



PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147

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VOLUME 116 — NO. 42, THURSDAY, JULY 18, 2024



SUN photos/Hailey Sams

River goers enjoy the water during Tuesday. Temperature highs have fluctuated from the high 80s to low 90s for the past week, and the San Juan River's flow has decreased 121 cubic feet per second since July 11.

Fourth of July holiday brings more than 63,000 visitors to county

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

This year's Fourth of July celebrations drew in big crowds, with more than 63,300 people visiting Archuleta County from July 3-7, according to a Placer report provided by Tourism Director Jennifer Green.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the population estimate for Archuleta County as of July 1 is listed at 14,189.

"It was an increase over 2022 and 2023, but not quite to the crazy visitor

pandemic levels of 2021, which had 68,600 visitors over the same time frame," Green states in a communication with The SUN.

Green explains that she worked with a company called Placer to obtain visitation data for the holiday weekend.

Placer uses geofencing technology that can track the number of people in an area by harnessing GPS signals from mobile devices, according to its website.

Green's report shows the number ■ See Visitors A11

Council to consider parking lot at Town Park athletic field

By Derek Kutzer
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs Town Council will consider a project to add parking at the Town Park athletic field at its Thursday, July 18, meeting.

The meeting is scheduled to begin at 5 p.m. at Town Hall.

Town staff have been searching for additional parking spaces in anticipation of Colorado Department

of Transportation's (CDOT's) highway reconstruction project through downtown Pagosa Springs, where it's estimated that over 180 spaces may be temporarily lost during the construction phases of the two-year project.

Community Development Director James Dickhoff has noted that there are currently about 288 parking spaces downtown between 1st and ■ See Parking A8

Commissioners discuss road projects with CDOT

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

At its July 9 work session, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) held an annual discussion with representatives from the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT).

The group discussed upcoming transportation planning, the re-

construction of U.S. 160 through downtown Pagosa Springs and high levels of traffic at the U.S. 160/U.S. 84 intersection, among other issues.

CDOT Region 5 Regional Planner Tim Funk opened the discussion by presenting on the structure of Region 5 and the upcoming planning process for the statewide transportation plan.

Funk stated that CDOT attempts ■ See Projects A8

Steep drop in donations causes emergency shortage of type O blood

By Brooke Way
Vitalant

Citing a 30 percent blood donation shortfall during the Fourth of July holiday week, and overall low donor turnout this summer, nonprofit blood services provider Vitalant is facing an emergency shortage of type O blood.

The community blood center for about 900 hospitals nationwide, including 94 in Colorado, urges all donors, especially those with type O, to make an appointment now to give in the coming days and weeks.

"No doctor should have to face the impossible choice of which patient ■ See Blood A8

Correction

In the July 11 issue of The SUN, the article "Recall petition approved against Commissioner Veronica Medina" indicated that an incumbent statement by Medina on the recall petition states that she did have a conflict of interest on her votes concerning revisions to the Archuleta County Land Use Code.

Her statement indicates that she did not have a conflict of interest concerning these votes.

The SUN regrets the error.



SUN photo/Clayton Chaney

Quartz Lake is pictured during an afternoon monsoon on July 13. The lake can be reached via Forest Trail 572, Little Blanco Trail, in the San Juan National Forest.

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Opinion

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OUR VIEW

Democracy, civility and discourse

This week we were reminded of one of our all-time favorite songs: Louis Armstrong's "What a Wonderful World."

We've loved that song since the moment we first heard it, but it hit a little differently this week when it popped into our mind.

The events in America over the last week have made it harder to focus on the beauty of the world and the people who surround us.

We were caught off guard the afternoon of Saturday, July 13, when news broke that shots had been reported at a rally for Donald Trump.

We immediately turned on the news and watched as more came to light and it was determined to have been an assassination attempt of the former president and current presidential candidate.

Another chapter of American history was unfolding, and it didn't take long for it to get even uglier.

We recognize that this isn't the first event of its kind in our nation's history and, unfortunately, likely won't be the last, but it is now another part of our history that will inform our future.

We found it sickening that people would so immediately, openly and brashly la-

ment that the gunman missed. But he didn't miss. He killed a husband, father and former fire chief who was shielding his family from harm. The gunman critically wounded two others. He didn't miss. He just missed — narrowly missed — killing a former president and current presidential candidate.

Whether you support Trump or not, find value in what he stands for or not, approve of his way of life or not — he is a husband and father, just like the audience member who died.

Many are blaming the intensifying political rhetoric for the event, though the shooter's motives have not yet been disclosed.

While we disagree that political rhetoric can be blamed for everything — millions of people also subject to hearing it have not attempted to kill a candidate over it — we are disappointed and discouraged by the level it has reached.

We can — and should be — better than this.

The vast majority of people, no matter where they fall on the political spectrum, want many of the same basic things, among them a safe and prosperous nation where we can celebrate the freedoms we enjoy.

But this isn't how we're going to get that.

We spend a lot of time working with children on problem-solving skills, talking through things rather than using force, listening to others, not interrupting and more.

Why are we not using the same civility we're teaching our children?

Our country has formulated a manner for folks to weigh in on political matters — democracy.

Democracy doesn't mean you'll always get our way. But it does mean that we're all in this together.

If you don't like how things are going at a local, state or federal level, get engaged, run for office, cast your vote. Discuss your concerns respectfully with others and listen to theirs. You might learn something new or see a new viewpoint, and they might do the same.

Democracy, civility and discourse can and should go together if we want a nation we can be proud of and feel safe in.

We're all in this together.

We are all Americans.

It really can be a beautiful world with trees of green, skies of blue and friends shaking hands, saying, "How do you do?"

Randi Pierce

LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

100 years ago

Taken from SUN files of July 18, 1924

The new Putnam hill road is now practically completed by Eds. Teyssier, the contractor, and is open for travel to the top of the hill, where it joins with the O'Neal park road. Only a small portion at the top remains to be "dressed," which will be done in a few days. The new road provides a nice, easy grade as compared to the old steep road. Instead of turning to the left at the west end of San Juan street, turn to the right and try out the new highway.

Larkspur is said to have killed about twenty head of cattle in a short period on the Pagosa peak range, north of Pagosa Springs, last week.

The family at Shield's mill, in which was a case of diphtheria, has been released from quarantine and the shack has been destroyed by fire. There are no new cases of the disease, though the family at the Alice Noland ranch and the son of Fidel Archuleta in town are still under quarantine but recovering rapidly.

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of July 15, 1949

In the August issue of the Red Ryder Comic Magazine are several local photographs. Among them are pictures of Mr. Harman, creator of the Red Ryder character, Sammy Trujillo, several local scenes and a photograph of Paul Richards at a branding chute. Mr. Harman has the inside of the front and back covers devoted to photos and always manages to give this area and local citizens a good deal of prominence in the pictures. The magazine has an extremely large national circulation and the resulting publicity is worth a great deal in the country.

The Lions Club announced at their regular meeting Thursday night of last week that they are sponsoring the appearance of the Roger Bros Circus here on Friday, August 12th. In order to have the circus appear here the Lions have contracted to sell a considerable number of tickets in advance and to insure the club against financial loss all local citizens should make their plans to buy tickets in advance of the show date from a member of the Lions Club.

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of July 18, 1974

No more subdivisions, or subdivision regulation variance requests will be considered by the Upper San Juan Regional Planning Commission until a professional planner is obtained. This decision was reached at a meeting of the Commission Monday night of this week.

This, in effect, means that insofar as the Planning Commission is concerned, there will be no more variances, no more subdivision approval, and no more development plats will be approved. This could halt all development of that type until a planner is obtained.

The local planning commission has been meeting and considering requests without the services of a planner since March. The members of the commission indicated that because of the time required to make technical assessments of plats, variances, developments, and enforcement of regulations paid personnel must be obtained.

A planning commission can only recommend approval of plats, subdivisions, or variances. Final approval is vested in the Board of County Commissioners.

25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of July 15, 1999

The lack of enhanced 9-1-1 emergency response capability during an emergency situation in Archuleta County might contribute to someone's death, the Archuleta County commissioners learned while meeting in regular session Tuesday.

That sobering thought was presented by Fred Harman III and Sgt. Kimberly Crowley-Kinion, who asked the commissioners for help in getting the extended 9-1-1 emergency communications program operative.

Harman is communications advisor for the sheriff's department. Crowley-Kinion is head of the dispatch department. Dispatch comes under the supervision of Sheriff Tom Richards.

The implication of Tuesday's presentation is that someone in Archuleta County is going to die unnecessarily because enhanced 9-1-1 is not operative. The primary safety feature of enhanced 9-1-1 is, when an emergency call reaches county dispatch, a computer automatically supplies an address to match the telephone number. Consequently, emergency personnel can hustle to the address, even if the call is terminated before an address is supplied.



From the July 13, 1989, Pagosa SUN — WELCOME CHANGE — Carl Bolt finally had something to smile about Wednesday morning. The water gauge at Bolt's U.S. Weather Station showed .55 inches of rain fell Tuesday night. It was the first significant precipitation for Pagosa Springs since early March. After eight days of record setting high temperatures — 94, 93, 95, 98, 99 (July 6), 96, 96, 93 — the high on Monday, July 10 dropped to 84.5. Bolt said the cool air and rain were a welcome change.

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Date	High	Low	Precipitation		
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7/2	81	46	NA	NA	.01
7/3	83	47	NA	NA	.13
7/4	84	47	NA	NA	.01
7/5	82	47	NA	NA	.01
7/6	84	48	NA	NA	T
7/7	88	51	NA	NA	-
7/8	87	51	NA	NA	.02

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Letters

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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.

Democracy versus fascism

Dear Editor:
After the Supreme Court legalized bribery, they have now made a power grab in the Chevron vs NRDC decision limiting the government's regulatory powers and enforcement abilities. At the behest of major polluting corporations and the billionaires that lavish gifts on Justices Thomas and Alito, the Court struck down the EPA's and other regulatory agencies' ability to protect our air, water and land by ceding interpretation of laws passed by Congress to the Courts.

The Supreme Court is setting the table for our Country to be transformed from Democratic Republic to a Fascist Authoritarian Regime run by Corporations, the very rich, Christian Nationalists and a President responsible to no one. All laid out in Project 2025, the framework for the recent High Court's decisions. These decisions curtail women's, voters, and LGBT rights, the right to protest, and is destroying the wall between Church and State. They are overturning 50 years of precedent that protected individuals from a prying government and greedy billionaires, corporations and religious fanatics. The US Bill of Rights (the first 10 Amendments) is under at-

tack. Even the 2nd amendment won't survive an authoritarian government. Check gun laws in Russia and other authoritarian countries.
This next election is not between two old men, but between peace and progress or chaos and stagnation. Between a Democratic Party that believes in individual rights for all, that has produced the best economy in the world today, increases in wages and manufacturing, more jobs created than the last 4 Republican presidents combined, and the lowest inflation than most countries of the world, or a Republican Party that calls for violence and retribution, the curtailing of individual rights, more tax cuts for the rich and an attempt to turn the US into a Christian Nationalist theocracy. The Republicans have also turned a blind eye to the effects of climate change and pollution and the resulting costs. From climate refugees to repairing damage from increasingly violent storms, rising seas and contaminated soils, it's a drain on the economy and is an albatross around the necks of our children and grandchildren. That's the choice!

Dave Butcher

PSMC

Dear Editor:
It was recently brought to our attention that Dr. Andrew Buck - Oncology/Hematology and his wife Dr. Laura Marcu-Buck - Neurology were leaving PSMC. His last day was June 13th. We were very sad to hear he was leaving, as he is one of the best doctors we have encountered and has been treating my husband since 2021. He was always one step ahead of the next phase of my husband's disease and because of him he is very stable on a new medication but that can change at any given moment. Before moving to here in 2021 we did a lot of research on Dr. Buck and the Cancer Center.

The nurse navigator spent an extensive amount of time with us on the phone - reassuring us that we would get the best care in the area and she was 100% correct!

She left PSMC prior to Dr. Buck, as did his nurse practitioner. This has left the Cancer Center with a very small staff, and we foresee the care for my husband will undoubtedly suffer at some point. I called and voiced my concerns a few months ago and the supervisor assured me that they were making changes, giving raises, etc. to keep their employees happy. This obviously was not true. We have spoken to many of the staff not only in the Cancer Center but in other clinics and we were told employees are dropping like flies. I have worked in the medical field for 20+ years and I know this is complete incompetence of the administration along with poor decision making. Medical centers are very profitable and unfortunately, they are not spending the money wisely to keep exceptional and dedicated doctors and medical staff. The people of Archuleta County need to understand there is a very severe problem here and that PSMC will soon not be able to take care of the local patients or anyone visiting the area, which will have a huge impact on all of us. My husband's care is our #1 priority and if the Cancer Center closes we might have to make a very hard decision to leave the area in order to ensure he has the best care possible and not have to drive over an hour to receive it.

Tracey Cain

Equality for women

Dear Editor:
Representative Glenn Grothman (R-WI) said that if Trump wins re-

election, the U.S. should work its way back to 1960, before "the angry feminist movement...took the purpose out of the man's life." I was a young woman in the 1960s, and I can tell you what it was really like. As a high school student I enjoyed being physically active, just as many young people today. We had a club called "Girls' Athletic Association," and in Colorado we were prohibited from playing competitive sports. If we met with other schools to play, we were supposed to mix the teams up so that players from both schools were on the same team. Maybe our egos were too fragile to compete for our school. Generally, we ignored the rule but when our wins were announced over the PA system, we were met with snickers from the boys. So, even in the 60s, it was the men whose egos were so fragile that they could not accept the idea that women could enjoy athletic competition.

If a young woman got pregnant before marriage, she had no choices. Her parents could insist on her getting married, a "shot gun" marriage, or she would be sent to a relative out of the city to finish her pregnancy and then be forced to give the baby up for adoption. The women who were forced to do that carry permanent scars. In a few families, the baby would be raised as a sibling of the woman.

If you wanted a credit card, forget it if you were a woman, unless a father or husband would co-sign. I was accidentally sent one because my name is gender neutral. When I was teaching in Denver Public Schools, you were allowed to continue teaching when you were pregnant. (Horrors!) However, once the baby was born, you were required to take unpaid leave until your child was one year old.

I have raised two sons who are happily married to professional women. The success of their wives does not diminish them in anyway. It is a sad commentary on Representative Grothman and like-minded Republican men who think that equality for women in some way diminishes their own stature. If it does, it is they who have a problem, not the successful women in our country.

Lynn Frederick

A thing of the past

Dear Editor:
The rule of law established by the

U S Constitution is a thing of the past. It could not survive the rise of a political movement led by Donald Trump and his followers. With seemingly unlimited financial resources, a judicial system composed largely of Trump appointees, and supporters who apparently are not concerned about the survival of our almost 250 year old Constitutional Republic, we are now told by Trump that if he does not win the Presidency in November, our country will face a blood bath.

It is said that we don't miss important things until they are gone. Our country is possibly going to discover the truth of this.

Ron Hardeman

Project 2025

Dear Editor:
Last week, Trump claimed on Truth Social that he knows nothing about Project 2025 and has "no idea" who is behind it. In the same post, he said that he finds some of its ideas "absolutely ridiculous and abysmal." If he knows nothing about the plan, how does he know about the ridiculous parts. And the team behind Project 2025 includes 140 people who worked for Trump in his administration, including six former Cabinet secretaries and four people he nominated as ambassadors. So, just another of Trump's lies.

If Trump is elected, we are likely to see many elements of the project implemented.

Here are some of Project 2025's most extreme proposals:

- The Project proposes a 15% flat income tax on every family earning less than \$168,000 and 30% for those making above that. This would significantly increase taxes on lower- and middle-income families and drastically lower taxes on the wealthy. Corporate taxes would be lowered as well and most deductions eliminated.

- The Project would reverse all policies to reduce climate change. The Project calls for increasing the country's reliance on fossil fuels and withdrawing from efforts to address the climate crisis. Goodbye, earth.

- The Project calls for using every governmental lever possible to torch access to abortion and restrict reproductive health care. The plan would rescind the FDA's approval for commonly used abortion medications like mifepristone and limit access to

■ See Letters A4

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Letters

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All letters must:

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- 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)

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Letters quoting other people must contain proper attribution.

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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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Letters

Continued from A3

emergency contraceptives. Welcome back, 1950!

The Project wants the Federal government to remove terms such as "sexual orientation" and "gender identity" from records and policies, as well as rescind policies that prohibit discrimination based on "sexual orientation, gender identity, transgender status, and sex characteristics." Diversity, equity, and inclusion programs would be abolished everywhere. Again, welcome back, 1950.

The Projects calls for a top to bottom reorganization of the Justice Department and FBI, putting these agencies under the direct control of "Dear Leader." They would become tools of the President's whims and political dictates, rooting out dissent. Gestapo, anyone?

The Project reinstates a Trump executive order that allows Federal employees to be fired at-will, stripping tens of thousands of employees of civil service protections. The project has even set up online trainings and loyalty tests to narrow down potential hires to those who will commit to follow Trump without question. Hitler and Marx would be proud.

The Project makes significant cuts to Medicaid, as well as reforms Medicare, including making Medicare Advantage, a paid supplement managed by private insurance companies, the default option for patients. The health care industry must be cheering.

I have barely scratched the surface of the onerous provisions of Project 2025. I will add to the list in future letters. In the meantime, please do research on your own about what Project 2025 will do to American democracy. Essentially, it would create a dictatorship in which the President has virtually absolute control over the Government and our lives.

