



PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147

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VOLUME 116 — NO. 38, THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 2024

Fire district board votes to move forward with out-of-district fees

Public hearing set for July 2 meeting

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

At its June 4 meeting, the Pagosa Fire Protection District (PFPD) Board of Directors voted to hold a public hearing and vote on imposing fees for out-of-district responses at its upcoming July 2 meeting.

Fire Chief Robert Bertram introduced the topic, explaining that the proposed language for the out-of-district responses would state that out-of-district responses would be billed based on Colorado Resource Rate Form (CRRF) rates for equipment and personnel.

He explained that these fees are standardized and used statewide for when firefighting equipment is used for responses outside of the fire district, such as when assisting another agency in fighting a wildfire.

Bertram stated that, according to the current rates, type one engines would cost \$133 an hour, type six engines would cost \$73 and tactical water tenders would cost \$123 an hour.

He commented that the CRRF also provides standardized rates for various types of personnel and that using the rates would be useful because the fee schedule could state that billing for out-of-district responses follows the CRRF rates instead of the schedule requiring adjustments every year.

Bertram stated that, for a recent wildfire in Aspen Springs that also burned a structure, the approximate cost would be \$3,900 for equipment and \$4,400 for personnel for a five-hour response.

He noted that this calculation did not factor in a variety of fire crews from other agencies involved in fighting a wildfire.

■ See Fees A8



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

The cast of Curtains Up Pagosa's "Once Upon a Mattress" performs a dance number during the show's final performance Sunday afternoon. More than 100 community volunteers helped put on the production.



SUN photos/Randi Pierce

Volunteers rake and work to clean up pine needle debris at Hilltop Cemetery Saturday. The effort is part of fire mitigation and other cleanup work that has taken place this spring.

Primary election ballots due back Tuesday

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The June 25 primary election is just around the corner, and ballots must be returned by 7 p.m. on Election Day to be counted.

Colorado Republican, Democratic and unaffiliated voters have been mailed a ballot. All unaffiliated voters were sent a ballot for each major party and can only vote one of those ballots for their vote to be counted.

Archuleta County Clerk and Recorder Kristy Archuleta encouraged voters to no longer return their ballots via mail to ensure they are received on time.

Postmarks do not count.

Voted ballots can be dropped off to a secured drop box or dropped off at the Archuleta County Election's Office.

The county has two ballot drop boxes with video surveillance that are open 24/7. One is located on the sidewalk outside 449 San Juan St. (the former county courthouse). The other is at the TARA Community Center in Arboles.

The election's office is located at the back of the 449 San Juan St. building. It is open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to noon on June 22 and 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Election Day.

From 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Election Day

■ See Election A8

PSCDC earns Community Based Development Organization designation

By Clayton Chaney and Josh Pike
Staff Writers

The Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation (PSCDC) has been designated a Community Based Development Organization (CBDO) by the Colorado Department of Local Affairs.

Executive Director Emily Lashbrooke updated the PSCDC board on the designation at its June 12 meeting. She noted that the PSCDC first

applied for the designation over a year ago and was just awarded it this month.

She explained that by becoming a CBDO, the PSCDC will have more funding opportunities and will be able to incentivize builders to provide more affordable housing options in the community.

Lashbrooke noted there are only five CBDOs in the state, and the PSCDC is the only one in the southwest region of Colorado.

■ See Designation A8

Index

Opinion	A2	Public Notices	A15
Letters	A3		
Obituaries	A4	PREVIEW	
Charles Ronald (Ron) Gustafson		Live Performers	2
Kevin Leo Laxen		Sudoku	12
Business	A5	PREVIEW Calendar	12
Sales tax revenues continue to rise		Crossword	16
Education	A9	Word Search	20
School board discusses ways for more family involvement		Classifieds	30
Outdoors	A11		
Containment grows on Snow Ranch Fire			
Sports	A13		
74th annual Red Ryder Roundup Rodeo set for July 4-6			

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Opinion

OUR VIEW

Helping our pollinators

This week, June 17-24, is Pollinator Week — an annual celebration in support of pollinator health.

And pollinators need our help. According to Generation Wild — an outreach of Great Outdoors Colorado — 20 percent of Colorado's bumblebees are at risk of extinction and the western bumblebee population has declined by 72 percent.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture puts that in some perspective, stating on its website, explaining, "Three-fourths of the world's flowering plants and about 35 percent of the world's food crops depend on animal pollinators to reproduce. That's one out of every three bites of food you eat. More than 3,500 species of native bees help increase crop yields. Some scientists estimate that one out of every three bites of food we eat exists because of animal pollinators like bees, butterflies and moths, birds and bats, and beetles and other insects."

Elsewhere, the agency notes that more than 100 U.S.-grown crops rely on pollinators. The added revenue to crop production from pollinators is valued at \$18 billion.

We're lucky here in Pagosa Country that so much that surrounds us is open, undeveloped space filled with native species to help our local pollinators, but that doesn't mean we shouldn't do our part.

Last week, we picked up our free packet of Wildflower seeds from the Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library.

The seeds are available for free (one packet per family) as part of a Generation Wild initiative to get kids outside and help our pollinators across the state.

While we cannot condone giving into curiosity and seeing what this Wilder fella looks like on the Generation Wild website (we did and we regret it), we are a fan of having easy access to wildflower seeds — Wildflower seeds — to help make the area more colorful and friendly to pollinators using species that are local to the area.

A big thanks to our library for being the local location to pick up these seeds and other resources.

Remember to vote

We also want to again remind eligible folks to register and vote in next week's

primary election.

Ballots must be returned by 7 p.m. on Tuesday, June 25, to be counted.

While a primary election may not seem like a big deal at first, often, local races can be decided in the primary election.

There may only be one contested local election — an Archuleta County commissioner for District 2 on the Republican ballot — but it's still important to voice your opinion on who you think would best represent you and Pagosa Country as a whole moving forward if you're a registered Republican or unaffiliated voter.

Regardless of the outcome, we commend both candidates — Zane Kraetsch and John Ranson — for running nice, respectable campaigns focused on what they can do for our county and not how the other would harm it or destroy it.

We wish more elections could be like this.

If you can't wait until next Thursday to see who won that race, The SUN will post unofficial election information to www.PagosaSUN.com as soon as it's available.

Randi Pierce

LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

100 years ago

Taken from SUN files of June 20, 1924

Leon Montroy was badly kicked in the stomach Sunday by a horse which he was endeavoring to saddle. He is still confined to his home on account of his injuries.

Quite a heavy freeze visited this section last night, damaging the tender vegetables in some of the gardens.

The Brooklyn Daily Eagle party of about 75 tourists are due to reach Pagosa Springs next Thursday afternoon. After a brief stop here they will continue to Durango, where they will spend the night before making the circle trip by way of the Silverton highway to the Mesa Verde park.

About twenty automobiles are needed for Pagosa's share of the trip. Several have already signed up, but more should be forthcoming in order to insure accommodations for all and on schedule time. Those who have not done so, will please signify their intentions of providing a car, by notifying either the City or Electric garage.

The advertising possibilities of the tour can scarcely be estimated, as most of the party are newspaper men, and Pagosa Springs and the Wolf Creek highway will come in for a goodly share. Let's not fall down on our obligation!

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of June 17, 1949

The busy season for this locality has arrived. Farmers in the southern corner of the County are getting ready to knock down the first cutting of alfalfa. Some have already started. Farmers around Pagosa are still irrigating the hay and looking after stock on the range. Merchants are doing a good business with prospects for a busy rush during the next three months. People are building houses and laborers are hard to find. Sawmills are turning out lumber and ties and the County is doing some roadwork. The tourist season is just starting. Yep, the general outlook is good at present.

At a meeting of the County Committee for the reorganization of schools last week, H. Ray Macht was elected Chairman of the group, J.J. Procoroni, vice chairman and Mrs. Rachel Tishner secretary.

Eight of the eleven members were present and the group was waited upon by a delegation from the Stollsteimer district asking that in the reorganization plans, students from that area be transported to Pagosa Springs by bus.

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of June 20, 1974

Hot weather has arrived in this area. The maximum temperature everyday this past week went to at least 80 degrees, with most daytime highs being in the mid 80's. The high for the week was 88 degrees.

There were no freezing nights this past week, with the minimum temperature for the week being 33 degrees. Minimums ranged from there up to 44 degrees. Precipitation for the week totaled .07 inches, almost enough to settle the dust.

The last year when there was such a prolonged dry spell was in 1963, when conditions were comparable. In checking official U.S. Weather Observation records it is noted that in 1963 there was no appreciable rainfall until September and October when considerable rain fell, with November and December being very dry.

Streams are very low, including the main rivers. Some of the smaller streams are almost dry. Dust is a major problem off the surfaced highways, and it has almost reached the point where emergency drought conditions exist here.

25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of June 10, 1999

The Archuleta County School District 50 Joint board took care of business in a variety of areas during a brief monthly meeting Tuesday night.

In response to comments on bus drivers' salaries made by driver Jim Layne at last month's meeting, business manager Nancy Schutz reported on her research into salaries of surrounding districts. Schutz found that Archuleta County drivers are among the best paid in southwest Colorado.

Schutz told the board that employees that "work on a permanent, part-time basis will be provided with the district wellness benefit." There will be no deductibles and no co-pays.

Schutz also said the district will apparently "come in at least \$100,000 under budget" on the building of the new high school. "We earned more interest than projected on the investment of the money, and we didn't spend as much money on equipment as projected," she said. parcels of property, according to Prior.

The Pagosa Springs SUN

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O'Rourke Media Group — Pagosa Springs, LLC
ISSN 2835-3994 (Print) ISSN 2835-4001 (Online)

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Physical: 457 Lewis Street
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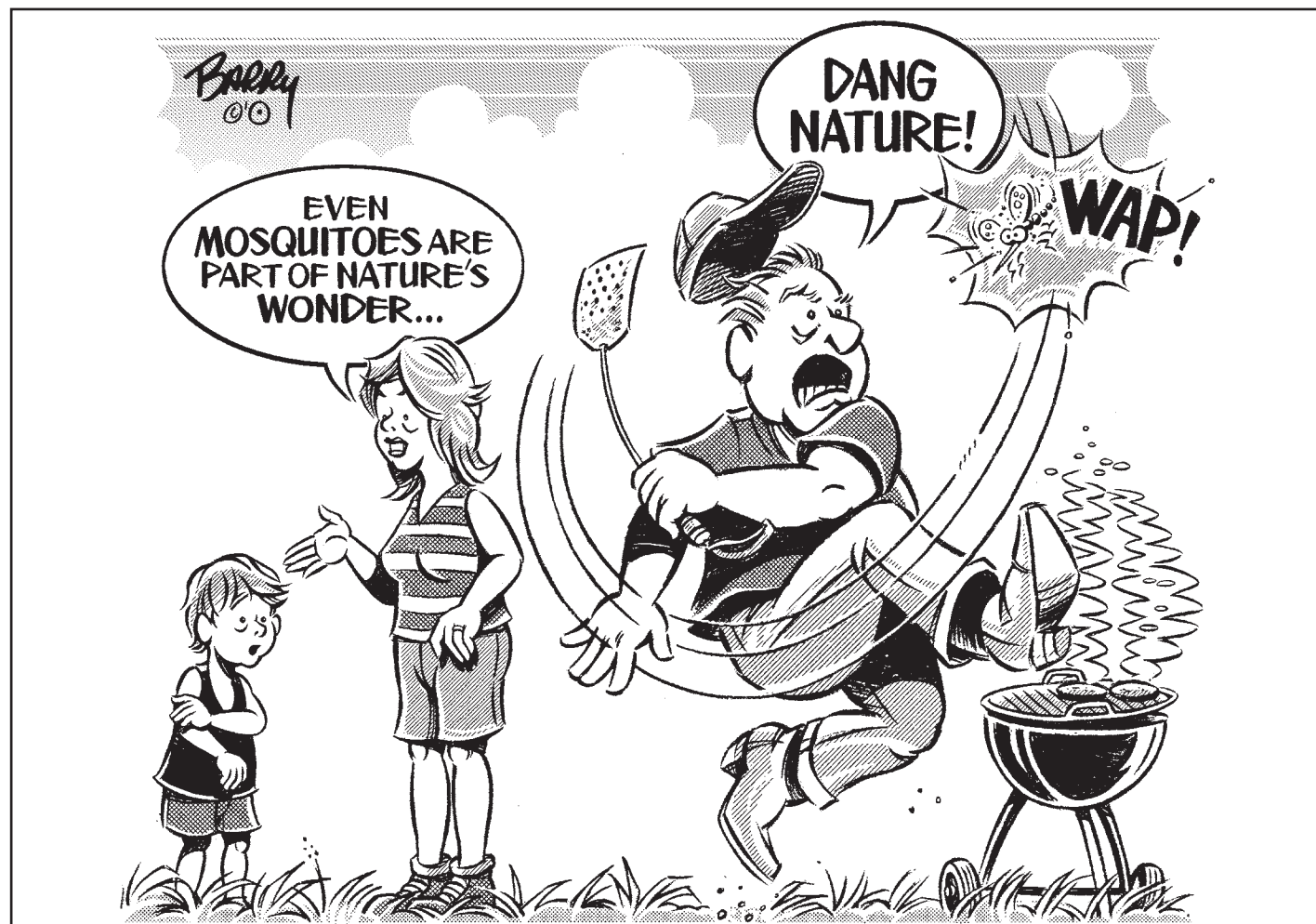
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From the June 30, 1950, Pagosa SUN — Shown above is the mounted square dance team who will appear at both the July 3 and 4 rodeos in this year's Red Ryder Round-Up — Photo by H.H. Wheeler.

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Date	High	Low	Precipitation		
			Depth	Type	Moisture
6/8	85	47	NA	NA	-
6/9	85	46	NA	NA	-
6/10	70	53	NA	NA	-
6/11	77	49	NA	NA	.22
6/12	87	46	NA	NA	T
6/13	89	46	NA	NA	-
6/14	72	46	NA	NA	-
6/15	82	41	NA	NA	.02

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.

Freedom from religion

Dear Editor:

"If you had facts about those seeking religious freedom.....and a cross

was constructed from the ship's bow and planted on the Virginia Shore dedicating this land to the creator god"...and then they cruelly and systematically began the task of converting the people who were ALREADY THERE, and had been for centuries, by any means that they could imagine, "christian" or not. Also remember that "our forefathers" were not seeking freedom OF religion, they were seeking freedom FROM RELIGION, the state religion of the land that they left. They fiercely objected to establishing a national religion here.

This is a diverse land, many citizens here harken back to other forefathers and foremothers, many of whom were not Christian and planted no religious symbols here. No one objects to you holding christian beliefs, but in a multiethnic, multicul-

tural society like the United States, it is just one of many religions, each is due the same degree of respect, as is the choice to adhere to no religion at all. And none of these is deserving of "National" status.

Cathlynn Groh
Santa Fe, N.M.

Poor management

Dear Editor:

I am writing to address the resent article on the termination of county manager Derek Woodman. I don't know Mr Woodman, but I have followed the recent county commissioners meetings leading up to his termination. It appears to me that the person who needs to be terminated is commissioner Veronica Medina, her behavior on this matter is down write unacceptable. Her inability to commu-

nicate with someone just cost us, the taxpayers, \$113,262.25 plus the cost of paying an intern county manager until the end of the year. I hear her always preaching about accountability, then she does this. Why is it that she and commissioner Maez are able to plan this out and have a letter of separation ready to sign prior to the meeting? Sounds like a violation of open meeting laws. Just another good old boy, back door deal going on. My guess is these two already have someone in mind to replace the outgoing manager. All that money wasted on paying someone for not coming to work, I wonder how many potholes could be filled with that wasted money. Maybe commissioner Medina should find a new line of work, being a responsible keeper of taxpayer funds is not her forte.

Dennis Jeffrey

Town accepts state funding for geothermal energy

By Derek Kutzer
Staff Writer

On June 4, the Pagosa Springs Town Council accepted a Geothermal Utility Revitalization Project Grant from the Colorado Energy Office (CEO).

The funding will go toward replacing "key system components that have received minimal preventative maintenance or have reached and exceeded their useful life since the installation of the system in the 1980's," according to an agenda document on the matter.

Public Works Director Karl Johnson explained that the town did not receive the full amount that it had requested for the project.

In a letter to Johnson, the CEO states that it "received 40 applications, requesting over \$13 million

for our initial round offering of \$5 million.

"As the geothermal energy market emerges across Colorado, we sought to accommodate as many projects as possible and were able to provide a large percentage of projects some level of award by increasing our funding round to approximately \$7.7 million.

Council member Gary Williams commented that the grant "offered a tremendous opportunity for education" and to advertise the town "for being environmentally sensitive and using the natural resources in a way that's beneficial to everyone."

"This approach is the primary reason why your project received partial funding."

The town's award amount is for \$140,390 and requires that the town match that amount, which would bring the total project budget to \$280,780.

This would "allow for the replacement of the heat exchanger, pumps, instrumentation, and general facility improvements," the document states.

Completion of the project would help to fulfill a major goal of the council to "ensure a well-functioning, updated geothermal heating utility that is financially solvent and a source of community pride," the document states.

"We asked for enough funding to replace some of the aging equipment

in the [geothermal utility] building," Johnson said.

He added that, with town's match, "we would have enough to replace the heat exchanger and the pumps that are continually being rebuilt year after year and then some of the instrumentation."

He explained that he was coming before the council to ask for acceptance of "this grant from the state energy office with the matching funds."

He explained that, "unfortunately," the town would need to take the match funding out of the town's general fund, because the town's geothermal fund "currently does not have that balance to cover it in its reserves."

Council member Gary Williams commented that the grant "offered a tremendous opportunity for education" and to advertise the town "for being environmentally sensitive and using the natural resources in a way that's beneficial to everyone."

Williams suggested the idea of the town turning the geothermal building into an education center "with windows and arrows and pictures of how it actually works."

He asked Johnson if he had "any ideas on how we could do that or how we could move forward with that?"

Johnson noted that, with the funding, the town could look at creating some "windows of opportunity to

look in and create that educational piece."

He added that it may be easier to get funding from the CEO in the future if the town adds that educational feature to the building.

Mayor Shari Pierce stated that she would bring this up to the Main Street Advisory Board as a "potential project to make that a little more tourist informational friendly."

She asked Johnson if he'd be willing to work with the Main Street program board to see if it has any opportunities for grants that could help with the educational piece.

He replied, "absolutely," adding that the building could also be opened up as a "canvas" for the public art program, incorporating it into "part of the educational piece as well."

He suggested that before adding windows to the building, the interior would need to be cleaned up a little bit.

When a motion was made to accept the grant, it was seconded and carried unanimously by the council.

In a May 24 announcement of the \$7.7 million in grant awards from Colorado Gov. Jared Polis's office, it states that "Geothermal Energy will reduce emissions, save money, promote energy independence, and create good-paying job opportunities in Colorado communities."

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

All letters must:

- be 500 words or less
- 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.

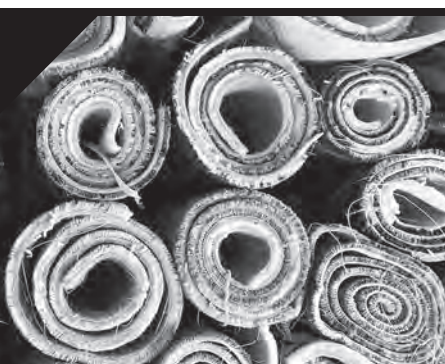
If necessary, only one letter pertaining to a candidate or political issue will be printed in each edition up to three weeks prior to the election.

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

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Obituaries

Charles Ronald (Ron) Gustafson

Ron, age 90, passed away on June 14, 2024, (Flag Day) in Monte Vista, Colo.

Ron was born in New Britain, Conn., on June 6, 1934, of Swedish immigrants, David and Helen. After graduating from Farmington, Conn., High School, he joined the U.S. Air Force and attended basic training at the Sampson, N.Y., Air Force Base (AFB). He attended Air Force electronic schools at Keesler AFB in Biloxi, Miss., on three different occasions. He was a math and electronic instructor there. While stationed there, he attended Sergeant Military Leadership School and a 50-week long electronics superintendent management class.

Ron was stationed twice in Germany and once in Greece as deputy station commander for microwaves. In Turkey he was station commander for microwaves. Ron's last duty station was in Kansas City, Mo., with the Air Force Communication Service Headquarters. He was account manager for commercially leased circuits and equipment for all major Air Force command locations, the Air National Guard and Air Force Reserves within the United States. Ron attended the Non-Commission Officer Academy. Throughout his military career he took night college courses. In July 1974, Rob graduated magna cum laude from Park University in Kansas City, Mo.

Ron retired from the Air Force in August of 1975 as a master sergeant (E-7). Ron received the Cold War Recognition Ribbon — National Defense Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal both for the Army and Air Force, Germany Occupation Medal, Air Force Longevity, Service Award, AF Outstanding Unit Award, Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon, NCO Military Academy Ribbon, and Air Force Commendation Award.



Ron started his second career working with the Social Security Administration in Kansas City, Mo. He was a benefit authorizer, recovery reviewer and claims authorizer. He retired as a GS-11 after 19 years in January 1995.

Ron and his wife, Cindy, moved to Pagosa Springs in May of 1997 where they got involved with many activities. Ron became known as "Mr. Pagosa."

Ron was either a volunteer member or financially supported the following organizations: San Juan Historical Museum; Chimney Rock Interpretive Association; Chamber of Commerce diplomat; supported activities and events at the Ross Argon Community Center; Pagosa Springs Outdoor Club; Gray Wolf Ski Club, Mountain Rotary Club; Hi Country Square Dance Group; head usher at the United Methodist Church and assistant at yearly bazaar; grand marshal for the 2002 Spanish Fiesta Parade; Kiwanis Man of the Year 2002; Archuleta County Fair volunteer 2007; Chamber of Commerce volunteer in 2007; Ruritan Club, Soup for the Soul Project support; leader of four different highway clean-up groups; driver for cancer and dialysis patients and veterans to Durango, Farmington and Albuquerque for doctor appointments; Ruby Sisson Library volunteer; member of local bridge club; president, treasurer and program director — Men's Christian Breakfast Group; Mountain Express Transportation board member; 9Health Fair volunteer; GECKO (Giving Every Child Knowledge of the Outdoors); Relay for Life; Pagosa Springs Girls' Choir supporter; Curtains Up Pagosa (CUPS) supporter; delivery of meals for Loaves and Fishes at the Parish Hall every Thursday; Pagosa Springs Center of the Arts and Friends of the Arts; Pagosa Springs Arts Council; grand marshal of the July 4th Parade in 2015; was honored by trip for veterans in Honor Flight to Washington, D.C., September 2017; Tunnels to Towers project (building homes for military Gold Star young families); Community Service Award — United Blood Services for 25 gallons (200 donations) of blood or apheresis.

Ron and Cindy were married for 42 years. On Dec. 3, 2014, Cindy passed away.

Ron was also preceded in death by his two brothers, Royal and Ramon. He is survived by his children: Diane Evans (John), Heide Ford (Zell), Roger Gustafson (Germmaine); step-children: Kim Glannon, Kristi Morelock (Tom), Kelly Glannon, Karla Stitt (Ronnie), Kevin Glannon (Melanie); grandchildren: Dustin Evans (Shiela), Ashton Evans, Etienne Hein, Taylor Stitt Grabmiller (John), Andie Stitt Zager (Zane), Brett and Erin Glannon; great-grandson: Jack Ronald Grabmiller; nieces: Anne Gustafson, Gail Lake, and Linda Gustafson.

Donations can be made to one of the following Pagosa Springs organizations: American Legion, Vets for Vets, Veterans Memorial Park, WHIPS (Women Helping in Pagosa).

A celebration of life service will be announced at a future date.

Kevin Leo Laxen

Kevin Leo Laxen, age 64, of Winsted, Minn., passed away on Tuesday afternoon, June 4, 2024, at The Garden of Winsted Nursing Home.



He was born on April 6, 1960, in Hutchinson, Minn., the son of Leo and Rita (Sternner) Laxen.

Kevin worked as a janitor at The Howard Lake High School. He then worked at Munson Feed. From there he moved to California and worked as a painter. After a few years he then moved to Pagosa Springs, Colo., and started his business as Handyman Services.

After an unfortunate ATV accident in 2018, Kevin moved back to Minnesota to be closer to family.

Kevin enjoyed his parrot "Smookey" of 27 years, photography, traveling, spending time with his family and friends, and the outdoors. Kevin took pride in his work and was very particular. He was a very caring and kind person.

He is survived by his loving siblings: Michael Laxen (Linda), Donald

(Cindy) Laxen, Carol (Gerry) Bisping, Gerald (Sharon) Laxen, Linda (Eugene) Handt, Luanne (James) Arlt, Jeannette Eastling, Gregory Laxen, Joann Scherping and Jeffery Laxen; as well as nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Leo and Rita Laxen; and brothers-in-law Terry Scherping and Edward Eastling.

A Mass of Christian Burial for Kevin Laxen was held on Wednesday, June 12, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. at Holy Family Catholic Church in Silver Lake, Minn. Father Matthew Wiering was the celebrant.

Interment followed the luncheon at 2 p.m. at Holy Trinity Cemetery in Winsted, Minn.

A visitation was held on Tuesday, June 11, from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Chilson Funeral Home in Winsted, Minn. A prayer service was held at 6:30 p.m. Further visitation was held on Wednesday morning, June 12, one hour prior to services at Holy Family Catholic Church in Silver Lake, Minn.

The honorary casket bearer was Jim Murphy.

Casket bearers were Mike Laxen, Don Laxen, Jerry Laxen, Greg Laxen, Jeff Laxen and Mark Heller.

Memorials are preferred to St. Jude or American Heart Association.

The Chilson Funeral Home in Winsted, Minn., is serving the family. Online condolences may be made to www.chilsonfuneralhome.com.

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HWY 160



Roadway improvements to U.S. 160 near Mancos and Bayfield starting

Colorado Department of Transportation

The Colorado Department of Transportation and contract partner Intermountain Slurry Seal began roadway surface improvements to U.S. 160 on June 17, with work expected to take place between Pagosa Springs and Durango later this summer.

The work includes approximately 36 miles of chip seal overlay at two separate highway segments located west and east of Durango.

Motorists can expect lane shifts and 15- to 20-minute delays on U.S. 160 near Twin Buttes, west of Durango. For several weeks, operations will continue west along the 20-mile segment (mile points 61 to 81) toward Mancos.

Later this summer, work on the second 16-mile segment will take place between Bayfield and Pagosa Springs (mile points 102 to 118).

"This summer's work is a cost-effective way to extend the life of these heavily trafficked corridors and create a smoother, skid-resistant surface for the cooler months to come," said Julie Constan, regional transportation director.

Chip seal applications add a restorative coat to the road surface, preventing potholes and cracks from forming. The project will also include asphalt patching, replacement of pavement markings and sign replacement.

Weather permitting, construction is expected to be complete in Sep-

tember.

"We urge motorists to take it slow and follow the posted speeds through the work zone," said Constan. "Slower speeds not only protect vehicles from damage, but they help ensure our workers make it home safely."

Motorists are encouraged to visit COtrip.org to view the most current project work zone locations.

Traffic impacts

Work hours will range from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday. Traffic impacts will include:

- Motorists can expect up to 20-minute delays.
- Vehicles will be reduced to single-lane, alternating traffic guided by pilot vehicles and flagging operations.
- Speeds will be reduced to 40 mph through the work zone.
- Traffic fines will be doubled in the work zone.
- Motorists should slow down as they approach the work zones, drive with caution, allow extra space between vehicles and give themselves extra travel time.

Driving through chip seal projects

- Travelers are urged to:
 - Slow down: Higher speeds can cause loose stones to scatter, and damage vehicle paint and windshields.
 - Increase distance between vehicles: Space between you and other

vehicles will help reduce damage caused by loose stones.

- Follow work zone signage: Use caution and consider worker safety when traveling through a work zone.

Remember: slow for the cone zone

The following tips are to help you stay safe while traveling through maintenance and construction work zones.

