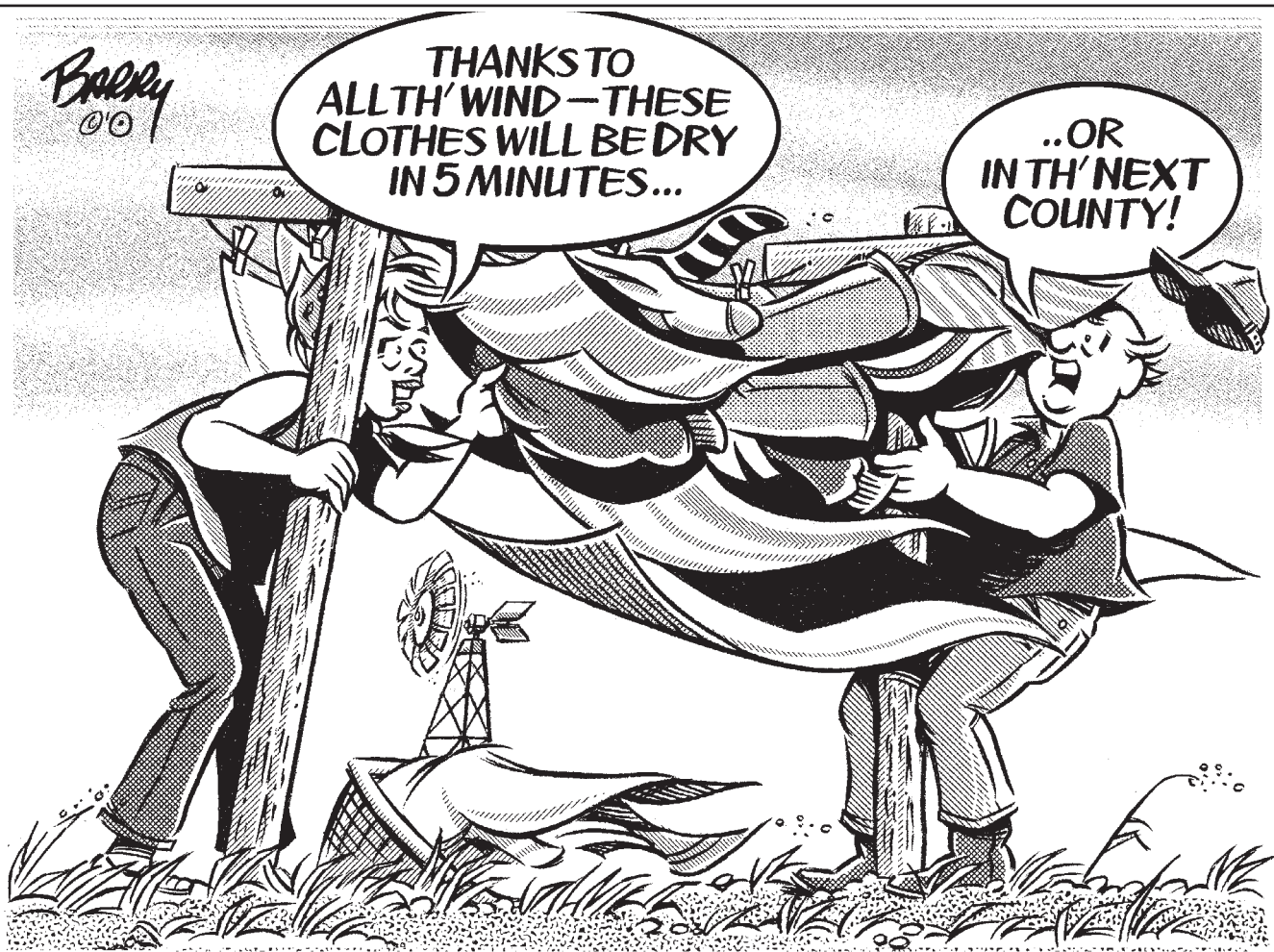
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5/2	62	32	NA	NA	0
5/3	66	28	NA	NA	0
5/4	67	33	NA	NA	0
5/5	61	36	NA	NA	0
5/6	55	26	NA	NA	.05

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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.

## Governance

Dear Editor:  
So...what is the longest form of governance. Kings, emperors, tribal and religious leaders have led hundreds of millions of the worshipping faithful for thousands of years. And as long as the average person went about their business, they could eat, have a profession, marry, have children just don't buck the system. No need to bother w/elections or worry (like Commissioner Brown said in a historically Hispanic county about those 'durn' foreigner's comin' on phantom buses)...nope, governing is tiresome, others get to say 'silly' things and you may not get what you want. I'm sure that many will recognize today's emperors like Putin, Xi, Orban or 'wanna-be' Donnie. If you're Russian or Chinese or Hungarian, you can have an education, career of choice, marry, kids etc...just as long as you don't buck the system. Do so...in Russia you'll fall out a window, China they charge your family for the bullet...etc...etc.

Many of our founding fathers greatest fear after independence was the Colony/states would revert to appointing a king. A few years later Alexis de Toqueville, 'The Man who understood Democracy,' expressed the strongest praise for American freedom but thought the amount of freedom would lead Americans to place all their governance in one man. Well...it only took abt more than 200 years but it seems today more than a few want to do just that in Trump. Who has repeated said if reelected, he'll dismantle the institutions that support a democracy...Yup, sho' nuff, he has said that repeatedly. So what's so wrong with that, seems many here who write a bit dense letters-to-the-Editor wouldn't mind it at all if inflation came down...abt! I'm sure to them Presidential elections, are a bother...give it to Donnie!

Seriously, these same folks understand completely, even if genetically driven, that white-is-right, 4 barrel carb's were great, the inbred social culture /racial controls of the 1950's were best...and too bad about 'Goldwater' losing his election. Maybe like the cicadas, these retro 'who cares' just come out of the earth every so many years? Well, if the GOP gets their wish in an 'honest' election, then we'll all muse about the line "freedoms just a 'nother word for nothin' left to lose."

David Blake

## Christian nation

Dear Editor:  
A note to the Carnleys, passionate about their faith but light on facts about our government....you are certainly entitled to your opinion, but you are not entitled to alternative facts. The United States is not, and never has been, a "Christian nation". It is a nation in which all are free to practice their chosen faith, or to

embrace no religion at all. To insist on forming such a "Christian nation", goes against the very founders of the United States, who had lived under a State Religion and a King and purposefully wrote our founding documents with the intention of having neither of those things.

Cathlynn Groh  
Santa Fe, N.M.

## Turning pessimist

Dear Editor:  
I am turning pessimist just like Dave Blake (Pagosa Sun 5/02/24). Like 71 % of the population, I think the country is heading in the wrong direction. Joe Biden and the democrats want to dictate what cars and stoves we can buy among other things. Our Colorado democrats want to ban sugary drinks and Joe wants to tell credit card companies how much they can charge for late payments. Our freedom to choose is dropping by the wayside. Three learned and respected individuals (Ronald Reagan-a very popular president, Charles Krauthammer-a college professor, and Dick Morris-Bill Clintons campaign manager), are former democrats who switched parties. They must have seen something in the democratic party they did not like. How many prominent republicans switched to the democratic party? I don't know of any. So far Joe Biden has given us High crime, open borders, high prices and vote buying government give-a-ways. There will be other people on the ballot in November. Pick one!

John Meyer

## Blessings of a long life

Dear Editor:  
A long life is filled with many

blessings as well as "challenges". When, in our final years, we find ourselves living mostly with loving memories as not many lived to my age, just 3 years away from 100. Through my prayers, God continues to keep me "here", that he still needs me here. So, in my daily prayers, I ask for his guidance that the words I speak, the words I write and tasks that I do will continue to fulfill his purpose for me,

There is so much love around me as well as from far-away places. Throughout my 72 years of marriage, despite limited income, we raised three children who continue to make us proud and yes, they shower me with love as they enjoy their grandchildren as we enjoyed ours.

Growing old has its "challenges" for sure. Poor eye-sight prevents us from recognizing friends and I believe all understand as they come up to me and give me hugs. Grocery Clerks offer to follow me out and help me unload, buy my answer always is, "no, I can do it". However, as I begin to unload my cart, here comes a stranger on the parking lot running over to help me.- Neighbors "look out" for me, to be sure I continue to be OK. God's love is all around us, providing strength and guidance as we travel our final years. I hope my words lend encouragement to all those challenges are great--God loves you, He is "here for you" for the asking through our daily prayers

You are loved,

Patty Tillerson

## Be the solution

Dear Editor:  
Be a firefighter - not an arsonist  
I wrote the following to be addressed to the veterans of April's Honor Flight from Southern Colorado to Washington DC at the end of their journey:

My name is Russell Widener. I am a veteran. I had the honor and privilege to participate in Honor Flight of last September, 2023. I cried at the wall. I struggled for words as I viewed the monuments of past armed conflicts. I choked up driving through Arlington National Cemetery. It was an experience that changed my heart regarding the discourse within America today.

I served in the United States Army rising in rank from Private and retir-

## JIM GARRETT

♦ ATTORNEY ♦

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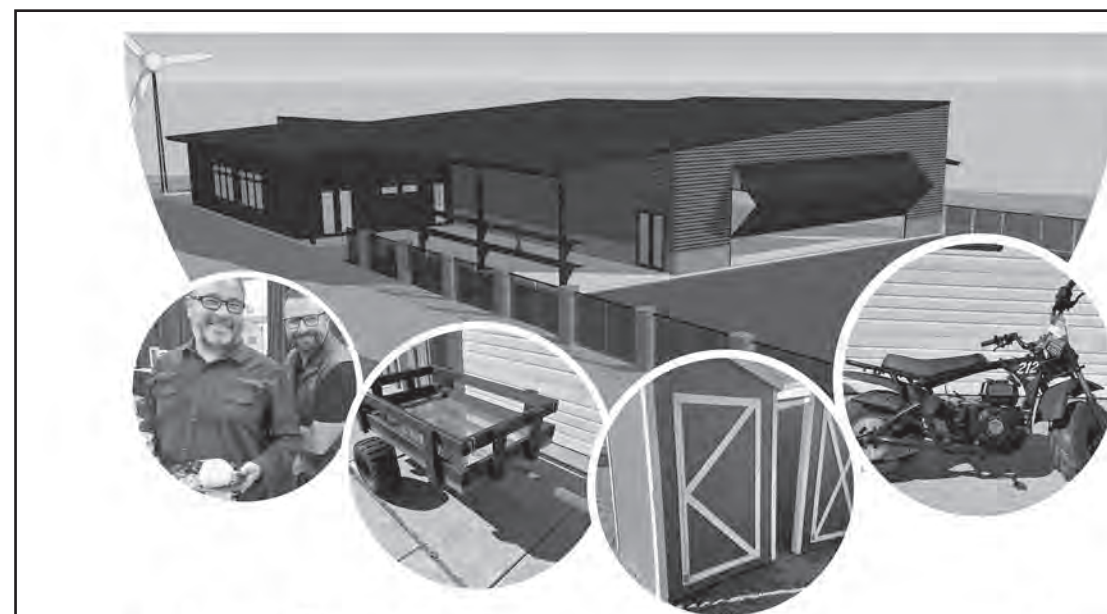
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# Town planning commission seeks more involvement in main street reconstruction project

By Derek Kutzer  
Staff Writer

At an April 23 meeting, several members of the Pagosa Springs Planning Commission expressed a desire to be more involved in Colorado Department of Transportation's (CDOT's) U.S. 160 reconstruction project through downtown Pagosa Springs.

The commissioners, particularly, thought that the issue of parking downtown during the construction is an issue within the purview of the planning commission.

This became an issue when CDOT revealed that downtown parking along U.S. 160 would need to be sacrificed in order to keep two traffic lanes open during the construction.

Several town boards and committees, like the Main Street Advisory Board's Cone Zone Care Committee, have been involved in the project, providing public information and planning for the removal of downtown parking during the project.

With the news that CDOT is delaying the project due to the one bid received coming in over budget, some on the planning commission saw an opportunity to get more involved.

Planning commissioner Chad Hodges commented that the project could "potentially" change "the face of town, down in that area," wondering if "there was something we can do."

"How do we get involved in it? Maybe it's not our mandate? I'm not sure. I'm just wondering if we have a chance to interject," he asked.

Community Development Director James Dickhoff asked for a specific example of something that the planning commission could get involved in regarding the project.

Hodges replied that since the planning commission also sits as the Historic Preservation Board, and "the facades of some of the older buildings

could change during this," he wondered if the board has any role to play in the project.

Dickhoff explained that "certainly any facade changes would have to come to the board, either the Design Review [Board] or [the] Historic Preservation [Board]."

Hodges recommended, at the very least, "a partnership meeting with one of the other committees" involved in the project, to which Dickhoff replied, "That's not a bad idea."

Dickhoff then explained to the planning commissioners the latest on the town's efforts to supplement lost parking spaces downtown during the construction.

He said the town is looking at a few "satellite or close proximity parking lots," and town staff "could certainly bring those" to the planning commission for its recommendation.

One of the lots, Dickhoff said, will utilize "the western corner of the Town Park practice field," adding that the town has, for some time, "contemplated parking there in some fashion."

"We've got an engineer looking at design and an estimate for our consideration moving forward. We like that location because it's downtown, it's close and walkable," he said.

The library board also just approved "a parking agreement for their vacant properties," and the town just voted to purchase the Goodman property near Tractor Supply, "so that might be another satellite parking area as well," he explained.

Planning commissioner Chris Pitcher encouraged town staff to bring some of the issues regarding the main street reconstruction project before the commission during public meetings.

He said that "in light of some of our light agendas, at least as of recently, I would encourage staff to utilize this board for support" on the parking issue during the construction.

The planning commission has historically had "quite a bit of focus on parking," he said.

"It would be a good opportunity to get some of these ideas on the record and in front of us and in front of the community, more importantly. So, yeah, I think it would be great if we were more involved in that process," he said.

Dickhoff said, "We can certainly bring forward updates... and, certainly, if you want to be a party to, for example, the consideration of the parking area in the Town Park practice field, I'd be happy to bring that forward to you for your review and comments."

"Yeah, I think that's totally appropriate," Pitcher replied. "Let's keep us engaged."

Planning commissioner Mark Weiler explained that he is "really uncomfortable" with the CDOT project, declaring that it will be an "absolute financial nightmare" for Pagosa, citing a similar CDOT project in Monte Vista that, he stated, caused "wreckage to the business community in one tourist season. It was vacant for years and it still is."

Weiler anticipated that the "reduction of sales tax revenue" for the town would be "massive," calling CDOT a "bureaucratic regime without financial consequence."

"They really don't take into account what the construction project does to the sales tax revenue base of the community that they destroy," he said.

He added, "I wish I had a solution, but I'll tell you this, parking at the Goodman property and walking downtown doesn't seem like a viable option. The practice field next to Town Park, that would be an option, of course."

He continued, "If I was to make a recommendation to the town council as the planning commission, they should consider keeping their powder dry, because they are looking at a massive dip in sales tax revenue for five years, and Monte Vista never

recovered. They never got back their preconstruction sales tax revenue," he said.

The town should prepare for a 40 percent decline in sales tax revenues, he said.

"You better have your hands around it... this is the financial reality that the town council should have on their agenda... If you know you're going to be hit by a tsunami, you get everyone off the low land and get them to high land," he said.

Pitcher suggested that Weiler's comments would be most appropriate directly to the town council, rather than for the planning commission's consideration.

"They're the ones who are gonna make the decision and they're the ones that need to hear it," he said.

Weiler contended that his warning about a drop in sales tax revenues would be more powerful if it is passed as a unanimous recommendation from the entire planning commission.

Pitcher noted that he didn't want to speak for everybody on the commission and that financial issues were not his "expertise," recommending that Weiler approach the council about the issue as an individual.

Pitcher suggested it would be most appropriate for the commission to focus on the parking issue during the construction, suggesting to get the issue on a future agenda.

"I think parking is a great fit for what we're tasked with as a planning commission," he said, adding that solving the parking issue during the construction would also aid in solving the financial situation.

"In a roundabout way, we can get to the financial component of that by talking about the parking," he said.

Dickhoff noted that staff will put the issue on a future planning commission agenda.

derek@pagosasun.com



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## Archuleta County announces upcoming community listening sessions for strategic planning

By Ashely Springer  
Archuleta County

Following the recent announcement of its strategic planning process, Archuleta County is pleased to invite residents to participate in three upcoming community listening sessions.

These initial listening sessions will provide community members with an opportunity to learn more about the strategic planning process, share

their feedback on the county's services, thoughts on opportunities for improvement and hopes for the county's future.

Two in-person listening sessions will be held on Wednesday, May 15, with one session in Arboles at the TARA Community Center, starting at 9 a.m., and another at the county's administrative office in Pagosa Springs starting at 5:30 p.m.

A third remote session will be held

via Zoom on May 28 starting at 1 p.m. Meeting details, including Zoom information, can be found at [archuletacounty.org](https://archuletacounty.org) or by calling (970) 264-8309.

While registration is not required, residents are strongly encouraged to RSVP online at <https://www.archuletacounty.org/203/Strategic-Plan>.

Details of the listening sessions:  
• Morning session on May 15: 9 to 11 a.m. at the TARA Community Center

in Arboles, located at 333 Milton Lane.  
• Evening session on May 15: 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the administration building, located at 398 Lewis St.

• Remote session via Zoom on May 28: 1 to 3 p.m.

Community participation is crucial in shaping the future of Archuleta County, and residents' valuable input is key to shaping our region's future. These meetings are open to the public and hosted by Civic-Possible.

# Obituary

## Jon Kent Ross

Jon Kent Ross was born on Aug. 27, 1936, in Price, Utah, the son of John Franklin and Dorothy E. Ross. He passed away on May 2, 2024.



He spent his childhood and early years in Green River, Utah, where he met and married Georgie N. Hatch on June 11, 1955. In 1968 they moved to Tifany, Colo., where they were involved in ranching and farming. Later they

moved to Pagosa Springs, Colo., where they finished raising their nine children. Around 2001 they moved to Bayfield, Colo.

Jon was an active member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. He was a dedicated and faithful husband, father and grandfather who loved his family passionately. He was a natural horseman and loved riding, roping, camping and hunting in the Book Cliffs of Utah and the San Juans of Colorado. He taught his children to love work, to be self-sufficient, and take care of themselves, their families and each other. He was a boot and saddle maker and owned and operated Ross Boot and Saddle for 47 years.