Becky Herman

More bad decisions

Dear Editor:

The good old boy/ girl club is at it again. County commissioners are interviewing for the position of county manager this week behind closed doors. I wonder who they will pick? Could it be the interim manager Jack Harper? You remember Jack, he's the guy they hired a few weeks ago who never comes to work. That's right, in the first three weeks of being temporarily hired Jack Harper only came to work a few days (public information act). I have no ill will for Mr Harper. When he was hired, commissioners gave him three weeks of paid vacation. They knew when they hired him he wasn't going to be around because he had plans to get married. Why didn't they just hire him when he got back? Instead, they just tossed more of our tax dollars out the window. Keep in mind they claim they don't know Jack Harper.... you don't know him but you give him 3 weeks paid vacation to start his temporary employment?

Commissioners Maez and Madina insisted he be hired quickly, even though they knew he was fired from his last job under a cloud of misconduct and controversy, information they withheld from the public.

In doing a little homework, I have found that the county has hired seven managers in seven years. The last two alone have cost the tax payers hundreds of thousands of dollars in unworked wages and lawsuits. Most recent manager, Derek Woodman, was terminated costing tax payers over \$112,000 in unworked wages and benefits. We were never given a clear explanation as to why he had to go before his contract ran out in December. Prior to that, manager Scott Wall quit after being accused of misconduct and the commissioners paid him the remainder of his contract. Have you ever been paid after quitting a job? Then the commissioners settled a lawsuit with the employee who made the accusations

for a reported \$100,000. Not a good track record, yet here we go again. November is just around the corner, why not wait for the incoming commissioners to pick a new manager? Mr. Maez's term is up.

Commissioner Madina has a petition out to recall her in November for allegations of misconduct. We could have a completely different group of commissioners come November.

Why not wait for the new board members to decide? Maybe it's because the decision has already been made the the good old boys and girls club.

All three commissioners have phone numbers and email addresses posted on the county website. Perhaps it's time the citizens let them know how they feel.

Dennis Jeffrey

No room to disagree

Dear Editor:

Mitch McConnell was booted off the stage by Republican convention goers this week. McConnell, as Senate Majority Leader at the start of Trump's Presidency, manipulated Senate procedures to give Trump two Supreme Court appointments that shouldn't have been his to make. Among other things, those appointments cost Americans environmental protections for wetlands, reproductive rights, and an expectation that the President must follow the law like everyone else. McConnell also spoke against convicting Trump in the impeachment trial for his role in the January 6th insurrection. McConnell's "leadership" on that vote cleared the way for Trump to run again.

So why did Republicans boo McConnell? Because he's not sufficiently loyal to Trump. McConnell's work to advance Trump's agenda in the Senate didn't excuse McConnell's open policy disagreements. McConnell didn't bow to Trump. He didn't buy into all Trump's lies.

Trump also came to despise McConnell's wife, Trump's Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao. Chao resigned from Trump's cabinet after the January 6th attacks. She has since suffered a torrent of malicious racist Trump attacks and allegations of ethical violations arising from conduct that didn't bother Trump until she spoke out against him.

You see, Trump demands absolute loyalty, and he and his supporters tolerate nothing less. They make no allowance for independent judgment, let alone dissent. Trump calls for prosecution of Liz Cheney before a military tribunal so she will not be able to exercise the Constitutional rights of a defendant. (There is, of course, no evidence that Cheney violated any law.) Trump targets Republicans who don't toe his line with well-funded primary opponents. Others he drives from office, defeated by steady streams of demoralizing remarks and veiled threats causing fear for the safety of family and staff.

Why does this matter to us in Archuleta County? We will not have representative government if Trump is re-elected and the Republican party completes its transformation as the party that embraces imperial presidency. No Republican will go to Washington free to represent their constituents' views. Only those willing to accept unflinching loyalty to the leader will be tolerated. Policy will not come from Congressional debate; it will be the conclusion of scripted speeches dictated from the other end of Pennsylvania Avenue.

To be clear, I'm not a fan of Mitch McConnell. But one need only look at the way Republican convention delegates treated him to understand that today's Republican party does not believe in federal government of the people and for the people. If it doesn't respect the independence of an elder, it will not tolerate independent judgment from a lowly first-year representative.

Stepping back from today's Republicans is the only path to rooting out the malignant authoritarian streak that has infected the party.

Candace Jones

Fiction or truth

Dear Editor:

As former full-time Pagosa residents, my husband and I enjoy reading the Sun newspaper every week. We were struck in the deepest part of our hearts while reading the June 27th column "A Very Peculiar Altar" submitted by Theresa Lussi. We would like to share our sincere gratefulness to her through letters to the editor.

We can identify with Ms Lussi in many ways, and appreciate her vulnerability, thoughts, struggle and resolution toward thankfulness in the midst of great sorrow.

Contrary to the selective disclaimer that the Matter of Faith column "may contain.... fiction" and that such warnings are absent from every other disclaimer in articles published by the Sun, we are grateful that the Pagosa Sun still publishes these realities of life, and the truth lived through our lives substantiating them.

Joan Kelley Gardner, Kan.

Editor's note: The disclaimer that the column may contain fiction is placed on the two columns where fiction may be present: "A Matter of Faith" and "Writers' Circle."

Torrent of lies

Dear Editor:

To say a liar won a debate is like saying a cheater won a card game. Trump let loose such a torrent of lies in the debate that to refute all would take many letters. So, let's address his most egregious lies:

Lie: Trump was "the one that got the insulin down for the seniors." Truth: in 2022, Biden signed a law capping costs for all seniors with Medicare drug coverage.

Lie: Trump claimed that Biden "caused the inflation." Truth: Economists say rising inflation was mostly due to disruptions to the economy caused by the pandemic.

Lie: Trump falsely claimed that "some states" run by Democrats allow abortions "after birth." Truth: Abortion after birth would be homicide and that's illegal.

Lie: Trump grossly overstated how much food prices have risen, claiming prices have doubled or even quadrupled. Truth: Food prices are up by about 20 percent.

Lie: Trump falsely claimed that there was "no terrorism, at all" in the U.S. during his administration. Truth: There were several terrorist acts carried out by foreign-born individuals when he was president.

Lie: Trump asserted that ending Roe v. Wade was "something that everybody wanted." Truth: In fact, Americans emphatically oppose ending Roe v. Wade, even many Republicans.

Lie: Trump claimed, "the only jobs he created are for illegal immigrants and bounced back jobs that bounced back from the COVID." Truth: As of May, employment in the U.S. increased 6.2 million from the pre-pandemic peak in February 2020 and employment of U.S.-born workers has increased more than for foreign-born workers.

Lie: "It could be 18, it could be 19, and even 20 million people," Trump said of the immigrants who have entered the U.S. during the Biden administration. He later accused the administration of "allowing 18 million people, many from prisons, many from mental institutions" into the country. Truth: DHS has recorded about 8 million "encounters" during the Biden years. Further, experts say that there is absolutely no evidence that any country is emptying its prisons and mental institutions.

Lie: Trump wrongly claimed, "I gave you the largest tax cut in history." Truth: Reagan's tax cut was far larger.

Lie: Trump used several recent high profile murder cases to argue

that crime is on the rise under President Biden stating, "He's the one that killed people... flooding hundreds of thousands of people dying and also killing our citizens when they come in." Truth: Every study of the issue has documented that violent crime among undocumented immigrants is much lower than the general population and murder rates are declining across the nation.

Thinking religiously, the Ninth Commandment forbids lying. The Bible says that the "father of lies" is Satan. In Matthew, Jesus said, "But I tell you that everyone will have to give account on the day of judgment for every empty word they have spoken." He also called liars the "antichrist." Yet, Trump's disciples do not seem to hold him accountable for lying. What am I missing?

John Porco

Political season

Dear Editor:

Oh my, here we go again, entering the political season that occurs every four years as we decide the future of our country's leadership. Strangely, it precedes the two seasons of love, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Perhaps that is not by accident but rather the importance of focus on God's love amongst it all.

Our democracy affords all to express their independent view of "moving forward" but we need to do this in a responsible manner, not harmful to all. I often consider my mother's advise when someone caused me to feel hurt She would remind me to "kill them with love, you are better than that, do not allow this to weigh you down, simply put it behind you and move on." Yes, we often forget, amongst all the rhetoric of politics, that we are "One Nation Under God" and we simply need to pray for guidance in the decisions we support through our votes.

So, throughout the coming season, be open-minded, listen to all views, pray for guidance from God's love and I believe that goodness will bring us together to end this year with goodness in control. We have been through difficult times before and God has led us to better times as we have prayed for His guidance.

Patty Tillerson

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Business

May sales tax revenue up over 4 percent compared to 2023

By **Clayton Chaney**
Staff Writer

May sales tax collections are up more than 4 percent compared to last year's figures, according to reports from Archuleta County Finance Director Chad Eaton.

The May sales tax report from Eaton notes that the Town of Pagosa Springs and Archuleta County received a total of \$1,433,903.48, with

\$716,094.88 going to the town and \$717,808.60 going to the county.

May sales tax revenues are 4.17 percent, or \$57,392.09, higher than May 2023, according to the report.

Sales tax collections have been up every month so far this year in the monthly comparisons to 2023.

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

- Manufacturing at 10.88 percent,

or \$5,878.88.

- Retail trade at 7.07 percent, or \$53,817.62.

- Information at .5 percent, or \$120.59.

- Finance and insurance at 70.58 percent, or \$640.80.

- Real Estate and rental and leasing at .04 percent, or \$9.16.

- Accommodation and food services at 4.42 percent, or \$9,983.21.

- Other services (except public

administration) at 20.92 percent, or \$4,874.79.

According to the report, the categories that are down in comparison to May 2023 include:

- Construction at 24.88 percent, or \$9,487.54.

- Professional, scientific and technical services at 30.14 percent, or \$6,508.75.

- Miscellaneous at .95 percent, or \$1,936.67.

Digital marketing classes to be offered in August

By **Mary Jo Coulehan**
Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce

The Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce will be offering three days of digital marketing classes, Aug. 12-14, both in the morning and afternoon.

Elevating Your Digital Marketing Skills classes will last about 1 to 1.5 hours. They are free for Chamber members and only \$25 per class for nonmembers. Along with attending a class, participants are also invited to schedule a free 30-minute consultation with the facilitators on any of the training days. You do not have to schedule your consultation on the same day as your training class.

Register for the classes at <https://pagosachamber.com/article/elevating-your-digital-marketing-skills-training-august12>, or you can connect to it through the Chamber's homepage.

The first day — Bigger — will be about websites, your Google Business Profile page, search engine optimization and more. The second day — Better — will focus on social media marketing, including reels, videos, Google ads and new rules. The last and third day — Bolder — delves into AI and ChatGPT. It is a scary topic for many, but a new timesaving and development skill for many businesses. Get over your fear of using this tool and dip your feet into the AI waters.

If you would like to schedule a consultation appointment, you will need

to call the Chamber at (970) 264-2360 and schedule an appointment. These consultations cannot be booked online; only the class registration can be booked online. Should you have any questions, contact the Chamber offices.

These classes are being offered due to the high demand from the public for these types of trainings. Space is limited and certain classes are already filling up. Register now for your chance to elevate your marketing skills.

CDL training to be offered Aug. 6 and 7

The Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation is offering two one-day commercial driver's license (CDL) training classes in Pagosa

Springs.

You can sign up for either Aug. 6 or 7. The training includes the one-day, all-day classroom fee, behind-the-wheel training and the driving skills test fee.

This is typically an expensive course due to the nature of the material and skills required for the job. However, the payoff of a good-paying job and the ability to receive some tuition assistance for this class makes this offering highly valuable.

The cost of the course is \$5,000, but again, tuition assistance may be available. To find out if you qualify for the assistance, contact the Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation offices at (970) 264-3023 or emily@pagosapagspringscdc.org.

Commissioners hear county airport update

By **Josh Pike**
Staff Writer

At its July 9 work session, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) heard an update from Airport Manager Chris Torres on ongoing work and issues at the airport.

Torres opened his update by explaining that traffic at the airport has been down from last year and that gallons of fuel pumped was generally down, though the amount pumped for May was up over the figure for May 2023.

He added that traffic at the airport is "starting to pick up," with the busiest months for the airport being June through October.

There are a variety of projects occurring at the airport, Torres explained, including a geotechnical analysis of the airport runway occurring in response to a pavement index study showing that the airport runway is "horrible."

He added that the geotechnical analysis will determine what work is necessary for a runway reconstruction to be scheduled for 2026 or 2027.

Torres indicated that the weather station for the airport has also been replaced, with the new station providing additional information to pilots compared to the old one.

He stated that the airport received a water model from the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) and sent it to Davis Engineering.

As previously reported in The SUN, work on this water model started due to concerns raised by the Pagosa Fire

Protection District (PFPD) in 2023 about the flow of water near the hangars being insufficient for hydrants and firefighting in the area.

Due to these concerns, the PFPD refused to approve plans for additional hangars, pausing hangar construction until the issue is resolved and causing the county to work with PAWSD to perform a water study to determine what solutions might exist.

Torres explained that Davis Engineering will indicate what improvements are needed and provide an estimate of the cost for improvements.

He added that, once the airport receives the plans from Davis Engineering, it will work with PAWSD and the PFPD to determine a solution.

Torres indicated that the issue "is what it is," but that he currently has eight people interested in building hangars who are currently unable to do so.

Commissioner Ronnie Maez pointed out that PFPD allowed the construction of hangars with the "current water flow."

Torres added that this occurred until last year, when the PFPD began raising concerns.

Commissioner Veronica Medina asked if all the hangars have bathrooms or sinks.

Torres stated that many do not.

Medina asked if construction of hangars with no bathrooms or sinks will be paused.

Torres commented that these hangars have to wait due to problems with fire hydrants in the area not meeting the gallons-per-minute requirements.

Medina asked if PAWSD determined if providing the required amount of flow is possible.

Torres stated that this was the goal of the study and that it determined that the airport would need to run an additional 10-inch water line and to tie it into the existing 6-inch water line at the hangars, which would increase the flow.

He added that Davis Engineering is determining if the flow provided by this arrangement will be sufficient for the fire hydrants.

Maez stated that he would like to know more about how the fire code applies to the county "being a government entity, too, as well."

"I'd like to have more details on that and see what is absolutely necessary or what we have to comply with," he said.

The commissioners then discussed how the proposed changes would increase flow volume, with Maez and Commissioner Warren Brown expressing skepticism about if these improvements would increase flow.

Medina raised the issue of if water would be useful in fighting fires at the hangars, which could involve planes, electricity and aviation fuel.

She asked if aviation fires would be fought with water or foam.

Maez stated that foam is often used on such fires and that many planes contain compounds such as magnesium that cannot be put out with water.

Medina commented that her question was if the water from the hydrants would be used to fight fires, and Torres added that a fire would likely be



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SUN photo/Clayton Chaney

Members of the community and Town of Pagosa Springs planning staff meet on Tuesday, July 16, to discuss future tree placement options on the 400 block of Pagosa Street. Current plans include planting mature maple and oak trees that are 25 to 30 feet tall to provide more shade for pedestrians.

Community Development Corporation shares updates on U.S. 160 reconstruction

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

At its meeting on July 10, the Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation (PSCDC) heard from Administrative Manager/Main Street Coordinator Kathleen McFadden, who provided information in regard to the timeline of the upcoming reconstruction project of U.S. 160 through downtown Pagosa Springs being conducted by the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT).

McFadden explained the “final specs” for CDOT are due by July 24, and the Main Street board will get that information before the scheduled Aug. 19 Main Street Cone Zone committee meeting.

“We anticipate presenting what the results are during that meeting,” she said, noting that CDOT will put out its request for bids on Sept. 19.

“Those are the dates and timeline that we know so far,” she said, noting this will be a two-year project.

McFadden noted that after the combined meeting between CDOT and the Town of Pagosa Springs on June 27, the three business representatives selected by the mayor have chosen to focus on a couple of primary issues, one of which is the center median being proposed.

“CDOT is willing to consider narrowing the currently planned 7.5-foot

median,” she said.

McFadden also explained there are logistical and cost concerns with the staging of the project.

She shared that CDOT has selected a project manager for the project, who will be introduced at the Aug. 19 meeting.

“We definitely have a communication strategy with the town and with CDOT so that we’re all on the same page moving forward,” McFadden said.

She indicated the Main Street Cone Zone Committee will host a happy hour event on July 23, but there will be no agenda for the gathering.

Alleyway plan

McFadden also spoke about the back-door Pagosa alleyway plan being developed to assist businesses that might experience some disruption during the reconstruction project.

She explained that the official Main Street Program designation allows more technical support from the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA).

“Larry Lucas is the architect, and he’s going to be doing that at no charge, so that’s just a really good example of the kind of technical support that we benefit from,” McFadden said, explaining that Lucas came up with plans to improve access to the 400 block of Pagosa Street.

She mentioned that there is room

for a natural progression with the new Tennyson Sculpture Park and Gardens on Lewis Street and connectivity to businesses through the alleyway.

Business disruption loan program

Brian Rose, Community Development Block Grant administrator for the Region 9 Economic Development District of Southwest Colorado, spoke about the business disruption loan program that the PSCDC and Region 9 are working on to offer support to local businesses during the reconstruction project.

He explained that Region 9 used a disaster assistance loan program during the COVID-19 pandemic, which was successful, and that the district is using that to model its business disruption loan program.

Rose explained that, in 2023, there were concerns of flooding in Cortez due to high runoff of snowmelt and the Region 9 was able to assist business owners through the business disruption program.

“So, we’re looking to use this program for scenarios like that, and I think the CDOT project is a great opportunity for us to try to help support your businesses over there,” Rose said.

The maximum amount for loans through the business disruption program will be \$10,000, Rose indicated, explaining that if a business were to

need more than that, it could also utilize Region 9’s traditional loan program to make “major improvements.”

The loans will be interest free for the first six months and then go to a 1 percent interest rate from months six through 12. After one year, the interest rate will be adjusted to the current prime rate, Rose explained.

PSCDC executive director Emily Lashbrooke mentioned that the PSCDC has about \$12,000 in a loan fund that could be used to assist Region 9 in funding any business disruption loans.