- Do not speed in work zones. Obey the posted speed limits.
- Stay alert. Expect the unexpected.
- Watch for workers. Drive with caution.
- Don't change lanes unnecessarily.
- Avoid using mobile devices such as phones while driving in work zones.
- Turn on headlights so that workers and other drivers can see you.
- Be especially alert at night while driving in work zones.
- Expect delays, especially during peak travel times.
- Allow ample space between you and the car in front of you.
- Anticipate lane shifts and merge when directed to do so.
- Be patient.

Informative.

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Re-elect Warren Brown County Commissioner District 1



Archuleta County, I humbly ask for your support in my re-election bid for District 1 County Commissioner.

During my next term, I want to focus my efforts to improve our infrastructure including roads, buildings, human capital and partnerships.

My plan is an **outcome-based, data driven strategy** to provide consistency in scheduling road and building maintenance, improvements and replacement.

By identifying and publishing the county's **medium and long range infrastructure needs**, the taxpayers and the commissioners can better assure the correct decisions are being made.

Archuleta County should be a place everyone should want to work. Creating **strategic recruiting and retention hiring processes** that recognize and reward the employee's performance will better assure continuity of operations and longer retention of employees.

Lastly, I plan to **build upon our valuable relationships** with local business owners, citizens, and stakeholders, while being a good partner to our regional, state and federal counterparts.

Now is the time to keep moving forward and continue getting things done.
Re-Elect Commissioner Warren Brown, District 1!

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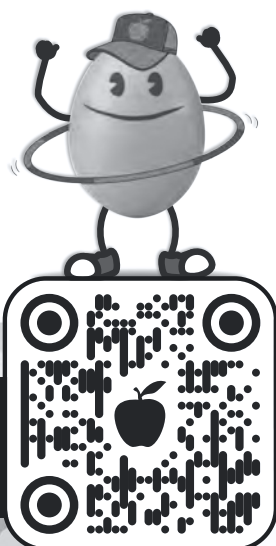
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Business

Sales tax revenues continue to rise

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

Sales tax revenues for Archuleta County continue to rise in 2024 compared to sales tax revenues received in 2023, according to a press release from Archuleta County Finance Director Chad Eaton.

The April sales tax report from Eaton notes that the town and county received \$1,261,412.13 in gross sales tax revenue for the month, with \$631,321.75 going to the town and \$630,090.38

going to the county.

April sales tax revenues are 8.64 percent, or \$109,773.05, higher than April 2023.

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

- Construction at 42.35 percent, or \$9,552.59.
- Manufacturing at 67.73 percent, or \$26,000.31.
- Retail trade at 7.39 percent, or \$49,123.68.
- Information at 2.24 percent, or \$620.06.
- Finance and insurance at 78.74 percent, or \$985.16.

• Real estate and rental and leasing at 23.09 percent, or \$5,736.17.

• Accommodation and food services at 8.27 percent, or \$20,004.83.

• Other services (except public administration) at 24.14 percent, or \$4,926.02.

• Miscellaneous at 1.47 percent, or \$3,226.98.

The only category that was down on the month-to-month comparison was professional, scientific and technical services at 98.65 percent, or \$10,429.75.

Southern Ute Indian Tribe makes history with USDA to conserve natural resources

U.S. Department of Agriculture

A historic partnership is forging between the Southern Ute Indian Tribe and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA's) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

Through the USDA or NRCS Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), the entities have jointly entered an alternative funding arrangement (AFA) to improve rangeland resiliency and health on tribal lands.

This project is funded through the 2022 Inflation Reduction Act (IRA).

"The Southern Ute Indian Tribe is the first tribe in the nation to enter into an AFA through CSP. We're proud of what that means for future relations between NRCS and the tribe. We also get to play a role and join them as they expand their natural resource conservation journey," said

Clint Evans, NRCS state conservationist in Colorado.

CSP, a Farm Bill program, builds upon existing conservation efforts while strengthening agricultural operations.

"The Southern Ute Indian Tribe's forward-thinking and resource conservation-focused mindset made them the perfect candidate for a CSP AFA," said Liz With, NRCS assistant state conservationist for partnerships in Colorado. "They already implement top-tier rangeland management and monitoring practices, and this agreement will assist in maintaining that high standard while also helping to more widely adopt and implement a strategic invasive noxious weed treatment plan over the next five years. That treatment will target species from Colorado noxious species list to improve rangeland health and resiliency in face

of the increasing drought conditions."

"This partnership will assist with improving our land; it will also honor the legacy of stewardship entrusted to us by our ancestors. By working together, we can ensure these rangelands remain healthy and productive for generations to come, all while setting a strong example of tribal leadership in conservation," said Chairman Melvin J. Baker of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe.

The scope and magnitude of this historic project is also noteworthy.

The Southern Ute Indian Tribe has agreed to enroll all rangeland acres managed by its Department of Natural Resources, totaling approximately 125,000 acres.

Conservation practices implemented will help improve and favor deep-rooted, native perennial plants that can help sequester more carbon and build soil health.

This partnership represents a tremendous opportunity for the tribe, NRCS, producers and the environment as a whole.

"This partnership and project will lead to additional opportunities with the Southern Ute Tribe," said Astor Boozer, NRCS regional conservationist for the West. "We will have future opportunities to address other resource concerns together, the NRCS will learn from the tribe about Indigenous and other traditional ecological practices. We are excited for this great opportunity."

For more information about the NRCS, its programs, benefits and opportunities, please visit www.co.nrcs.usda.gov.

For more information about this partnership, please contact the Southern Ute Department of Natural Resources at (970) 563-2912.

Guidelines, drawing procedures approved for PSCDC housing

By Clayton Chaney and
Josh Pike
Staff Writers

The Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation (PSCDC) continues to move forward with phase one of its community workforce housing project.

At its meeting held on June 12, Executive Director Emily Lashbrooke provided the PSCDC Board of Directors with updates on the project and discussed what the drawing process will look like for their first 10 homes being built.

Lashbrooke began by explaining that the PSCDC has been approved by the Colorado Department of Housing (DOH) for its housing proposition one, two and three for an award of \$550,000 "to offset the cost of our houses, to bring them into the affordable range."

The first 10 homes will be priced to sell in the 80 to 100 percent of area median income (AMI) range for Archuleta County, according to the PSCDC.

Lashbrooke mentioned there was a delay in that process for unknown reasons.

She explained that after what "should've been a four-week process" turned into a 12-week process because of the delay in the DOH, "it threw us into a default position with our contractor and we had to pay a penalty fee."

In a later interview, Lashbrooke explained that when the PSCDC originally submitted its application to the DOH earlier this year, there was an expedited process for applications under \$750,000 being offered.

However, she noted, "with no explanation or information our application was not submitted" on the DOH side for review.

She explained that the DOH then hired new personnel, which nixed the expedited process and now required all applications to go through the full vetting process.

Lashbrooke also mentioned that she testified to the DOH on June 11 and that the PSCDC's application was approved.

"We are full steam ahead," she added.

During the meeting, Lashbrooke noted that the PSCDC was required to break ground and be under contract with a builder for that application to be approved.

"Our workforce housing project will now go to our construction funding and everything gets released, and we are going to build affordable houses," she added.

Lashbrooke mentioned that with that approval, the PSCDC was able to move forward with purchasing lumber packages needed for construction, and are now negotiating with its concrete contractors to get them back on the job.

"We're starting to press forward and get things going," Lashbrooke said.

Lashbrooke noted that the delay

was in no way the fault of the construction partner, BWD Construction.

"We could not be working with a better partner," Lashbrooke said, adding that BWD's patience and communication throughout the process has been exceptional.

She explained that with the delay, BWD requested its deadline be pushed back four weeks, which Lashbrooke noted is a reasonable request and that BWD could have chosen to scrap the deadline altogether according to the terms of their contract, "but they still want to get these houses into the market as soon as possible."

She added, "They are carrying some of the funding," and explained that BWD took on some of the funding needed to get the first 10 foundations poured.

"They are carrying some of that," she said.

Lashbrooke added that the PSCDC just recently received the contract for its \$2 million infrastructure improvements in the Trails and Chris Mountain II subdivisions and that engineers from Archuleta County and La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) are beginning to map out the area.

She indicated that the road improvements in the area will be the responsibility of Archuleta County, and the broadband and electric improvements will be the responsibility of the PSCDC.

She noted that work will be con-

tracted to LPEA and the broadband management office.

Lashbrooke also mentioned that the PSCDC hopes to trench for broadband and electric at the same time.

Housing Opportunity Process

The PSCDC will be holding a drawing to determine which qualified applicants will be given the opportunity to purchase one of these first 10 homes being built.

The PSCDC is referring to this drawing and the steps involved in becoming a qualified applicant as its Housing Opportunity Process (HOP).

During the meeting, Lashbrooke provided more information on what the HOP will entail and what will be required to become an eligible applicant.

She explained that she has hired a consultant, Jennifer Kermode of Kermode Consulting, to assist in drafting the HOP guidelines and adhering to the Fair Housing Act, as required by the DOH.

Lashbrooke indicated that the PSCDC will be working with the Archuleta County Housing Authority (ACHA) as its third-party verifier to verify income and residency of all applicants.

Lashbrooke also mentioned that the HOP will take place for the first 10 homes, but that the PSCDC will be working with the ACHA to take

on a list of prequalified buyers and "go to a first-come, first-serve as we move forward."

Kermode highlighted some key steps in the HOP for applicants along with some specific scenarios that the PSCDC might encounter while attempting to fill all of its homes.

"There's a lot of steps," Kermode stated, noting that the administrative guidelines being laid out are "somewhat malleable" and can change as the PSCDC moves through different phases of finding people to fill its homes.

Lashbrooke noted that the DOH is requiring the PSCDC to fully define its HOP by the end of June.

"Everything we do in the housing world is tied to AMIs, and AMI categories," Kermode said, also noting that parameters are set around employment and residency in order to identify the target audience.

She indicated other parameters such as what people can do once they are living in the home are also defined in order to ensure the homes are serving the people PSCDC intends to serve.

Kermode mentioned that at some point the PSCDC will need to develop an exit strategy for scenarios that cause buyers to leave their home after purchasing it.

Kermode spoke about the importance of having the PSCDC mission

■ See Housing A6

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Commissioners discuss funding request from Wings, unexpected expenses

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

At a June 11 work session, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners discussed a funding request from Wings Early Childhood Center and the state of the county budget.

At a May 7 work session, representatives from Wings presented a request for \$30,000 in funding from the county for an expansion project occurring at the school.

At the June 11 work session, Commissioner Veronica Medina explained that she had spoken to the Finance Department about if the county would have any money available for the Wings request.

She stated that, following the discussion at the previous work session, she reached out to Wings and informed the organization that the county did not presently have the funds to support them, but that it would be willing to discuss the request as part of the 2025 budget.

Following this, Medina stated that she spoke to Finance Director Chad

Eaton and that she and Eaton found \$30,000 in a line item in the county budget that was used to improve sound in the commissioner meeting room.

She stated that the line item was not designated for a specific project and proposed that the county could take \$10,000 from the line item and award it to Wings, which would avoid fully depleting the line item and would "help Wings out."

Medina explained she wanted to bring the proposal to the other commissioners to see if they would be willing to do this and potentially vote on the proposal at a future meeting.

Commissioner Ronnie Maez asked if the \$30,000 request from Wings is to support a grant the organization is applying for.

Medina stated that it is not and is instead to buy furniture and toys for the expansion of the school.

She added that Wings hoped to have these items for the grand opening of the expansion.

In response to a question from Commissioner Warren Brown, Medina stated that she believed that the grand opening would occur in July,

but that she was not sure.

Maez commented that he wanted to help Wings, but was "a little bit leery" because the county is only halfway through the year and it is difficult to anticipate what other needs might arise.

He then asked the other commissioners and staff if they had any ideas of things that might need the money in the sound improvement line item.

County Attorney Todd Weaver and Medina noted that the county has already spent \$14,000 from this line item on sound improvements for the commissioner meeting room.

Maez commented that the county might have unanticipated expenditures in the construction of its new transportation building "that we might need to think about, too."

He added that he wants to help Wings.

"The county's been a tremendous partner for Wings and it's a very great program," Brown said. "I'm cautious ... in mid-budget to dedicate monies because we don't know what might be coming."

He added that Maez raised a "very

good point" about the transportation facility.

"I just don't know if this is something that we should do at this moment, but I would like to see it ... something that we do during our budgeting process for this ... coming year," he said.

Maez added that he believed that it would be "the wiser thing to do" to delay providing support to Wings until the 2025 budget.

Weaver commented that one unanticipated expense might be the county having to pay for geotechnical analysis as part of due diligence at the property it is moving forward with purchasing near U.S. 160 and South Pagosa Boulevard.

He added that this might cost \$10,000 or \$15,000.

Medina commented that the county has money specifically set aside for property acquisition, which would likely cover this.

She concluded the discussion by stating that she thought she would bring the proposal forward to the commissioners to glean their opinions.

josh@pagosahun.com

Annual business periodic report filing fee to increase July 1

Colorado Secretary of State's Office

Beginning July 1, 2024, the periodic report filing fee will increase to \$25.

The Colorado Legislature passed a new law requiring the Department of State to reimburse counties for 45 percent of the election costs in which the state certifies any of the ballot content.

Secretary of State Jena Griswold opposed putting the new reimbursement costs on Colorado business owners.

"The Colorado State Legislature increased the county election reimbursement rate and are requiring Colorado businesses to pay for it. Due to this, the annual business filing fee will be \$25 starting July 1. It will still be one of the lowest in the nation," said Griswold.

The department estimates new laws will increase costs by \$6.5 million in the 2024-2025 fiscal year, and \$9 million in the 2025-2026 fiscal year. The majority of these estimated changes result from changes to how counties are reimbursed for elec-

tion costs in Senate Bill (SB) 23-276 (Modifications to Laws Regarding Elections), which goes into effect on July 1. Some additional costs stem from SB23-214, House Bill (HB) 24-1137, HB24-1283, HB24-1326, SB24-072 and SB24-210.

Business entities are required to file periodic reports with the Department of State pursuant to Colorado Revised Statutes 7-90-501. Periodic reports state the entity name of the reporting entity, the jurisdiction under the law of which the reporting entity is formed, the

registered agent name and address, and the principal office address of the reporting entity.

The cost of filing a periodic report has been \$10 since the Department of State moved to online filing in 2006. Increasing this fee to \$25 ensures the department can accommodate reimbursements to counties during the next two fiscal years, which include the 2024 general election as well as the 2025 coordinated election and 2026 state primary election.

The national average for these fees is more than \$58.

Housing

Continued from A5

and purpose stated in the governing elements.

"It's not something where you want different agendas or ideas to come in when you're a year and half, two years into the project and say, 'No we need to change things,'" she said.

Kermode noted that part of the requirements to become an eligible buyer is that the applicant must have lived in Archuleta County for at least "one consecutive month."

Lashbrooke explained that this requirement was incorporated to hopefully accommodate people who have a job lined up in the county, but are not currently living in the county.

She used the example of someone taking a job with the Archuleta School District who would otherwise qualify as an eligible buyer in terms of AMI.

Kermode added that in cases like that, it may not be in the applicant's best interest to rent while they wait for the opportunity to buy a home and will potentially have that opportunity sooner rather than later.

"You're looking for somebody who is calling Archuleta County ... their primary residence," Kermode said, explaining that there are a number of ways to verify that.

She went on to explain that at the time of purchase, 80 percent of all of the buyer's income must come from working at least 1,500 hours at a job located within Archuleta County.

"That's pretty much a full-time position," she said, adding that would cover school teachers as well.

She further explained that verifying the applicant's employer is "how we make sure we're targeting the local workforce."

Another key requirement for applicants noted by Kermode is that they cannot own any other developed real estate property, noting that vacant land is not included in that requirement.

"We do not want them to own interest in other development property," she said, explaining the only exception to that is if the applicant has a co-borrower listed. In that case, the co-borrower would not be allowed to be the primary occupant of the home.

She noted that in some cases co-borrowers are likely the parents of the primary applicant.

"We don't want to prevent Mom and Dad from helping our people get into housing, so they can own their property. That's the exception," she said.

Kermode stated that the purpose of this project is not to "help anybody become a real estate magnate," but to give them a nest "so they can start building their egg."

Kermode went on to explain that there are net-worth limitations in place, as well.

Lashbrooke indicated that there is a net-worth limitation of \$175,000 for applicants to be approved.

Kermode explained that any down payment amount provided by the applicant will not count toward their total net worth.

"We don't want you to provide a lot of gap financing to build housing for a trust fund baby who could pay cash; that's just all there is to it," Kermode said.

She mentioned that this is very common in resort areas, noting that these parameters are set in place to "make sure we're serving who we

really need to be serving."

Town of Pagosa Springs Planning Director James Dickhoff brought up the scenario of people living in Archuleta County, but working outside of the county limits, such as Wolf Creek Ski Area employees, noting those people are "definitely residents of our community."

Kermode explained that that is a complicated situation at first and that the PSCDC would potentially have to work with a multijurisdictional housing entity and that intergovernmental agreements would likely have to be put in place.

"It's possible to do; it may not be something you want to do right out of the gate," she said, noting that it is definitely an option that the PSCDC may want to look into given that mountain communities "operate regionally."

Kermode noted that Leadville is a community where the majority of people work outside of that county and it was able to structure its affordable housing program to allow for people to work outside of Leadville but still qualify for an affordable home.

Archuleta County Commissioner and PSCDC board member Warren Brown asked Kermode if the language used in the guidelines drafted by the PSCDC is standard across the industry.

Kermode indicated that the language included is "extremely intentional" to make sure the target audience is being reached.

She also noted that the language included in the guidelines has been "vetted" by a variety of attorneys.

"It read as though it's a very re-

financed and purposeful document," Brown stated.

Kermode went on to clarify that income and asset limitations are only applied at the time of purchase, and that once a buyer gets into a home, it is encouraged for them to increase their income and "build up wealth in other areas."

She noted that the home must serve as the primary residence and that these homes are not intended to serve people who live here for six months out of the year and travel the other six months.

Kermode explained later in the meeting that buyers are able to take vacations, but an absence lasting longer than 90 days would require notifying the ACHA and asking for an exemption, based on the circumstance.

She noted that "life happens" and in some cases a homeowner may have to leave for an extended period of time to take care of ill family members, but plans to return to Pagosa.

In such a case, the ACHA would decide if the homeowner can rent the home as a long-term rental at a certain price point to a tenant that also meets the PSCDC requirements

See Housing A6



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PSCDC provides broadband update, summer internship program in full swing

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation (PSCDC) provided a brief update on broadband projects around the county at its June 12 meeting.

Executive Director Emily Lashbrooke stated, "We are finishing on time and on budget," in regard to the new fiber loop helping connect uptown and downtown networks.

However, Lashbrooke noted an extra cost arose due to the La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) needing to replace six poles from the broadband office's new carrier-neutral location (CNL) building along U.S. 160 to the Vista Boulevard intersection.

Lashbrooke stated that LPEA claimed those poles were "over capacity" and they would not be able to attach the new fiber lines to them.

She noted this extra cost "would've thrown us way over budget," but the PSCDC was able to use America Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds that were still remaining.

Lashbrooke indicated the ARPA fund account now has a balance of approximately \$69,000.

She went on to explain that this was a cost-share with LPEA and that, in the future, LPEA will have to lease fiber from the Broadband Services Management Office on their own poles.

"So, that'll be interesting as we work through that process," she said.

Lashbrooke added that a four-way agreement is in place with Archuleta County, La Plata County, LPEA and the Southern Ute Indian Tribe to have fiber lines established from U.S. 160 along Colo. 151 to Arboles and Colo. 172 to Ignacio.

"That agreement has been completed, all entities have paid their portion, and the Southern Ute Indian Tribe has the money," Lashbrooke said.

She explained that the Southern Ute Indian Tribe has been contracted to "do that build," noting they have two years to complete the project.

"But I expect it to be completed way before that two-year mark because they're moving quickly," she said.

Lashbrooke also mentioned that LPEA was recently planning on replacing \$1 million worth of poles along Colo. 151, and that they were

prepared to cover that costs "because they understand the collaboration on the project."

She went on to explain that the Southern Ute Indian Tribe received a grant from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration that allowed the Southern Utes to use another grant to bury fiber lines the whole way.

Lashbrooke noted this alleviated that million-dollar expenditure for LPEA.

"This is a win-win if you ask my opinion, and I think it just shows a good collaboration and partnership between all parties," she said.

She added that the trench for fiber lines has already been dug from U.S. 160 to Arboles.

"So, good news there," she said.

Summer internship program

"Holy cow," Lashbrooke said, explaining the PSCDC put out a call to all students in Pagosa Springs to fill summer internship positions.

She noted the PSCDC needed to have at least 55 students placed in internship positions locally in order to get close to using all the grant funds

awarded for the project.

Lashbrooke indicated that 67 local students signed up for the summer internship program.

"I think we can still stretch the money and make it work," she said.

Lashbrooke explained that funding within the grant was reallocated in order to accommodate all 67 students.

She noted there was funding set aside in the grant for personal protective equipment (PPE) requests, but that no PPE request had been received.

The PSCDC contacted the grant writer, requesting the designated PPE funds be reallocated in order to accommodate more intern positions, which was approved.

"So, we are gonna place 67 students," she said, noting 32 students have already been placed in an internship position with 30 different businesses in the community.

"We had to go and look for more jobs ... what a great problem to have," Lashbrooke added.

She noted that the PSCDC is on track to spend all of the \$192,000 grant before end of August.

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Housing

Continued from A6

in terms of living and working in Archuleta County full-time.

"We don't want to underutilize property," she added, explaining that if a home is rented as a long-term rental, it can only be listed at a rate that covers the mortgage payment, homeowner association fees and an additional \$150.

She explained that the homeowner would have to check in with the ACHA at least once every 12 months, at which point the ACHA can decide to let the home continue to be rented or force a sale.

"They will never let a short-term rental happen," Lashbrooke added.

Another circumstance nodded to by Kermode is the scenario of a homeowner passing away while occupying the home.

She explained that if there is another occupant in the household, that occupant will have one year from the time of passing to bring themselves into the PSCDC's guidelines in terms of AMI to be able to stay in the house.

Additionally, if a homeowner inherits another piece of real property while occupying the home, they will be forced to sell the property inherited within 180 days in order to keep their PSCDC home, Kermode explained.

If they choose to keep the inherited property, they will be forced to sell their PSCDC home.

"It's harsh. It's hard," she said, explaining these parameters are set in place to keep things as fair as possible.

"If there is a limited resource, people get crazy to get it ... housing is a limited resource," Kermode said, noting the importance of following a transparent and equitable process.

Lashbrooke went on to explain that ACHA will be the entity performing the continued deed monitoring process to ensure compliance with the PSCDC guidelines set for occupying the home, noting the homes will be deed-restricted for 33 years.

Kermode also talked about the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) guidelines for affordable housing.

She mentioned that if more than 30 percent of the household income is going toward housing costs, then that household is considered to be "cost-burdened."

However, Kermode added there is "rumor" going around at the state level that HUD might be raising its guideline to 35 percent.

She explained that these guidelines will be what the PSCDC uses in relation to the local AMI to set initial sales prices of its homes.

Kermode also spoke about using the Colorado Housing and Finance Authority's (CHFA's) guidelines on affordability and AMI, and that figures might vary slightly depending on which system is used.

According to Lashbrooke, a 100 percent AMI for a four-person household in Archuleta County is \$94,200 using the HUD figures.

She noted for a single person, the AMI for 100 percent is \$66,000.

Kermode mentioned that household size will be determined by the standard of 1.5 persons per bedroom, meaning that a two-bedroom house is suitable for three people.

She explained that, with this standard, a single person will not be able to qualify for more than a two-bedroom house.

Lashbrooke noted that the PSCDC is using a variety of floor plans.

Kermode touched on the topic and issue of working from home, explaining that, basically, if someone is able to work from anywhere, meaning their job does not require them to live in Archuleta County, "you don't need our housing."

In the case of retiring while occupying a home, Lashbrooke explained that the occupant must hold a job in Archuleta County for at least four years from the time of sale, and if they choose to retire, they can remain in the home, so as long as they maintain the PSCDC's residency

requirements.

The PSCDC is also requiring applicants to complete a homebuyer education course in order to be approved for this year's HOP drawing, Lashbrooke noted.

Kermode also mentioned that refinancing restrictions will be in place to prevent the property from being refinanced at a price more than the value of the property.

Lastly, Kermode talked about what the actual HOP drawing process will look like for this year, with Lashbrooke noting the PSCDC plans to hold the drawing in August.

Once qualified, the applicant will receive a certificate of eligibility and a ticket (one per household), which they will tear in half and place one half into the drawing bin, keeping the other half.

When someone's ticket is drawn, they will be asked to mark which home they want that is in their approved category in terms of AMI and household size.

Kermode explained that this will be an in-person event and the applicant must be present to be entered into the drawing, or have someone there on their behalf.

Lashbrooke explained that those who are not drawn will be placed on the alternate list and will be contacted if a unit meeting their criteria becomes available.

Kermode explained that those who are drawn need to be prepared to "fork over some money" in writing an earnest check for at least \$1,000.

She also noted that the recipient will have just three days from being drawn to go under contract on their home. If they are unable to go under contract, the PSCDC will choose from the alternate list for a new buyer.

Lashbrooke explained that ineligible applicants will have the opportunity to go through a grievance and appeals hearing process.

Lashbrooke indicated the PSCDC plans to use the same grievance and appeals process that is used by

County updates fee schedule

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) approved revisions to the county fee schedule at its June 18 meeting.

The changes were focused on the Archuleta County Public Health Department (ACPHD), alterations in fees associated with liquor licensing and changes to certain Planning Department fees.

The fee schedule documentation notes that liquor licensing fees are set by the state.

At a May 16 meeting of the Archuleta County Board of Health (BoH), ACPHD Executive Director Ashley Wilson explained that the department initially set its fee schedule to match the fee schedule used by San Juan Basin Public Health.

However, she indicated that the ACPHD has now ordered many of the items and tests contained in the fee schedule and that the fee schedule is now being adjusted to match the altered costs.

She stated that many of the clinic services and tests have increased in

price and that the fees charged are based on the purchasing prices for the items.

Wilson also stated that some items have been removed from the fee schedule due to ACPHD Medical Director Dr. Dave Shaeffer updating the recommendations for what medications should be used to treat specific illnesses and sexually transmitted infections.

She indicated that the fees for lead testing, blood draws and ciprofloxacin medication (an antibiotic used to treat a range of infections and diseases) were added to the fee schedule since these are new services and drugs that ACPHD is now offering.

The BoH then unanimously voted to approve the changes to the fee schedule and recommend that the BoCC adopt the new fee schedule.

The changes to Planning Department fees include increases to various fees related to subdivision planning, according to the fee schedule documentation.

At the June 18 meeting, prior to the vote, Interim County Manager Jack Harper stated that county staff will work on reformatting the way the

county fee schedule is presented to make it more accessible and consistent across county departments, something that Commissioner Veronica Medina requested at a BoCC work session earlier that day.

The board then unanimously voted to approve the revised fee schedule.

Quit claim deeds

Also at the June 18 meeting, the BoCC approved four quit claim deeds for the transfer of properties in the Chris Mountain Village II subdivision owned by the county due to tax liens to the Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation (PSCDC) for its affordable housing projects.

County Attorney Todd Weaver explained to the board that the county recently completed the quiet title process on these properties, making it possible to "execute the deeds to the [PSCDC]."

He added that the transfers would finalize the BoCC's May 2023 agreement to donate six lots to the PSCDC for the construction of affordable housing.

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Election

Continued from front

Day only, a polling location will be set up at the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association Clubhouse located at 230 Port Ave.

According to the Colorado Secretary of State's Office, early in-person voting is now available.

Who's on the ballots

Following are the official nominations that will be voted on in the primary.

Federal offices

Representative to the 119th United States Congress for District 3
Democratic voters will see one name on the ballot: Adam Frisch.