He was preceded in death by his

wife of 68 years, Georgie N. Ross; his parents, Frank and Dorothy Ross; a brother, Jack Ross; two sons, Dirk Ross and Colt Ross; and four sons-in-law: Ray Wells, Quinn Haddock, Todd Miller and Gene Carlson. He is survived by daughters Tandra Haddock, of Provo, Utah, and Kheta Wells, of Mineral Point, Mo.; five sons: Braden (Chris) Ross, of Midland, Texas, Kirby (Tammi) Ross, of Franktown, Colo., Troy (Loretta) Ross, of Pagosa Springs, Colo., Cody (Dawn) Ross, of Pagosa Springs, Colo., and Redo (Barb) Ross, of Bayfield, Colo.; two daughters-in-law: Crystal Ross, of Ignacio, Colo., and Jamie Carlson, of Loveland, Colo.; sister Dorothy Ann Carter, of Roosevelt, Utah; brother Clark (Jean Henry) Ross, of Fayetteville; 44 grandchildren; and 121 great grandchildren.

Services will be held at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day

Saints in Bayfield, Colo., on May 11, 2024, at 11 a.m. with the viewing at 9:30 a.m.

Interment will follow at the Pine River Cemetery.

## Services

### Melanie Madaline Morgan

Melanie Madaline Morgan, born on May 28, 1944, in Macomb, Ill., passed on July 28, 2023.

The family is having a celebration of life on Saturday, May 18, 2024, at the Pagosa Senior Center at 451 Hot Springs Blvd. from 2 to 5 p.m. In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests memorial contributions be made in Melanie's memory to the Humane Society of Pagosa Springs (P.O. Box 2230 or 464 Cloman Blvd.).

# Letters

■ Continued from A3  
extremely proud of the United States of America.

You are approaching the end of what I hope has been a very meaningful trip. Please, don't let it end today. The Marines have a saying: "Once a Marine - always a Marine." I strongly believe this is true of all veterans regardless of the branch of service or position in government they hold or are currently holding. I believe "Once a veteran - always a veteran." After arriving home, reflect and memorize what you saw with your eyes and felt in your heart. Do not forget what you saw and experienced on this trip. Retain the vision of the names and stars on those monuments to those who paid the ultimate sacrifice. Feel the dampness of the tears that flowed and hear the sounds of sobbing for their fallen comrades.

Most importantly, know that these memories do not need to bring sadness or despair. Rather let them become a challenge to every one of you. Many in this great land of freedom and opportunity now fight an enemy within our own borders... our fellow Americans. All of us should feel a sense of sadness at the current state of

our country. Now there is civil unrest that may affect everyone's freedom and democracy. The intensity of the battle is ever-strengthening. We are in a struggle that we, as veterans, have experienced as veterans in the past. Only the weapons have changed. We now struggle with words instead of weapons but rest assured this struggle is every bit as deadly.

Now, I challenge you to be the solution, not the problem. We all share a love for this country. Let's channel that love into action, not anger. Encourage civil discourse and respectful dialogue with those who hold different viewpoints. Promote civic engagement and inspire others to exercise their right to vote. Volunteer your time and mentor the young, some of whom will be our country's future leaders. Every action, no matter how small, contributes to a stronger, more unified nation." Let's stop pointing fingers and start working together. Most of all, be the firefighters who extinguish the flames of division, not the arsonists who start the fire or fan the flames.

May God bless you and the United States of America.

Russ Widener



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

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# Business

## Chamber to host meeting about fire code, food-handling event guidelines

By Mary Jo Coulehan  
Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce

The Chamber will be hosting an important informational meeting regarding changes in fire code and food-handling guidelines for both indoor and outdoor events.

The session will be held on Thursday, May 23, from 9 to 10:30 a.m. at the Ross Aragon Community Center.

An event now is anticipated to be triggered when more than 50 people are expected at the event. There are also new registration processes for events with both of these agencies.

Event coordinators, nonprofit agencies, event venue businesses and food truck vendors are encouraged to attend. A notice to many of these businesses went out; however, we know some businesses were missed.

Some of the information may be relevant to you, or your event may not constitute any changes; however, it is always good to be in the know and on the safe side. It is important that someone from your organization or business attend this meeting.

Documentation outlining these new guidelines can be obtained by contacting the Chamber director at [director@pagosachamber.com](mailto:director@pagosachamber.com) or by calling Mary Jo at (970) 264-2360. Please review these guidelines and come prepared with questions.

We appreciate everyone trying to make this meeting in person. We will try to record it and there is a Zoom invitation if you cannot attend in person. Please contact Mary Jo if you did not receive the Zoom link and would like to attend remotely.

Both indoor and outdoor larger events are becoming more popular. Events often affect traffic patterns, constitute a large number of attendees and require interagency cooperation. No event coordinator, business, or nonprofit agency wants to have an incident at their event.

While there is now an added layer of paperwork, most agencies are already working on hosting safe events and these additional guidelines should not be too much of an added workload. If you have specific questions on how these guidelines affect your event, it is important to have your voice heard at this meeting.

Should you have questions, you can also direct those questions to Mary Jo through the email address above. These questions will be forwarded to the relevant agency and discussed at the meeting on May 23.

Thank you for taking time to find out what these new guidelines are and how they might affect your event.

### Flower baskets still available

The beautiful 12-inch flower baskets that are available every year are

still available this year.

Additional baskets were ordered to accommodate the large number of requests that are received. Therefore, you still have time to order your baskets for summer.

Another exciting announcement is that we will have a new location where the baskets will be picked up on May 24. This location is Mary Fisher Park, which is located on the south side of the river on San Juan Street. When coming to the Chamber, instead of turning into the Chamber/Visitor Center parking lot, turn east on San Juan Street.

There will be signage indicating one-way access in and out. There will be parking and plenty of room to pick up your baskets. There will be no more logjams in the Chamber parking lot.

As we hear from the growers and nursery, we will alert the public as to the time when the baskets will be available to be picked up.

The 16-inch baskets are scheduled to be delivered the week after Memorial Day. We will alert those purchasers to that pick-up date as well. Get your hanging baskets for a season of color and fresh flowers.

To order your baskets, visit the Chamber website at [www.pagosachamber.com](http://www.pagosachamber.com). Click on the hanging basket graphic to go to the registration page. Flowers are available until sold out.

## March sales tax revenues up over prior year

By Josh Pike  
Staff Writer

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

Sales tax revenues previously rose by 4.4 percent in January and 3.4 percent in February compared to the previous year.

The report notes that the town and the county jointly received \$1,419,214 in gross sales tax revenue for the month of March, with \$708,813 going to the town and \$710,401 going to the county.

March gross sales tax revenues are 6.2 percent, or \$78,904, higher than March 2023.

According to the report, the categories that are up in comparison to March 2023 include:

- Construction at 49 percent, or \$11,146.
- Manufacturing at 16 percent, or

\$6,124.

- Retail Trade at 8 percent, or \$49,897.
- Real Estate and Rental and Leasing at 28 percent, or \$6,881.
- Accommodation and Food Services at 10 percent, or \$24,832.
- Other Services (except public administration) at 7 percent, or \$1,341.

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

- Information at 4 percent, or \$1,204.
- Finance and Insurance at 10 percent, or \$120.
- Professional, Scientific and Technical Services at 57 percent, or \$5,887.
- Miscellaneous at 6 percent, or \$14,106.

The report notes that, on the year-to-date comparison, sales tax revenues for 2024 are 5 percent, or \$189,382 higher than 2023.

According to the report, the cat-

egories that are up in the yearly comparison include:

- Construction at 10 percent, or \$8,370.
- Manufacturing at 48 percent, or \$58,293.
- Retail Trade at 8 percent, or \$156,924.
- Finance and Insurance at 10 percent, or \$374.
- Real Estate and Rental and Leasing at 24 percent, or \$16,472.
- Accommodation and Food Services at 2 percent, or \$14,642.
- Other Services (except public administration) at 6 percent, or \$3,525.

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

- Information at 1 percent, or \$1,068.
- Professional, Scientific and Technical Services at 20 percent, or \$11,091.
- Miscellaneous at 9 percent, or \$57,034.

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

## Pagosa Springs 55+ eBike program launches

By Kathleen O'Connor  
Four Corners Office for Resource Efficiency

The Four Corners Office for Resource Efficiency (4CORE), a nonprofit 501(c)(3), has been awarded a grant from the Colorado Energy Office that will provide clean transportation alternatives in Pagosa Springs.

The program, a joint effort between 4CORE and collaborative partners including the Town of Pagosa Springs, La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) and Pagosa Mountain Sports, will provide access to 25 free electric bicycles and electric tricycles for adults and individuals aged 55 and older, including those with physical disabilities who fall within 80 percent or less of the area median income (AMI).

"This program is helping to fill a significant need and represents a positive step forward within our community," said David Hilborn, project manager for the Town of

Pagosa Springs. "It fulfills a critical need for inclusive, environmentally friendly transportation solutions for seniors and people with disabilities, improving both their mobility and overall well-being."

The Pagosa Springs 55+ eBike program provides free e-mobility, and participants will also receive comprehensive operation training, safety education, and necessary accessories to ensure safe and convenient travel.

"The Pagosa Springs 55+ eBike program is a testament to the power of collaboration," said Rebekah Huehnel, 4CORE's Clean Transportation Program manager. "By working together, we can create meaningful opportunities and solutions that positively impact the Pagosa Springs community."

The application window is open now until May 31 and applications may be picked up at three locations around town: Archuleta Seniors Inc., Ross Aragon Community Center and

the Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library or accessed at [www.fourcore.org](http://www.fourcore.org). Completed applications may also be mailed to: 4CORE at 10 Town Plaza #190, Durango, CO 81301.

For more information about 4CORE and its initiatives, please visit [www.fourcore.org](http://www.fourcore.org).

### About 4CORE

4CORE is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit with the goal of providing programs and projects that ensure immediate energy and cost savings, especially for our lower-income residents.

We provide beneficial electrification and renewable energy installations, encourage the adoption of clean transportation with electric vehicles and provide water conservation education and best practices.

4CORE serves Southwest Colorado by promoting resource conservation, energy efficiency and renewable energy through education and programs that strengthen the local economy and foster a healthy, sustainable environment.

# John Ranson

for County Commission, District 2

## Republican Primary

### June 25th, 2024

[RansonforCommissioner.com](http://RansonforCommissioner.com)



### EXPERIENCE — NOW MORE THAN EVER

With a long history of public finance experience and a proven track record of financial stewardship, John brings a wealth of experience to the BoCC. His leadership in 2008 was instrumental in helping Archuleta County navigate through one of its most challenging periods ultimately leading to a period of stability and growth.

### COMMITTED

John volunteered to serve as a Financial Task Force member in 2007 when Archuleta County discovered a serious financial crisis. Following that, John served for a period of time as County Commissioner. In addition, he recently sat on the committee to form, and budget for, Archuleta County's new Health Department. He has an unwavering commitment to the fiscal health and well-being of our County. John's leadership, as Commissioner and Task Force Member, not only rescued the county from financial turmoil, but also set the stage for a prosperous future.

## YOUR COUNTY, YOUR MONEY

I just paid property tax to the County. My new tax bill was up 57%. Please email me at [RansonforBoCC@gmail.com](mailto:RansonforBoCC@gmail.com) and tell me your increase.

More importantly, let me know your desires for how Archuleta County should spend YOUR money.



### JOHN'S EXPERIENCE

- John moved to Pagosa Springs in 1996
- Worked in the field of Public Finance for 18 years
- Served as a bond analyst for Counties' financials for 8 years
- Served as Chief Financial Officer for 11 years

### EXPERIENCE IN ARCHULETA COUNTY

- 2007 Served on Financial Task Force
- Elected County Commissioner to dig out of a financial hole
- Served on Committee to set up new Health District — 2023

To learn more about John Ranson's campaign for Archuleta County Commissioner, District 2, please feel free to contact John at:  
[RansonforBoCC@gmail.com](mailto:RansonforBoCC@gmail.com)  
[RansonforCommissioner.com](http://RansonforCommissioner.com)

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## Cards of Thanks

### Earth Day parking

The Pagosa Springs Earth Day Committee, helmed by S.O.S., would like Terri and Ronald Urbanczyk to know that the permission they gave us all on April 21st to use the area adjacent to the Old Courthouse to accommodate parking for our event (lot was full) was so very greatly appreciated.

Jonathan Dobson

### Earth Day Celebration

The SOS Earth Day Planning Team

wishes to thank the Community for an outstanding Earth Day Celebration. Great music by Xavier and friends and Charles Martinez on flute; engaging presentations by Herb Grover, Chris Tanner, Kristen Roth, Cynthia Sperry, Gordon South; delightful spread from ASI; interesting displays by all participants.

De Anna Hoyle

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# County moves forward with legal action concerning issues at 284 Piper Place

By Josh Pike  
Staff Writer

At an April 16 Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) work session, County Attorney Todd Weaver asked for and received permission from the BoCC to move forward with legal action to obtain an administrative entry and seizure warrant for the property at 284 Piper Place.

This request followed a discussion of issues at the property at the March 19 BoCC meeting, where several neighbors of the property raised concerns about the accumulation of junk on the property, and the potential health and safety risks it poses.

Stacey Foss, who also serves on the Archuleta County Board of Health, opened a series of public comments on the issue, explaining that she is a neighbor of 284 Piper Place and pointing out discussions at BoCC work sessions about loosening land use codes and the nuisance ordinance.

She commented that, although she broadly agreed with previous statements by commissioners that property owners should be allowed to do what they want on their own land as long as it does not negatively impact their neighbors, the situation at 284 Piper Place does not fall within this category, as it is having a negative effect on the neighbors.

Foss also commented that the process of county intervention with the property through legal action and code enforcement has been slow, and the owners of the property have allowed it to continue to deteriorate.

She stated that she has been informed that further county actions were being delayed due to ongoing efforts to clean up the property, but stated these efforts consisted of burying items in a hill on the property and burning items, which emitted noxious fumes and ignited a nearby tree.

"I believe strongly that the county missed a massive opportunity this last year to collaborate across departments and make positive impacts to all of Archuleta County," she said. "Collaboration among agencies, department and community could have addressed the safety concerns of improper disposal of sewage, spreading improperly disposed trash through wildlife, ongoing noise and nuisance, and animals at large, thus creating immediate safety for the neighborhood as well as supporting our local law enforcement in addressing ongoing theft and narcotic concerns for our community. I hope as you continue to weigh your discussions of code enforcement, you will recognize that 284 Piper Place does not fit this discussion."

Carrie Bryant, who also lives on Piper Place, then spoke, stating that the complaints about health and safety at 284 Piper Place have been ongoing for eight years, but that "nothing has been done" and the issues persist, including the property being occupied by individuals who are not the owners.

She commented that she was unsure if the owner was aware of the problems with the property — Foss earlier indicated they were — and that they should be given a specific schedule to clean up the property in the next three months.

She explained that occupants of the property change "frequently," with campers moving on and off of the property and commented that many of these occupants have "questionable character" with previous "theft and drug charges."

Bryant added that she was unsure if occupants are there at the permission of the property owner or are squatters.

She also objected to the high

amount of vehicle traffic visiting the property in the summer late at night, including visits for what she alleged were drug exchanges.

Bryant indicated that the property contains no septic, electrical or water utilities to her knowledge and that she had not observed any waste being moved off the property, creating concerns about groundwater pollution.

She also noted that the material accumulated on the property creates a health and fire hazard, and raised concerns about if a dog that is often left on the property is experiencing animal cruelty.

Bryant concluded by pointing out that the property is lowering the property value of nearby parcels and requesting that the county take "immediate action" to compel the owners to clean up the property.

Commissioner Veronica Medina asked Bryant if she had ever called animal control about the potential animal cruelty.

*Carrie Bryant, who also lives on Piper Place, then spoke, stating that the complaints about health and safety at 284 Piper Place have been ongoing for eight years, but that "nothing has been done" and the issues persist, including the property being occupied by individuals who are not the owners.*

Bryant replied that they had been called, but "nobody ever shows up."

Eric Foss then spoke, reiterating the concerns about sanitation and the "squatters" on the property and noting that Sheriff Mike Le Roux had expressed to him in conversations that he would like to see steps taken to clean up the property and improve safety.

He added that Le Roux also indicated that his deputies have documentation of the issues on the property that could be used by the county to help address the problems.

Eric Foss then referenced a comment made by Commissioner Ronnie Maez at a Feb. 20 BoCC work session that suggested that property owners who do not like what items are stored on a neighbor's property should relocate, stating that he has looked into the option of moving, but cannot afford to do so.

He concluded by requesting that the BoCC consider these issues in its review of the county land use code and move forward with creating a plan for the cleanup of 284 Piper Place.

Eric Foss also refuted Bryant's comment about animal control not responding to calls about potential animal cruelty, stating that he and Stacey Foss had called and animal control responded, although they could not issue a citation because they could not find the owner.

Eric Davidson then spoke, commenting that the county has a responsibility to enforce the nuisance ordinance and is a key factor in securing legitimate increases in property values for residents.

He added that the county should

focus on addressing issues involving rodent infestations and improper disposal of human waste.

Scott Calderwood returned to the issue of 284 Piper Place with his comments, explaining that he is one of the original complainants about the property.

He commented that the property "presents indescribable filth and debris" as well as "questionable activities witnessed since 1997" and a "virtual cesspool" of West Nile virus and hantavirus.

Calderwood explained that the issue was transferred from the county "building department" to the county attorney in 2017 and that numerous contacts with the county attorney's office followed, as well as unsuccessful efforts to clean up the property.

He stated that, in a May 2019 call with the attorney's office, the property owner indicated that she had been paying taxes and insurance on the property to maintain her credit rating, but that she had no intention of visiting the area and that, "at this point in her life" she could pay for things with cash and thus did not need to maintain her credit rating.

He added that, in this call, the owner stated that she would not pay to clean up the property and the county "could take it if they wanted it."

Calderwood added that the county decided to move forward with an administrative entry and seizure warrant for the property later in the 2019.

He then ran out of time to provide additional public comment (there is a three-minute limit) and concluded that eliminating the land use regulations and nuisance ordinance would contribute to the "further decline of Archuleta County."

Maez commented that many of the restrictions he had spoken in opposition to in discussions of the land use regulations did not apply to the property, which "looks like our old landfill used to."

Maez continued that he feels the property is attracting and could be accumulating mosquitoes in the ponds of water that form on the property.

He commented that the property is a "health matter" and that his concerns about the land use regulations center on the ability of local landowners to park recreational vehicles or construction equipment necessary for their work on their property.

Maez then asked Weaver the status of the county's actions concerning the property, adding, "I know that I voted to move on taking this person's property."