PSCDC board president Sherry Waner added that the PSCDC could allocate \$500 to \$1,000 per loan.

“Seems like a good economic impact for us to be creating here with those funds,” Waner added.

Lashbrooke clarified that the board did not need to vote on the matter, but that she was simply looking for “guidance.”

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Community Development Corporation discusses housing project progress, board vacancies

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

Framing for homes being built for the Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation’s (PSCDC’s) workforce housing project phase one is scheduled to begin this week, according to PSCDC Executive Director Emily Lashbrooke.

Lashbrooke provided the update at the PSCDC regular board meeting held on July 10.

“You’re going to see framers on the job next week,” she stated, explaining that BWD Construction is working with an Amish crew to start framing on all 10 houses at the same time.

Lashbrooke also mentioned that the construction loan has now been funded, explaining the loan closed in June, but did not get funded until July 9.

“So now we are all in a full-court press to get that project up and moving,” She said.

Lashbrooke noted the PSCDC has received 26 applications for the housing drawing, with five who have been approved to go into the drawing.

“I feel pretty optimistic that we’ll move these first 10 houses,” she said.

During the June 10 meeting, the board entered into an executive session to discuss matters related to phase two of the PSCDC’s workforce housing program.

In a later interview, Lashbrooke explained that she has entered into a nondisclosure agreement with an individual regarding a parcel that could impact the PSCDC’s workforce

housing project.

She also explained that the PSCDC is now looking to complete all 40 homes as part of the project within three years instead of four.

“I think we’re gonna step up our build,” Lashbrooke said, explaining the PSCDC is now planning on building 15 houses next year and 15 more the following year.

Board vacancies

During the same meeting, the PSCDC Administrative Manager Kathleen McFadden shared that board member Robert Mellon submitted his resignation on July 10.

McFadden also noted that the board has received four applications for the two currently open board seats.

“We’ll be working on filling those seats,” she said, noting the board will need to have discussion on how many board members it would like to have moving forward.

Other news

The PSCDC board also voted unanimously to approve the financial reports for the months of April and May.

Lashbrooke explained there was no revenue received in the month of May.

She also noted that the PSCDC will be getting funding back from BWD Construction that it loaned in order to avoid “going any further into a violation of contract.”

Lashbrooke noted the PSCDC provided payments of \$50,000 and

\$100,000 before the construction loan was funded.

Lashbrooke went on to inform the board that the county’s new broadband carrier-neutral location (CNL) across from the Parelli Ranch on U.S. 160 has received approval and is now up and running.

“The electric has been there, it just couldn’t be turned on until the county cleared the building and that was stuck with the Department of Housing,” she said.

She explained that the approval had to go “all the way to the top of the chain” through the Department of Local Affairs, which was waiting on the Department of Housing (DOH) to decide if the CNL needed a mobile home sticker, with the DOH deciding it did not.

Region 9 Economic Development District Deputy Director Brian Rose also informed the PSCDC board that Region 9 is waiting to hear back from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) in regard to a grant to become a bioeconomy development opportunity zone.

Rose explained that this requires the USDA to issue a rating for areas from Pagosa Springs to Cortez for its woody biomass and infrastructure to attract more timber-related businesses to the area.

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County to survey landfill property after issues with deed emerge

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioner (BoCC) approved moving forward with a survey and appraisal of land for the county landfill located at 9179 County Road (CR) 500 at its July 2 meeting.

At the BoCC work session earlier in the day, Public Works Director Mike Torres explained the reasoning for the survey, stating that the county budgeted for the creation of Cell 4B of the landfill in its 2024 budget, which is located in the southwest corner of the landfill.

In this area, Torres explained, there is a fence line to the west that forms a triangular portion of the property where the cell will be located.

He stated that, prior to the county beginning construction on the cell, which would require moving the fence, he decided it would be useful to verify property lines for the property.

He explained that, during this review, county landfill engineer Short Elliott Hendrickson surfaced an "issue" with the property line.

Torres indicated that a 1984 survey of the landfill property shows that the property is 42.39 acres and comments in the legal description that this size is "more or less, to the best of [the surveyor's] knowledge, statements like that."

He added that this survey did not appear to have found the property markers for the property.

However, Torres stated, a 1997 survey, which was used in the Environmental Development Operations

Plan (EDOP) for the landfill, shows the property at 49.29 acres.

He noted that the EDOP provides the state with information about the size and location of the landfill.

Torres indicated that the 1997 survey appeared to locate the property markers for the property.

He pointed out that there is a 6.9-acre discrepancy between the two surveys and that the EDOP was designed with the 6.9 acres.

Weaver replied that the seller likely intended to sell the full 49.29 acres, but that the survey was "done wrong" and the deed was formatted incorrectly.

"The original owners" still own the 6.9 acres because the deed lists the property size as 42.39 acres, Torres explained.

County Attorney Todd Weaver stated that the county examined the deed transferring the property to the county, which used the inaccurate 1984 survey.

"So, we're stuck with it?" Commissioner Ronnie Maez asked.

Weaver stated that this is what the county owns.

Maez added that the intent of the seller was to sell the 42.39 acres.

Weaver replied that the seller likely intended to sell the full 49.29

acres, but that the survey was "done wrong" and the deed was formatted incorrectly.

He added that, if the fence line had been located on the actual property line, the county could potentially claim the property through adverse possession but that, because it is located on the property line delineated by the 1984 survey, the county likely could not do this.

Maez suggested that not having this property would reduce the size and life of the landfill.

Torres stated that the smaller property would impact the design of Cell 4B and would impact the life of the landfill.

"My recommendation right now is we do an appraisal of the 6.9 acres and do another survey, just to verify," Torres said.

Weaver explained that he and Torres spoke to the county surveyor and met with the current owners of the property to see if they would transfer the land to the county, which "didn't go well."

"And, so, quite frankly, we need a legal description of what was left out and then get... a third-party independent real estate appraisal on the value of that land and then we'll need to offer that to the current landowners... and go from there," Weaver said. "And, I hate to use this term, but this is essential for the landfill to have this property and, if push comes to shove, I believe eminent domain, which I never like to use. But, even the first steps of eminent domain you have to enter into good-faith negotiations before you move to that step anyway, so we need a survey and a legal description of the property

regardless of what we do and also get an independent real estate appraisal on the value of that property so we... have a basis for trying to make an offer. And so, regardless of the direction you go, this is stuff we need to do, the county has to do."

Weaver added that the land likely is not "worth very much" due to its small size and location near a landfill.

He also expressed hope that the county could reach an agreement with property owners to purchase the property.

Commissioner Warren Brown commented that the process "sounds reasonable" and that the county "needs to take these steps no matter what."

Maez commented that the issue with the property would impact the life of the landfill and he feels the county should move forward with the survey.

Torres noted that the issue would be especially impactful given the size of Cell 4B and the amount of trash the county could store in it.

At the BoCC meeting later that day, the BoCC unanimously approved the request to move forward with a survey and appraisal of the landfill.

Prior to the vote, Maez asked Weaver if the original survey stating "more or less" would give the county any leverage on the issue.

Weaver responded that it would "possibly" give some leverage, but that the legal description in the deed controls what was transferred from the owner to the county and that this description is the incorrect size.

josh@pagosahun.com

Commissioners approve more than \$225,000 in change orders for transit center

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

At its July 16 meeting, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) approved two change orders for construction work on the county transit center project totaling \$227,735.78.

At a BoCC work session earlier in the day, Public Works Director Mike Torres explained the reasoning behind the change orders.

He indicated that the first change order is a previously discussed change adding bay heaters for the bus bays at a cost of \$76,903.32.

Torres stated that he had infrastructure for pressure washing removed from the change order since the county would not be moving forward with installing washing equipment in the bus bays.

He stated that the second change order is for additional blasting and rock excavation occurring in conjunction with two previous change orders for blasting and excavation.

The additional work will cost \$150,832.46 on top of the previous change orders, Torres explained, adding that the construction company had to blast and do additional rock excavation on the foundation, the retention pond and the utility lines for the project.

He commented that it is "very unfortunate" that a chemical rock fracturing method the county initially tried was not successful and that he hopes that the blasting and excavation will be finished in the upcoming weeks.

Torres explained that the county also had hydrovac excavation performed to expose the utility lines in the area to ensure they are not damaged by the construction process.

"We all knew there was rock out there. Don't ask me why it wasn't

planned that way, but, yeah, that's where we're at," Torres said.

He explained that the project has had problems with the utilities for the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office in the area, which were damaged repeatedly during the excavation work for the transit center, and that a third change order would pay for blasting to bury the lines deeper.

Commissioner Ronnie Maez asked why the lines were hit multiple times and why the workers at the site were not able to locate them after hitting them the first time.

Torres responded that the location of the lines was unknown, including to those involved in the initial construction of Harman Park who the county contacted.

He indicated that he now recommends that the county not move forward with this change order since it would cost \$143,113.09 and that, following consultation with the contractor and architect for the project, he is planning to have these utility lines relocated to an existing trench, with the work likely being performed by county Road and Bridge staff.

Maez commented that he liked not moving forward with the final change order for utility relocation.

Torres added that utility lines would be properly insulated to ensure they do not freeze.

Commissioner Warren Brown asked how much the contingency fund for the project is.

Torres stated that the contingency is \$250,000 and that the county is "just over" that amount currently.

In response to a question from Maez, Torres stated that he estimates that the county is potentially \$30,000 over the contingency amount.

Torres then discussed two other change orders for the project, which were both under the amount that he is authorized to approve, including

a change order paying for hydrovac work on the utility lines and a change order for modifying beams on the building to install a window.

He added that these two change orders have also contributed to the project exceeding its contingency amount.

Maez commented that the county should look into how so many issues were missed in the initial design of the project, leading to the large number of change orders.

"I agree," Torres said.

"Good job, Mike. I appreciate you dealing with the headaches of it and staying on top of everything," Maez said.

At the BoCC meeting, the board voted to approve the change order for heating in the bus bays at a cost of \$76,903.32 without further comments.

Prior to voting to approve the change order for additional blasting at a cost of \$150,832.46, Medina commented, "As we discussed this morning in the work session, we've pretty much blown through the contingent budget for this facility. I wasn't happy with the location, but this decision was made prior to me, and I just want to commend Michael Torres on the great job that he's done trying to manage and facilitate this project because it's not an easy project. I'm just hopeful — and so the public knows as well — is that at the end of this project, whenever that might be at this rate, that there is an opportunity for the county to go back and request some additional funds for the extra funds that have been spent. So, I am hopeful that this will be hopefully a few less change orders in the future for this facility, but, again, I think you're doing a fabulous job, Mike, and you got a great team working with you, so keep up the good work. I know this is a challenging project."

Archuleta County Democratic Club will meet July 29

By Lynn Frederick
Archuleta Democratic Club

The Archuleta County Democratic Club will be meeting at 11:30 a.m. on Monday, July 29, at Coyote Moon.

The speaker will be Cindi Galabota, executive director of Ruby M. Sisson Library Foundation and Friends.

She will speak about the fundraising initiative to update and expand our library. Please come to hear about the plans for the library and how you can help this project succeed.

The Archuleta County Democratic Club meets every month. The club

gives local Democrats the opportunity to meet with other Democrats and to hear speakers from the community, meet candidates for local and national offices, and hear about top-

ics of timely interest. All are welcome to attend. Please plan on coming by 11:30 a.m. to order lunch.

For more information, email lynnefrederick1@gmail.com.



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Projects

Continued from front
to meet with each county in its region at least every other year and that one of these meetings is statutorily required to be a project priority planning process meeting, which is intended to provide a venue to formally discuss CDOT's plans with the county as a "planning partner."

He added that the presentation he was giving would be a part of such a meeting, refreshing the county on the structure of CDOT and discussing the upcoming planning process for CDOT's 25-year plan.

Funk explained that Region 5 contains 15 counties and two tribal nations, and has 349 employees.

He added that the region covers 3,566 lane miles (16 percent of the state's highways) and contains 3.6 percent of the state's population, which he noted is a key factor in the amount of funding the region receives and means that it receives the least amount of funding of any region in the state.

Region 5 is unique due to its large number of two-lane highways which can be clogged by slow-moving vehicles, the number of "community main streets" that are state highways, the prevalence of avalanches, the "limited and lengthy alternate routes" for traffic, and the range of road users, including wildlife, agricultural equipment and bicycles, Funk commented.

He stated that Archuleta County is also part of the Southwest Transportation Planning Region (SWTPR), which includes five counties, two tribes and all incorporated cities and towns in the area, and whose regional plan will be incorporated into the statewide transportation plan.

Funk stated that the county is also in District 8 of the Transportation Commission.

He indicated that CDOT planning goes through a five-step process, including creating ideas for potential

projects by gathering stakeholder feedback, planning and prioritizing projects, finding funding for projects, selecting a project to move forward and then performing work to realize the improvement.

Region 5 is unique due to its large number of two-lane highways which can be clogged by slow-moving vehicles, the number of "community main streets" that are state highways, the prevalence of avalanches, the "limited and lengthy alternate routes" for traffic, and the range of road users, including wildlife, agricultural equipment and bicycles, Funk commented.

He commented that, due to the complexity of the planning process, the CDOT statewide transportation plan "looks 25 years ahead" and CDOT incorporates a wide range of sources for ideas into its planning, including the public, interest groups, transportation planning regions, metropolitan planning organizations and the Colorado Transportation

Commission.

CDOT planning begins with the 25-year long-range plan, Funk indicated.

Projects that are funded move to a 10-year development plan, he stated, and then go to the four-year Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), which contains the projects CDOT is actively working on.

He explained that the long-range statewide transportation plan is required by state law.

He added it includes priorities from the transportation planning regions and is updated every five years, with the next update in 2025.

Funk added that projects on this plan are prioritized with the knowledge that funding is not available for all of them and that being on the plan also helps with obtaining grant funding for projects.

He stated that many of the Archuleta County projects included on the current long-range plan have been completed or are in progress, including the culvert replacement project on McCabe Creek on U.S. 160, the creation of two wildlife crossings on U.S. 160 near the intersection with Colo. 151 and the installation of fiber-optic lines between Durango and Wolf Creek Pass along U.S. 160.

He added that the reconstruction of U.S. 160 in downtown Pagosa Springs is also included on the long-range plan and should start next year.

Funk commented that the long-range plan also includes some projects for the area that have not been funded, including the creation of Bustang out-ride bus services between Pagosa Springs and Durango.

He explained that the 10-year plan involves forecasting how much money will come to Region 5 from the Colorado Legislature and then adding the top projects from the long-range plan to the 10-year plan

to ensure they have funding.

He added that, although every project has funding, some may not have sufficient funding to complete their initial scope due to inflation.

Funk added that the completed projects from the long-range plan for Archuleta County were also included on the 10-year plan.

He indicated that the STIP identifies transportation projects and programs proposed for funding as well "regionally significant" transportation projects.

Funk added that the STIP is updated every year and is required by federal law.

He then moved on to discuss the timeline for the planning update process, stating it would begin with a SWTPR chair meeting with CDOT headquarters on July 31.

It will also include a SWTPR meeting on Aug. 8 where the SWTPR will discuss its mission and vision and identify focus areas, and CDOT headquarters staff will formally present the update process.

Through the fall of 2024, the SWTPR will consider goals and data related to proposed projects and issues, he indicated.

In the winter of 2025, the SWTPR will summarize public feedback gathered earlier in the project and discuss project priorities before reviewing its draft regional transportation plan in April 2025, Funk explained.

His presentation moved on to cover funding sources and allocations for CDOT and Region 5, indicating that CDOT has a \$2.033 billion budget, 41.9 percent of which is from federal programs, 32.1 percent of which is from the Highway User Tax Fund and the rest of which is from various sources, including 5.3 percent from legislative initiatives that are used to fund projects in the transportation plans.

See Projects A9

Parking

Continued from front
8th streets and that "we don't know how many are gonna be impacted" by CDOT's construction project.

An agenda document for the meeting states that town staff "has identified the Athletic Field as potential parking to help subsidize the loss of parking during the project."

The council is anticipated to consider two options prepared by Davis Engineering. Option 1 would provide 65 additional parking spaces at the athletic field, while option 2 would provide 35 additional spaces.

Town staff is recommending the option to add 35 spaces, the agenda document states.

"This particular location will provide close proximity parking to the downtown businesses during the CDOT project. Once the CDOT project is over, the downtown corridor will now have much needed additional parking," the document states.

The document also states that the additional parking will accommodate events being held at Town Park throughout the year.

Town staff do not anticipate any significant impact to any organizations that currently use the athletic field by adding additional parking in the proposed area.

Should the council decide to move forward with the idea, the council will also need to consider if it will be a gravel or an asphalt parking area with curb and gutter.

The document states that the 35-space option in the form of a gravel lot would cost an estimated \$139,781 including a 20 percent contingency; an asphalt lot would cost an estimated \$250,160 including a 20 percent contingency.

The funding to build the lot would come from the town's capital reserves fund.

The Pagosa Springs Planning Commission voiced opposition to the idea of installing a new parking lot at Town Park on May 14.

At that meeting, Pagosa Springs Middle School Principal Chris Hinger voiced his opposition to the idea, saying, "Once you pave it and make it parking, you don't get that back."

Planning commissioner Chad Hodges said that putting "a parking lot in a green space is never a good idea."

Planning commissioner Chris Pitcher stated, "I'm gonna push back against the Town Park idea... we need to stay away from that as an option."

Ultimately, the planning commission made a unanimous formal recommendation to the town council against the idea to install a parking lot at Town Park.

However, the Parks and Recreation Board was in favor of parking at the athletic field and favored the smaller version of the proposed lot, according to the agenda document.

In addition to the Town Park location, a parking agreement between the town and the library board was approved to use the vacant property west of the library to accommodate approximately 50 to 60 public parking spaces.