Republican voters will choose between Stephen A. Varela, Ron Hanks, Lew Webb, Russ Andrews, Curtis M. McCracken and Jeff Hurd.

State offices

State Board of Education member for Congressional District 3

Each party has one candidate on the ballot: Democrat Ellen Angeles and Republican Sherri M. Wright.

Regent of the University of Colorado — at large

Two candidates will appear on the Democratic ballot: Elliott Hodd and Charles "CJ" Johnson.

Eric Rinard will be the sole candidate on the Republican ballot.

Regent of the University of Colorado for Congressional District 3

Robert B. Logan will be the sole candidate on the Democratic ballot.

The Republican ballot will feature two candidates: Kristine Sposato and Ray Scott.

State senator for District 6
Each ballot will feature one candi-

date: Vivian Smotherman on the Democratic ballot and Cleave Alan Simpson on the Republican ballot.

State representative for District 59

Each ballot will have one candidate: Katie Stewart on the Democratic ballot and Clark Craig on the Republican ballot.

District attorney for the 6th Judicial District

Sean Murray will appear on the Democratic ballot.

There are no Republican candidates for the office.

County offices

Archuleta County commissioner for District 1

There are no Democratic candidates.

Warren M. Brown will be the sole Republican candidate on the ballot.

Archuleta County commissioner for District 2

There are no Democratic candidates.

Two candidates will appear on the Republican ballot: John Ranson and Zane Kraetsch.

Archuleta County coroner

There are no Democratic candidates.

Brad Hunt will appear on the Republican ballot.

How to register to vote

Those eligible can register to vote up to and including Election Day at www.govotecolorado.gov or at the county's election's office.

More information on registering to vote is available at <https://www.archuletacounty.org/192/Elections.randi@pagosahun.com>

Fees

Continued from front

ing the fire. "That would be the easiest, cleanest way to bill it," Bertram said, referring to the CRRF rates.

PFPD board member Wayne Hooper asked whether insurance companies will typically pay these costs or "balk."

"We'd have to bill to find out," Bertram replied.

He added that the district has had a cost-recovery program with automobile accidents in place for some time, but has not attempted to collect on structures.

PFPD board member James Martin noted that collections for the automobile cost recovery program are at approximately 20 percent.

Bertram commented that the PFPD considered imposing similar fees under a previous fire chief, but did not ultimately do so.

He mentioned that the board had discussed holding a public hearing on the fees prior to imposing them at its next meeting.

Hooper stated that he would support this and that his "ultimate goal" would be to expand the district to cover all portions of the county that

are currently not served by a fire district.

Imposing the fees would be a first step, Bertram commented, adding that the district could then pursue a variety of different options, including attempting to include more portions of the county.

The board then discussed the responsibilities of sheriff's offices for wildland fires and that the PFPD is having to respond to a variety of non-wildfire emergencies outside of its district.

It also discussed the processes for including properties into the district, with Bertram noting that the inclusion process is controlled by the PFPD board, which makes the decisions on if a petition to be included in the district is accepted.

He added that the district could also hold an election where the residents of a certain area could vote on whether to be included in the district or not.

Martin asked Bertram if he intends to apply the fees for out-of-district responses and attempt to collect them.

Bertram stated that this is his plan as a way to "open up discussion" and promote public discussion of the

need for additional revenues for the fire district.

Martin and Bertram expressed doubt that the district would obtain significant revenue from the fees.

The group then discussed the impacts of fire district membership on home insurance, with Martin and PFPD board member Ronald Beckman commenting that highlighting insurance impacts could be a way to further emphasize the importance of the issue.

Hooper asked if the district would have the right to place a lien on the property of an individual who refuses to pay fees owed to the district for an out-of-district response.

PFPD legal counsel Dino Ross stated that liens were previously not allowed, but that a bill passed in the most recent Colorado legislative session would allow the district to do this, although he commented that he was unsure if this would be a "good idea."

The group then discussed how the potential for firefighting services to be unsolicited would enter into the issue before concluding that including the rest of the county that is not within the fire district would be the "right

solution," as Ross expressed.

Hooper commented that the district holding an election to expand the district could give additional "teeth" to the district potentially refusing to provide fire service to residents if the vote failed.

Ross commented that denial of service is a potentially complex issue, which Hooper noted he did not want to become involved with.

Martin added that it would be a "tough" issue.

Bertram commented that the strategy of expanding the district could be factored into its strategic planning.

Following a brief discussion of how to structure the motion, the board then moved to direct staff to integrate the CRRF rates for out-of-district responses into the fee schedule and to hold a public hearing and consider adopting these rates at its next meeting, which will be held at 5:30 p.m. on July 2 in the PFPD administration building.

This meeting will follow a PFPD Firefighters' Pension Board of trustees meeting scheduled to occur at the same time on July 2.

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Designation

Continued from front

"That's the position we wanted to take on workforce housing," she said.

At a June 18 work session of the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC), Lashbrooke elaborated on the CBDO designation and the options it will create for affordable housing in the community.

She stated that the CBDO designation will allow the PSCDC to work with developers of multifamily housing projects in the community, becoming a partial "1 percent" owner of the project and being able to apply for grants to support infrastructure for these projects.

Lashbrooke indicated that such an arrangement would also require the developer to make 51 percent of the housing units affordable housing according to the affordable housing guidelines.

"So, it's all starting to stack together to attack affordable housing," she said. "I think we're making great strides there to be able to do it fair and equitably and add a more ample

supply to our community."

Commissioner Veronica Medina commented that it is "commendable" that the PSCDC is "championing" affordable housing, but questioned if the Archuleta County Housing Authority (ACHA) should work to gain the CBDO designation.

She added that she feels the PSCDC's focus is on business and economic development and questioned if there could be "more than one champion."

"I don't think, in long term, that this ... should be [the PSCDC's] first objective," Medina said, referring to affordable housing creation.

She added that she feels that this work is more appropriate for the ACHA and that, in many communities, the housing authority leads this work.

However, Medina added that the PSCDC helped lay the groundwork for work on affordable housing that another organization, such as the housing authority, could pick up if the PSCDC stopped working on housing.

She also questioned when the

PSCDC will "stop doing housing," noting that the organization's current work will not solve the housing crisis and commenting that the ACHA could help with this work.

Lashbrooke stated that she would discuss these issues with the ACHA and that she will need to learn from the state if the CBDO designation is transferable or if the PSCDC and the ACHA could partner to work under the CBDO.

Commissioner Ronnie Maez commented that he would not want the PSCDC and the ACHA to be "competing against each other."

Lashbrooke stated that she would not want this either and that the PSCDC, as the CBDO, and the ACHA can accomplish different things, making partnership more feasible.

Medina commented that her focus is on the organizations "working better together" and finding the best ways to partner.

Lashbrooke explained that the PSCDC is working closely with the ACHA and that the PSCDC has to accept the CBDO designation, modify

its bylaws and add a seat to its board in the next 90 days prior to being able to take actions using the CBDO.

She added that she would keep the ACHA informed about this process and discuss ways it could be engaged. Medina then raised the question of what the capacity of ACHA is and how many deed restrictions it could manage.

Maez commented that this would depend on funding and that increased activity for the ACHA would also likely lead to additional funding.

Medina stated that the conversations between the PSCDC and the ACHA need to continue, and Lashbrooke concluded by emphasizing the potential for the CBDO to make a "huge difference for the affordable piece of our housing."

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Public Meetings

The following meetings are subject to change.

Thursday, June 20

Archuleta County Board of Health meeting. 3 p.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St. View Zoom meeting at: <https://zoom.us/j/91609048375?pwd=d1FFV0J1cGVKa1NHWHFsa2taeGxtZz09>, meeting ID: 916 0904 8375, passcode: 4141885. For more information, visit <http://archuletacounty.org/agendacenter>.

Monday, June 24

Archuleta County Road and Bridge Advisory Committee meeting. 2 p.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St. For more information, visit <http://archuletacounty.org/agendacenter>.

Tuesday, June 25

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

Archuleta School District Board of Education special meeting. 5

p.m., Google Meets. For information, visit <https://go.boarddocs.com/co/asdco/Board.nsf/Public/#>.

Wednesday, June 26

San Juan Water Conservancy District meeting. 4 p.m., 46 Eaton Drive, Suite 5. Visit <https://www.sjwcd.org/> for Zoom option.

Thursday, June 27

Main Street Advisory Board work session. 4 p.m., Pagosa Senior Center dining room, Ross Aragon Community Center, 451 Hot Springs Blvd. See town website for participation information: <https://pagosasprings.civicweb.net/portal/>.

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

Archuleta County Planning Commission meeting. 6 p.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St. View Zoom meeting at: <https://zoom.us/j/91609048375?pwd=d1FFV0J1cGVKa1NHWHFsa2taeGxtZz09>, meeting ID: 916

0904 8375, passcode: 4141885. For more information, visit <http://archuletacounty.org/agendacenter>.

Tuesday, July 2

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

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

Pagosa Fire Protection District Board of Directors meeting. 5:30 p.m., 165 North Pagosa Blvd. For more information, visit pagosafire.org.

Education

School board discusses ways for more family involvement

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

At its regular meeting held on June 11, the Archuleta School District Board of Education (BOE) heard from Julie Buchner, president of the District Accountability Committee (DAC), in regard to feedback received from the committee's family engagement survey, which was distributed in February.

Buchner explained that conducting the survey, gathering results and providing action steps aligns with the DAC's responsibility outlined by ASD by assisting the district in implementing its parent-engagement policy and assisting schools in the district and the district as a whole increase parents' engagement with educators. "More importantly, studies have shown that schools that effectively engage families find that their students earn higher grades, score higher on tests, develop better social skills and are more likely to graduate," she added.

Buchner mentioned she feels the survey was "well received" with a total of 239 responses.

Buchner noted there are approximately 1,500 students enrolled in the district and that the DAC was hoping to get a minimum of a 10 to 15 percent response rate.

Given that some of the responses could have come from parents with multiple students, the DAC got at least a 16 percent response rate, Buchner indicated.

She explained that there were two types of responses received with the survey; a scaled response and a free response.

"That kind of helped us focus on what we wanted to do with the information," she said.

Buchner highlighted a few of the free responses received that included comments such as being glad the district is asking about this.

She also noted responses to the question of, "If you were in charge, how would you engage with the community?" to which respondents answered: communicate with parents about more opportunities to help, provide more outlets for parent involvement and have a consistent place where volunteer opportunities are listed.

Buchner also noted comments that mention families simply do not hear about opportunities to volunteer.

Buchner added that in the scaled response section, approximately 48 percent of respondents indicated that they felt there was a "medium-large" or "very large" barrier when it comes to accessing involvement opportunities at schools.

She explained that it is the responsibility of the DAC to focus on what the district can do to offer more engagement opportunities to families rather than focusing on how to get families to free up more time in their busy schedules.

"We're all busy," she said, explain-

ing that life happens and the district cannot expect families to be able to alter their schedules accordingly all the time.

She mentioned that the DAC needs to focus on "modifiable" factors, like offering more opportunities for family engagement in trying to improve how the district provides information about involvement opportunities.

"It's also worth noting we plan to administer this survey in years to come so that we can have comparative data," Buchner said.

Buchner explained that the DAC plans to launch a family hub tab on the ASD website that will list volunteer opportunities, substitute teaching information, a section for families new to Pagosa and information on the DAC.

"I think a lot of families need to, kind of want to, know how to integrate," Buchner said.

She added that family events will be posted under the family hub tab, as well.

"This is nothing brand new or earth-shattering, but I think it's a step in the direction of what the parents are asking for and a place where we can meet them," she said.

BOE president Bob Lynch commented that the family hub is great way to turn the survey information into something "actionable."

Buchner mentioned that it is a goal of the DAC to have all the family resources centralized.

BOE member Amanda Schick also commented on the survey and DAC's plans, with approval of the ideas.

"I think that this survey honestly gave a lot of confidence that we are doing the right things with the ideas that we have and what families are giving us, and that we want to connect ... Pagosa is special, in the sense that people come here, they want to be a part of the community, they want to be a part of the schools and so I think this will be a great way to ensure that there's more connection if it's possible," she said.

ASD Superintendent Rick Holt also commented in support of the DAC for "stepping up" with conducting the survey and that he is looking forward to continuing to use the survey in years to come.

Buchner mentioned the DAC is always open for new membership. clayton@pagosasun.com

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Landis receives aviation scholarship

By Sherman Ratliff
Special to The SUN

Pagosa Springs High School student Cody Landis has been awarded an aviation scholarship endowed by Elevate Aviation, owned by Michael Barber, in conjunction with San Juan Flyers Inc.

The award is designed to promote and reward interest in an aviation career. It will pay for flight training and aircraft usage with the ultimate goal to obtain a private pilot certificate.

The San Juan Flyers are incorporated as an aviation club based at Stevens Field, with the purpose of providing aircraft and education for the benefit of its owner/members.



Photo courtesy Sherman Ratliff

Cody Landis was awarded an aviation scholarship by the San Juan Flyers and Elevate Aviation.

Commissioners hear presentation on increasing scholarship availability

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) heard a presentation from the Marijuana Offset Impact Fund scholarship selection committee on ways to revise the scholarship and increase its impact at its June 11 work session.

Andy Guinn, who serves on the grant selection committee, explained that the group approached the BoCC in 2017 about using marijuana tax revenues to support youth in the community and that the county established the Marijuana Offset Impact Fund, which the committee helps award grants from.

He outlined that there are a variety of taxes on commercial marijuana sales, including a 15 percent excise tax that goes to a fund which school districts can apply to for grants; a 2.9 percent state sales tax that also goes to a fund from which school districts can apply to receive grants; a 4 percent county and town sales tax that is split evenly between the Town of Pagosa Springs and Archuleta County; and a 15 percent special tax, 90 percent of which goes to the state and 10 percent of which is evenly divided between the town and county.

He added that all the state grant funds are highly competitive and that Archuleta School District (ASD) has had limited consistent success in securing such grants.

Guinn explained that, since 2015, the town and county have received between \$4.8 million and \$5 million in tax revenues from marijuana, in addition to an annual collection of

about \$12,000 from county marijuana licensing.

Guinn stated that 10 percent of this licensing revenues goes to the Marijuana Offset Impact Fund and that, in the last four years, the county has also made an annual contribution of \$5,000 to the fund.

He explained that \$108,000 of this has been allocated toward education, including \$70,000 in town scholarships and \$38,000 from the Marijuana Offset Impact Fund grants.

Guinn then spoke on the need for scholarships, noting that there are a large number of scholarships available in the community, but costs for tuition at Colorado state colleges have risen 300 percent in the last 20 years and very few scholarships are available for students with GPAs between 3.2 and 3.7.

He noted that the Town of Pagosa Springs' Aim Higher scholarship, which is supported by marijuana funds, targets students attending community colleges and trade schools.

Guinn explained that the one issue with the Marijuana Offset Impact Fund grants is that they are supposed to be split evenly between scholarships for students and grants for nonprofits, but that the committee has received fewer grant requests from nonprofits and an escalating number of scholarship applications.

He stated that the committee is asking for increased scholarship funding while keeping organizational grant funding the same to meet demand.

Guinn requested \$15,000 per year for student scholarships, which he stated would be 20 percent of the county's special tax revenues for 2023, in addition to \$5,000 in funding for nonprofit grants annually.

He noted that this request would not raise marijuana taxes or touch sales tax.

Guinn concluded by stating that legalizing marijuana has created additional challenges for youth, particularly because marijuana usage has become more appealing for youth due to being legal for adults.

He added he feels the community has a responsibility to acknowledge these challenges and "give something back."

He stated that postsecondary education has increased in cost and that not enough scholarships are available, particularly to those with GPAs below 3.7.

Guinn commented that the county has sufficient revenues from marijuana taxes and fees to help address this problem, and that increasing the scholarship would be a "unique opportunity" for partnership between ASD and the county to benefit the community and students.

Commissioner Ronnie Maez stated that one question he has is what the county is currently using the funds that Guinn was requesting for.

He then asked County Attorney Todd Weaver if these funds were al-

■ See Scholarship A10

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Local

Kaitlin Cooke

Kaitlin Cooke, of Pagosa Springs, has received the following degree from the University of Alabama (UA): Bachelor of Science in commerce and business administration. UA awarded more than 6,000 degrees during its spring commencement ceremonies.



Photo courtesy Glenn Sterkel
Brodie Norton is the second recipient of a scholarship from the Ruby Sisson Memorial Scholarship Fund. Norton was awarded \$2,000.

Scholarship

■ **Continued from A9**
 located as part of a ballot question and would require voter approval to reallocate.

Weaver commented that he would have to look into how these funds are allocated.

Guinn added that the current Marijuana Offset Impact Fund is supported by the fees for marijuana permitting.

He also stated that the county was unaware that it was collecting sales tax on marijuana and that, in 2017, he had to purchase products from a marijuana shop to show the receipt to the county manager to prove this following a "condescending" email from the manager stating that Guinn "didn't know what he was talking about" when he indicated that the county was collecting sales tax on marijuana.

"Nice job, man," Maez commented.

Commissioner Warren Brown asked Interim County Manager Jack Harper where the special tax funds are currently being spent.

Harper stated that he would look into it after the meeting.

Brown then asked Guinn if a document could be created specifically allocating a certain portion of the scholarships to lower-GPA students if the county increases scholarship funding.

Guinn stated that he would like to hear the input of other committee members on this possibility and asked Carmen Lewis and Darren Lewis, who also serve on the committee and were attending the meeting, for their input.

He added that the Aim Higher scholarship explicitly focuses on serving students attending trade schools and non-four-year colleges.

Carmen Lewis stated that the

group would have to be "careful" with the language for the scholarships, commenting that it might not be ideal to exclude students above a certain GPA and that, although she likes the Aim Higher scholarship's phrasing, she would not want to exclude students attending a four-year college.

Maez noted that the scholarship has previously been awarded to students attending trade schools and four-year colleges.

Commissioner Veronica Medina commented that, from her experience with a scholarship for Archuleta Seniors Inc., she believes it would be ideal to not ask applicants about GPA and focus instead on questions for the students to answer and on their goals.

Guinn noted that the Aim Higher scholarship does not include a GPA threshold.

Brown proposed that the county could direct a certain portion of the scholarship to trade schools, commenting that this would not create the message that students attending trade school have low academic achievement, but would create "a little more equity in the game."

Medina commented that she would prefer to keep the amounts of scholarships awarded to various groups flexible to account for the potential variety in applications received and allow the selection committee discretion to decide what is best.

Executive Assistant Mary Helminski, who also serves on the selection committee, noted that the committee has not previously focused on GPA and makes its recommendations based on the essays provided by students.

Medina commented that having the GPA on the application can be a

deterrent for some students.

Maez added that his review of the applications focuses on if student essays are "on target" compared to the application requirements.

Guinn commented that all students who have received a Marijuana Offset Impact Fund scholarship are "well deserving" but that the committee would like to award more money to more students.

Darren Lewis stated that the committee would like additional freedom in awarding the scholarships and grants.

Maez noted that some of the non-profit grant applications are not "on target" and that he would like more money to go to students, both by increasing flexibility and increasing the amount of money available.

He proposed that the county could raise the cap on the number of marijuana cultivation and retail permits allowed in the county to generate more revenue for the scholarship.

Medina noted that the Marijuana Ordinance Update Citizen Task Force will investigate increasing the number of permits as part of its proposed revisions of the county marijuana ordinance.

Carmen Lewis asked if taking money from the special tax on marijuana would be an option to increase scholarship funding.

Weaver explained that this would depend on the requirements of the tax and that he would have to investigate further.

Carmen Lewis noted that communities across Colorado have used this special tax for a variety of purposes and that much of the funding from allowing commercial marijuana sales was intended to go to education, but that this did not occur in many communities due to loopholes in the law.

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The Pagosa Springs SUN

Outdoors



Containment grows on Snow Ranch Fire

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The Snow Ranch Fire, located approximately 11 air miles west of Pagosa Springs in the Chris Mountain area of the San Juan National Forest, was estimated to be 93 percent contained as of June 18.

The fire, according to the U.S. Forest Service, was started by lightning on June 11.

According to a June 15 update, the fire is 386 acres.

On June 18, the San Juan National Forest reported that about 30,000 gallons of water had been used to cool hot spots and secure the perimeter of the fire over the preceding few days.

It adds the water is used in combination with shovel and Pulaski work.

"Fire managers say the lines that either existed (roads) or were created (dozer and hand line) are secure and the fire is considered 93 percent contained. Fire activity is minimal but stumps and other material inside the lines continue to smolder," it states.

It also reports control over the fire would be returned to the Pagosa Ranger District from an incident management team on June 19.

randi@pagosason.com



Photo courtesy U.S. Forest Service

Fire crews tend to the Snow Ranch Fire west of Pagosa Springs last week. The fire is 386 acres and 93 percent contained.

Generation Wild distributing free Wilderflower seed packets to encourage kids to help save the bees

Great Outdoors Colorado

Generation Wild, a movement from Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) that seeks to reconnect kids with nature, is calling on Colorado's kids to help save the bees this summer.

Generation Wild is distributing more than 100,000 free packets of Wilderflower seeds — a nod to Generation Wild's friendly spokesperson, Wilder — and is encouraging kids and families to plant the seeds in their backyards.

Wilderflower packets are now available for pickup at local libraries and more partner locations across the state, including the Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library.

This initiative aims to make our state more beautiful, more ecologically diverse and more friendly to our pollinator friends — all while rewilding Colorado's kids.

"The Western Bumblebee population has declined in Colorado by 72 percent (CBS News), and we're calling on kids across Colorado to 'Bee the Change,'" said GOCO Executive

Director Jackie Miller. "Through this effort, kids will be empowered to improve the environment and learn firsthand what helps our local ecosystems thrive. Most importantly, they'll be outside engaging with nature in a fun and personal way — and Generation Wild knows that 'Kids Grow Better Outside.'"

The Wilderflower mix was developed in partnership with Applewood Seed Co. and packets are now available for pickup at local libraries and designated partner sites.

By distributing 100,000 Wilderflower packets, Generation Wild is providing more than 56 million seeds for planting in every nook and cranny of the state. All seeds are regionally native to Colorado, which is important for sustaining the living landscape of bees, birds and other animals. Additionally, Wilderflowers use less water than non-native plants. This is especially important as we strive to conserve Colorado's precious water resources.

According to a new report from the Colorado Department of Natural Resources, 20 percent of Colorado's

bumblebees are now at risk of extinction.

Even in a small area like a backyard, planting Wilderflowers can make a positive impact on the local ecosystem and provide native bees a healthy place to live. Wilderflowers are native Colorado wildflowers, which means they have adapted to our climate and soil, and don't need pesticides to survive. Pesticides are another key cause of the decline in bee populations.

Local fact: Pollinators are responsible for one in every three bites of food we eat. In Colorado, pollinators help produce apples from Paonia, pumpkins from Lafayette, tomatoes from Grand Junction, peaches from Palisade, cantaloupes from Rocky Ford and lots more.

In addition to providing seed packets, Generation Wild highlights several other ways for kids and families to get outdoors and take part in this movement:

- Pollinator Week (June 17-24): Pollinator Week is an annual celebration in support of pollinator health. What better time to spread

Wilderflowers than during Pollinator Week?

- Generation Wild Day (June 21): On Generation Wild Day, kids statewide are encouraged to get outside and spread Wilderflowers.

For more information and a statewide directory for where to find seeds in every community, visit generationwild.com/wilderflowers. Tag @GenerationWild on Facebook and Instagram to share your Wilderflowers.

About GOCO

GOCO invests a portion of Colorado Lottery proceeds to help preserve and enhance the state's parks, trails, wildlife, rivers and open spaces. GOCO's independent board awards competitive grants to local governments and land trusts and makes investments through Colorado Parks and Wildlife.

Created when voters approved a Constitutional Amendment in 1992, GOCO has since funded more than 5,700 projects in urban and rural areas in all 64 counties without any tax dollar support. Visit GOCO.org for more information.

Forest Service invests \$27.5 into deferred maintenance projects in Rocky Mountain Region

U.S. Forest Service

The USDA Forest Service Rocky Mountain Region recently announced its investment of more than \$27.5 million in funding from the Great American Outdoors Act (GAOA) to support 59 individual projects across the Rocky Mountain Region in fiscal year 2024, including projects at Williams Creek Campground and Chimney Rock National Monument.

These investments are made possible by the National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund (LRF) established by the Great American Outdoors Act.

These projects support the recent announcement by both the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Interior proposing a combined \$2.8 billion in funding for Fiscal Year 2025 to improve infrastructure, recreation facilities, public lands access, and land and water conservation as the legislation enters its fourth out of fifth year.

"This investment allows us to provide greater access to public lands which are essential for recreation, economic development, and community well-being," said Steve Lohr, Acting Regional Forester.

Between authorized and funded

deferred maintenance projects for Fiscal Year 2024, the Rocky Mountain Region currently has 120 LRF projects in various stages of development, with 39 completed.

Since 2021, the Forest Service has completed more than 267 deferred maintenance projects across 41 states and Puerto Rico with more than 880 additional projects currently funded and in various stages of completion.

Among the projects fiscal year 2024 efforts listed for the Rocky Mountain Region are:

- Williams Creek Campground: This project will reduce deferred maintenance and replace campground site amenities, including all use and tent pads, picnic tables and fire rings at Williams Creek Campground on the San Juan National Forest.

These improvements will enhance campground amenities, increase user access and water and sewer infrastructure at a highly utilized area known for its fishing, all-terrain riding, and scenic opportunities as well as close access to Williams Reservoir for fishing and kayaking.

- Chimney Rock National Monument: This project will repave the entry road and parking lot for Chimney Rock National Monument.

Chimney Rock encompasses 4,726 acres of the San Juan National Forest between Durango and Pagosa Springs.

For additional information about the Forest Service implementation of the GAOA, visit: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/managing-land/gaoa>.

The GAOA addresses the growing \$8.6 billion backlog of deferred

maintenance on national forest and grasslands.

The Forest Service currently administers more than 370,000 miles of roads, 13,900 trail and road bridges, 160,000 miles of trails, 1,500 dams and reservoirs, 1,500 communications sites, and 30,000 recreation sites across the United States and Puerto Rico.



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



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




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The Blotter

Items listed in The Blotter report where an alleged incident occurred and the nature of the incident. Readers should not assume employees or owners of a place of business or a parking lot reported as the scene of an event are involved as perpetrators of the incident.

Archuleta County Sheriff's Office

June 10 — No offense listed, County Road 700.
 June 10 — Information only, River Run Drive.
 June 11 — No offense listed, Navajo Trail Drive.
 June 11 — Second-degree motor vehicle theft, failure to appear, Harman Park Drive.
 June 11 — Second-degree burglary, Light Plant Road.
 June 11 — Information only, Walnut Place.
 June 11 — Agency assist, County Road.
 June 11 — Theft-less than \$300, Harman Park Drive.
 June 12 — No offense listed, U.S. 160.
 June 12 — Warrant arrest, Cactus Drive.
 June 12 — No offense listed, Taylor Lane.
 June 12 — Registration-fictitious plate, U.S. 160.
 June 13 — Permitted use of # plate/misuse plates, driving under the influence of drugs (marijuana), Prospect Boulevard/U.S. 160.
 June 13 — Second-degree burglary-no force entry-residence, Talisman Drive.
 June 13 — Disorderly conduct-petty offense, obstructing highway or passageway, U.S. 84.
 June 14 — Criminal mischief under \$300 public, obstructing governmental operations, false reporting to authorities, Harman Park Place.
 June 14 — Lost and found, Eagles Loft Circle.
 June 15 — Second-degree burglary-no force entry-residence, Talisman Drive.
 June 15 — Speeding 10-19 over, driving under the influence of alcohol, driving while ability impaired, County Road 600.
 June 15 — No offense listed, Cox Circle.
Pagosa Springs Police Department
 June 9 — Theft-\$300 to \$750 from building, South 8th Street.
 June 9 — Second-degree criminal tampering, South 9th Street.
 June 10 — Information only, Pagosa Street.

