



The Pagosa Springs

SUN

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PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147

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VOLUME 116 — NO. 36, THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 2024

School district presents draft budget

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

The Archuleta School District Board of Education (BOE) held a work session on Tuesday, May 28, in which Assistant Finance Director Eric Burt presented the 2024-2025 draft budget for the district.

Burt began the presentation by noting a few highlights in the budget, which included the total program funding at \$18,924,881, a 6.8 percent increase from the previous year. The district's per-pupil funding is \$11,782, an 8.5 percent increase from last year.

He explained that the per-pupil funding is a larger increase compared to the total program funding "due to the fact that secure rural money is now a part of the formula."

Total projected revenue is listed at \$21,218,546, Burt noted, explaining that, of that total, \$929,106 is considered as "additional" or "new money."

From the additional \$929,106, 80 percent of that, or \$743,285, was allocated to salaries/benefits and 20 percent, or \$185,821, was allocated to

■ See Budget A8

Town tables decision on sale or lease or property to LPEA

By Derek Kutzer
Staff Writer

On June 4, the Pagosa Springs Town Council tabled its decision on whether it will sell or lease a portion of town-owned property on Trujillo Road to La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) for the installation of its new substation.

The property in question is located at 2140 County Road 500 and is the location of the Archuleta County-run

■ See Town A9

Graduation 2024



SUN photos/Randi Pierce

Graduates take part in the traditional cap toss at the end of their graduation ceremonies on Saturday, June 1. Pagosa Springs High School held its 114th annual commencement, while San Juan Mountain School celebrated its fourth annual commencement.

High school's class of 2024 earns more than \$800,000 in scholarships

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

Pagosa Springs High School (PSHS) students, staff, family and friends gathered at Golden Peaks Stadium on Saturday, June 1, to celebrate 79 graduating seniors.

The class of 2024 had 10 students earn the distinction of gaining a 4.0 GPA: Amelia Berndt, Rachel Berndt, Karis Blackman, Jack Hittle, Elissa Mars, Natalie Mashue, Ray Meade, Jeidy Moreno Echavarría, Annie O'Donnell, Keaton Robel and Maggie Su.

The class had six students earn the distinction of a 3.9 GPA: John

Cloward, Brooke Huddleston, Kynsle Limebrook, Hadley Phillips, Marie Smith and Lucy Taylor.

The three graduates earning the distinction of a 3.8 GPA are Harley Armijo, Frederick Barnas and Bailee Shallenberger.

Those in the National Honors Society with a GPA of 3.4 or higher are Armijo, Seth Aucoin, Amelia Berndt, Rachel Berndt, Blackman, Elijah Castro, Cloward, Dieter Denen, Donovan Galabota, Trey García, Logan Gebhard, Chase Harper, Jatzirir Hernandez-Arenivar, Hittle, Huddleston, Dylan Blake Laner, Riley Laugel, Limebrook, Jordan Lindstrom,

Mars, Mashue, Patrick Matney, Meade, Echavarría, O'Donnell, Annabelle Parker, Phillips, Robel, Shallenberger, Smith, Su, Joaquin Talamante, Taylor, Jaden Tuggle-Reed, Colton Wilkins and Monique Young-Martinez.

The following is a list of the scholarships awarded to graduates provided by PSHS Guidance Counselor Mark Thompson.

Aucoin: American Legion Scholarship, \$1,000; ASU Vice President Scholarship, \$1,000, renewable; Benny Lohman/Vets for Vets Scholarship, \$1,000; Colorado Mesa Presidential, \$5,000, renewable; Northumbria University

Football Scholarship, \$3,000; UCCS Chancellor's Award, \$10,000; UNC Provost Scholarship, \$10,000; University of Central Florida Pegasus Gold, \$14,000; Western Colorado University Scholarship, \$3,500, renewable.

Amelia Berndt: Brown and Gold Commitment, \$7,500; Deacon Pat Memorial Scholarship, \$2,000; TRIO Scholarship, \$1,000.

Rachel Berndt: Community Offset Marijuana Impact Fund, \$850; Copper Dome Scholarship, \$3,000; CUP-John Graves Memorial Scholarship, \$1,000; Deacon Pat Memorial Scholarship, \$1,000. ■ See Scholarships A8

County moves forward with land purchase for admin building

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

At its June 5 meeting, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) approved drafting a letter of intent to purchase a piece of property south of U.S. 160 near South Pagosa Boulevard for the construction of a new county administration building.

This action followed the BoCC hearing a proposal from local real estate agent Shelley Low and developer Doug Dragoo, representing Colorado Outdoors, for the construction of a new county administration building at the site at a May 21 work session.

Low opened the discussion, explaining that the proposed building would be part of a planned development on the south side of U.S. 160 between South Pagosa Boulevard and the U.S. 160/Pinon Causeway intersection.

She explained that the land is "very level" and is located near City Market and Pagosa Springs Medical Center

■ See Purchase A7

County road projects ongoing

Light Plant Road closed, U.S. 84 work continues

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

A variety of road work is ongoing in Archuleta County, including the milling and repaving of County Road (CR) 119 (also known as Light Plant Road), stabilization on U.S. 84 about 8 miles north of the New Mexico border and magnesium chloride application on a number of county roads.

County road projects

Archuleta County Road and Bridge Manager Eric McRae explains in a communication that CR 119 closed on June 4 and is expected to be closed for "upwards of 120 days" for a "full depth restoration."

In an interview, Archuleta County Communications Specialist Ashley Springer indicated that the road will be closed to all but traffic from homes in the area and the closure will be for the entire length of the road between Apache Street and U.S. 84.

McRae states that the county staff are currently completing magnesium chloride application on CR 200.

He adds that the next roads to be treated will be CR 500 and CR 302, with crews moving south along U.S. 84 to apply magnesium chloride to roads in the southern portion of the county after that.

McRae also states that work on the North Pagosa Boulevard culvert project where the road crosses Martinez Creek is expected to be finished by the end of the week, with the application of an asphalt patch over the culvert area scheduled to occur on June 10 and June 11.

He adds that this work will involve lane closures on North Pagosa Boulevard where the patch is being applied.

The county is currently waiting until next week for asphalt to be available to begin utilizing the hot box asphalt reclaiming trailer that the county purchased this year for pavement patching, McRae explains.

He adds that the county received the trailer last week.

Manhole projects

Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) District Engineer/ ■ See Road A9

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Opinion

The Pagosa Springs SUN

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OUR VIEW

School's out, but there's still plenty to learn

Each week in The SUN and The PREVIEW, we include numerous opportunities for folks of all ages to gather, whether for storytime at the library, lunch at the Pagosa Senior Center, pickleball at the new courts or any number of other regular activities. We also feature events and opportunities available for residents and visitors of all ages to learn or try something new.

And those opportunities seem to multiply when the warm weather hits.

We often hear comments from visitors and those new to the community that they're surprised by how much our little town has going on, and sometimes even we're surprised by the number of articles and ads there are for things to do (like take in live music or theater) on a regular basis.

This week and last it hit us just how many opportunities there are to learn something new surfacing right now, no matter that most area schools are done for the summer.

The opportunities to learn definitely

haven't stopped.

Last week, among other opportunities, were the start of the Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library's annual summer reading program (which is for all ages, stretches until August and features three different choices this year) and the annual Life at Chimney Rock Festival, which offered a small glimpse into the lives of those who called the amazing Chimney Rock area home (Chimney Rock National Monument is open all summer, with the Chimney Rock Interpretive Association hosting numerous events to make your trip there more interesting and meaningful).

This week and weekend, for example, you could learn about classic cars, the universe, our local wetlands and growing your own food. You could learn or brush up on your chess skills, learn a new art skill or learn a new card game. Teens can even learn survival skills.

If you're looking to get outside to learn and get some exercise at the same time,

Pagosa Country harbors amazing wealth — not just in the form of the mountains, valleys, streams, archaeological sites, wildlife, chances for outdoor recreation, but also in the talented, dedicated and smart individuals who make it their work (or hobby) to share the richness that surrounds us and what it means.

You'll find several opportunities to take walks to learn about plants, geology, area wetlands, birds and more, and any number of guide books if you're more of a self-led learner.

If you'd like your learning to be slower-paced, take in any of the upcoming concerts slated to benefit area nonprofits and about what those organizations do to make our community better.

No matter what your area of interest is, this summer, we challenge you to join us in taking advantage of some of these opportunities to learn something new, discover a new place or take on a new hobby.

Randi Pierce

LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

100 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
June 6, 1924

C.D. Horner and Frank Jordan are sure putting the Archuleta county roads in good shape. They have worked the road to the state line, something new. Now another consummation devoutly wished for is a bridge over the arroyo near the B. Lonne farm. That would open up a new road and be a tremendous convenience to a lot of people. That is up to La Plata county. When we get R.P. Hott for commissioner we will get something done in this part of the county.

The town board met in regular session Monday night and passed a new ordinance regulating the motor and other traffic within the corporate limits of the town. The board also took up the proposition of building a pipe line to carry city water to Hilltop cemetery. It was decided that the town was unable to do this, but would superintend the job providing the pipe and labor were furnished. The Women's Civic club has undertaken the task of raising the funds for that purpose. Those wishing to donate either money or labor will please call at First National bank.

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
June 3, 1949

The growth of the Pagosa Springs area is accurately reflected in the growth of the telephone company as evidenced in the new directory delivered this week by the job printing department of the SUN.

According to Mr. J.F. Thiele, owner of the Pagosa Springs Telephone Company, telephones in town have increased since VJ Day from 88 to 200. The telephones in the rural area have shown an increase from 87 to 104. The number of business telephones in town has increased from 30 to 55. In addition to the increased number of telephone subscribers, Mr. Thiele has made many improvement in the service and equipment.

The Red Ryder cartoon in the daily papers last week had one scene where a sign reading "Pagosa Springs, 18 miles" was clearly visible. This is very good publicity for the town and county and was made possible through the ability and efforts of Mr. Fred Harman, author of the Red Ryder cartoon. Mr. Harman never misses a chance to give his home country a good ping.

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
May 30, 1974

Fishing is reported as good in most of the county, when the wind is not blowing. Stream fishing is improving a great deal and some nice catches are being made in higher lakes as they open up and the ice melts.

Dry weather continues in the area. Fire danger is very high and everyone is cautioned to use extreme caution while hiking, camping, traveling, or working in the woods. The fire danger is particularly high at low and medium altitudes, with higher altitudes still having a little snow in spots.

A large fire destroyed the lumber stock of the San Juan Lumber Co.'s Durango mill last weekend. The fire did not damage the mill or machinery and plans are now underway to rebuild some of the lumber storage sheds and to get the plant back into operation. The local mill of the company is operating at full blast in an effort to bring the company inventory back to a desirable point.

25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
June 3, 1999

Two long-time Archuleta County residents asked for continued road maintenance at Tuesday's regular meeting of the county commissioners.

"I'm sure you'll do what you want anyway," said Billie White-Evans. "But we've owned acreage on Fawn Gulch Road over 40 years and the county has always plowed the road. We're both over 70 and physically handicapped. We don't want to sell to subdividers. We've raised our children here and we expect another four or five generations of children could be raised on this property."

Neighbor Helen Girardin, another area old-timer, accompanied White-Evans.

White-Evans concern is prompted by publicity concerning county re-evaluation of road maintenance policies, including the possibility that many roads will no longer be maintained or even have snow removal.

"We're not talking about what we want, we're talking about what we need, our way of life," White-Evans said. "We need access year around. If we have an accident at our home we need to get out. We can't afford to be poor any more. Do we have to join the subdivision mania just to live? We don't want blacktop or magnesium chloride. We just want to get in and out."

From the Sept. 26, 1991, Pagosa SUN — County Commissioner Mamie Lynch and Clifford Lucero, L&M Disposal owner, conducted a ribbon cutting ceremony at the Recycle Center Monday morning. Located in the south parking lot of Our Own Hardware, the collection booth has individual stalls for the depositing of smashed aluminum cans, washed glass bottles or jars, sacked newspapers, and cleaned and smashed tin cans. The center is in the process of getting a recycling contact for plastic containers.



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5/23	69	33	NA	NA	-
5/24	69	40	NA	NA	-
5/25	65	41	NA	NA	-
5/26	70	34	NA	NA	-
5/27	72	36	NA	NA	-
5/28	79	39	NA	NA	T

Pagosa Springs
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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.

Moderate conservatism

Dear Editor:
2024 will be the year that logical, moderate thinkers, can bring the State of Colorado back to moderate conservatism. To accomplish this we have to start in the voter booth in November by encouraging the unaffiliated and independent voters to help us moderate conservatives in our choices.

I am NOT suggesting the unaffiliated or independent folks swear allegiance to Republicans, just help us to unseat those who are interfering with the state and country's historic run as a Constitutional Republic, and pushing us in the direction of Totalitarianism.

The current party in power has moved us markedly in the direction of not allowing the purchase of gas powered law mowers by 2025, because of pollution standards. Ignoring that on any given Friday and Sunday there are thousands of cars idling on major east west roads because of traffic jams. Since 2020, smoke from wildland fires in California and Canada has also contributed to the pollution factor and is being ignored by SEVERAL State Democrat politicians, including the Governor. They

have also ignored the challenges of EV's in a state such as ours. By 2030, there will be an excessive tax on gas powered vehicle purchases, ignoring EV's have been the cause of several fires in homes, in places like Vail, Centennial, Erie twice, Boulder and a couple other towns where firefighters do not have the financial resources to purchase specialized blankets for Electric Vehicle fires.

We also need to remember the Wolf Re-Introduction debacle, with only 8 COUNTIES saying yes. Or the fact that ActBlue PAC is based in Massachusetts and California, with no offices in Colorado and ignores the 14th and 15th Amendments and continues to raise funds for Democrats running for office in Colorado who don't care what we think.

Please help us. Talk to your friends and family on both sides of the Continental Divide and encourage them to vote for change in November. Then help us to retire those Conservatives who have allowed Democrats to be irrational for 20 years.

Dave Bishop
Louisville, Colo.

Trump

Dear Editor:
Well Trump's not doing so well w/ his legal trials. First he's highly likely to fail at appealing his felony conviction on 34 counts. Next if you count the wins vs losses he's 0 for 4...nope, make that 0 for 12 as he lost all the election challenges. Not to mention, he's got 4 more trials hanging. And this is by MR. Sue'm... crush'em Trump.

But wait...wait, several billionaires are lining up to support him; and that will be more cash than is necessary for election purposes. Strange they wouldn't hire a felon but they'd support one for President whose also...a sex molester! But those bagmen aren't the worm that will turn the election for him...votes will. What worries me is these bagmen are going to drop an incredible amount of money...and money is far more important to them than America. Therefore for the very first time, I'm worried about the honesty of the election process!

Tough fact but true, most of America's wealth is owned by less than 5% of citizens and guess who those folks are supporting...our...question is why? There was a 'middle class' but just because you drive a new truck pulling a BIG RV doesn't mean you have the educational/cultural background for that economic position. More importantly, why would anyone in the 95% knowing choosing Trump which will lead to their servitude?

Like it or not, it's no longer an issue of left or 'woke' politics vs. the right...that BS is long gone; It really has become a question of the have's vs the have not's in who controls the country. Hey, you can have a career, go to church, get married./kids.etc in Russia...why not settle for that here...who cares about the Ukraine or Taiwan...just don't buck the system!.

Dave Blake

Cemetery cleanup

Dear Editor:
We would like to thank the town and especially the crew that have worked so hard to clean up Hilltop Cemetery. Since a family member is buried there who was born in 1860 guess that qualifies my husband's family as a "pioneer family". When I moved here 49 years ago I was surprised by several things. First my phone was on a party line with the neighbors and then in the spring my mother in law ask if we would help clean the graves. Most of my

immediate family are in a perpetual care cemetery in Nebraska with the oldest being born in 1833. To my surprise she literally meant clean up her family's graves as thanks to cousin Judy she takes care of the father's side. Through the years several have been in charge but ultimately ended up with us. Last year after purchasing a battery mower and loading the rakes, etc. it was a real pleasant surprise to see the area had been mowed and all those fire hazard pine cones and needles were cleaned up. This year we went early while the crew was working and Gary immediately noticed the lilac bush was uprooted and laying there. He told the worker that he doesn't remember the last time it bloomed, was in the way, and glad they were getting rid of it. Since I don't get back for memorial day it is nice to know the graves are maintained, I can order fresh cut flowers delivered, and that the American Flags can be seen on the graves of my father and uncles who served in WW One and my brother in the Navy during Viet Nam. I wonder how many service men and women are buried up there in overgrown lots that don't even get that recognition. I guess for some a back to nature cemetery is what they prefer but for several members of this family we prefer a manicured one so we can read the headstones and remember family and friends.

Faye and Gary Bramwell

Tyrannical administration

Dear Editor:
I disagree with John's premise that this election is about the cost of a Big Mac vs Democracy. Every time I hear an anti-Trumper talk about the loss of democracy if Trump is elected, I ask myself - as compared to what?

We are currently living under the most tyrannical administration in history. An administration that blatantly ignored a Supreme Court decision so it can give away taxpayer money to buy college students' votes, arbitrarily shifting loan debt from the person who incurred it, and agreed to pay it back, to taxpayers without Congressional approval is a flagrant disregard of not only the Supreme Court but the rule of law.

One of the biggest examples of Biden's autocratic behavior is his
■ See Letters A4

Letters

The SUN welcomes letters from readers.

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

All letters must:

- be 500 words or less
- include the actual first and last name of the author
- include the author's address and daytime phone number
- be received by The SUN by noon on Tuesday (deadline may move up due to a holiday)

Letters will be limited to two per month per letter writer.

Letters quoting other people must contain proper attribution.

There is no guarantee letters will be published.

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

If necessary, only one letter pertaining to a candidate or political issue will be printed in each edition up to three weeks prior to the election.

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

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A Send-Off in Style

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Business

Town rezones properties along Goldmine Drive

By Derek Kutzer
Staff Writer

On May 23, the Pagosa Springs Town Council approved the second reading of Ordinance 1005, which rezones certain properties along the western portion of Goldmine Drive, amending the official zoning map for the area.

The change shifts the properties within a section known as Block C of Rock Ridge Estates from mixed-use corridor (MU-C) to commercial zoning.

An agenda document on the matter explains that the eastern properties along Goldmine Drive have been zoned commercial since 2009, when the town's current zoning map was adopted, with the western properties being zoned MU-C.

Most of the businesses on the road "currently contain business operations much more aligned with uses

allowed in a 'Commercial' zoned district," the document states.

Community Development Director James Dickhoff explained, at a previous meeting, that the change was consistent with the town's adopted comprehensive plan from 2018, which envisioned the entirety of Goldmine Drive as a commercially zoned area.

The proposed change was prompted by a property owner along the street contacting the town regarding the rezoning of the remaining properties, Dickhoff explained.

Staff then recommended that the town "process the rezoning of the remaining properties ... as one Quasi-Judicial process consideration, versus each property owner submitting separate rezoning applications," the agenda document states.

"Any owner of property affected by a proposed amendment to the Official Zoning Map may protest the

amendment pursuant to the statutory requirements of C.R.S. Section 31-23-305," explains the document.

However, town staff determined "that all of the property owners within this section of Goldmine Drive are supportive of this rezoning," Dickhoff said.

Twelve properties in total will be impacted by the zoning change.

Dickhoff explained Tuesday that "nothing has really changed" since the first reading of the ordinance at a previous meeting.

When council member Mat deGraaf made a motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance 1005, amending the official zoning map, it was seconded and approved unanimously by the council.

In effect, this change simply makes both the eastern and western ends consistent with each other, with all being zoned as commercial, explained Dickhoff.

The official change comes after the Pagosa Springs Planning Commission recommended the change at an April 23 meeting and the council passed the first reading of Ordinance 1005 at its May 7 meeting, respectively.

At the planning commission meeting, planning commissioner Chad Hodges expressed that changing the area to commercial zoning would better match the types of activities "that are down there already, as far as I'm concerned," and "the change would "allow more opportunities for light manufacturing."

Light manufacturing would "not be a use by right," but a business could apply for a conditional use permit to engage in light manufacturing, Dickhoff explained.

"I think the pros would be exactly that — opening up the opportunity for the types of businesses that are actually already established there," he said. derek@pagosasun.com

Main Street board discusses parking, role with town

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

The Main Street Advisory Board met May 22, with the board discussing the town's proposition of having a portion of the Town Park athletic field paved and used as a permanent parking lot, along with other temporary parking plans.

Board member Rosanna Dufour, who is also the head of the Main Street MET (Mountain Express Transit) task force, led the conversation.

The MET task force was assigned by the Main Street Advisory Board to look into temporary parking options during the planned reconstruction of U.S. 160 going through downtown Pagosa Springs, she explained.

In a recent Pagosa Springs Planning Commission meeting, the idea of having a part of the Town Park athletic field paved was presented, with multiple planning commissioners, residents and Pagosa Springs Middle School (PSMS) Principal Chris Hinger expressing concern.

During that meeting, Hinger mentioned that it is the only athletic field PSMS has access to.

Dufour expressed concerns about having a portion of the park paved and used for permanent parking spaces, explaining the idea originally stemmed from using that location as a temporary parking space.

"I guess what I struggle with from the task force perspective is, I didn't want the blame to fall on us when people are unhappy with a permanent parking lot, saying that it was because of what we were trying to create to offset parking for construction, because that's not what this is," Dufour said.

She added that there have been some communication issues in regard to the Main Street Advisory Board's role and the Pagosa Springs

Town Council's, and that two different paths have been taken considering the option to use the Town Park athletic field as a temporary solution or to have it constructed as a permanent parking lot.