This lot is estimated to cost the town \$12,000 for additional gravel and signage, and it "has an existing vehicular access from Hwy 160 and is easily accessible for pedestrians

with the adjacent trail and sidewalk connectivity," an agenda document on the matter states.

Dickhoff previously stated that he thinks that the library lot would best be utilized by downtown businesses for "remote" employee parking during the CDOT construction project.

The library and Town Park lots are the largest and most convenient of the parking areas being considered by town staff, and would make up for almost half of the total spaces that would be lost in the worst-case-scenario situation during CDOT's construction, Dickhoff previously stated.

Another large lot being considered would be the newly acquired town-owned property near Tractor Supply, the Goodman property, but this site is not ideal because of its inconvenient location, Dickhoff previously noted.

At Thursday's meeting, the council is anticipated to consider if it will move forward with the parking lot or if it will reject the idea of a lot at the Town Park location and direct staff otherwise.

derek@pagosasun.com

Blood

Continued from front
receives the blood they need and who must wait," Vitalant Chief Medical and Scientific Officer Ralph Vassallo, M.D., said. "There isn't anything that can substitute for lifesaving blood donations from generous donors. Donors of all blood types continue to be urgently needed."

Emergency shortage of type O blood

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Extreme heat, summer vacations keeping donors away

Extreme heat affecting much of the country and summer vacations are likely contributing to low donor turnout during "trauma season," when injuries from outdoor activities can increase.

Blood donations during the Fourth of July holiday week plummeted about 30 percent overall from weekly averages, resulting in approximately 7,500 fewer donations than needed, and have not recovered.

This shortfall is on top of about 8,000 fewer donations than needed

in June.

How to help

Thousands of donation appointments are available at air-conditioned Vitalant donation centers and community blood drives in the coming days and weeks.

A blood drive will be held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Wednesday, July 31, at Pagosa Springs Medical Center at

the Blood Mobile.

Donors of all blood types, especially those with type O, are urged to make an appointment at vitalant.org, download and use the Vitalant app or call (877) 25-VITAL, or (877) 258-4825.

Other drives can also be located at vitalant.org.

To help encourage donations and overcome the shortage, through July 27, donors will automatically be entered to

win a new car (valued up to \$30,000).

About Vitalant

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Projects

Continued from A8

Funk mentioned that the federal gas tax, which is the source of federal funding, has not risen since the 1990s although transportation project costs have increased.

He added that the state of Colorado is also working on implementing a scaling fee on the registration of electric vehicles to backfill the tax revenue lost because those vehicles do not use petroleum fuels.

Funk explained that CDOT allocates 40.7 percent of its funding to capital construction, 24.8 percent to maintenance and 17.3 percent to suballocated programs, including aeronautics funding, "sub-allocated federal programs" and the Revitalizing Main Streets program.

He stated that 12 percent of Region 5's funds are pass-throughs to local government, 15 percent are spent on road surfaces, 10 percent on structures such as tunnels and bridges, 8 percent on safety and 32 percent on other uses.

He added that only 2 percent of Region 5's budget is discretionary and that these funds have been primarily used in recent years to cover cost overruns for planned projects, leaving Region 5 with very few discretionary funds available for other projects.

Commissioner Veronica Medina asked what is covered under the other uses.

Funk and Region 5 Planning and Environmental Manager Tony Cady explained that many of these funds are from grants that Region 5 has received and are used to fund various major road projects, including the installation of fiber along U.S. 160 and the creation of wildlife overpasses on U.S. 160 near Colo. 151.

Commissioner Warren Brown asked how Region 5 pays for responses to unexpected issues like rock slides or bridge failures.

Cady stated that this funding is also included under other uses and is distributed to Region 5 from the Colorado Transportation Commission to the region if the commission approves the declaration of an emergency in the region.

"So really, they're unplanned funds that we get for various reasons and we just spend them the way that they've been allocated," Cady said, summarizing the other uses funding.

Funk then pointed out a series of grants available from CDOT for counties, including the Revitalizing Main Streets grant, the Multimodal Transportation and Mitigation Options Fund grant and the Safe Routes to School grant.

Brown noted that the Main Street program in the area has received Revitalizing Main Streets grant funding in the past.

Funk also highlighted a range of federal grants that could potentially be available to the county.

He then discussed how maintenance is done in Archuleta County, noting that Archuleta County is within two different maintenance regions, with Wolf Creek Pass in Section 7 and the rest of the county in Section 3.

Winter snow and ice removal and management is the largest maintenance expenditure for CDOT, statewide taking up 30 percent of the budget, Funk stated.

In Archuleta County, he explained, CDOT expended \$2,597,001.09 "worth of effort" in the 2024 state fiscal year stretching from July 2023 to June 2024.

He stated that snow and ice removal consumed about 30 percent of this funding, with road surface treatment projects taking up the next largest portion. Funds were also spent on cleaning up rocks and roadkill, traffic signals and striping, and earthwork, bridge and culvert work.

The group then discussed roadkill and methods for reporting it, with Funk stating that the public should call the CDOT customer service line and report any roadkill so it can be addressed by CDOT maintenance crews.

Commissioner ideas

Brown raised the issue of if an alternate route through Pagosa Springs for U.S. 160 could be included on the 25-year plan, citing the high level of traffic and the potential for a hazardous material spill to shut down the highway with no alternate routes to bypass it as reasons for the project. CDOT Region 5 Transportation

Director Julie Constan explained that gathering ideas like this is part of why CDOT conducts its planning process with the counties.

Commissioner Ronnie Maez commented that this idea was proposed in the past.

Constan replied that a proposal on a bypass had not occurred during her tenure.

Cady added that such a project has not been added to the SWTPR priority projects list, partially due to concerns about other communities that had bypasses installed and are now requesting their removal.

Cady stated that the county should potentially add the project to the SWTPR list, but commented that prioritization is done by all communities in the SWTPR and, for a project to be voted as a high priority, it would be critical to demonstrate how it would benefit the region, not just the county or Pagosa Springs.

Constan and Cady commented that the resiliency of U.S. 160 could be a reason for such a project.

Constan added that one way to approach the project could be to break it into pieces.

Cady commented that many other large projects in the region already had environmental studies done that can take 10 to 15 years to complete, adding that the first step for such a bypass would be looking at the feasibility of a route and conducting environmental studies to determine the ideal route prior to beginning work to secure funding.

Medina asked what the success rate for the animal crossing on U.S. 160 near Colo. 151 has been.

Funk and Cady commented that CDOT has been pleased with the results of the project, although Constan added that it would take "a couple years" for the crash data at the location to be updated and provide empirical information on the value of the crossing.

Medina then raised the issue of potentially creating a wildlife crossing on the southern portion of U.S. 84 similar to the crossing recently built on U.S. 160.

Cady commented that such a project would not be high priority due to lower volume of traffic in the area, but that CDOT is aware of the need for such a crossing and is pursuing potential grant opportunities.

Funk added that hearing project proposals such as this is part of the value of the planning process and that, if the data supports it, such a project could potentially be added to the plan.

Cady commented that, due to shortages in funding, Region 5 is almost exclusively working on projects included in its plans, making adding projects to the plan crucial.

Ongoing and upcoming projects

Cady then gave an update on ongoing CDOT projects in the area, including work to reinforce an embankment on U.S. 84 on Confar Hill near the New Mexico border and the project to install fiber along U.S. 160 from Wolf Creek Pass to Durango.

Constan commented that CDOT has been "struggling" with the contractor for the fiber project, but is hoping to have it completed this year.

Following Cady discussing several current and upcoming projects in La Plata and Montezuma counties, including chip seal work on U.S. 160 and work on the intersection between U.S. 160 and U.S. 550, Cady and Constan shifted to discussing the reconstruction of U.S. 160 through downtown Pagosa Springs.

Cady explained that the project was initially a SWTPR project focused on the sharp curve in U.S. 160 in downtown Pagosa Springs, but that work with the county and Town of Pagosa Springs identified a potential larger scope for the project that was presented to and approved by the SWTPR.

Constan stated that CDOT will be re-advertising the project this fall, adding that they put the project out to bid late in spring of 2024 due to having the designs finished and being curious what contractors would "bite."

She commented that the one bid CDOT received was 30 percent over budget, but that she had had conversations with contractors since then who indicated they would be

interested in bidding on the project in the fall.

She stated that the project will last at least two seasons and could potentially go for three depending on how rapidly the contractor works, adding that the project is expected to take 382 working days.

Constan indicated that the project will involve winter shutdowns and that the contractor will be required to patch the road as much as possible during such shutdowns.

She also noted that two lanes of traffic will be kept open at all times and that CDOT has been meeting with local businesses and Town of Pagosa Springs staff to shape additional language in the project specifications that will highlight the importance of seasonal business and traffic.

The contractor will have to maintain pedestrian access to all buildings at all times, Constan indicated, as well as keeping access to all parking lots open at all times.

She stated that access to certain sets of roadways will not be allowed to close simultaneously, such as Lewis Street and 4th Street or 3rd Street and 2nd Street.

She added that Hot Springs Boulevard, 4th Street and 8th Street would not be allowed to close simultaneously.

Constan commented that these strategies would help minimize the impacts of the project, although she stated that CDOT is aware that it will be an "impactful," but necessary, project.

She then discussed the medians included in the project, which she stated CDOT is working on minimizing.

Constan stated that the eastbound section of the 400 block of U.S. 160 between Lewis Street and Hot Springs Boulevard will include a 200-foot-long, 8-foot-wide and 6-inch-tall median section, while a section of U.S. 160 near the Liberty Theatre closer to Hot Springs Boulevard would contain a similar 300-foot-long median.

She relayed that she recently discussed the medians with Pagosa Fire Protection District Deputy Chief Karn Macht, who indicated that he believes the district could manage access for fire trucks with these medians.

She also discussed plowing snow in the median areas.

She stated that snow will likely have to be plowed into parking spaces in short sections.

She indicated that discussions are ongoing with local groups about means to provide additional parking during the construction projects.

Medina asked what the purpose of the medians is, especially away from pedestrian walkways.

Constan explained that the medians are tied to the safety funding included in the project and the requirement for medians is driven by crash data in the area, with the medians intended to provide "definite separation" between traffic lanes and to slow traffic by creating "friction."

In addition, she stated that CDOT data shows a 10 percent larger reduction in crashes in areas with a hard median as opposed to a painted median.

She added that incorporating design elements like medians is also a significant contributor to helping fund the project.

CDOT Region 5 Traffic/Safety Engineer Jennifer Allison commented that the medians in this project are focused on addressing crash hotspots.

In response to a question from Maez, Constan stated that the funding for the project is available even if the bids for the project come in as high as the previous bid in the spring

of 2024.

Maintenance update

The BoCC then heard a maintenance update from Region 5 Maintenance Superintendent Mike Watson, who noted a range of completed projects, including spot patching on a portion of Colo. 151 and the repair of the Coyote Creek Bridge on U.S. 84 near County Road (CR) 359.

He discussed a range of paving projects, culvert replacements and other projects in Montezuma and La Plata counties.

The group also discussed the potential for work to mitigate rock falls on Colo. 151 near mile marker 23 after Brown raised the issue.

Maez pointed out that a concrete barrier on Wolf Creek Pass near Treasurer Falls is damaged, which Watson commented he would examine.

Aspen Springs park and ride

Discussion then moved on to a potential park and ride location in Aspen Springs, with Brown highlighting that CDOT gave property for the park and ride to Archuleta County and that there is a "significant need" for it, although the county missed adding it to the SWTPR priorities list.

He added that the location would also benefit the addition of a Bustang route to Pagosa Springs that the county is working on.

Cady asked if the county has design done for the project.

Brown replied that he believes there is a preliminary design completed.

Cady stated that there might be Multimodal Transportation and Mitigation Options Fund grants available to help finalize the design and opportunities to have the project added to the statewide transportation plan.

He added that the project being already designed would help with its prioritization.

CDOT Transit Grant Manager TJ Burr stated that the Bustang project is currently not making significant movement forward and commented that the county also received approximately \$143,000 for engineering and environmental work on the park and ride project.

Aspen Springs Metro District board member Eric Davidson added that the metro district has also placed its support behind the park and ride project.

County's Light Plant Road construction

Constan then raised the issue of county construction work on CR 119 (Light Plant Road), noting that it contributed to traffic issues on July 4 and commenting that, if the project is expected to be ongoing through July and August, CDOT would like to discuss making the U.S. 84/U.S. 160 intersection a three-way stop to ease traffic congestion.

Interim County Manager Jack Harper stated that the project is expected to still be underway during this time and will be a full closure of the roadway.

Maez asked if the three-way stop would be temporary.

Constan stated it would be and that it would be removed following the completion of the CR 119 construction.

Harper stated that Constan should speak with county Public Works Director Mike Torres to continue discussions about implementing the stop.

Following further discussion of the traffic issues at this intersection, the commissioners expressed support for the proposal.

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Water Conservancy District moving forward with RFP for reservoir project manager

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

At its July 15 meeting, the San Juan Water Conservancy District (SJWCD) Board of Directors voted to move forward with a request for proposals (RFP) for a reservoir manager for the organization's reservoir project at Running Iron Ranch.

SJWCD board president Candace Jones opened the discussion on the RFP by explaining that the RFP was partially informed by a job description for a district manager from the Rio Blanco Water Conservancy District.

Jones explained that she and SJWCD board member Charles Riehm worked on the RFP draft being presented to the board.

Jones then discussed the schedule for the RFP process, indicating that Riehm came to the conclusion that the process might be "cumbersome" and proposed removing steps relating to a bidder's preliminary response to the RFP since it was poorly defined.

According to the RFP, expressions of interest in the RFP would need to be submitted by July 26, with a bidders conference to occur on July 31.

Site visits to the Running Iron Ranch with bidders would occur between Aug. 5 and 8, with final responses to the RFP by bidders due Aug. 16, the document indicates.

Jones explained that this timeline would allow the board to potentially take action, including selecting a bidder or interviewing candidates, at its Aug. 19 meeting.

Following this meeting, the RFP indicates, a second bidders conference could potentially occur, with the contract being awarded by Aug. 29.

She added that both she and Riehm feel that having a bidders conference as part of the process is important as any firm bidding on the project would likely want additional information that could inform the pricing of their bid.

SJWCD board member Randy Cooper asked if the board has identified what bidders it wants to send the RFP to.

SJWCD board member Joe Tedder explained that he had spoken with Harris Engineering and Davis Engineering, both of whom had expressed potential interest in the RFP.

Jones noted that she spoke with Riehm about submitting the RFP to Ehat Consulting, who previously worked for the SJWCD on reservoir planning.

She pointed out that Rick Ehat might not bid for the position on his own, but that the RFP allows for collaboration between multiple firms.

Jones stated that she also reached out to Wilson Water Group for recommendations on firms that might be interested in the RFP and that the firm indicated they might have some recommendations, although Jones had not received them yet.

Board member Rod Proffitt proposed that the board could ask

Russell Engineering in Durango, although he expressed uncertainty about the status of the company.

SJWCD attorney Jeff Kane commented that the SJWCD could also reach out to SGM and Wright Water Engineering, which both have local offices.

The group then moved to discussing the contents of the RFP, with Proffitt noting that the RFP has an "ambitious timeline."

"I walked away from this wondering who's running the show. Is there going to be someone this project manager reports to that runs the show? And the answer is no because we want this guy to make all decisions, basically. I mean, he comes to the board, but he or she is the leader. I'm not sure I walked away from this document thinking that."

Joe Tedder
SJWCD board member

Jones commented that there would be work that would need to be completed to release the RFP by July 19, but that Riehm would be available during the week and "things get done under deadline."

She stated that Riehm feels having an expression of interest as a step in the bidding process is important, as is having this expression include "some of the basic qualifications" of the firm expressing interest.

She added that the board could examine these qualifications while the firms are completing their proposals.

Jones stated that she and Riehm both feel that the July bidders conference is important as it would allow potential bidders to ask questions and potentially learn from the questions asked by other firms at the conference.

She asked Kane if the documents on the reservoir project previously assembled by Ehat contained any confidential information.

Kane stated that he did not believe so, but would have to examine them again to make sure.

Jones stated that, if the documents do not contain confidential information, they should be made available as part of the bid information since Ehat and Harris Engineering would both have access to this information already.

"In the interest of fairness, we would want the other firms to have

that information, as well," Jones said.

The RFP indicates under its core services section that the SJWCD seeks to hire a project manager to advance the reservoir project with planning, geotechnical studies and preliminary design.

It indicates that the manager should help the SJWCD identify and position itself to obtain necessary permits, identify and devise land acquisition strategies if necessary, identify infrastructure requirements for the site, recommend "strategies and timelines" for scheduling infrastructure "relative to other project requirements," and assist the SJWCD in competing for funding resources.

The RFP states that the manager contract will be for one year and be subject to extension.

It states that proposals should be focused on tasks to be undertaken in this year, including a timeline for when tasks should be completed.

It adds that the proposal should demonstrate how these tasks will be relevant to longer-term work on the reservoir.

The proposals should also include a proposed timeline and budget for the work recommended, the RFP states.

In addition to these elements, the RFP indicates that the project manager will also be responsible for keeping the board informed of their work, managing expenses, assisting the board with procurement and grant funding related to the project, and supporting the board in public and regulatory outreach.

Jones explained that a description of the reservoir project would need to be added to the beginning of the report and that the core services that the manager would provide originated from SJWCD board discussions following Ehat's 2023 report.

Cooper noted that the elements described in the RFP are very "general" and asked if the board expects bidders to be more specific in their bids.

He added that he is concerned about who would define what constitutes these elements, such as the necessary permits for the project.

Jones commented that the "chicken and egg" problem of whether the board should tell a manager what to look at or whether the manager would help guide the board's actions has been a longstanding issue.

"I think it was written with that in mind, which was, 'You guys are the experts; tell us where we should be putting the first dollar in,'" Jones said.