June 12 — Disturbance, Pagosa Street.
 June 13 — Disturbance, Hot Springs Blvd.
 June 13 — Petty, obstruction of highway/passageway, Eagle Drive.
 June 13 — Animal complaint, East Pagosa Street.
 June 13 — Disturbance, South 8th Street.
 June 13 — Suspicious activity/vehicle, Talisman Drive.
 June 14 — Vehicle accident no injuries, Pagosa Street.
 June 14 — Warrant Arrest, South 9th Street.
 June 14 — Traffic stop, East Pagosa Street.
 June 15 — Traffic investigation-complaint, Harman Park Drive.
 June 15 — Followup, Hermosa Street.
 June 15 — Disorderly conduct-petty, Hermosa Street.
 June 15 — Violation of protection order - criminal, Hermosa Street.

Pagosa Springs Municipal Court: Judge Anthony D. Edwards

No report.
Archuleta County Court: Judge Justin P. Fay
 May 22 — Victor Rodriguez, failed to use turn signal, fines and costs — \$105.
 May 22 — Jude M. Oubre, fail to yield right of way/stop sign, fines and costs — \$107.50.
 May 22 — Tasha Vigil, license plates-expired, fines and costs — \$155.50.
 May 22 — Maurice Morgan Hands, headlamps-excess number, driver's license-instruction permit violation, fines and costs — \$164.50.
 May 22 — Ma Ines Alvarez-Leaoner, speeding 20-24 over, fines and costs — \$290.
 May 22 — Ramona Kay Brassand, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$225.
 May 22 — Kelsi A. Griego, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$233.50.
 May 22 — Greg Jay Jewell, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$210.50.
 May 22 — Brian K. Morgan, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$233.50.
 May 22 — Paulo C. Perez Testa, registration-unregistered vehicle, fines and costs — \$161.50.
 May 22 — Siddhesh Navinkumar Aher, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$190.
 May 22 — Mike Anthony Lira Martinez, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$190.

May 23 — Phillip A. Montoya, controlled sub-possession Schedule I/II/III, five days jail, fines and costs — \$1,146.50.
 May 23 — Victoria M. Galvan, resisting arrest, fines and costs — \$219.50.
 May 24 — Dylan A. Escobar, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$190.
 May 24 — Edward C. Zaucha, speeding 20-24 over, fines and costs — \$255.
 May 24 — Branden D. Lattin, speeding 20-24 over, fines and costs — \$255.
 May 24 — Daryl Ray Couch, obedience to official traffic control device, fines and costs — \$135.
 May 28 — Brenden S. Justiniano, obedience to official traffic control device, fines and costs — \$135.
 May 29 — Alberto Hernandez, speeding 5-9 over, fines and costs — \$125.
 May 29 — Teresa M. Arellano, driver's license-driving without, fines and costs — \$107.50.
 May 29 — Kellen A. Bandy, seat belt not used, fines and costs — \$133.50.
 May 29 — Collin J. Lovejoy, seat belt not used, fines and costs — \$133.50.
 May 29 — Joshua A. Lyman, speeding 5-9 over, fines and costs — \$160.
 May 29 — William R. Matthews IV, speeding 5-9 over, fines and costs — \$162.50.
 May 29 — William R. Newell, license plates-expired, fines and costs — \$155.50.
 May 29 — Roman David Petty, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$225.
 June 3 — Kyle D. Garcia, seat belt not used, seat belt not used, fines and costs — \$170.50.
 June 4 — Caleb Thomas Massey, driver's license-driving without, fines and costs — \$72.50.
 June 4 — David Wayne Keller, license plates-expired, fines and costs — \$120.50.
 June 5 — Drake Austin McGuire, failed to stop at stop sign, fines and costs — \$105.
 June 5 — Kari Stone Alvarado, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$225.
 June 5 — Christopher N. Baca, driving under restraint, fines and costs — \$177.50.
 June 5 — Kirstie Shrypek Bower, obedience to official traffic control device, fines and costs — \$170.
 June 5 — Shyla Shine Debios, license plates-expired, speeding 5-9

over, fines and costs — \$256.50.
 June 5 — Victor Hugo Delgado-Leyva, driver's license-driving without, fines and costs — \$107.50.
 June 5 — John Alexander Gurule, fail to yield right of way/left turn, fines and costs — \$140.
 June 5 — Trisha Marie Gutierrez, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$225.
 June 5 — Leah J. Irons, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$225.
 June 5 — Brandon R. Jackson, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$233.50.
 June 5 — Nathan John Jaramillo, speeding 20-24 over, fines and costs — \$290.
 June 5 — Cason C. Johnson, seat belt not used, fines and costs — \$98.50.
 June 5 — Dakota Marie McCambridge, speeding 5-9 over, fines and costs — \$160.
 June 5 — Gabriel A. Medlin, seat belt not used, fines and costs — \$133.50.
 June 5 — David A. Montoya, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$233.50.
 June 5 — Paulo C. Perez Testa, registration-unregistered vehicle, fines and costs — \$161.50.
 June 5 — Orlando Ramos-Hernandez, lane usage violation, driver's license-driving without, fines and costs — \$218.50.
 June 5 — Dwight Keith Robinson, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$225.
 June 5 — Ernest J. Romeo, license plates-expired, fines and costs — \$155.50.
 June 5 — Alicia Smith, speeding 20-24 over, fines and costs — \$255.
 June 5 — Chase R. Sanchez, driving under restraint, fines and costs — \$177.50.
 June 5 — John Earl Wilson IV, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$190.
 June 5 — Brody Dale Keller, tail lamps/reflectors, fines and costs — \$65.
 June 7 — Jeremy M. Kemppter, speeding 20-24 over, fines and costs — \$255.
 June 13 — Rocío Belen Rodriguez Rodriguez, failed to use turn signal, fines and costs — \$105.
6th Judicial District Court: Judge Justin P. Fay
 No report.
6th Judicial District Court: Judge Jeffrey R. Wilson
 May 20 — Garret Nelson Forest, robbery, 48 months Department of Corrections, fines and costs — \$428.50.



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CDOT urges drivers to slow down this summer

Colorado Department of Transportation

As motorists rush into summer and hit the road for their warm weather plans, the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) wants to remind drivers to watch their speed.

Colorado lost 751 lives to speeding between 2021 and 2023, according to CDOT's 2023 Core Outcome Report.

Speed was a leading factor in traffic deaths in Colorado last year, resulting in 258 fatalities, outnumbering impaired driving (228) and unrestrained passenger (222) fatalities.

While it can be tempting to hit the gas to bypass traffic, no one is invincible — speeding can result in a citation and puts you at a much greater risk of a crash.

Crashes peak during summer months as more Coloradans plan road trips and outdoor activities. The period between Memorial Day and Labor Day is known as the "100 Deadliest Days of Summer," during which Colorado historically sees a spike in fatal crashes.

Last July there were 90 traffic deaths, the most ever recorded in a single month in Colorado.

From 2020 to 2023, there were 418 speeding-related fatalities during the 100 Deadliest Days of Summer. In 2021, 29 percent of all Colorado traffic fatalities were speeding related.

"Between May and September last year, there were a total of 351 fatal crashes in Colorado," said CDOT Office of Transportation Safety Director Darrell Lingk. "With the official start of summer around the corner, it's important to remember that all drivers have the responsibility to obey the speed limit, drive sober and focus on the road."

Drivers tend to overestimate the time saved by speeding.

In fact, a motorist moving at 80 mph instead of 75 mph would have to travel 100 miles to save roughly five minutes.

In addition, speeding and aggressive driving endanger not only the driver, but also other motorists, pedestrians and cyclists.

If you encounter somebody speeding, CDOT shares the following tips to stay safe:

- Maintain space: Give other drivers, speeding or not, plenty of space. Drivers are more likely to lose control of their vehicles when speeding.
- Do not engage: Speeding is often linked to aggressive driving. If a speeding driver is tailgating you or trying to engage in risky behavior, use your judgment to safely steer your vehicle out of the way.
- Report dangerous behavior: If you believe a driver is following or harassing you, or engaging in other risky behavior, dial *CSP (*277) or your local law enforcement to report.

The counties that had the most traffic deaths involving speeding in 2023 were El Paso, Adams, Arapahoe, Denver and Jefferson. Of these counties, El Paso County has remained in the top five for speeding citations since 2019.

The top five roadways for speeding citations by highest speeding inter-

vals (20+ mph over the posted speed limit) issued by the Colorado State Patrol (CSP) in 2023 were:

- I-70
- I-25
- Colo. 50
- Colo. 24
- Colo. 285

"The temptation to speed is real and law enforcement officers aren't oblivious to that," said Col. Matthew C. Packard, chief of the CSP. "Almost everyone is guilty of speeding at one time or another, but that doesn't make it OK. Speeding is aggressive driving. When crashes happen and speed is involved, your chance of a serious injury increases dramatically."

Paired with other dangerous driving behaviors, speeding increases the chance of a crash. In 2021, 43 percent of all speeding-related traffic fatalities in Colorado also involved alcohol impairment, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

CDOT continues to support local law enforcement agencies for The Heat Is On DUI enforcement periods, during which drivers may see saturation patrols, sobriety checkpoints and

additional law enforcement officers on duty dedicated to arresting impaired drivers.

CSP troopers continue to take a low-tolerance approach to the top fatal crash factors, including lane violations, impaired driving and speeding, while launching a yearlong campaign called "Drive Safe." This campaign celebrates positive driving behaviors and encourages all of us to drive like a trooper is riding with you.



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Sports



Photo courtesy Lea Leggett

The 74th annual Red Ryder Roundup Rodeo will be held July 4-6 at the Western Heritage Event Center arena and grounds. Tickets are available online at www.pagosarodeo.com and at the gate prior to the event. The cost is \$20 per adult and \$10 for children. Box seats are available and can be purchased by calling Diana at (970) 749-3492.

74th annual Red Ryder Roundup Rodeo set for July 4-6

By Diana Talbot

Red Ryder Roundup Rodeo

A traditional American rodeo is a must-see event.

Join the fun as cowboys and cowgirls from various states compete for prizes and prize money the sanctioned rodeo series known as the Red Ryder Roundup Rodeo.

The rodeos are Thursday, July 4, at 2 p.m., and July 5 and 6 at 6 p.m. at the Western Heritage Event Center arena and grounds.

This year marks the 74th anniversary of the Red Ryder Roundup Rodeo. The event is filled with a variety of exhibition events to make an entertaining affair.

Each rodeo begins with a presentation of flags waving from westerners on horseback and the American anthem. Rodeo clowns are both entertainers and bullfighters. Their primary job is to protect the cowboy and prevent a tragedy with danger-

ous livestock. Between activities, the clown will work the crowd.

The antics of the clown cannot be predicted, but often include singing, dancing, joking and pantomimes within the act. Other rodeo events are interspersed with a variety of other activities like the mutton bustin' contest and the Daisy BB gun raffle.

Mutton bustin' is a crowd-pleasing event. Cowpokes, 6 years and younger, will test their strength and stamina by riding a sheep as long as they can hold on. This contest is held daily, with 10 new contestants each leaving the arena with a special prize and the overall winner, the boy or girl recording the longest ride, receiving an authentic Red Ryder Rodeo belt buckle.

Tickets are available online and at the gate prior to the event. The cost is \$20 per adult and \$10 for children 12 and under. A limited number of box seats are available and can be purchased by calling (970) 749-3492.

Concessions are available throughout the event, and the beer garden will be selling drinks and snacks.

The rodeo has a long history in Pagosa Springs and was named after Red Ryder, who was the feature cowboy character in the popular long-running western comic strip created by Stephen Slesinger and artist Fred Harman. Red, and his horse Thunder, was a tough cowboy who lived on Painted Valley Ranch in the Blanco Basin in the San Juan Mountains. He and his sidekick, Little Beaver with his horse Papoose, dealt with the bad guys of the day. The comic strip was wildly popular and ran from 1938-1964 in 750 newspapers.

The Western Heritage Event Center, the organization that produces the rodeo, invites everyone to share in preserving the history and tradition of the American west.

More rodeo information is available by calling (970) 749-3492, emailing dtalbot111@gmail.com or visiting www.PagosaRodeo.com.



Photo courtesy Joel Priest

Pagosa Springs' Annie O'Donnell drives hard to the hoop during the 2024 Colorado High School Coaches Association All-State Games' first-place contest on June 12 inside CSU-Pueblo's Massari Arena. O'Donnell scored six points for Black in a 63-40 triumph.

Youth pickleball lessons to begin June 28

By Tina Heffner

Pagosa Pickleball Club

Pickleball is for people of all ages. It combines elements of tennis, ping-pong and badminton.

The rules are simple and the game is easy for beginners to learn, but can develop into a quick, fast-paced, competitive game for experienced players.

The Pagosa Pickleball Club continues to work with the Town of

Pagosa Springs Parks and Recreation Department to offer indoor and outdoor play, lessons and round-robins to our community, youth, visitors and members.

We are excited to announce the newest addition to the Parks and Rec catalog: youth pickleball lessons/camp will begin on Friday, June 28, from 4 to 5 p.m. at the courts located at Yamaguchi Park South. Sign up will be available soon at: <https://secure.rec1.com/CO/pagosa-springs-co/>

catalog.

Intro to pickleball clinic

There is also a free intro to pickleball clinic. You do not need to be a member.

The clinic is Wednesdays from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Ross Aragon Community Center, 451 Hot Springs Blvd.

Registration is required. Register at <https://pagosapickleball.org/> under the PLAY tab.

Trio of Pagosa Springs athletes to compete in Colorado Junior Olympics

By Karri McCarter

Triple Crown Track Club

Three Pagosa Springs High School athletes will represent our local USA Track and Field (USATF) club, Triple Crown Track Club, and their community this weekend in Aurora at Legacy Stadium when they compete at the USA Track and Field's Colorado Junior Olympics.

Abigail Nehring, Creede Dozier and Colton Lucero will all compete this Saturday and Sunday with intension of being one of the top four finishers who will move on to the Region 10 championships at this same location on July 11-14.

The top four finishers in each event at regionals will move on to the USATF Junior Olympics, held in College Station, Texas, this summer.

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MLS # 811817

This home is perfectly located on approximately an acre of land in the Pagosa Lakes area. Open the back door and a 700 sq ft deck will provide additional space for a BBQ grill, plenty of outdoor seating, and a new hot tub for your relaxation and enjoyment. 4 beds/2.5 baths with 2,350 sq. ft.

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<https://tinyurl.com/65Caballero>



1135 Park Avenue, Unit 401
\$645,000

MLS # 813453

Beautiful end unit townhome in Whispering Pines! No neighbors directly behind you as this area has a picnic table, a gazebo and feels like an extension of your own backyard right off the lower patio. 2 beds/2.5 baths with 2,044 sq. ft.

To tour this home go to:
<https://tinyurl.com/1135ParkAve>



1001 Soaring Eagle Court
\$995,000

MLS # 813551

2 Bed, 2 Bath, 2,073 sq foot house on 36.44 acres. Navajo River Ranch has 2 private entrances into the forest. This home has wonderful views of the San Juan Mountain Range and great decks. 2 tributaries come together to form a seasonal creek called Oil Well Creek on the property.

To tour this home go to:
<https://tinyurl.com/1001SoaringEagleCourt>



Cloman Industrial Park
\$390,000

MLS # 807337

.68 Acre, 1500 sq. ft. commercial building located in Cloman Industrial Park. There is enough property to build another building or make a large wrap around parking lot. There is a 3000 BTU gas heater and a 40 gallon hot water heater.



2453 Running Horse Place
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MLS # 813104

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To tour this home go to:
<https://tinyurl.com/2453RunningHorse>



247 Davis Cup Drive, Unit 4258
\$365,000

MLS # 811750

Great condo with the primary bedroom on the main level and a second spacious bedroom on the second level. Updated kitchen with granite countertops and newer appliances. 2 beds/3 baths with 1,345 sq. ft.

To tour this home go to:
<https://tinyurl.com/247DavisCup>



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County attorney outlines requirements for recreation district

By Josh Pike and Clayton Chaney
Staff Writers

At a May 21 joint work session of the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) and the Pagosa Springs Town Council, County Attorney Todd Weaver gave a presentation on the steps necessary to form a recreation district.

Later, at a June 6 work session, the Combined Parks and Recreation Advisory Board further discussed the possibilities and public interest in a recreation district.

At the May 21 work session, Weaver explained that creating a recreation district is complex and involves a four-step process.

That process includes developing a service plan, seeking approval of the service plan from the BoCC, receiving judicial approval and then going to an election for approval by the voters, after which the court formally forms the recreation district.

He stated that he reviewed a service plan developed in northern Moffat County about five years ago that served as a helpful example of a service plan.

Weaver stated that the individuals proposing the recreation district must develop a service plan first.

That plan covers what services a recreation district would provide, a financial plan for how these services would be funded, and preliminary engineering and architecture for any proposed buildings.

He explained that the plan must also include a district map, which can “flow over county boundaries.”

Weaver indicated that the plan must include an estimate of the value of the proposed district for the purposes of taxation.

He then outlined the process for BoCC approval of the service plan, which he stated is typically referred to the county planning commission prior to the BoCC considering it.

Weaver stated that this process involves various fees, notification deadlines and hearings, and that occupants of the proposed district must be informed about the BoCC hearing on the resolution to form the district, which Weaver noted must be done by those proposing the district and can be a significant undertaking if the district includes an entire county.

He added that those included in the district can petition to be excluded from the district and that the district cannot be formed if property owners owning property constituting 50 percent of the assessed value of the proposed district petition to be excluded.

In response to a question from

Mayor Shari Pierce, Weaver explained that the elections involved in the district only include those registered to vote in the district, but that property owners who cannot vote — for reasons including that they live out of state — can petition to be excluded.

He also emphasized that there are a large number of additional technical details and steps involved in determining which properties could be included in the district and allowing owners to petition to be excluded.

Once the resolution for the creation of the recreation district is approved by the BoCC, Weaver explained that those proposing the district must file a petition for organization in district court.

He stated that the court’s primary job is to verify that the appropriate number of signatures have been collected for the petition. A petition must be signed by at least 30 percent or 200 of the electors for the proposed district.

Weaver added that the petition must be signed by those registered to vote in the district, not those who just own property in the district.

He explained that the petitioners must post a bond covering the costs of the proceedings and that the court must notice and hold a hearing where it confirms that the petition is signed by the correct number of electors.

If the court finds the petition is satisfactory, it can then order that the petition be submitted for consideration at an election, Weaver added.

If the petition is successful at the election, the court also declares the district organized, assigns the district its corporate name as designated in the petition and appoints the first board for the district.

Weaver then outlined the contents of the petition to the court, which he stated largely echo the contents of the service plan for the district.

He explained that, at the election on the formation of the recreation district, the voters typically both consider whether or not to approve the formation of the district and choose board members for the district.

Board member terms for the initial election are of varying lengths, Weaver indicated, with the board eventually having a set of staggered four-year terms.

He added that nominations for the board in the initial election can occur by self-nomination.

Weaver concluded that, if the voters approve the recreation district, the court then issues an order to form the district.

Town council member Matt DeGuise asked Weaver what he felt was a “realistic timeline” for the creation of a recreation district.

Weaver answered that he believes a district would likely take a minimum of two years, depending on the complexity of the recreation district’s goals, with a complex district potentially taking up to five years to form.

He added that the process would likely require a specialized attorney to assist in ensuring that the district formation is done correctly.

County Commissioner Veronica Medina asked if the county cannot initiate the formation of a recreation district.

Weaver explained that the county cannot because it cannot petition itself to form a district, which he commented would be an “inherent conflict of interest.”

He stated that there are a large number of recreation districts across the state and that people interested in forming one could potentially reach out to other districts to learn how they began the process and acquired the funds necessary to support the district formation process.

Town council member Madeline Bergon asked if it would require voter approval to expand the scope of district to other issues of recreation and park maintenance if the recreation district were formed around a recreation center.

Weaver stated that the service plan is critical in outlining what the district will do and needs to be an “all-encompassing document” that covers all potential activities of the district.

He added that, typically, special districts only have to go back to the voters when they want additional tax revenues, although he stated that he had not investigated this specifically for recreation districts.

Town Manager David Harris asked if Weaver was aware of any recreation districts that operate under another government entity, such as a town or county.

Weaver stated that he had not investigated this issue as he had focused on independent recreation districts.

However, he added that he was confident that there are examples of towns and counties who have used intergovernmental agreements or other mechanisms to operate funds and organizations for recreation.

Town Parks and Recreation Manager Darren Lewis asked if the formation of a recreation district could be initiated by the town or would have to be done by another entity.

Weaver stated that he was unsure, but that the statute specifies that citizens must petition the county.

Medina commented that, in previous conversations, Weaver stated that the parks and recreation board could potentially initiate the creation of a

recreation district.

Weaver stated that he believes that board could initiate the creation of a district.

He added that a citizen group is typically formed containing representatives from a range of different organizations and interested citizens.

Town council member Leonard Martinez commented that Archuleta School District (ASD) and the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association (PLPOA) could be interested in the project and would have a stake in it.

Weaver expressed agreement with Martinez and added that the service plan could involve items like purchasing the current location of the Pagosa Springs Middle School and remodeling it for recreation or leasing property from the PLPOA for sports fields.

He added that, if the district wants to build a recreational facility, it would have to determine where it wants to build this facility to best benefit the whole district.

Lewis noted that he currently oversees a \$1.8 million budget for Parks and Recreation and asked if the district would have to be “project oriented” or if it could help offset the budgetary expenses incurred by other entities.

Weaver stated that either approach could be possible, depending on what the service plan includes.

Pierce concluded the discussion by noting that the town council set exploring the possibility of a recreation district and establishing an exploratory committee as a goal for the year.

She added that she feels that involving citizens and potentially doing polling to determine support for the district among residents would be critical.

Combined Parks and Recreation Advisory Board discusses

The Combined Parks and Recreation Advisory Board further discussed the topic of creating a county-wide recreation district at its regular meeting on June 6.

Lewis began the conversation by explaining Weaver gave a presentation on the legal steps involved in creating a recreation district.

“It gave a lot of information,” Lewis said. “In my opinion it wasn’t very promising, though.”

Lewis explained that creating a recreation district would likely be a three- to five-year process with multiple steps involved. He also noted that a recreation district could be created to be project-oriented.

Lewis mentioned that during the combined county and town work

session he asked if the recreation district could also be formed to create a revenue stream to help move the Recreation Department forward each year, potentially funding multiple projects — including a new recreation center — rather than just being focused on one goal, “but the process involved, it’s quite lengthy, and it’s quite demanding, in my opinion, based off what I heard that evening.”

He added, “I’m not saying the rec

district is off the table.”

Lewis explained that the community would need to decide if it would be project-oriented or propose a tax to help fund recreation throughout the community.

Board member Mike Musgrove noted that a new tax proposal would have to go to the voters.

Lewis went on to explain that Archuleta County would essentially

■ See District A15

COMBINED NOTICE - PUBLICATION
CRS §38-38-103 FORECLOSURE
SALE NO. 2024-004
To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with reference to the following described Deed of Trust. On April 3, 2024, the undersigned Public Trustee caused the Notice of Election and Demand relating to the Deed of Trust described below to be recorded in the County of Archuleta records.
Original Grantor(s)
JOSEPH PATRICK KEARBY
Original Beneficiary(ies)
MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC. AS NOMINEE FOR BANK OF LITTLE ROCK MORTGAGE CORPORATION
Current Holder of Evidence of Debt
NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC
Date of Deed of Trust
July 26, 2021
County of Recording
Archuleta
Recording Date of Deed of Trust
August 02, 2021
Recording Information (Reception No. and/or Book/ Page No.)
22105739
Original Principal Amount
\$525,000.00
Outstanding Principal Balance
\$507,103.89
Pursuant to CRS §38-38-101(4)(i), you are hereby notified that the covenants of the deed of trust have been violated as follows: Failure to pay principal and interest when due together with all other payments provided for in the Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust and other violations of the terms thereof
THE LIEN FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.
ALL THE REAL PROPERTY, TOGETHER WITH IMPROVEMENTS, IF ANY SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE COUNTY OF ARCHULETA, STATE OF COLORADO, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:
A TRACT OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN THE NE1/4 OF SECTION 31, TOWNSHIP 35 NORTH, RANGE 5 WEST, N.M.P.M., BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:
BEGINNING AT A POINT ON THE SOUTHWESTERLY RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF U.S. HIGHWAY NO. 160 FROM WHICH POINT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF SAID SECTION 31 BEARS NORTH 66° 54' 09" EAST, 333.18 FEET (RECORD: NORTH 57° 44' 47" EAST, 677.53 FEET);
THENCE SOUTH 28° 48' 38" EAST, A DISTANCE OF 61.08 FEET ALONG SAID RIGHT OF WAY LINE;
THENCE SOUTH 28° 34' 23" EAST, CONTINUING ALONG SAID RIGHT OF WAY FOR A DISTANCE OF 306.22 FEET;
THENCE CONTINUING ALONG SAID RIGHT OF WAY, ON THE ARC OF A NON-TANGENT CURVE TO THE LEFT, RADIUS OF 1894.90 FEET AND LENGTH OF 348.72 FEET, THE LONG CHORD OF WHICH BEARS SOUTH 38° 25' 35" EAST, A DISTANCE OF 349.27 FEET TO A POINT ON THE EAST LINE OF THE NE1/4 OF SAID SECTION 31;
THENCE SOUTH 02° 01' 49" EAST, A DISTANCE OF 776.40 FEET TO THE N-S-N 1/256 CORNER OF SAID SECTION 31;
THENCE SOUTH 83° 19' 14" WEST, A DISTANCE OF 662.16 FEET (RECORD: SOUTH 79° 45' 19" WEST, 674.34 FEET) TO THE C-N-SE-NE 1/256 CORNER OF