Dufour explained this "was basically a collaborative thought between the town and the MET task force that we could create a temporary parking lot," but she noted a lack of communication caused the town to take its own path on the matter.

She mentioned that, in the sense of what the MET task force has been asked to do, she believes paving any portion of the Town Park for permanent parking is "not really appropriate."

Board member Warren Brown commented on the issue, saying, "We are trying to offer positions with help and, in the end, this is the town's decision."

He further explained he believes using Town Park for parking would be a temporary thing.

"It's an alternative; this is not a fix all," he said. "If they don't like it then we can try to look elsewhere."

Board member Haz Said expressed agreement with Brown, explaining that he believes the board's role should be to provide temporary options.

"And even being anywhere close to paving paradise to put up a parking lot, I don't know," he added.

Dufour commented, "This doesn't need to happen," in regard to what the task force is trying to accomplish.

Board president Rick Holter also spoke on the matter, suggesting that parking is an issue even without the reconstruction project.

"I think we need to take advantage of land that's right in the middle of downtown and that essentially is not being used except for two or three days a year when people are sliding

down the hill ... It just seems to me like a great location for parking, and it sounds like to me that the town kind of took advantage of this temporary idea to, like, build it out," Holter said.

Brown brought up the idea of using Mary Fisher Park to provide more parking, noting that it is already being used for partial parking.

Dufour noted that has not been discussed.

Holter asked if the board should take a position on the matter of paving a portion of Town Park, to which Brown commented, "I don't think we should take a position on it, honestly."

Brown explained again that the task force's responsibility is to look for temporary options.

In an interview, Town Manager David Harris indicated that the matter would be presented to the Combined Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for discussion at its regular meeting scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on June 6.

He noted that, ultimately, the town council will be the one to approve or deny the project.

Dufour went on to mention that there are multiple plans in the works to provide relief for parking downtown during the reconstruction project slated for spring of 2025.

She noted the town has reached an agreement with the Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library to use its vacant lot located to the west of the library, with access to U.S. 160.

Dufour also mentioned that The Springs Resort and BWD Construction are both still "verbally willing to let us use those lots on the south end of The Springs Resort once their construction is complete."

She noted the county has expressed interest in providing an in-kind trade to improve those lots to be used for temporary parking.

Dufour explained that The Springs

Resort is not in favor of having parallel parking spaces put in on Hot Springs Boulevard due to heavy traffic concerns.

She also mentioned the town is looking to get a pedestrian bridge installed over the San Juan River near the Malt Shoppe and the museum to connect the east end to downtown and that additional temporary parking lots could be developed near there as well.

She noted that "if all these things come together, then realistically we have offset those parking spaces" that will be lost during the reconstruction project.

The board ended the meeting by discussing future meetings and plans for the board.

Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation Executive Director Emily Lashbrooke mentioned there will be a special meeting held with the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) and town council on June 27, at 1 p.m. with the location yet to be determined.

Pagosa Springs Mayor and Main Street board member Shari Pierce indicated that CDOT has agreed to let the Main Street Advisory Board also be involved in that meeting.

The board also decided to cancel its June meeting, as Dufour noted there is "just not quite as much to do without the sense of urgency."

Additionally the board addressed how many members it would have moving forward, with elections for positions set to take place in July.

The board currently has 13 spots, but only nine are currently filled.

Haz Said mentioned that the board is "fairly effective now with nine" and that having 13 may be too many.

Board member Jeremy Martin also mentioned that he would be worried about having 13 members.

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Regent candidate withdraws from ballot

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

On May 31, the Elections Division at the Colorado Department of State announced that Kristine Sposato,

Republican candidate for regent for the University of Colorado — Congressional District 3 has withdrawn her name.

Sposato's name, however, will appear on the June 25 primary election ballots.

Under Colorado statute, a candidate may withdraw from an election "at any time" by submitting a notarized letter of withdrawal, the state's press release explains, and any votes cast for Sposato will be invalid and will not count.

Mail ballot packets for the June 25 election began being mailed out on June 3.

Coloradans can still register to

vote and update their voter registration at GoVoteColorado.gov through June 17 in order to receive a ballot in the mail, according to a June 3 press release. Coloradans can register to vote and vote in person at a voting center until 7 p.m. on Election Day.

"Coloradans who are affiliated with a major party — Republican or Democratic — will receive only the ballot of the party with which they are affiliated. Unaffiliated voters will receive a ballot for both major parties and can only vote one of those ballots for their vote to be counted," the press release notes.

For more information on voting in

Archuleta County, see the May 30 issue of The SUN.
randi@pagosasun.com

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Continued from front (PSMC).

Low indicated that the project would include 42 acres of commercial development with access to be located directly across South Pagosa Boulevard from the PSMC entrance and 57 acres of a variety of residential units, including "high-end homes," "professional homes," and "hopefully some senior apartments."

She stated that the project would include a trail system and parks, and would incorporate amenities such as restaurants.

The commercial property would also be separate from the residential areas of the development, Low added.

She indicated that the proposed location for a county administration building would be located on a parcel near the entrance to the commercial portion of the development and that the parcel could be sized at four acres, 4.5 acres or five acres, depending on county preferences.

She stated that the developer would be willing to build the new county administration building to suit the county.

Dragoo explained that the project began as an effort to find land for workforce housing development, but that this parcel of land was particularly interesting due to his company having experience creating larger developments in rural Colorado, which he noted is difficult.

He stated that Colorado Outdoors is completing a large development project in Montrose which contains a hotel, a manufacturing location for a distillery and housing.

The proposed development in Pagosa Springs would work similarly to the Montrose project, Dragoo stated, indicating that businesses involved in the Montrose project can either purchase the property for their business or lease it from the developer.

He added that one benefit of this approach is that businesses can purchase exactly the size of parcel required for their parcel, avoiding costs from buying excess land.

He indicated that Colorado Outdoors plans to build 120 units of area median income (AMI) restricted workforce housing as part of the development, partially to address the need for housing for employees of companies on the site.

Dragoo then noted the value of the state Proposition 123 programs and that these programs require that developers go through local nonprofits or governments to obtain funds.

He stated that these programs are important because the state funds they provide make possible affordable housing projects that would otherwise be impossible to construct.

He noted that Pagosa Springs has a rural resort designation under Proposition 123, making the AMI levels allowed for affordable housing funding higher than they would be without the designation and making the project easier to finance.

The project would initially be built around the county building and affordable housing project and would grow over time, Dragoo indicated, adding that he would also hope to add hotels, convenience stores and banks to the project.

Low commented that the project would also potentially include retail stores, a Mountain Express Transit stop and a small events center, emphasizing that the commercial and residential elements of the project would have to be "synergistic."

She concluded by stating that the developer could build a new administration building to suit the county or the county could purchase property for the building.

Commissioner Ronnie Maez commented that the land use code often incurs a "huge cost on development" due to aesthetic and other requirements, and asked Dragoo if he knew what the cost to build workforce housing to meet the land use code would be.

Dragoo replied that the cost is about \$325 per square foot and stated that his company typically records covenants as part of a project, which limit building colors and provide requirements for building materials.

He added that other buildings the county has had constructed fit the style he would expect and that the covenant requirements help maintain neighborhood appearance and property values.

Maez noted that he would prefer to have fewer aesthetic requirements to improve affordability, and Low pointed out the desire for synergy in the appearance of the development.

Commissioner Warren Brown asked if geotechnical surveys have been done at the potential site for the county building, commenting that the county has experienced issues with large amounts of rock near the surface at other county building projects.

Dragoo commented that the com-

pany does not have a current geotechnical report for the site of the county building, but that such a report could be done "fairly quickly" and could be incorporated into whatever transaction might occur between the developer and the county to construct a building.

He added that the planners for the development have done some assessments based on historical data and do not expect any issues with rock in the area, although he noted such issues are always possible.

Dragoo also noted that the property is large enough that the county building could be relocated to another location on the property if issues with rock or other geotechnical problems emerge.

Commissioner Ronnie Maez asked if the site has water, sewer and other utilities.

Dragoo replied that the proposed site for the county building would have utilities nearby.

He added that the developer plans to submit a master plan to the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) to get assurances that the district could service the entire project.

He stated that, if PAWSD cannot service the entire project, it could be built in phases.

The group then discussed the specifics of the sewer and water infrastructure for the project, with Dragoo explaining that getting sewer and water to the site would likely be relatively simple given the existing infrastructure.

He also stated that a primary exit for the project would be at the intersection of Pinon Causeway and U.S. 160, which would change from the current three-way stop light to a four-way stop light.

Brown asked if installing driveway access from South Pagosa Boulevard to the project would fall on the county, the developer or other groups interested in building in the area.

Dragoo stated that, in conversations with former county manager Derek Woodman, Woodman indicated that the county would bring the road 500 feet into the development and that the developer would be responsible for it beyond that point.

He added that the details of this arrangement would likely come down to the financial details of the project and what arrangement emerges between the county and the developer.

Dragoo noted that applications for Proposition 123 funding require a match from local government and stated that the developer is thinking that the construction of 500 feet of the road system could serve as this match.

He added that the county administration building project "is really important for the whole project because it gives a jump start."

Dragoo commented that the administration building would serve as an "anchor" for the rest of the project, allowing the developer to begin building roads, bringing in utilities and taking other actions.

He noted that the state prefers road construction as part of workforce housing grants that serve multiple interests beyond the housing itself.

Brown asked if the affordable housing would be for rental or purchase and, if it is for rental, how the AMI restrictions would apply.

Dragoo explained that the housing would be for households between 80

percent AMI and 120 percent AMI and would be deed-restricted.

He added that the cost for affordable housing is similar to building a "market-rate unit," but that the developer would receive grants from the state to lower these costs.

"They're not low-income, Section 8, ... people running around with the meth lab down the street," Dragoo said. "This is police officers, nurses, guys working at restaurants. It's that kind of user."

He stated that the affordable housing would likely focus on rental, but that the project would also offer units for sale where those living in affordable housing could potentially move when they're able.

Dragoo also commented that the state has been highly successful in crafting a down payment assistance program and commended the state's efforts to support affordable housing, noting that such housing is critical to allowing employers to fill positions and employees to take new positions.

Maez highlighted that the county has an affordable housing property tax waiver program, which Dragoo stated that he plans to take advantage of.

County Attorney Todd Weaver asked if Colorado Outdoors has closed on the property, which Dragoo stated it had not.

Weaver then asked where Dragoo was with the Town of Pagosa Springs' land use approval process, adding that he wanted to know if it would be feasible for the county to break ground on the project next spring.

"That would be perfect timing," Dragoo said, adding that Colorado Outdoors plans to refine the master plan prior to submitting it for town approval.

He stated that he could close on the property "at any time" between now and when the master plan is approved.

Dragoo added that the county beginning construction in the spring would be ideal as it would allow the county time to complete the plans for the administration building prior to beginning construction.

He commented that this planning occurring alongside the completion of the master plan would allow the county to provide input on this plan.

Weaver asked and Dragoo confirmed that the development is planned to occur in stages.

Following an executive session at the June 4 BoCC meeting, Weaver introduced an agenda item for the board to consider entering into a letter of intent to purchase property for the construction of a new administration building.

He added that the item would also cover the commissioners giving direction to staff to move forward with the purchase of property.

He explained that the board had heard the proposal from Low and Dragoo weeks earlier and that Dan Sanders, representative for Pagosa Partners I Inc., the owner of a property at 2901 Cornerstone Drive near Walmart in Aspen Village that the BoCC was also considering, was present at the meeting.

BoCC chair Commissioner Veronica Medina explained that she is a licensed Realtor but will not realize any personal gain from the sale of either of the properties.

Maez asked Sanders if the county would have to pay annual dues to the homeowners association (HOA) of the Aspen Village subdivision if it

purchased property within the subdivision.

Sanders explained that the area has a "masters association" and that, if the county purchased the Aspen Village property, the county would own about 9 percent of the overall development, meaning it would have to pay approximately \$400 a month in association fees.

Maez asked if there would be a way for the county to be "excluded from that."

Sanders replied that he believed there would be and would not object to such an exclusion, although there would be "things we'd have to work out" given this property shares common property, such as sidewalks and landscaping, with other properties in the association.

Maez commented that he is not familiar with the exclusion process and questioned if it would go to a vote of the association members.

Weaver indicated that this process is usually set out in the association covenants and bylaws.

Sanders stated that he could provide the masters association guidelines to Maez if the county moved forward with this property.

He added that the county would have to adhere to these guidelines, although he commented they are "not restrictive" and would have to submit the proposed plan for the property to the masters association design review committee for approval.

Sanders stated that this committee has so far not had a problem with any proposal not being able to be made to fit both the desires of the design review committee and the property owner.

Maez then asked Low about if the county would be required to be in a HOA if it purchases the property she had offered.

Low stated that there are currently no community covenants on the property.

"So, there's a possibility that the county can just buy what acreage it needs and it's on its own?" Maez said. "I'd have to discuss it with the owner, but I do believe that's a very good possibility," Low replied.

She added that the amount of acreage the county could buy in this development would be flexible.

Maez explained that he was asking

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Budget

■ Continued from front
 operations in the draft budget.
 Other highlights noted by Burt include a 3 percent raise for all employees, an additional top step for all certified and classified lanes, and the addition of two new special education teachers.
 Burt went on to mention that the district pupil count for that proposed budget is 1,606, which is down from 1,631 the previous year.
 He also noted that the budget stabilization factor will not be included in the 2024-2025 budget.
 "So, we're not going to lose that quarter million or so," he said.
 Total appropriated funds is listed at \$34,460,430. The general fund is responsible for \$30,490,156 of those appropriations, while the food service fund has \$1,004,806, the designated purpose grants fund is at \$1,371,368 and the pupil activity fund is at \$347,223.
 The remaining appropriations are the capital reserve fund at \$927,678 and the trust fund at \$319,299, according to the draft budget.
 Burt indicated that when the BOE votes on approving the budget at the next regular board meeting, those will be the amounts being looked at.
 He also noted that the BOE will have to vote on approving the original food service fund balance of \$161,777 and the capital fund project balance of \$400,078.
 Burt explained that the capital fund project balance reflects previ-

ous year's projects that have not been completed or totally liquidated yet.
 Burt went on to provide more detail in regard to pupil count in the district and the state's projections.
 The state is projecting roughly a 50-student drop in enrollment for the district for next year. This is following a 110-student drop in the district's enrollment last year, he explained.
 Burt mentioned that drop is mainly due to preschool program enrollment numbers no longer being included in that count.
 "But, overall, we can see that we are on a downward track in terms of pupil count," he added.
 Burt went on to review the general fund summary in more detail, noting a \$2.6 million increase in local revenue, "on top of the almost \$4 million that we have in the revised budget, so we're looking at \$19.67 million."
 Total fund balances for 2024-2025 are shown as \$30.5 million when taking in the beginning fund balance, he noted.
 Burt mentioned the largest increase in expenditures is under instructional services, which includes salaries and benefits for school staff. Total expenditures under instructional services is shown at \$12,028,468.
 Burt also noted the district is seeing an increase in transportation and a "slight" increase in maintenance.
 He noted that maintenance is up to \$2.3 million and transportation is up to \$1.25 million, which will include two new vehicles.

Superintendent Rick Holt explained that the district is holding three or four open driver spots while recruiting for that position and making sure that is budgeting for the necessary additional routes.
 The funds will be available as soon as the district is able to fill those driver positions, Holt indicated.
 Overall, expenditures will be up \$586,108, totaling \$20,539,343, from the revised December 2023 budget that listed total expenditures at \$19,953,235.
 Under transfers/allocations, \$1,249,468 is set for the charter school and \$527,500 is set for the capital reserve.
 BOE member Tim Taylor asked if the 3 percent pay raise is primarily available due to the additional \$929,106.
 Holt replied, "That's correct."
 BOE president Bob Lynch asked for clarification on the amount of the state's contribution from last year to this year.
 Burt explained that for the current year, the state's contribution is just under \$3.3 million and that for the upcoming year it will be at \$1.9 million.
 "That puts us in a really elite group of districts around the state who receive the vast majority of funding from local taxes," said Holt.
 "Quite the change around, but tax increases have had their effect," Lynch said.
 Lynch noted that there is a shift in

where the district money will be coming from, with more money coming in locally through taxes rather than from the state government.
 He also commented on the budget stabilization factor used in the past, which meant the district would allocate the money for an item and then subtract from it.
 "So, that's quite significant. We can credit the state for getting their act together a little bit and thankfully we have the local resources to find our share of that... schools are getting a little more money to do the most important job that everyone here at the district does, so, grateful for that," Lynch said.
 BOE member Amanda Schick commented on the "forward thinking" for transportation needs in the district, along with the salary increases for staff.
 "I really appreciate that the intention and the goal is to continue to get those bus routes out. I also very much appreciate us continuing to have the focus of the staff salary and taking care of the hardworking people in the district, so I just want to say thank you. This is a lot of work you guys put together, so I appreciate the thoroughness and the transparency," Schick said.
 The BOE will vote on the proposed budget during its next regular meeting scheduled for 6 p.m. on June 11 in the Pagosa Springs Middle School library at 309 Lewis St.
 clayton@pagosahun.com

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■ Continued from front
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 Grace Betts: WHIPS Scholarship, \$1,200.
 Blackman: Chama Peak Land Alliance Scholarship, \$750; Community Marijuana Offset Impact Fund, \$550; Rotary Scholarship, \$7,000; Tom Dorgan Memorial Scholarship, \$500.
 Castro: CMU First Generation Scholarship, \$1,000, renewable; Colorado Mesa University Scholarship, \$5,000, renewable; University of Colorado-Denver Scholarship, 1,500, renewable; Western Colorado University Bonus, \$1,500; Western Colorado University Scholarship, \$2,500, renewable.
 Cloward: Colorado Scholars Fund, \$8,417; CSM Presidential Scholarship, \$4,000; Meredith George Endowed Scholarship, \$8,000; Pagosa Springs Instrumental Society Award, \$1,000, renewable.
 Galabota: Chase Register Memorial Scholarship, \$1,000.
 Garcia: Chama Peak Land Alliance Scholarship, \$500; Community Marijuana Offset Impact Fund, \$550; San Juan Rangers, \$500; Seniors for Seniors BIPOC Youth Scholarship, \$1,155.
 Gebhard: Benny Lohman/Vets for

Vets Scholarship, \$1,000.
 Heidi Hernandez-Arenivar: Seniors for Seniors BIPOC Youth School, \$1,155.
 Jatziri Hernandez-Arenivar: Schick Family Memorial Scholarship, \$500; Seniors for Seniors BIPOC Youth School, \$1,155.
 Hittle: Chase Register Memorial Scholarship, \$1,000; Colorado School of Mines Merit Scholarship, \$6,000; CSM Science Award, \$1,000; Rotary Scholarship, \$7,000; San Juan Rangers, \$500; Tri State Scholarship, \$500.
 Huddleston: CUP-Jon Graves Memorial Scholarship, \$1,000; Footprints Scholarship, \$500; Fort Lewis Academic Scholarship, \$700; Fort Lewis Equity Scholarship, \$2,000, renewable; Fort Lewis Presidential Scholarship, \$5,000, renewable; Fort Lewis Theater Scholarship, \$500; Moniker Scholarship, \$1,000, renewable; Seniors for Seniors BIPOC Youth Scholarship, \$1,155.
 Limebrook: Chase Register Memorial Scholarship, \$1,000; University of Utah WUE, \$14,000, renewable; Whit Newton Good Citizen Award, \$500.
 Mashue: Chama Peak Land Alliance Scholarship, \$500; Community Marijuana Offset Impact Fund, \$550; CSU Green and Gold Scholarship, \$4,000, renewable; Levy/Shear Family Trust, \$4,000, renewable; PLU Alumni Referral Scholarship, \$1,000,

renewable; PLU President's Scholarship, \$34,000, renewable; PLU Visit Scholarship, \$1,000, renewable; San Juan Rangers, \$500; University of Arizona Merit Scholarship, \$32,000, renewable; University of Denver Provost Scholarship, \$31,000, renewable.
 Matney: Seniors for Seniors BIPOC Youth Scholarship, \$1,155.
 Meade: UNM Lobo Housing, \$4,000, renewable; UNM Reciprocal Waiver, \$22,919, renewable.
 Moreno Echavarrria: Footprints Scholarship, \$500; ReSport Legacy Scholarship, \$800; Seniors for Seniors BIPOC Youth Scholarship, \$1,155.
 Brodie Norton: Ruby M. Sisson Automotive School, \$2,000.
 O'Donnell: Benny Lohman/Vets for Vets Scholarship, \$1,000; CHSCA Scholarship, \$1,000; Schick Family Memorial Scholarship, \$500; University of Arizona Scholarship, \$30,000, renewable; Victor and Ethel Poma Memorial Scholarship, \$1,000, renewable.
 Phillips: Chama Peak Land Alliance Scholarship, \$750.
 Hunter Pouyer: American Legion Scholarship, \$1,000; Chama Peak Land Alliance Scholarship, \$500; Victor and Ethel Poma Memorial Scholarship, \$1,000, renewable.
 Michelle Ray-Lujan: Chase Register Memorial Scholarship, \$1,000; Community Marijuana Offset Impact Fund, \$850; Rotary Vo-tech Scholar-

ship, \$3,000; San Juan Rangers, \$500; WHIPS Scholarship, \$1,200.
 Robel: CSM Provost Scholarship, \$1,000, renewable.
 Smith: American Legion Scholarship, \$1,000; Benny Lohman/Vets for Vets Scholarship, \$1,000; Cobell Scholarship, \$2,500; CU Denver Chancellor Scholarship, \$2,000, renewable; Pagosa Springs Arts Council, \$5,000; Seniors for Seniors BIPOC Youth Scholarship, \$1,155.
 Su: Amherst Academic Scholarship, \$88,000, renewable; Colorado College Bridge Scholarship, \$82,000, renewable; CSU Green and Gold Scholarship, \$4,000, renewable; CU Regent Scholarship, \$1,000; Emory College Academic Scholarship, \$82,000, renewable; Georgetown University Academic Scholarship, \$82,000, renewable; NYU CAS Scholarship, \$7,000, renewable; NYU Warschaw Family Scholarship, \$73,000, renewable.
 Taylor: Andrea McGinn Memorial Scholarship, \$2,000; Benny Lohman/Vets for Vets Scholarship, \$1,000; Community Marijuana Offset Impact Fund, \$550.
 Samantha Sanchez: Aim Higher Scholarship, \$5,000.
 Shayda Valdez: Aim Higher Scholarship, \$5,000; Build Pagosa Scholarship, \$5,000; Chase Register Memorial Scholarship, \$1,000.
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Purchase