Cooper commented that was how he interpreted the RFP, but that he wanted to confirm.

Jones asked the board if it is comfortable with this approach.

Tedder commented that other water conservancy districts have hired consultants to help guide their reservoir construction work and decisions, adding that he felt the SJWCD was not "asking any of these firms to do anything they're not already

familiar with."

He added that this intention could be clarified more in the bidders' conference if this intent is unclear.

Tedder stated that, to address Cooper's concern, the board could add a "lead-in paragraph" describing what it is looking for in a manager.

"Not to be so specific as bulleted items, but really what we're looking for, we've been calling it kind of our general manager that's gonna take us from where we are today to well-positioned to construct a reservoir and, so, we're looking for not only the design help, the engineering help, the help selling this to the authorities, selling it to our public, but also to ... getting the money," Tedder said. "I walked away from this thinking, 'Guys, you're asking for a project manager,' but no we're not, we're asking more for someone to be the general manager of the project. ... I walked away from this wondering who's running the show. Is there going to be someone this project manager reports to that runs the show? And the answer is no because we want this guy to make all decisions, basically. I mean, he comes to the board, but he or she is the leader. I'm not sure I walked away from this document thinking that."

Cooper commented that he is pleased that geotechnical studies are included in the core services.

Jones noted that the project manager would be a contractor and thus would not be vested with the decision-making authority that could be given to an employee.

She added that this would mean that issues would have to be brought to the board and the board would have to make decisions on them, particularly since the SJWCD does not have employees.

Cooper commented that he likes the RFP and appreciates its aggressive schedule.

Jones then asked for a motion to approve the release of the RFP to the firms identified with addition of the introductory paragraph that Tedder requested and the other comments made by board members.

She added that she, Riehm and other board members could help complete these changes and distribute the RFP.

SJWCD board member Rob Hagberg moved to proceed in the manner Jones described. Cooper seconded.

Proffitt suggested that he would prefer a motion to authorize Jones and any others she selects to move the RFP forward while keeping it "substantially" in its current form.

Hagberg amended his motion to match Proffitt's suggestion, which then passed unanimously.

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The Board of Education of the Archuleta School District 50 JT is accepting applications from persons interested in serving on the Board of Education from the date of appointment in September, 2024 until the next regular biennial school election in November 2025. To be eligible for appointment, each candidate must be a registered elector of the school district for at least twelve consecutive months prior to the date of appointment. The applicant must also be a resident of the Director District 4 the district that will be served by the appointee.

Any person who meets the qualifications and who desires to be considered for the appointment is invited to file a written notice of such intention with the secretary of the Board of Education by July 31st, 2024. Please mail notice of intention to: Archuleta School District 50 JT, ATTN: Heather Schultz, PO Box 1498, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. The Board will interview prospective candidates on August 20, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. at a public meeting. For further information, contact Heather Schultz hschultz@pagosa.k12.co.us

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988 Lifeline helps millions with mental health and substance use crises

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

The 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline has expanded services and continued to answer millions of calls, texts and chats from people experiencing mental health or substance use crises since its launch on July 16, 2022, the agency heads for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced Tuesday.

HHS has invested nearly \$1.5 billion into 988 as part of the comprehensive strategy to address the nation's mental health and substance use crises.

"We have worked to champion a 'no wrong door' strategy for accessing help for mental health, but it's clear there are still a lot of people who feel they have run out of options. My message to those who are struggling: you are not alone, we hear you, and we are here to help. 988 is an important resource and anyone who needs help should reach out," said HHS Deputy Secretary Andrea Palm.

Since 988's launch in July 2022, counselors have answered more than 10 million calls, texts and chats from people looking for help with suicidal thoughts and mental health and substance use-related crises.

Of the 10 million contacts answered in the past two years, 1.7 million were texts — with 988 answering 51 percent more texts in the past 12 months than the year before.

Almost 1.2 million of the 988 calls were answered by the Veterans Crisis Line (VCL) through 988's Press 1 option, one of the ways veterans, service members and their families can reach the VCL.

Considering the full range of VCL services, veterans and their supporters have reached VCL through phone, online chat and text more than 2 million times since July 2022.

"Our Veterans Crisis Line connects veterans to caring, qualified responders 24/7 — and two years ago, we made it even easier for veterans in crisis and their loved ones to reach out for help by launching 988 then Press 1," said VA Secretary Denis McDonough. "One veteran lost to suicide is too many. We're supporting more veterans than ever through the 988 initiative and will not rest in our continued efforts to spread the word that this resource is available

and saves lives."

On July 16, 2022, the U.S. transitioned to 988 as a new, easy-to-remember way for anyone needing support to reach a trained crisis counselor at any time, day or night.

More than 200 contact centers across the country provide support through 988. Significant investments in 988 at all levels have helped states, territories and tribes to hire crisis counselors for improved local response, ensure national backup and expand services.

In 2023, 988 added Spanish text and chat, specialized services for LGBTQI+ youth and young adults and videophone for American Sign Language (ASL) users.

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's 2022 National Survey on Drug Use and Health reported that 13.2 million adults and 3.4 million adolescents aged 12 to 17 had serious thoughts of suicide in the past year, and 48.7 million people aged 12 or older had a substance use disorder in the past year. Almost 50,000 people in the United States died by suicide in 2022.

Individuals who speak Spanish can connect directly to Spanish-speaking crisis counselors by calling 988 and pressing option 2, texting "Ayuda" to 988 or chatting online at 988lineadevida.org.

LGBTQI+ youth and young adults who want to connect with a counselor specifically focused on meeting their needs can text "Pride" to 988, call 988 and select option 3, or access the service via chat on 988lifeline.org.

Since these expansions of services, 988 counselors have answered about 20,000 Spanish-language chats and texts; more than 475,000 LGBTQI+ youth and young adult texts, calls and chats; and about 20,000 videophone contacts in ASL.

Later this year, georouting technology is expected to help improve cellphone users' connectivity to local services by routing 988 callers and texters based on their approximate physical location versus area code.

HHS has been working with the major U.S. wireless carriers to launch georouting this year so that callers can be connected to centers that are better equipped to provide nearby resources and services.

Georouting allows callers to maintain additional privacy because, unlike geolocation, it does not provide a precise location.

Earlier this year, the FCC issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to require 988 georouting to be implemented for all wireless calls to the 988 Lifeline.

Georouting refers to technical solutions that enable calls to be routed based on the location of the caller without transmitting the caller's precise location information.

"This milestone shines a light on the need for vital behavioral health services across the country. From implementing the easy-to-remember three-digit code, to requiring text-to-988, to reporting outages, the FCC's efforts have advanced 988 as a valuable place to seek help, no matter who you are or where you live," said FCC Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel. "That's why our continued efforts to improve 988 are so important. Next up is a georouting solution that will make it possible for callers in crisis to get help near where they are, instead of just based on the area code of their device. This will protect privacy while also ensuring that those who reach out to 988 can get connected to a local crisis center when and where they need it. This is critical for students away from family and friends, those who have recently relocated, and anyone who has a number that does not correlate with where they are when they need assistance in crisis."

"Two years ago, we successfully transitioned to the 988 Lifeline with a message of hope: that no matter where you live in this country, whenever you're experiencing a mental health or substance use crisis, or any other kind of emotional distress, you can reach a trained, compassionate crisis counselor for help 24 hours a day, seven days a week by phone, text or chat," said HHS Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use and leader of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health

Services Administration (SAMHSA) Miriam E. Delphin-Rittmon, Ph.D. "Many people are thriving and leading fulfilling lives today because they reached out and got the help that 988 provides."

HHS's \$1.5 billion investment into 988 includes funding from the American Rescue Plan and Safer Communities Act. Much of that investment has gone directly to states, territories and tribes to hire crisis counselors and improve local response, totaling nearly \$370 million in grants that were awarded in fiscal years 2022 and 2023. More than \$200 million in additional grants will be awarded in fiscal year 2024 to support states, territories and tribes as they continue to build out local capacity for crisis services and connect with more people in need.

Federal funding has also been used to bolster the national backup system so that anyone, no matter where they live, can reach a caring, trained counselor for help. The national backup network ensures that all contacts to 988 are able to be answered, regardless of a state's local capacity, as long as the person stays on the line.

Studies have shown that after speaking with a trained crisis counselor, most callers feel more hopeful and less depressed, suicidal and overwhelmed.

SAMHSA's 2022 National Survey on Drug Use and Health reported that 13.2 million adults and 3.4 million adolescents aged 12 to 17 had serious thoughts of suicide in the past year, and 48.7 million people aged 12 or older had a substance use disorder in the past year. Almost 50,000 people in the United States died by suicide in 2022.

If you or someone you know is struggling or in crisis, help is available. Call or text 988 or chat at 988lifeline.org. To learn how to get support for mental health, drug or alcohol issues, visit FindSupport.gov. If you are ready to locate a treatment facility or provider, you can go directly to FindTreatment.gov or call (800) 662-HELP (4357).

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Visitors

Continued from front

of visitors who spent more than 10 minutes within the county's boundaries and notes the average amount of time visitors spent was approximately nine and half hours.

What the number of visitors means to the area financially remains to be seen, with both sales tax and lodgers' tax revenue data reported in arrears.

The summer months also mean increased calls for service for first responders.

According to Pagosa Springs Police Department (PSPD) Chief Bill Rockensock, the summer months of July and August, along with spring break in March, are usually busier months in terms of calls for service received by the PSPD.

In an interview with Rockensock, he provided some data from previous years for comparison, noting that in

July 2022 the PSPD received a total of 210 calls for service and in August 2022 it received 814 calls for service.

In July 2023 the PSPD received 872 calls for service and 824 in August 2023, according to Rockensock.

He noted that the slower months of November and December, the PSPD typically receives around 500 calls for service per month.

Rockensock indicated that the PSPD received a total of 8,688 calls for service throughout the entire year of 2023, and predicts that number will go above 9,000 for 2024.

Additionally, Rockensock noted that in 2014, the PSPD received a total of 4,006 calls for service.

"We've gone up every single year," Rockensock said.

According to an Archuleta County Sheriff's Office blotter report, the agency received 267 calls for service

between July 1 and 7.

Data provided by the agency show just under 250 calls for July 3-7 in 2022 and 2023, and more than 150 calls for the same span in 2024.

In an interview, Pagosa Fire Protection District Deputy Chief Karn Macht indicated that the PFPD received a total of 23 calls for service from July 3-9.

Editor's note: Local emergency response agencies are using a different dispatching and call management software system than last year, which may affect comparisons.

Community news.

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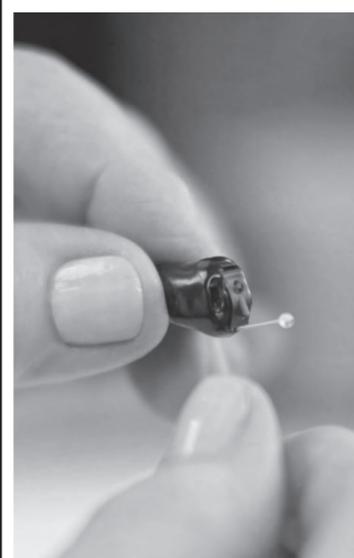
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Lane-filtering bill to go into effect Aug. 7

Colorado State Patrol

Recently, the state of Colorado passed a lane-filtering bill that will go into effect less than a month, on Aug. 7.

While lane splitting and filtering have long been controversial, motorcycle riders and drivers need to understand the rules going into effect to ensure a safe experience on our shared roadways.

"The first thing Coloradoans need to understand is that there is a seemingly small but important difference between lane filtering and lane splitting," stated Col. Matthew C. Packard, chief of the Colorado State Patrol. "One will soon be legal, and the other remains prohibited, so let's all start by getting on the same page."

Lane splitting is prohibited in Colorado, and it is the act of operating a motorcycle between two rows of moving traffic or stopped traffic traveling in the same direction. It typically involves riding the motorcycle down the painted line dividing the lanes on either side.

Lane filtering will become legal in less than a month. Lane filtering is the act of passing a vehicle going in the same direction only when the vehicle is at a complete stop. This maneuver will likely be most common at stop lights or gridlocked traffic and will legally allow riders to navigate toward the front of the line, avoiding being sandwiched between two vehicles.

One of the biggest differences between lane splitting and lane filtering comes down to the movement of the surrounding vehicles. It's important to note the differences between these practices and the rules associated with Colorado's filtering law.

MOTORCYCLE LANE FILTERING IS LEGAL IN COLORADO UNDER THESE CONDITIONS:

Passing in the same travel lane going in the same direction.

The motorcycle is traveling no faster than 15 mph while riding between stopped vehicles.

The motorcycle must fit in the same lane and the rider must maintain control.

Lane Splitting Remains Illegal.

Make safe and smart decisions when operating a motorcycle or vehicle.



COLORADO STATE PATROL

According to Colorado's new filtering law, five rules must be followed to filter:

- The vehicles a rider wants to pass must be at a complete stop.
- The lane must be wide enough to fit the vehicle and motorcycle while passing.
- The motorcycle must go 15 mph or less.
- The rider must pass safely and

control the motorcycle.

- The rider must pass on the left and not enter the oncoming traffic lane.

"It's up to the rider to assess each situation and determine if the conditions are safe and legal to filter — it's an option, not a requirement to filter," stated Packard. "It is also the responsibility of every motorist to share the road. Drive with etiquette and with the law in mind. Respecting each other and

driving without distractions will make all of our commutes faster and safer."

Changes to road rules take time to catch up with the vast motoring public. However, Coloradoans need to know that lane filtering is not new; it is just new to Colorado. Limited forms of filtering are already legal in Arizona, California, Hawaii, Montana and Utah. California is the only state that permits lane splitting.

Illustration courtesy Colorado State Patrol

Dispatch retention, recruitment incentives discussed

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

At a July 16 work session, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) heard a proposal from Archuleta County Combined Dispatch Center Emergency Communications Director Devin Moffat concerning incentives to recruit and retain staff for the dispatch center.

Moffat opened the discussion by stating that the dispatch center currently has seven staff members, meaning that it is at about 50 percent staffing and is working to recruit new staff to improve staffing levels, as well as retain current staff.

He stated that proposed retention and recruitment initiatives would be funded by the approximately \$60,000 the center has accumulated this year due to not being fully staffed.

He indicated that one of the initiatives discussed for retention is a \$2,000 sign-on bonus, with \$200 paid at hire date, \$400 at the completion of call-taking training, \$400 at the completion of radio training and \$1,000 at the completion of a year of service.

Moffat stated that the center would offer a \$3,000 sign-on bonus for those moving from another dispatch agency, with \$300 at hire date, \$600 at the completion of call-taking training, \$600 at the completion of radio training and \$1,500 at the completion of one year of service.

Another bonus being considered is a \$1,000 referral bonus, he indicated, which would be paid to any current employee of the dispatch center who refers someone to the dispatch center once the referred candidate completes call-taking and radio training.

For retention of current staff, Moffat proposed that the center change overtime pay from 1.5 times normal pay to two times normal pay given the amount of overtime being worked by current staff.

He added that he is proposing creating a new level of positions within the center to give staff a sense of progression and advancement.

Moffat stated that new hires would begin as emergency communications dispatcher trainees and would be eligible to become an emergency communications dispatcher after completing training and working for one year.

He added that those with dispatch experience would be hired as emergency communications dispatchers.

Moffat stated that the center's operations manager is working "above and beyond expectations to help cover shifts" and proposed shifting the manager position from a full-time exempt employee to a full-time nonexempt employee temporarily so that the manager could be paid for the extensive overtime they are incurring.

Commissioner Veronica Medina commented that she likes the idea for bonuses and asked what the incentive would be for employees to stay employed at the center after receiving the bonus.

She added that she would like a requirement that employees stay for a certain amount of time or have to repay the bonus or training costs.

Moffat stated that he made the bonus payable over increments to give an incentive for staff to stay at the center and that, after a year, another incentive would be that staff are eligible to be promoted from the trainee position to be a full-time emergency communications dispatcher.

Medina commented that Moffat should work with the Human Resources Department to ensure that this structure is in writing and understood by employees.

She then asked if Moffat had met with the Finance Department to ensure that the cost savings from being understaffed are as large as he expected given that some of these potential savings could have been consumed by paying overtime.

He stated that he had done so and that it is possible that, once the overtime budget is exhausted, money for overtime could come out of staffing, but that he expects that the incentives presented would not overrun the budget given the low staffing levels.

Medina asked if Moffat had any candidates in mind who might join the center with these bonuses.

Moffat indicated that he has two candidates starting within the next week.

Medina asked if either candidate was told about the bonuses, which Moffat stated they were not.

In response to a question from Medina, Moffat added that he also has another candidate who was previously not hired at the center due to them attending emergency medical technician (EMT) school at the time

they applied.

However, he stated that they have now completed EMT training and are interested in working at the dispatch center.

Medina commented that is "really good" and asked how long Moffat believes these incentives will need to be kept in place.

She noted that the bonuses would be a "huge expense" for next year's budget.

Moffat replied that he expects to keep the bonuses in place at least until the end of the year and would discuss further bonuses for the next year with the Archuleta County Emergency Communications Services Executive Management Board when he presents the 2025 budget next month.

Medina asked how much overtime Moffat would expect staff to incur until the end of the year with the center's upcoming hires.

Moffat commented that is "hard to say," but that the center currently has staffing that requires no overtime unless someone is sick or on leave.

"So, in essence, it's not going to be a huge number," Medina said.

"I hope it won't be," Moffat replied. "It does have the potential to go that way if we lose another person or if someone were to become ill or unable to fill the position."

Commissioner Warren Brown thanked Moffat for his presentation and for "trying to work through this difficult situation. It's always hard to see where we fall with retention and with recruiting."

He noted that the other agencies that fund the dispatch center would also likely have to agree to these bonuses.