SAID SECTION 31;
THENCE SOUTH 01° 47' 37" EAST, A DISTANCE OF 306.34 FEET (RECORD: SOUTH 01° 06' 11" EAST, 332.68 FEET) TO THE SE-NE 1/4 CORNER OF SAID SECTION 31;
THENCE SOUTH 83° 00' 27" WEST, A DISTANCE OF 331.24 FEET (RECORD: SOUTH 79° 50' 24" WEST, 337.36 FEET) TO THE C-W-SE-NE 1/256 CORNER OF SAID SECTION 31;
THENCE SOUTH 01° 49' 04" EAST, A DISTANCE OF 308.22 FEET (RECORD: SOUTH 01° 03' 56" EAST, 332.50 FEET) TO THE SW-SE-NE 1/256 CORNER OF SAID SECTION 31;
THENCE SOUTH 82° 44' 46" WEST, A DISTANCE OF 1330.30 FEET (RECORD: SOUTH 78° 52' 29" WEST, 1,350.18 FEET) TO THE SW-SW-NE 1/256 CORNER OF SAID SECTION 31;
THENCE NORTH 01° 18' 39" WEST, A DISTANCE OF 943.45 FEET (RECORD: NORTH 00° 55' 00" WEST, 995.44 FEET) TO THE C-W-W-NE 1/256 CORNER OF SAID SECTION 31;
THENCE NORTH 83° 33' 10" EAST, A DISTANCE OF 990.76 FEET ALONG THE NORTH BOUNDARY OF THE SW1/4NE1/4 OF SAID SECTION 31 (RECORD: NORTH 78° 46' 12" EAST, 1,010.97 FEET) TO THE NE 1/16 CORNER OF SAID SECTION 31, SAID POINT BEING AN ANGLE POINT IN THE BOUNDARY OF THAT TRACT OF LAND DESCRIBED IN WARRANTY DEED RECORDED JANUARY 16, 2001 AS RECEPTION NO. 20100535;
THENCE NORTH 01° 30' 07" WEST, A DISTANCE OF 309.54 FEET ALONG THE WEST BOUNDARY OF THE SW1/4NE1/4 OF SAID SECTION 31 AND THE EASTERLY BOUNDARY OF SAID WARRANTY DEED, RECEPTION NO. 20100535 (RECORD: NORTH 01° 01' 43" WEST, 332.33 FEET) TO THE C-S-N-NE 1/256 CORNER OF SAID SECTION 31;
THENCE NORTH 83° 54' 57" EAST, A DISTANCE OF 329.61 FEET ALONG THE BOUNDARY OF SAID WARRANTY DEED, RECEPTION NO. 20100535 (RECORD: NORTH 79° 44' 06" EAST, 336.80 FEET) TO THE SW-NE-NE 1/256 CORNER OF SAID SECTION 31;
THENCE NORTH 01° 41' 15" WEST, A DISTANCE OF 696.72 FEET ALONG THE BOUNDARY OF SAID WARRANTY DEED, RECEPTION NO. 20100535 (RECORD: NORTH 01° 04' 13" WEST, 696.67 FEET) SAID LINE BEING ALSO THE WEST LINE OF THE E1/2W1/2NE1/4NE1/4 OF SAID SECTION 31;
THENCE NORTH 73° 44' 00" EAST, A DISTANCE OF 629.43 FEET (RECORD: NORTH 73° 43' 29" EAST, 431.00) ALONG THE SOUTHERLY BOUNDARY LINE OF SAID WARRANTY DEED, RECEPTION NO. 20100535 TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.
THE IMPROVEMENTS THEREON BEING KNOWN AS 29696 WEST US HIGHWAY 160, BAYFIELD, COLORADO – 81122.
Also known by street and number as: 29696 US HIGHWAY 160, BAYFIELD, CO 81122.
THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCOMBERED BY THE LIEN OF THE DEED OF TRUST.
NOTICE OF SALE
The current holder of the Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, described herein, has filed Notice of Election and Demand for sale as provided by law and in said Deed of Trust.
©Public Trustees' Association of Colorado Revised 12/015
THEREFORE, Notice Is Hereby Given that I will at

public auction, at 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, 08/01/2024, at the Archuleta County Treasurer's Office at 449 San Juan St. Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property and all interest of the said Grantor(s), Grantor(s)'s heirs and assigns therein, for the purpose of paying the indebtedness provided in said Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, plus attorneys' fees, the expenses of sale and other items allowed by law, and will issue to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.
First Publication 6/6/2024
Last Publication 7/4/2024
Name of Publication Pagosa Springs Sun
©Public Trustees' Association of Colorado Revised 12/015
Published June 6, 13, 20, 27 and July 4, 2024 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (233539)
COMBINED NOTICE - PUBLICATION
CRS §38-38-103 FORECLOSURE SALE
NO. 2024-005
To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with regard to the following described Deed of Trust: On April 11, 2024, the undersigned Public Trustee caused the Notice of Election and Demand relating to the Deed of Trust described below to be recorded in the County of Archuleta records.
Original Grantor(s)
Francis Marie Leathers
Original Beneficiary(ies)
Navy Federal Credit Union
Current Holder of Evidence of Debt
Navy Federal Credit Union
Date of Deed of Trust
June 21, 2021
County of Recording
Archuleta
Recording Date of Deed of Trust
June 25, 2021
Recording Information (Reception No. and/or Book/ Page No.)
22104739
Original Principal Amount
\$85,000.00
Outstanding Principal Balance
\$82,261.14
Pursuant to CRS §38-38-101(4)(i), you are hereby notified that the covenants of the deed of trust have been violated as follows: Frances Marie Leather failed to pay principal and interest when due together with all other payments provided for in the evidence of debt secured

by the deed of trust. Such failure constitutes a breach under the Note Deed of Trust triggering the power of sale by the Public Trustee.
THE LIEN FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.
Lot 185, Pagosa Highlands Estates, according to the plat thereof filed February 7, 1972, as Reception No. 75409, in the office of the Clerk and Recorder, Archuleta County, Colorado.
Also known by street and number as: 286 Snow Cir., Pagosa Springs, CO 81147.
THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCOMBERED BY THE LIEN OF THE DEED OF TRUST.
NOTICE OF SALE
The current holder of the Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, described herein, has filed Notice of Election and Demand for sale as provided by law and in said Deed of Trust.
THEREFORE, Notice Is Hereby Given that I will at public auction, at 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, 08/08/2024, at the Archuleta County Treasurer's Office at 449 San Juan St. Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property and all interest of the said Grantor(s), Grantor(s)'s heirs and assigns therein, for the purpose of paying the indebtedness provided in said Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, plus attorneys' fees, the expenses of sale and other items allowed by law, and will issue to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.
First Publication 6/13/2024
Last Publication 7/11/2024
Name of Publication Pagosa Springs Sun
©Public Trustees' Association of Colorado Revised 12/015
Published June 13, 20, 27 and July 4, 11, 2024 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (234161)
The following customers have a past due account with Mountain View Mini Storage, 146 Frontier Avenue Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. Your storage units will be auctioned off if I do not hear from you or receive immediate payment. I am willing to set up payment plans. My phone number is (970) 284-4476. Gabe Angle, Joica Archuleta, Tess Taylor, Gloria Duran, Danielle Thomas, Chris Gallegos, Sienna Espinosa, Carol Buddie, Mike Bibia, Chad Clark, William Spaulding, Mary Ann Valdez, Jay Dunham, Austin Jones and Kyle Bachman.
Published June 13 & 20, 2024 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (238944)

FOR BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HEARING ON JULY 2, 2024
KEYAH GRANDE has applied for a RESTAURANT BOARD CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT on the Parcel of SEC 5, T1W1 34, R1G 3W, at 13211 W US Hwy 160, Pagosa Springs, CO (PLN24-076). The property is zoned AGRICULTURAL RANCHING (AR). Comments regarding this case may be submitted to Archuleta County Development Services-Planning Department, P.O. Box 1507, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147-1507, telephone: (970) 264-1390 or to Planning@archuletacounty.org prior to the public hearing by the Archuleta County Planning Commission on July 2, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in the County Commissioners Meeting Room, 398 Lewis Street, Pagosa Springs and via Zoom Link.
Published June 20 & 27, 2024 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (238798)
FOR PLANNING COMMISSION HEARING ON JUNE 27, 2024
ADRIENNE YOUNG has applied for a LODGING UNITS CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT on the Parcel in the T1W1 35, R1G 25W, in Spring Estates at 250 Sunshine Dr., Pagosa Springs, CO (PLN24-085). The property is zoned AGRICULTURAL ESTATES (AE). Comments regarding this case may be submitted to Archuleta County Development Services-Planning Department, P.O. Box 1507, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147-1507, telephone: (970) 264-1390 or to Planning@archuletacounty.org prior to the public hearing by the Archuleta County Planning Commission on June 27, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in the County Commissioners Meeting Room, 398 Lewis Street, Pagosa Springs and via Zoom Link.
Published June 13 & 20, 2024 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (238995)
FOR PLANNING COMMISSION HEARING ON JUNE 27, 2024
KEYAH GRANDE has applied for a RESTAURANT BOARD CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT on the Parcel of SEC 5, T1W1 34, R1G 3W, at 13211 W US Hwy 160, Pagosa Springs, CO (PLN24-076). The property is zoned AGRICULTURAL RANCHING (AR). Comments regarding this case may be submitted to Archuleta County Development Services-Planning Department, P.O. Box 1507, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147-1507, telephone: (970) 264-1390 or to Planning@archuletacounty.org prior to the public hearing by the Archuleta County Planning Commission on June 27, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in the County Commissioners Meeting Room, 398 Lewis Street, Pagosa Springs and via Zoom Link.
Published June 13 & 20, 2024 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (238795)
NOTICE OF PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET
Archuleta School District 50 Jt.
Notice is hereby given that a proposed budget has been submitted to the Board of Education of the Archuleta School District 50 Jt. on May 28, 2024 for the 2024-2025

fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, and has been filed in the Administration Office of the School District where it will be available for public inspection. It is also available for review on the District website www.mypagosaschools.com, under Departments-Finances-2024-2025 Proposed Budget. Such proposed budget will be considered for adoption at a special virtual meeting of the Board of Education of said District on June 25, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. A YouTube meeting link will be posted on the District's web site www.mypagosaschools.com and on BoardDocs at least 24 hours prior to the June 25 meeting.
Any person paying school taxes in said district may at any time prior to the final adoption of the budget file or register his or her objections thereto.
BOARD OF EDUCATION
May 29, 2024
Archuleta School District 50 Jt.
Mike Hodgson, Finance Director
Published June 13 & 20, 2024 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (239033)
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Estate of Edison R. Stoneking, Jr. aka Edison Ray Stoneking, Jr. aka Edison Stoneking, Jr. aka Edison R. Stoneking aka Edison Ray Stoneking aka Edison Stoneking Deceased
Case Number 2024PR30023
All persons having claims against the above named estate are required to present them to the personal representative or to District Court of Archuleta, County, Colorado on or before October 6, 2024, or the claims may be forever barred.
May Stoneking, Personal Representative
c/o Katz, Look & Onorato, P.C.
1120 Lincoln Street, Suite 1100
Denver, CO 8023
Published June 6, 13, 20, 2024 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (238161)
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Estate of Melvin Richard McBride.
Case Number 2024 PR 30032
All persons having claims against the above named estate are required to present them to the personal representative or to the District Court of Archuleta, County, Colorado on or before October 20, 2024, or the claims may be forever barred.
Daniel L. Fiedler, Attorney at Law
190 Tallisman Drive, Suite D-6
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Published June 20, 27 and July 4, 2024 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (239342)
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Estate of Wayne Harry Lumbattis, Deceased
Case Number: 2024PRO30022
All persons having claims against the above named estate are required to present them to the personal representative or to District Court of Archuleta County, Colorado on or before October 21, 2024, or the claims may be forever barred.
KATHY L. HOLTSHUS, PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE
C/O CLAYTON M. BUCHNER, ATTORNEY AT LAW
444 LEWIS ST. PO BOX 3855
PAGOSA SPRINGS CO 81147
Published June 20, 27 and July 4, 2024 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (239348)

PUBLIC NOTICES: YOUR RIGHT TO KNOW

New bocce ball court completed, Wi-Fi coming to town parks

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

At its regular meeting held on June 6, the Combined Parks and Recreation Advisory Board heard a report from Pagosa Springs Parks and Recreation Director Darren Lewis.

Lewis informed the board that he had been working on a new bocce ball court located in Yamaguchi Park near the pickleball courts.

According to backyardbocce.com, "Bocce is played with eight large balls and one smaller target or object ball called a pallina. There are four balls per team and they are made of a different color or pattern to distinguish the balls of one team from those of the other team."

Lewis explained that he had not planned on building a bocce ball

court this summer, but was approached by "multiple seniors" in the community about having one built.

He mentioned that he took this project on himself, noting it took "very little expense" and just some of his time to be able to construct the court.

"That's not a big deal, putting in a little extra time like that to build something," he said.

Lewis explained the court consists of a 12-foot-by-6-foot area lined with lumber pieces.

The area consists of a rock layer with drainage that has a layer of sand placed on top, with a top layer of turf. The perimeter is lined with 6-inch-by-6-inch timber, Lewis explained.

Lewis added that that area of Yamaguchi Park is "pretty tough" to work with in terms of soil in the area,

but he hopes that section will cater more toward seniors with parking nearby and the proximity to the pickleball courts.

Lewis clarified that the Town of Pagosa Springs will not be providing the balls needed to play bocce.

Lewis indicated that there is very minimal maintenance required for the court, and that it's "not a big deal" if it ends up needing to be removed.

In an email to The SUN on June 18, Lewis confirmed the bocce ball court is now completed.

During the meeting, Lewis also informed the board that he has been working with Echo IT to get Wi-Fi put in place at the town's parks.

"We're working on some Wi-Fi in our parks, as well," he said.

Lewis mentioned that the town council would like to have Wi-Fi in

the parks "for the community to use."

He mentioned that he is working to have Wi-Fi set up at Yamaguchi Park, South Pagosa Park and the Town Park athletic field.

Lewis explained that, currently, for Wi-Fi to be used at a park, the town has to set up an "antenna," which is used for events and does not allow for public access.

He mentioned he hopes to find a more permanent solution and have a stronger, private network set up to help run events and a separate network established solely for public use.

He noted that it would not be a very strong network, but "at least there'd be some access."

In an email to The SUN, Lewis indicated that limited Wi-Fi in the parks will "hopefully" be available by July 1.

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Commissioners oppose regional national monument proposal

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) approved a resolution opposing the creation of the proposed Dolores Canyons National Monument at its June 18 meeting.

According to the resolution, "Protect the Dolores Coalition has proposed the designation of an approximately 400,000-acre Dolores Canyons National Monument in Mesa County, Montrose County and San Miguel County through the Antiquities Act of 1906."

Commissioner Veronica Medina proposed the resolution at the BoCC's June 11 work session.

At that work session, she explained a Montezuma County commissioner had presented during the western district meeting of the Colorado Counties Inc. (CCI) summer conference on a resolution opposing the proposed monument.

She indicated that other counties

have signed the resolution and explained that the resolution opposes the national monument designation "because it would severely limit the practicality and flexibility needed to address water conservation by adding unnecessary red tape and layers of bureaucracy and inefficiency."

Medina stated that she was elected vice president of CCI's western district and that she was bringing the resolution to the commissioners for them to consider and voice their opinions.

Commissioner Ronnie Maez commented that he was "in favor of extending our partnership with all the other western district states," adding that the county might need their support in the future.

He also commented that the acreage of the proposed monument is "huge" and "way too big for what needs to be dedicated."

"I think there's other underlying innuendos on the reason for that designation in there," he said.

Commissioner Warren Brown stated that the "easiest thing to do"

would be for the county to "do nothing" because it is not directly impacted, but that the "right thing to do I don't think is the easiest thing in this instance."

Brown added that he feels that the BoCC should "support our partners" who might be significantly impacted due to the mining occurring in western Montrose County and Montezuma County.

He stated that this is an opportunity for the county to demonstrate its support for neighboring counties.

Brown described the proposed monument's area as "far too vast for this designation" and stated that it would be "detrimental to those communities."

Medina then directed staff to modify resolutions taken from other counties for Archuleta County and to place the item on the agenda for a future meeting.

The resolution passed by the BoCC opposing the creation of the monument highlights the presence of various "elemental resources," including uranium, in the area; asserts that the

area is already sufficiently protected by the Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Forest Service; and raises concerns about how a national monument designation would introduce additional bureaucratic barriers to various activities in the region and reduce local control.

The resolution indicates that the county supports other Colorado counties potentially impacted by the national monument designation and states its support for a community process engaging local stakeholders in designing a "more appropriate" conservation area.

The Protect the Dolores Coalition, the primary group supporting the national monument designation, notes on its website the environmental, archaeological and historical value of the region.

It also states that the creation of a national monument would help protect the area from the pressures of climate change, mining exploitation, "unplanned recreation" and development.

District

Continued from A14

act as the "chair" of the recreation district.

He also indicated that an entity would have to apply with the state to become a recreation district, indicating that he believes the Town of Pagosa Springs could be that entity.

Board members Sally High and Kevin Metzler noted they had attended the combined town and county work session and were unsure if the Town of Pagosa Springs could be an entity to apply to become a recreation district.

"It would require a group of citizens, with motivation and the money, outside the town government or the county government to initiate this process," High said.

"Or an entity, not just strictly citizens," Metzler added.

High went on to mention that Weaver noted four steps involved in the process of creating a recreation district, each with multiple sub-steps, "and each step costs a lot of money."

Lewis stated that he would double check with Weaver regarding if the town could serve as the entity that can apply to become a recreation district.

"I think, at the end of the day, the enthusiasm for the rec district is gonna have to come from an entity that needs to push this forward," Lewis said.

Lewis mentioned that the town's Parks and Recreation Department currently oversees approximately a \$1.8 million budget.

He noted that is from sales tax split between the town and county and that there are approximately 15,000 to 16,000 people living in the county, and only about 1,700 living in the Town of Pagosa Springs.

"It's just a very large budget for the Town of Pagosa Springs to run pretty much probably 85 percent of all parks and recreation that goes on within this county, and to find some type of revenue stream that could help that out, I think is very important in the future," he said.

Lewis mentioned that a revenue stream could be created through a recreation district, or by possibly reappropriating money in the current town budget.

High questioned if the recreation district could be centered around creating a new recreation center.

Lewis indicated that would be a possibility and that the town previously attempted to fund a recreation center through a penny sales tax back in 2014, that was ultimately shut down by the voters.

"To get that collaboration and that inclusiveness would be so important for a rec center," Lewis added.

Board member Larry Lynch mentioned that many communities in our region, such as Gunnison, Salida, Durango and Cortez, have had recreation centers funded through sales tax.

"That's the simplest way to do it," he said, explaining that it would need to be voted on. "I have no idea how the community feels about a sales tax increase, but the advantage there is that the tourists would be paying for a lot of that when they shop here and buy things."

Lynch added, "What's the appetite of the community to do something like that? I think you'd be surprised when it comes to recreation."

Lewis indicated that if the recreation center project proposed in 2014 would've been approved, the project would have been paid off by now.

Lewis cited concerns about sales

tax projections at the time as to why the project did not get approved.

"If there's a need, then we need to figure out a way to do it," Lewis said.

Metzler indicated the end goal of creating a recreation district could be to create a revenue stream to fund multiple development projects, "which is a win-win."

High indicated that Weaver's presentation during the combined town and county meeting "was not well received," in her opinion.

"I think it was educational ... I think it was a little eye-opening," Lewis responded.

Lewis added that Weaver "put in a lot of work" in providing the legal steps involved in creating a recreation district.

"It opened up a lot of eyes and dropped a lot of jaws," Metzler said.

Lewis indicated that the Combined Parks and Recreation Advisory Board did not need to take any action in regard to the manner and that the information presented was for discussion purposes only.



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for the issue of July 4

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Map courtesy Town of Pagosa Springs

The above map shows the new Fourth of July Parade route designated for this year's parade.

Fourth of July Parade route, theme announced

Entry applications due June 25

By Kathy Harker
Town of Pagosa Springs

The Fourth of July is fast approaching, and lots of activities are being planned to make it a fun-filled day. The annual Fourth of July Parade will start at 10 a.m. on a newly select-

ed parade route. The new route begins on Hot Springs Boulevard south of the post office and continues down to the south end of Yamaguchi Park.

Make sure to arrive early to find parking and pick your viewing location. Public parking will be available downtown along the highway, at the Town Hall and the high school. Parking restrictions will prohibit parking along the parade route, with road closures expected to begin around

9:30 a.m.

If you want to enter the parade, don't forget the deadline to submit your application is Tuesday, June 25, at noon or until we have reached our entry capacity.

Applications can be completed online at <https://www.pagosaprisings.co.gov/4th-july-parade-and-fireworks>.

This year's theme is "Back to the Future."



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ARTS & LIFE



PREVIEW photo Shari Pierce

June 20, 2024

Registration open for Whatchamawhozit Summer Theatre Camp for kids

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

The 2024 Whatchamawhozit Summer Theatre Camp for kids is back for another exciting season at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts.

This two-week day camp, running from July 1 to July 12, focuses on producing the delightful "Finding Nemo Kids."

Youth aged 7 to 14 (with special requests considered for 6-year-olds) are invited to join this unique opportunity.

The camp is in its 13th year and promises an immersive experience in all things theater, from singing and dancing to costume design and aerial silks. Taught by professional performers from Thingamajig Theatre Company's main stage shows, the camp offers a comprehensive arts education in a fun and supportive environment.

With more than 30 professional artists, designers and performers rehearsing and performing in three major musicals — "Jimmy Buffett's Escape to Margaritaville,"

"Beautiful: The Carole King Musical" and Disney's "Beauty and the Beast" — the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts is a vibrant place this summer and training the next generation of artists is at the core of the theater's mission.

Award-winning director Tyler Price and the professional acting company will guide the campers, making this a truly special experience specially crafted to high-light teamwork, confidence and adaptability — essential skills for young people to harness and hone in any situation.

Registration also includes an invitation to see the professional main stage production of Disney's "Beauty and the Beast" on July 10, featuring all the camp counselors.

The camp runs weekdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., with public performances from July 13 to July 16.

Auditions are on June 29, with video submissions welcome if your child cannot attend in person. Space is limited and spots are filling fast, so register soon.

For more information or to register, please email Laura Moore at laura@pagosacenter.org.

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Pagosa Springs Golf Club: The San Juan Mountain Boys, 5:30 p.m.

Friday

Meltdown on Main: Banjo Joe, 5:30 p.m.
Mountain Pizza and Taproom: Dan Evans, 5:30 p.m.
The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Ron and Susan, 5 p.m.

Saturday

East Side Market: Michael Dae Hanlon, 11 a.m.
Mountain Pizza and Taproom: Dan Evans, 5:30 p.m.
The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Jackson Mountain Ramblers, 5 p.m.

Sunday

Mountain Pizza and Taproom: Dan Evans, 5:30 p.m.

Monday

Mountain Pizza and Taproom: Dan Evans, 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday

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

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The PREVIEW is a publication of

The Pagosa Springs
SUN

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O'Rourke Media Group — Pagosa Springs, LLC
ISSN 2835-3994 (Print) • ISSN 2835-4001 (Online)



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Third 19th Hole Concert to take place June 20

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 third of four 19th Hole Concerts this Thursday, June 20.

The featured artist this week is The San Juan Mountain Boys, and the featured nonprofit is the San Juan Back Country Horseman.

The San Juan Back Country Horsemen work to ensure public trails remain open and accessible to recreational livestock and pedestrian use. They solicit donations to fund the trail work needed to stabilize areas in dire need of repair.

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 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 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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Humane Society of Pagosa Springs seeking new board members

By Elizabeth Kirwin

Humane Society of Pagosa Springs

Are you passionate about making a tangible difference in the lives of animals in need? Do you believe that every creature deserves compassion, care and a loving home?

If so, we invite you to become a vital part of our mission by joining the board of directors at the Humane Society of Pagosa Springs.

Why us?

The Humane Society of Pagosa Springs isn't just another nonprofit; we've been a beacon of hope for our community's most vulnerable animals for 40 years.

What we're looking for:

1. Commitment: Board members are expected to attend regular meetings, actively participate in discussions and contribute to the ongoing work of the organization. We're looking for individuals who are dedicated to making a difference and are willing to invest their time and energy in our cause.

2. Expertise: While no specific background is required, we value diversity of experience and expertise. Whether you have skills in fundraising, marketing, finance, law, veterinary medicine or other areas, your unique perspective and talents will be invaluable to our organization.

3. Integrity: Integrity, confidentiality and ethical conduct are non-negotiables for our board members. We're committed to upholding the highest standards of honesty, transparency and accountability in everything we do.

■ See Society on next page



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Habitat for Humanity's Crane Day a success

By **Monica Nigon**

Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County

Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County is hitting the ground running for our third build season of our mission to build 15 homes in five years.

Habitat Archuleta's third-annual Crane Day was on June 6 and 7, with three modular homes lifted into the air and placed on their foundations on Domicile Circle in the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association (PLPOA).

Habitat's construction staff were joined by plenty of both longtime and completely new volunteers. Even the office staff donned hard hats and roofing harnesses to help finish off the prep work.

"I want to stress that we needed absolutely everyone to pull this off, and we couldn't have done it without them," Construction Supervisor Jeff Bouwer said. "I want to thank every last one of them."

Crane Day was a race to the finish this year, as staff and volunteers finished preparations within hours of the crane's arriving. Despite the hectic nature of that final push, Habitat Archuleta is already six weeks ahead of schedule as compared to last year.

Local crane operator Rich Carlson noted that setting one modular home typically costs about \$7,000 if the prep work hasn't been completed beforehand. Habitat Archuleta was able to set all three homes for about \$10,000 thanks to staff and volunteers unhinging all the roofs before Crane Day. We were not able to accomplish this in 2023.

The volunteer collaboration didn't stop there. Habitat homeowner Vince and board member Cayce Brown worked closely with crane operator staff to streamline the process.

Crane Day was a massive production of coordination, starting with a semi-truck arriving in the early morning to transport the modulars from their staging area by the PLPOA brush collection site to their destinations in Chris Mountain Village II.

The truck transported the modular halves slowly down the road, where the crane waited. With massive straps, winches and a little human ingenuity, the crane lifted the halves from the truck onto their foundations. Volunteers shifted the modular halves onto the foundations to perfect accuracy, down to the square inch.

With Crane Day accomplished,

the work really begins.

The next steps will be to "stitch" together the halves of each home, install electricity and plumbing, and stick-build garages. To do so requires the expertise of volunteers, staff and local subcontractors.

While construction continues, Habitat Archuleta is accepting applications to build with us for 2025. Applicants earning 80 percent of the area median income or less can work with Habitat staff to obtain a USDA Rural Development (USDA RD) mortgage loan. USDA RD financing can be used to purchase a home in the conventional real estate market, to purchase a Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation home in 2025 or to partner to build a with Habitat Archuleta in 2025.

The deadline is coming up quickly, so please spread the word: Applications are due by June 30. They can be found online at www.habitatarchuleta.org, or feel free to swing by our office at 703 San Juan St., Suite 201 in Pagosa Springs.

To learn more about how you can get involved in supporting workforce homeownership in Archuleta County, contact us at (970) 264-6960 or email office@habitatarchuleta.org.

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■ continued from previous page

4. Team player: Collaboration is at the heart of our work. We're looking for individuals who can work effectively as part of a team, respect diverse viewpoints, and contribute to a positive and supportive organizational culture.

How to get involved

If you're ready to make a difference in the lives of animals and become a part of something truly meaningful, we want to hear from you.

To express your interest in joining our board of directors, please email us at board@pagosahumane.org no later than July 15.

Together, we can create a brighter future for animals in need.

Community news.

The Pagosa Springs SUN
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Photo courtesy Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County

Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County's third-annual Crane Day was on June 6 and 7, with three modular homes lifted into the air and placed on their foundations.

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Friday, July 19th - Heavy Diamond Ring

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For more information contact the
Ross Aragon Community Center at 970-264-4152

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Tips on getting the most out of farmers market trips and purchases

By Robin Young
PREVIEW Columnist

Farmers markets are a great way to support local growers and artisans while enjoying fresh, seasonal produce.

There are several ways that shopping at your local farmers market is different than visiting your neighborhood grocery store. One of the biggest differences is having direct access to the experts: your local producers. This provides an incredible opportunity to learn about where your food comes from, get recipe tips and build relationships with the people who play a vital role in getting food onto our plates.

Follow these tips to make sure you get the most out of your visits:

Know when seasonal favorites arrive. There are two ways to make sure you don't miss out on the freshest Colorado produce: talk to market organizers and farmers to get an idea of when your favorite fruits and vegetables are going to be arriving; take a look at the Colorado produce calendar from the Colorado Department of Agriculture.

Arrival dates of signature Colorado crops:

- Palisade peaches: mid-July to mid-September.
- Olathe sweet corn: mid-July to mid-October.
- Rocky Ford watermelons and cantaloupes: mid-July through September.
- Pueblo chile peppers: August to mid-October.
- San Luis Valley potatoes: All year.

Plan ahead for your visit

Planning ahead can make your visit to the farmers market more enjoyable and efficient. With a few simple steps, you can ensure you get the best selection and make the most of the fresh, local produce:

- Go early for the best selection.
- Try a new item each visit; you may discover a new favorite.
- Take your time to learn about vendors and their foods.

Extension Viewpoints

• Start with a flexible meal plan. You may be able to find wonderful ingredients for multiple meals.

• Ask vendors for handling and preparation tips.

• Check all booths before choosing, as there's a wide variety of produce and local foods.

• Shop in good health, with clean hands, and only touch what you buy.

• Bring clean cloth shopping bags for sturdiness and better support.

• Wear comfortable clothes, shoes and sunscreen.

• Spread the love: Consider sharing your purchases with friends or neighbors.

• Go home soon after shopping to maintain quality. Use insulated bags for cold or frozen items.

• Place delicate produce, like leafy greens, on top of cold packs.

• Buy perishable foods like eggs, cheese and meats last.

• Place raw meat in individual bags to prevent cross contamination with ready-to-eat foods.