Weaver replied that, shortly after he began working at the county in 2019, an administrative entry and search warrant was served on the son of the property owner, who then resided on the property.

He explained that the son agreed to work on cleaning up the property but that, shortly after this agreement, he "basically disappeared" and has not revisited the property "in some time."

Weaver added that the owner, Peggy Payne, who used to live in Texas and now likely resides in Florida, has indicated that she does not care about losing the property.

He stated that he did not believe authority was ever given to hire a contractor to clean up the property.

Payne's daughter, who lives in the area, now appears to be acting as an agent on Payne's behalf, Weaver explained, adding that he is drafting a compliance agreement stating that, if the property is not cleaned up by July 31, the county will resume legal action to obtain a warrant.

He concluded that he would be sending this agreement "this week."

Commissioner Warren Brown stated that, in his understanding, Payne's daughter purchased the

property or that she paid the unpaid property taxes on the property.

Weaver explained that the property had gone up for a tax sale due to delinquent property tax payments and that an investor purchased it, but that Payne's daughter redeemed the property on Payne's behalf by paying the delinquent taxes and interest, keeping it in Payne's name.

He added that there was "talk" that Payne would transfer the property to the daughter, but that he was not aware of this occurring.

Brown asked what the county actions would be if the compliance agreement is not met.

Weaver stated that, since the last legal action on the property was in 2019, the county would likely have to file a new case, which would involve a process of the county submitting a complaint and the owner having an opportunity to respond to the complaint.

He indicated that, if the owner does not respond, the county could request default judgment and attempt to obtain a warrant that would allow the county to hire a contractor to enter and clean up the property.

He explained that the costs of the cleaning up the property plus a 5 percent fee to cover the costs of inspections could be assessed against the property as property taxes if these costs are not paid within 30 days.

Weaver added that an additional 10 percent cost could be added to this assessment as a penalty and if these property tax costs are not paid, the property would go up for tax sale.

Commissioner Veronica Medina asked if the involvement of the Archuleta County Public Health Department (ACPHD) due to the apparent accumulation of sewage on the property would be a way to "speed this process up."

Weaver stated that this would potentially allow faster action through the Board of Health (BoH) and would require ACPHD staff to inspect the property and determine what public health risks may exist at the site.

He added that San Juan Basin Public Health (SJBPH) staff were present at the search of the property in 2019 and that this search found what appeared to be a septic system on the property, although he was not sure if it is in use or operable.

Maez asked what was the cost of the last property cleanup the county performed.

Weaver stated that this cleanup occurred three to four years ago and cost between \$15,000 and \$20,000.

Maez asked what would happen if the county entered the property and began cleaning it up without a warrant, especially since the property owner had indicated that she did not care what happens on the property.

Weaver stated that this would be trespassing and that obtaining a warrant is necessary for the county to take any legally permitted action.

Maez commented that he was "sorry for" the nearby property owners and that the law does not appear to be "on your side" due to how slow

■ See County A7

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# County

■ Continued from A6

the process of addressing the property is.

Brown asked Weaver if the previous legal actions the county had taken to address the issues on the property would support the county moving forward with action at the present time.

Weaver replied that, although there are some ambiguities in the law, the previous warrant likely needed to be issued within 10 days of the previous court ruling and cleanup needed to occur within 30 or 60 days.

Brown commented that it appeared that the county made an agreement with the property owner stipulating terms for cleaning up the property and that they "failed to follow through."

He added that the county could potentially argue that, due to this failure, the action being taken now to clean up the property is a continuation of the previous action and is occurring due to the property owner not complying with the previous agreement.

Weaver stated that he would have to investigate this issue, but that, from the court's perspective, no action would have happened since 2019 and the court might rule against this approach.

Brown commented that it appeared, if the county has to restart the case, "we're talking at least another year."

Weaver stated that, at the quickest, the county could obtain a warrant in 90 days, but that it could take longer.

Brown commented that it is "totally unacceptable how this process has taken place. Being a person who's had horrific neighbors myself, I absolutely would not stand for this and I think that anything we can do to expedite this and make that 90 days a reality is something we should make a priority."

Medina asked Weaver if the county could utilize a faster process if the ACPHD determines that there are health hazards, involving sewage or other issues, on the property.

Weaver stated that this is possible, but he was not certain as the ACPHD has only existed since Jan. 1 and SJBPH "basically refused to enforce" these public health standards in Archuleta County, so he was unfamiliar with the specific rules.

Medina asked Weaver to reach out to the ACPHD and look at the rules in statute to determine what options the county might have moving forward.

She added that, if public health threats exist and a public health approach would be faster, she would see this as the best option.

Medina stated that, if this is not possible, the county should start the process for obtaining a warrant immediately, instead of waiting until July, due to the property owner repeatedly failing to meet previous agreements.

Weaver stated he would need to explore what public health options exist and educate the BoH since the county has not had these options in the past under SJBPH.

Maez asked if the county could reach out to the property owner and see if they would consent for the county to clean up the property.

"My only problem with that is they still would own the property," Medina said.

Weaver added that, without following the statutory process to obtain a warrant, the county could not assess the cost of cleaning up the property onto the property owner and would have no way to recoup the costs.

Maez responded that the cost would also fall onto the taxpayers if the county ends up in possession of the property.

Weaver pointed out that the county could sell the property to recover the costs if it obtains the property and that, without obtaining a warrant, the county would need a separate lawsuit to recover the costs.

Le Roux then spoke to the BoCC, stating that he began discussions with Eric Foss in late August of 2023 and that the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office had responded to up to a dozen calls for service at 284 Piper Place since then.

He added that the ACSO has documentation of "what is on the property" from the fall of 2023, which appeared to be more recent than the documents possessed by the county.

He stated that the ACSO would be willing to provide this information to the county and is "happy to help in whatever capacity we can to make this transition go smoothly."

Medina commented that supplying this information to Weaver would

be helpful.

The BoCC then heard a comment from John Ranson, who is a candidate for Archuleta County commissioner in District 2, although he noted that he was speaking as a citizen and not as a candidate.

Ranson explained that he had been involved with helping Eric and Stacey Foss work with the county on the issue and commented that he does not believe that cost should be a factor in cleaning up the property.

He added that he would like the BoCC to give staff direction to begin moving forward with taking steps to address the property.

Christy Calderwood commented that she "really was angry" about the BoCC's comments concerning land use regulations being too restrictive and that she wanted a timeline from the county about when the issues on 284 Piper Place would be addressed.

"If you can start this now and keep us informed so that we know what's going on and so we are not sitting here thinking... they're all against us, it would certainly be nice," she said, adding, "This has been a situation."

"I just don't want it to take another eight years," Maez replied.

"Eight years is ridiculous," Christy Calderwood said, adding that she was concerned by previous BoCC statements.

She concluded by reiterating her request for the county to communicate with nearby property owners.

William Mayo then spoke, stating that he had purchased a property adjacent to 284 Piper Place last year on which he planned to build a home, but that "you can imagine my potential hesitation on the wisdom of that" due to the issues on the property.

He added that he hopes progress is made remedying the issues on the property.

Medina concluded the discussion by thanking the commenters for sharing the information and comments they presented.

At the April 16 BoCC work session, Weaver explained that he sent a compliance agreement for cleaning up 284 Piper Place to Payne's daughter with a request that she review and sign the agreement by no later than April 4.

He indicated that he had received no response at the time of the work session.

"I think I said in my email that this was one last chance and I meant that," Weaver said. "So, I'm asking for direction to move forward with legal action. I think it's time to file a renewed administrative search, entry and seizure warrant with the court and then talk about getting a contractor lined up to go out clean up the property and move forward and get it done, and the cost will be assessed against the property, and if

it's not paid the county will take the property."

Medina commented that "this has been a long time coming" and that she would like staff to move forward with the actions Weaver suggested.

Maez expressed support for this and Brown commented, "We're way past due."

He added that the county has been "maybe too gracious to the point that it has been infringing upon the other neighbors around this property, so I say we give direction to move forward posthaste."

Weaver stated that he would move forward.

In a May 1 interview with The SUN, Weaver stated that the legal process is "in the works" and that there are several steps to complete, including obtaining an estimate from a contractor for cleaning up the property before filing a motion with the court and letting conditions on the property dry up.

He stated that he hopes to have a motion filed with the court by the end of May.

Weaver also explained that, if the county chooses to assess the costs of the cleanup as taxes on the property, these would have to be paid by the end of 2025, after which the property would go up for tax sale.

He added that the county could also attempt to file a lien against the property and then attempt to foreclose on the property, which would be a faster process.

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## Archuleta Democratic Club will meet May 23

By Lynn Frederick  
Archuleta Democratic Club

The Archuleta Democratic Club will meet on May 23 at 11:30 at Coyote Moon to hear about the goals of Pagosa Springs Main Street.

Pagosa Springs Main Street is a nonprofit organization focused on community-led downtown revitalization and economic development.

Join board president Rick Holter and Main Street Coordinator Kathleen McFadden to hear about the work Pagosa Springs Main Street is doing to energize downtown and support local businesses through the (now-delayed) U.S. 160 con-

struction. Hear about its accomplishments over the past year and its economic impact. Be part of the future of the development of the downtown area.

We encourage you to come at 11:30 a.m. to order lunch. The meeting program will begin at noon.

The Archuleta Democratic Club is a social organization that seeks to sponsor programs about topics of local interest and to encourage community involvement. Everyone is welcome. Do not feel that you need to be a registered Democrat to attend the meeting.

For more information, email [lynf frederick1@gmail.com](mailto:lynf frederick1@gmail.com).

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# Manager

Continued from front  
own desire, I have no need to renew the contract for Derek Woodman."  
"I've thought about this and just reviewed everything over the last year and I, too, do not see a need to renew the contract with our current manager," Medina said.

Brown commented that the county has had seven county managers over seven years, "roughly a new county manager about one every 1.42 years. And how do we ever expect any forward progress if we are continually repeating the first three steps year after year because the county managers that come in, that are the full time [sic], have a year as they're feeling it out before they really start making decisions, so what we have is .42 years of repeating the same steps year after year"

Brown stated that the county is now gaining a degree of consistency with Woodman after frequent changes in leadership.

He then stated a list of county accomplishments that occurred during Woodman's tenure, which he prefaced by stating that these accomplishments were "although not ... by himself, solely certainly under his direction quite often because things don't just happen by themselves."

Among the accomplishments Brown referenced were the creation of Archuleta County Public Health Department and the county Water Quality Division, the hiring of a communications specialist and digital accessibility coordinator, and the establishment of a supervisor for buildings and grounds, which Brown indicated he was not aware of existing previously.

Maez interjected that the county did have a buildings and grounds

supervisor previously, and Brown countered that he could not speak for things that occurred outside his time as commissioner.

Brown continued that the county, in Woodman's tenure, has increased buildings and grounds and information technology staff levels; rebuilt the Finance and Human Resources departments and the Department of Human Services (DHS); expanded county infrastructure with a court-house, evidence building and transit center; expanded the Mountain Express Transit system; updated Veterans Memorial Park; implemented Starlink as an Internet backup and merit increases for employees; moved DHS to a new building; implemented a county newsletter; and brought back Christmas and summer parties for employees.

He also noted the extensive paving projects that the county completed during Woodman's tenure and improvements to the landfill.

"I've been in government a long time, 31 years, and if there's one thing I've learned, the most assured way of keeping a job as a government employee is to do nothing," Brown said. "Because when you do something as a government employee, you challenge the status quo, the way that it's always been done, and it makes some people highly uncomfortable. Is this really what we want to do to our community and to those that visit us? Really, is this where we want to go?"

"If Derek Woodman is the facilitator of all that's been done, then why are we here?" Maez asked. "Why not just have Derek do it all?"

Brown and Maez then debated if Maez would allow Brown to answer the question, with both interrupting and the other repeatedly before Brown

noted that Woodman has not completed this accomplishments "by himself by any means," although he has been an "integral part in getting things done."

"I think that any other manager that we would have hired would have been an integral part of following direction," Maez said.

Maez then asked how much money the county is spending on defending against a Colorado Independent Ethics Commission (IEC) complaint brought by local attorney Matt Roane against Brown and former commissioner Alvin Schaaf concerning a county policy that allowed commissioners to be reimbursed for driving to and from their homes to work.

As previously reported in the Oct. 27, 2022, issue of The SUN, Maez was offered similar mileage reimbursements but declined to participate in the program.

Brown stated that he was unsure of how much money had been spent, "but I would say thousands."

"I think we're about \$35,000 in that already right now and it's going on. But, under whose recommendation was that?" Maez asked, adding that he was asking about the decision "to collect mileage from the taxpayers from your house to the county office."

Brown stated there was a recommendation from County Attorney Todd Weaver that the program was legal.

"I'm not sure about that," Maez said. "I'm not sure about that, Warren."

"I'm sure," Brown replied.

"And the one thing is, that decision was not made publicly, either, and that decision should have been made publicly and discussed ... and it wasn't," Maez commented.

"That is not accurate," Brown said. Maez asked, "What's the accurate part of it?"

"The accurate part is that was specifically brought to our legal council for a legal opinion," Brown said.

"And a decision was made and people collected money ... driving from their house to the office," Maez said.

"And that is still ..." Brown began. "No decision," Maez commented.

"And are we talking about Mr. Woodman or are we talking about previous county managers who have been alleged to commit crimes that ... nothing was done about?" Brown countered. "Is that what we're talking about?"

"We're still spending money on the defenses, aren't we?" Maez said.

"I think this is way off topic, honestly, I think this is way off topic and if we want to not renew Mr. Woodman's contract and have the county taxpayers pay double, so for an interim and Mr. Woodman, I don't see the sense in that," Brown said.

"We don't know that ... and right now it looks to me like you're out-voted," Maez replied.

"Could be, but I think it's important to express exactly what's been going on," Brown said.

"I think full clarity ought to be expressed, too, to the people," Maez replied.

Maez added, "That was tense." "Yeah, a little bit," Medina agreed before suggesting that the "she-nanigans that happened" with the former county public works director occurred under Woodman's watch, "which should have been known and the taxpayers paid for it. That was a million dollars that had to be moved

See Manager A14



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# Wind

Continued from front  
County's 911 calls, Moffat explained.

The power outage also affected the Archuleta County Public Health building located at 502 S. 8th St.

"As we all know, there was the big power outage yesterday morning. One of the big impacts that the county government ended up experiencing, that we didn't anticipate, was over at public health," said Derek Woodman, then the county manager, during the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners work session held on Tuesday, May 7.

He added, "It all came down to maintaining the temperature for the vaccines and the prescription medications that we maintain over there."

Woodman explained that "everything went fine at the onset" of the power outage, but by 3 o'clock the temperatures in the cooler started "dropping to a critical level."

Woodman explained that county staff was able to gather and transport the medication to the Pagosa Springs Medical Center, which is the backup location, by 3:30 a.m.

Woodman did not indicate that any medication was damaged.

"What we ended up finding out is there is a battery backup system that is supposed to last 14 hours," Woodman said, explaining that the system is supposed to be plugged into the refrigerators. However, once staff started working on the issue, it was discovered that the battery backup system was not plugged into the refrigerators.

"So, they had no emergency power source," he said.

Woodman explained that on the initial analysis of the situation it was "determined that San Juan Basin Public Health (SJBPH) installed the battery backup in 2020 and ... hadn't used it ever because it always tripped the breaker."

It was determined that the battery backup system is set up to power 15 amps, but the refrigerators run off of 20 amps, "so it's never going to work," he added.

Commissioner Ronnie Maez commented, "They [SJBPH] never fixed it either."

Woodman mentioned the county is now getting quotes on three options to fix the backup system which include replacing the battery backup system with a 50 amp unit, relocat-

ing a generator from county facilities in Arboles or purchasing a new generator.

"Nonetheless, regardless, we have to do something," Woodman said.

He also mentioned there could be possible funding sources from the state that would cover the cost of fixing the backup system.

"We need to step up and do the right thing," Maez said, explaining that he thinks the county should go ahead and purchase a new natural gas generator that can power the batteries and also run the whole building if needed, noting it would create a "double fail-safe."

Woodman concurred with Maez saying, "I completely agree."

Woodman mentioned the county has approximately \$25,000 worth of medications.

"I see it as an emergency issue," Maez added.

Commissioner Warren Brown mentioned that the county's office of Emergency Management could also be a source of funding.

"We have to be prepared," Woodman added.

While no other large-scale power

outages were reported, strong winds continued into the week, with the National Weather Service's (NWS's) Grand Junction office issuing a wind advisory for 30 to 40 mph winds with gusts as high as 60 mph for the San Juan River Basin that lasted until 9 p.m. Tuesday.

According to the NWS, the airport reached 46 mph.

High winds are not in the forecast in the coming days, though rain is expected this weekend starting on Thursday, May 9, with a 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after noon, according to the NWS.

The chance of rain will increase to 60 percent Thursday night and 70 percent for Friday, May 10. The high for Friday is 63 degrees, with a forecasted low of 34 degrees.

There is a 70 percent chance of showers on Saturday, with a high of 64 degrees and a low of 33 degrees predicted.

Sunday is forecast to have a high of 68 degrees and a low of 34 degrees with a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms throughout the day. clayton@pagosasun.com

# Trout

Continued from front

The fingerlings released into the San Juan River ranged from 2 to 5 inches in length.

"The purpose of the program is to give students the opportunity to explore water quality," Lindstrom wrote, explaining the students kept track of the water temperature, count and weight of the fish.

Four to five fish were pulled from the tank each week and weighed before being returned, she notes.

That allowed students to calculate the average weight per fish, which then allowed them to calculate 2 percent body weight of all the fish in order to know how much to feed them.

Overfeeding, Lindstrom notes, makes the tank more difficult to keep clean.

The students also collected data

weekly and reported that information to Trout Unlimited, as well as data on the release of the fish.

Further, Lindstrom notes, the project helped students become familiar with the life cycle and survival of the fittest.

"Hopefully this project will help students think about jobs that are related to the same field," Lindstrom wrote.

Each student was able to release some of the fish into the river, watching to make sure the fingerlings made it into the deeper water and avoided being lapped back to the shore by the water.

Lindstrom notes the weighing process was probably the most fun for the students, explaining, "They love catching the agile fish. It's a challenge!"

She adds that the students were excited about cleaning the filters and vacuuming the tank at first, but that excitement faded after the first few weeks.

Thankfully, she adds, a new group of students was always happy to take over the cleaning chores.

In the days following the release of the trout, Lindstrom notes there were a variety of reactions to the absence of the fish, with students reporting feeling "lonely" and "sad" without the fish in the classroom.