Moffat indicated that the dispatch board discussed the issue at a recent meeting and determined that incentives to increase recruitment and retention would be within the scope of the dispatch board and Moffat's position.

He added that, if the commissioners express support for these initiatives, they could then move forward with implementing them.

Brown commented that the ideas Moffat brought forward are "good" for the "immediate future" and asked if Moffat considered working with county Human Resources to perform a salary survey to determine what a competitive wage for dispatch positions would be.

"If we work these people to death, there's only so many hours in a day. We have to have a plan for an endgame that there will be relief coming, there will be a plan to put other staff in place so we're able to relieve that pressure," Brown said.

He also indicated support for a contractual agreement concerning the bonuses and for considering prorating the bonuses to recover a portion of the bonuses if staff quit before the contractually mandated period for the bonus ends.

Brown added that he feels the county should discuss if it would be viable for the county to seek legal recourse to recover these funds if staff leave the center before the contractually



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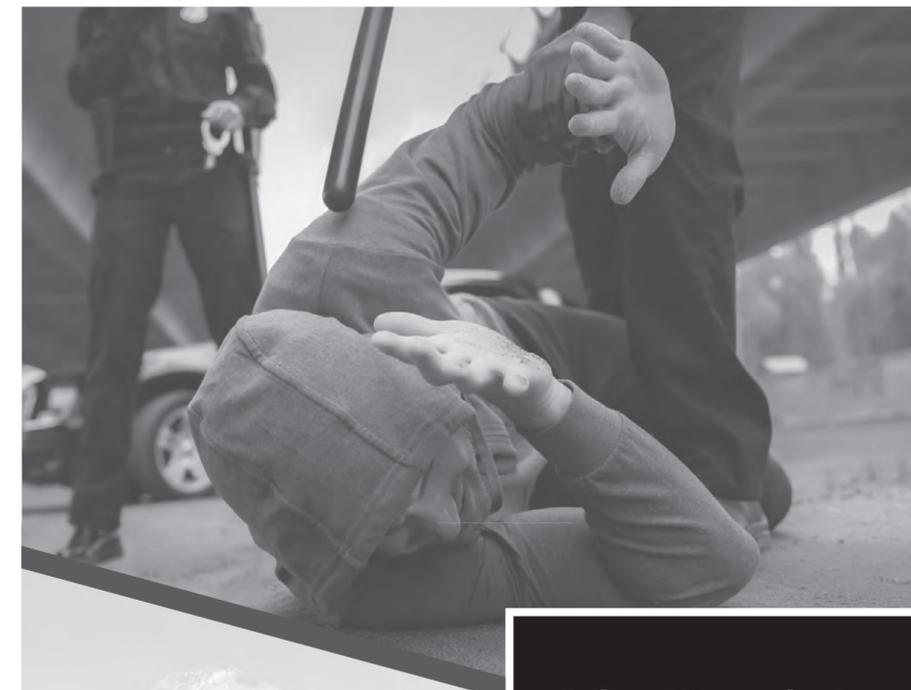
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Lock your cars: Police issue reminder following series of incidents

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs Police Department is asking people to be sure to lock their vehicles and not leave valuable items in them following a series of unlocked cars being "rummaged through."

According to Police Chief Bill Rockensock, between July 5 and 16, six vehicles were "rummaged through" in the middle of the night downtown.

He added most were along Lewis Street.

"Not a whole lot was stolen," he said.

Rockensock added that the vehicles were unlocked and not broken into.

The investigation into the incidents is ongoing.

Anyone with information is asked to call Archuleta County Combined Dispatch at (970) 731-2160.

randi@pagosahun.com



Photo courtesy Curtis Nehring

Creede Dozier jumps his way to the USA Track and Field Junior Olympics during last weekend's regional competition. Dozier placed third, advancing to the national meet.

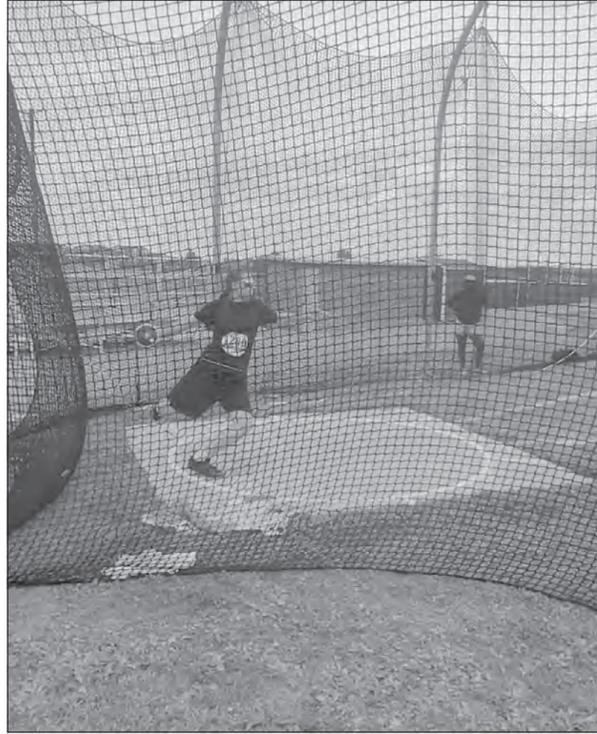


Photo courtesy Curtis Nehring

Abigail Nehring throws the discus during last weekend's the USA Track and Field Junior Olympics regional competition last weekend. Nehring took second to earn her ticket to the national competition.

Pagosa athletes qualify for Junior Olympics

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

Two Pagosa Springs athletes — Abigail Nehring and Creede Dozier — will compete in the USA Track and Field Junior Olympics July 22-28 in College Station, Texas.

Both earned the right to compete at Texas A&M's EB Cushing Stadium after placing in the top three at the Region 10 event last weekend.

The top five finishers in each event from each of the 16 regions advance to the Junior Olympics.

"This should be a fun year to attend this event with the hype of the Olympic Games starting on its closing days," coach Karri McCarter wrote in an email to The SUN.

Nehring qualified in discus by placing second with a distance of 118 feet, 11 inches.

Dozier qualified by the high jump, placing third with a height of 6-00.50.

Dozier also placed ninth in the long jump with a distance of 19-06.25.

Both athletes are competing as part of the Triple Crown Track Club, a nonprofit track club in the region.

"That fact that Abi and Creede both qualified for this prestigious track meet in their first summer competing is hugely impressive and speaks to the level of athletic talent being forgotten in our secluded corner of Colorado," McCarter wrote.

McCarter notes Nehring will compete in the 17-18 discus at 4 p.m. on July 25. Dozier will compete in the 17-18 high jump at 7 p.m. on July 27.

About Triple Crown Track Club

According to McCarter, the club's goals are to give middle school, high school, open, masters and parallel athletes "the opportunity to fine tune their training in this sport, their chosen events and then be able to compete those events on a National level."

In the past, she notes, the club "has solely focused on helping [high school]

student-athletes achieve their goal of running in college, only using summer meets for recruiting marks. The only other athlete in our club's history to compete with the intention of making Nationals was Bayfield's track and field stand out, Jordan Lanning. She attended the 2018 Junior Olympics in Greensboro, NC qualifying in High Jump and finishing 15th in the nation."

McCarter also notes that the club's location makes participation in club track and field "very expensive."

"These rural athletes have limited opportunities to train and compete because of the travel costs incurred to do both," she wrote.

To help fund the trip to the Junior Olympics, she notes, the team will be at City Market this weekend to fund-raise to send the athletes and the two specialty coaches to Texas.

"Please come by to purchase a goodie or make a donation that will help these athletes continue to chase their dreams," she wrote.

If interested in training or making

a donation, contact McCarter on Instagram, @triplecrown_trackclub, or by emailing ksmfit13@gmail.com. randi@pagosasun.com

County adopts updated procurement policy, new grant management policy

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) approved an updated county procurement policy and a new grant management policy at its July 16 meeting.

Earlier in the day at a work session, Finance Director Chad Eaton explained the policies to the board, beginning by noting that the procurement policy had not been updated since 2009.

He indicated that Accountant Allison Wylie assisted with the updates, which included changing titles in the policy to match current positions, realigning spending thresholds to fit the needs of county departments and tightening finance procedures to match more stringent audit requirements.

He added that the policy also includes a provision that the Finance Department will perform annual reviews of the policy and submit proposed changes to the BoCC.

Eaton indicated that an ethics section and verbiage compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act were also added to the policy.

He added the changes are all compliant with current local, state and federal regulations.

Commissioner Ronnie Maez stated that he "liked the hard work you guys put into this" and commented, "Good job."

Eaton moved on to the grant management policy, explaining that this was taken out of the procurement policy and made its own policy.

He stated that, in working on grants for the Archuleta County Public Health Department, many of the grants requested that the county have a grant management policy.

He indicated that the grant management policy provides more detail and complies with state requirements for a grant management policy.

Commissioner Warren Brown commented that the county is receiving an increased number of grants and that this creates additional work for those who manage county grants, although he noted that the money received is also valuable.

Maez commented that he is glad to see a policy in place.

Commissioner Veronica Medina stated that she agreed with the other commissioners about the need for the policy and noted that the policy contains a variety of requirements that department heads seeking grants meet with the county manager or finance director to review the grant and determine if it is suitable.

She noted that many grant applications must be completed on short timelines and asked what the process for these discussions would be if the finance director or the county manager are not available.

Eaton explained that he is available to review grants when he is away from the office and that he has given authority to his accountant to also perform much of the review procedure.

He stated that grants discovered shortly before the deadline are difficult to apply for and that the county has to work to be proactive and understand grant deadlines.

However, he added that, in situations where there has been limited time to complete a grant, the Finance Department has been able to work with other departments and outside agencies to quickly submit an application or to extend the deadline for a grant.

Medina thanked Eaton for his explanation.

Wylie added that the policy also allows the county manager to perform many of the steps required prior to submitting a grant application.

At the meeting, the BoCC unanimously voted to adopt both policies with no further comments.

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Dispatch

Continued from A12

through that," Maez said. "This job isn't an easy job. There's no way in heck this is an easy job, not when somebody's calling for help and needing an immediate response. It's a stressful job. There's always high turnover in this job. But, I think with these ideas that you presented — and it's a good plan — I think we might have more retention in the future and, if the board is approving of it, I'll support it."

The meeting concluded with Interim County Manager Jack Harper indicating that he would work with Moffat, Human Resources and Finance to start implementing the proposals.

josh@pagosasun.com

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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 17 — Obstructing peace officer/police animal/fireman, driving after revocation prohibited, driving with revoked license, eluding a police officer, Talisman Drive.

June 17 — Permitted use of # plate/misuse plates, information only, Hurt Drive.

June 17 — Agency assist, U.S. 160.
 June 17 — Warrant arrest, Great West Avenue.

June 18 — Menacing-felony-aggravated public official-strongarm, Harman Park Drive.

June 19 — Alcohol-under 21 possess/consumption, driver's license-instruction permit violation, driving under the influence of alcohol, DUI per se, U.S. 84.
 June 19 — Information only, Village Drive.

June 20 — Reckless endangerment, fourth-degree arson-endangering life, Meadow Lark Drive.
 June 20 — Second-degree assault-aggravated-police officer-gun, Harman Park Drive.

June 20 — Recklessly discharges a firearm, menacing use of deadly weapon not specified, criminal mischief-\$1,000-\$2,000, driving under the influence of alcohol, DUI per se, reckless driving, hit and run and failed to remain on scene of accident-damage only, Panorama Place.
 June 20 — Under investigation.
 June 21 — Not completed, no location listed.

June 21 — Violation of protection order-criminal, U.S. 160.
 June 21 — Harassment-strikes/shoves/kicks, Harman Park Drive.
 June 21 — Information only, no location listed.

June 21 — Child abuse-negligence, Canyon Circle.
 June 21 — Information only, Cloud Cap Avenue.

June 21 — Dog at large, Canyon Circle.
 June 21 — Agency assist, Park Avenue.

June 22 — Criminal mischief \$5,000-\$20,000 private, County Road 700/U.S. 160.
 June 22 — Unlawful possession of a controlled substance, assault in the third degree, second-degree criminal trespass, harassment-strikes/shoves/kicks, U.S. 84.

June 24 — Warrant arrest, warrant arrest, Seminole Drive.
 June 24 — Alcohol-under 21-possess/consumption, obstructing peace officer/police animal/fireman, operated motor vehicle with expired license plates, Park Avenue.

June 24 — Warrant arrest, U.S. 160.
 June 24 — Warrant arrest, U.S. 160.
 June 24 — Unlawful possession of a controlled substance, no location listed.

June 25 — Not completed, U.S. 160.
 June 25 — Registration-fictitious plate, North Pagosa Boulevard.

June 26 — Warrant arrest, Navajo Trail Drive.
 June 26 — Disturbance, Bastille Drive.

June 26 — Theft-\$2,000 to \$20,000-from yard, Lake Street.
 June 26 — Information only, Davis Cup Drive.

June 26 — Civil process, North 8th Street.
 June 27 — Unlawful use of a controlled substance, second-degree introducing contraband, Harman Park Drive.

June 27 — Marijuana paraphernalia-under 21, harassment-insults/taunts/challenges, Saddleback Drive.
 June 27 — Violation of protection order-criminal, County Road 700.

June 28 — Theft-\$2,000 to \$20,000-from banking type institution, identity theft-intent, Beucler Lane.
 June 28 — Not completed, Canyon Circle.

June 28 — Third-degree burglary-safe or vault, North Pagosa Boulevard.
 June 29 — Theft-\$50 to \$300 from vehicle, first-degree criminal trespass motor vehicle, Laguna Place.

June 29 — Not completed, U.S. 160.
 June 29 — Warrant arrest, Great West Avenue.

June 29 — Not completed, USFS 667.
 June 29 — Not completed, Lake Street.

July 1 — Warrant arrest, South Pagosa Boulevard.
 July 1 — Warrant arrest, warrant arrest, Country Center Drive.

July 1 — Driving under the influence of alcohol, alcohol-open container/drink in vehicle, Cameo Court.
 July 2 — Assault in the third degree, domestic violence, harassment-

strikes/shoves/kicks DV, Ute Place.

July 2 — Trespass warning, North Pagosa Boulevard.
 July 2 — Murder in the first degree, County Road 700.

July 2 — Theft-less than \$2,000-from banking type institution, identity theft, Ray Court.
 July 2 — Theft, County Road 600.

July 2 — Theft, Oak Drive.
 July 2 — Criminal impersonation-felony, identity theft-possesses, obstructing peace officer/police animal/fireman, false reporting of identifying information to law enforcement, vehicular eluding, careless driving, stop sign-failed to stop, Simmons Drive.

July 2 — Theft-less than \$300, theft-\$300-\$1,000, Park Avenue.
 July 2 — Theft-\$2,000 to \$20,000-from banking type institution, identity theft-intent, Canyon Circle.

July 3 — Information only, Echo Creek Drive.
 July 3 — Information only, North 8th Street.

July 4 — Not completed, Taylor Lane.
 July 4 — Resisting arrest, obstructing peace officer/police animal/fireman, Hills Circle.

July 4 — Dog at large, Lakeside Drive.
 July 5 — Not completed, no location listed.

July 5 — Not completed, no location listed.
 July 5 — Second-degree assault on police officer while in custody, Harman Park Drive.

July 5 — Theft-\$5,000-\$20,000, criminal impersonation-misdemeanor, identity theft-use financial device to obtain thing of value, crimes against at-risk adult/juvenile-theft no force, Collette's Place.
 July 6 — Agency assist, Lake Forest Circle.

July 6 — Agency assist, Navajo Reservoir.
 July 5 — Not completed, no location listed.

July 5 — Not completed, no location listed.
 July 5 — Second-degree assault on police officer while in custody, Harman Park Drive.

July 5 — Theft-\$5,000-\$20,000, criminal impersonation-misdemeanor, identity theft-use financial device to obtain thing of value, crimes against at-risk adult/juvenile-theft no force, Collette's Place.
 July 6 — Agency assist, Lake Forest Circle.

July 6 — Agency assist, Navajo Reservoir.
Pagosa Springs Police Department

June 16 — Theft-\$2,000 to \$20,000-from vehicle, County Road 500.
 June 16 — Assault in the third degree, domestic violence, South 8th Street.

June 17 — Theft-\$2,000-\$5,000, lost and found, Pagosa Street, Hot Springs Boulevard.
 June 17 — Obstructing peace officer/police animal/fireman, driver's license-driving without, speeding 10-19 over in construction zone, eluding a police officer, Eagle Drive/Great West Avenue.

June 18 — Follow-up, Hot Springs Boulevard.
 June 18 — Follow-up, Cornerstone Drive.

June 18 — Lost and found, Hot Springs Boulevard.
 June 18 — Trespass warning, Aspen Village Drive.

June 18 — Reckless driving, Eagle Drive, U.S. 160.
 June 19 — Identity theft-use information to obtain thing of value, lost and found, San Juan Street.

June 20 — Follow-up, Village Drive.
 June 20 — Lost and found, East Pagosa Street.

June 20 — Cruelty to animals-neglect/mistreatment, South 7th Street.
 June 20 — Lost and found, Country Center Drive.

June 20 — Trespass warning, Pagosa Street.
 June 20 — Business check, Aspen Village Drive.

June 20 — Trespass warning, Talisman Drive.
 June 21 — Theft/intends to deprive person, Eagle Drive.

June 21 — Public assist, Florida Street.
 June 21 — Follow-up, Pagosa East Street.

June 22 — Follow-up, Eagle Drive.
 June 22 — Criminal trespass, U.S. 84.

June 23 — Abandonment of motor vehicle, 6th Street.
 June 23 — Shoplifting/departs or attempts to depart without payment, trespass warning, Pagosa Street.

June 24 — Identity theft-use information to obtain thing of value, information only, Hot Springs Boulevard.
 June 25 — Vehicle accident no injuries, Talisman Drive.