■ Continued from A7
 about HOA membership because committing the county to being part of a HOA is "still weighing on me a bit ... and I don't want to have to commit the county to paying HOA dues or HOA development or stuff like that and commit in future either, but in this case it's kind of pretty much same thing with either of the two developments."
 Low emphasized that the owner is "very flexible" about arrangements concerning a HOA.
 Brown commented that he appreciated Low's previous presentation and that he appreciated Sanders being at the meeting and felt the piece of property he is offering is a "very good piece of property."
 Brown noted that this property "may be a tad bigger than what I think the county should have, but I think that it is a very buildable lot there."
 He commented that he feels the property being offered by Low and Dragoo would "also work fine for the county."
 Brown stated that the two pieces of property are "pretty equal," with the property being offered by Low and Dragoo requiring the installation of roads and utility access while the property being offered by Sanders already had these amenities.
 He added that he believes that the cost of both properties would likely be ultimately similar.
 Medina commented that Sanders' property is a "great location," but that it would "better serve businesses that need that frontage exposure."
 "I think we would be taking a piece of property ... that could have a better use with different type of a business,"

Medina said.
 She indicated that she agreed with Brown that the properties are generally equal and stated that she liked the lot being offered by Dragoo since the county would be an "anchor property to start some development that we absolutely need in this community which would then drive sales tax, also drive other small businesses to start and then also have those ... other services available for locals."
 She stated that it is a "tough decision" and that the county had looked at "at least five properties."
 "We've definitely done our homework individually, with the county attorney, county manager and staff. Staff has been crucial in finding out information for us on ... trying to get it down to where we are now," Medina said. "Again, my thought is just looking at that possible impact for the community overall is kind of where I'm landing, but thank you both for your time."
 Maez stated that he was "thinking a little more" about the issue, and Medina stated that he could do so before noting that each commissioner had made a statement and opening the floor for motions to select a property.
 Maez then consulted with Weaver outside the meeting room prior to asking both Low and Sanders if they had any alterations to offer to the proposed prices for the properties.
 Both indicated they did not.
 Maez commented that he wanted to ask this question "because I didn't want somebody to ask me, 'Why didn't you ask that question?'"
 Medina then asked for a motion and following a pause where no motions were offered, began making a

motion.
 Maez interrupted, stating that he did not feel it was appropriate for the chair of the BoCC to make a motion "on something the other two commissioners are still thinking on."
 He added that he was ready to make a motion.
 "OK, I just didn't want it to die for lack of a motion," Medina said.
 "It wouldn't die," Maez replied.
 "I was being patient," Brown said.

"I'm thinkin', man," Maez said. "I'm over patient. Let's get it goin', guys," Medina said.
 Maez then moved to direct staff to negotiate a letter of intent with Dragoo for the purchase of the property at X West U.S. 160 and "bring a letter of intent back before the board for final approval."
 The motion was seconded by Brown and passed unanimously.
 josh@pagosahun.com

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Education

Charter school students study world religions, visit Denver

By Jackson Lee
Pagosa Peak Open School

From May 14 to May 16, the seventh/eighth grade class at Pagosa Peak Open School went to Denver for its "Can't We All Just Get Along" project, teaching them about world religion and government.

Across the three days of their trip, they visited a Jewish temple, a Buddhist temple, the state capitol, the Cathedral Basilica Immaculate Conception and the Muslim Society.

The first day of the trip was spent driving to Denver, eating lunch and resting in the rental house before going to the Temple Emanuel, which is a Jewish temple. At the temple they learned what happened with Jewish people during the Holocaust and the Jewish religious scripture known as the Torah.

On the second day of the trip, the class visited the Denver Buddhist temple, where it learned about Buddha and how he reached enlightenment. The temple explained that Buddha was the first person to reach true enlightenment and how he went on to spread his knowledge with all his previous teachers and family. After he died, he passed his teachings to his disciples so they could pass his knowledge to future generations.

Next the class went to the state capitol and learned about the Senate and House of Representatives. The state capitol visit helped students learn how bills are passed and laws are set in place.



Pagosa Peak Open School students learn about the Torah at Temple Emanuel during project fieldwork in Denver.

Photo courtesy Linda Hayduke

Afterward, the class visited the Cathedral Basilica, which is a Christian church near the capitol in Denver. At the cathedral, the class learned about the Christian belief that Jesus Christ was sent to earth by God to guide and teach humans how to be good people.

The third and final day of the trip,

the class visited the Muslim Society to learn about Muslim religion and holidays. The Muslim Society taught the class about what being a prophet means in their culture, and how they had to wash and cleanse themselves before praying every day.

This three-day trip was very educational and meant to help improve

understanding of different religions from Muslim to Christian.

Pagosa Peak Open School is a free, K-8 district charter school focused on implementing a project-based learning curriculum in a restorative practices environment. Field work and interviewing experts are foundational to project-based learning.



Photo courtesy San Juan Rangers

Members of the San Juan Rangers pose with scholarship recipients Jack Hittle, Michele Ray-Lujan, Trey Garcia and Natalie Mashue.

San Juan Rangers announce scholarship recipients

By Tina Heffner
San Juan Rangers

Formed in 1963, the San Juan Rangers (SJR, originally the Colorado Mounted Rangers) has been a service organization in the Pagosa Springs area.

For many years, the members provided ambulance service as

well as search and rescue. More recently, the volunteers provide security, traffic and crowd control for local nonprofit and for-profit events in cooperation with local law enforcement agencies and event sponsors.

We are proud to recognize four Pagosa Springs seniors for their outstanding accomplishments through

the SJR Scholarship Fund. These individuals epitomize the values that are at the heart of our future leaders and we are honored to be able to reward their efforts.

The 2024 recipients will each receive a \$500 scholarship to the college of their choice. They are: Jack Hittle, Trey Garcia, Natalie Mashue and Michele Ray-Lujan.

Michelle Clark awarded Colorado Retirement Association scholarship



Michelle Clark

By Matt Evans
Colorado Retirement Association

Michelle Clark, the finance specialist for the Town of Pagosa Springs, has been named a recipient of the Colorado Retirement Association (CRA) Scholarship Program.

Clark was chosen from dozens of qualified applicants and will receive a \$2,000 scholarship.

"Each year the Scholarship Committee identifies the strongest submissions among the numerous qualified applicants," said CRA Executive Director Tim Mullen. "For the last 18 years, Colorado Retirement Association has been honored to provide this scholarship opportunity to assist people like Ms. Clark; exceptional individuals with unquestionably bright futures who are eager to pursue their passion."

Clark is attending Columbia Southern University Online to complete her degree in business and finance.

She is a beloved and dedicated member of her community; after

spending over a decade as a volunteer firefighter; two years as an EMT; starting, leading and transferring leadership of a local Girl Scout Troop; serving on several nonprofit boards; and working in a similar accounting position within local government in the past. In addition to growing in her role as finance specialist, completing her finance degree fulfills the education requirement to become a town clerk/finance director in the future.

The CRA Scholarship Program is available to active CRA participants and their dependents to support advancement through higher education. In 2006, the CRA Board of Directors resolved to offer board members the opportunity to forego their board meeting stipends and contribute instead to this scholarship fund.

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Sports

TRACK



SUN photo/Josh Pike

Several Pirate track and field athletes earned all-conference and all-state honors for the spring season. In back, left to right, are Annie O'Donnell (all conference in the 4x200-meter relay), Abigail Nehring (all conference and all-state second team for discus), Rylie Carr (all conference in the 100-meter dash, 4x100-meter relay and 4x200, all-state honorable mention in the 4x100), Lexi Campbell (all conference in triple jump and the 4x100, all-state honorable mention in the 4x100) and Aspen Pitcher (all conference for the 4x100 and 4x200). In front, left to right, are Harley Armijo (all conference in the 4x200), Creede Dozier (all conference for the long jump, all-state second team for the high jump), Gavin Carter (all conference for the 4x200), Colton Lucero (all conference for the 100 and the 4x200) and Blake Laner (all conference for the 4x200). Not pictured are Sienna Rose (all conference for the 400-meter dash, 4x100 and 4x200, as well as all-state honorable mention for the 4x100) and Annabelle Parker (all-state honorable mention for the 4x100).

BASEBALL



Photo courtesy Aubrie Limebrook

Five members of the Pagosa Springs High School baseball team recently received Intermountain League honors for their work during the spring season. From left, are Zach Pouyer (first team), Riley Laugel (first team), Chris Young-Martinez (first team), Kyler Henderson (honorable mention), Hunter Pouyer (first team) and coach Ben Garcia, who was named the league's coach of the year.



Photo courtesy Carlos Martinez

Draven and Emiliano Martinez pose after competing in the local qualifier for the Drive Chip and Putt in Kirtland, N.M., at River-view Golf Course on May 31. Emiliano Martinez took second place in the driving discipline in the 7-9 age group and his older brother, Draven Martinez, took second place in the chipping discipline and second place overall in the 12-13 age category. He advances to the next round in Las Cruces, N.M., on Aug. 4.

Charter school raises \$6,500 with Beatles Tribute

By Katy Corbett
Pagosa Peak Open School

The Pagosa Peak Open School community is grateful to all those who made the April Beatles Tribute fundraiser a huge success.

It was announced during the school's board meeting in May that \$6,500 was raised for the school.

It was a fabulous night at the Pagosa Center for the Arts, where

the audience sang and danced along with the Fab Four songs. The event-goers dressed the part, with many pulling out their vintage clothing and hairstyles.

The band was amazing, with a rotation of soloists who sang their hearts out.

This concert brought our community together in the best way possible, and we are thankful for all who helped.

Celebration

Nathan Lewis

More than 4,450 graduates received degrees from Iowa State University this spring. Graduate and undergraduate commencement ceremonies were held May 9-11 at Hilton Coliseum.

Nathan Lewis, of Pagosa Springs, received a Bachelor of Science in biological systems engineering, magna cum laude.

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11 Pinon Hills Pl • \$265,000
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Outdoors

What birds tell us about the forest

By Alex Handloff
Mountain Studies Institute

Some bird species have integrated so well into our human communities that we often don't think of them as being as wild as other wildlife, like pigeons.

While that birdhouse may be a decent spot for mountain or western bluebirds, most birds need their natural bird habitat just as much as deer, elk and mountain lions need theirs.

"There are more bird species in our surrounding forests than you would know from a casual walk — it takes repeated visitations and patient observation to fully appreciate just how diverse the bird community is," said Herb Grover, vice president of the Weminuche Audubon Society in Pagosa Springs and one of the coordinators of a citizen science project studying bird communities in the ponderosa pine forests surrounding Pagosa Springs.

It is no surprise that a primary bird habitat is the forest, but the quality of habitat is more nuanced than a binary question of whether it does or doesn't exist. The density of trees, the presence or lack of fire, and tree species diversity all contribute to conditions that can be favorable or detrimental to different bird species.

What if we turned that concept around? Instead of looking at the forest for its suitability for birds, why not observe birds to see how suitable they find the conditions in the forest? Therefore, when changes occur in the forest, such as wildfire, prescribed burning, climate change or thinning dense areas, birds can let us know how they were impacted and what those changes mean for a thriving forest community.

That's exactly what the Weminuche Audubon Society has taken on.

Grover went on to say, "The presence of a robust and diverse bird community is critical to forest health simply because many of the bird species that come to forests in our region are insectivorous — they eat bugs. If the bird community is diminished and fewer insects are consumed, that does not bode well for forest vegetation."

Grover, along with co-authors Jean Zirnhelt, president of the Weminuche Audubon Society, and Keith Bruno, Southwest Colorado community naturalist for Audubon Rockies, just released the project report



Photo courtesy Keith Bruno

One of the magic moments in conducting bird counts involves discovering fledglings each year as they leave the nest, such as these Hammond flycatchers at Jackson Mountain.

for an ongoing study now in its fifth year entitled "Bird Communities in Dry-Mixed Conifer Forests of the Southern San Juan Mountains of CO: A Citizen Science Project" discussing their findings on how bird communities are affected by forest disturbances and forest management decisions in a handful of sites near Pagosa Springs.

It's important to note that these are long-term trends with conclusions becoming clearer over time.

"Our study has revealed that about half of the 88 bird species we've observed in our research are migratory, with the remaining bird species spending the entire year in or near our region," said Bruno. "Furthermore, fully one-third of resident bird species, and two-thirds of migratory bird species, are experiencing a troubling decline in population numbers."

The findings suggest that forests like those studied in this project provide breeding habitat critical for the survival of many bird species threatened by habitat destruction

and other environmental changes they encounter along their migratory routes.

Moreover, the importance of a rich and vibrant bird community to forest health is incalculable, all of which highlights the important connection between birds and forest management, something both Grover and Bruno discuss as members of San Juan Headwaters Forest Health Partnership (SJHFHP).

The team integrates its findings into community-driven decisions about natural resource management and helps connect their research with action.

Grover, Bruno and Zirnhelt all agree that bringing the knowledge gained through this citizen science project is important, not only because the volunteers participating in the study are rewarded with a better understanding of bird communities and forest ecology, but because land managers can use this information to better inform their land management decisions.

While the research speaks for

itself, seeing the birds and their environment is unequalled in its impact on community members. As such, the Weminuche Audubon Society and SJHFHP are teaming up to provide a tour of their sites on June 21. It will be an opportunity to learn how a healthy bird community is integral to a healthy forest.

If you are interested in learning more details about the tour or forest restoration, wildfire mitigation, birds and SJHFHP, reach out to Alex Handloff, SJHFHP coordinator, at alex@mountainstudies.org.

PAWSD talks gravel mining on Running Iron Ranch

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) Board of Directors heard an update from its Running Iron Ranch subcommittee and discussed the future of the property it jointly owns with the San Juan Water Conservancy District (SJWCD) at its May 23 meeting.

PAWSD board member Glenn Walsh opened the discussion, explaining that he and PAWSD board member Paul Hansen met with Donald Andrew "Andy" Weber, representative for Weber Sand and Gravel, who showed the group a location where approximately 80,000 tons of gravel could be mined on the property.

Walsh indicated that the area where this mining would occur is already disturbed and that he, Hansen and Weber discussed two options for the process, including Weber mining and selling the gravel to outside buyers with PAWSD being paid a \$2 royalty per ton or Weber mining and crushing the gravel for PAWSD, who could purchase it and use it on future projects.

Walsh commented that the second option would be "a lot of money" but that it would save PAWSD significant future expenses due to the district not having to pay higher gravel and transportation costs for gravel purchase elsewhere for future projects.

He stated that the first option would generate about \$160,000 in revenue, while the second could save "over a million dollars" for the district.

This gravel could also be sold to

Archuleta County if it is not needed by PAWSD, Walsh added.

He stated that he found the fact that the second option might save more money and that it would leave the gravel on the property as an asset, either for PAWSD or the SJWCD, desirable.

Walsh added that the location of this mining project would be farther away from the Log Park subdivision, whose residents have previously complained about gravel operations at the ranch.

However, although Walsh stated that he appreciates the comments from the Log Park residents, he noted that they only compose "1 percent" of the district customers and "we have to look out for the other 99 percent of our customers too, and, that's a balance."

He then asked the board if it wanted to move forward with either of proposals for gravel mining.

PAWSD board member Bill Hudson pointed out, "We don't have a clear consensus from San Juan, who claims that ... as tenants in common ..."

"Well, they're right," Walsh interjected.

"They have the right to ... tell us what to do with the property," Hudson continued.

He then commented that members of the SJWCD board had been supportive of the proposal at a recent joint work session between the Running Iron Ranch subcommittee and a portion of the SJWCD board, although PAWSD did not have a decision by the full board.

Walsh commented that he would advocate for retaining the Running Iron Ranch if the property can be

used in ways that pay the loans on it.

He stated that the potential \$1 million savings on gravel could pay 40 percent of the loan payments for the next decade and that a potential mobile home park or a La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) solar electricity generation location could generate additional revenue.

"Then we kind of have our cake and eat it, too," Walsh said. "We have the land. It's paying for itself. If this community needs a [2,000] or 3,000 acre foot reservoir in 70 years, you got it. If we don't, we can sell it and it will be worth more. But, I just want to be as clear as I can, even though I'm a supporter of holding it, if we in good faith work with ... in this case Andy and come up something that would legitimately save this district \$100,000 a year for 10 years and they say no, then I move as quickly as humanly possible to becoming an advocate for selling it because we don't have a functional relationship that even pays our issues a minimum of regard."

PAWSD board chairman Jim Smith commented that he agreed with Walsh's comments.

PAWSD board member Gene Tautges asked what staff's opinion was on the value of stockpiling the gravel versus selling it.

PAWSD District Engineer/Manager Justin Ramsey stated that PAWSD uses "a lot of gravel" and that the district would use it over time or could sell it off, although he noted that it would be a significant investment.

Tautges commented on his "gut feeling" that there is an interest that might be interested in purchasing the property, and Hansen added

■ See PAWSD A14

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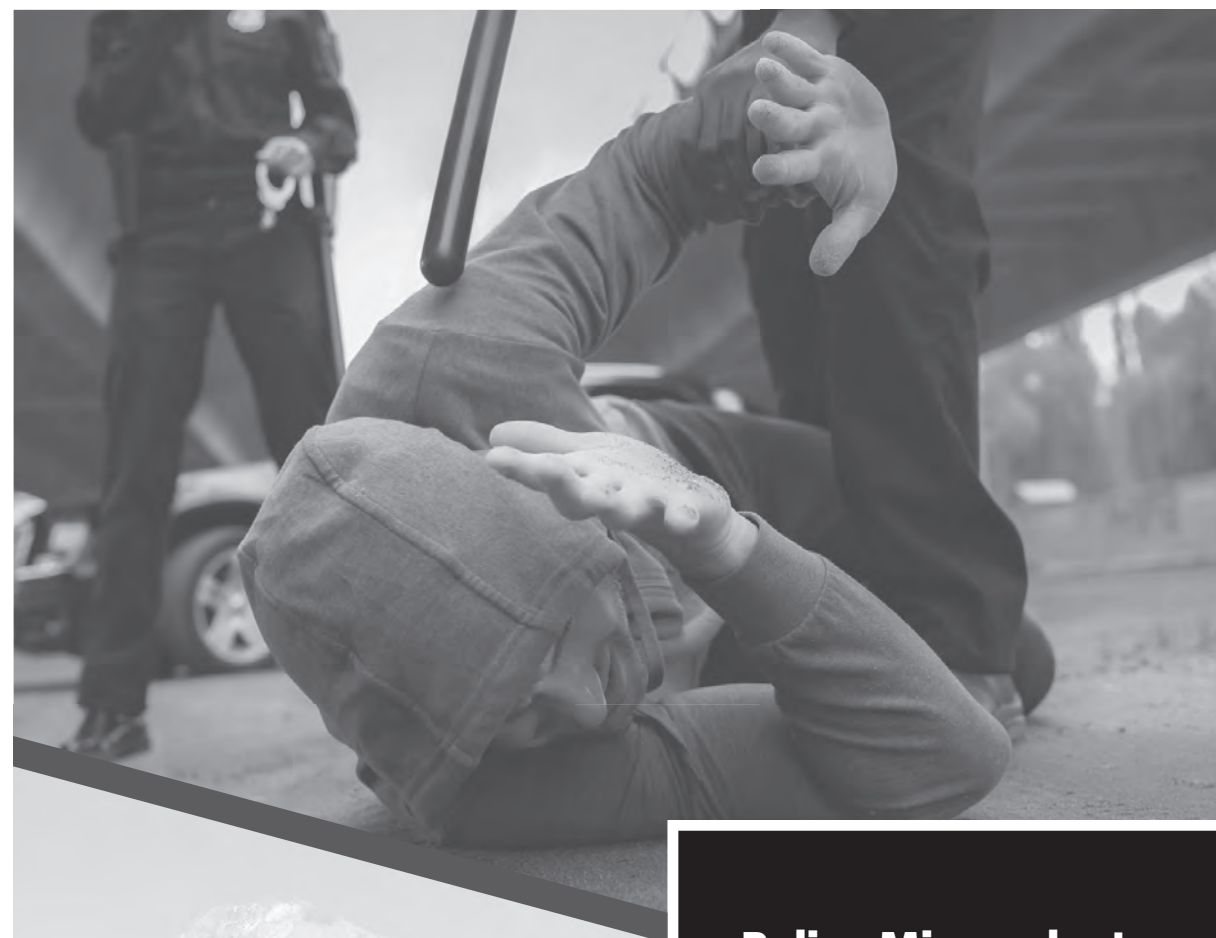
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Weminuche Audubon Society partners to present educational walks

By Jean Zirnhelt
Weminuche Audubon Society

This summer, the local Weminuche Audubon chapter has partnered with some amazing people and organizations to provide you with opportunities to get outside and learn about our beautiful natural environment.