Preserve your purchases

Bacteria can grow rapidly at warm temperatures and quickly cause a decrease in food quality and safety. Try to make the farmers market the last stop on your list so you can go directly home. If it can't be your last stop, plan ahead and bring a cooler with cold packs for perishable items.

Practice proper food storage:

• Don't rinse produce before storing. Instead, rinse fresh fruits and vegetables with running water just before use.

• Store refrigerated produce in mesh bags or plastic bags with holes to let air circulate.

• Most fresh produce has a short shelf life and should be used within a few days.

• Apples, tomatoes and melons produce ethylene gas and should be stored away from other produce.

• Store unripe peaches, plums and apricots at room temperature in a paper bag until ripe. Refrigeration slows this process.

• Whole tomatoes can be stored at room temperature until ripe.

Can it

Not only are fruits and vegetables delicious when they're fresh, but they're also delicious outside of the growing season as salsas, relishes, pickles, jams and jellies. Learn how to safely preserve foods at your home's elevation by visiting the Preserve Smart website.

19th Hole Concerts

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Ruby Sisson Library Foundation

June 13 **Bo DePeña**
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June 20 **The San Juan Mountain Boys**
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June 27 **Bob Hemenger**
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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



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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

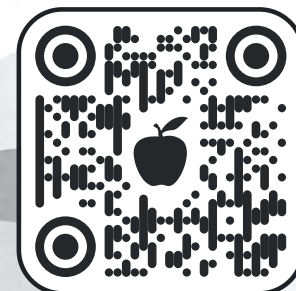
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Community Connections celebrates organizational redesign

By Theresa Blake Graven
Community Connections

Community Connections, a leading nonprofit organization serving people with disabilities across Southwest Colorado, is announcing key milestones in its organizational redesign process, and marking a new chapter of growth and transformation.

Since 1985, Community Connections has proudly served as both a case management agency and direct services provider for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities living in Archuleta, Dolores, La Plata, Montezuma and San Juan counties. As a result of regulatory changes, the organization is currently forming two separate entities, each devoted to meeting the evolving needs of the community.

Starting July 1, Community Connections will transition its direct services programs to a new organization called Our Own Lives, preserving this vital aspect of its work.

Community Connections will continue providing early intervention services for young children and family support for people with disabilities living at home. The agency has also recently expanded its case management services to people of all ages with disabilities, developmental delays and complex needs.

As part of this transformation, Community Connections staff, clients, board members and stakeholders recently participated in a planning process to direct the organization's future.

A refined vision

Community Connections' guiding principles have been updated, yet remain rooted in the organization's longstanding commitment to supporting and advocating for people

with disabilities.

The new mission, vision and values statements that have been developed are as follows.

Mission: Community Connections is dedicated to the mission of connecting people with disabilities, developmental delays, and complex needs to the resources they choose to lead healthy and fulfilling lives.

Vision: We envision a world where all people fully belong, contribute and thrive.

Values: We support people in reaching their own goals. We create a safe and welcoming space for all. We empower people to be themselves. We advocate for justice. We develop trust through our actions.

A fresh look

As part of this transition, Community Connections also completed a rebranding process, which included the development of a new logo. The organization's updated look incorporates colors and design elements influenced by the landscape and natural beauty of Southwest Colorado.

A more accessible online presence

Community Connections' website has undergone a complete overhaul, including improved navigation, ADA-compliant accessibility features, and Spanish language translation capabilities.

"We are excited to announce these important advances as we begin this new chapter for Community Connections," said Tara Kiene, president and CEO. "This work reflects our ongoing commitment to serving people with disabilities in our community and creating a more inclusive and equitable society for all."

Community Connections invites the community to join in celebrating

these milestones. As the organization is currently hosting its annual spring fundraising campaign, community members are encouraged to get involved by visiting the new website to learn more and contribute at communityconnectionsco.org.

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- ✓ **Visit our Makers** — jewelry, photographic greeting cards, creative fabric goods, hand hewn planter boxes
- ✓ **Shopping complete** — visit with friends, enjoy the music and the art works and Relax

Come be a part of Saturday Morning Downtown!

The mission of the Pagosa Farmers Market is to provide a venue for local and regional food producers and select nonfood producers to sell their products to benefit our community and the Earth.



The Pagosa Farmers Market is sponsored by the Southwest Organization for Sustainability (SOS), a 501(c)3 non-profit organization • www.sospagosa.org

Poets, quiltmakers, gardeners, bakers and more invited to compete for 'Best in Show' status at Colorado State Fair

By Olga Robak
State of Colorado

Along with exciting concerts, livestock competitions, rodeos and annual state fair fun, the 152nd Colorado State Fair is calling all Colorado artisans, photographers, winemakers, inventors, gardeners and many others to enter its General Entry, Fine Arts and Special contests.

The competitions are an opportunity for Coloradans to showcase their hobbies and talents, from artistic paintings or quilts, to local crops and gourmet food creations. Competitions are open to both hobby and professional artists and creators.

Contests are now accepting submissions. Most online deadlines are July 17; check specific competition for details.

Local artists of all ages can submit art for the commemorative poster competition to be considered for the 2025 Colorado State Fair. The winning poster will receive \$1,500 in prize money and \$500 for the state fair's purchase of the artwork, which might be used to promote the 2025 state fair. The top three posters will be displayed at the 2025 Colorado State Fair.

The Colorado State Fair Fine Arts Competition is one of the longest-running contests at the fair, providing artists from around Colorado to feature their finest works.

The competition has expanded to include eight categories, in 2-D and 3-D art. In addition, any art created by generative artificial intelligence will be judged under the Digital Art category and use of any AI software will need to be explicitly stated.

Pantry competitions include cakes, candy, canned fruit or vegetables, yeast or quick breads, pickles, preserves, pies and more. Exhibitors who compete in at least 12 different Pantry Divisions are eligible to earn the title of "Royalty of the Kitchen" or "Youth Kitchen Royalty" for those who are 9 and under. The fair also hosts a hobby wine, commercial wine, craft beer, and homebrew competition.

Farm and Garden divisions include produce — like broccoli, cabbage, corn, peppers, tomatoes and gourds — as well as fruit, herbs, field crops and baled hay. The competitions even include "Nature's Oddities," such as Most Misshapen Fruit or Oddest Vegetable.

The special contests categories range from Funniest Pet Photo to a Pet Rock Competition. The special contests also include a chocolate chip cookie baking competition where home bakers are asked to bake beautiful and delicious desserts. Creations will be judged on appearance, creativity, and taste.

Coloradans can also submit creations and fees online. The general entry office is open in person from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from through July 17, at the Colorado State Fairgrounds in Pueblo. Experts in each category will judge items, and winners will be revealed on the first day of the Fair.

General entry and fine arts categories include: Amateur Art, Arts and Crafts, Beer and Wine, Dolls, Agriculture Mechanics, Fine Arts, Floriculture, Needle Arts, Pantry, Porcelain Art, Quilts, and Farm and Garden.

The Special Contests categories include: Poetry, Coloring for all ages. Pet Rock, Funniest Pet Photo, Commercial Wine, Hobby Wine, Craft Brew, and Homebrew.

More information on each category, including specific entry requirements, can be found at <https://coloradostatefair.com/competitions/general-entry-fine-arts/>.

Competition winners will be showcased during the entire 11 days of the 2024 Colorado State Fair, from Aug. 23 to Sept. 2, in the Creative Arts and Fine Arts buildings. Visit the Colorado State Fair website for additional details.

The Colorado State Fair is an annual event held in Pueblo that creates an entertaining, inspiring and educational intergenerational experience highlighting the preservation, promotion and exposition of our state's vibrant and diverse agriculture, industry and culture.

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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.

St. Patrick's labyrinth open dawn to dusk

By Linda Bennett
St. Patrick's Episcopal Church

With the hope of warmer summer weather, the beautiful outdoor labyrinth at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church is available to the public from dawn to dusk.

Tuesdays from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., a docent is available to greet you and offer information. The docent will leave you in peace to walk or walk the labyrinth with you. Feel free to stop for a chat in the shade of our picnic area after your walk.

This unusually large outdoor labyrinth is an approximate replica of the labyrinth built in the early 13th century in Chartres Cathedral in France. St. Patrick's labyrinth offers a winding path that ultimately leads to a quiet space under the branches of a towering pine tree.

To walk to the center takes about

20-30 minutes. The center of the labyrinth is a place of calm, a place to sit quietly under the majestic tree, to listen to nature, to contemplate the thoughts that have come to mind, or to simply allow fears and concerns to be stilled. During this time one can offer prayers, recall poetry or Bible verses, or simply discover whatever surfaces to the conscious mind.

The walk is an immersive and transforming experience. The pilgrimage back from the center allows the walker to slowly return to the world, refreshed and, perhaps, filled with new insights.

St. Patrick's is located at 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. The labyrinth is west of the parking lot by the large wooden cross and green labyrinth welcome station. At the station you will find materials on walking the labyrinth and scriptural quotes to meditate on as you walk.

New Thought Center to meet Sunday

By Shayla McClure
New Thought Center for Inspirational Living

The Sunday service on June 23 at 10:30 a.m. will include live music with Shelly, meditation and group discussion.

Upcoming events

June 20, 6 p.m.: Illuminations with Paulette Bennett, herbalist.

June 21: Celebrating the summer solstice Playshop with Red Eagle and White Eagle. We will meditate in nature on a special hike and help

balance Mother Earth grids with energy work and intention. Pack a lunch, drinking water and a journal. The cost is a \$35 donation.

June 22, 10 a.m. to noon: Workshop with Paulette Bennett, "Tapping Into Mother Nature's Healing Power to Overcome today's Unprecedented Challenge on our Immune System". Contact (970) 510-0309 to reserve your space.

New Thought events are held at 3505 W. U.S. 160, on the second floor of the Pagosa Lodge (elevator available).

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ART IN THE PARK

Saturday, June 29th
& Sunday, June 30th
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

at Tennyson Sculpture Park and Gardens
presented by Pagosa Springs Arts Council

Over 30 artists at this event including
many Two Old Crows Gallery artists:

George Bodde • Michael Vittitow • Randy Osga
Lori Beach • Michele Turney • Shanna Robb
Colleen DeSanto • Teresa Herndon • Issac Martinez
Linda Pullinsi • Manfred Rapp • Tempist Jade
Brett Kilberg

The gallery will be open all weekend including Sunday
from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for this special occasion.

Our live music lineup features:

Saturday, June 29th
10 a.m. - Noon - Bluegrass Cadillac
12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. - Majik Hamm
3 p.m. - 5 p.m. - Dave Mench
6 p.m. - 8 p.m. - Tim Sullivan

Sunday, June 30th
10 a.m. - Noon - Majik Hamm
12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. - Irebellion
3 p.m. - 5 p.m. - Robin Davis Duo

There will be food and drink stations
throughout the event including:

Beer tent by Rotary; Riff Raff Brewery.
Food trucks will include: Chef's Custom Cuisine,
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Murder mystery and Fairy Tale Theatre set for tomorrow

By Carole Howard
PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

Tomorrow, June 21, we will be hosting two free special events:

- Eighth-graders and above are invited to solve a murder mystery from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. where everyone is a suspect and you need to decide who the real murderer is.

Lunch will be provided. Registration is required.

- Young readers aged 6-10 are invited to a Fairy Tale Theatre from 2 to 3:30 p.m., when you can read and act out your favorite characters. "Aesop's Fables and Fairytales" will be our source for fun stories we will enjoy together.

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.

Virtual author talks

Our highly popular free online author talks continue in June with one more opportunity this month 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://library.org/pagosalibrary/upcoming>.

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

Adult knitting Saturday

Join new and experienced knitters Saturday, June 22, 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

Library News

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.

Adult DIY next Tuesday

At the free in-person adult DIY next Tuesday, June 25, from 1 to 2:30 p.m., we will learn the ancient craft of paper rolling, called quilling.

It involves using strips of paper that are rolled, looped, curled, twisted and otherwise manipulated to create different shapes, and then glued together to create decorative designs.

Quilling designs can be used to decorate greeting cards, pictures,

boxes or eggs, and to make models, jewelry, mobiles and more. All supplies will be provided. Registration is required.

Dungeons and Dragons

Next Tuesday, June 25, 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.

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.

Family storytimes

Wednesdays from 10 to 11 a.m., join a free educational hour of read-

■ See Library on next page

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.

PAID FOR BY ZANE KRAETSCH



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

As long-time locals, we operate with small-town hospitality without the "Pagosa-time mentality." Your time is as valuable as ours, so we operate with punctuality.

Mountain Men Disaster Mitigation is here to service you and your family through providing quality in our work, and being timely and efficient.

Don't forget to check your crawl spaces for standing water. Water mixed with the normal environments produced in a crawlspace is the perfect breeding ground for microbial growth. We also offer sump pump system installations and repairs as well as moisture barriers. Call today for a free evaluation!

Spring is here. Don't forget to check your crawlspaces for standing water and microbial growth or call us for a free inspection!

Call us for 24/7 Emergency Response

Call 970-946-0238 or 970-749-9028

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Mold Remediation
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Lars Schneider
970-946-0238

BJ Jones
970-749-9028

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Library

■ **continued from previous page**
ing, 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 beginners, 5 to 6 p.m. for intermediate and 6 to 7 p.m. for advanced students. Please help us share the word about these classes.

Tech Time

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

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

Pagosa Adult Learning Services (PALS)

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

Downloadable books

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

Nonfiction

"A Walk in the Park" by Kevin Fedarko tells of two inexperienced friends who decide to hike the entire length of the Grand Canyon. "Cheaper Faster Better" by climate investor and activist Tom Steyer shows how we can achieve climate solutions. "The Astronomy Handbook" by Govert Schilling is a guide to understanding stars, planets, galaxies and the universe.

"F.I.R.E. for dummies" by Jackie Cummings is a Wiley guide to help you plan for financial independence and to retire early. "In My Time of Dying" by Sebastian Junger documents the atheist author's life changes after a near-death experience. "Cast, Catch, Release" by Marina Gibson, a renowned angler and conservationist, describes how to find serenity and

purpose through fly-fishing.

Large Print

"Get the Picture" by Bianca Bosker describes the author's experiences as she learns firsthand from artists how they see the world. "Throne of Grace" by Bob Drury and Tom Clavin is the true story of the legendary Jedediah Smith and the mountain men who explored the American frontier. "Catfish Charlie" by William W. and J.A. Johnstone is book one of a new western series. "Cade McCall: Army Scout" by Robert Vaughan is book five of the western adventure series.

Books on CD

"Southern Man" by Greg Iles is book seven in the Penn Cage series, this one about a man pursuing the presidency. "Clive Cussler The Heist" by Jack Du Brul is an Isaac Bell adventure. "One Perfect Couple" by Ruth Ware is a thriller about five couples trapped on an island with a killer. "Death Valley Duel" by Scott Graham is a National Park mystery about deadly accidents plaguing the world's toughest trail-running marathon.

Novels

"Allow Me to Introduce Myself" by Onyi Nwabinele features a young woman trying to distance herself from her stepmother's very public social media empire. "The Messy Life of Jane Tanner" by Brenda Novak tells of a young woman longing for adventure and motherhood. "James" by Percival Everett is a new reimagined look at the life of Huck's friend Jim.

Donation guidelines

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

"'Effortless' is a myth ... People would say my play was effortless. Most of the time they meant it as a compliment. But it used to frustrate me when they would say, 'He barely broke a sweat.' Or 'Is he even trying?' The truth is, I had to work very hard to make it look easy ... Yes, talent matters. I'm not going to stand here and tell you it doesn't. But talent has a broad definition. Most of the time it's not about having a gift. It's about having grit." — Roger Federer, retired Swiss professional tennis player, ranked No. 1 in singles for a record 237 consecutive weeks and winner of 20 singles grand slams, in

his 2024 commencement address at Dartmouth on June 9.

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>.

JIM GARRETT

❖ ATTORNEY ❖

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Re-elect Warren Brown County Commissioner District 1



Archuleta County, I humbly ask for your support in my re-election bid for District 1 County Commissioner.

During my next term, I want to **focus my efforts to improve our infrastructure** including roads, buildings, human capital and partnerships.

My plan is an **outcome-based, data driven strategy** to provide consistency in scheduling road and building maintenance, improvements and replacement.

By identifying and publishing the county's **medium and long range infrastructure needs**, the taxpayers and the commissioners can better assure the correct decisions are being made.

Archuleta County should be a place everyone should want to work. Creating **strategic recruiting and retention hiring processes** that recognize and reward the employee's performance will better assure continuity of operations and longer retention of employees.

Lastly, I plan to **build upon our valuable relationships** with local business owners, citizens, and stakeholders, while being a good partner to our regional, state and federal counterparts.

***Now is the time to keep moving forward
and continue getting things done.***

Re-Elect Commissioner Warren Brown, District 1!

Facebook: Committee to Re-Elect Warren Brown • <https://www.electwarrenbrown.com>
Instagram.com/electwarrenbrown • email: info@electwarrenbrown.com

Paid for by Committee to Re-Elect Warren Brown Archuleta County Commissioner
District 1. Warren Brown Registered Agent.



Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

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.

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.

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.

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

'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 24

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.

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

Line Dancing. 9:30-11:30 a.m., PLPOA Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Beginners meet at 9:30 a.m. and the advance group meets at 10:15 a.m. If you haven't attended before, please call Beverly at (970) 264-2064 for more information.

Jane Austen Series. 10 a.m.-noon, Sisson Library. Presentations, films, discussions, music and tea. Celebrate with readers of all ages.

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

Archuleta County Democratic Club. 11:30 a.m., Coyote Moon. Guinn Unger, of the Colorado Health Care Coalition, will speak.

End of Life Education. 1 p.m., Sisson Library. The End of Life Education group will meet, with the topic being paperwork.

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 25

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.

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.

Labyrinth Guided Tour. 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Join a docent for a guided walk. Walking the labyrinth can bring a sense of releasing, receiving and renewal. The labyrinth is available from dawn until dusk and is located in the wooded area behind the parking lot at the wooded cross.

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.

Adult DIY. 1-2:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Learn the ancient craft of quilling, or paper rolling. Explore how to make creative shapes that can be used to decorate cards, gifts or other items.

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

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

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

Dungeons and Dragons. 4-5:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Join the adventure. Preregistration is required because space is limited. Contact Josie@pagosalibrary.org to join.

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

Geology Tour. 5 p.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This

■ See Calendar on next page



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Offer Ends 7/25/24

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Cannot be combined with other coupons. Bring in or mention this ad for these limited time offers. Offers end 7/25/24

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AUGUST 10

at the Ross Aragon Community Center

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Dinner & Cash Bar
Polynesian luau dancers
Live Tahitian drumming
Live Auction



ADVANCE TICKETS ONLY
\$140 (ends August 1)
\$110 Early Bird (ends July 8th)



Buy tickets at PagosaHumane.org or call for sponsorship and auction donation opportunities | 970-264-5549

Photo 51091990 © Sam Antonio | Dreamstime.com

Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

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.

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 pagosa-wetlands@gmail.com.

Wednesday, June 26

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.

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 Half-blood. 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.

Thursday, June 27

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 Club. 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 Bob Hemenger. Featuring the Early Childhood Council of Archuleta County. The cover charge is a \$10 donation.

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

Friday, June 28

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.

PAWS to Read. 2-3 p.m., Sisson Library. For all ages. Read with Muppet or Maple, therapy dogs who love stories. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

Quilling. 2-3:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Learn the ancient craft of paper rolling.

'Beauty and the Beast.' 7 p.m., ■ See Calendar on next page

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Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. For tickets and show information, see pagosacenter.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Saturday, June 29

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 pago-sawetlands@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.

Tiffany Allison Arboles Independence Parade. 10 a.m., Arboles. Line up at 9 a.m. on Willard Way. The parade will end at the TARA Community Center.

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.

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

Monday, July 1

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

Line Dancing. 9:30-11:30 a.m., PLPOA Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Beginners meet at 9:30 a.m. and the advance group meets at 10:15 a.m. If you haven't attended before, please call Beverly at (970) 264-2064 for more information.

Jane Austen Series. 10 a.m.-noon, Sisson Library. Presentations, films, discussions, music and tea. Celebrate with readers of all ages.

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

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

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

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

Tuesday, July 2

Veterans for Veterans of Archuleta County. 9 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.

Labyrinth Guided Tour. 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Join a docent for a guided walk. Walking the labyrinth can bring a sense of releasing, receiving and renewal. The labyrinth is available from dawn until dusk and is located in the wooded area behind the parking lot at the wooded cross.

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.

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

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

PALS Adult Education. 5:30-8 p.m., Sisson Library. Pagosa Adult Learning Services, or PALS, can help you with high school equivalency, GED, college prep, financial aid, tutoring and more. Mark can help you develop a plan to achieve

your education goals. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

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

'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).

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.

■ See Calendar on next page

Live Your Colorado Dream!



65 Caballero Drive
\$839,000

MLS # 811817

This home is perfectly located on approximately an acre of land in the Pagosa Lakes area. Open the back door and a 700 sq ft deck will provide additional space for a BBQ grill, plenty of outdoor seating, and a new hot tub for your relaxation and enjoyment. 4 beds/2.5 baths with 2,350 sq. ft.

To tour this home go to:
<https://tinyurl.com/65Caballero>



1135 Park Avenue, Unit 401
\$645,000

MLS # 813453

Beautiful end unit townhome in Whispering Pines! No neighbors directly behind you as this area has a picnic table, a gazebo and feels like an extension of your own backyard right off the lower patio. 2 beds/2.5 baths with 2,044 sq. ft.

To tour this home go to:
<https://tinyurl.com/1135ParkAve>



1001 Soaring Eagle Court
\$995,000

MLS # 813551

2 Bed, 2 Bath, 2,073 sq foot house on 36.44 acres. Navajo River Ranch has 2 private entrances into the forest. This home has wonderful views of the San Juan Mountain Range and great decks. 2 tributaries come together to form a seasonal creek called Oil Well Creek on the property.

To tour this home go to:
<https://tinyurl.com/1001SoaringEagleCourt>



Cloman Industrial Park
\$390,000

MLS # 807337

.68 Acre, 1500 sq. ft. commercial building located in Cloman Industrial Park. There is enough property to build another building or make a large wrap around parking lot. There is a 3000 BYU gas heater and a 40 gallon hot water heater.



Shellie Hogue
REALTOR®, BROKER
C: 970.759.8109
ShellieCHogue@gmail.com
www.shelliehogue.com



2453 Running Horse Place
\$2,400,000

MLS # 813104

35.2 Acres with a guest house and set up for horses. The property comes with an extra workshop/garage, a growing dome, a round pen, 3 stall + barn and numerous out buildings. The main house is 5,141 sq. ft. and the guest house is 2,028 sq. ft.

To tour this home go to:
<https://tinyurl.com/2453RunningHorse>



Gail Brault
REALTOR®, Broker Associate
C: 970.946.2051
GailBrault1957@gmail.com



247 Davis Cup Drive, Unit 4258
\$365,000

MLS # 811750

Great condo with the primary bedroom on the main level and a second spacious bedroom on the second level. Updated kitchen with granite countertops and newer appliances. 2 beds/3 baths with 1,345 sq. ft.

To tour this home go to:
<https://tinyurl.com/247DavisCup>



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X Montezuma Circle —MLS # 804535. \$82,500. .82 acres, views and access to the San Juan River.
219 Lakeside Dr. — MLS # 809953 - \$190,000

Preview Calendar

continued from previous page

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, July 3

Pagosa Catholic Quilters. 9 a.m.-2 p.m., John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms. For more information, contact Maxine Everaert at quilters@ihmjp2.org.

Park to Park Artisan and Food Market. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Town Park. There will be vendors, a beer garden and live entertainment.

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>.

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

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

'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).

Thursday, July 4

Fourth of July Parade. 10 a.m., downtown. The parade starts at Spring Street and Hot Springs Boulevard. It will head south on Hot Springs Boulevard and continue west on Apache Street, then south on South 5th Street.

Park to Park Artisan and Food Market. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Town Park. There will be vendors, a beer garden and live entertainment.

Freedom Float. 1 p.m., San Juan River. Grab a tube or watercraft appropriate for water levels, don red, white and blue, and join the float on the San Juan River through downtown.

Pagosa Springs Community Band Concert. 2-3 p.m., Town Park. A free patriotic concert.

Red Ryder Roundup Rodeo. 2 p.m., Western Heritage Event Center rodeo and event grounds. Tickets are available at pagosarodeo.com.

Fireworks. Dusk (about 9 p.m.), downtown. Enjoy the fireworks show from the downtown area. Yamaguchi Park provides one of the best viewing areas.

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Nile vipers
- 5 Race segment
- 9 Ladybug's array
- 14 Enticement
- 15 Idris of "Luther"
- 16 Tiny South Pacific nation
- 17 Pine or spruce
- 19 Mink's cousin
- 20 Uncheck, say
- 21 Sour
- 22 Lightbulb measure
- 23 Plumped-up fowl
- 24 Despondent
- 27 Funhouse fixture
- 29 Spiritual leader
- 32 Like a smart kid
- 34 Grabber in an arcade game
- 35 Turbine part
- 36 Let go
- 37 Indian yogurt dip
- 38 "You got that right!"
- 39 Charles Ingalls was one
- 41 Football gain
- 42 In a class by _____
- 43 "Later"
- 44 Full of gooey dirt
- 46 Wacko
- 48 Trite remark
- 50 Angry letters
- 54 Gossipmonger
- 55 Lowest female voice
- 56 Nasty look
- 57 Fairy tale starter
- 58 Footfall
- 59 Lincoln's in-laws
- 60 Miller, for one
- 61 Pitcher's target

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16				
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48	49						50				51	52	53	
54							55							
56							57				58			
59							60				61			

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- 3 Facefuls in slapstick
- 4 Spread around
- 5 Religious dissenter
- 6 Power source
- 7 Be an accessory to
- 8 Go for the bronze?
- 9 Rapper pal to Martha
- 10 "Adam-12" vehicle
- 11 In a risky situation
- 12 Uno y dos
- 13 "Why not?!"
- 18 Alluring beauty
- 21 Neighbor of Earth
- 23 Expression
- 24 Waterfall effect
- 25 Scent
- 26 Keeping at it
- 28 Makes like a lion
- 30 Word after "ahoy"
- 31 In the loop
- 33 Led an orchestra
- 37 Roof support
- 39 Water barrier
- 40 Move like a butterfly
- 45 Burns a bit
- 47 Huge hit
- 48 Abnormal sac
- 49 Former NBC host
- 50 Sharpen, as skills
- 51 High in the Andes
- 52 List entry
- 53 Easy stride
- 55 Corn core

Answers to Previous Crossword:

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



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What can you do but laugh?

By **Betty Slade**
PREVIEW Columnist

My daughter said, "If you don't get up from your computer, you're going to lose your freedom."

Those words put a fire under me. I've got to do whatever it takes to keep healthy. Go figure.

Eighty-three years old, and I'm just now deciding to take care of my health.

I've painted with oil paints laced with lead for 45 years. I loved the smell of turpentine. It didn't bother me. I breathed that stuff. All those little habits and things in life we do will eventually catch up with us. Seems like today is the day to get serious.

It's like they say, "A person don't want it until they need it."

Well, I've come to want some health advice because I need it. I need to be more in tune with my body.

After questioning what is good and learning healthy eating habits, I have become a little more cautious with my intake.

My friend gave me some tips. "Take baby steps," she said. "The sun is healing. The sun gives us vitamin D. Start drinking sun water."

"What's that?"
"Put a glass jar of water in the sun for 15 minutes. Don't use plastic. All the minerals and vitamins in the sun will go into the water. You will become healthier. Drink plenty of water."

Our feet have the receptors for all the nerves in our bodies. I now have my Sweet Al rub essential oil on my feet every night. I should soak my feet in Epsom salt at least once a week. Another baby step.

Breathe. I thought I was breathing. Breathe deeper. I forget to breathe. Rub eucalyptus on your hands. Take long breaths into your hands and through your nose. Hold for seven seconds and slowly let it out. Do this three times a day. It will give you energy.