June 26 — Information only, Eaton Drive.
 June 26 — Identity theft-use information to obtain thing of value, Hot Springs Boulevard.

June 26 — Cruelty to animals-neglect/mistreatment, Hermosa Street.
 June 26 — Warrant arrest, North 15th Street.

June 27 — Warrant arrest, North 15th Street.
 June 27 — Lost and found, South Pagosa Boulevard.

June 27 — Disturbance, East Pagosa Street.
 June 27 — Child abuse-negli-

gence, South 8th Street.

June 27 — Violation of protection order-criminal, Aspen Village Drive.
 June 28 — Disorderly conduct/offensive utterance or gesture, shoplifting/departs or attempts to depart without payment, trespass warning, Country Center Drive.

June 28 — Agency assist, South 8th Street.
 June 28 — Vehicle accident no injuries, East Pagosa Street.

June 28 — Careless driving, County Road 600.
 June 28 — Vehicle accident no injuries-careless driving, San Juan Street.

June 29 — Felony menacing-real/simulated weapon, North 8th Street.
 June 29 — Information only, U.S. 160.

June 29 — Second-degree assault, South 9th Street.
 June 29 — Criminal mischief, South 9th Street.

July 7 — Theft, Aspen Village Drive.
 July 7 — Harassment/repeatedly insults, taunts, challenges, South 6th Street.

July 8 — Left scene without providing information after striking unattended vehicle or property, San Juan Street.
 July 8 — Disturbance, Country Center Drive.

July 9 — Criminal mischief under \$300 public, Pagosa Street.
 July 9 — Lost/found property, Hot Springs Boulevard.

July 9 — Theft/intending to deprive, South 7th Street.
 July 9 — Purchase on credit to defraud, South 6th Street.

July 9 — Lane usage violation, driving under the influence of alcohol, U.S. 160.
 July 10 — Theft-\$20,000 or more-other (includes gas), Lewis Street.

July 10 — Warrant arrest, Lewis Street.
 July 10 — Criminal mischief under \$300 public, San Juan Street.

July 10 — Theft, San Juan Street.
 July 10 — Trespass, North 2nd Street.

July 11 — Criminal mischief \$5,000-\$20,000 private, Lewis Street.
 July 11 — Traffic investigation-complaint, Pagosa Street.

July 11 — Follow-up, Hot Springs Boulevard.
 July 11 — Theft-\$50 to \$300 other (includes gas), San Juan Street.

July 11 — Warrant arrest, Hermosa Street.
 July 12 — Criminal mischief, Country Center Drive.

July 12 — Failed to obtain registration within 60 day purchase, no insurance-owner, sidewalk driving on, Hermosa Street.
 July 12 — Lost and found, Hot Springs Boulevard.

July 12 — Owner/custodian allowed animal to run at large, South 9th Street, South 8th Street.
 July 13 — Death investigation, Cobblestone Lane.

July 13 — Criminal mischief, Cobblestone Lane.
Pagosa Springs Municipal Court: Judge Anthony D. Edwards

June 10 — Daniel Reichman, failed to stop at stop sign, four points off, fines and surcharge — \$81.
 June 11 — Dylan Sanchez, criminal trespass, 10 days incarceration.

Archuleta County Court: Judge Justin P. Fay
 June 7 — Jeremy M. Kempter, speeding 20-24 over, fines and costs — \$255.

June 13 — Wesley Wade Moss, driving under the influence-with prior conviction, 375 days jail, 365 days probation, 48 hours community service, fines and costs — \$1,940.50.
 June 20 — Louis H. Buck, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$198.50.

June 24 — Anna Holloway Koopp, weaving from traffic lane, fines and costs — \$135.
 July 3 — Hussein Aliabdulal Alazaw, controlled substance-possession Schedule I/II/III/IV/V, speeding 25-39 over limit, one day jail, fines and costs — \$1,331.50.

July 3 — Timothy John Quintana, driving under the influence, 365 days jail suspended imposition, 48 hours community service, 12 months probation, 10 days electronic surveillance, fines and costs — \$1,468.50.
 July 3 — Amber Landacre, violation p/o-criminal, 18 months probation, fines and costs — \$1,192.50.

July 3 — Amber Landacre, harassment-repeat telephone calls, 18 months probation, fines and costs — \$1,192.50.
 July 3 — Dennis Yarbrough, speeding 5-9 over limit, fines and costs — \$139.50.

July 3 — Nathaniel P. Frazee, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs — \$210.50.
 July 3 — Ryan A. Olson, speeding 25-39 over limit, fines and costs — \$296.50.

July 3 — Shawn A. Jackson, driving under restraint, registration-unregistered vehicle, fines and costs — \$254.50.
 July 3 — Tyrome Chee, speeding 20-24 over limit, fines and costs — \$291.50.

July 3 — Jason R. Borders, seat belt not used, fines and costs — \$133.50.
 July 3 — Christina Doe Diangelo, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$225.

July 3 — Katie Leigh Easling, failed to use turn signal, fines and costs — \$140.
 July 3 — Thomas J. Espinoza, speeding 20-24 over limit, fines and costs — \$314.50.

July 3 — Rheanna A. Gallegos, license plates-expired, fines and costs — \$124.50.
 July 3 — Timothy James Gallegos, speeding 20-24 over, fines and costs — \$290.

July 3 — Javier O. Garcia, speeding 20-24 over limit, fines and costs — \$314.50.
 July 3 — Antonio Juan Herrera, license plates-expired, fines and costs — \$155.50.

July 3 — Austin Lee Hicks, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$225.
 July 3 — Boone Hill, license plates-expired, driving under restraint, fines and costs — \$271.50.

July 3 — Dan Robert Ferguson, registration-unregistered vehicle, fines and costs — \$161.50.
 July 3 — Jacquelyn Nicole Holman, registration-unregistered vehicle, driver's license-driving without, fines and costs — \$207.50.

July 3 — Steven Martinez, driver's license-driving without, fail to yield right of way/stop sign, fines and costs — \$188.50.
 July 3 — Wilfried Oyono, speeding 5-9 over limit, fines and costs — \$127.50.

July 3 — Alyssa J. Rivas, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs — \$233.50.
See The Blotter A15

Your source for community news: The Pagosa Springs SUN

HUD Publisher's Notice

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

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

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

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Public Notices

District Court ARCHULETA County, Colorado
 Court Address: 1060 East 2nd Ave, Durango, CO 81301
 Phone: (970) 247-2304
 In the Matter of the Estate of CELINA VALDEZ, Deceased
 Attorney or Party Without Attorney (Name and Address):
 Soignier Law Firm, LLC
 Amos L. Soignier, Atty Reg. #35557
 2855 Main Ave., Suite B101, Durango, CO 81301
 Phone Number: (970) 247-3510
 E-mail: amos@soignierlaw.com
 Case Number: 2024 PR 30068
NOTICE TO CREDITORS BY PUBLICATION PURSUANT TO § 15-12-801, C.R.S.
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 Estate of CELINA VALDEZ, Deceased; Case Number 2024 PR 30068.
 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 November 20, 2024, or the claims may be forever barred.
 Amos L. Soignier, Esq.
 Soignier Law Firm, LLC
 2855 Main Ave., Suite B101
 Durango, CO 81301
 Published July 18, 25 and August 1, 2024 in The Pagosa Springs SUN. (241374)

Kenneth W. Seibel, Personal Representative
 256 Millon Lane
 Ignacio, Colorado 81137
 (970) 883-2336
 Published July 4, 11 & 18, 2024 in The Pagosa Springs SUN. (240240)

PUBLIC NOTICE ARCHULETA COUNTY BOARD OF EQUALIZATION
 The Archuleta County Board of Equalization (CBOE) will sit to review the assessment of all taxable property located in Archuleta County, as prepared by the Archuleta County Assessor, and to hear appeals from determinations of the Assessor on July 29, 30, 31 and August 1, 2024 (as needed). Hearings will be held in the Commissioners Meeting Room located at 398 Lewis Street, Pagosa Springs, Colorado.
 Published July 11 & 18, 2024 in The Pagosa Springs SUN. (240566)

FOR BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HEARING ON August 6, 2024
 Larry Lunstford has applied for Pagosa Highland Estates AMENDMENT 2024-01 FINAL PLAT REVIEW, creating Lot 483XZ and Lot 480XZ in Sec. 26 Twn: 36 Rng: 2W, at 59 Knife Edge Place, Pagosa Springs, CO (PLN24-094). The property is zoned PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT (PUD).
 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 Board of County Commissioners on August 6, 2024, at 1:30 p.m. in the County Commissioners Meeting Room, 398 Lewis Street, Pagosa Springs and via Zoom Link.
 Published July 18 and August 1, 2024 in The Pagosa Springs SUN. (241384)

FOR BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HEARING ON August 6, 2024
 Stephen Rinaldi has applied for Pagosa Alpha Section AMENDMENT 2024-02 FINAL PLAT REVIEW, creating Lot 15-6A and Lot 15-6B in Sec. 15 Twn: 35 Rng: 2W, at 1343 Wheeler Place, Pagosa Springs, CO (PLN24-104). 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 Board of County Commissioners on August 6, 2024, at 1:30 p.m. in the County Commissioners Meeting Room, 398 Lewis Street, Pagosa Springs and via Zoom Link.
 Published July 18 and August 1, 2024 in The Pagosa Springs SUN. (241387)

PUBLIC HEARING
 The Town Council for the Town of Pagosa Springs will be holding a public hearing for the application of a new Tavern Liquor License, Uncle's Bar & Social Club, located at 56 Talisman Drive 8-C in Pagosa Springs, Colorado. The public hearing will be held on Tuesday, August 6, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. in the Town Council Chambers at Town Hall at 551 Hot Springs Blvd and/or remote by Zoom meeting. All people wishing to comment should be present at that meeting or have written comments in the office of the Town Clerk no later than 5:00 p.m. on August 2, 2024.
 Published July 18, 2024 in The Pagosa Springs SUN. (241584)

PUBLIC NOTICES: YOUR RIGHT TO KNOW

Outdoors



Commissioners hear update on Veterans Memorial Park

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) heard an update from the Veterans Memorial Park (VMP) Board of Directors at its July 11 work session, featuring progress on the park and a request for funding to construct a pavilion.

VMP board members Karin Daniels and Eric Davidson presented to the BoCC on the park, with Daniels opening by thanking the BoCC for its ongoing support for the park.

"It just has turned into such a fantastic area and park and venue and everything, so we're really proud of what we've accomplished, but so grateful because of your help and support," Daniels said.

She outlined projects completed in the park in the last year, including the installation of sidewalks around the parking lot, the creation of two concrete pads for picnic tables and a bike rack, continued park and trail maintenance done by volunteers and the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association, the installation of a trash can and dog manure bags from the county, and the permanent installation of an Iwo Jima sculpture in the center island of the parking lot.

She stated that the sidewalks help extend the seasons in which the park

can be used and suggested that the park could benefit from having another trash can.

Daniels explained that the park has hosted "half a dozen" "fantastic" memorial services for local veterans in cooperation with Veterans for Veterans of Archuleta County.

She then covered upcoming projects, explaining that the VMP plans to expand the brick display that memorializes local veterans and place a decommissioned mortar donated by a local veteran as a display in the park.

Daniels then brought up another planned project at the park, which is the installation of a pavilion or gazebo over the picnic tables at the park.

She explained that the picnic tables are "pretty exposed," with minimal shade, and that the group has heard multiple requests for a shade covering at the location.

Commissioner Ronnie Maez proposed that the park should work to expand the concrete slab on which the gazebo would be located and to place a larger gazebo to ensure there is enough space for event attendees.

Commissioner Warren Brown asked if the pad could be expanded, which Daniels and Davidson confirmed.

Daniels commented that she would like to pursue a similar approach for the gazebo project as that

used to build the park sidewalks, with the VMP planning and managing the project and the funds coming from county Conservation Trust Fund monies.

However, she stated that she would want to know if the county sees this project as viable and would be interested in supporting it before moving forward.

Brown asked if the group has an estimate for how much the gazebo would cost.

The VMP does not, Daniels stated, adding that the group "held off" to get the opinion of the BoCC first.

Maez reiterated his proposal that the VMP board look into creating a large concrete slab and gazebo, adding that he would like to see a cost estimate on this.

Daniels stated that this can be done easily, but that the board wanted to get opinions from the board first.

Brown commented that a gazebo would help expand the number of users for the park by providing shade.

Daniels added that the shade would also be valuable for the range of events occurring at the park.

She stated that, given the response from the commissioners, the board would move forward with researching costs for the pad expansion and a gazebo, which it would provide to

the county.

Brown indicated that the board could bring these estimates back to a BoCC work session.

He also noted that the monies from the Conservation Trust Fund are from the state lottery and are earmarked for parks and trails.

Next, Daniels discussed overnight parking at the park, noting that there have been incidents of individuals parking overnight or for long periods at the park.

She added that the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office has helped address these issues and recommended the installation of signs indicating that no overnight parking is allowed and stipulating that park hours are from dawn to dusk.

Interim County Manager Jack Harper stated that he would work with the VMP to do this.

Daniels noted the "previous administration" at the county stated that the county had a bike rack that could be installed at the park and asked if current county leadership knows where this bike rack is.

Brown and Commissioner Veronica Medina both commented that they remembered previous discussions about a bike rack, and Harper stated that he would look into the issue.

Daniels ended her update by thanking the BoCC for its support and highlighting the continuing usage of the park.

"I think the VMP's been very proactive and very responsible with any monies that the county has put towards this to make it a community project and available for, especially, folks towards that end of town because there's not many that are accessible uptown," Brown said. "Good job."

Daniels commented that the VMP board is happy to keep working on adding items to the park and Maez thanked the board for its "volunteerism" and work.

josh@pagosahun.com



Photo courtesy Allen Domingo

Local angler Charity Domingo hits the grand slam of fishing at a local creek earlier this week. Domingo caught four species of trout — brown trout, cutthroat trout, tiger trout and rainbow trout — during the outing.

The Blotter

Continued from A14

July 3 — Daniel Louis Ross, speeding 20-24 over, fines and costs — \$290.

July 3 — Tiffany A. Seigny, seat belt not used, fines and costs — \$133.50.

July 3 — Tasha Vigil, registration-unregistered vehicle, fines and costs — \$161.50.

July 3 — Robert S. Harrison, littering-first offense, fines and costs — \$89.50.

July 5 — Leeja Bahk, obedience to official traffic control device, fines and costs — \$155.

July 8 — Alyx Fordham, speeding 20-24 over, fines and costs — \$255.

July 11 — Annaveah Castillo, driving while ability impaired, 180 days jail suspended imposition, 24 hours community service, 12 months deferred sentence-alcohol, fines and costs — \$568.50.

July 11 — Daniel M Ross, controlled substance-possession Schedule I/II/III/IV/V, fines and costs — \$651.50.

July 11 — Henry Arthur Chilton, driving while ability impaired, 180 days jail suspended imposition, 24 hours community service, 12 months deferred sentence-alcohol, fines and costs — \$675.50.

July 11 — Steven Martinez Jr., driving while ability impaired, 180 days jail suspended imposition, 24 hours community service, 12 months deferred sentence-alcohol, fines and costs — \$675.50.

July 12 — Dan Robert Ferguson, registration-unregistered vehicle, fines and costs — \$126.50.

July 12 — Biskie Joe Joe Loretto, speeding 20-24 over, fines and costs — \$255.

July 12 — Elias I. Sanchez, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$198.50.

July 12 — Teresa L. Peabody, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$198.50.

July 12 — Geraldine Mae Iturralde, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$190.

6th Judicial District Court: Judge

Justin P. Fay

July 3 — Amber Dawn Landacre, harassment-strike/shove/kick, 18 months probation, fines and costs — \$1,203.50.

July 3 — Michael Lynn Palafox, driving under the influence, 425 days jail, 365 days jail suspended imposition, two years probation, 48 hours community service, fines and costs — \$2,069.50.

July 3 — Damian Kent, unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, 60 days jail, 18 months probation, fines and costs — \$1,203.50.

6th Judicial District Court: Judge Jeffrey R. Wilson

June 17 — Tye Brandon Fehrenbacher, controlled substance-possession with intent to distribute, three years probation, fines and costs — \$4,233.50.

July 1 — Jason Pico, driving under the influence, 455 days jail, 365 days jail suspended imposition, 56 hours community service, 24 months probation, fines and costs — \$2,624.50.

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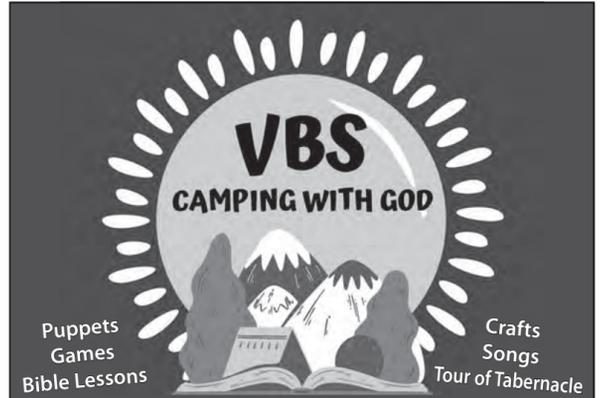


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SUN photo/Clayton Chaney

The view from Quartz Ridge looking to the north offers an expansive view of the Continental Divide. The ridge rises above 12,000 feet.

August plant walks with Lake McCullough scheduled

By Jean Zirnhelt
Weminuche Audubon Society

Saturday, Aug. 3, will be the final outing this summer to learn about our high-elevation native plants with certified herbalist Lake McCullough.

Join us for a fun and educational ramble through the forest as we discover edible and medicinal native plants. The walks are free of charge and advance registration is required.