Others reported the classroom is now quiet, with Lindstrom explaining the chiller was "quite loud."

"This trout in the classroom is a great example of how one teacher enriches learning in our advisory program," Pagosa Springs Middle School Principal Chris Hinger wrote.

"Students learn so much as they work together to raise the trout and then release them into the San Juan River."

Lindstrom explains she began using the Trout in the Classroom program when she taught in New Mexico through a partnership with the New Mexico Wildlife Center in Abiquiu.

She explained the center wrote a grant and donated the equipment, while Trout Unlimited helped coordinate with New Mexico hatcheries so they could receive trout eggs to watch change and grow into fingerlings.

"When I began teaching in Colorado, I contacted Trout Unlimited to see if we could continue the project in Pagosa," she wrote, adding Trout Unlimited was "happy" to add Pagosa Springs Middle School to the program's participant list.

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# Outdoors

## Chimney Rock National Monument to open for season May 15

By Nadia Werby  
Chimney Rock Interpretive Association

Come experience a unique part of America's heritage this summer in the shadows of Chimney Rock National Monument's awe-inspiring twin spires.

Chimney Rock will open for the 2024 season on Wednesday, May 15. Archaeological structures and artifacts, abundant wildlife and its setting in the breathtaking San Juan National Forest make Chimney Rock a must-see.

The Chimney Rock Interpretive Association (CRIA) sponsors guided tours, and monthly and annual events at Chimney Rock National Monument including the Night Sky: Our Solar System Program, Night Sky: Stars and Galaxies Program, the Full Moon Program, sunrise programs, geology tours, Birding at Chimney Rock Tour, Flora at Chimney Rock Tour, Flute Music at Twilight, Art at the Pinnacles program and the always fun and free Life at Chimney Rock Festival.

This year's Life at Chimney Rock Festival is set for June 1 and 2.

### May special events

- Guided Great House Walking Tour: May 16, 17, 18, 21, 23, 24, 25, 28, 30 and 31.
- Mysteries of Chimney Rock Tour: May 17, 20, 24, 27, 31 (mornings) and May 22 and 29 (evenings).
- Geology Tour: May 21 and 28 (afternoon), and May 18 and 25 (mornings).
- Art at the Pinnacles: May 22 and 28.
- Full Moon Program: May 23.
- Birding at Chimney Rock: May 24.
- Flute Music at Twilight: May 28.

### Guided Great House Tour

The Guided Great House Tour is offered on Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday mornings.

This guided tour takes visitors 1/3 mile up the Great Pueblo Trail, making several stops along the way to learn about the ancient Puebloan structures built more than 1,000 years ago and their connection to the Chaco culture located 90 miles southwest of this spot. At the end of the trail, visitors will enjoy a 360-degree panoramic view from atop the mesa ridge. They will also be afforded the closest view possible of the two pinnacles: Chimney Rock and Companion Rock.

Peregrine falcons are often sighted on the left side of Companion Rock, so cameras are a must.

Check-in is at the plaza kiosk at 10 a.m. The tour begins at 10:30 a.m. Tickets are \$12 for ages 13 and up and \$6 for ages 5-12. It is recommended for ages 5 and above due to uneven, rocky steps and steep drop-offs.

### Mysteries of Chimney Rock Tour

The Mysteries of Chimney Rock Tour is offered on Monday and Friday mornings from 8 to 10:15 a.m., and on Wednesday evenings from 5 to 7:15 p.m.

This engaging two-hour tour will spotlight several topics aimed specifically at interpreting the history and significance of Chimney Rock and the Ancestral Puebloans who inhabited the area more than 1,000 years ago.

The tour takes visitors along both the Mesa Village Trail and the Great House Trail to learn specifics about the structures along the way — their significance and uses. At the end of the trail, visitors will enjoy a 360-degree panoramic view from atop the mesa ridge.

Tickets are \$20 for ages 13 and up, \$10 for ages 5-12, and under 5 are free.

### Geology Tour

The Geology Tour is offered weekly on Tuesday late afternoons and Saturday mornings.

This 2.5-hour guided tour explores the local geology and its relationship to the daily lives of the Ancestral Puebloans who lived at Chimney Rock more than 1,000 years ago.

Tour participants will be taken on a journey through geologic time to learn what the rocks present at Chimney Rock today tell us about the geography of southwestern Colorado over time. Participants will also learn how to identify common rocks and fossils in the area. Rock types impact structures, pottery, tools and soil productivity. Geologic processes determine the landscape at Chimney Rock and play a central role in climate. The relationship between the two pillars (Chimney Rock and Companion Rock) and the South San Juan Mountains in terms of astronomical observations will be discussed. The tour also covers the key points discussed in the archaeological-focused tours like the Great House Tour. No prior knowledge of geology is required.

Tickets are \$20 for ages 13 and up, \$10 for ages 5-12, and under 5 are free.

### Art at the Pinnacles

Art at the Pinnacles is a weekly class offered at various locations within the monument.

Each week a different class will be taught. On May 22, beginning watercolors will be offered. On May 28, pencil drawing basics will be offered. Most classes will be held at 8 a.m.

Drawing classes will be held at 5 p.m. Our teachers are Lise Neer and Kathie Disner, professional local artists, and Denise Fisk, former school art teacher.

Check-in for the beginning watercolors class is from 7:45 to 8 a.m., and check-in for the pencil drawing basics is from 4:45 to 5 p.m. Tickets are \$25 for ages 10 and up.

### Full Moon Program

The Full Moon Program is offered once a month to coincide with the full moon and provide a unique backdrop in a sky unhindered by the lights of modern-day civilization. About an hour before moonrise, visitors will be treated to an informative lecture on topics specific to the Chimney Rock site — Ancestral Puebloan culture, archaeoastronomy theories, area geology, etc. Then, as the full

moon begins to rise, a single flute note follows another and another as you become slowly embraced by the music of Charles Martinez. You'll be torn between looking west to see the spectacular sunset or focusing on the eastern mountain range to see the first sliver of moon.

The entire program lasts approximately three hours including check-in, driving to the mesa top and hiking the Great House Trail. At the end of the trail, visitors will enjoy a 360-degree panoramic view from atop the mesa ridge.

Tickets are \$25 per person. Check-in for this month's Full Moon Program is 7 p.m. The program will start at 8:15 p.m.

Visitors are offered the option to take an early, guided tour of the Mesa Village Trail before the Full Moon Program. This Early Tour/Full Moon Package is \$30 and is available through the Recreation.gov website or the call center, (877) 444-6777, under the title Early Tour/Full Moon Package.

Check-in for the Early Tour this month is from 6:15 to 6:45 p.m. and the tour starts at 7 p.m.

### Birding Tour

The Birding Tour is offered on select Friday and Saturday mornings from 8 to 10 a.m. in the quiet off-hours of the monument.

This fun and casual two-hour bird walk is led by a knowledgeable birding guide from the Weminuche Audubon Society. These outings will introduce you to the diverse community of birds that spend their summer at Chimney Rock National Monument. Your guide will help you identify various species and explain the unique adaptations that allow these birds to survive here. Birders of all skill levels are welcome to participate. This is not recommended for young children. Participants will be walking slowly on uneven terrain in the lower area of Chimney Rock; thus, no archaeological sites will be included on this tour. Good walking shoes are advised, along with plenty of water and sun protection. Also, bring those binoculars.

Tickets are \$20 for ages 13 and up, and \$10 for ages 5-12.

### Flute Music at Twilight

The Flute Music at Twilight program is offered on select Saturday evenings from 6 to 8 p.m. during quiet off-hours of the monument.

It begins from the amphitheater with a relaxing 1/4-mile walk up the nature trail, providing visitors with an experience of the natural environment along with beautiful views of the two pinnacles. Upon returning to the amphitheater, the program resumes with an informative lecture on topics specific to Chimney Rock such as the Ancestral Puebloan culture, archaeoastronomy theories, the major lunar standstill, geology, etc.

As dusk progresses and stars begin to appear, you will be treated to the haunting melodies of a Native American flute played by our own Martinez. Visitors will gaze in wonder at the heavenly skies and ponder what sig-

nificance they had for the Ancestral Puebloans when they looked up at the same night skies 1,000 years ago.

This is recommended for ages 4 and up. Tickets are \$20 for ages 13 and up, \$10 for ages 5-12, and under 5 are free.

### Purchasing tickets

For tickets for any of these special programs, please visit [www.chimneyrockco.org](http://www.chimneyrockco.org) or call (877) 444-6777. A booking fee applies to each ticket purchased online or through the call center.

Purchasing your tickets in advance is the only way to guarantee a spot for the monthly and annual programs.

Chimney Rock uses a fee system. All vehicles and motorcycles are subject to an activity pass fee of \$20. The activity pass fee provides five days of access to Chimney Rock National Monument.

To purchase your required activity pass, you can:

- Purchase your activity pass in advance at Recreation.gov.
  - Download the Recreation.gov mobile app to purchase your pass in advance or arrive on-site and use the app to provide payment (Android or iOS) by scanning on site QR code.
  - Arrive on-site and pay cash.
- Interagency, Access, Senior, Military and fourth-grader park passes are accepted for national monument access.

Include Chimney Rock in your plans this summer. This Ancestral Puebloan cultural site is located 17 miles west of Pagosa and 3 miles south on Colo. 151.

To view the Chimney Rock National Monument calendar of events, go to [www.chimneyrockco.org](http://www.chimneyrockco.org).

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

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# Sports

## TRACK

### 'My fingers are crossed': Pirates eye state rankings heading into final meet

By Randi Pierce  
Staff Writer

Saturday, May 4, was a good day for the Pagosa Springs High School track and field teams, with both the Pirates and Lady Pirates taking first at the 10-team Terry Alley Invitational and a number of Pirates improving their results by large margins.

The improvements are coming at the right time in the season, according to coach Connie O'Donnell, with the team's final regular-season meet set for Friday and Saturday.

"The day started out beautifully, but the wind became a problem as the day went on," O'Donnell wrote in an email to The SUN about the team's home meet. "The only thing the wind helped was our discus. Overall, our throwers really had a good day."

That good day for the throwers included Abigail Nehring taking the top spot in the state 3A rankings for girls' discus and Aidan Vega hit a "massive" personal record (PR) in the boys' discus, according to the coach.

Nehring took the top spot in the 3A rankings by throwing a distance of 121 feet, 6 inches to take first at the meet.

Nehring, O'Donnell wrote, "had the big performance of the day by adding 5 feet to her discus throw. She is ranked #1 in the state in 3A by a one foot margin."

Malorie Morton took fourth in the event with a throw of 81-5.5, Makaela Denton finished 10th with a throw of 68-6, Parker Frame finished 14th with a throw of 61-7 and Dawson Iverson finished 18th with a throw of 47-5.

On the boys' side, Vega finished second in discus with a throw of 11-2 — 24 feet longer than his previous distance, the coach highlights.

Emile Schneider took 13th in the event with a distance of 69-1.5 and James Beaudry finished 18th with a distance of 62-2.

Nehring took second in the girls' shot put with a distance of 27-6.5. Malorie Morton finished fourth with a throw of 26-0, Frame finished 13th with a distance of 20-9.25, and Denton finished 14th with a throw of 18-3.25.

Freddy Barnas took first in the shot put on the boys' side with a throw of 37-1.5. Vega finished 13th with a distance of 27-11.75, and Schneider finished 17th with a distance of 25-9.75.

The Lady Pirates also saw improvement in a number of other areas and took several top spots.

In the 100-meter dash, Rylie Carr took first with a time of 13.10 seconds. Neveah Evans finished eighth in 14.67 seconds, Trinity Angle finished 11th in 15.28 seconds, Hayden Peterson followed in 12th in 15.32 seconds, Faith Domingo finished 14th in 15.59 seconds, Alia Hibbert finished 21st in 16.90 seconds and Skyler Morton finished 22nd in 16.91 seconds.

Carr also won the 200-meter dash, logging a time of 27.32 seconds. Elissa Mars followed in third with a time of 30.29 seconds, Marlowe Hedgecock finished seventh in 31.83 seconds, Hadley Phillips finished 15th in 33.05 seconds and Hibbert finished 22nd in 37.41 seconds.

Sienna Rose took first in the 400-meter dash with a time of 1 minute, 1.33 seconds. Annie O'Donnell finished in second in 1:01.66.

"On the girls side, Sienna Rose took over a second off of her PR in the 400," the coach highlights. "Again, she and Annie O'Donnell pushed each other to a 1, 2 finish. The wind was pretty rough on the home stretch and I think that if they didn't have such a strong head wind, they both could have gone close to breaking 60. They both looked really strong."

Jayslynn Perea took eighth in the event with a time of 1:12.89, Hedgecock finished 11th in 1:13.49 and Phillips followed in 12th with a time of 1:14.18.

Honestye Sweet finished fourth in the 800-meter run with a time of 2:52.96. Madison Stretton took sixth with a time of 3:04.37. Perea finished eighth in 3:19.63. Lucia Rivera finished ninth in 3:20.10. Marie Smith followed in 10th in 3:21.58. Gwendolyn Tyler followed in 11th with a time of 3:49.39.

Charlotte Duranton finished second in the 1,600-meter run, with Connie O'Donnell noting she took



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Lady Pirate Abigail Nehring throws during the discus competition at Saturday's Terry Alley Invitational at Golden Peaks Stadium. Nehring took the top spot in the 3A rankings by throwing a distance of 121 feet, 6 inches to take first at the meet.

35 seconds off to finish with a time of 6:17.97. Stretton finished third with a time of 6:26.84. Sweet took 10 seconds off her time, according to the coach, and finished fourth with a time of 6:28.07. Rivera finished sixth in 7:23.11. Tyler finished eighth in 8:13.70.

Duranton took 10 seconds off her time in the 3,200, the coach highlights, and she finished second with a time of 13:47.83. Smith finished third in 15:53.73.

Kylie Ketchum finished second in the 100-meter hurdles with a time of 17.80 seconds. Mars finished third in 18.28 seconds, and Eden Conner finished seventh in 21.13 seconds.

"Kylie Ketchum dropped a half second in the 100 hurdles even though she was running into a head wind," the coach wrote. "Elissa Mars and Eden Conner also dropped time into the wind."

Conner finished fifth in the 300-meter hurdle with a time of 1:02.90, and Skyler Morton finished seventh in 1:08.50.

The 4x100-meter relay team of Rose, Carr, Lexi Campbell and Annie O'Donnell finished first in 51.52 seconds.

The 4x200-meter relay team — the same four runners — also finished first, logging a time of 1:47.74.

"The girls 4x200 dropped a full two seconds which is a crazy amount of time for a sprint relay," Connie O'Donnell highlights.

The 800-meter sprint medley relay team of Ketchum, Campbell, Mars and Adelyn Hittle finished second in 2:01.26.

The 4x400-meter relay team — Annie O'Donnell, Ketchum, Hittle and Rose — finished first in 4:24.60, with the coach highlighting the time was a season best.

Jordan Lindstrom finished third in the high jump with a height of 4-7. Ketchum followed in fourth with a height of 4-5, and Iverson finished fifth with a height of 4-1.

The coach notes multiple Lady Pirates added to their distances in the long jump.

Lindstrom took second in the long jump, adding 4 inches to her distance with a jump of 14-5. Mars finished fourth with a distance of 14-1.5. Hittle added 6 inches to reach 14-0.5 and place fifth. Hedgecock finished eighth with a jump of 13-1. Angle logged a jump of 12-11 to finish ninth. Evans followed in 10th with a jump of 12-5.

Campbell finished second in the triple jump with a distance of 32-11.5, and was followed by Lindstrom in fifth with a distance of 28-11 and Iverson in sixth with a distance of 24-8.5.

On the boys' side, Colton Lucero took first in the 100 with a time of 11.27 seconds. Blake Laner followed in third with a time of 11.86 seconds. Harley Armijo followed in fourth in 11.93 seconds, Gavin Carter finished sixth in 12.01 seconds, Barnas finished eighth in 12.19 seconds, Truman Vasek finished ninth in 12.40 seconds, Jeremiah Dean followed in 10th in 12.52 seconds, Jerry Su took 15th in 12.79 seconds, Jonathan Baker finished 16th in 12.81 seconds, Ryder King finished 19th in 13.12 seconds, Jonathan Rodriguez followed in 22nd in 13.33 seconds, Van Halterman took 28th in 13.74 seconds, and Connor Kirkham finished 35th in 14.70 seconds.

Lucero took second in the 200 with a time of 23.72 seconds, with Laner followed in third in 24.54 seconds, Carter taking fourth in 24.97 seconds, Armijo finishing sixth in 25.38 seconds, Barnas taking 14th in 27.87 seconds, Su placing 15th in 27.89 seconds, and Leo Dennis finishing 25th in 29.87 seconds.

Miles Baker finished fourth in the 400 with a time of 56.04 seconds. Jacob Castaneda finished sixth in 58.88 seconds. Connor Thomas followed in seventh in 59.24 seconds. Eli Nehring finished 16th in 1:05.15.

Jesse Beck finished third in the 800 with a time of 2:21.31.

Miles Baker won the 1,600 with a time of 5:08.13, with Thomas following in second with a time of 5:25.99. Trevor Faber finished seventh in 5:56.01. Justin Sewell placed 10th with a time of 6:32.44.

■ See Track A13

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# Terry Alley Invitational

SUN photos/Randi Pierce

Pirate athletes compete at the Terry Alley Invitational on Saturday, May 4. Both Pirate squads took first at the meet held at Golden Peaks Stadium.











SUN photo/Shari Pierce



SUN photo/Shari Pierce



SUN photo/Shari Pierce



SUN photo/Shari Pierce



SUN photo/Shari Pierce



Photo courtesy Kathy Campbell



SUN photo/Shari Pierce



SUN photo/Shari Pierce



Photo courtesy Kathy Campbell



SUN photo/Josh Pike

## Big Spring Clean

Community members clean up around Pagosa Country during the Big Spring Clean on Saturday, May 4, before heading to the community barbecue to celebrate the effort.



SUN photo/Josh Pike



# preview

## ARTS & LIFE

# Pagosa Paddle

Saturday, May 11 • 9:30 a.m. • San Juan River downtown



Photo courtesy Doug Large

May 9, 2024



Photo courtesy Doug Large

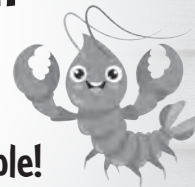
On May 11, the San Juan River will have a surge of boaters competing for cash and prizes during the annual Pagosa Paddle whitewater races. Races will begin at 9:30 a.m. and continue all day.

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Cork & Board Wine Bar: Maxwell Miller, 5 p.m.