The last and most important thing to do is move. Walk, and walk some more. It has become a comedy act as my Sweet Al walks with me and helps me balance on the uneven ground. We are a sight to behold. Al has no balance, I have no strength; between us we make it down to the river twice a day.

He holds my arm and pushes me. I say, "Stop. I'm going to fall." Then he gets in front of me, takes my hand and pulls me. I say, "You're going too fast, I can't keep up with you. Let me hold your hand." That works for a few steps, then he veers off the path.

With my cane in one hand, I latch onto his belt and tell him, "Just walk."

He says, "You're pulling down my pants."

I tell him I'm going to do more than that if he doesn't stop. He doesn't stop.

Artist's Lane

The older we get the more we depend on each other. So, I've got to stay sweet. I need my Sweet Al by my side more than ever.

I yell, "Heel."

He understood and stopped.

I might have to use drastic measures and learn some dog-training tricks. I dug out Al's dog training manual. I don't know if I can teach an old dog a new trick, but I'm going to try.

The older we get the more we depend on each other. So, I've got to stay sweet. I need my Sweet Al by my side more than ever.

A dog trainer uses certain words to train his dog to walk next to him. I'll tell Al I'm practicing in case we get another dog. He'll be excited and hang in there with me.

I read with great enthusiasm. Teach your dog that walking next to you with a loose lead means they get to move forward — pulling means they don't. The second the lead starts to tighten, stop walking. Stand still, keep quiet and don't move forward again until the lead is slack.

I know what I can do. I'll get one of Whiskey's dog leashes and loop it around Al's belt. I'll loosen the lead or pull it tight. It'll be baby steps at first, but I think we can master this.

The manual says the last thing to do is reward your dog when they are by your side. You need to teach your dog that being near you pays off.

Final brushstroke: What can you do but laugh? I am on a mission to get healthy and stay healthy.

Informative.

The Pagosa Springs SUN
264-2100

I've taken on a long, healthy life as a job. To finish strong takes work. To keep my Sweet Al walking with me, wanting to be near me, he needs a payoff. I must remember to carry a snack in my pocket for my Sweet Al.

Views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN.

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PAGOSA SCENE . . .

'ONCE UPON A MATTRESS'

PREVIEW photos/Randi Pierce

Scene ... taking in a Curtains Up Pagosa production of "Once Upon a Mattress" — a comical adaptation of the tale of the princess at the pea. About 100 locals worked to bring the musical to life.



Health Archuleta working with six interns

Healthy Archuleta

Here at Healthy Archuleta, we have the honor of hosting six dynamic, eager, bright, responsible and employable youth interns through the Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation.

Healthy Archuleta began onboarding interns two weeks ago. We currently have three young adults and three high school students.

They have been extremely helpful in helping us critically examine

our efforts to improve access to primary preventive care and nutrition security.

Despite having little to no experience in research and community outreach (other than our two veteran interns), they have dived into the work. They have gotten a crash course in everything from farming and ranching to randomized sampling for research polls.

We couldn't be more pleased with the youth that we are working with and want to take the time to acknowl-

edge their substantive contributions to our organization and declare to our community how powerful youth are as allies and colleagues in every endeavor.

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



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Early Deadlines
for the issue of July 4

Legal Advertising, Articles and Letters:
Noon, Thursday, June 27

Display Advertising: Noon, Friday, June 28

Classified Advertising: Monday, July 1, 10 a.m.

Too Late to Classify: Monday, July 1, 10 a.m.

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*The Pagosa Springs SUN will be closed
Thursday, July 4, in observance of Independence Day*

The Pagosa Springs SUN

GRILL & BBQ WORD SEARCH

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

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

WORDS

- ACIDIC
- ASADO
- BARBECUE
- BARK
- BASTE
- BRINE
- BRISKET
- BURGERS
- CARRYOVER
- CHAR
- CHARCOAL
- CHIMNEY
- DRY-AGED
- FLAME
- FLAT
- FORK-TENDER
- GRILL
- HEAT
- LEAN
- MARINADE
- RIBS
- RUB
- SMOKE
- TEMPERATURE

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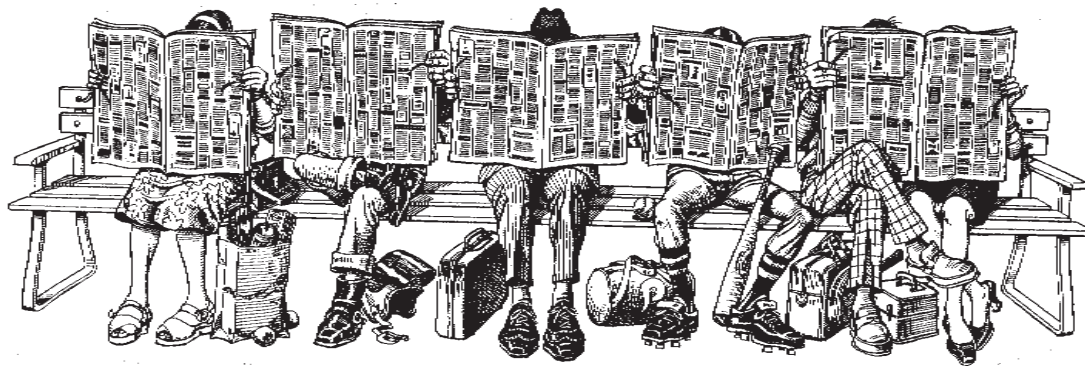
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Farmers market vouchers available for older adults

By Rose Chavez
PREVIEW Columnist

If you love to shop at the Pagosa Farmers Market, are 60 or older, or if you are 200 percent of poverty, please call Deb Herera of the San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging at (970) 403-2164 to put your name on the list for \$50 in vouchers to redeem for local foods.

Vista Lake Community Garden

Are you interested in gardening in a raised garden bed along with other community members this growing season?

Join Archuleta Seniors Inc. (ASI) and the Pagosa Senior Center this Thursday, June 20, at 5:30 p.m. to plant our garden plot to provide fresh garden veggies, flowers, herbs and more to the Archuleta County Food Pantry Network.

We will provide mushroom compost and some plants to put in the ground, but feel free to bring your own.

Vista Lake Community Garden is located at 230 Port Ave., behind the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association building near the gazebo by the lake. Park by the gazebo and we will walk to the garden at 5:30 p.m.

Fresh produce boxes for older adults

The Pagosa Senior Center and Terra Walk Farm CSA shares will be

Senior News

delivered to the Senior Center on Tuesdays (bimonthly) for 30 older adults and their families to pick up and use over a two-week period before they receive their next share.

This program, subsidized by a grant from Nourish Colorado, will provide seasonal fresh produce for a 20-week period during the growing season, June through October.

In addition to fresh, seasonal produce, community members will also receive recipes for inspiration and are invited to attend our monthly "Fresh Conversations" nutrition education program that includes recipe tastings on July 17 at 10 a.m. and Aug. 16, at 1:30 p.m.

Spanish Fiesta July 27

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 Archuleta Seniors Inc. (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

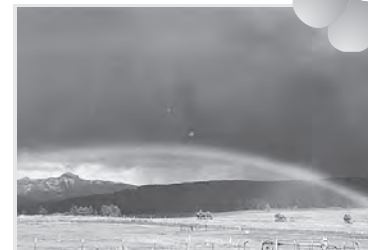
■ See Senior on next page

Great Summer Properties!



153 Beaver Cir • 1,069,000

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



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 • \$599,000

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 • \$457,000

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

Make Art a Part of Your Pagosa Experience!



Artist Reception
Debra Ferrari
Oils

Thursday, June 27
5:30 to 7:30 pm

Meet artist Debra Ferrari
Enjoy a glass of wine and learn about her art.
Cheese and crackers will be served.



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Senior

■ **continued from previous page**
online <https://givebutter.com/SpainishFiesta2024> 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@pseniors.org.

Volunteers needed for 22nd annual Spanish Fiesta

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. Secure your spot at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084CABAD28ABFBC61-49963208-22nd>.

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

Healthy aging yoga therapy class series

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 21, July 12, July 26, Aug. 9 and Aug. 23.

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 20 — Stuffed gi-

■ See Senior on next page



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Senior

■ continued from previous page

ant portobello mushroom cap with veggies and feta cheese, roasted sweet potatoes, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Friday, June 21 — Beef fajitas, peppers and onions, tortillas, sour cream, guacamole, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Monday, June 24 — Greek spinach and feta pie, spinach artichoke dip and pita chips, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Tuesday, June 25 — Chicken pesto wrap, Italian chop salad, mixed fruit salad, hazelnut crunch bar and milk.

Wednesday, June 26 — Crispy codfish with tartar sauce and lemon, creamed spinach, garden salad, peach cobbler, milk.

Thursday, June 27 — Beef spaghetti, broccoli, garlic bread, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Friday, June 28 — Singapore pork ribs, veg. fried rice, snow peas, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Grab-N-Go meals

Dine-in and Grab-N-Go meal reservations and cancellations are required. Please call or text by 9 a.m. the morning of the day you want to pick up a meal. A suggested donation of \$6 helps to sustain our program. For ages 59 and younger, the cost is \$10.50. No one will be turned away for their inability to donate. Please call or text us at (970) 264-2167 to make a reservation.

Meals on Wheels

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

Mobile food pantry service

Older adults needing a ride to a local food pantry should contact the MET to schedule a ride with its para-transit service. For more information, contact Lavonne at (970) 264-2250.

Text reservations

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

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

COVID-19 test kits available

Stop by the Senior Center to pick up a pack of six free COVID-19 tests kits for your personal use. These kits are available to anyone in the public who needs affordable access for health promotion and disease prevention.

Mahjong

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

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

Medicare call by appointment

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

Mindful drawing

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

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

Bridge

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

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

Hand and foot card game

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

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

No experience is necessary, so come willing to learn.

Board vacancies

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

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

Supporting ASI

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ANCIENT HYDROTHERAPY CAN LOWER MODERN STRESS (Part 1)

For some, “hydrotherapy” sounds quite medical and intimidating, but have no fear.

Hydrotherapy can be as simple as a drink of water, a warm bath, or a cold compress to the head.

Hydrotherapy has many benefits including stress relief. Note the simple applications mentioned in the excerpted article below.

Hot baths can do more than keep you clean. It has been found that warm baths (water temperature between 100 to 102 degree F) not only relax the muscles but help provide some quiet time as well. So when you need to escape, fill the tub, lie back, and relax.

Generally, heat quiets and soothes the body, slowing down the activity of internal organs. Cold, in contrast, stimulates and invigorates, increasing internal activity.

If you are experiencing tense muscles and anxiety from your stress, a hot shower or bath is in order.

If you are feeling tired and stressed out, you might want to try taking a warm shower or bath followed by a short, invigorating cold shower to help stimulate your body and mind.

Experiment with different water temperatures and durations in the bath or shower to determine what water method works best for you. Remember, the goal is to use hydrotherapy to achieve a state of comfort, relaxation, and refreshment.

(continued next week)

Source: “Hydrotherapy”

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

“But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.” John 4:14

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Photo courtesy Lena Deraviano/Unsplash

Westerners are having increased difficulty finding fire insurance carriers.

It's a perfect storm for fire insurance

By Dave Marston
PREVIEW Columnist

Westerners have begun looking at their homes differently these days. Are those trees too close? Should I move all that firewood stacked up next to the deck?

Meanwhile, in California, some fire insurers have lost so much money they've pulled out of the state. Overall, fire insurance is becoming as expensive and unpredictable as the natural disasters — not just wildfires, but also hail and windstorms — that are driving up rate increases. In some places, increases are as much as 1,000 percent for houses and condos nestled close to trees.

In Colorado, Tiffany Lockwood said she was dropped twice by fire insurance carriers over the 10 years she's lived in Evergreen, a heavily forested exurb of Denver.

A former Florida resident, Lockwood, 59, only has one way out in case of a wildfire — and even then she'll have little warning.

"When I lived in Florida," she said, "we knew four days ahead when a hurricane was coming. Here we get 40 minutes."

Lockwood thinks insurance companies are running scared and giving impossible directives. One insurer asked her to remove all the shrubs and trees within 30 feet of the house. But the plan meant taking down a lot of her neighbor's trees, too.

Evergreen's attraction is that residents live amidst towering conifer trees. But red zones on fire maps are being expanded all over Colorado after several recent large forest fires and the wind-driven Marshall grass-fire outside of Boulder, in December 2021. It destroyed more than 1,000

Opinion: Writers on the Range

"Everything has escalated," said Walker. "Colorado is in that perfect storm of catastrophes. The number of claims and the cost to pay those claims is at a record pace. Add in the escalating number of events like hail and wildfire, and it's the hardest insurance market in a generation."

suburban homes and was the state's most expensive fire yet. Formerly "safe" places are now described as at-risk.

Jeff Geslin lives in high and dry La Plata County, in southwestern Colorado, surrounded by 35 acres of piñon and juniper trees.

He and his wife Lorna are used to remediation plans, he said, and when their insurance increases, "I just pay it, no questions asked."

But they were shocked when their condo association in Summit County, governing their second home, lost its insurance policy.

"It might be because we're close to Forest Service land," Geslin said, "which must be more risk."

Every condo owner was assessed \$6,772 extra for the new policy the homeowners association managed to find — an increase of 1,000%.

Colorado State Sen. Dylan Roberts is working on legislation to insure larger structures.

"I've gotten calls about insurance for the last year if not two years," he said. "The single-family upset has quieted down, but the big thing I hear about is HOA and condo buildings."

The state already has what is called the Fair Access to Insurance Requirements (FAIR) Plan in place for smaller buildings when insurance companies refuse to underwrite traditional coverage. It's backed by private insurers and administered by an appointed board of insurance professionals.

"We hope to insure no one," said FAIR Plan board member Carole Walker.

She's the executive director of an insurance trade group covering New Mexico, Colorado, Wyoming and Utah.

"This is insurance of last resort," she said, "as we don't want to compete with private insurers. They're struggling after 10 straight years of unprofitability in property insurance."

■ See Writers on next page

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What attracts pests to a home?

Special to The PREVIEW

No homeowner wants pests to invade their homes or their yards. However, it's easy for pests to find their way into and around a home.

In fact, certain conditions may be inviting pests to a property:

- **Garbage:** Piles of garbage offer food and shelter to pests. Removing garbage piles and cleaning up food waste promptly can make a difference.

- **Stagnant water:** Mosquitoes breed in standing water, which is water not affected by waves, current or a filtration system. Anywhere water has pooled, mosquitoes may be breeding.

- **Moisture or standing water:** Additional sources of water and moisture may attract pests like gnats, mosquitoes, stink bugs and certain spiders. Damp areas are of particular concern, especially when combined with darkness.

- **Firewood:** Firewood may attract a variety of pests, including termites

and weevils. Firewood also may contain eggs that were laid before trees were cut down. If firewood is needed, it should be stacked far away from a home.

- **Clogged gutters:** Ignoring clogged gutters can lead to pest problems. Mice, squirrels, birds, ants and spiders may be attracted to damp leaves in clogged gutters. Leaves offer shelter, nesting material and possible food sources of insect life.

- **Dirty dishes and indoor trash:** Leaving food-covered dishes in the sink invites pests. Leftover food attracts cockroaches, flies, ants and more. Even if time is short, it's best to wash dishes or load them into the dishwasher. Overflowing trash also draws pests into a home.

- **Clutter:** Clutter provides hiding places for all sorts of rodents and insects, which can hide out in cluttered areas and remain comfortable. Going room to room and clearing out extraneous items may help reduce pest populations. Focus on the garage and basement in particular.

Writers

■ continued from previous page

The FAIR Plan board, which plans to sell policies late next year, hired industry veteran Kelly Campbell as executive director this May. It will offer bare-bones coverage with high deductibles and low maximum amounts. The plan would offer coverage of \$5 million per commercial structure and \$750,000 per house.

"Everything has escalated," said Walker. "Colorado is in that perfect storm of catastrophes. The number of claims and the cost to pay those claims is at a record pace. Add in the escalating number of events like hail and wildfire, and it's the hardest insurance market in a generation."

Walker said Colorado established a resiliency code board via state law in 2023, with a mandate of hardening structures with fire-resistant siding, metal roofs and landscaping.

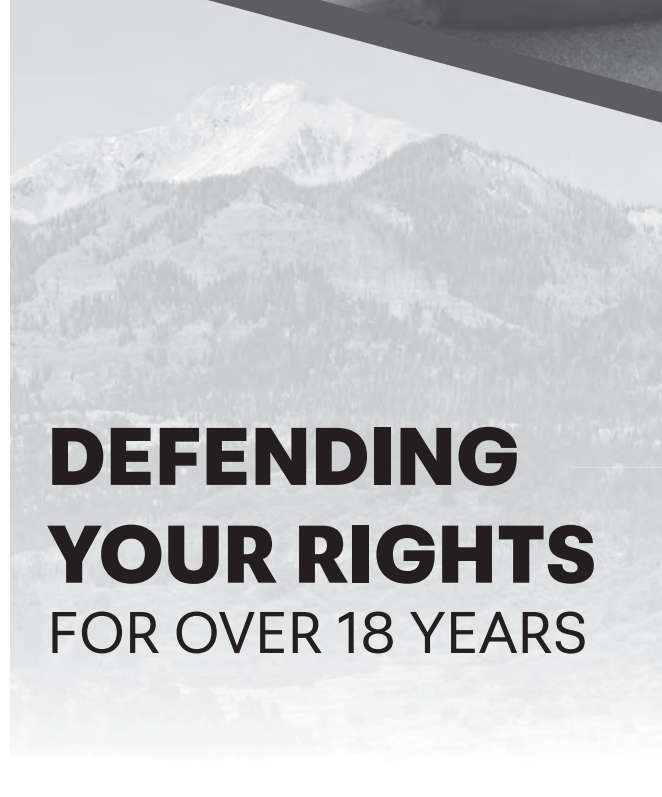
"We need confidence back in the marketplace," she said about

the board. "Ultimately, this is a life-safety issue because wildfire knows no boundaries. You're dependent on your neighbor."

Kevin Parks, a State Farm insurer in Western Colorado, has some advice for Western homeowners: "Widen your driveway and road to 20 feet, install a turnaround big enough for fire vehicles, remove shrubs and trees close to your house, and add a perimeter of gravel all around your structure. Finally, hope you live where two roads lead to your house."

In this new age of longer and meaner fire seasons, Parks added, "The fire is coming — now it's a question of being ready."

Dave Marston is the publisher of Writers on the Range, writersontherange.org, an independent non-profit dedicated to spurring lively conversation about the West. Views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN.



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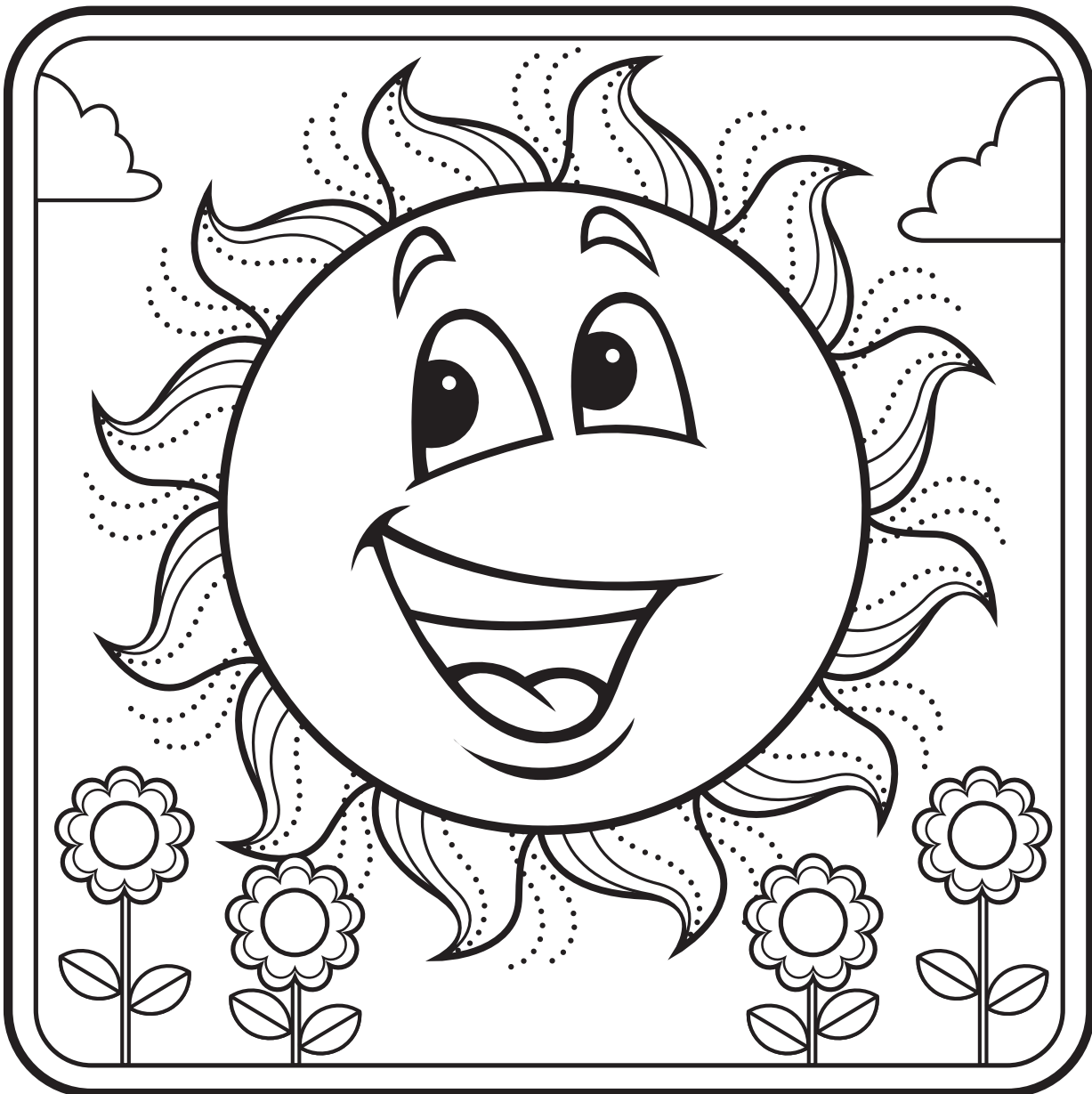
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Grandchildren and a strange grandpa

By **Daris Howard**
Special to The PREVIEW

One of the highlights of my week is on Sunday when one of our daughters, Trissa, does FaceTime with us so we can talk to her and our grandchildren and see them simultaneously.

With our children and grandchildren spread from California to Alabama to Alaska, we don't get to see them near as much as we would like.

My problem is that any call does strange things to my brain. When I'm not on a call, I can think of a million things I want to visit with my children and grandchildren about. But the minute we connect, those things are all gone, and I can't think of anything to say.

That can be good when others want to talk, because I can just listen. But if they ask how I'm doing, I usually can't think of anything new. However, sometimes I have the opposite problem, saying things like how I write and getting strange looks from my grandchildren.

One day, when Trissa called, she wanted to show me how much her 2-year-old daughter was learning and talking. She prompted her. "Tell Grandpa about the things you like."

My darling granddaughter just stared at me on the phone. I think she inherited my phone-call-equals-empty-thoughts dilemma.

My daughter tried again. "Claire, do you like macaroni and cheese?" Claire nodded. "Yes."

"Do you like pizza?"
Claire again nodded and said yes.
"What else do you like?" Trissa asked.
"Bampa," she replied.

My darling granddaughter just stared at me on the phone. I think she inherited my phone-call-equals-empty-thoughts dilemma.

"That's sweet," I said.
Trissa nodded. "Yes, but I want her to show you all the new words she's learned." She tried again. "Claire, do you like going to the park?"

"Yes," Claire replied.
"Who do you like to play with at the park?" Trissa asked.
"Bampa," Claire said.
"How about your brother and sister?" Trissa asked. Claire nodded.
"And who else?" Trissa asked.
"Bampa," Claire replied.

It hardly mattered what Trissa asked about. Claire's answer was almost always the same. It seems on the phone she is just like me.

Trissa gave up and let her 5-year-old, Emily, take the phone. I asked her how she was doing. She told me about her progress in learning to read, including new books she could mostly read on her own. She told me about her friends and things she liked.

When she finished, she asked, "How are you doing, Grandpa?"

I had worked so hard all week moving and mounting cupboards and loading a piano that my whole body ached. Without thinking about the fact that I was speaking to a 5-year-old, my brain kicked into allegory mode.

"Well, I have worked so hard and am so sore I think my arms, legs, and back are going to look for employment elsewhere," I said. "Of course, I am about ready to fire them anyway because they are whiny and not working too well."

Suddenly, Emily went silent and just stared at me, so after a moment, I said, "Other than that, I'm all right."

Emily turned and handed the phone back to her mother. "Grandpa talks funny," she said, "but I still like him."

I'm glad my grandchildren like me, strangeness and all.

Views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN.

Interesting facts about ice cream

Special to The PREVIEW

Perhaps no food is as universally beloved as ice cream. Though people may dispute which ethnic cuisine reigns supreme or which region produces the most delicious barbecue or which city makes the best pizza, ice cream inspires no such debate. It's simply loved by people of all ages and from all walks of life.

Ice cream is a go-to dessert for people across the globe, and those individuals may be interested in learning more about this beloved confection.

- The International Dairy Foods Association notes that the origins of ice cream can be traced at least as far back as the second century BC. Though the precise origins of ice cream are not known, the first ice cream parlor in the United States opened in 1790.

PBS notes that President George Washington was especially fond of the frozen treat.

- Many people prefer their ice cream served in cones, and they can thank any one of a number of individuals who may be responsible for the invention of the ice cream cone.

According to the Library of Congress, various accounts suggest Charles E. Menches is the inventor

of the ice cream cone, which he first offered for sale at the St. Louis World's Fair in 1904. Ernest Hamwi, Abe Doumar, Albert and Nick Kabbaz, Arnold Fornachou and David Avayou are some others who have been credited with inventing the ice cream cone.

- The Dairy Alliance reports that three gallons of milk are required to produce a single gallon of ice cream. That means one cow can produce between two and three gallons of ice cream per day.

- Ice cream aficionados span the globe, but the World Atlas reports that no country consumes more ice cream per capita than New Zealand. New Zealand is reportedly renowned for producing high-quality dairy products, which might be one reason why the average New Zealander consumes 28.4 liters of ice cream per year. The United States (20.8 liters per year per person) and Australia (18 liters) are next in line behind New Zealand.

- Chocolate reigns supreme as the most popular ice cream flavor in the world. So says an analysis of data from Lexham Insurance conducted by The Food Channel. That data represents figures from 121 countries and found that vanilla, mint chocolate chip, cookie dough and buttered pecan round out the top five ice cream flavors across the globe.

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PCI Extends Heartfelt Thanks for a Successful Second Chance Prom, Raising Over \$23,500

PCI is excited to announce that our Second Chance Prom, held on May 18th, was a huge success, raising over \$23,500. This accomplishment was made possible by the support from our community, donors, and volunteers. The funds will benefit our youth development programs and community outreach efforts to continue our mission.

We want to give a big shout-out to:

Sponsors and Donors: Your awesome contributions made the event possible and helped us make a real difference!

Local Businesses: Your support with silent auction donations, catering, and services turned the evening into magic for everyone!

Volunteers: Your hard work and dedication were the secret ingredients for a flawless event.

Attendees: Your energy and enthusiasm brought the evening to life, creating an atmosphere reminiscent of 80s hits and unforgettable memories for all of us.

"We are profoundly grateful for the community's overwhelming support," said Rebecca Tenpenny, PCI's Executive Director. "The success of the Second Chance Prom reflects the unity and generosity of our community."