Twice weekly through August, you can take a free tour of discovery through the Riverwalk wetlands conservation area with trained naturalists from Pagosa Wetland Partners. Learn about the resources and services this habitat provides and the forces at play that make them special.

Tours last approximately 1-1.5 hours. The 1.5-mile paved trail is

wheel-chair accessible. Please bring water, sunglasses, a hat and your curiosity. Cameras and binoculars are a plus, but no pets, please. Tours are offered on Tuesday evenings at 7 p.m. and Saturday mornings at 8 a.m., weather dependent.

Advance registration is not required. Meet your guides at the Native Plants Garden on the Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership site in Centennial Park.

On June 8 and June 21, we are partnering with the Chimney Rock Interpretive Association to lead morning birding tours at Chimney Rock National Monument. Join us for a fun and casual 2-hour bird walk designed to introduce you to the diverse community of birds that spend their

summer at the Monument.

Birders of all skill levels are welcome to participate. Your guide will help you identify various species and explain the unique adaptations that allow these birds to survive here.

Participants will be walking slowly on uneven terrain in the lower area of Chimney Rock National Monument (no archaeological sites are included on this tour). Good walking shoes are advised, along with plenty of water and sun protection. Bring binoculars if you have them. This is not recommended for young children. This is a Chimney Rock event; a fee is charged and advance registration is required. Visit <http://chimneyrockco.org> to place a reservation.

On Monday, June 10, you can take

a short hike in the woods to learn about early season native edible and medicinal plants with certified herbalist Lake McCullough.

These popular free tours last two hours and are limited to 15 people. Advance registration is required. No dogs, please.

The June tours start on Turkey Springs Road and are offered at 9:30 a.m. and again at 11:45 a.m. Reserve your space by calling McCullough at (970) 398-0923. Future tours will be offered in July and August.

For further information about any of these events, you may contact Weminuche Audubon Society at weminuche.audubon@gmail.com. We look forward to joining you outside.

PAWSD

Continued from A13

that portions of the property have “breath-taking” views.

“I think I just heard you say ‘very deplorable,’” Tautges said.

Walsh commented that running utilities on the property would likely be the primary obstacle to development.

He added that the board could investigate a sale and options for generating revenue, adding that his focus is ensuring that the bills on the property are paid.

Hansen commented that he believes PAWSD should sell the property.

“My gut feeling, like was mentioned, is we do not have the right to do what we wanna do,” Tautges said. “They could stop it. Whether that would be smart, whether that would be smart and whether they would do it is just the question, and it’s beginning to sound like maybe there’s a little cooperation going on.”

“Well, if they don’t cooperate with us, just like you said, we’ll just sell it,” Smith said.

Walsh stated that one of the potential groups that PAWSD could sell the property to is the SJWCD.

Hudson commented that he proposed this option to the SJWCD board members during the joint work session.

“And they didn’t say no,” Tautges added.

Walsh commented that purchasing the property might provide the SJWCD with a “focus” by compelling the organization to concentrate on finding a state partner to purchase the property.

He added that, if the district could not find such a partner, it could likely not manage to construct a reservoir.

Walsh also stated that the district could work with Weber and the SJWCD to find options to generate revenue, while Hansen, who also serves on the subcommittee, could pursue and bring forward options for selling the property.

“And then that lights a fire under

San Juan and they can say, ‘Well ... these plans for a recreational piscatorial whatever are fine, but we need to focus on talking to [the Colorado Water Conservation Board] and [Colorado Parks and Wildlife] and see if we can’t get partners to buy this piece of property,’” Walsh said. “And then we don’t care, right?”

“Whatever they want to do,” Smith said.

Hansen commented that local developer JR Ford, who constructed a reservoir on similar soil in Hidden Valley Ranch, indicated that building a dam on a shale surface would be extremely expensive and potentially not worth the effort.

Smith noted that the county soil survey indicates that Running Iron Ranch is not suitable for a dam and questioned why the location was purchased for a dam.

“The question is why do we own it because we don’t want it, and so why do we even own it?” Hansen said.

“All water under the bridge, guys,” Tautges said.

Hansen then reiterated his support of selling the property if the district could repay the loans and other obligations for the site.

Smith expressed support for Walsh’s proposal for placing trailer homes on a portion of the property to generate revenue, with Hansen and Walsh adding that PAWSD could contract with a company to place trailer park pads on the property.

“But my Spidey sense is we’re going to get shot down and what Paul wants to do is what’s going to happen,” Walsh said.

“And my Spidey sense is they’re going to go for it,” Hudson said.

Hudson then asked the board if it would support the subcommittee continuing to urge the SJWCD to purchase the property and bringing forward a proposal about further gravel mining on the ranch.

Walsh stated that he feels the PAWSD board should work with Weber to draft a lease which it could approve and then send to the SJWCD.

Ramsey then noted that the board could develop a lease and then consider and potentially approve it at a meeting.

Hudson asked if drafting a lease would require additional legal fees, which Ramsey stated it most likely would not.

Hudson proposed that, if there are expenses involved, he would like to present the idea to the SJWCD first to see if the organization would approve it before finalizing a lease.

He then asked if the board preferred stockpiling the gravel on the property to selling it off, which the board indicated general support for.

Ramsey stated that any proposed lease should give PAWSD the option to pursue both approaches.

Hansen then asked the board to direct staff to assemble a history of the property, and the legal and financial entanglements involved, to present to real estate agents who might have clients interested in purchasing the property.

Walsh commented that the subcommittee should do this and the group agreed that Walsh and Hansen should draft the history, which could then be reviewed by Programs Manager Renee Lewis.

In response to a question from Ramsey, the board members stated that they would like a lease put on the June meeting agenda for consideration, with Walsh stating that he would like the SJWCD to have a concrete proposal to consider.

Smith raised the question of how PAWSD would get the SJWCD to contribute to tearing down buildings on the property.

Walsh commented that he would prefer to see if the SJWCD would agree to the lease beforehand, with Hansen adding that the subcommittee could negotiate with the SJWCD on the issue.

Walsh added that PAWSD is not on a strict timeline in terms of completing a new lease as Weber would not be ready to begin this mining until later this year or next year due to

his outstanding obligations to crush gravel at the site for the PAWSD Snowball Water Treatment Plant expansion project.

Hudson commented that he would like to “get the no as soon as possible if it’s a no” from the SJWCD so that PAWSD could move on with a sale if necessary.

Ramsey stated that PAWSD gave Weber permission to continue gravel crushing operations at the site, although the lease agreement with Weber is currently expired.

He added that he is uncertain if these operations without a lease are “wise.”

Walsh proposed that the board could consider two leases at its next meeting, including one for the expansion project work and one for the other gravel mining.

Ramsey stated that PAWSD staff would figure out the correct approach for the leases.

Hudson proposed that the two leases should be rolled into one to compel SJWCD to have to reject the entire package, including the crushing of gravel for the expansion project, if they rejected any element of the lease.

Hansen then questioned why the property is called the Running Iron Ranch instead of the Dry Gulch.

Ramsey explained, “It’s the Dry Gulch project, but it’s the Running Iron Ranch.”

Hudson stated that the SJWCD would also have to obtain additional land to complete its proposed 11,000-acre-foot reservoir in addition to the Running Iron Ranch land and this is a “good name for the reservoir.”

“I thought it was a nickname for the place,” Hansen said.

Walsh commented that, if PAWSD moved forward with a housing project at the site, inhabitants might prefer living at Running Iron Ranch instead of living at Dry Gulch.

“Or the ... San Juan Headwaters Project or whatever ...” Hansen said.

“That I never use,” Walsh replied. “It’s the Dry Gulch project. We’re paying the loan on the Dry Gulch project. ... That’s what it is. If you’re not paying the bills, you can call it whatever you want, but if you’re paying the bills, you call it ...”

“Dry Gulch,” Smith concluded. josh@pagosahun.com



Photo courtesy Upper San Juan Watershed Enhancement Partnership

Attendees taking in the information at the Pagosa Gateway River Project Open House at the Ross Aragon Community Center on May 23. The design engineer, FlyWater and Upper San Juan Watershed Enhancement Partnership (WEP) representatives were on hand to answer questions on the 30 percent design. The event was well-attended by the community, with attendees submitting their input. The Upper San Juan WEP will host another open house at 60 percent design for this project in the fall.

Grass fire spreads to structure, causing ‘significant damage’

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

A May 30 grass fire on Buttercup Drive spread to a nearby structure, causing “significant damage,” according to Pagosa Fire Protection District (PFPD) Chief Robert Bertram.

According to Bertram, the fire was paged out at 2:56 p.m. on May 30, with the fire considered controlled at 7:06

p.m. the same day.

In an email to The SUN, Bertram reported the fire burned .75 acres.

Bertram adds that all of the occupants made it out of the house prior to it becoming involved in fire, and all of the occupants’ cats survived, with two pulled from the house by firefighters and the others located in the days following the fire.

The PFPD, Archuleta County and

the U.S. Forest Service responded, Bertram reported on May 30.

The cause of the fire remains under investigation, according to Bertram.

“It is getting dry out and people need to be vigilant when they are outdoors,” Bertram wrote. “With the recent winds a small ember can start a fire that can quickly get out of control.” randi@pagosahun.com

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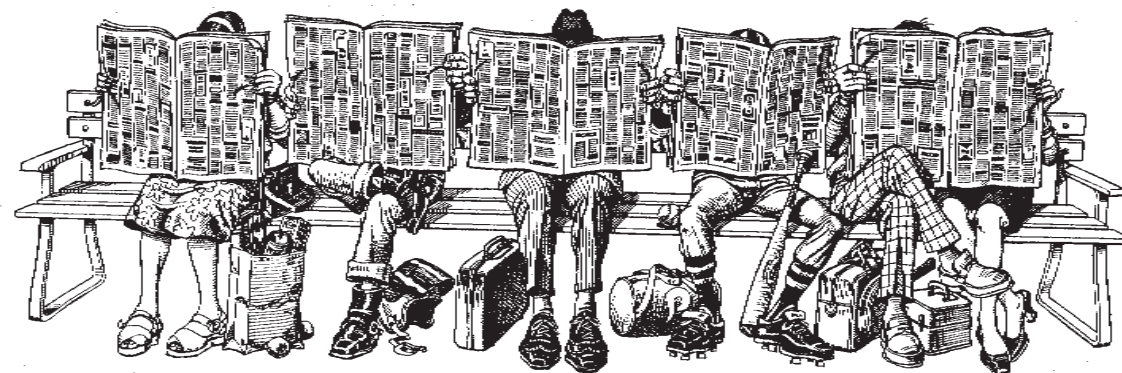
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Graduation

SUN photos/Randi Pierce
 Speeches, smiles, support and more were featured at the commencement ceremonies for Pagosa Springs High School and San Juan Mountain School on Saturday, July 4.



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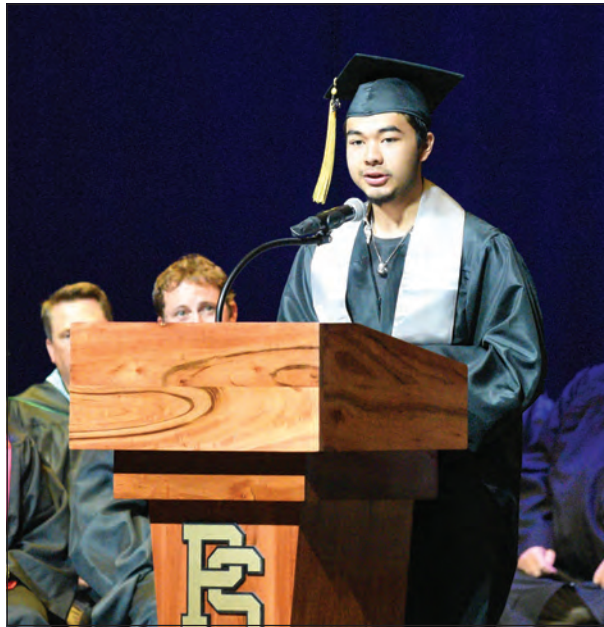
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preview

ARTS & LIFE

Pagosa Springs Car Show

Friday and Saturday, June 7 and 8 • Lewis Street



Photo courtesy Jeff Laydon

June 6, 2024



Photo courtesy Jeff Laydon

The 15th annual Pagosa Springs Car Show will take over part of Lewis Street on Friday and Saturday, June 7 and 8, with live music, food, drinks, fun and, of course, vehicles of all sorts.

Live Performers



Thursday

Pagosa Springs Golf Club: Jason Rose and Denise Chaney, 5:30 p.m.

Friday

The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Bob Hemenger, 5 p.m.

Meltdown on Main: The Status Crows, 5:30 p.m.

Saturday

East Side Market: Emily Tholberg, 11 a.m.

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

Sunday

The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Glenn Unrath and Jack Ellis, 5 p.m.

Tuesday

The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Dustin Burley, 5 p.m.

Wednesday

The Den: Karaoke, 8 p.m.

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

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15th annual Pagosa Springs Car Show set for June 7 and 8

By Mary Jo Coulehan
Chamber of Commerce

The 15th annual Pagosa Springs Car Show will hit Lewis Street Friday evening beginning at 5 p.m. Also kicking off the evening will be a free concert with Austin musician Garrett LeBeau.

With almost 100 cars already registered, this year's show is shaping up to be fabulous.

Come out Friday evening for a first look at the cars. There will also be food vendors, retail vendors, fun foods such as kettle corn and snow cones, a beverage garden with alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages and, of course, the music. With a cool evening in store, it is a perfect time to relax and take the family to this free event. The music will continue until 8 p.m.

On Saturday, June 8, the show will amp up with even more cars arriving as many of the regional day-trippers show up on this day. The festivities will begin at 9 a.m. and last until about 2:30 p.m., at which time the awards will be handed out.

While you are at the show, make sure that you vote for your favorite car so they can be entered to win the People's Choice award. With 17 categories assigned, there are classic cars, hot rods, cars under construction, newer models, convertibles and don't forget the motorcycles. These works of art are the pride and joy of the entrants and are really stunning to look at.

At 11 a.m. there will be a live demonstration of how paint protection film works and the benefits of protecting your investment. Whether you have a collectable car or just the one you drive daily, see how a little investment can extend the look and years of your car.

There will be multiple bands playing on Saturday, including Group Therapy from 9:30 to 11 a.m. and then Sean DeLand from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

At 2:15 p.m., there will be the awards for the Pin Up Girl contest. We have quite a few entries, so there should be some creative costuming and glamour.

There will again be a beverage garden all day, delicious food vendors, retail vendors, and lots of interaction with the car owners.

At 2:30 p.m., the car awards take place including category awards, the Chamber Choice award, the People's Choice award and the Best in Show. This year, we have had some talented artists and car aficionados create our top three awards. We can't wait to see these trophies.

Remember that Lewis Street will be closed beginning at 10 a.m. on Friday, June 7, and will remain closed until 10 p.m. Saturday, June 8.

After the Car Show, the Immacu-

late Heart of Mary Parish will be celebrating the 75th anniversary and conducting a Mass at 5 p.m., a posole dinner at 6 p.m. and street dance beginning at 6:30 p.m. The requested ticket price is \$15 per person or \$40 for a family. A beverage bar will also be available the whole evening.

There is still time to enter your

car into the show and preregister. Visit www.pagosachamber.com and click on the car show graphic on the homepage.

Register soon and get a free T-shirt with your registration entry. Questions can be directed to Naomi Lindquister, events coordinator, at (970) 264-2360.

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Immaculate Heart of Mary to host feast day, anniversary celebration Saturday

By J. Leonard Martinez
Immaculate Heart of Mary Church

Just as Jesus speaks about his role as a shepherd, that role fell to the various priests who have served our Pagosa Catholic community.

The first permanently stationed priest was the Rev. Bernard from 1951 to 1976. The Rev. John C. Bowe followed from 1976 to 1984 and then again from 1991 to 2004, the Rev. Jose Romero from 1984 to 1991, the Reverend Carlos Alavarez from 2004 to 2010, the Rev. Don Malin from 2010 to 2014, the Rev. Kenny Udumka from 2014 to 2020, and the Rev. Samuel Auta from 2021 to present.

Just as growth in the community in the 1940s drove the building of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, so too in 2000, growth in the county again drove the need for a new facility with more capacity. Construction began in 2008 and the Pope John Paul II Church was completed and consecrated on March 24, 2009, by Bishop Arthur Tafoya.

From the Penitentes, whose families carried the faith from New Mexico with its direct connection to Spain from the mid-1800s to the late 1800s, to the pioneer families who built and maintained the many mission churches in our region, to the priests who have shepherded our community since 1951, all have played a role in the formation of what we call the Pagosa Catholic Community in Archuleta County.

The stained-glass windows in all the mission churches — St. John's, St. Francis, St. James, St. Andrews, a couple more that no longer stand and the Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, speak to the incredible tenacity and devotion of the pioneer families, some of whom are now the mayordomos of the mission churches: John and Florian Gallegos from the Juan Gallegos family/St. Frances, Ben and

Lupita Gallegos from the Ben and Gertrude Gallegos family/St. James, James and Sandra Bramwell from the Ed Bramwell family/Chromo, and Joseph and Carrie Espinosa from the George and Bea Espinosa family/St. Johns.

Other pioneer families also contributed and whose names are featured prominently in those windows: the Loren and Lionel Belarde family, the George Shahan family, the Juan Gallegos family, the Mariano and Francisquita Cordoba family, the VA Poma family, the Felix and Ophelia Gomez family, the Pablo and Carlos Ortiz family, the J. Teofilo and Manuelito Martinez family, the families of Felipe Martinez and Josefa Valdez, the Zebedeo Martinez family, the E. Filiberto Lucero family, the J. Leon Archuleta family, the Epitasa Baca family, the Lucas Martinez family, the Manuel and Ana Ma. Lucero family and the Perfecto and Emilia Garcia family.

Most significant are the many windows dedicated to the parishioners. Those pioneer families are still represented by Emily Mestas, Lydia Martinez, Emma Lujan, Carol Pacheco, Juanita Archuleta, Betty Read, Lucy Gonzales, the Rivas families, the Lynch family and many more.

Finally, a window is dedicated to the many families who over the years dedicated themselves to the Altar Guild, making the churches a most welcoming place to worship.

The Immaculate Heart of Mary is a devotional name used to refer to the interior life of the Blessed Virgin Mary, her joys and sorrows, her virtues and perfections, her love for God, and her Divine Son and her motherly compassionate love for mankind. It is in this context we see our collective path forward through this anniversary and in celebrating the feast day of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Inclusivity is our path forward.

The following prayer is offered to all: "Lord, give us new strength so that we can build places of belonging: to create a community for all to share their gifts, to know that each of us is loved, to help us to see the light of Christ in all that we serve. Let us remember that each of us is loved, each of us is here by the will of God and each of us is necessary."

Please join us; all are welcome, as stated in the above prayer of inclusivity.

The Immaculate Heart of Mary Church will be open at 3:30 p.m., to allow any visiting pioneer families to tour the church. The procession will begin at 4:30 p.m. Mass will be celebrated beginning at 5 p.m.

After Mass, Las Guadalupanas will serve a free pozole dinner as is the custom of the mission churches to feed those guests who come to celebrate the feast day. Nominally at 6:30 p.m., the street dance will take place with the finest regional music provided by Variety Express and the Rivas Family Spanish Choir.

This is a fundraising dance to help cover the costs of the celebration. So, buy your tickets early. The cost is \$15 per adult or \$40 for a family. Everyone over 80 or under 16 will be invited to join us for free. There will be a cash bar with refreshments for all to enjoy until 9 p.m.

We look forward to celebrating all our pioneers in faith. We look forward to seeing you on Lewis Street June 8 after the car show, and remember: Lewis Street will be closed on June 8, so plan on parking and walking to the events of that day.

ZANE KRAETSCH

Archuleta County Commissioner District 2

My name is Zane Kraetsch and I am excited to be running for Archuleta County Commissioner District 2 on the Republican ticket.

I'm a third generation Archuleta County resident. I've spent a number of years volunteering and working in emergency services all while running my construction business.

I believe Archuleta County residents need financial transparency, massive road rehabilitation and a long-range plan for the direction we want our county to go. If elected, I will work hard to make this happen.

I am too young and too motivated to be a member of the "good ol' boys club."

PLEASE VOTE FOR ME

ZANE KRAETSCH



June 25th in the
Primary election.

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Curtains Up Pagosa to present 'Once Upon a Mattress' June 12-16

By Dale Scrivener
Curtains Up Pagosa

Curtains Up Pagosa is showing "Once Upon a Mattress" on June 12-16.

This golden age musical features more than 40 of our local talent of all ages in the cast, as well as many local musicians in our orchestra.

The story being a comedic adaptation of Hans Christian Anderson's "The Princess and the Pea" tells the story of Queen Aggravain and her antics as she tries to prevent her son, Prince Dauntless the Drab, from marrying Princess Winnifred, also known as Fred.

With a mute king, a manipulative

queen, a droopy prince and a cast full of crazies, what could possibly go wrong?

Come out to the Pagosa Springs High School June 12-15, at 7 p.m. or June 16, at 2 p.m. to see our amazing cast and crew as they take us back to the medieval times for this classic fairytale.

Tickets are on sale now. Get them online at <https://curtainsuppagosa.ludus.com/200454347>.