The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Jason Rose, 5 p.m.

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The Springs Resort lodge atrium: San Juan Mountain Boys, 5 p.m.

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# Pagosa Paddle whitewater races to be held Saturday

**By Jenny Highum**  
Friends of the Upper San Juan River

On Saturday, May 11, the San Juan River will have a surge of boaters competing for cash and prizes during the annual Pagosa Paddle whitewater races.

Races will begin at 9:30 and continue all day, featuring the slalom, sprint, head-to-head and a down-river parade.

Athletes can compete in one or multiple disciplines: R4 teams, inflatable or hard-shell kayak, and stand-up paddleboards. Community sponsors have donated cash and prizes to honor the top athletes at an awards ceremony to be held at 5 p.m. at The Springs Resort's special pint-tasting event tent.

The Pagosa Paddle is sponsored by Friends of the Upper San Juan River (FUSJR), a local nonprofit since 2005.

FUSJR's primary mission is to promote environmentally sound, socially beneficial and economically prosperous management of the Upper San Juan River and Pagosa Springs community parks experience through education, recreation and environmental awareness.

Every year, the vision is to be better stewards of local river, parks and environment while having fun and encouraging others to do the same.

Hosting competitive fundraising races like Pagosa Paddle in May and the long running CRUISE-A-THONG in July is an example of the groups continued efforts to secure public river access and collaborating on improvement projects relating to the San Juan River and Pagosa Springs community parks.

Not up for paddling? Come out to cheer on the amazing athletes as they go through the downtown water features that make up the whitewater park on the San Juan River through downtown Pagosa Springs.

Spectators can watch the action from above at The Overlook viewing

point, alongside the almost-famous Pagosa Riverwalk or from the healing waters of The Springs Resort in conjunction with its Pints, Pools and Paddles event.

To support, find out more or how to register, go to [friendsoftheupper-sanjuanriver.org](http://friendsoftheupper-sanjuanriver.org).

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# Narrating Archuleta County's food system: Archuleta Food Summit set for Saturday

Healthy Archuleta

The Archuleta Food Summit is coming up on Saturday, May 11, from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Pagosa Springs High School.

Registration is open. You can register at <https://www.foodcoalition4archuleta.org/archuleta-food-summit.html>.

All of us here at Healthy Archuleta would love for you to attend. More than that, we think that, maybe, you need to attend.

Frankly, our local food system is weak. Demands are being placed upon that system that do not show signs of abating. We need to start developing plans about what comes next that take into consideration the whole picture: from our own front doors to our local community and in light of global realities. As best as one can figure it, this means we have to think about where we are going, which is predicated upon where we are, which is derived from some shared understanding of where we have been.

The story of a county, by the name of Archuleta, in a federated state of the United States of America follows the establishment of the Southern Ute Indian Reservation as we know it today by the Brunot Act of 1873 and Grover Cleveland's executive order in 1897 establishing the Jicarilla Apache Reservation. We should also keep in mind those residents who were not part of these Indigenous groups and whose families' presence here predated Colorado's admission to the Union in 1861, the U.S. annexation of Texas in 1845, the independence of

Texas from Mexico in 1836 and even Mexico's independence from Spain in 1821. The boundaries of any narrative of the residents of Archuleta County are based in some part upon the political and cultural boundaries of these two neighboring peoples and those whose families instantly became U.S. citizens through the wave of a pen in 1845.

Our collective local historical imagination of those settlers who occupied Archuleta conjures into life a legacy of cattle ranching and, for those with a deep commitment to historical accuracy, shepherding and logging that reluctantly gave way in the last quarter of the 20th century to a more modern service-based economy.

The historical facts, however, reveal that Archuleta County was, arguably, in the middle of nowhere till the 1950s. Whatever stories we pass along by word of mouth from the county's history that predate World War II have characters drawn from fewer than 4,000 residents. Before the fall of the USSR, the county population peaked at 3,806 in 1940 and did not come close to that number again until 1980, according to census data.

We should bear in mind that this was because it was not easy to get to Pagosa Springs. The road over Wolf Creek Pass was first built in 1911, expanded in 1930 and paved in the 1950s. The infrastructure we use to access Wolf Creek Ski Area and get to Denver only began to look like what we see today in the 1990s. The population of Archuleta County has more than doubled since 1990, and more than tripled since 1980. Nearly all

of that population growth has been in the unincorporated area of the county, while the town population has remained largely stable.

Who lived here and where they lived changed dramatically in the lifespan of the county.

The railroad line that used to serve the county came from the main artery in Chama and through Pagosa Junction (a veritable ghost town today). The depot from this spur line serving the center of downtown Pagosa was located near 7th Street between the elementary and high schools. Some of our oldest residents remember riding this line to Ignacio in their youth.

Up to 200 families that lived in the southwestern quadrant of Archuleta County were displaced in 1962 by the construction of the Navajo Dam and the subsequent flooding that created Colorado's Navajo State Park and New Mexico's Navajo Lake State Park. How many of those 200 families resided in Archuleta County and how many individuals of the 2,629 residents reported in the 1962 U.S. Census data, we do

■ See Summit on next page



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# Jane Austen celebration series planned

By Jennifer Marsh  
Special to The PREVIEW

In 2025, booklovers and libraries around the globe will celebrate the 250th birthday of the beloved English author Jane Austen, whose popular works include "Pride and Prejudice," "Sense and Sensibility," "Emma," "Northanger Abbey" and "Persuasion."

The Ruby M. Sisson Library will kick off the birthday celebration early with a special five-week series June 3 through July 1.

Each week on Monday mornings from 10 a.m. to noon, we will provide opportunities for learning more about one of the most published authors of all time. There will be lots of

laughter, fun, fandom and friendship for readers of all ages.

This multigenerational series will introduce themes relating to Jane Austen's books, stories and film adaptations, including her life as a woman in the late 18th and early 19th centuries, Regency-era English history, food, music, dance, fashion and hairstyles. The series team includes costume designers and musicians.

The highlight will be a tea party with English country dance music. There will be visits from "Flat Jane Austen," a relative of Flat Stanley, as well as cameos with live appearances of local theater actors portraying characters from her works.

In recent years, current authors and podcasters have created mod-

ern-day adaptations of Jane's work for young and more experienced audiences. Books include "Goodnight Mr. Darcy," "Where's Jane," "Little People/Big Dreams: Jane Austen," "Ayesha At Last," "Unmarriageable," "Dear Mr. Knightley," "Heartstone," "The Next Great Jane" and "The Jane Austen Book Club."

The recent Public Television (PBS) series "Sanditon" (starring Theo James and Rose Williams) was based on an unfinished book of Jane Austen's. If you loved "Bridget Jones' Diary" and Netflix's show "Bridgerton," you'll love this new library series.

As Jane might have said, "We would love the pleasure of your acquaintance. Do come and bring a friend."

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# Summit

continued from previous page  
not know. It could have accounted for as much as 20 percent of the county's population at the time (assuming a four-person household).

Why mention this? How is this relevant to a local food system or the food summit? Although it is a circuitous route to the point, our hopes, dreams, fears and the horizons of what we accept as possible are rooted in the stories we tell about ourselves and the world that surrounds us. If we are going to talk about a future for the local food system, perhaps, we might want to nail down a few points about Archuleta's story so we could move forward together.

The portrait painted above reveals that, to some degree, the Archuleta County and Town of Pagosa Springs we relate to today only came into existence in the 1980s — a town that is a pleasant stop for motorists along U.S. 160 who have a taste for hunting, fishing and/or winter sports.

The earlier iteration of Archuleta County begins to fade into memory after 1962. It was a place with close ties to northern New Mexico (Chama, Dulce), Ignacio and Durango. Our county has only recently become accessible.

How we utilize its resources is a question largely undecided because the idea of residential development, economic expansion and commercial agriculture were moot questions

for a county that was hard to get to and largely unknown to those not from the region.

These are far-reaching questions that have implications for the career and technical education (CTE) programs we encourage at our local high school, the kind of workforce development we choose to fund and the kind of lifestyle we advertise to outsiders who want to live the good life we do.

The Archuleta Food Summit is a step in calling these questions and beginning to answer them.

So, whether you farm or ranch or ski or fish or hunt or none of the above, our community faces some choices that will determine the course of its future in a big way. So, you should come to learn and eat and be counted in the conversation.

To learn more about Healthy Archuleta's efforts, please email us at [fsfearchuleta@gmail.com](mailto:fsfearchuleta@gmail.com) or visit our website, <https://www.foodcoalition-4archuleta.org>.

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# Backpacks available for free checkout at your library

By Carole Howard  
PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

With spring here and summer not too far away, we wanted to remind you that we have two backpacks available for free checkout that contain a state park pass, binoculars, a wildlife guide, a trees and wildlife guide, a book about the 42 state parks, and more.

This library benefit is thanks to a partnership between the Colorado Parks and Wildlife, and the Colorado State Library.

The backpacks can be checked out for a full week and renewed for an additional week. They cannot be placed on hold. Consider it a "Lucky Day" pickup item, meaning that if you come in and it's available, you can check it out.

## Early library closure

Your library will close early on Monday, May 13, for a staff meeting at 5 p.m. This is our regular staff meeting schedule — on the second Monday of the month.

## Save the date for bagpipes event

Next Friday, May 17, from 2 to 3:30 p.m., you are invited to a free all-ages event featuring the St. Patrick's bagpipers. You'll learn about bagpipes, kilts and their history, and you will be treated to a demonstration of bagpipe sounds as you explore the unique and beautiful music of this Scottish instrument.

## Lifelong Learning Lectures

The free spring Lifelong Learning Lecture series continues Thursday evenings through May 23 from 6 to 7:15 p.m. with five more informative presentations:

- May 9 will feature Dallas Weaver telling us about his experience hiking Mt. Kilimanjaro from trailhead to the summit.
- May 16 will showcase Cindi



Galabota, library foundation executive director, discussing your library's building campaign.

- May 23 is "North American Monsoon Outlook for Pagosa Springs," a presentation by Arleen Prochazka of Pagosa Weather.

The lectures are free and no registration is required. For more details, pick up the Lifelong Learning Lecture brochure at your library.

## Virtual author talks

Our highly popular free online author talks continue with two opportunities in May for you to interact with New York Times bestselling authors.

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

Tuesday, May 21, at 5 p.m. will showcase Rebecca F. Kuang discussing Asian American representation in literature.

## Dungeons and Dragons

Today, Thursday, May 9, plus May 14 and May 28, 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.

## Preschool playdough tomorrow

Join us for free playdough exploration and fun tomorrow, Friday, May 10, from 10 to 11 a.m.

## Chess Club Saturday

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

## Adult knitting Saturday

Join new and experienced knitters Saturday, May 11, for our free Knitters Circle from 1 to 3 p.m. It is aimed at anyone over the age of 18 who would like to knit together or get some help if you are stuck on your project.

## Shakespeare read-aloud

Shakespeare fans of all ages are invited to join in reading aloud "Twelfth Night" on Mondays, May 13 and 20, from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Call Jenny at (240) 426-7887 for more information.

## Teen/tween art camp

Each month we explore a different style or medium at this free event. In May it's wood burning with guest artist Peg Snyder. Join us Mondays, May 13 and 20, from 4 to 5 p.m. Registration is required.

## Ruby's Book Club next Tuesday

Ruby's Book Club will meet from 2 to 3 p.m. on Tuesday, May 14, to discuss "The Elephant Whisperer" by Lawrence Anthony. 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.

## AARP senior program tomorrow

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 May 17, 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.

■ See Library on next page



The Upper San Juan Watershed Enhancement Partnership Presents

## The Pagosa Gateway River Project Public Open House

May 23, 2024 • 5:30pm - 7pm

The Ross Aragon Community Center

Frito Chili Pie will be provided

Meet the contractor, WEP representatives & project partners, learn about the project & provide valuable feedback!

The Pagosa Gateway Project improves approximately 2 miles of the San Juan River immediately upstream of the Town of Pagosa Springs to promote sustainability in the face of declining flows and warming temperatures.

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# Library

■ continued from previous page

## Knowledge Bowl today

Our free Knowledge Bowl for tweens and teens is today, Thursday, May 16, from 4 to 5 p.m. Test your trivia skills on a wide range of subjects.

## Elementary tutoring

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 beginners, 5 to 6 p.m. for intermediate and 6 to 7 p.m. for advanced students. Please help us share the word about these classes.

## Tech Time

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

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

## Pagosa Adult Learning Services (PALS)

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

## Activities calendars

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

## Downloadable books

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

## Books on CD

"The Cemetery of Untold Stories" by Julia Alvarez combines historical fiction, magical realism and family drama in this story set in the Dominican Republic. "Close to Death" by Anthony Horowitz is a Hawthorne and Horowitz mystery set in an idyllic gated community. "The Second Law of Cultivation" by KrazeKode is an Xianxia Progression fantasy. "Darling Girls" by Sally Hepworth is a thriller about three fostered girls and their controlling foster mother. "Lucky" by Jane Smiley focuses on the life of a talented female rock star.

## Mysteries, thrillers and suspense

"Lost Birds" by Anne Hillerman is the latest in the Leaphorn, Chee and Manuelito Tribal Police series.

## Donation guidelines

When we are open, material do-

nations 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.

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

"Love does not consist in gazing at each other but in looking outward together in the same direction." — Antoine de Saint-Exupery (1900-1944), French writer, poet, journalist and pioneering commercial aviator.

## 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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# You're not forgotten

By Betty J. Slade  
PREVIEW Columnist

Don't forget your mother. She might be the only person who always loved you and believed in you. She prayed for you when everyone else lost hope. She believed that one day you'd get your life together. And you did. There is something about the heart of a believing mother. She is connected to God on your behalf and might be one of the reasons you are where you are today.

She'll always be your mother, no matter where or how she is.

I visited a friend in a nursing home this week. I recognized several people and remembered their lives. Once active and so meaningful to others, now trapped in their bodies because of health reasons and other conditions. We watch them leave us as their lives change and they start to disappear. They have allowed emotional death to take them before their physical death comes.

I saw forlorn faces, empty gazes, lost stares. Many need assistance to move, some in wheelchairs, some with their heads hanging down. They have disengaged, forgotten how to be interesting, and yet they need to see a familiar face or hear their child's voice at the other end of the phone. Some sit and wait, staring at the door for you — disappointed it wasn't you.

I wanted to say to some of the lovely women at the nursing home, "I remember you when you were highly productive, you brought life to Pagosa in your way. You were good mothers; you raised good children. Some of you taught my children in Sunday school and had a big impact on their faith. You are still women of



*Don't forget your mother. She might be the only person who always loved you and believed in you.*

faith; no one can take away what God has put inside you. You are mothers, grandmothers and wives. Don't lose sight of who you are. You are still that person.

"Life has done a turnabout on some of you. Today, you might stare into space. What is going on behind that stare? Are you possibly wondering why you're not in your own home? Why your family has forgotten you? Why you can't feed yourself? Why you are with strange people you don't know?"

"One thing is certain: Jesus hasn't forgotten you. He remembers how he

created you to be before you became you. He has been very generous to you by giving you many days. He has recorded you in His book. It's impossible to disappear from God or to ask the darkness to hide you, for His presence is everywhere. He will bring the light into your night. Trust Him for the days you have left."

To the children, I say, "Your mother is a living story for those around her. She is the taproot of your family. She is that main root that grows straight down into whatever soil in which she is planted. She gives off roots for you and the start of your family and your roots. She is the reason for your existence."

Mothers, while you sit and wait, keep praying. Nothing is more needful at this present hour than prayer that draws its power and the direction from the Holy Spirit. Small in your space, hidden from the human eyes, your hearts are wide open to heaven and the saints in heaven join with you in this operation of God's love.

This message is to encourage mothers who woke up with old pain and new aches. It is in the present we learn to live life. We are reminders to our children. Our lives are immediate. Our lives are brief. We glean understanding from yesterday's trials, but it is today we see the importance and purpose of why we are still around.

Final brushstroke: Yes, the Lord is holding back the next season from you. Someone still needs you here on this earth. He is revealing his glory in you. Wrinkles and sags, your face is full of grace. Those who have eyes of the heart to see, they will see you. You are not forgotten.

Send your comment to bettyslade.author@gmail.com.

*Views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN.*

## New Thought Center to meet Sunday

By Shayla McClure  
New Thought Center for Inspirational Living

The Sunday service on May 12 at 11 a.m. will be a Mother's Day picnic with an outdoor picnic and drumming at Xanadu. There will be drumming for all mothers, Mother Earth and all her children. Bring a dish to share. Text/call (970) 510-0309 for directions.

### Upcoming events

May 9, 6 p.m.: Illuminations with Paul Kriescher: "Living in Harmony with Nature through your home."

May 12, 11 a.m.: Outdoor picnic and drumming at Xanadu.

### About us

The New Thought Center is a 501(c)(3) and promotes philosophies similar to Centers for Spiritual Living and Agepe Centers. We honor all

lifestyles, cultures and religious paths to the divine. The vision of the New Thought Center is to empower possibility through revelation of spiritual truth, and to enhance our members' life experience through self-empowerment, inner peace and being part of an all-inclusive community.

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

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

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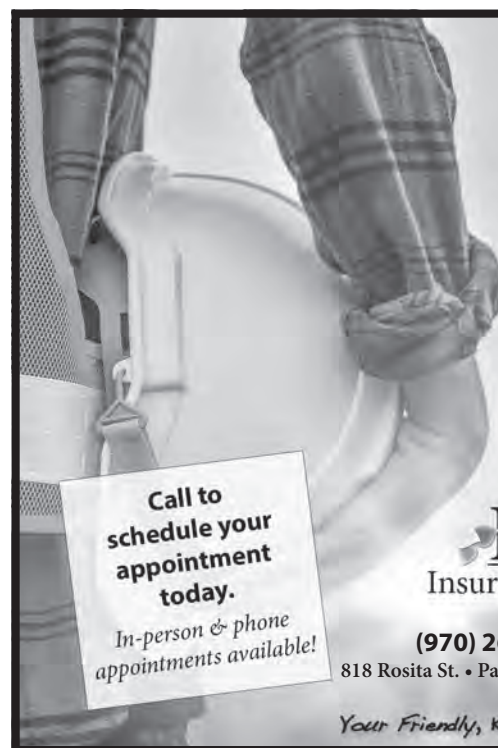
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# What's a mama to do?

By Sami Fortin  
PREVIEW Columnist

Dear Lord,

As I contemplate my own years of being a child with my mother and then becoming one myself, it brings me to my knees. There's no better teacher than the Holy Spirit through your own children.