A special thank you goes to our donors: 84 Ranch, Amber Demeis Tattoo, Back 2 Nature Taxidermy, Bad DonkeyBakery, Bishop Scrivener Theatrics, Bliss Scoops and Sweets, Hartland Ranch, Chow Down, Chrissy Ferguson Cosmetology, Cowboy Car Wash, Crossfit Pagosa, Elk and Pine Silversmithing, Emily Furr, FABA, Forge Martial Arts, Higher Grounds, Four Corners Folk Fest,

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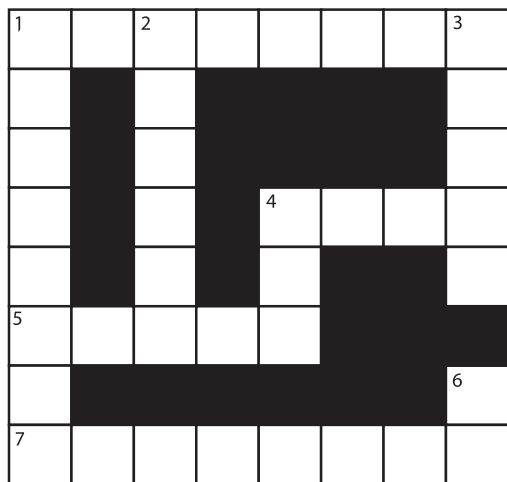


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ANSWER: FALSE

Crossword Puzzle



- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN |
| 1. Curly-tailed rodent | 1. Houses unwanted pets |
| 4. Felines | 2. Not certain |
| 5. Occasion | 3. Corrals dogs on walks |
| 7. Daytime light | 4. Portable bed |
| | 6. East coast state |

Answers:
Across
1. Squirrel 4. Cats 5. Event 7. Sunlight
Down
1. Shelters 2. Unsure 3. Leash 4. Cot 6. CT

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The basics of financial literacy

Special to The PREVIEW

A financial safety net can help people navigate the ups and downs of life. Developing that safety net requires a measure of financial literacy that anyone can nurture.

What is financial literacy?

The U.S. Department of Education defines financial literacy as an understanding of how to earn, manage and invest money. That recognition can increase the chances that individuals make sound financial decisions, thus setting them up for long-term success and stability.

What makes financial literacy so important?

The benefits of financial literacy are not limited to theoretical notions such as the ability to understand

money makes individuals more likely to make sound decisions regarding their finances.

Indeed, the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) notes that financial literacy has been proven to produce positive results.

In its National Financial Capability Study released in 2022, the FINRA found that respondents who exhibited higher financial literacy were more likely to make ends meet than those without such knowledge.

Sixty-five percent of respondents with higher financial literacy were able to set aside three months' of emergency funds at higher levels than respondents with lower literacy levels.

The study also linked financial literacy to long-term stability, as more than half of respondents (52 percent)

with higher financial literacy calculated their retirement savings needs, an important step that fewer than 1 in 3 (29 percent) with lower literacy levels had taken.

What are some additional benefits of financial literacy?

Individuals are often confronted with a host of options when making financial decisions. That includes choices regarding bank accounts and credit cards, which are two variables related to financial literacy that individuals encounter every day.

Individuals with financial literacy can pick a bank account that most suits their needs, whether that's standard accounts like checking and savings or something more unique

■ See Literacy on next page

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Tips to educate young adults to be smart about credit

Special to The PREVIEW

Credit is a necessary component of doing business in the modern world.

The credit reporting agency Experian defines credit as the ability to borrow money or access goods or services with the understanding that a person will pay later. Various creditors grant credit based on their confidence that a borrower will repay what is owed.

Many adults learn about credit through trial and error. Financial literacy is not taught in many schools, although lots of people feel it merits space alongside literature, math, science and other subjects.

A recent NextGen study found only 1 in 6 high school students are required to take a personal finance class in the United States.

In addition, a survey conducted in 2018 by Chase bank found only one-third of Americans were taught what a credit score is by their parents.

It is essential that guardians share information about credit with young adults to help them be financially solvent and successful later in life. Here are some ways to help young adults learn about credit.

Start with credit basics

Speak generally about credit and how it is used. Then explain credit scores, credit bureaus and credit reports.

A credit history and credit score is important information for young adults to have early on and check frequently, as having good credit improves the chances they will qualify for loans and earn acceptable terms in the future.

Help them build credit

Having one or more credit accounts can help a person establish and build credit by making payments on time.

Credit card companies often advertise student and secured credit card accounts that come with small or managed credit limits.

Making purchases on the cards and paying them in full every month is the best way to improve a credit score or maintain a good one, says the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

Another way teens can build credit is through their student loans. Making small payments on the principal while in school can help establish a strong credit history.

Check their credit reports

The Federal Trade Commission recommends checking a child's credit score around the age of 16 or 17. This will help families figure out if there are any anomalies that may indicate identity theft or inaccurate credit issues.

Know the formula for good credit

Forbes says there are five categories that add up to good credit:

1. Payment history (35 percent): Always pay bills on time.
2. Amounts owed (30 percent): Borrow a low amount compared to the total lines of credit. This also is known as credit utilization.
3. Length of credit history (15 percent): Keeping accounts open for a long time is a win.
4. New credit (10 percent): Do

not apply for too much new credit too often.

5. Credit mix (10 percent): Having a balance of different types of credit, such as car loans, credit cards and other types of debt, is advantageous.

Share your own experiences

Sometimes the best way to teach about credit is to be honest about what a parent or another adult did wrong with his or her finances, and use that as a "what not to do" scenario.

It is important for young adults to learn about credit so they can make smart choices that will positively affect their future. Although talking finances may be uncomfortable, it is vital for families to have these discussions.

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Literacy

■ continued from previous page like a high-yield savings account.

Knowledge of financial basics also can prepare individuals to choose the right credit card, which can be a more difficult decision than choosing a bank account given the number of different cards available. Low-APR, no-APR, travel rewards, cash-back cards and balance-transfer cards are some of the options consumers can

choose from when picking a credit card. Financial literacy increases the chances consumers pick the card that best suits their short- and long-term needs.

Financial literacy can help people navigate challenges that periodically arise during the course of everyone's life. Taking time to learn some financial basics can set people up for long-term economic health.

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

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PAGOSA THERAPEUTICS AND THE GREEN HOUSE are looking for friendly and enthusiastic people who are eager to share their knowledge and help customers navigate the wide world of cannabis. Must be 21 years of age. A Marijuana Enforcement Division badge is required to start work. Come join a growing company with opportunities for advancement and involvement in outreach events. Please email your resume to employment@jandjinc.net.

PHYSICAL THERAPY TECH Rocky Mountain Physical Therapy has an opening for a full time Physical Therapy Tech. We are looking for a dependable, energetic multitasker who will enjoy helping people recover from surgeries, injuries, accidents and other health issues to join our team. No prior experience necessary. We offer competitive pay, \$16- 18 per hour, and benefits including paid holidays, paid sick leave, 401k plan, and a profit-sharing program. Please submit resume to RMPT117NavajoTrailDr.,SuiteT@yahoo.com.

THE EMERALD FOX BOUTIQUE is now hiring a part-time retail sales associate. Must be 18 and over to apply. Pay DOE. Up to 20 hours a week and as needed. Send resume to emeraldfoxboutique995@gmail.com

ROOF LABORER NEEDED with some construction experience. Will train. \$20-\$25/ hour to start. (970)749-0830.

SAN JUAN FENCING now hiring. Starting pay \$20 /hour, first raise after one week with end of season bonus. Must have transportation. Must be able to lift 60lbs. Oh wait, must be willing to work. (970)398-1100.

PIEDRA PARK METROPOLITAN IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT 55 Milton Lane (P.O. Box 1609) Arboles, CO 81121. Water Plant Operator. The Piedra Park Metropolitan Improvement District (PPMID) located in Arboles, CO is requesting Water Plant Operator qualifications (RFQ's) from interested individuals and/or contractors. The position requires a C Treatment license and Type 1 Distribution. The position requires ensuring the Water Plant is compliant with all aspects of Colorado State regulations, including maintenance support, troubleshooting, and preventative maintenance of all water plant and distribution systems. Must be able to be on-call and report to the plant within 45 minutes for emergencies. Pay is dependent on qualifications and experience. Please submit information to the P.O. Box listed above. For any questions please contact Ray Torres via cell phone at (970)749-3190 or raytorres214@gmail.com.

The Pagosa Lakes Property Owner's Association

is looking to hire
1 full time w/ benefits Community Building Inspector and 1-2 part time Liaison/Inspectors to work in the Department of Community Standards.
 The PLPOA is a private non-profit corporation serving over 6640 properties and is the second largest association in Colorado. The positions are to assist property owners and association personnel in inspecting and recording open building permits as well as research all compliance complaints. This is done with regular inspections, photo documentation, and data entry and regular communications with property owners. Salaries DOE. Part-time hours are flexible. Ideal candidates will have positive, outgoing personalities. Previous code enforcement and/or general construction or building inspection knowledge. Please drop off or email your resume to: plpoadcs@plpoa.com.



WE ARE NOW HIRING! You belong on the Archuleta School District Team! Archuleta School District strives to achieve "Success for Every Student -Every Class -Every Day." Currently accepting applications for the following positions: **Paraprofessional Aides.** Full-time positions for paraprofessional aides at elementary, middle, and high school with a starting salary \$27,086 - \$29,810 for 173 days paid over a 12-month period. **Bus Drivers/Transportation.** Hourly position with a starting hourly pay of \$25.08 up to \$29.16 for 169 days. Benefits for all FULL-TIME positions include (but are not limited to) PERA State Retirement, Life Insurance, optional Health and Dental Insurance and paid Discretionary Days. For more details and to apply for these positions click on "Job Postings" on the following web-site: www.mypagosaschools.com. E.O.E.

PINE VALLEY RENTAL is seeking a yard/shop service technician to maintenance heavy machinery, excavators, skid steers, plus small engines and much more. Hydraulics, electrical and basic mechanical knowledge is required. Helping assist customers loading/ unloading goods, strong communication skills required. Apply through our website pinevalleyrental.com, email a resume to ppine000@centurytel.net or apply in person 305 Bastille Drive. Come join our crew!

REGION 9 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT is seeking a full-time (30+ hours). Accountant for new position in growing organization. Seeking team player with 2+ years relevant work experience. Requires dependability, efficiency, accuracy, detail, and ability to read, analyze, and interpret accounting, technical procedures and governmental regulations for grant reporting. Strong written /verbal communication, critical thinking, and strong computer skills are essential. Related degree helpful. Salary is \$26 -36 /hour based on experience with full benefits. Durango office based. Submit resume /cover letter /references by Friday, July 5th, 5p.m. to elizabeth@region9edd.org and to request job description. EOE.

CONTRACTOR SALES

Ponderosa Lumber is seeking a customer service oriented individual to assist contractors with purchasing building materials. Knowledge of building materials is necessary.

Responsibilities include:

- Providing excellent customer service
- Completing required paperwork
- Providing product information
- Data Entry

Please apply in person at

Ponderosa Lumber
 2435 Eagle Drive or call (970) 731-4111

SAN JUAN HOMES, a well established builder here in Pagosa Springs is seeking a motivated, responsible person with framing experience to join our team. This is a full-time, 40 hours a week position that is year-round. Must be capable and comfortable with working on a roof and high locations. Must have DL, transportation, and housing. We offer competitive pay based on experience, 401k and paid time off. To schedule an interview, please call our office at (970)697-1107 or email sjhomes@yahoo.com.

SECRETARY/ FRONT DESK team member wanted. We will train you. We work hard and make a great living serving our patients. We are blessed to have weekends and holidays off. Beautiful facility, great pay, 401K, and bonuses. Get the satisfaction of helping people! Email resume to office@pagosasmiles.com

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

SPECIAL EVENTS COORDINATOR The Pagosa Springs Chamber of Commerce is seeking a part-time coordinator. Must have customer service, energy, event planning and organizational skills and be able to work in a fast-paced, physical environment. Hours are flexible, increase during the summer and fall event season and must be able to work weekends and evenings when administering events. Position offers competitive hourly rate and some benefits. Deadline for resumes is June 28. Submit resumes to director@pagosachamber.com or drop off at the Chamber at 105 Hot Springs Blvd. Pagosa Springs Chamber of Commerce is an EEO employer.

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.

(970) 264-2100

Classifieds

(970) 264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HELP WANTED

NEWSPAPER REPORTER — We are searching for a talented reporter to fill a full-time position in Pagosa Springs, Colorado, at The Pagosa Springs SUN. Our journalists are driven to find stories that matter to our community and are dedicated to fairness, accuracy, and ethics. The successful candidate for this position is someone who knows how to cover hard news but also loves to write about people and their passions. They know that a good interview is often a good conversation and know when to ask the tough questions, but also when to listen. The ideal candidate has exceptional writing skills and is willing to put in the extra effort and research to deliver an engaging story. Preferred qualifications for this position include: Degree or diploma in journalism, or a related field; At least 1-3 years of experience as a reporter with experience covering hard news and feature stories or experience at a college newspaper; The ability to meet tight deadlines and report the news as it happens; Superior language, writing and editing skills; Strong photography skills; Able to work a variety of schedules, including evenings, nights and weekends; Excellent critical thinking and problem-solving skills; Ability to work in a fast-paced environment; A valid driver's license and a reliable vehicle; Willingness to live in or near Pagosa Springs, Colorado. If this sounds like the perfect position for you, we would love to hear from you! To apply, please send your resume, letter of interest and relevant samples of your work to Chad Richardson, Vice President of News, crichardson@orourkemediagroup.com. Company Benefits: We offer competitive compensation plans and employees are eligible for medical, dental, vision, life insurance benefits, paid time off and our 401 (k) savings plan. This is an excellent opportunity for career development and growth within the company O'Rourke Media Group is a fast-growing company that owns and operates hyper-local, community newspapers, websites, niche publications and a full-service digital agency. We are family-owned and mission-driven to save newspapers and local media companies by investing in the people, resources and technology needed to thrive for many years to come. We believe that every community can benefit from a well-run, properly resourced, local newspaper and website. Our News teams produce hyper-local, high interest local news and accurate and trustworthy reporting. Our Sales and Digital Fulfillment teams bring omnichannel advertising solutions to local businesses in the communities we serve. O'Rourke Media Group now operates in nine states and 38 markets with 51 publications and hyper-local websites. We started from ground zero in December 2018, totally bootstrapped, confident and with an entrepreneurial mindset.

PINE VALLEY RENTAL Busy heavy equipment rental company is seeking front desk clerk to answer phone, take messages, make reservations, create customer contracts, check customers in/ out, and take payment. Must have communication skills, math skills, customer service, and computer knowledge. To apply, email ppine000@centurytel.net, apply in person at 305 Bastille Drive or go to our website pinevalleyrental.com to submit an application online!

HELP WANTED

THE HUMANE SOCIETY SHELTER animals need you... Do you dream of a career working with animals who need you? The Humane Society of Pagosa Springs has an opening for a full-time kennel attendant. Must love to work with animals, spend time outdoors in all kinds of weather, and get a lot of exercise throughout the day. Previous dog and cat handling experience a plus. PTO and great shelter and thrift store discounts as benefits. Starts at \$15.50 per hour. Apply online www.pagosahumane.org or stop in the Shelter and complete an application. Come join our team caring for the homeless pets of Pagosa Springs.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

BUSINESS FOR SALE. SOS Draining Opening, established drain cleaning business including equipment, 4x4 F-550 box truck with lift gate, 2008 Chevy box van with lift gate. Good reputation, training. Asking \$250K. Serious inquiries only. Call Steve (970)903-9104.

FOR SALE

BICYCLE -2016 SURLY LHT. EXCELLENT CONDITION (seriously) Color -khaki pants, size - medium, front and rear racks, fenders, extra tires. \$900. (970)264-0373.

BICYCLE -2019 SALSA HORSETHIEF EXCELLENT CONDITION (ridden by an old man). Color -teal, size -small, carbon. \$2,600. (970)264-0373.

DO YOU BURN FIREWOOD?! Get stocked up now and GUARANTEE yourself dry seasoned wood this fall. Get a HUGE dump truck load split and delivered for \$550. Pine mix. Contact FIRE&ICE at (970)582-0006.

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

FOR SALE. Antique Vanity 3' 6" length, 19 1/2" wide with 45" oval mirror. \$100 OBO; 4- 16" 4 Runner Rims \$75.00; 2- Open- Rim Trailer Tires \$60.00; Radial Arm Saw \$40.00. Call (970)946-5844.

GE CAFE 30" matte white wall mount glass canopy chimney hood for sale. \$550 (retail \$1049). Model #CVW73014MWM. Brand new in the original box. Will deliver in Pagosa - or meet in town to pick up. 350 CFM venting system, lighting features, electronic backlit controls, dual halogen cooktop lighting and night light. 4-speed fan; ducting - verticals only, removable grease filters, exhaust options outside and recirculating. Call (603)991-9454.

HARD FOLDING TRUCK BED Tonneau Cover. Protect your gear with this 3-way adjustable cover, waterproof, fully locked once tailgate closed. Fits short truck bed (60"). \$150 OBO. Call or text Cheryl at (352)422-2067.

INVENTORY REDUCTION SALE Pagosa Trading Company 1501 Hwy 160 (Putt Hill). Everything 25% -50% off. June 18th -29th.

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

FOR SALE

NEW 20' CONTAINERS FOR SALE or rent. We deliver to homes or businesses. Pagosa Springs Storage (970)731-0007.

OUTDOOR VEHICLE STORAGE SPACES available. 16', 20', 25', plus indoor 12'x20'. Winter specials starting at \$60. Pagosa Springs Storage. Gated with security cameras. (970)749-1500.

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

TWO 50-GALLON STEEL DRUMS with lids. Used, great condition, \$45 each. Can be seen on Thursday or Friday at Pagosa Springs SUN, 457 Lewis Street.

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

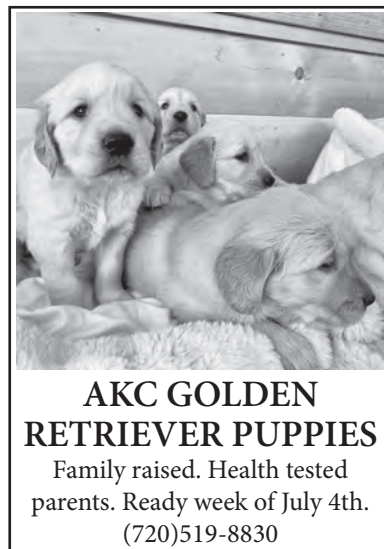
IRRIGATED PASTURE. 4 miles north of Pagosa, Snowball Road. 20 minute ride to forests and streams. (970)946-6274.

THREE STALL HORSE BARN with breezeway and tack room. For rent, long term in Meadows II with pastures. Or use for storage. (970)946-2728

TRIMMING AND SHOEING. Accepting new clients. Uncooperative and special needs horses welcome. Offering training and tune-ups. (719)285-3584.

USED METAL CORRAL PANELS. Various sizes and weights. 10ft -16ft. Gates also available. Astraddle A Saddle (970)946-7999.

PETS



AKC GOLDEN RETRIEVER PUPPIES

Family raised. Health tested parents. Ready week of July 4th. (720)519-8830

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.

PETS

DOGGY DAY CARE 81147.COM. Open 365 days of the year! Full day and half day doggy day care and overnight boarding. Conveniently located just 1 mile from downtown Pagosa. Call (970)264-9111.

FOR POOCH SAKES GROOMING. Appointments available with Kelly (303)819-2015. Mobile appointments with Barb (970)903-1290.

LOVING DOG CARE BY LESLIE N. Text Pet Info to (469)667-4480. Boarding, day care, drop ins, house sitting. References and reviews available. Look for info on: leslieslittles.com.

WANTED

RETIRED COUPLE looking for a housekeeper. Not looking for a cleaning service. Two cats. (970)946-3038.

AUTOS

2001 BUICK LESABRE 122k miles. FWD. Sold as is. Mechanically sound. Body in great condition. \$2,800 OBO. (310)245-0555.

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.

HARLEY-DAVIDSON MOTORCYCLE. 2000 Wide Glide. 8k miles, new tires/ carb, stage 1 mod, HD custom paint. Never stored o.s. \$9k. (512)618-2930.

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.

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.

HUGE NEIGHBORHOOD SALE. 21st-22nd. 9- 4 Friday, 9- 2pm Saturday. 100s of items including furniture, Sporting/ Outdoor Gear, Tools, Lawn Care, Exercise Equipment, Electronics, Gardening, Household Items, Tons of Clothes, TOO Much to List! 506 Morro Circle (Off N. Pagosa).

YARD SALES

MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALE. Brand NEW refrigerator compressor, Tupperware (most new), clothing, shoes, books, DVDs, assorted household items. Saturday June 22. 8:00a.m. -2:00p.m. 9 South Driver.

TO HELP THE 81 Pineridge Trail clean-up: Hope chest, guitar, snowblower, limoges, mink jacket, verbena, crochet hats, clothing, weedeater, macerator. Saturday 6/22 9 -2 608 Oakridge Drive. Please: cash and leave phones in vehicles.

COMMERCIAL FOR RENT

4 OFFICE SPACES. Freshly remodeled, \$400-\$525. Well suited for spa services, 140-270 sq. ft. Beautiful spacious restrooms. (970)946-3232.

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.

HOMES FOR RENT

HOUSE FOR RENT on three acres on Hwy 84. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, brand new carpet and paint. Move-in specials. \$1750 per month. First, last and security deposit required. (970)749-4252.

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.

(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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 970.731.5515

Info@rmrealtyandrentals.com
 117 Navajo Trail Dr. Ste E, Pagosa Springs

Largest Local Property Management Co.



150+ SW Colorado
 Property Owners Served
 19+ Years. Mortgage &
 Real Estate Exp
 FULL LT TENANT SCREENING
 NATIONWIDE ADVERTISING
 ON CALL 24 HR 7 DAYS



RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

LAND/ BUILDING SITES

2 BEDROOM, 1 BATH SEMI-FURNISHED. 1k+ SF apartment for rent \$1300 /month (excludes utilities). 3 miles west of town on 11 acres; deposit required, pets negotiable. Call (970)946-9024.

3 BEDROOM 2 bath with storage. Vista Sub-division, park, access to lake and rec center. \$1,900. (719)850-8680.

4 BEDROOM 3 BATH house available. \$3,100 /month. In the Pagosa Lake Area, greenbelt access to Village Lake. Pets allowed with deposit. Contact (580)461-0150.

\$800 ROOM includes utilities. Close to City Market/ Hospital. First and last months/ security deposit. Background check. Hiking and biking trails. (970)903-5309.

LONG TERM RENTALS AVAILABLE. Call Team Pagosa (970)731-8599, 46 Eaton Drive, Suite #1, pagosaspringsrealty.com.

AVAILABLE MAY 15. 2 and 3 bedroom in 4-plex. \$1,469, 2 bedroom. 3 bedroom, \$1,569. Great location. 5 minute walk to Pagosa Lake. Washer/ dryer, dishwasher, ATC. Most utilities paid. No pets. Call John for details (720)960-4910.

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.

FOR RENT 2 bedroom, 2 bath home at 227 Hermosa Street. Large lot ON THE RIVER and historic downtown. \$2400 plus utilities. Call Jerry Jackson, Independent Broker. (970)946-4755.

HICKORY RIDGE APARTMENTS. Under New Management and Ownership! 1-, 2-, and 3-bedroom units available; ranging from \$619 -\$1,348 a month. Affordable, restrictions apply. Stop by and apply at 650 Florida Street or call (720)869-8877 to set up an appointment.

HICKORY RIDGE APARTMENTS. Under New Management and Ownership! 3 bedroom 2 bath townhome water /sewer included. Stop by and apply at 650 Florida Street or call (720)869-8877 to set up an appointment.

DOWNTOWN 3 BEDROOM 2 1/2 BATH UNIT. Garage, sun deck, granite counter tops. Utilities included. \$2350 /month. (318)347-6100.

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.

VERY NICE AND CLEAN DUPLEX UNIT 3 bedrooms, 2 bath, 1 car garage. Close to City Market. \$2100 /month. (970)946-2768.

APARTMENT/CONDO FOR SALE

TWO BED 3 BATH. Central location. Close to everything. Clean, updated. New furnace, washer and dryer, and a Murphy bed. Owner looking to negotiate. Call Gail Brault Realtor, Mountain Meadow Real Estate. (970)946-2051.

PagosaSUN.com

Christie Calderwood
 SRS, ABR, ePRO
 Serving Sellers & Buyers
 970-946-6856
 christie@jimsmithrealty.com

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.

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.

FOR SALE BY OWNER fourplex. Downtown Pagosa Springs. (318)347-6100.

HOME FOR SALE. 3200 square feet on 3 acres. 181 River Forest Drive. Motivated seller. \$730K (970)585-9181.

RANCH STYLE HOME, .25 mile walk to Lake Forest. Backed up to green belt on .25 acre lot, 3 bedroom 2 bath and 2 car garage. \$499,000 call (970)946-0009.

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.

OWNER FINANCING. 1.3 acres. Old town, mountain views. Utilities available. Private location. Not in PLPOA. Call Gail Brault Realtor, Mountain Meadow Real Estate. (970)946-2051.

MOUNTAIN VIEWS, MEADOWS. Unique high elevation and complete privacy. 5.6 acres bordering national forest, (970)769-3588 blancoretreat@gmail.com.

TWO ADJACENT 5 ACRES LOTS. Available Separately. Meadows 4. Details at www.BLANCA257.com. Scott (970)731-4421 or fscott409@outlook.com.

OPEN HOUSES

1594 MEADOWS DRIVE. Open House on Saturday, June 22nd. 1:30p.m. to 4:30p.m. 2 Bed +Home Office. 2 Bath. 5 acres. \$729,000. Listed by Alysha Ranson, Broker Associate, Sherpa Real Estate. (970)903-1230.

All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, or national origin, or an intention, to make such preference, limitation or discrimination."
 This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

Email us at
classads@pagosasun.com to
 submit your classified.
PagosaSUN.com

Bird of the Week



Photo courtesy Charles Martinez

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

This is another of our difficult-to-spot summer visitors. Finding protection in dense thickets of shrubs, this warbler stays hidden until his song gives him away. Throughout the breeding season, the male sings frequently both early and late in the day, often from exposed perches. But the slightest disturbance will have him ducking back inside the safety of dense cover.

If you are fortunate enough to get a MacGillivray's in view, you will see a colorful bird, yellow below and olive colored above. He wears a gray hood and his eyes are outlined by white crescents. Females and immatures are similar, but are a more muted version of this color scheme.

Look for this warbler in a variety of disturbed areas with dense understory habitat. They will breed in forested areas without any overhead canopy like those recovering from fire or clear-cuts, but they have a preference for riparian and moist areas.

MacGillivray's are a Western bird, breeding from southern Alaska south to California and east to western South Dakota. They are reported in our area from May through September. Winter finds them in Mexico and Central America.

This warbler searches for insects on leaves, low branches and in the duff, usually staying in an area 3 feet or lower from the ground. In Colorado, some of these birds have been found drinking at sapsucker wells.

This is a bird whose name has already changed once and will again. Originally it was known as Tolmie's Warbler, in honor of ornithologist William Tolmie. Later, John James Audubon renamed it for his friend William MacGillivray and this is the name it bears today. Last November, the American Ornithological Society announced that it will change all English bird names currently named after people. This is an effort to equitably eliminate references to people, some of whom history has shown engaged in racist acts. New names will be less exclusionary and better depict attributes of the birds they describe.

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



**YOU MADE
THE RIGHT
CHOICE.**

The Pagosa Springs SUN
264-2100



Trinity Anglican Church

*Trinity Anglican Church
welcomes sinners!*
You'll fit right in with the rest of us!
Come join us this Sunday at 10am.

246 Harman Park Dr. • trinityanglicanchurch.org

John Ranson

for County Commission
District 2

*Republican Primary
June 25th, 2024*

WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR VOTE!

Get Mail-in Ballots In!



EXPERIENCE — NOW MORE THAN EVER

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

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.

GOP & Independents can vote for
us in District 2 no matter where you
live in the County.

With YOUR support,
I work for you!



Did someone call for
ROAD REPAIR?



Leave it to John to smooth out
the budget and roads!

RansonforCommissioner.com

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