Tickets are \$10 for students under 18, and \$20 for adults 18 and older. Purchase them online in advance to secure your seat, as tickets will be \$5 more at the door.

As always, we will have a cash concessions table.

Attention Mutton Busters!!

Prizes for ALL Participants!!
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If you are interested in participating in the Red Ryder Roundup Mutton Busting event, please register by Wednesday, June 26. Applicants must be 6 years old or younger and a parent must attend the rodeo with you. There will be 10 riders per day on July 4, 5 and 6. Helmets, vests and ropes will be provided at no charge. There is no charge for this event and all participants will be drawn out of a box the weekend of June 29. If you are selected, you will be notified of the day you will ride by telephone or email.

www.pagosarodeo.com

RED RYDER ROUNDUP

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Email application info to:

pennie.declark@bankofcolorado.com

Child's name

Child's age

Parent's name

Parent's contact email and phone

Preferred day (no guarantee)

Stargazers to meet Thursday, June 6

By Joan Mieritz
San Juan Stargazers

The San Juan Stargazers' monthly meeting is on Thursday, June 6, at 6 p.m. for snacks and socializing, with our program beginning at 7 p.m.

We meet at the Community United Methodist Church at 434 Lewis St. You can use the parking lot and enter at the side door right off the parking area. (We leave the front doors locked.)

There is a social hour starting at 6 p.m. with coffee/tea and treats. You can bring something to share if you want. This is a great opportunity to visit and ask questions.

When it comes to astronomy, there are more questions with answers continuously coming, especially with the help of the new James Webb Space Telescope. Never feel like you don't know enough to join this group. We all can be forever

learning and growing. The best thing is to be a lifelong learner about astronomy, relationships with others and everything else in this life. We have so much to learn.

The program will be presented by Dena Laterza, who has added so much wonderful technology to our club, and Ranza Boggess, who is a faithful hard worker and is all about telescopes. It will be followed by two hands-on practice sessions on Saturday and Sunday nights, with details given at the meeting.

If you have a telescope that you have not figured out or have always been curious about how telescopes work, these are the nights for you. Please join us and learn.

We are starting to gear up for a summer of great astronomy activity. We will have about 10 night sky programs at Chimney Rock.

If you want to learn how to use

your telescope or one of our club telescopes, it is time to get started at the beginning of the season. We have two night sky programs in June, and locals are always welcome. You can pay for the program at the gift shop.

On Friday, June 7, the gate will open at 7:30 p.m., with the program location determined by the weather. The title is Stars and Galaxies. On June 14, the program is titled Our Solar System, with most viewing being done on the moon. The gate opens at 7:30 p.m.

About the Stargazers

If you would like to join the San Juan Stargazers, you will also receive Reflector Magazine which is the publication of the National Astronomical League of which you automatically become a member.

To join both groups and get an excellent astronomy magazine, annual membership is only \$25 per family. You can join the club at any of our events or you can join using PayPal on our website, sanjuanstargazers.org.

Check out our continuously changing website with new information and fabulous photos.

First of four 19th Hole concerts to take place Thursday

By Rachel Rosenthal
Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado

The Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado is sponsoring, in partnership with the Pagosa Springs Golf Club, the first of four 19th Hole Concerts starting this Thursday, June 6.

The featured artists this week are Jason Rose and Denise Chaney of the Jackson Mountain Ramblers, and the featured nonprofit is the Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library Foundation.

The Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library Foundation was formed in 2018 to help raise funds to support the programs, resources, services and facilities of the library. This year,

it will complete its largest capital campaign, Mountains of Opportunity, to expand and renovate the Ruby Sisson Library.

Food, beer, wine and signature cocktails will be available for purchase. No outside food, drink or pets will be allowed. Concertgoers should bring a camping chair or blanket — or both — to take full advantage of a summer evening in the Rocky Mountains.

The 19th Hole Concerts are held every Thursday in June from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Pagosa Springs Golf Club. The cover charge is a \$10 donation which supports the four nonprofits selected through the month of June. Corporate sponsors

■ See Concerts on next page

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Monday evenings for 10 weeks beginning June 24 from 6:00-8:00pm at Grace in Pagosa. Scan the QR Code for more info. Course and digital workbook are FREE. A spiral-bound workbook is available for \$20. Refreshments will be provided.



19th Hole Concerts start this week!

Every Thursday in June - 5:30-7:30 pm

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Food production bootcamp set for Saturday

Healthy Archuleta

It is already June, and time to decide: When am I going to start my garden?

Local wisdom advises that you're in the clear if you plant after the first full moon of June, which is June 21 (the second day of summer this year). Our rule of (green) thumb is based on the risk of getting a late frost one night in June. At the same time, this week and weekend we will be seeing temperatures nearing 90 degrees.

Healthy Archuleta has something for everyone who wants to get their hands dirty.

This Saturday, there will be a food production bootcamp at the community gardens on the San Juan River next to the geothermal growing domes.

Starting at 9 a.m., people will be given a chance to get hands-on experience with soil preparation and creating an irrigation system. The goal is for everyone to practice in the morning and be able to go home, eat lunch and start their summer garden. Our gardening expert will offer guidance as to how to avoid problems coming from any late spring frosts.

This event comes directly from requests by community members who attended the Archuleta Food Summit in May. As always, Healthy Archuleta is listening and poised to respond to the needs of our community. Our commitment to increasing local food production depends on everyone tending a garden this summer, if at all possible.

Come prepared with sun hat, gloves, water and to have a good time.

If you have any gardening questions or want more information, contact us at fsfearchuleta@gmail.com.

To learn more about the efforts of Healthy Archuleta, please visit www.foodcoalition4archuleta.org.



Photo courtesy Healthy Archuleta

On Saturday, Healthy Archuleta will host a food production bootcamp at the community gardens at Centennial Park. The event will begin at 9 a.m.

Concerts

continued from previous page
cover event expenses, allowing all proceeds at the end of the series to be pooled and distributed equally to the featured organizations. The collaborative approach to the concerts is vital to their success.

Schedule

June 6—Ruby Sisson Library Foundation Jason Rose and Denise Chaney of the Jackson Mountain Ramblers, eclectic.
June 13—Cornerstone Project: Bo DePeña American and country.

June 20—San Juan Back Country Horsemen San Juan Mountain Boys country, folk, pop and old rock.
June 27—The Early Childhood Council of Archuleta County Bob Hemenger, Dixieland jazz, blues, soul and pop.

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19th Hole Concerts

at the Pagosa Springs Golf Club

Thursdays in June • 5:30-7:30pm
\$10 ticket supports local nonprofits

- June 6 **Jason Rose & Denise Chaney**
(Jackson Mountain Ramblers)
Ruby Sisson Library Foundation
- June 13 **Bo DePeña**
Cornerstone Project
- June 20 **The San Juan Mountain Boys**
San Juan Back Country
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- June 27 **Bob Hemenger**
Early Childhood Council
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Photo courtesy Thingamajig Theatre Company

“Jimmy Buffett’s *Escape to Margaritaville*” opened Thingamajig Theatre Company’s summer season with the musical comedy set to continue its run at 7 p.m. on June 7.

‘Escape to Margaritaville’ to continue run June 7

By Laura Moore
Thingamajig Theatre Company

Thingamajig Theatre Company opened its 2024 summer season with the premiere of “Jimmy Buffett’s *Escape to Margaritaville*.”

The show, which opened last Friday to a sold-out audience, has received an overwhelmingly positive response from its attendees.

“*Escape to Margaritaville*” is a musical comedy that transports audiences to a sun-soaked island paradise.

The story follows Tully (Henry Crater), a charming bartender and singer at a Caribbean resort, who falls for Rachel (Carly Meyer), a career-focused tourist. Alongside them, we meet Tammy (Kelli-Ann Patterwic), Rachel’s best friend who is navigating her own romantic journey with Brick (Zac Mitchell), a lovable bartender.

The plot weaves together themes of love, relaxation and self-discovery, all set to the infectious tunes of Jimmy Buffett.

Opening night saw Crater and Meyer deliver stand out performances, while Patterwic brought humor and heart to her role as Tammy, and Mitchell’s portrayal of Brick added depth and charm to the narrative.

The opening weekend audiences praised the cast’s chemistry and dynamic performances during an exclusive talk-back session following the show.

Supporting actors Alexandria Bates (Marley), Dennis Elkins (J.D.) and Tyler Price (Jamal) also received high praise, bringing their

characters to life with vibrant and memorable performances. The stellar ensemble cast added to the production’s success, creating a truly immersive experience for the audience.

“*Escape to Margaritaville*” resumes on June 7 at 7 p.m. at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. Buffett’s musical is a perfect escape for those seeking laughter, music, and a touch of tropical fun.

In addition to the ongoing performances of “*Escape to Margaritaville*,” rehearsals have begun for “*Beautiful: The Carole King Musical*,” starring Margot Grom.

This highly anticipated show opens on June 14 and is a captivating jukebox musical that chronicles the inspiring true story of King’s remarkable rise to stardom.

From her early beginnings as a teenage songwriter in the 1950s to her transformation into one of the most successful solo acts in music history, the musical showcases King’s journey through personal and professional triumphs and challenges.

Featuring an array of beloved hits such as “*You’ve Got a Friend*,” “*Natural Woman*” and “*It’s Too Late*,” the show highlights her collaboration with other iconic songwriters and performers.

“*Beautiful*” is a heartfelt celebration of King’s enduring legacy and the timeless music that defined a generation.

For more information and to buy tickets, visit pagosacenter.org or contact the box office at (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

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Scan to sign up for updates & exclusive events.

Pagosa Springs Photography Club meeting set for June 12

By Andy Butler
Pagosa Springs Photography Club

The June meeting of the Pagosa Springs Photography Club will be held on Wednesday, June 12, at the Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St.

We will begin with social time at 6 p.m., and the meeting will start at 6:30 p.m. This month's presentation will be by Joe Sinclair. Sinclair will discuss techniques and tips for photographing flat subjects, such as documents or paintings.

Sinclair has been a member of the Pagosa Springs Photography Club for several years. In addition, he is a member of the Napa Valley Photo-

graphic Society in California. He has been photographing for 60 years and has received numerous awards for his photos.

In his presentation, Sinclair will discuss techniques and considerations for two-dimensional photography (photography of flat objects) that while simple to do are important to understand. The talk will then relate two-dimensional photography to normal photography, an understanding that is very useful for improving one's skills as a photographer.

The presentation will be followed by our member's image share. Photo Club members may bring up to five images to show and discuss with the group. Please bring these on a thumb

drive. They should be saved as jpeg files of at least 2,000 pixels on the long edge.

This meeting will also be available on Zoom. The Zoom link will be emailed to members; others who wish to attend may request the link by email to abutler@mac.com.

The Pagosa Springs Photography Club welcomes everyone who enjoys making and viewing great photography. The club sponsors educational programs, image sharing and discussion, and outings to help our members improve their photography.

For more information about the club, and to download a membership application, visit our website at <https://pagosaspringsphotoclub.org/about/>.

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Questions? 970.264.3023



Arboles Independence Day parade, celebrations set for June 29

By Susan Halkin
TARA Historical Society

The TARA Historical Society at Navajo Lake will be sponsoring the annual Independence Day Parade in Arboles on June 29.

The parade will begin at 10 a.m., with the lineup starting at 9 a.m. behind the Piedra Peak Store on Willard Way.

The parade finishes up at the TARA Community Center at 333 Milton Lane.

The fundraiser for TARA includes a barbecue, a bake sale, horseshoes and fun. Parade entries include floats, vehicles, horses, animals, walking groups, wagons, four-wheelers, etc. This is a great opportunity

to practice your parade entry for the Pagosa Springs Fourth of July Parade.

This year we will have royalty from the Jicarilla tribe joining the parade. There will also be a float for veterans to commemorate their service and sacrifices to our country.

We are encouraging all local businesses and citizens to join the fun. The deadline for parade entries is June 24 at 5 p.m. Please contact Penny for a registration form or with any questions that you may have at (970) 883-5394 or email goldeneyrie@gmail.com. Also, registration forms can be picked up and dropped off at the TARA Community Center on Wednesdays or Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Registration

for the parade is free of charge. Come and join the fun on June 29.



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Photo courtesy Community United Methodist Church

On Tuesday, June 11, at 6 p.m., there will be a free concert given by the Revelation Youth Choir of Canyon Creek Presbyterian Church from Richardson, Texas, at the Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership amphitheater along the river downtown.

Free choir concert to be held June 11

Community United Methodist Church

On Tuesday, June 11, at 6 p.m., there will be a free concert given by the Revelation Youth Choir of Canyon Creek Presbyterian Church from Richardson, Texas.

The choir will be singing at the Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership amphitheater along the river downtown.

The choir is the legacy of former conductor David Hays, who shepherded the group for 24 years during his time at Canyon Creek. It is now conducted by Travis Lowery, who is in his first year with the program.

The Revelation Youth Choir is an SATB choir consisting of students in the sixth through 12th grades. They will be performing a program of new favorites, mixed in with several classics that are sure to be fun for all including music by Mark Hayes, Mark A. Miller, Giuseppe Pitoni, Heather Sorenson, Joseph Martin, Franz Schubert, Bradley Ellingboe and J. Reese Norris.

Sarah Riehm, who currently serves as the organist at Community United Methodist Church, accompanied this group on its summer tours for many years when she lived in Texas.

"It was so exciting to see the spiritual growth and deep friendships formed during our annual tours. This choir has performed all over the country, and I'm delighted they are coming to Pagosa Springs. I love their combined goals of music and mission in serving the communities they visit. Come see them. Their musicianship has always been extraordinary for such a young group of singers," she said.

The choir is in Pagosa Springs to take part in several mission projects on its annual mission trip/tour after having already worked and performed at venues in Amarillo, Texas; Colorado Springs; and Castle Rock. In Pagosa Springs, Revelation will be assisting churches in the

area, chiefly Community United Methodist Church (CUMC), with necessary mission work such as some long-term cleaning and sorting at CUMC and the CUMC Thrift Store, and other projects in the surrounding area.

As necessary as it is to put Revelation Choir to work, they also recognize the strong sense of camaraderie that inevitably comes from putting a group of teenagers together on a trip. Giving the students a week's worth of lifelong memories in the best possible environment is certainly one of their greatest joys. Certainly, being able to walk around a place as beautiful as Pagosa Springs is the best possible environment. It also gives the students a way to cap off their high school careers with both the youth ministry and the music ministry at Canyon Creek Presbyterian Church before they move on to college or elsewhere.



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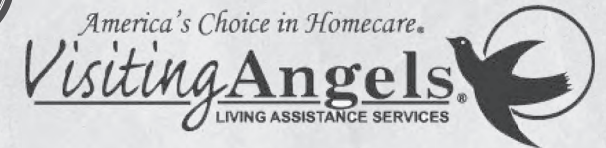
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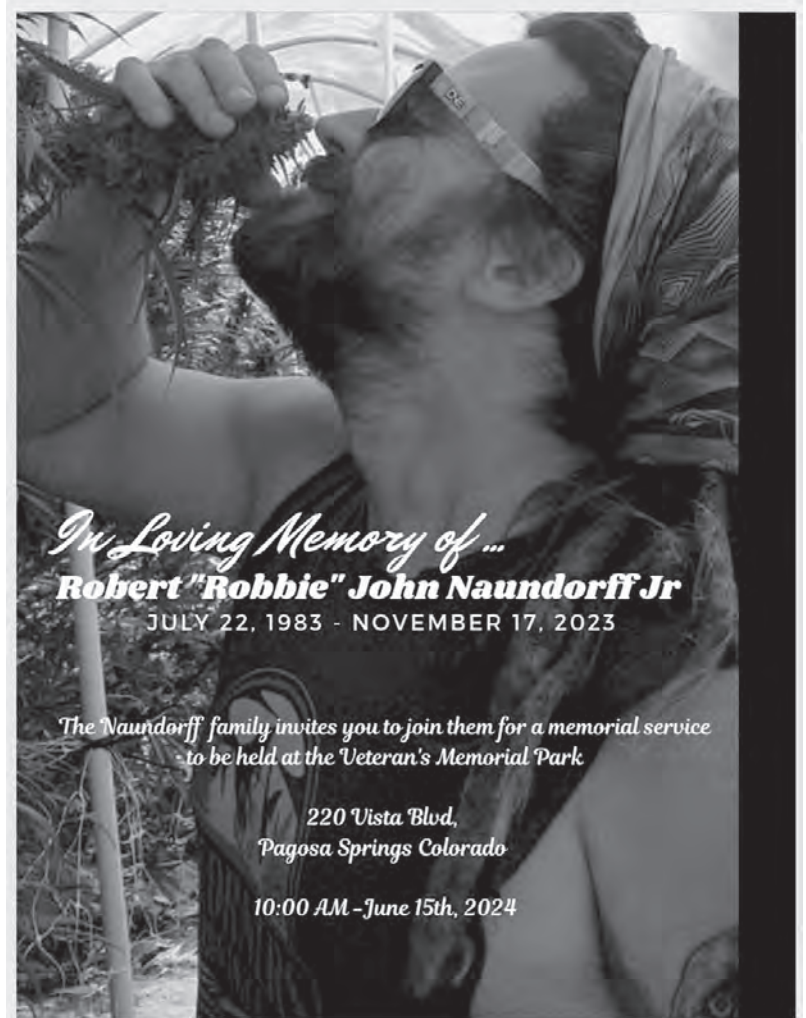
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Where everybody knows your name

By **Betty J. Slade**
PREVIEW Columnist

Pagosa Springs is like a magnet. It has a certain appeal that brings long-time guests and part-time residents back every year. They feel at home with good, honest people around them, and where everybody knows their name. Shopkeepers remember them. They frequent their favorite restaurant and find their table waiting.

That's the charm of Pagosa. We stay the same and they come home. It's like "Cheers." It's a place where people come searching for their identity and they find it here. Not at the Bull and Finch Pub on Beacon Hill, but on their own barstool in this little town at the base of Wolf Creek Pass.

Some of us grew up with Pagosa. We saw the first red light. We used the phone booth in front of Goodman's Department Store. We drove old cars that broke down on the side of the road.

Everyone carried battery cables and a chain in their car just in case their neighbor needed to be pulled out of the ditch or jump-started in the parking lot.

In those days, shops and stores closed on Saturday afternoon to support the Pagosa Pirate football team. Graduation was laced with mixed emotions; young adults wanted to grow up and leave, yet wanted to stay in the protection of people who love them and cared. There was a certain pride in watching their kids and our kids grow up together.

Yes, in this little town we have the same family-owned businesses. We did business with folks back in the '80s. We now do business with their children. The parents have passed their honest service and strong work ethics on to the next generation. My children have moved back home and they work with their friends who they went to school with. There is truly a sense of pride that we belong to each other, in history and good character.

Pagosans have held on to core values and their faith in God. Maybe that's the charm that brings people back to Pagosa. It's those hometown people who still believe in God.

Some of our residents have run from the rat race of the glamorous bright lights and moved here permanently. They have found permission to throw away their razors and wear their scruffy beards and ponytails. They've brought their skills and savvy with them and now they take their dogs to work, and take time to hunt and fish. They have found what they were looking for.

The summer residents leave when the snow flies, but they keep their local newspaper subscriptions current so they can stay in touch throughout the year. The "Artist's Lane" column has kept me in touch with friends who once lived here, but moved away for family or health reasons.

Artist's Lane

That's the charm of Pagosa. We stay the same and they come home. It's like "Cheers." It's a place where people come searching for their identity and they find it here.

Through this column, I met someone from Nebraska and we became instant friends. She called recently. "I'll be in town for a week. I'd like to get together for coffee."

"Of course. Let's meet at the coffee shop." We met and talked for three hours. I told her I felt like I'd known her my whole life. Pagosa draws people who have the same spirit. They run here from their maddening crazy world to a place where they sense peace and a touch from God.

Mark Crain, one of our longtime Pagosans, moved away a few years

ago. Everyone knows him from Do It Best. He was always one of my biggest cheerleaders. When I walked into his store, he'd yell from four aisles away, "Keep writing. Be nice to Sweet Al."

When Mark moved, he left his heart in Pagosa. He's still cheering for me miles away. He understands Pagosa and his comment from one of my articles brought a smile to my face.

"My dear friend Betty, because of West Jackson giving me this subscription to the Sun, and your precious writings, I have been revived. We look back and we should have downsized. Betty, yes, I am on Al's side 'take her to town!' My old 77 red rusted Ford, now with over 400 thousand miles and some paint still left on her, doesn't fit in this fancy Texas town. But I still drive her in.

"Several of my Pagosa friends still remind me, 'At the 4th of July parade, the parking is not the same on Main Street because that truck of yours isn't parked right on the curb across from Goodman's store.' So tell Al if she still runs 'take her to town!' Mark Crain"

Final brushstroke: I know things have changed around here, but our people are still the same. We are family. New businesses and visitors who are trying to find themselves will eventually find their own barstool where everyone will know their name. Hopefully, our wonderful folks here in Pagosa can give them a reprieve. Our little town at the foot of Wolf Creek Pass is definitely healing waters for all of us.

Send your comment to bettyj@slade.com.

Views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN.



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End of Life Education group to meet twice in June

By Joan Mieritz
Special to The PREVIEW

End of Life Education (ELE) is the name decided on for the meetings and activities presented by a volunteer group of concerned community members who want to complete their lives with the same quality and responsibility as they lived.

The next meetings will be the most important we have had and also the most difficult.