I don't think I really began to grow until I had to give up all of my time to utterly serve another, another and then another. I give thanks to You for the many mamas who've dedicated their lives to You and are raising their young ones to worship You. Those like myself, who had no clue how to raise them in the way of the Lord, we lift them up to You, and ask you to show them how to pray.

I am grateful to You for a second chance, being able to adopt two more and learn all over again. We make our mistakes and come to depend on Your saving grace. Mine are grown with their own children now; so many changes. Some have been good and some not so good, but one thing never changes — we are family.

This life of raising children and then letting them go is hard, but not so hard when we have You to trust in. Keep moving in our hearts to put You first, to love you with all our hearts and minds, and to listen to how You want our children to be raised.

Help mamas today to know that following You is the best way and teaching our children the same will ensure a bright future for all. For the woman who has never bore children or who lost the ones you gave her, bring mending and healing. Show her in Your word Psalm 113:9; You grant the barren woman a home, like a joyful mother of children. Praise the Lord. Let her rejoice in the God who has different plans than hers. You always know what's best for us.

For the mama raising kids with either mental or physical health issues, strengthen her and remind her: Those who persevere get the reward. The reward You bring will be more that worth it if each of us will give you all we have. Help us to cast our cares upon You, for we know how dearly you care for us. Psalm 108:13: "Through God we do valiantly, for it is He who shall tread down our enemies."

What's a mama to do? She brings a sacrifice of praise. She's been given a new day to serve her family

## A Matter of Faith

*This life of raising children and then letting them go is hard, but not so hard when we have You to trust in.*

and worship the God who gave her breath. For every struggle or difficulty she goes through, she has a mighty God to thank. You've been watching over her and her children to see them safely home. Lord, for those who mourn for their loss, give them your perspective on your plans for eternity.

What's a mama to do? She comes to the throne of grace to receive mercy in her time of need. She lives her life in such a way that's pleasing to You and sharing Your love with all she meets, and her children will call her blessed in the city gate.

Help these mamas to know that You have plans for them and their children, not to harm them, but to give them a future and a hope. Pour out Your glory on all the mamas on this special day that celebrates who they are, not so much for what they do. Because of the sacrifice You made for us, help us all to be a willing sacrifice for You, a pleasing aroma to bless You. Build her up and strengthen her to do all the things You've called her for, especially training her children in the ways of the Lord.

What's a mama to do? Love the Lord, of course, and imitate those

who through faith and patience inherit the promises. In Jesus' name, amen.

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

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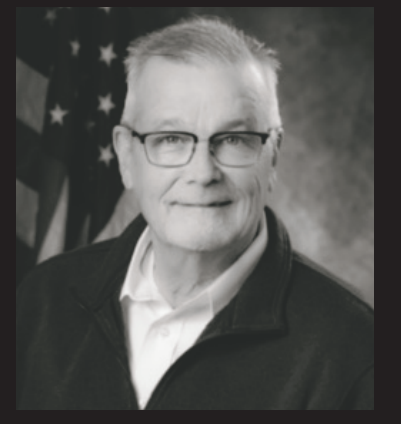
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for County Commission, District 2

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With a long history of public finance experience and a proven track record of financial stewardship, John brings a wealth of experience to the BoCC. His leadership in 2008 was instrumental in helping Archuleta County navigate through one of its most challenging periods ultimately leading to a period of stability and growth.

### COMMITTED

John volunteered to serve as a Financial Task Force member in 2007 when Archuleta County discovered a serious financial crisis. Following that, John served for a period of time as County Commissioner. In addition, he recently sat on the committee to form, and budget for, Archuleta County's new Health Department. He has an unwavering commitment to the fiscal health and well-being of our County. John's leadership, as Commissioner and Task Force Member, not only rescued the county from financial turmoil, but also set the stage for a prosperous future.

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More importantly, let me know your desires for how Archuleta County should spend YOUR money.



### JOHN'S EXPERIENCE

- John moved to Pagosa Springs in 1996
- Worked in the field of Public Finance for 18 years
- Served as a bond analyst for Counties' financials for 8 years
- Served as Chief Financial Officer for 11 years

### EXPERIENCE IN ARCHULETA COUNTY

- 2007 Served on Financial Task Force
- Elected County Commissioner to dig out of a financial hole
- Served on Committee to set up new Health District — 2023

To learn more about John Ranson's campaign for Archuleta County Commissioner, District 2, please feel free to contact John at:  
[RansonforBoCC@gmail.com](mailto:RansonforBoCC@gmail.com)  
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# Preview Calendar

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

## Thursday, May 9

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

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

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

**English as a Second Language.** 4-7 p.m., Sisson Library. Your library offers English as a second language classes. These classes are free. Call (970) 264-2209 or email for more information. Beginning students are encouraged to attend from 4-5 p.m., intermediate students from 5-6 p.m. and advanced students from 6-7 p.m.

**Dungeons and Dragons.** 4-5:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Join the adventure. Preregistration is required.

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

**Lifelong Learning Lecture Series.** 6-7:15 p.m., Sisson Library. Dallas Weaver will share about his experience hiking Mt. Kilimanjaro.

## Friday, May 10

**Preschool Playdough.** 10-11 a.m., Sisson Library. Join for playdough exploration and fun.

**Emotional Freedom Technique Introduction.** 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

**Great Stories Club.** 2-3:30 p.m. Participants will create art based on the book "Between the World and Me" by Ta-Nehisi Coates. Everyone will come away with a free book. Pizza will be provided.

**Build Pagosa Auction.** 5 p.m., Community Center. The event will include a BBQ dinner and drinks, live and silent auctions, live music, and fun. Featured items will be made by high school students and include custom mini bikes, garden sheds, utility trailers, birdhouses and more. Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door. Tickets are available at <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/embed/ticketing/1d92c740-b03a-413a-bf5d-749b977c70ff?modal=true>.

## Saturday, May 11

**Archuleta Food Summit.** 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. To register, visit <https://www.foodcoalition4archuleta.org> or <https://form.jotform.com/240785457148062>.

**Pagosa Paddle.** 9:30 a.m., San Juan River downtown. Whitewater races will begin at 9:30 a.m. and continue all day. Awards will be presented at 5 p.m. at The Springs Resort. For more information and to register, visit [friendsoftheupper-sanjuanriver.org](http://friendsoftheupper-sanjuanriver.org).

**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.

**Paint-a-Pot for Mom.** 10 a.m.-noon, Terry's Ace. All supplies will be provided. Kids should wear clothing for painting.

**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](mailto: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 Varsity Baseball.** 11 a.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Pagosa Springs High School vs. Alamosa.

**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](mailto:loremedina0817@gmail.com) or the church at [admin@centerpointpagosa.com](mailto:admin@centerpointpagosa.com). You can also register online at [www.divorccare.org](http://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, May 13

**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.

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

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

**Shakespeare Read Aloud Club.** 3:30-5 p.m., Sisson Library. Join in reading aloud "Twelfth Night" together. For more information, call Jenny at (240) 426-7887.

**Tween/Teen Art Camp.** 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library.

■ See Calendar on next page



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# Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page**

son Library. Registration required. Art classes for tween and teens. Each month will explore a different style or medium.

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

**Tuesday, May 14**

**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.

**Pagosa Duplicate Bridge.** 12:30 p.m., PLPOA conference room. Duplicate players new and experienced are welcome. We are members of the Durango Bridge Club and play ACBL-sanctioned games with computer-dealt hands for maximum review options. Please email names of playing pair to pagosaduplicate@gmail.com or call (970) 946-6454 for more information.

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

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

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

**Ruby's Book Club.** 2-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Discuss "The Elephant Whisperer" by Lawrence Anthony. Snacks will be provided. Pick up a copy at the library.

**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.

**Dungeons and Dragons.** 4-5:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Join the adventure. Preregistration is required.

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

**Men's Fellowship.** 6 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms.

**Wednesday, May 15**

**Pagosa Catholic Quilters.** 9 a.m.-2 p.m., John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms. For more information,

contact Maxine Everaert at quilters@ihmjp2.org.

**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.

**Mountain High Gardeners.** 10-11:30, Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. It is time to start planting perennials and cold-weather vegetables. The discussion will be preparing soil and getting starter plants going indoors. This is a great opportunity to exchange knowledge with other vegetable and flower gardeners about the joys and challenges of gardening in our area.

**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 High School Booster Club.** 5:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School commons area.

**Spanish Fiesta Committee.** 5:30 p.m., Senior Center dining hall, Community Center. All are welcome.

**Thursday, May 16**

**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. Teens and tweens can test their 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 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.  
**Lifelong Learning Lecture Series.** 6-7:15 p.m., Sisson Library. Cindi Galabota, library foundation executive director, will share about the library's building campaign.  
**San Juan Stargazers.** 7 p.m., Com-  
 ■ **See Calendar on next page**

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"Studies have shown that being just a half a liter dehydrated can increase your cortisol levels", according to Registered Dietitian, Amanda Carlson, the director of performance nutrition at Athletes' Performance, and a trainer of world class athletes.

"Cortisol is one of those stress hormones. Staying in a good hydrated status can keep your stress levels down. When you don't give your body the fluids it needs, you're putting stress on it, and it's going to respond to that," says Carlson.

"You're actually likely to get more dehydrated when you're under stress, because your heart rate is up and you're breathing more heavily, so you're losing fluid," says Renee Melton, MS, RD, LD, director of nutrition for Sensei, a developer of online and mobile weight loss and nutrition programs. "And during times of stress, you're more likely to forget to drink and eat well. Just getting enough fluids helps to keep you at your best during times like these."

Stress can cause dehydration, and dehydration, can cause stress. It's a vicious cycle. You can break it by building more water consumption into your day. "Stress can result in many of the same responses as dehydration -- increased heart rate, nausea, fatigue, headache-- so if you can remain hydrated you can reduce the magnitude of the physiological responses we have to stress," says Trent Nessler, PT, DPT, MPT, managing director of Baptist Sports Medicine in Nashville.

Source: Water and Stress Reduction: Sipping Stress Away. By Gina Shaw. <http://www.webmd.com>

**Bonus Tip:** Visit <http://www.AmazingFacts.org> for spiritual refreshment every week!

**"Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation." Isaiah 12:3**

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# Seventh-day Adventist® Church

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# Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

munity United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Kurt Hillman will present on the Milky Way.

## Friday, May 17

**Senior Planet AARP Program.** 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Seniors aged 60 and up are invited. Join seniors across the country in discussing aging issues via Zoom.

**Fresh Conversations.** 1:30 p.m., Senior Center. Sample some healthy, delicious food while you learn about the differences between refined and whole grains and how to select healthier alternatives to refined carbohydrates.

**Bagpipes and More.** 2-3:30 p.m. Learn about bagpipes, kilts and their history from the St. Patrick's bagpipers.

## Saturday, May 18

**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.

**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.

**Pokemon Club.** 12:30-2:30 p.m., Sisson Library. For ages 6-11. Bring your cards to battle against others who love Pokemon too. No experience is required.

**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.

**Second Chance Prom.** 7-10 p.m., Community Center. An '80s-themed fundraiser for the Pagosa Community Initiative.

## Monday, May 20

**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.

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

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

**Shakespeare Read Aloud Club.** 3:30-5 p.m., Sisson Library. Join in reading aloud "Twelfth Night" together. For more information, call Jenny at (240) 426-7887.

**Tween/Teen Art Camp.** 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. Registration required. Art classes for tween and teens. Each month will explore a different style or medium.

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

## Tuesday, May 21

**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.

**Pagosa Duplicate Bridge.** 12:30 p.m., PLPOA conference room. Duplicate players new and experienced are welcome. We are members of the Durango Bridge Club and play ACBL-sanctioned games with computer-dealt hands for maximum review options. Please email names of playing pair to pagosaduplicate@gmail.com or call (970) 946-6454 for more information.

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

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

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

**English as a Second Language.** 4-7 p.m., Sisson Library. Your library offers English as a second language classes. These classes are free. Call (970) 264-2209 or email for more information. Beginning students are encouraged to attend from 4-5 p.m., intermediate students from 5-6 p.m. and advanced students from 6-7 p.m.

**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.

**Virtual Author Talk: Rebecca F. Kuang.** 5 p.m., virtual. Listen live or recorded. Rebecca F. Kuang will discuss Asian American representation in literature. For details and to register, go to <https://libraryc.org/pagosalibrary/upcoming>.

**Men's Fellowship.** 6 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms.

## HUD Publisher's Notice



## EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

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

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

# SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

## Fun By The Numbers

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

### Here's How It Works:

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

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

ANSWER:

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264-2100

# Mental Health Awareness Month: accessing mental health care using insurance

By Vincent Plymell

Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies

Every year, May is designated as Mental Health Awareness Month. In support of this effort, the Colorado Division of Insurance (DOI), part of the Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA), is sharing new consumer resources to help people access mental health care using their insurance.

Getting mental health care is often a challenge — from overcoming stigma to understanding what's covered and what it will cost, to finding the right provider to meet your needs.

“Your mental health is just as important as your physical health,” said Colorado Insurance Commissioner Michael Conway. “And just like physical health care, there can be barriers to getting mental health care. The division has a number of resources to help Coloradans overcome these barriers to get the care they need.”

The DOI has two new consumer resources — videos to help people navigate insurance and their mental health benefits:

- “Understanding Your Mental Health Insurance Benefits”: [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1F6M9X4VtYoTY5B1i\\_PjNMLu-](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1F6M9X4VtYoTY5B1i_PjNMLu-kAEOUow3k/view)

kAEOUow3k/view.

- “How to Use Your Insurance to Find a Mental Health Provider”: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Jnm5DVEciZNEBalm7KGFNYNQOKdB6cuC/view>.

## Other mental health parity and insurance information

In addition to these videos, the DOI has developed resources for Coloradans who have questions about how their insurance works with mental health and substance use disorder services.

Federal and Colorado law requires that health insurance companies cover services for mental and behavioral health conditions like they cover other medical conditions, like diabetes or heart disease — this is called “Mental Health Parity.” There are Mental Health Parity requirements on issues that include:

- What you pay: copays, coinsurance, deductibles, and out-of-pocket maximums (collectively referred to as cost-sharing).

- How much treatment you can get: limitations on the use of services, such as limits on the number of inpatient or outpatient visits that are covered.

- Utilization management tools: such as pre-authorization or step therapy requirements.

- Which doctors you can see: having adequate health care providers in-network to provide necessary services, coverage for out-of-network providers and considerations for geographic location.

Visit our website on mental/behavioral health and insurance at [https://doi.colorado.gov/insurance-products/health-insurance/consumer-resources/mental/behavioral-health-and-insurance?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=govdelivery](https://doi.colorado.gov/insurance-products/health-insurance/consumer-resources/mental/behavioral-health-and-insurance?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery) to learn more.

Contact the DOI Consumer Services Team with any questions or problems you have with your health insurance as you or your family members access mental health care, including questions about: information from your health insurance company, lack of mental health providers, limiting of benefits or services, lack of communication and denied claims.

The Colorado DOI Consumer Services Team can be reached at (303) 894-7490, [DORA\\_Insurance@state.co.us](mailto:DORA_Insurance@state.co.us) or [doi.colorado.gov](http://doi.colorado.gov) (click on “file a complaint”).

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# PAGOSA SCENE . . .

## AMERICANA PROJECT GUEST ARTIST CONCERT

PREVIEW photos/Randi Pierce

Scene ... a night of music at Pagosa Springs High School. On Wednesday, May 1, students in the Americana Project class at Pagosa Springs High School presented original and cover songs to open for Ariella during the program's annual guest artist concert.



# Bird of the Week



Photo courtesy Byron Greco

This week's Bird of the Week, compliments of the Weminuche Audubon Society and Audubon Rockies, is Franklin's gull.

Because members of the gull family of birds are commonly called seagulls, it may seem odd to spot one so far from the ocean. In reality, many gull species travel far from the ocean to breed on freshwater marshes and lakes, and this is one of them. Most often spotted during spring migration walking the shoreline with other gulls at Windsurf Beach in Navajo State Park, this gull has also been found stopping to rest on local lakes and even on the golf course.

Determining the species of a gull, many of which appear similar, can be a complicated endeavor. In spring breeding plumage, the black head and bold white crescents outlining the eyes of Franklin's gulls, along with considerations of range, narrows the field. Their upperparts are dark gray, and bill and legs reddish.

The Franklin's gull is another long-distance migrant, wintering along the coasts of Chile and Peru. There they forage in salt water along the coastlines and as far as 30 miles out to sea. Northern migration starts in February, when they begin their long flights from South America. They travel through Mexico and up the middle of the United States to nest in the prairie pothole regions of northern states and in the midsection of Canada.

North Dakota, where peak breeding season lasts from late May to mid-July, typically hosts several large breeding sites. Thousands of pairs may nest in close proximity in noisy colonies. Pairs build floating nests in areas of open water interspersed with vegetation. Decaying nest material must continually be replaced to prevent the nest from sinking, and stealing material from a neighbor's unguarded nest is common practice.

Franklin's gulls are flexible and opportunistic in their feeding habits. On land they eat mostly insects and earthworms, and in water add a small amount of vegetation and small fish to their diet. They will forage in agricultural areas, pastures, wetlands, sewage ponds, lakes, estuaries and landfills. Since they eat insects that are agricultural pests, they are considered beneficial to humans.

This year the focus of World Migratory Bird Day, celebrated on May 11, is the importance of insects to the survival of birds worldwide.

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



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# Immunization clinic set for May 22 at Pagosa Senior Center

By Rose Chavez  
PREVIEW Columnist

The Archuleta County Public Health Department (ACPHD) welcomes the community to join us on May 22 for an immunization clinic being held at the Pagosa Senior Center — located at 451 Hot Springs Blvd. — from 9 to 11 a.m.

The ACPHD will be offering spring COVID boosters, recommended for seniors 65+; as well as TDap; Hepatitis A&B; MMR; and Pevnar 20 for those who qualify (must be able to present recent vaccination records to confirm eligibility or self-pay option available).

If you are unable to attend, the ACPHD's doors are open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily to the community, and they would love to meet you to learn how to best improve our community's health.

For more information on services available, please contact the ACPHD office at (970) 264-2409.

## Emotional Freedom Technique

On May 10 there will be an introduction to Emotional Freedom Technique (EFT) at 1:15 p.m., with a May 24 follow-up session.

The technique is an evidence-based method which uses acupressure trigger points and elements from other therapeutic practices.

Extensive research and more than 100 published studies have shown EFT to be effective with lowering both psychological and physiological symptoms of anxiety, depression, PTSD, insomnia, stress and more.

Once you've learned EFT, you can use it at any time you need it. Those who utilize the technique often report a reduction in symptoms in the first 90 seconds. You are invited to join Judith Newman, LPC (licensed professional counselor), for an introduction to EFT on May 10 at 1:15 p.m.

In this hour, you'll learn the process and have an opportunity to try it out for yourself.

You are invited to bring a personal issue/problem/event/challenge about which you feel a high level of anxiety, fear, depression or nervousness. On a scale of 1-10 (10 being high anxiety), choose something that you would rate above a seven. You will not share details with anyone; however, you will have the opportunity to apply EFT to this issue during the workshop.

At the end of the workshop, you will receive a handout with all the information you need to continue using EFT on your own.

After you've had a few weeks to practice, you're invited to a follow-up session on May 24 at 1:15 p.m. In this session you'll be able to ask questions and we'll practice a few rounds of EFT

## Senior News

to make sure you're comfortable with your new EFT skills.

### Fresh Conversations

Are you interested in learning more about carbohydrates in your diet? Join Archuleta Seniors Inc. (ASI) on May 17 at 1:30 p.m. at the Pagosa Senior Center, 451 Hot Springs Blvd., for Fresh Conversations.

You will get to sample some healthy, delicious food while you learn about the differences between refined and whole grains and how to select healthier alternatives to refined carbohydrates.

You will also walk away with helpful information about the benefits of physical activity and how to fit it into your daily lives.

We will provide you with a newsletter about the topic you can take home. Come join us for a great conversation.

### Picnic in the park

On Friday, May 31 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., join ASI for a picnic in the park.

Join us as we renew a tradition of the past hosting lunch for older adults and community members of all ages in Yamaguchi Park, located at 684 S. 5th St.

Local band Acoustic Picnic will provide music and generate an ambiance of connection and relaxation. All community members are invited to join.

We just ask that you please RSVP for lunch by 9 a.m. on May 30 by contacting or texting the ASI office at (970) 264-2167.

### Healthy aging yoga therapy class series

This spring, a Healthy Aging Yoga Series will be offered in person at the Senior Center on Mondays from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

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

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

Classes will be educational for participants to utilize practices in daily life and are meant for all levels

of experience with yoga.

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

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

### Bingo

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

Bingo will be on May 3, May 31, June 7 and June 21.

Participation is free, and we ask you bring yourself and a friend for joyful fellowship. We will provide prizes from local businesses for all winners, and snacks will also be provided.

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

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

### T'ai Chi Chih

The Senior Center will be offering T'ai Chi Chih with accredited instructor Patti Popovich each Thursday from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. in the dining hall to support older adults who want to discover purpose and fulfillment in this transitional phase of life.

T'ai Chi Chih is not a martial art,

■ See Senior on next page



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# Senior

■ continued from previous page

but rather a tool for self-healing. Softness, flow and effortlessness are the guiding principles in this practice.

All classes will be free for older adults (age 60 and better) and will last approximately one hour in the dining hall.

No special clothing or equipment is required.

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

## Senior Conversations

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

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

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

## Scrapbooking Club

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

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

Bring your scrapbooking projects — or any crafting project that you may want to work on with the group. If you would like to be added to the mailing list to receive notifications each month of the upcoming meeting along with handy tips and tricks for scrapbooking, please send your request to [copenhavercreative@gmail.com](mailto:copenhavercreative@gmail.com).

[gmail.com](mailto:copenhavercreative@gmail.com).

## 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, May 9 — BBQ pulled

pork, coleslaw, baked beans, garden salad, blueberry cobbler and milk.

Friday, May 10 — Lemon orzo pasta, green beans, garden salad, fruit, vanilla yogurt and milk.

Monday, May 13 — Lemon herb chicken, quinoa rice pilaf, broccoli, garden salad, fruit, sunrise muffin

■ See Senior on next page

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# Senior

■ continued from previous page and milk.

Tuesday, May 14 — Chipotle-lime tilapia with tartar sauce, sauteed greens, dinner roll, garden salad, fruit, cottage cheese and milk.

Wednesday, May 15 — Singapore coffee pork ribs, jasmine rice, squash casserole, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Thursday, May 16 — Vegetable minestrone soup with focaccia bread, garden salad, fruit, pineapple upside-down cake and milk.

Friday, May 17 — Grilled turkey, Swiss tomato sandwich on sour-dough bread, sweet potato fries, garden salad, fruit, mini Danish 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 kits for your personal use. These kits are available to anyone in the public who needs affordable access for health promotion and disease prevention.

### Mahjong

Mahjong is a 19th century Chinese tile-based game that is commonly

played with four players. Each player receives 13 tiles with a goal to make matching sets and pairs (like poker). To win, a player must form four sets and one pair.

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

### Medicare call by appointment

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

### Mindful drawing

Mindful drawing is an easy-to-learn, relaxing and fun way to create beautiful images by drawing structured patterns. Join our friendly instructor, Roberta Strickland.

Classes are every Wednesday at 1:15 p.m. in the Senior Center. This activity is open to all ages. Help us create an intergenerational community. For those under 18 and/or with disabilities, you are welcome to join us, but we kindly ask you to please bring an adult chaperone with you.

### Bridge

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

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

### Hand and foot card game

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

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

No experience is necessary, so come willing to learn.

### Board vacancies

The ASI Board of Directors has multiple vacant positions open. The terms are three years with an option to renew for an additional term.

Potential candidates should be at least 21 years of age or older and must have a passion for adult and aging services.

### 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).

## The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

### ACROSS

- 1 Tijuana locale, briefly
- 5 Urge
- 9 Two together
- 13 Russia's \_\_\_\_\_ Mountains
- 14 "Get outta here!"
- 15 City of India
- 16 Economic downturn
- 18 Bagel variety
- 19 Go on and on
- 20 Ready for a nap
- 22 Salma who played Frida Kahlo
- 24 Insolence
- 25 Hiker's route
- 27 Audited, with "on"
- 29 Many a time, in poems
- 32 Drunk, in slang
- 34 Paper clip alternative
- 36 Summit
- 37 Musical work
- 39 Obey
- 40 Essential
- 42 Lent an ear
- 44 Miscalculate
- 45 Stack at a shower
- 47 Done in a rush
- 48 Kind of surgeon \_\_\_\_\_
- 49 "All kidding \_\_\_\_\_"
- 51 Grinder's instrument
- 55 Tree trickling
- 58 "Satchmo" Armstrong
- 59 Sometimes life throws this
- 61 Peruvian range
- 62 Spot for a dummy
- 63 "Poor Things" actress Stone
- 64 Command to Rover
- 65 Matches a poker bet

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13				14				15				
16				17				18				
19				20				21				
		22	23				24					
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40				41			42			43		
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51	52	53				54				55	56	57
58						59				60		
61						62				63		
64						65				66		

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66 Place to brood

33 Phone button

50 Socks away

35 Out in front

51 Uninteresting

38 Be of two minds

52 Top-drawer

41 Place to exit

53 Hardly genteel

43 Belonging to thee

54 Mystical old letter

46 Shepherds' charges

56 Some charity

48 Corbeled window

57 Builder's map

60 London's Big \_\_\_\_\_

### DOWN

- 1 Put under?
- 2 Kind of code
- 3 Pavement pounder
- 4 Stein contents
- 5 Progeny
- 6 Solidly built
- 7 Prepare
- 8 "It's true!"
- 9 Gives in
- 10 Varied mixture
- 11 Holier-than-\_\_\_\_\_
- 12 Help for the stumped
- 15 Fails to
- 17 Fashion sense
- 21 Elevates
- 23 Drew a bead on
- 25 Scottish title
- 26 Indy entrant
- 28 Ticket category
- 29 Magic words from Ali Baba
- 30 Naval force
- 31 Presidential nickname

### Answers to Previous Crossword:

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

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# Creation Care Pagosa provides tips for reducing plastic pollution

By Sarah L. Riehm  
Creation Care Pagosa

Dr. Terry Root, renowned scientist and Nobel Prize recipient, came to Pagosa Springs on April 25 to give a talk to an enthusiastic crowd about "Planet vs. Plastics: Innocent Wildlife and Plastic Don't Mix."

Plastic and microplastics have become a real threat to the health of humans and wildlife.

According to Root's research, we have created more than 5 billion tons of plastic since it became widely available in the 1950s. All of it is still on the planet, because it never biodegrades. In landfills, it just disintegrates into smaller and smaller pieces — microplastics and nanoplastics — that wind up in our food and water supply.

"The plastics industry has all of you duped," she said. "Plastic really isn't recyclable, despite our best efforts to do so. Only 9 percent of all recycled plastic is actually used again."

"Most of the rest ends up in our oceans and landfills."

"Microplastics are present in the meat, veggies, fruit and grains we eat. In fact, the average American ingests the equivalent of one credit card's worth of plastic each week, and inhales a similar amount. Autopsies have shown that microplastics are present in most of our organs, lungs, blood, brains, placentas and even mother's milk."

Recent research shows that microplastics have become a major component in the plaque that builds up in arteries, and thus a major contributor to heart attack, strokes and premature death.

So, what can we do? Here is Root's recommendation of 14 key things we all must do to reverse the dangerous trend of plastics polluting our environment and food supply:

1. Stop using single-use plastic shopping bags. Worldwide, humans use 5,600 billion plastic bags per year, and they are causing significant pollution in oceans, beaches and waterways. Take reusable cloth bags when you shop or paper if you must.

2. Stop using plastic produce bags for fresh vegetables at the grocery store. Take cloth drawstring produce bags with you, or just put your fresh fruit and vegetables directly into your shopping bags.

3. Stop buying plastic water bottles. Carry your own metal reusable water bottle.

4. Stop buying plastic detergent

bottles. Buy detergent in a cardboard box or, better yet, use the small, dry detergent sheets. They work great.

5. Buy juice and milk in glass or paper packaging.

6. Tell your waiter when you sit down at a restaurant that you do not want a plastic straw.

7. Don't use plastic wrap or single-use Ziploc-style plastic bags. Use glass or silicone storage containers for leftovers.

8. Stop using plastic garbage bags.

9. Absolutely no Styrofoam. Take your own container from home as a "doggie bag" at restaurants.

10. Don't use microfiber dryer sheets. Some brands make a microfiber-free dryer sheet, or use wool dryer balls.

11. Buy clothing and bedding made from natural fibers like wool, linen, bamboo, hemp or cotton. Thirty-five percent of the microfibers found in our oceans is sloughed off during the laundry process from clothing made with plastic-based materials such as polyester, spandex, nylon or rayon, according to the research done by the International Union for Conservation of Nature. Also, don't do laundry so often. Fleece clothing is particularly guilty. In an alarming study recently released by the University of California at Santa Barbara, researchers found that, on average, synthetic fleece jackets release 1.7 grams of microfibers each wash.

12. Remember to protect wildlife. Cut open any circular plastic device

— usually used to hold together soda or beer cans. These have caused irreparable harm to birds and sea turtles.

13. Avoid foods that have a known tendency to contain microplastics. One big culprit is sea salt — more than 90 percent of samples tested in a lab had significant amounts. Table salt, too. The only brand found that was free of microplastics was the Redmond brand, made in Utah. Avoid ocean filter-feeders like clams, oysters, mussels and shrimp.

Other offenders are nylon tea bags, bottled water, canned beer made with municipal water (not filtered) and fresh or frozen "ready meals."

14. Do not reheat food in plastic containers, which can leach into your food. Use glass or ceramic containers to reheat in the microwave.

Root's talk was hosted by the Community United Methodist Church and sponsored by Creation Care Pagosa, a Christ-centered organization for environmental stewardship and community education.

If you would like to be on the mailing list for our monthly meeting announcements or future events, contact sarah.riehm@gmail.com.

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).

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



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# TASTY SALAD WORD SEARCH

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

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

## WORDS

- BAR
- BEETS
- BUTTER
- CAESAR
- CELERY
- CHEESE
- CROUTONS
- CRUNCHY
- DIET
- DRESSING
- GARNISH
- GREENS
- ICEBERG
- OLIVES
- ONIONS
- RADISHES
- REFRESHING
- ROMAINE
- SALAD
- SPINACH
- TOMATOES
- TOPPING
- TOSS

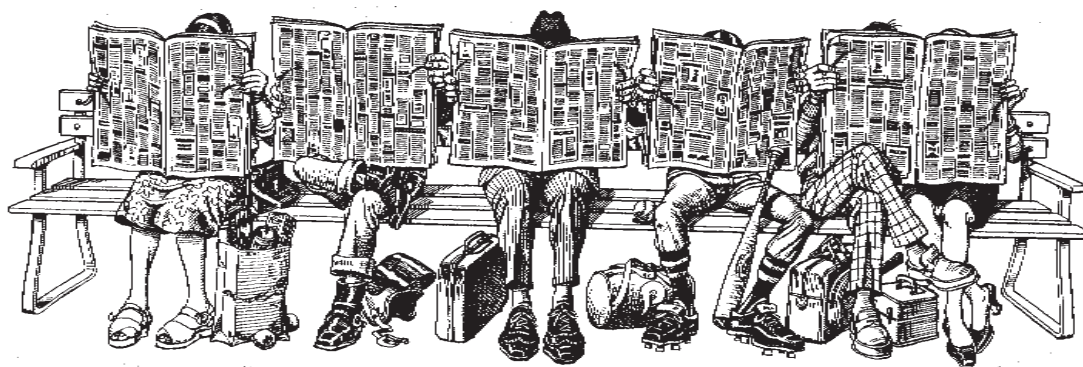
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# Bobcats need protection, not killing for their pelts

By Ted Williams  
PREVIEW Columnist

Unlike the rest of modern wildlife management, killing bobcats is unregulated, driven not by science, but by fur prices. We're stuck in the 19th century, when market hunters, for example, shot boatloads of waterfowl with 10-foot-long, 100-pound "punt guns."

## Opinion: Writers on the Range

Now, there's a campaign in Colorado — via a November 2024 ballot initiative — to ban hunting and trapping of bobcats, Canada lynx and mountain lions, though lynx are already listed by the state as endangered and supposedly protected.

As a lifelong hunter and angler, I'm told by a group called the Sportsmen's Alliance that it's my duty to defend bobcat trapping and hunting against such "antis" as those pushing the ballot initiative.

But a true sportsmen's alliance of ethical hunters — Teddy Roosevelt, George Bird Grinnell, William Hornaday, Congressman John Lacey, and other Boone and Crockett Club members — got most market hunting banned in 1918.

It persists today as commercial trapping and hunting of bobcats. Ethical hunters eat what they kill. Bobcat trappers and hunters discard the meat and sell pelts, mostly for export to China and Russia.

Yet the Sportsmen's Alliance warns me that, after bobcat trapping gets banned, "hunting ... and even fishing are the next traditions in the antis' crosshairs."

I don't buy it. I've heard this mantra since the 1970s, including from my then-colleagues at the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife who, like me, were fed and clothed by fishing, trapping and hunting license dollars.

This from veteran bobcat researcher Dr. Mark Elbroch of the native cat conservation group Panthera: "Colorado treats bobcats pretty much like they're treated throughout the West" (except for California where killing is banned without a special permit).

"There are hardly any regulations in any state. No bag limits, no data on how many are out there. The hunting community gets super excited about what it calls the 'North American Model of Conservation,' and one of the tenets is you don't kill for profit or trade. Trapping violates that model in every way.

"Bobcat trapping is the extreme — selling fur for luxury items. It's sickening."

From December through February, Colorado bobcat hunters and



Photo by courtesy of Animal Wellness Action

A bobcat caught in a trap.

trappers may kill as many bobcats as they please. And hunters are permitted to pursue bobcats with hounds, an inhumane practice for both cats and hounds.

Bobcat traps are also unselective, catching other species such as Canada lynx, raptors, otters, foxes, martens, badgers, opossums and skunks.

"Lynx, a close relative to bobcats, are naturally attracted to bait set for bobcats and are harmed, injured or killed when caught in traps," said Colorado veterinarian Christine Capaldo.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife attempts to rebut such reports with: "No lynx in Colorado has ever been reported as accidentally trapped by bobcat fur harvesters."

Of course not. What bobcat trapper would jeopardize permissive regulations by filing such a report?

So, in addition to an estimated 2,000 bobcats, how many non-target animals are killed by the roughly 4,000 bobcat traps annually set in Colorado? No one has a clue.

Colorado requires "humane" live traps. But they're scarcely more humane than legholds and less humane than quick-kill conibear traps.

During winter, bobcats keep warm by finding shelter. In live traps they're immobilized and exposed to cold, rain, snow and wind. Traps must be checked every 24 hours, but there's virtually no enforcement, so live-trapped bobcats sometimes suffer

for days. When traps do get checked, bobcats get bludgeoned or strangled.

Before European contact, bobcats prospered throughout what are now the contiguous states. Caucasian immigrants quickly set about rectifying this with an all-out war on the species, behavior that flabbergasted the Indigenous and for which their only explanation was that the pale faces were insane. By the early 20th century, bounties and government control had extirpated bobcats from much of the U.S.

Now bobcats are slowly recovering in every contiguous state save Delaware. That's an excellent reason not to kill them.

Bobcats belong to all Americans, the vast majority of whom prefer them alive. But they're managed for the very few people who kill them for profit. And from a strictly financial perspective, live bobcats are more valuable than dead ones.

A study published in 2017 in the journal Biodiversity and Conservation, based on money spent by wildlife photographers, set the value of a single live bobcat at \$308,000. Today the average bobcat pelt fetches \$100.

Ted Williams is a contributor to *Writers on the Range*, [writersontherange.org](http://writersontherange.org), an independent nonprofit dedicated to spurring conversation about the West. He writes about fish and wildlife for national publications. Views expressed do not necessarily represent those of *The SUN*.

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	4	19	32
10			21
21	22	28	

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6	4	6
1	15	2

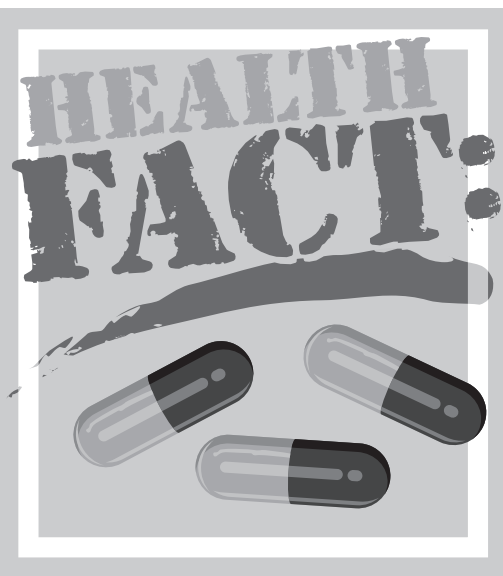
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## HISTORY

- **1536:** THE QUEEN OF ENGLAND, ANNE BOLEYN, IS ARRESTED AND IMPRISONED.
- **1611:** THE KING JAMES VERSION OF THE BIBLE IS PUBLISHED FOR THE FIRST TIME.
- **1920:** THE FIRST GAME OF THE NEGRO NATIONAL LEAGUE BASEBALL IS PLAYED IN INDIANAPOLIS.