We will be meeting two consecutive times in June, on Mondays, June 17 and 24, to make certain that the needed paperwork to die is perfectly completed by each person attending. The times will be 1 p.m. and we will be meeting in the library's large meeting room. Tables will be arranged so everyone will have a work area. If you would like to bring cookies, coffee and tea will be available.

The plan is to use a small booklet available at Pagosa Springs Medical Center and at our meetings, entitled "Your Right to Make Healthcare Decisions." It was written by the Colorado Hospital Association and presents the topics accepting medical treatment, refusing medical treatment, living wills, resuscitation directives, substitute decision makers and medical guardians. Included in the booklet are three forms: medical power of attorney, living will and CPR directive.

Joan Mieritz may play "boring high school teacher" and have us read the material until someone has a question. We will then pause to discuss it until all issues are addressed and then we will move on. We will do this for each form, which you can fill out in the group or take notes and do a final draft at home to bring back the following Monday. One person has offered to help me by going over the pages related to one of the three forms. I am hoping that others will come early to see the booklet and volunteer to help (or you can pick it up at the medical center). I hope that I never was a boring teacher, so I'm not looking forward to that role, but then I've not dealt with the topic

of death.

After we have completed this, we can decide if we need a lawyer to speak to the group. Of course, an attorney is necessary to write wills and trusts, but it appears that the Colorado Hospital Association wants everyone, without cost, to be able to have filled out the necessary forms.

If you are not convinced these forms are needed, watch a Netflix presentation called "Extremis." It tells of people who have not made decisions themselves and have left it up to their families to decide after they are incapacitated. It was an excellent and very real film showing the end of life.

The picture in my mind has been peacefully falling asleep surrounded by my little family. I never considered being surrounded by machines with tubes and cords everywhere. I still have a lot to learn and perhaps some huge decisions to make. I need this group, and if you do also, please feel welcome to join us. This is a difficult topic which seems to go better with fellow humans joining together.

We are trying to figure out the best timing for a presentation on Colorado's right-to-die law, which will be coming up soon.

I hope to see you on Monday, June 17, at 1 p.m. at our library.



ESSENTIAL OILS AND THEIR EFFECT ON YOUR STRESS (Part 1)

Scent is powerful. It can trigger nostalgic memories, gag reflexes, salivation, and even relaxation and calm.

The article excerpt below explains the stress-busting impact of aromatherapy on stress.

The health benefits of aromatherapy can no longer be considered placebo in nature. Accumulating evidence now shows that the fragrance of flowers and other volatile plant compounds pack a punch as powerful as certain drugs.



In a day and age like ours, bouts of stress and anxiety are expected to occur at least occasionally during the course of daily life. In fact, if the experience is completely alien to you, you may not be paying attention to what's going on in the world around us -- or, you may be enlightened, and should be congratulated.

Certainly, anti-anxiety drugs can be effective, but they are also addictive and dangerous, with withdrawal symptoms that include seizures and, paradoxically, extreme anxiety. Because of this fact, natural alternatives are needed now more than ever.

Fortunately, finding a non-pharmaceutical solution is no longer simply a matter of guessing, or relying solely on the anecdotal accounts of others.

There is an accumulating body of pre-clinical and clinical research available today demonstrating the power, safety and effectiveness of natural compounds for relieving stress and anxiety.

In fact, some of these substances do not even require being ingested, as they can be inhaled in exceedingly small doses to be effective. (continued next week)

Source: Evidence-Based Aromatherapy: Stress Relief and Much More. By Sayer Ji. GreenMedInfo | Alternative Medicine | Vitamin Research | Natural

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

"Ointment and perfume rejoice the heart'..." Proverbs 27:9

A public service from your Adventist friends & neighbors at Pagosa Springs Seventh Day Adventist Church.

Disclaimer: This and all our Nature's Remedies are for health information purposes only. The Seventh Day Adventist Church is not responsible for results.



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Concert today, teen survival skills and Pagosa wetlands talks tomorrow

By Carole Howard
PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

Your library foundation is one of the Pagosa nonprofits benefiting from the Pagosa Springs Golf Club's 19th Hole music concerts this summer. Ours is today, Thursday, June 6, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., when the Jackson Mountain Ramblers will perform. Tickets are \$10. We hope to see you there.

Then tomorrow, Friday, June 7, there will be two free talks of special interest:

- From 11 a.m. to noon, teens are invited to learn what you would need if you found yourself alone in the wilderness. Each month in this series we will focus on different skills such as creating a survival guide using household items or finding edible plants to make food or tea.

- From 2 to 3:30 p.m., all ages are invited to learn about the animals and plants who live in our Pagosa wetlands. Josh Pike will provide a virtual tour to allow you to explore ecology and history. He is a member of the Pagosa Wetlands Partners who has been leading naturalist tours for several years.

Early library closure

Your library will close early on Monday, June 10, for a staff meeting at 5 p.m. This is our regular staff meeting schedule — on the second Monday of the month.

Summer Reading Program underway

"Adventure Begins at your Library!" is the theme of this year's free all-ages Summer Reading Program underway now.

You can choose your own adventure from the Smokey Bear reading challenge celebrating Smokey's 80th birthday, a travel journal challenge where you document your experiences as you try new things and visit new places in the area, and a Camp Ruby Sisson bingo challenge that brings back our much-loved bingo sheets.

Prizes are available for all ages for each week of summer reading activities completed, and those results also put your name into a raffle for the grand prize at the concluding party on Aug. 9, Smokey's birthday.

Sign up now in person or online and watch for details in this "Library News" column of all the fun free summer reading events coming your way.

Dungeons and Dragons

Today, Thursday, June 6, and next Tuesday, June 11, 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.

Chess Club Saturday

Learn how to play chess with



free quick lessons and game time to practice your skills on Saturday, June 8, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. All ages and abilities are welcome.

Adult knitting Saturday

Join new and experienced knitters Saturday, June 8, 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.

Jane Austin 250th birthday series

Monday mornings from 10 a.m. to noon through July 1, local fans of Jane Austen are celebrating the 250th birthday of this beloved English author, whose works include "Pride and Prejudice," "Sense and Sensibility" and "Emma."

Each week will feature a different topic, including the author's life as a woman in the late 18th and early 19th centuries, Regency-era English history, fashion, food and dance. The series highlight will be a tea party and English country dancing. Call Jenny at (240) 426-7887 for more information.

Tween Exploratorium Monday

Mondays in June from 3 to 4 p.m. is Tween Exploratorium, when tweens are invited to get together with friends to explore the world's geography through maps and flags, travel games and more.

Ruby's Book Club next Tuesday

Ruby's Book Club meets from 2-3 p.m. on Tuesday, June 11 to discuss "Fountains of Silence" by Ruta Sepetys. 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.

Teen Camp Half-blood on Wednesday

Wednesdays in June (except for June 19) from 1 to 2:30 p.m. is Camp Half-blood for teens. It is based on the very popular Percy Jackson novels and will allow young fans to participate in escape room-style activities centered around Greek myths, just like Percy Jackson.

Each week teens will be presented with puzzles and STEM challenges like "Create a device that will locate and capture the bugs that escaped

from Pandora's box" or "Arachne left webs to help you find a way through a secret passage in the labyrinth."

Summer Reading for kids

Thursdays in June from 10 to 11:30 a.m. will be a special time for kids to explore insects, plants, fossils and animals, sometimes with special guests.

■ See Library on next page

HUD
Publisher's Notice



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

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

SUDOKU

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

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!

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

ANSWER:



Photo courtesy Archuleta County Fair Board

The Archuleta County Fair Board introduces the 2024 Archuleta County Fair Royalty. Pictured are left to right, Cailey Puls, queen; Lyla-ne, princess; and Bristol Jacobson, Junior princess. Be on the lookout for them at various events and junctions. And make sure to save the date for the Archuleta County Fair: Aug. 1-4.

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Library

■ continued from previous page

Virtual author talks

Our highly popular free online author talks continue in June with two more opportunities for you to interact live with New York Times bestselling authors and ask questions, or watch later. For details and to register go to <https://libraryc.org/pagosalibrary/upcoming>.

Thursday, June 13, at 6 p.m., we'll interact with Frieda McFadden, known as the "Queen of Twists," discussing psychological thrillers.

Thursday, June 20, at noon will feature Tiffany Jewell looking at systemic racism in the American education system.

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.

Elementary tutoring

Free tutoring for children ages 6-11 will resume in October.

Writers Guild

Thursdays from 9 to 11 a.m., Ruby's Writers Guild welcomes writers looking for opportunities, support, resources and camaraderie with other writers at this free gathering.

ESL classes

Free in-person evening classes take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays, with 4 to 5 p.m. reserved for be-

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

Tech Time

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

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

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

■ See Library on next page

Preview Calendar

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

Thursday, June 6

Art at the Pinnacles. 8 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. Tickets are \$25 for ages 10 and up. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.
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.

Summer Reading Program. 10-11:30 a.m., Sisson Library. Join for a special time exploring insects, plants, fossils and animals.

Guided Great House Tour. 10:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This guided tour takes

visitors 1/3 mile up the Great Pueblo Trail. Tickets are \$12 for ages 13 and up and \$6 for ages 5-12. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

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

■ See Calendar on next page

Library

■ continued from previous page

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

"Mind Games" by Nora Roberts is a suspense story.

Mysteries, thrillers and suspense

"The Instruments of Darkness" by John Connolly is part of the Charlie Parker PI series. "Think Twice" by Harlan Coben features a suspected murderer who was thought to be dead. "Tom Clancy Act of Defiance" by Andrews and Wilson is a Jack Ryan adventure.

Large print

"Lone Oaks Crossing" by Janet Daily is book eight in the New Americana series. "Miss Morgan's Book Brigade" by Janet Skeslien Charles features a librarian who disappeared after creating children's libraries in France in World War I. "Toxic Prey" by John Sandford is a Lucas and Letty Davenport mystery. "Summers at The Saint" by Mary Kay Andrews is set in a formerly famous hotel. "Extinction" by Douglas Preston is a mystery set at a wilderness resort in the Colorado Rockies. "Clive Cussler The Heist" by Jack Du Brul is an Isaac Bell adventure.

"Circle in the Water" by Marcia Muller is a Sharon McCone mystery. "Last Seen in Havana" by Teresa Dovalpage begins when a woman returns to Cuba to find her mother. "Forget Me Never" by Susan Wittig Albert is a China Bayles mystery. "Village in the Dark" by Iris Yamashita features Anchorage Det. Cara Kennedy. "Feline Fatale" by Rita Mae Brown is a Mrs. Murphy mystery. "An Unfinished Mystery" by Jude Deveraux starts when a town's famous house goes up for sale.

Nonfiction

"The Age of Grievance" by Frank Bruni examines how grievance dominates our culture and politics on the left and right. "Light Eaters" by Zoe Schlanger looks at the hidden world of plant intelligence. "All That Hap-

piness Is" by Adam Gopnik explores alternatives to striving too hard for achievement. "No Going Back" by Kristi Noem is a look at today's politics by the governor of South Dakota and former congresswoman.

"The Wide Wide Sea" by Hampton Sides looks at Capt. James Cook's third exploration voyage that led to his death. "Say More" by Jen Psaki is a memoir of the former White House press secretary with advice on communicating and listening. "Bits and Pieces" by Whoopi Goldberg is a tribute to her mother and older brother. "The Full-Body Fat Fix" by Stephen Perrine is a seven-day plan to build a healthier, leaner you.

Donation guidelines

We are grateful to Joane Furko for materials donations.

When we are open, material donations are accepted for the Friends of the Library at the front desk — not down the outside returns slot at the library or the drop box at City Market,

please.

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

"When using a public campground, place a tuba on your picnic table. This will guarantee the campsites on either side of you will stay vacant." — from a jokes and puzzles booklet.

Website

For more information on library books, services and programs — and to reserve books, e-books, books on CD and DVDs from the comfort of your home — please visit our website at <https://pagosalibrary.org>.



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Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

provide assistance with accessing any of the library's online resources. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

Medicare Fraud Prevention Event. 3 p.m., Senior Center. Learn how to protect yourself and your loved ones. Presenters from the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) and San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging (SJBAAA) will discuss how to detect, prevent and report fraud abuse. ACSO staff will discuss general fraud targeted to seniors and SJBAAA will cover Medicare fraud.

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

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.

19th Hole Concert. 5:30-7:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs Golf Club. Concert series benefitting local nonprofits. Music by Jason Rose and Denise Chaney of the Jackson Mountain Ramblers. Featuring the Ruby Sisson Library Foundation. The cover charge is a \$10 donation.

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

San Juan Stargazers. 6 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Socializing will begin at 6 p.m., with the program beginning at 7 p.m. Dena Laterza and Ranza Boggess will present.

San Juan Outdoor Club Meeting. 6-8 p.m., PLPOA Clubhouse. Josh Pike, coordinator of the Pagosa Wetlands Partners, will give an overview of the organization. The Pagosa Wetland Partners is a committee of the Weminuche Audubon Society and was formed with the mission to protect and enhance the wetlands along the Riverwalk downtown. Pike will lead a virtual tour of the wetlands, the ecology and life histories of the species they contain; the unique hydrology of the area; and its value both as wildlife habitat and a place for the exploration of nature. The meeting will start with a social half hour at 6 p.m. with light refreshments, and the meeting will start at 6:30

p.m. For more information, email sanjuanoutdoorclub@gmail.com.

Friday, June 7

Mysteries of Chimney Rock Tour. 8-10:15 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour spotlights topics aimed at interpreting the history and significance of Chimney Rock and the Ancestral Puebloans. Tickets are \$20 for ages 13 and up, \$10 for ages 5-15, and under 5 are free. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

Guided Great House Tour. 10:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This guided tour takes visitors 1/3 mile up the Great Pueblo Trail. Tickets are \$12 for ages 13 and up and \$6 for ages 5-12. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

Indoor Pickleball. 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Ross Aragon Community Center.

Teen Survival Skills. 11 a.m.-noon, Sisson Library. Could you survive alone in the wilderness? Learn some skills you might need.

Community Coffee. 1-3 p.m., TARA Historical Society Community Center. For more information, email TARACommunityCenter101@gmail.com.

Bingo. 1:30-2:30 p.m., Senior Center. Free. Those under 18 must have an adult chaperone. For more information, contact (970) 264-2167.

Pagosa Wetlands Talk. 2-3:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Learn about the animals and plants that live in the Pagosa wetlands.

Pagosa Springs Car Show: Street Party. 5 p.m., Lewis Street. Garrett LeBeau will provide live music while you take in the cars, and food and retail vendors will be on-site.

'Escape to Margaritaville.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. For tickets and show information, see pagosacenter.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Stars and Galaxies Program. 8:30 p.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This program is offered when the earth is closest to the new moon, when the sky is at its darkest. A video presentation will be followed by a presentation explaining the significance of the night sky to the Ancestral Puebloans. Telescopes will be used to observe several different sky objects. Tickets are \$20 for ages 13 and up, \$10 for ages 5-12, and under 5 are free. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

Saturday, June 8

Riverwalk Naturalist Tours. 8 a.m., Native Plants Garden on the Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership site in Centennial Park. Join naturalist guides on a tour of discovery through the Riverwalk wetlands conservation area. Tours are free and last approximately 1-1.5 hours.

The 1.5-mile paved trail is wheelchair accessible. Please bring water, sunglasses, a hat and your curiosity. Cameras and binoculars optional. Pets should be left at home. No reservations are needed. This program is sponsored by the Weminuche Audubon Society, Pagosa Wetland Partners and The Springs Resort. For more information, email pagosawetlands@gmail.com.

Geology Tour. 8 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour explores local geology and its relationship to the daily lives of the Ancestral Puebloans. Tickets are \$20 for ages 13 and up, \$10 for ages 5-15, and under 5 are free. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

Pickleball Social Round-Robin. 8:30-11 a.m., Yamaguchi Park. Two courts will remain available for open play.

Pagosa Springs Car Show: Show and Shine. 9 a.m., Lewis Street. Vote for your favorite cars. Food and retail vendors will be on-site.

Food Production Bootcamp. 9 a.m., community garden, Centennial Park. Get hands-on experience with soil preparation and creating an irrigation system to help you start a summer garden.

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.

Guided Great House Tour. 10:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This guided tour takes visitors 1/3 mile up the Great Pueblo Trail. Tickets are \$12 for ages 13 and up and \$6 for ages 5-12. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

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

Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church 75th Anniversary. 4:30 p.m., Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church. The procession will begin at 4:30 p.m., Mass at 5 p.m., with a meal and street dance to follow.

'Escape to Margaritaville.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. For tickets and show information, see pagosacenter.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Monday, June 10

Mysteries of Chimney Rock Tour. 8-10:15 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour spotlights topics aimed at interpreting the history and significance of Chimney Rock and the Ancestral Puebloans. Tickets are \$20 for ages 13 and up, \$10 for ages 5-15, and under 5 are free. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

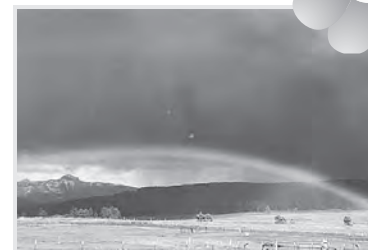
■ See Calendar on page 18

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420 Ponderosa Dr • \$998,000

3B, 3BA, 2023 sq. ft., views, near town, 8-car garage. MLS 811190



431 Talisman Dr • \$897,512

3B, 4BA, rustic-style townhome, spacious kitchen. MLS 812801



276 Dutton Dr • \$792,000

4B, 3BA, 2721 sq. ft., 665 sq. ft. heated garage, views. MLS 811882



36 Tor Ct • \$789,700

Lake front views on a larger lot, 3B, 2BA. MLS 811639



1212 Simmons Dr • \$623,500

Private location, no HOA, 4B, 3BA, custom log on 5 acres. MLS 813488



1382 County Road 973 • \$599,000

Water, water, lush green pasture, 20 shares water, 2B, 1BA. MLS 807938



161 Inspiration Dr • \$512,000

One level, 3B, 2BA, open floor plan, vaulted ceilings. MLS 813195



340 Midiron Ave • \$482,000

One level, 2B, 2BA, mountain views, new build. MLS 812000



11 Pinon Hills Pl • \$265,000

Views of Navajo Lake and La Platas, 1 acre lot, shop. MLS 804419



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PAGOSA SCENE . . .

ARCHULETA SENIORS INC.'S COMMUNITY PICNIC

Photos courtesy Archuleta Seniors Inc.

Scene ... celebrating Older Americans Month at Archuleta Seniors Inc.'s community picnic at Yamaguchi Park. Acoustic Picnic provided live music during the annual event.



Bird of the Week



Photo courtesy Charles Martinez

This week's Bird of the Week, compliments of the Weminuche Audubon Society and Audubon Rockies, is the ash-throated flycatcher.

The family of birds whose members are known as tyrant flycatchers, and which includes the ash-throated, is large and diverse. Almost every type of land habitat in North and South America is occupied by one or more of the 400-plus species that make up this group.

The ash-throated flycatcher is a bird of dry places, so well adapted to this niche that it doesn't need to drink water. The amount that it gets from the food it eats suffices. During breeding season it is found in western states in dry scrub, oak, juniper and pinyon forests, and open woodlands up to 9000 feet elevation.

The ash-throated is a long and slender flycatcher, grayish-brown with a pale yellow belly and peaked head. Cinnamon colors are found on the wings and on the underside of the tail. The head and face is ashy gray, which blends to a whitish neck and gives the bird its name.

This is not a bird that will show up at your feeder. It dines on spiders and insects including wasps, bees, bugs, moths, caterpillars, flies and more. In season it will also eat some small fruits. While many of the woodland flycatchers that we see hunt by flying out to catch prey midair, this is not typically the ash-throated's style. Instead, most often it forages in the lower levels of trees and shrubs, scanning the leaves and twigs for prey.

A secondary cavity nester, the ash-throated seeks abandoned woodpecker holes or natural tree cavities to build its nest and is fiercely possessive of these limited sites. To its advantage, it has also adapted to utilize man-made cavities including nest boxes, and has been found nesting in unusual places including pipes, fence posts and even inside laundry hanging on a clothesline. This flexibility has balanced the losses of natural nest sites and contributed to the ash-throated flycatcher expanding its range.

By mid-September, ash-throated flycatchers will have departed most of the United States to spend the winter in Mexico and in parts of Central America.

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



Blood drive set for June 11

By Sharee Grazda
Special to The PREVIEW

A young woman hemorrhaging after a c-section giving birth to a baby girl; multiple victims of a vehicle-versus-large-truck crash; a local girl with aplastic anemia who needs ongoing transfusions.

These are just a few of the possible scenarios where life-saving blood is needed immediately and consistently.

From where will the blood come? Blood cannot be manufactured. It must be given from one person to another.

It will be provided by members of a caring community with the ability and desire to be good neighbors.

That opportunity will be at Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive, on Tuesday, June 11, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Hopefully this time you will be the generous donor.

Another time you may be the grateful recipient.

To make an appointment, please contact local volunteer Sharee Grazda at (970) 946-2760 or visit the vitalant.org website. You may also call Vitalant at (877) 25-VITAL. There will be posters around town which have a QR code which can be scanned on your phone.

Community news.

The Pagosa Springs SUN
264-2100

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Preview Calendar

■ continued from page 15

- rockco.org.
- Women's Fellowship.** 9-11 a.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms.
- Plant Walk with Lake McCullough.** 9:30-11:30 a.m., Turkey Springs. The walk will explore early summer herbs, wildflowers and medicinal plants in the Turkey Springs area. There is a 15-person maximum. Reserve your spot by calling (970) 398-0923.
- 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.
- Jane Austen Series.** 10 a.m.-noon, Sisson Library. Books, films, history and more. Celebrate with readers of all ages.
- Indoor Pickleball.** 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Ross Aragon Community Center.
- Plant Walk with Lake McCullough.** 11:45 a.m.-1:45 p.m., Turkey Springs. The walk will explore early summer herbs, wildflowers and medicinal plants in the Turkey Springs area. There is a 15-person maximum. Reserve your spot by calling (970) 398-0923.
- Senior Conversations.** 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.
- Healthy Aging and Yoga Therapy Class.** 2:30-3:30 p.m., Senior Center.
- Tween Exploratorium.** 3-4 p.m., Sisson Library. Get together with friends and explore the world through projects, games and more. Registration required. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.
- Deepening the Faith Classes.** 6-8 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms.
- Tuesday, June 11**
- Veterans for Veterans of Archuleta County.** 10 a.m., Tennyson Building Event Center, 197 Navajo Trail Drive. Veterans and family members are invited to share experiences with vets of all ages. Find out about the latest in vets benefits, vets news and community-focused events. Contact (970) 880-8387 for more details.
- 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.
- Blood Drive.** 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone

- Drive. To make an appointment, contact Sharee Grazda at (970) 946-2760 or visit vitalant.org.
- Guided Great House Tour.** 10:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This guided tour takes visitors 1/3 mile up the Great Pueblo Trail. Tickets are \$12 for ages 13 and up and \$6 for ages 5-12. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.
- 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 "Fountains of Silence" by Ruta Sepetys. Pick up a copy at the library. Snacks will be provided.
- Dungeons and Dragons.** 4-5:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Join the adventure. Preregistration is required.
- 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.
- Art at the Pinnacles.** 5 p.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. Tickets are \$25 for ages 10 and up. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.
- Geology Tour.** 5 p.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour explores local geology and its relationship to the daily lives of the Ancestral Puebloans. Tickets are \$20 for ages 13 and up, \$10 for ages 5-15, and under 5 are free. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.
- 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.
- Revelation Youth Choir Concert.** 6 p.m., Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership amphitheater, Centennial Park. The choir will be perform-
- See Calendar on next page

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Vatican-related
- 6 In a group of
- 10 Pilgrim to Mecca
- 14 Visibly shocked
- 15 "And Then There Were ___" (Christie mystery)
- 16 Tent event
- 17 Tundra's lack
- 18 Pastime
- 20 Car in a procession
- 22 Stayed behind
- 23 They're handed down
- 25 Suffix with ideal
- 26 Choice on an Edit menu
- 27 Tex-Mex munchie
- 31 Yogi, for one
- 34 Still too green
- 36 Ryan's role in 2023
- 37 Lois of the Daily Planet
- 38 Theater feature
- 39 Out of shape?
- 40 Columbus Day mo.
- 41 Kind of shepherd
- 42 Creative pursuits
- 43 Monster of myth
- 45 Cash drawer
- 47 Grenade part
- 48 Furnish with battlements
- 53 Former believer
- 56 Cultivated plot
- 57 Natural magnet
- 59 Pigeon's perch
- 60 Ruse anagram
- 61 Table scraps
- 62 Like some gases
- 63 Military meal
- 64 Cousin of "ahem"

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14					15				16			
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57							58		59			
60					61				62			
63					64				65			

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65 Type of campaign

DOWN

- 1 Maze choices
- 2 Side (with)
- 3 Joyous hymn
- 4 Camera setting
- 5 Taper off
- 6 Furthermore
- 7 Wavy fabric pattern
- 8 Look into
- 9 Consider
- 10 Lend a hand to
- 11 Law-firm hotshot
- 12 Soothing plant
- 13 River feature
- 19 Union demand
- 21 Ultimate consumer
- 24 Renovation pros
- 28 Available job
- 29 Bodywork target
- 30 Pantry invaders

31 Legislative group

- 32 Price-tag word
- 33 North and South poles, e.g.
- 35 Hit head-on
- 39 Dance setting
- 41 Mannerly men
- 44 Penny pinchers
- 46 Masters

49 Signs a lease

- 50 Hacienda brick
- 51 Edison contemporary
- 52 PC key
- 53 Diploma holder, briefly
- 54 Sit for a portrait
- 55 On the summit of
- 58 Repair shop fig.

Answers to Previous Crossword:

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

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Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page**
ing a program of new favorites and several classics.

Lecture: 'Beware of Chronological Snobbery.' 7 p.m., Community Center, 451 Hot Springs Boulevard. The Rev. Dr. Steven Rutt will present, with a Q-and-A to follow. Presented by the Trinity Anglican Church of Pagosa Springs.

Chimney Rock Interpretive Association Lecture Series: Dr. John Kappelman. 7 p.m., CSU Extension building, 344 U.S. 84. Kappelman will speak on "Tracking Humans from Africa to the Four Corners: A journey through time and space." A Q-and-A period will follow. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

Riverwalk Naturalist Tours. 7 p.m., Native Plants Garden on the Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership site in Centennial Park. Join naturalist guides on a tour of discovery through the Riverwalk wetlands conservation area. Tours are free and last approximately 1-1.5 hours. The 1.5-mile paved trail is wheelchair accessible. Please bring water, sunglasses, a hat and your curiosity. Cameras and binoculars optional. Pets should be left at home. No reservations are needed. This program is sponsored by the Weminuche Audubon Society, Pagosa Wetland Partners and The Springs Resort. For more information, email pagosawetlands@gmail.com.

Wednesday, June 12

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.

Indoor Pickleball. 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Ross Aragon Community Center.

Pickleball Beginner Lessons. 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Register on the Pagosa Springs Parks and Recreation page at <https://secure.rec1.com/CO/pagosa-springs-co/catalog>.

Camp Halfblood. 1-2:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Percy Jackson fans are invited to join to complete a variety of STEAM challenges and puzzles based on Greek myths.

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

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

Mysteries of Chimney Rock Tour. 5-7:15 p.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour spotlights topics aimed at interpreting the history and significance of Chimney Rock and the Ancestral Puebloans. Tickets are \$20 for ages 13 and up, \$10 for ages 5-15, and under 5 are free. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

Pagosa Springs Photography Club. 6 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis Street. Social

time will begin at 6 p.m., with the meeting beginning at 6:30 p.m. Joe Sinclair will present on photographing flat subjects. For more information, visit pagosasprings-photoclub.org.

Curtains Up Pagosa Presents 'Once Upon a Mattress.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Tickets are \$10 for students under 18, and \$20 for adults. Tickets are available at curtainssuppagosa.ludus.com/200454347.

Thursday, June 13

Flora Tour. 8:15 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour is designed to educate visitors about the plants indigenous to Chimney Rock National Monument and the surrounding area. Tickets are \$20 for ages 13 and up, \$10 for ages 5-12, and under 5 are free. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

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.

Summer Reading Program. 10-11:30 a.m., Sisson Library. Join for a special time exploring insects, plants, fossils and animals.

Guided Great House Tour. 10:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This guided tour takes visitors 1/3 mile up the Great Pueblo Trail. Tickets are \$12 for ages 13 and up and \$6 for ages 5-12. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

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

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

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

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

19th Hole Concert. 5:30-7:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs Golf Club. Concert series benefitting local nonprofits. Music by Bo DePena. Featuring

the Cornerstone Project. The cover charge is a \$10 donation.

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

Virtual Author Talk: Frieda McFad-

■ **See Calendar on page 21**



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

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

WORDS

AL BUNDY
 CARL WINSLOW
 CYRUS ROSE
 DAN CONNER
 DANNY TANNER
 ERIC TAYLOR
 FRANK COSTANZA
 FRED ANDREWS
 GOMEZ ADDAMS
 HOMER SIMPSON
 JACK PEARSON
 JAMES EVANS SR
 JASON SEAVER
 LOUIS HUANG
 MICHAEL KYLE
 MIKE BRADY
 MITCH LEERY
 NED STARK
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Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page**
den. 6 p.m., virtual. Listen live or recorded. Frieda McFadden, known as the "Queen of Twists," will discuss psychological thrillers. For details and to register, go to <https://libraryc.org/pagosalibrary/upcoming>.

Curtains Up Pagosa Presents 'Once Upon a Mattress.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Tickets are \$10 for students under 18, and \$20 for adults. Tickets are available at curtainsuppagosa.ludus.com/200454347.

Friday, June 14

Mysteries of Chimney Rock Tour. 8-10:15 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour spotlights topics aimed at interpreting the history and significance of Chimney Rock and the Ancestral Puebloans. Tickets are \$20 for ages 13 and up, \$10 for ages 5-15, and under 5 are free. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

Guided Great House Tour. 10:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This guided tour takes visitors 1/3 mile up the Great Pueblo Trail. Tickets are \$12 for ages 13 and up and \$6 for ages 5-12. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

Indoor Pickleball. 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Ross Aragon Community Center.

Community Coffee. 1-3 p.m., TARA Historical Society Community Center. For more information, email TARACommunityCenter101@gmail.com.

LEGO Free Time. 2-3:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Joint for free time to explore your building and imagination skills.

All-Ages Gaming. 4-6 p.m., Sisson Library. Play on the library's Xbox.

'Beautiful: The Carole King Musical.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. For tickets and show information, see pagosacenter.org

or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Curtains Up Pagosa Presents 'Once Upon a Mattress.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Tickets are \$10 for students under 18, and \$20 for adults. Tickets are available at curtainsuppagosa.ludus.com/200454347.

Our Solar System Program. 8:30 p.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This program is offered during the best viewing of the moon's surface using a telescope. A video presentation will be followed by a presentation explaining the significance of the night sky to the Ancestral Puebloans. Telescopes will be used to observe several different sky objects. Tickets are \$20 for ages 13 and up, \$10 for ages 5-12, and under 5 are free. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

Saturday, June 15

Riverwalk Naturalist Tours. 8 a.m., Native Plants Garden on the Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership site in Centennial Park. Join naturalist guides on a tour of discovery through the Riverwalk wetlands conservation area. Tours are free and last approximately 1-1.5 hours. The 1.5-mile paved trail is wheelchair accessible. Please bring water, sunglasses, a hat and your curiosity. Cameras and binoculars optional. Pets should be left at home. No reservations are needed. This program is sponsored by the Weminuche Audubon Society, Pagosa Wetland Partners and The Springs Resort. For more information, email pagosawetlands@gmail.com.

Geology Tour. 8 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour explores local geology and its relationship to the daily lives of the Ancestral Puebloans. Tickets are \$20 for ages 13 and up, \$10 for ages 5-15, and under 5 are free.

For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

Pickleball Social Round-Robin. 8:30-11 a.m., Yamaguchi Park. Two courts will remain available for open play.

Guided Great House Tour. 10:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This guided tour takes visitors 1/3 mile up the Great Pueblo Trail. Tickets are \$12 for ages 13 and up and \$6 for ages 5-12. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

LEGO Club. 11 a.m.-noon, Sisson Library. For ages 6-11. Bring your own LEGO's or use the library's to free build.

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

Flute Music at Twilight. 6 p.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. Tickets are \$20 for ages 13 and up, \$10 for ages 5-12, and under 5 are free. Recommended for ages 4 and up. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

'Beautiful: The Carole King Musical.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. For tickets and show information, see pagosacenter.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Curtains Up Pagosa Presents 'Once Upon a Mattress.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Tickets are \$10 for students under 18, and \$20 for adults. Tickets are available at curtainsuppagosa.ludus.com/200454347.

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Volunteers sought for annual Spanish Fiesta

By Rose Chavez
PREVIEW Columnist

Archuleta Seniors Inc. (ASI) is looking to recruit volunteers to set up the 22nd Annual Spanish Fiesta on July 26, help with activities the day of the event, July 27, and help with tear down of the event on July 28.

All volunteers are required to purchase their tickets to the event in advance and, once the volunteer assignment is complete, you will be reimbursed after the event and will receive a gift card for provision of your services.

This event is only successful with the help of volunteers and community sponsorship, so please consider offering your time and coming out to enjoy the festivities with us.

For more information, please visit psseniors.org, call (970) 264-2167 or email us at rosa@psseniors.org.

Spanish Fiesta July 27

This year you are invited to the 22nd annual Spanish Fiesta on July 27.

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

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

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

This year is the 22nd anniversary of the Spanish Fiesta after being dormant for some 20 years before it was revived in 2023.

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

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

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

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

Proceeds from this event will support older adults of Archuleta County through the services of ASI and a BIPOC youth and elder scholarship fund.

Admission is for an afternoon and evening from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m. filled with fun for all. Tickets are available online <https://givebutter.com/Span->

Senior News

ishFiesta2024 and will be available starting in June for paper tickets.

If you are interested in volunteering, being a sponsor or vendor please call (970) 264.2167 or email Rose Chavez at rosa@psseniors.org.

Medicare fraud prevention

Learn how to protect yourself and your loved ones by attending a special event on June 6 at 3 p.m. at the Pagosa Senior Center.

Presenters from the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) and San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging (SJBAAA) will discuss how to detect, prevent and report fraud abuse. ACSO staff will discuss general fraud targeted to seniors, and the SJBAAA will cover Medicare fraud.

Fraud costs Medicare an estimated \$60 billion per year. It costs Medicare beneficiaries in time, stress, their medical identities and potentially their health. It costs families, friends and caregivers in worry and lost work when helping their loved ones recover from falling victim to Medicare fraud.

"Medicare fraud has a devastating impact on both beneficiaries and the Medicare program," said Caryn Hill, Medicare and Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) counselor. "We teach people how to avoid experiencing Medicare fraud. By preventing fraud from happening, this program helps individuals and protects the Medicare program for generations to come."

She added, "We're excited to teach

people about how to protect themselves from Medicare and general fraud and about the services that the Senior Medicare Patrol program offers."

Medicare Fraud Prevention Week begins June 3. Everyone can help play a part in the fight against fraud:

- Medicare beneficiaries can monitor their insurance statements to make sure products and services received match what is on the statements. They can request free My Health Care Trackers from their local SMP.

- Caregivers can help by being on the lookout for items such as durable medical equipment (like boxes of knee braces) lying around the house that may have been shipped to the beneficiary without their or their doctor's approval. They can remind their client or loved one to never give out their Medicare number or other personal information over the phone.

- Families can help by talking to their loved ones about protecting their Medicare number just as they would a credit card number. They can help their loved ones create a Medicare.gov account to access their Medicare statements online or remind them to open and review them when they come in the mail. They can also register their phone number on "do not call" lists and go to optoutprescreen.com to opt out of mailings.

- Partners and professionals can help by sharing SMP information on social media, referring clients and consumers to the SMP, and inviting the SMP to speak during a shared event.

- Health care providers can help by talking to patients about health care-related scams such as those related to durable medical equip-

ment and genetic testing schemes. They can remind them that products and services should only be ordered by physicians they regularly see. Needed medical items should never be ordered through TV ads or unsolicited calls.

- Community members can help by looking out for older neighbors. When in public, they can be aware of older individuals purchasing gift cards in large amounts. They can encourage those they know to talk to a trusted source about their Medicare questions and tell neighbors about the most recent Medicare scams. They can even consider volunteering with the local SMP.

The SJBAAA SMP is ready to provide you with the information you need to protect yourself from Medicare fraud, errors and abuse; detect potential fraud, errors and abuse; and report your concerns. SMPs help educate and empower Medicare beneficiaries in the fight against health care fraud.

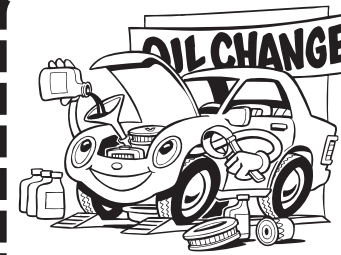
The Senior Center is located at 451 Hot Springs Blvd. For more information about the June 6 event, SMP or Medicare in general, please call the SJBAAA Medicare line at (970) 264-0501, ext. 2.

Fresh Conversations

Are you interested in connecting with others and learning more about staying healthy? Please join us for Fresh Conversations on June 12 from 2 to 3 p.m. at the Pagosa Senior Center.

This month you will learn about the connection between oral health and malnutrition, identify signs of

■ See Senior on next page



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Senior

■ continued from previous page

malnutrition and learn ways to protect your oral health. You will also learn about why physical activity makes you feel good.

Fresh Conversations is always free, and participants get a newsletter to take home that includes a delicious budget-friendly recipe and a fun word game. We look forward to having you join us.

Emotional Freedom Technique sessions

There will be an Emotional Freedom Technique (EFT) session on June 18 at 10 a.m.

EFT 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.

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.

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

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

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

No special clothing or equipment is required.

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

Senior Conversations

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

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

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

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.

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, June 6 — Teriyaki beef and peppers, coconut rice, sauteed snow peas, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Friday, June 7 — Herbed chicken and dumplings, green beans, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Monday, June 10 — Beef lasagna, garlic bread, sauteed greens, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Tuesday, June 11 — Tuscan sausage, kale, white bean stew, herb

■ See Senior on next page

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June is Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month

By Jim Herlihy

Alzheimer's Association of Colorado

Alzheimer's disease is most likely to occur in people age 65 and older, but if that's when you start thinking about the disease, you're already too late. The changes in our brains that lead to Alzheimer's begin 15 to 20 years before current science can diagnose it, so it's never too early to take charge of your own brain health.

June is Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month, and the Alzheimer's Association reminds us that almost all of us will be touched by the disease at some point, whether through the disease itself or by caring for a loved one who has it. And waiting for Alzheimer's or other forms of dementia to show themselves means we've waited too long.

Why be concerned about Alzheimer's? The disease is the sev-

enth-leading cause of death, and the only leading disease without a prevention or cure. And while age is the primary risk factor for developing Alzheimer's, as much as 40 percent of dementia cases may be attributable to modifiable risk, meaning we can reduce — or increase — that risk depending on how we lead our lives.

"Research shows that adopting healthy behaviors, like getting exercise and good quality sleep, may reduce the risk of cognitive decline," said Jim Hammelev, executive director of the Alzheimer's Association of Colorado.

"We know that the brain changes that lead to an Alzheimer's diagnosis are happening 15 to 20 years before the disease is ever diagnosed," Hammelev said. "Factors including high blood pressure, lack of physical activity, our diet and how social we are all play a role in our risk for developing Alzheimer's or other forms

of dementia."

Following are some statistics about the risk of developing Alzheimer's:

- More than 7 million Americans are among the 55 million people worldwide living with Alzheimer's disease, including nearly 91,000 Coloradans.

- Women account for roughly two-thirds of all cases.

- Black Americans are twice as likely as whites to develop Alzheimer's, while Hispanic and Native Americans are 50 percent more likely.

- One person in nine (10.9 percent) over age 65 is living with Alzheimer's. At age 85, 33.4 percent of all people are living with the disease.

- The lifetime risk for Alzheimer's at age 45 is 1 in 5 for women and 1 in 10 for men.

■ See Awareness on next page

Senior

■ continued from previous page

focaccia bread, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Wednesday, June 12 — Chicken and mushroom crepes, sauteed zucchini medley, garden salad, fruit, dinner roll and milk.

Thursday, June 13 — Indian shepherd's pie, roasted curry cauliflower, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Friday, June 14 — ASI staff appreciation event — closed to the public. No lunch or activities.

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

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.

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). Donation checks can be written to: Archuleta Seniors Inc. We are located at 451 Hot Springs Blvd. For more information about Archuleta Seniors Inc., please visit <http://www.psseniors.org/>.

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Awareness

■ continued from previous page

Steps to maintain cognitive health

While age remains the leading risk factor for developing Alzheimer's disease, there are specific steps we can take to maintain our cognitive health and reduce our overall risk of developing Alzheimer's or other forms of dementia.

- Can you hear me now?

Hearing loss is present in 65 percent of adults over age 60, according to researchers. One study looked at a subgroup of older adults with hearing loss who were at higher risk for cognitive decline (about one-quarter of the total study population). It showed that those participants at highest risk for cognitive decline who utilized hearing aids and hearing counseling for three years cut their cognitive decline in half (48 percent).

- Guard your gut.

Sixteen percent of the world's population struggles with constipation — more among older adults due to fiber-deficient diets, lack of exercise and the use of certain medications.

Researchers found that bowel movements less frequent than every three days was associated with 73% higher odds of subjective cognitive decline and long-term health issues like inflammation, hormonal imbalances and anxiety/depression.

- Unrefined is fine.

If more than 20 percent of your caloric intake consists of ultra-processed foods, including breakfast cereals, white bread, potato chips, soda, hamburgers and French fries along with frozen foods such as lasagna, pizza and ice cream, researchers say you are likely to have a 28 percent faster decline in global cognitive scores — including memory, verbal fluency and executive function — compared to those with lower consumption.

- Sleep it off.

The National Sleep Foundation reports that sleep apnea may affect 20 percent of the population, and most of those (85 percent) don't know they have it. People with this sleep disorder are more likely to have brain biomarkers associated with a heightened risk of stroke and cognitive decline. Sleep apnea also increases other health risks, including cardiovascular disease and hypertension, which are associated with higher incidence of dementia.

- Be engaged.

Volunteering in later life is associated with better cognitive function. A University of California-Davis study found that volunteering was associated with better baseline scores on tests of executive function and verbal episodic memory.

Volunteering vs. working: A study by University of Colorado researchers of an adult population aged 70 to 79 showed that volunteering was related to 16 percent lower odds of developing dementia (24 percent lower among women). While there are benefits to remaining cognitively active through

employment after the traditional retirement age, researchers noted that volunteering may provide added benefits because volunteering "is mentally and emotionally rewarding."