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*Answer: Get caught reading*

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## How they SAY that in...

**ENGLISH:** Page

**SPANISH:** Página

**ITALIAN:** Pagina

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ANSWER: NEWSPAPERS

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**LOCAL MOVING SERVICES.** Reasonable and reliable. (970)946-2061.

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**PAGOSA SPRING STORAGE** has all size units available. 24 hour access, gated, with security cameras. Call for specials. (970)731-0007 www.pagosaprinngstorage.com.

**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.

**Cole Plumbing**

24/7 Service  
**EMERGENCIES SAME DAY**  
in most cases



**Adam 575-574-7284**  
Located in Pagosa Springs

**Tree Removal & Trimming Fire Mitigation, Lot Clearing**

Licensed & Insured

Call San Juan Arborists LLC  
(719) 849-9515  
(706) 410-4997  
free quotes



**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.

**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.

**ROOF REPAIRS, LEAKS, RESCREWS, INSPECTIONS.** 35+ years experience. Call Jeff at Blair Roofing. (970)903-6556.

**ROOF RESCREWING, CHIMNEY CLEANING,** roof repairs, dryer vent cleaning, valley repairs. Arlie's Chimney Sweep. (970)731-2543.

**SENIOR COMPANION/CARE-ASSIST** Services in Pagosa Springs. Services include a wide range of tasks. Call for questions and pricing at (970)325-3585.

264-2100

# Classifieds

264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

## HELP WANTED

**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/](http://taramandala.org/connect/employment-opportunities/).

**LOOKING FOR CONSTRUCTION LABORER/** Carpenter to help in a growing business. Please call (970)844-4140.

**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](mailto:racheldevloo@gmail.com).

**MOUNTAIN SPIRITS IS SEEKING** customer service associates. Must be available nights and weekends. We offer \$16 p/h to start, accrued vacation/personal time, performance-based bonuses twice a year, and employee discounts. Please apply in person.

**NORTH PAGOSA MARATHON** is hiring a full-time cashier nights and weekends. Competitive wages. Please apply in person at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

**OWNERS, THERE IS A LONG TERM RENTAL SHORTAGE IN PAGOSA SPRINGS.** We have a waiting list for approved tenants. Need all types of rentals. Call us today for lowest commission and highest customer service. All you have to do is wait for your rent check to come in. We do the rest! Rocky Mountain Realty & Rentals (970)507-1192.

**PAGOSA LIQUOR IS HIRING** a full-time cashier. Please come and apply in person at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

**PAGOSA 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](mailto:employment@jandjinc.net).

**PHYSICAL THERAPY TECH** Rocky Mountain Physical Therapy has an opening for a full time Physical Therapy Tech. We are looking for a dependable, energetic multitasker who will enjoy helping people recover from surgeries, injuries, accidents and other health issues to join our team. No prior experience necessary. We offer competitive pay, \$16- 18 per hour, and benefits including paid holidays, paid sick leave, 401k plan, and a profit-sharing program. Please submit resume to [RMPT 117 Navajo Trail Dr., Suite T or email to rockymountainpt@yahoo.com](mailto:RMPT117NavajoTrailDr.,SuiteToremailto:rockymountainpt@yahoo.com).

**PONDEROSA LUMBER IS SEEKING** a person for a yard associate/ driver position. Lumber experience and/or CDL license is a plus, but not necessary. Duties may include delivering loads to job sites, as well as helping customers in the yard, loading/ unloading trucks and providing inventory support. We offer competitive wages based on experience and a benefit package that includes Holiday Pay, Paid Time Off, 401(k) and Medical/ Dental insurance for full-time employees. Please apply in person at 2435 Eagle Drive in Pagosa Springs.

## HELP WANTED

**ROOF LABORER NEEDED** with some construction experience. Will train. \$20-\$25/hour to start. (970)749-0830.

**SEEKING PART-TIME HELP.** For landscaping, experience helpful. Must have valid drivers license and transportation. Contact Eric. (970)946-2061.

**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](http://subway.com), or in person.

**SUMMIT TRANSPORT** is looking for equipment operators. If interested, call Mike McDonald at (970)749-4797.

**THE PIEDRA PARK METROPOLITAN IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (PPMID)** located in Arboles, CO is requesting Water Plant Operator qualifications (RFQ's) from interested individuals and/or contractors. The position requires a C Treatment license and Type 1 Distribution. The position requires ensuring the Water Plant is compliant with all aspects of Colorado State regulations, including maintenance support, troubleshooting, and preventative maintenance of all water plant and distribution systems. Must be able to be on-call and report to the plant within 45 minutes for emergencies. Pay is dependent on qualifications and experience. Please submit information to the P.O. Box listed above. For any questions please contact Ray Torres via cell phone at (970)749.3190.

## BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

**BUSINESS FOR SALE.** SOS Draining Opening, established drain cleaning business including equipment, 4x4 F-550 box truck with lift gate, 2008 Chevy box van with lift gate. Good reputation, training. Asking \$250K. Serious inquiries only. Call Steve (970)903-9104.

**PRIME LOCATION NEAR NAVAJO** State Park. 1.6 Acres, Gas station, liquor store, convenience store, restaurant, motel, post office. \$1.65 million. AP-1. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

## FOR SALE

**2004 WESTWOOD POP-UP** camper in great condition for sale \$4,500. (970)585-9098.

**2020 LANCE** bumper pull TRAILER, model 2375. Original owner, used twice, new. \$40,000. Call or Text (970)749-4640.

**2021 GEO PRO** 19FD trailer with Murphy bed, off-grid solar system, and many upgrades. \$21,500. Call or text (469) 534-2812.

**AVON RAFT** with electric motor and battery, \$485. Pagosa Springs area. (505)804-2814.

**AVON RAFT.** \$1,200 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.

## FOR SALE

**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.

**GRASS CUTTING KIT.** 2 mowers, 2 edgers, blower, cart. \$800 takes all. (970)382-1285.

**NEW 20' CONTAINERS FOR SALE** or rent. We deliver to homes or businesses. Pagosa Springs Storage (970)731-0007.

**OUTDOOR VEHICLE STORAGE SPACES** available. 16', 20', 25', plus indoor 12'x20'. Winter specials starting at \$60. Pagosa Springs Storage. Gated with security cameras. (970)749-1500.

**SELL OR TRADE YOUR GUNS.** We buy for cash or trade it. No hassle. Licensed, bonded, insured. San Juan Trading Post, 635 San Juan St. (970)731-PAWN (7296).

**SHARK STINGRAY 150** side by side. Nice frame, reverse, extra wheels. Engine doesn't run. Steering brake, seats, belts, lights, disc brakes. Great parts or project. \$200 OBO. (970)507-0240.

**TRAVEL TRAILER.** 2020 Freedom Express 192 RBS. \$19,500. (970)389-2595.

**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.

## PETS

**ADOPT FROM THE Humane Society.** Stop by or call (970)731-4771. You'll be amazed at what we have to offer. [www.humanesociety.biz](http://www.humanesociety.biz).

**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. Look for info on: [leslieslittles.com](http://leslieslittles.com).

**MAMA, BLACK AND WHITE,** outdoor (not feral) kitty with kittens. Free to a loving home. (970)731-5098.

## AUTOS

**2017 KIA SORENTO EX Premium Package** SUV 4D in very good condition. 95,000 miles, 25 MPG Highway, AWD with Locking Differential, 2.0L Turbo, 18" Alloy Wheels, 1st and 2nd Row Leather Seats, Heated front Front Seats, UVO 7" Touchscreen with Android Auto and Apple CarPlay, SiriusXM Radio, Bluetooth, Push Button Start with Smart Key, Remote Start, 2nd Row Window Shades, Fog Lamps, Heated Outside Mirrors with Turn Signal Indicators, Privacy Glass, Roof Rails, Power Folding Side Mirrors, Blind Spot Detection, Rear Cross Traffic Alert, Smart "Hands Free" Power Liftgate, Cargo Cover and Tray, 2 Remote Keys. \$16,900. Contact Angelene at (970)264-4321.

**GUARANTEED CREDIT APPROVAL!** 4X4 Auto Sales. 21698 Hwy. 160 West, Durango. (970)385-7940.

## YARD SALES

**BE SURE TO CHECK** for more yard sales in the Too Late To Classify section.

**ESTATE SALE FOR JEFF LEAVENWORTH.** Friday and Saturday, May 10th and 11th. 8a.m. sharp. Households, furniture, antiques, decorative items, TVs, every tool known to man. Two cargo trailers, miter saw stands, hand tools, power tools, wet tile saws, ladders, ammo, a gun safe, camping, generator, shop cabinet system, firewood, wheel barrows, carved bear, lawn mower, tool boxes, pool table, lumber, refrigerator, yard tools and so much more. Hwy. 160 west, right on N. Pagosa, left on Capitan, left on Balfour Court, house #25. Rain or Shine. AEHPOS.

**STORAGE UNIT SALE.** Friday May 10th, 9 -3 and Saturday May 11th, 8 -4. All Purpose Storage, Units C49 and 50 off Rob Snow.

## 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.

## COMMERCIAL FOR RENT

**PAGOSA VALLEY PROPERTIES:** Offering Lewis St. Office Suites available from 238 SF to 755 SF, and priced from \$400 - \$700/mo. Excellent for a studio or professional office space. Call (970)889-2022 for more information.

## VACATION RENTALS

**MILLION DOLLAR VIEWS** at Pagosa Lakes resort. Furnished, luxury 4 bedroom, 3 bath with garage. No pets. Monthly \$4250. (970)749-1500.

**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 bath with storage. Vista Sub-division, park, access to lake and rec center. \$1750. (719)850-8680.

**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, [pagosaspingsrealty.com](http://pagosaspingsrealty.com).

**ADORABLE FURNISHED** 320 sq ft. tiny home on acreage. Available June 7th or so. Utilities included. No Pets. TP-20. \$1500/month. (970)731-8599 or visit [teampagosa.com](http://teampagosa.com).

**AVAILABLE MAY 15.** 2 and 3 bedroom in 4-plex. \$1,469, 2 bedroom. 3 bedroom, \$1,569. Great location. 5 minute walk to Pagosa Lake. Washer/ dryer, dishwasher, ATC. Most utilities paid. No pets. Call John for details (720)960-4910.

**LONG TERM RENTALS AVAILABLE.** Call Team Pagosa (970)731-8599, 46 Eaton Drive, Suite #1, [pagosaspingsrealty.com](http://pagosaspingsrealty.com).

**ONE AND TWO BEDROOM APARTMENTS** available. 303 S. 7th Street, downtown Pagosa. Rent \$1,300 to \$1,750. (720)470-2653.

**OVER THE GARAGE APARTMENT.** Furnished. 1 bedroom. Living, Dining and Kitchen. Bonus room. Large deck overlooks mountains, sunsets and lakes. Furnished outside deck. Includes WIFI, electric, gas, water, sewer, trash pickup, cable TV, washer and dryer. Walk to City Market and bus. No pets. No smoking. 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](http://teampagosa.com). AVAILABLE NOW.

# 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

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150+ SW Colorado  
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 FULL LT TENANT SCREENING  
 NATIONWIDE ADVERTISING  
 ON CALL 24 HR 7 DAYS



**RESIDENTIAL RENTALS**

**COMMERCIAL**

**HOMES FOR SALE**

**LAND/ BUILDING SITES**

**LAND/ BUILDING SITES**

**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)264-6960, www.habitatArchuleta.org.

**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.

**OWN YOUR OWN BAR AND GRILL** by Navajo Lake. The Lone Wolf Bar and Grill, on 1 Acre \$450,000. AP-4. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

**HOMES FOR SALE**

**Christie Calderwood**  
 SRS, ABR, ePRO  
 Serving Sellers & Buyers  
 970-946-6856  
 christie@jimsmithrealty.com

**20 MINUTES** from Durango. 4 Bedroom, 3 Full baths with office on 5 Acres. Carport and shed with no HOA \$475,000. AP-12. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

**64 ACRES, 46 SHARES OF IRRIGATION.** 3 bedroom, 2 bath home. 3 garages and shed, 3-3 phase electric outlets. Brand new Generac Generator, Pastures with beautiful views, too many extras to name them all. \$995,000. AP-10. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

**NEED HELP FINDING A HOME?** Call Wen Saunders (970)903-0038. Condo: 2 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, Owner Finance \$300s. Mobile Home: 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, 1512 SF, on 3 lots \$530,000. Keller Williams Realty Southwest Associates.

**NEWLY REMODELED, LODGE HOME** Hobby farm on the Stollsteimer Creek. 3 bedrooms, 2 bath. Detached two car garage carport, fenced in yard, small barn, and large shed. Motivated Seller!! \$675,000. AP-11. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

**3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, 1 ACRE** with great cell service, country views and 10 minutes from town. \$235,000. AP-9. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

**SEASONAL CABIN:** 1 Bedroom, 3.3 Acres, Mountain Views (\$90s). 1.3 Acres Parcel: includes Septic, Water Cistern, Electric, Driveway, Building Pad, Metal Storage Unit (\$100s), Tiny Home and RV (at additional price). Wen Saunders (970)903-0038. Keller Williams Realty Southwest Associates.

**LAND/ BUILDING SITES**

**1.19 ACRES WITH VIEWS OF NAVAJO LAKE.** All utilities nearby. \$99,000. AP-18. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

**1.2 ACRES, MOUNTAIN VIEWS,** electricity near, No HOA, close to town. \$35,000. AP-13. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

**1.48 ACRE COMMERCIAL LAND.** Highway frontage. \$99,000. AP-19. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

**1.62 FLAT BUILDABLE ACRES** with mountain Views, all utilities accessible. Located in the Ranch Community, within minutes of town. \$220,000. AP-21. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

**35.81 ACRES OF AGRICULTURAL LAND** at the end cul-de-sac with national forest access. Power and Water accessible. Also comes with a full set of house plans. \$300,000. AP-15. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

**5 BEAUTIFUL ACRES.** Centrally located, all utilities near. \$250,000. AP-14. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

**5.25 ACRES** Mountain views flat buildable. Located between Allison and Ignacio \$120,000. AP-20. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

**DOWNTOWN, MULTI-FAMILY** .52 acre -3 lots, views, close to river, all utilities available. \$500,000. AP-17. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

**MOUNTAIN VIEWS, MEADOWS.** Unique high elevation and complete privacy. 5.6 acres bordering national forest, (970)769-3588 blancoretreat@gmail.com.

**ONE ACRE LOT,** all ready for your new home with newly installed all utilities, four bedroom permitted septic system, power and insulated pump house. \$165,000. AP-16. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

**PAGOSA INVESTMENT LAND OPPORTUNITIES:** WITH City/Sewer Water: (Pacifico) 5+ Acres, NO HOA (\$100s), (Paradise) 1/4 Acre (\$40s), (Saddle) 1/4 Acre, backs greenbelt (\$40s), (Caddy) 1/4 Acre, golf course (\$80s), (Clint) 1/2 Acre, gated, guest house stays available (\$90s). NO HOA, Seasonal RV Welcomed: (Crooked) 3.94 Acres, 2 parcels (\$40s), (Gun Barrel) 1+ Acre, backs tribal land (\$40s). More Land Available, Call For List! Wen Saunders (970)903-0038. Keller Williams Realty Southwest Associates.



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.

**TWO ADJACENT 5 ACRES LOTS.** Available Separately. Meadows 4. Details at www.BLANCA257.com. Scott (970)731-4421 or fscott409@outlook.com.

Email us at  
 classads@  
 pagosasun.  
 com  
 to submit  
 your  
 classified.



Photo courtesy Lisa Scott

Members of the local San Juan Pi Beta Phi alumnae club gathered for a garden party at the home of Lisa Scott on a lovely spring afternoon May 3 to celebrate the sorority's Founders' Day and the club's Golden Arrows, women who have been Pi Beta Phi members for 50 years or more. Seated, left to right, are: Mary Rothchild, Joni Rose and Ann Bubb. Standing, left to right, are: Carole Howard, Melissa McDonald, Paula Tennant and Lisa Scott. Missing from the photo is Kelly Maestas. Pi Beta Phi was founded in 1867 at Monmouth College in Illinois at a time when only five state universities admitted women. Today there are 135 collegiate chapters in the U.S. and Canada, and nearly 300 alumnae clubs around the world. Scott is grand president of the entire global organization.

## Getting Ready for Camping?



Let us get your Vehicle and Camper ready for the road.

Shocks and Struts,  
Suspension Upgrades and Repairs,  
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**24** HOUR  
TOWING &  
EMERGENCY  
ROADSIDE  
ASSISTANCE

## Black Hills Energy warns customers of reported phone scam attempts

By Jason Auslander  
Black Hills Energy

Black Hills Energy has received reports from customers of attempted scam calls where the customer is told their bill is delinquent and their service will be turned off if they don't pay immediately over the phone or call an 800 number and provide payment.

If you receive a call requesting immediate payment, do not call the requested number back, and do not make a payment. Customers can verify their billing status by logging into their account at [blackhillsenergy.com](http://blackhillsenergy.com) or by calling customer service at (888) 890-5554.

### Additional tips

Don't give in to a high-pressure call seeking personal information — if someone calls claiming to represent your local utility and they demand immediate payment or personal information, hang up and call the customer service number on your utility bill or verify your billing status by logging into your account online.

Do not provide your Social Security number, credit card numbers or bank account information to anyone during an unsolicited phone call or an unannounced visit.

Black Hills Energy does not request payments with gift cards.

Learn more at [www.blackhillsenergy.com/scams](http://www.blackhillsenergy.com/scams).

Your source for  
community news.

The Pagosa Springs **SUN**

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

## Early Deadlines

for the issue of May 30

Display Advertising: Noon, Friday, May 24

Legal Advertising, Articles and Letters:

Noon, Thursday, May 23

Classified Advertising: Tuesday, May 28, 10 a.m.

Too Late to Classify: Tuesday, May 28, 3 p.m.

Call today to place your advertisement!

970-264-2100

The Pagosa Springs SUN will be closed  
Monday, May 27, in observance of Memorial Day

The Pagosa Springs **SUN**