Volunteer with us: As an Alzheimer's Association volunteer, you can help people in your community take steps to reduce their dementia risk and recognize the signs of Alzheimer's. Visit alz.org/volunteer.

- Ask your doctor.

Adults age 65 and over can receive a Medicare-covered cognitive assessment during their routine doctor's visit, such as an annual physical. Why is this important? Roughly half of all Americans living with Alzheimer's disease are never diagnosed. Without a diagnosis, you cannot take advantage of the new FDA-approved medications proven to slow the disease's progression. And family members will not know to take advantage of valuable educational programs, provided at no charge by the Alzheimer's Association, to help better understand the changes that come with the disease, and important legal and financial planning steps.

To learn more about the Alzheimer's Association 10 Healthy Habits for Your Brain, go to alz.org/healthyhabits.

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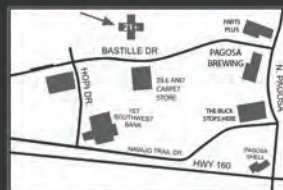
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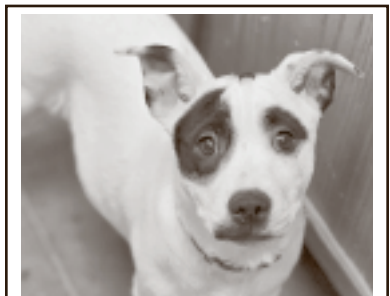
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

FREE NUTRITIONAL CONSULTATION for those kind souls who've stepped up to help with the 81 Pineridge clean-up. Call me, Zhena (970)731-5098.

ILLUMINATIONS Thursday 6p.m. Lectures at The New Thought Metaphysical Center at Pagosa Lodge. June 13th- Maggie Red Eagle and Shayla White Eagle will speak on Summer Solstice and Earth Gridwork. Working with Earth Mother and the Stars to Balance Energy On The Planet. Outdoor Workshop Solstice, Friday, June 21st. (970)510-0309.

PAGOSA AA: M-W-F 5:30P.M.; Sunday 10a.m, Tuesday and Thursday at noon, Saturday at 10a.m.. Zoom Sunday 10a.m., ID 858 319 763, password 754 234, 315 N. 2nd St., County Road 200 (.2 miles off 160). Information, call Kathi (970)946-1482, or Central Office (888)333-9649.

THERE IS A SOLUTION GROUP of Alcoholics Anonymous meets Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, 5:30-6:30p.m. Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. Questions? Richard: (970)903-1456. Diamond: (970)264-1073. More resources: www.aa.org, www.aa-westerncolorado.com, (970)245-9649, (888)333-9649 (24 hours).

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REQUEST FOR QUOTE: NITRATE-FREE UNCURED HOT DOGS The Archuleta School District #50 JT is accepting quotes for a single company to provide district-wide fresh nitrate-free uncured hot dogs for the school year 2024-25 that meet the Federal and State nutritional requirements. Quotes will be accepted until 2:00p.m., Friday August 2, 2024, at the Archuleta School District #50 JT Administration Building, P.O. Box 1498, 309 Lewis Street, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 with a copy also being emailed by that date and time to eburt@pagosa.k12.co.us. Copies of the complete RFQ can be found on the District's website at www.mypagosaschools.com in the "District" section, under Bids /RFPs /RFQs. Alternatively, specifications can be obtained at the District Administration Office, Monday -Thursday from 8a.m.-4p.m., or by sending an email to eburt@pagosa.k12.co.us.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL The Archuleta School District is accepting proposals for the provision of solid waste and recycling pickup services for the 2024-25 school year. Details of the RFP are located on the district's website www.mypagosaschools.com under District >Bids/ RFPs/ RFQs. Please contact Josh Sanchez at jsanchez@pagosa.k12.co.us or Eric Burt at eburt@pagosa.k12.co.us with any questions.

REQUEST FOR QUOTES: PIZZA The Archuleta School District #50 JT is accepting quotes for a single company to provide district-wide freshly made whole wheat crust pizzas for the school year 2024-25, utilizing fresh ingredients and meeting the Federal and State nutritional requirements. Quotes will be accepted until 2:00p.m., Friday August 2, 2024, at the Archuleta School District #50 JT Administration Building, P.O. Box 1498, 309 Lewis Street, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 with a copy also being e-mailed by that date and time to tstevens@pagosa.k12.co.us and eburt@pagosa.k12.co.us. Copies of the complete RFQ can be found on the District's website at www.mypagosaschools.com in the "District" section, under Bids /RFPs /RFQs. Alternatively, specifications can be obtained at the District Administration Office, Monday -Thursday from 8a.m. -4p.m., or by sending an email to eburt@pagosa.k12.co.us.

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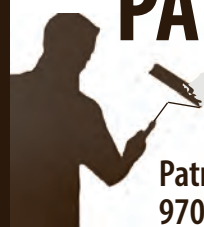
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IMMEDIATE OPENINGS for kitchen staff, servers and bartenders for the summer season. Experience preferred but will train. Please apply in person at The Buck Stops Here Market and Eatery, 19 Navajo Trail Dr.

KEYAH GRANDE GUEST HOUSE is seeking a highly skilled and passionate Executive Chef to lead our culinary team and new restaurant. The ideal candidate will have a profound appreciation for fine-dining, and ability to curate diverse ingredients and flavors. BOE. Apply: theguesthouse@keyahgrande.com or (970)946-5165.

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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.

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SEEKING PART-TIME HELP. For landscaping, experience helpful. Must have valid drivers license and transportation. Contact Eric. (970)946-2061.

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DRY FIREWOOD- PINE. Pick up \$240 a cord. Delivery available. Call for prices. Bayfield. Gabe (970)403-2784.

FOR SALE. 4- 17" Subaru Rims \$75.00, 4- 16" 4 Runner Rims \$75.00, 2- Open- Rim Trailer Tires \$60.00, Radial Arm Saw \$40.00. Call (970)946-5844.

JOHN DEERE 48" SNOW BLOWER. Single stage includes auger, mount, drive shaft. Fits tractor models 430, 420, 332, 322, 318. \$150. (713)907-0886.

MEAT PROCESSING EQUIPMENT. Meat band saw, grinders, wrapping equipment, scale, tubs. \$750 (970)946-1544.

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.

OWNER FINANCING. 1.3 acres. Old town, mountain views. Utilities available. Private location. Call Gail Brault Realtor, Mountain Meadow Real Estate. (970)946-2051.

POWER TOOL SALE. DeWalt, Milwaukee, Makita. Grinders, drills, cut-off saw, pole saw. (970)946-1544.

SELL OR TRADE YOUR GUNS. We buy for cash or trade it. No hassle. Licensed, bonded, insured. San Juan Trading Post, 635 San Juan St. (970)731-PAWN (7296).

TWO 50-GALLON STEEL DRUMS with lids. Used, great condition, \$45 each. Can be seen on Thursday or Friday at Pagosa Springs SUN, 457 Lewis Street.

TWO DIMENSION 12ft x 27" single person kayaks. One yellow and one red. \$100 each. (719)351-6887. Delivery not available.

FOR SALE

USED HORSE and mule saddles, pack saddle, and various tack, all in good condition. (970)264-1449.

WRIGHT NATURAL BAKERY. Located at East Side Market. Open 9a.m. to 3p.m. Friday through Sunday. Best of pasture-raised eggs. Baked items have reduced sugar, same sweetness. Organic, gluten-free products. Unique, gluten-free muffins and cookies. (970)903-1998 or (970)883-2600. wrightnaturalbakery@gmail.com.

LIVESTOCK

HORSE BOARDING AVAILABLE -up to 2 horses. 10 acre fenced pasture. \$150 per horse, per month. (970)883-2600. wrightnaturalbakery@gmail.com.

USED METAL CORRAL PANELS. Various sizes and weights. 10ft -16ft. Gates also available. Astraddle A Saddle (970)346-7999.

PETS

ADOPT FROM THE Humane Society. Stop by or call (970)731-4771. You'll be amazed at what we have to offer, www.PagosaHumane.org.

COWBOY CORGIS (mini aussie/ corgi) \$700 each. (505)482-6825.

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.

AUTOS

1998 2.8 LITER BMW Z3 ROADSTER black, power roof, with 87,500 miles for \$12,000. This roadster is in excellent condition with practically new tires (installed last year) and fairly new back window, CD changer and cassette tape works great. Air conditioner blows cold. I bought it in 2019 and it has been property maintained. Patrick (405)314-0686.

2001 BUICK LESABRE 122k miles. FWD. Sold as is. Mechanically sound. Body in great condition. \$2,800 OBO. (310)245-0555.

2004 TOYOTA TACOMA. 143,000 miles. Dependable truck, 2 sets of rims and tires. \$7,800 OBO. (970)946-0526.

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 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.

RV 30 FOOT GREY WOLF LIMITED. 2018 Toy hauler. Excellent condition. \$18,500. (480)717-2505.

YARD SALES

BE SURE TO CHECK for more yard sales in the Too Late To Classify section.

ESTATE SALE. Friday and Saturday, June 7 and 8. 8a.m. sharp. House full of stuff. Furniture, household and kitchen items, lawn mower and yard tools, decorative items, model trains, telescopes, garage stuff and lots more. Hwy 160 West, right on Piedra Road, left on Cloud Cap, house #148. Rain or shine. AEHPOS.

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY. 8a.m. -2p.m. ART and ESTATE SALE! Furniture, Fine Art Photography, etc. 633 Navajo Trails Drive.

HUGE ESTATE SALE. June 21 and June 22 from 8:30 -3p.m. Everything goes including the house. No Credit Cards. 140 Indian Paint Brush -Wildflower Subdivision. 3 bedroom, 4 car garage over 3075 sq ft. on 3.32 acres. \$999,500. North on Piedra Road left into Wildflower.

LAKESIDE & LIGHTHOUSE, Saturday June 8th, 8a.m. -noon. Tools, circular saw, sanders, jigsaw, soldering gun, 1/2" drill, leather tool belt, handmade doll clothes, household items, free stuff.

MOVING SALE Saturday, June 8, 8 -5. Tools, garden supplies, camping, household, bedding, much more. 880 Easy St.

MULTI-FAMILY GARAGE /Estate sale. Saturday, June 8, 7:30a.m. -2p.m. Paperbacks, kitchenware, sewing machine, king bed / mattress, furniture, guitar, gas range with microwave hood, jeans, office supplies, too much to list. 122 Brookhill Drive. Cash only.

MULTI-FAMILY GARAGE SALE Friday, Saturday, June 7 and 8. 8a.m. til 3p.m. 392 Arrowhead Drive. Baby items, children's books, classroom books galore, furnishings, household items, collectible train set, much more.

MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALE. Saturday only. Household goods, toys and clothes. June 8. 8a.m. -1p.m. 147 Lakewood Street.

YARD SALES

SATURDAY -SUNDAY 8 -12. 351 S. 7th. Outdoor gear, kayak, awning, privy, snow shoes, construction scaffold, drywall lift, sprayer, engine stand and lift.

SPRING CREEK HORSE RESCUE now accepting clean saleable items for their Fundraiser/ Garage Sale 6/21 and 6/22. 28888 County Road 234. Help support the horses! Durango, CO. Contact springcreekhorserescue@yahoo.com

YARD SALE Saturday, June 8th, 8:00a.m. -1:00p.m., 5 miles south on Hwy. 84 at 188 Eight Mile Mesa Road. Variety of items -something for everyone!

COMMERCIAL FOR RENT

275 SQUARE FEET OFFICE in the Metropolitan Hotel available for \$480 per month with a year lease. Call Jacque (970)946-7636.

4 OFFICE SPACES. Freshly remodeled, \$400-\$525. Well suited for spa services, 140-270 sq. ft. Beautiful spacious restrooms. (970)946-3232.

MIXED USE OFFICE/ STORAGE 1500 sq. ft. with Two Roll Up Doors. 412 Bastille Drive Unit #1B -Benchmark Storage. Space is 25x60, includes roll up doors on the front and back. Enclosed office and additional cubby office with 1 bathroom. Available 6/1. Call us today at (970)731-4344 to schedule a tour or for more details. www.sunethaproperties.com.

MULTIPLE STORAGE UNITS AVAILABLE at 412 Bastille Drive -Benchmark Storage. Four 10x10s at \$90/ month and one 10x15 at \$100/ month. Unit numbers 7, 11, 12, 14, and 21 are currently available. Please call (970)731-4344 for more details. www.sunethaproperties.com.

PAGOSA VALLEY PROPERTIES: Offering "Aspen Plaza ProSuites" These are Professional Office Suites available for Long Term or Short Term rental from 100 SF to 205 SF, priced from \$264-\$669/ month. We also offer Hourly, Daily, or other Membership options for even more flexibility. Also, Large Conference/ Event Room Available. Call (970)889-2022 for more information.

PAGOSA VALLEY PROPERTIES: Offering Lewis St. Office Suites available from 238 SF to 755 SF, and priced from \$400 - \$700/ mo. Excellent for a studio or professional office space. Call (970)889-2022 for more information.

PRIVATE MEETING SPACE for groups, presentations, or private appointments by the hour, 1/2 day or full day. Convenient location. Outdoor balcony, Internet, large screen, refrigerator, parking included. (970)510-0309.

SPIRIT ROOM STUDIO space for rent. Create your Art with views of Nature by the hour, day, or week. Internet, utilities, and music system included. Text (970)309-6067 for appt.

VACATION RENTALS

FURNISHED 2 BEDROOM TOWNHOME, 4 month rental. \$1,500 month. First, last and deposit. No smoking/ pets. 2 person maximum. (907)712-4360.

VACATION RENTALS

OWNERS, WE ARE BOOKED UP AND NEED MORE VACATION RENTAL PROPERTIES! Call us today for lowest commission and highest customer service. All you have to do is wait for your rent check to come in. We do the rest! Rocky Mountain Realty & Rentals (970)507-1192.

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

1 BEDROOM plus garage, \$1550/ month plus deposit and utilities in core area. No smoking. No pets. Leave message (970)880.2296.

3 BEDROOM 2 bath with storage. Vista Subdivision, park, access to lake and rec center. \$2200. (719)850-8680.

\$800 ROOM includes utilities. Close to City Market/ Hospital. First and last months/ security deposit. Background check. No pets. (970)903-5309.

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.

BEAUTIFUL 4 BEDROOM HOME. Top of the water shed. 4 miles out Snowball Road. Huge mountain views. Live water. Irrigated. One minute to National Forest and trout streams. \$3200. (970)946-6274.

FULLY FURNISHED GARAGE APARTMENT 157 Laguna Place -\$2700/ Month +Deposit Fully furnished, lakefront, Garage apartment home located in Lake Hatcher. 3 bed, 2 bath, wood floors and tile throughout. Central heat and air, wood burning stove, granite countertops, and a private deck. Call us today for more details or to book an appointment! (970)731-4344. www.sunethaproperties.com.

LONG TERM RENTALS AVAILABLE. Call Team Pagosa (970)731-8599, 46 Eaton Drive, Suite #1, pagosaspringsrealty.com.

NEW DOWNTOWN 1 BEDROOM apartment. Near riverwalk. \$1100 including utilities. Call (970)398-9136.

ONE AND TWO BEDROOM APARTMENTS available. 303 S. 7th Street, downtown Pagosa. Rent \$1,300 to \$1,750. (720)470-2653.

STORAGE UNITS FOR RENT. 5x10 -\$59.99, 10x10 -\$99.99, 10x15 -\$129.99, 10x20 -\$149.99. Gated, 24 hour entry. Call (970)264-3333, neministorage.com.

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.

COMMERCIAL

1.19 ACRES WITH VIEWS OF NAVAJO LAKE. All utilities nearby. \$99,000. AP-5. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

(970) 264-2100

Classifieds

(970) 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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 FULL LT TENANT SCREENING
 NATIONWIDE ADVERTISING
 ON CALL 24 HR 7 DAYS



COMMERCIAL

1.48 ACRE COMMERCIAL LAND. Highway frontage. \$99,000. AP-6. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

.28 ACRE COMMERCIAL LAND County Road 982 frontage \$55,000. AP-7. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

.35 ACRE COMMERCIAL LAND County Road 982 frontage \$55,000. AP-8. 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-2. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

FOR SALE DOWNTOWN CHAMA. One acre with small building. Excellent highway frontage with many commercial possibilities. All utilities on site or at property line. Great for family vacations and Chama Days gatherings. Centrally located middle of town. Will sell whole or parcel out. Selling for \$5/ sq. ft. Call (505)300-6148 for details.

MULTI USE 5,700 SQUARE FOOT building in prime location on .60 of an acre. \$1,375,000. AP-3. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

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

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.

HOMES FOR SALE

Christie Calderwood
 SRS, ABR, ePRO
 Serving Sellers & Buyers
 970-946-6856
 christie@jimsmithrealty.com

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.

BEAUTIFUL HOBBY FARM No HOA, artesian well, 1.7 acres, \$725,000. AP-22. 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 \$200s. 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.

HOMES FOR SALE

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

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.

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.

OPEN HOUSES

OPEN HOUSE

Thursday, June 13th
 4pm-6pm
 810 Lakeside Drive
 3 bedrooms,
 2 bathrooms,
 3-car garage,
 2.48 acres.
 \$1,299,000

ALYSHA RANSON
 Broker Associate • 970.903.1230

LAND/ BUILDING SITES

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.

OPEN HOUSES

LAND/ BUILDING SITES

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.

TWO ADJACENT 5 ACRES LOTS. Available Separately. Meadows 4. Details at www.BLANCA257.com. Scott (970)731-4421 or fscott409@outlook.com.



All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, or national origin, or an intention, to make such preference, limitation or discrimination."
 This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

Countywide Women’s Bible Study returning to Revelation

By Stan Counsell
Countywide Women’s Bible Study

Pagosa’s spring season has been, at times, a bit of a head-scratcher, lacking overall moisture and a constant warming sun. Without any immediate improvement, it will end as a relative disappointment. But, that is mountain living, right?

As Forest Gump said, “Life is like a box of chocolates, you never know what you’re going to get.”

What has not been a disappointment is the women’s Bible study that has flourished for women of all ages in the county, from all the churches, including those currently without a church home, and those curious about the Christian faith.

The Countywide Women’s Bible Study isn’t denominational where one belief-system is taught. It encompasses various evangelical/charismatic views of interpretation so that all can hear, ponder, and share their thoughts and opinions. Vibrant sharing enriches all; they see additional clarity to a verse or passage. This enhances Christian unity — a win-win for all.

For some time, the world has been on pins and needles regarding the Middle East. Even though much anxiety and news has subsided, many are still perplexed at what is really happening. Many minds turn to the Book of Revelation for solace, but get bogged down with verses not appearing to make any sense. But, it can be an eye-opener to find out that there are several interpretations of Revelation, not just one. Each view has truths to share and it brings added understanding to the Body of Christ.

New Thought Center to meet Sunday

By Shayla McClure
New Thought Center for Inspirational Living

The Sunday service on June 9 at 10:30 a.m. will be “Come and share Love and Enlightenment while deepening your Spiritual Practice and building community at the New Thought Center, every Sunday.”

There will be live music with Shelly, (970) 510-0309.

“If you were all alone in the universe with no one to talk to, no one with which to share the beauty of the stars, to laugh with, to touch, what would be your purpose in life? It is another life; it is love, which gives your life meaning. This is harmony. We must discover the joy of each other, the joy of challenge, the joy of growth.” — Mitsugi Saotome.

Upcoming events

June 9, 10:30 a.m.: Sunday service with live music.

June 13, 6 p.m.: Illuminations with

With this in mind, the women’s study is now returning to Revelation for a second time at the request of the ladies, a refresher for many and a new study topic for others that are new attendees.

Please note, there aren’t any complicated charts, books or a syllabus to buy. The studies are always free. If you wish, you can just quietly listen, ask bold questions or share something that is on your heart.

‘Bert Counsell has been the group’s gregarious guide for more than 10 years. When she felt the Lord’s call to become a women’s pastor, more than 30 years ago, she developed a passion to always seek what appears complicated and make it easy to comprehend.

Imagine confusion or little understanding of a certain verse that can become so clear and understandable.

Counsell loves to unearth solid biblical truths that may appear overlooked or muddled by others. In short, the studies are never boring, stale or discombobulated.

It is so refreshing, exhilarating and joyful to have Bible passages opened to show how they relate to one another. Candles of thought expand to 1,000-watt LED light bulbs. It is so exciting to have taken a deeper, yet simpler, tour of the Bible.

Counsell holds an active ordination with a worldwide evangelical organization currently encompassing 5,150 churches in 126 countries. Lectures are not Counsell’s style; she loves feedback, questions, opinions and lots of laughter.

The women meet Tuesday mornings in Grace in Pagosa’s comfortable fellowship hall from 10 to 11:30 a.m. The church address is 1044 Park Ave.,

near the Rec Center. All are welcome for fun, chitchat, and interesting studies in God’s Word. Counsell and the “gang” hope to see you and make new friends.

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for County Commission
District 2

Republican Primary
June 25th, 2024

Watch for Mail-in Ballots — Please Vote!



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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.

YOUR COUNTY, YOUR MONEY

Thank you Archuleta County
for your support!

We would appreciate your vote.

Mail-in Ballots are out now.

Unaffiliated/Independents
can vote for us.

Your can vote for us in District 2
no matter where you live
in the County.

With YOUR support,
I work for you!

From our Facebook page:

John Ranson for County Commissioner
May 17 at 4:10 PM
We continue to be overwhelmed by the support from all of you. Here I am placing a sign at a home of one of the best families I have met in Archuleta County. This family goes back 5 generations. Our County is blessed with amazing families!



RansonforCommissioner.com

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