In August we will look for late-

summer botanical bounty at high elevation. Meet at Forest Service Road 725 (Wolf Creek Road) on Wolf Creek Pass. From Pagosa Springs, take U.S. 160 east approximately 22 miles. The right-hand turn is marked with a small brown Forest Service sign reading "Junction Rd. 725." The road slopes sharply down to the right after the turnoff.

We will meet at the pull-out at the base of the road and walk from there. The walk is about 2 miles round-trip.

Please be prepared for rocky trails and unpredictable weather, and leave dogs at home.

In order to handle increased popularity and demand for information about our local ecosystems, we will be conducting two back-to-back plant walks at this location.

The first tour will begin at 9:30 a.m. and run until 11:30 a.m. The second tour will begin at 11:45 a.m. and go until 1:45 p.m. There is a 15-person maximum on each walk. Please call

McCullough ahead to reserve a space at (970) 398-0923 and indicate which time slot you prefer.

McCullough's knowledge and fun sense of humor have made these walks very popular and spaces fill quickly. Give her a call to add your name to the list.

Weminuche Audubon Society and Audubon Rockies are proud to sponsor these walks and grateful that she takes time from her busy schedule to share her expertise with us.

Rio Grande National Forest's Forest Specialist Series to focus on alpine plants

By Gregg Goodland
Rio Grande National Forest

Join Rachel Hosna on Wednesday, July 24, for the Rio Grande National Forest's July edition of the Forest Specialist Series.

Hosna is a rangeland management specialist focusing on botany

and invasive programs.

She will present about plants that can survive some of the most extreme conditions on the Rio Grande National Forest — the alpine.

We'll talk about types of alpine plant communities, go over some common and rare plants that occur in the area, and discuss responsible

recreation in this fragile environment.

The online program will be held Wednesday, July 24, at 5 p.m. in partnership with the San Juan Mountains Association.

The Zoom presentation will be held live and will be followed by a Q-and-A session: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89693067049>.

This event is part of the Rio Grande National Forest's Forest Specialist Series, a once-monthly, online presentation to share information with our community. We hope you'll join us to learn more about your local public lands.

If you have missed our past programs, check them out on YouTube.

Assessor presents 2024 valuation report

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

Archuleta County Assessor Johanna Tully-Elliott provided a report on the 2024 valuation of property in the county, as well as on protests of valuation and their results, to the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) at its July 16 meeting.

Tully-Elliott opened her update by stating that the report is required by Colorado law and must include valuations of property in the county, and a list of real and personal property protests and their results.

She stated that the assessments are based on the 2023 tax rates of 6.7 percent for residential property, 6.9 percent for multifamily, 27.9 percent

for vacant land, 27.9 for lodging and 26.4 for agriculture.

She added that these values are a "snapshot in time" and reflect values as of July 9, 2024.

Tully-Elliott also noted that these values do not reflect the 2024 assessment rate, or the \$55,000 residential value adjustment and the \$30,000 commercial adjustment.

She explained that the real property valuation for the county is \$611,920,160, while the personal property valuation for the property is \$24,428,310 for a total of \$636,348,470 in assessed value.

Tully-Elliott reported in 2023 that real property in the county was assessed at \$658,867,470 and personal property in the county was valued at \$3,642,320 for a total valuation of

\$662,509,790.

In 2022, real property in the county was valued at \$378,843,700 while personal property was valued at \$19,931,090 for a total value of \$398,765,790, according to the assessor's 2022 report of valuation.

Tully-Elliott stated that the assessor's office received a total of 109 protests of property valuations.

She indicated that 42 real property protests were approved and 27 were denied, while no personal property protests were approved and 40 were denied.

Commissioner Warren Brown asked how many of these protests are likely to be heard by the county Board of Equalization (BOE), which is composed of the members of the BoCC.

Tully-Elliott indicated that she

would expect about 10 percent of the protests to pass on to the county BOE and that she had received two so far.

She noted that the deadline for appeals to the BOE was July 15 and that more could potentially arrive by mail.

josh@pagosasun.com

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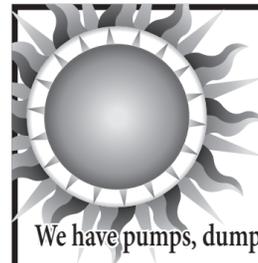
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The purpose of the Western Heritage Event Center is to organize the annual three-day Red Ryder Roundup® Rodeo as well as provide a year-round venue for education and training for youth and equestrian events for Archuleta County. The Western Heritage Board is dedicated to preserving the history and traditions of the American West.

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jlewis@pagosa.k12.co.us or call 970-264-2228 x5408

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preview

ARTS & LIFE

ComFest

5:30-8:30 p.m. • Friday, July 19 • Yamaguchi Park



PREVIEW photo/Randi Pierce

July 18, 2024

Heavy Diamond Ring to perform at Friday's ComFest

By **Darren Lewis**
Town of Pagosa Springs

ComFest 2024 is a free music event for the community held the third Friday of every month during the summer sponsored by the Town of Pagosa Springs.

This event is held at Yamaguchi Park from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

All concerts sponsor a nonprofit chosen randomly by

the Pagosa Springs Town Council. The nonprofit organization is responsible for providing volunteers for the event and in return benefits from all proceeds collected from the beer garden.

The next ComFest event will be held Friday, July 19, at Yamaguchi Park from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. featuring an all-American folk rock music band named Heavy Diamond Ring.

Please bring your lawn chair and come enjoy a relaxing Friday evening at Yamaguchi Park.

Panhellenic gathering planned for July 25

By **Lisa Scott**
Special to The PREVIEW

Women affiliated with a collegiate sorority are invited to attend a gathering of sisters on Thursday, July 25, from 4 to 5:30 p.m. at the Alley House Grille.

A \$10 donation at the event is requested to assist in covering the cost of appetizers and cash bar service.

This previously annual event was

revived last year, and two events brought more than 30 women together to catch up with old friends, enjoy new friends and share the bond of sisterhood across badges.

Please help us by mentioning this upcoming event to friends and acquaintances that you know to be sorority women so that we can continue to grow participation for this event. We look forward to welcoming

the traditional attendees, as well as new faces, to this special event.

The planning committee consists of Sherry Spears, Delta Delta Delta; Joni Rose, Pi Beta Phi; and Lisa Scott, Pi Beta Phi.

For planning and food preparation, please let us know you are attending. Call or text Spears at (940) 887-9208 or sherrykayspears@sbcglobal.net.

Live Performers



- Thursday**
Liberty Theatre: William Lee Martin, 7 p.m.
- Friday**
Meltdown on Main: Melinda Lutz, 5:30 p.m.
Mountain Pizza and Taproom: Dan Evans, 5:30 p.m.
The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Maxwell Miller, 5 p.m.
- Saturday**
East Side Market: Emily Tholberg, 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: Jackson Mountain Ramblers, 5 p.m.

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Archuleta County Fair partnering with Pagosa Springs Medical Center for Tough Enough to Wear Pink Rodeo

By Ashley Springer
Archuleta County

This year's fair is just around the corner, and the Archuleta County Fair Board is honored to once again announce its partnership with Pagosa Springs Medical Center (PSMC) for the Tough Enough to Wear Pink Rodeo on Aug. 2 at the Archuleta County Fairgrounds.

The cost for the rodeo is \$10 per adult, \$5 per child ages 6-12 and 5 and under are free.

Last year's event brought in more than \$3,000 for PSMC from donations by generous supporters.

Everyone is encouraged to wear

pink to support those who have been affected by cancer and their families, as well as the cancer center at PSMC.

This year's Tough Enough to Wear Pink Rodeo will also feature the "Bald for the Brave" head shaving at 6:30 p.m. The 2024 heroes are Sheriff Mike Le Roux, John Linzalone and Deputy Cody Mattice. Come donate and support these soon-to-be bald heroes.

The fair still needs volunteers.

Come join us and meet other community members, have lots of fun and help out with this timeless tradition. Volunteers receive one free event ticket of their choice per shift worked.

Please contact Tabitha Hart, (970) 264-8424, or email archuletacounty-fair@gmail.com with any questions. Visit archuletacountyfair.com for details on this year's events and live concerts.

See you at the fair.



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Mt. Allison Grange fundraiser set for Saturday

By Norma Conley
Mr. Allison Grange Hall

The Allison Grange burger fry and yard sale/bazaar will be Saturday, July 20, from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The menu includes burgers with all the fixings, chips, cookies, coffee, ice tea and lemonade.

Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children 6-10 and under 6 are free.

Funds will be used to build a handicap ramp.

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend.

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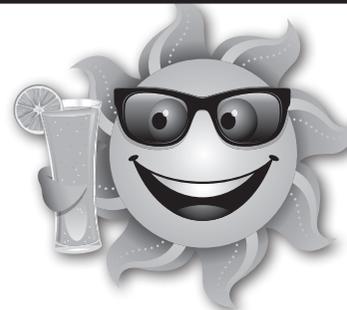


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64th annual Little Beaver Celebration to be held in Dulce

By Hailey Sams
SUN Intern

The Jicarilla Apache Nation has released the schedule of events for the 64th annual Little Beaver Celebration in Dulce, N.M.

The parade will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday with the theme "Honoring our Native Heritage with Little Beaver."

The order of events are as follows.

Thursday, July 18

The Kiddies Parade will begin at 10 a.m. in the VMG parking lot. Lineup is at 8 a.m. For more information, contact Jimmy James at (575) 759-4313.

A community water fight will take place in front of the fire department starting at noon. For more information, contact the fire department at (575) 759-3253.

Friday, July 19

The annual Little Beaver Pony Express will begin at 8 a.m. at the Jicarilla Apache Reservation. The finish line is at the rodeo grounds and is expected to be reached around noon to 1 p.m. For more information, contact Adrian Harrison at (505) 787-4031.

At noon, the open dart shoot will be held at the Dulce Community Center. For more information, contact Wilbert Callado at (505) 979-0101.

The Alien Fest Concert in the Park will start at 3 p.m. and end at midnight in Dulce Park. For more information, contact Thomas Manwell at (505) 635-8658.

The rodeo royalty crowning will take place at 6 p.m. in the rodeo grounds area, and the Jicarilla Apache traditional crowning will be at 6 p.m. at the Pow-Wow Grounds.

The annual Contest Pow-Wow will begin at 6 p.m. with a grand entry at Pow-Wow Grounds. For more information, contact Karena Castillo at (505) 210-3051.

Open bull riding with steer riding and wooley busting will take place at

7 p.m. at the rodeo grounds. For more information, contact the Dulce Community Center at (575) 759-4376.

The annual softball tournament will begin at 8 p.m. at the softball complex. For more information, contact Callado at (505) 979-0101.

The Byron Ramone Band will be featured at a dance at the Dulce Community Center starting from 9 p.m. The dance will continue until 1 a.m. The dance is open to everyone and admission will be taken. For more information, call (505) 478-7667.

Saturday, July 20

The annual softball tournament will continue at 8 a.m. at the softball complex. For more information, contact Callado at (505) 979-0101.

The annual Little Beaver Parade will begin at 10 a.m. traveling from Hawks Drive onto U.S. 64. Lineup and judging will be from 6 to 8 a.m. in the High school parking lot. The theme is "Honoring our Native Heritage with Little Beaver." For more information, contact Nancy Velarde at (575) 425-8764.

The annual 3-D archery shoot-out will be held south of Dulce Lake at 10 a.m. For more information, contact Owen Phone at (505) 801-6944.

The open dart shoot will be held at noon at the Dulce Community Center. For more information, contact Callado at (505) 979-0101.

The annual Mud Bog will take place south of the Softball Fields at noon. For more information, contact Sutherland White at (505) 478-7667.

The annual Contest Pow-Wow will have a 1 p.m. grand entry at the Pow-Wow Grounds. For more information, contact Castillo at (505) 427-8866.

At 1:30 p.m., the AIRCA/NMRA Rodeo Performance will take place at the rodeo grounds. At 8 a.m., there will be slack at the rodeo grounds. For more information, contact the Dulce Community Center at (575) 759-4376.

Another Alien Fest Concert in the Park will be held from 3 p.m. to

midnight in Dulce Park. For more information, contact Manwell at (505) 635-8658.

The dance with 191 will be held from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Dulce Community Center. The dance is open to everyone and admission will be taken. For more information, contact the Dulce Community Center at (575) 759-4376.

The fireworks will start at dusk and be held at the softball field. For more information, call (575) 759-3253.

Sunday, July 21

The final games of the annual softball tournament will be played at 8 a.m. at the softball complex. For more information, contact Callado at (505) 979-0101.

The 3-D archery shoot-out will be held once again south of Dulce Lake at 9 a.m. For more information, contact Phone at (505) 801-6944.

The Mud Bog will return at 10:30 a.m. south of the softball fields. For more information, contact White at (505) 478-7667.

The annual Contest Pow-Wow will have a final grand entry at 1 p.m. at the Pow-Wow Grounds. For more information, contact Castillo at (505) 427-8866.

A final NNRA/AIRCA Rodeo Performance will be held at 1:30 p.m. at the rodeo grounds. For more information, contact the Dulce Community Center at (575) 759-4376.

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San Juan Stargazers to hold 'thank you' potluck, meeting Friday

By Joan Mieritz
San Juan Stargazers

The San Juan Stargazers will have their July monthly meeting on Friday, July 26, at the Community United Methodist Church on Lewis Street.

The doors will open at 4 p.m. for food preparation, with dinner served at 5:30 p.m. and a program following.

This is a special "thank you" meeting and potluck dinner. Those being thanked do not need to bring food.

The "thank you" guests include those people who gave a Christmas gift to the San Juan Stargazers Astronomy Club and people who have participated in more than one night sky program at Chimney Rock this summer. And, it can also be for anyone else who wants a little thank you for the things they have done to keep a club like the San Juan Stargazers running. Thank you, everyone, for your hard work and dedication.

I have always wanted to attend a potluck that runs out of food. In the history of the universe, I don't think that has ever happened.

This is how our dinner will work: You must RSVP so we know how many to expect. Just send a brief email with the name and number attending to rwoman2000@aol.com.

The club will purchase items for a delicious salad with lots of extras. People who have time will meet at 4 p.m. to make the salad.

The club will also purchase cakes (various kinds) and ice cream for dessert.

Those who want to bring food can make a main, vegetable or potato

dish, or whatever is not a dessert. The program will be Anderson Cooper's "The Whole Story" from CNN on the James Webb space telescope that aired in June. It was a great program that everyone should see.

We hope you will be there.

August events

In August we have three regular events at Chimney Rock National Monument.

On Aug. 2 will be a joint Chimney Rock Interpretive Association/Stargazers night sky program called Stars and Galaxies, with the gate opening at 7:15 p.m. and program beginning at 8:15.

On Aug. 9 will be the night sky program called Our Solar System, when we focus our telescopes on the moon. The gate will open at 7 p.m., with the program starting at 8 p.m.

We will also have a third night sky program called Stars and Galaxies on Aug. 30. The gate will open at 6:30 p.m. The program begins at 7:30.

We need volunteers for all of these programs, so if you can help, sign up at the dinner or please call Joan.

The Perseid Meteor Shower Program this year will be on Aug. 12 and 13. Both nights the gate will open at 7:30 p.m. and the program will start at 8 p.m. Sunset will be at 7:58 p.m., so people need to be settled in the upper parking lot before dark. This is a special relaxed night for those loving to be at Chimney Rock to have the night sky entertain us, as it did for the ancient people for thousands of years.

Our August monthly meeting will be on Aug. 22, at the Methodist

Church. There will be social time at 6 p.m. The program at 7 p.m. will provide an opportunity for everyone to bring your eclipse pictures and stories to share with the club. If you are not a member, but went to some exotic location, please feel welcome to come and share your experience. We need to have a volunteer to help set up a way for people to share their photos. If you can bring your own system for sharing photos, that will help. I hope we can find someone who has a system that others can use. Please let Joan know if you can help.

About the Stargazers

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

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

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Tickets available now for Broadway Gala fundraiser for Thingamajig Theatre Company

By Carole Howard
Thingamajig Theatre Company

Tickets are available now for the exciting Broadway Gala fundraising event on Tuesday, July 30, at 5 p.m. that will include a cabaret-style evening showcasing the talents of the Thingamajig Theatre Company's brilliant summer musicals cast and an opportunity to bid on unique private events with the actors.

It's part of an elegant evening of live music and entertainment at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts to raise funds for Pagosa's only non-profit professional live theater.

The gala's music will feature dueling pianos played by actors Dominic Girolami and Zac Mitchell plus performances by the entire summer cast.

Other highlights include a live auction for one-of-a-kind interactions with the actors, and a catered meal served by the actors. There will be a cash bar with tips going to the actors.



Photo courtesy Carole Howard

Tickets are available now for the Broadway in the Mountains gala fundraising event on Tuesday, July 30, at 5 p.m. that will showcase the talents of Thingamajig Theatre Company's brilliant summer musicals cast, including, left to right, Alexandria Bates and Nyla Eltahir.

How to purchase tickets

Only about half of the costs of Thingamajig productions are covered by ticket sales. The remainder of the theater's funding comes from private donors, business sponsors, grants and proceeds from this annual Broadway Gala fundraiser — the most important event of the year to keep the theater up and running.

This year, \$30,000 of the gala's proceeds will be used to pay off the artists house loan.

This welcoming home away from home, built in 2017, sleeps 24. It is a huge attraction for the actors, singers and dancers coming to Pagosa from out of town, and they say such first-class housing is unique in the theatrical world.

Tickets are \$150 for the dressy gala evening and are on sale now on the theater's website, pagosacenter.org, or by phoning the box office at (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Unique auction items

A look at just four of the one-of-a-kind live auction offerings gives you a good idea of what special fun will be available to you if you are among the many lucky winners.

Always a favorite are singing telegrams, with actors coming to a location set by you to sing songs as a special surprise for someone you love. Also popular is a photo shoot for up to four people where the actors will do your hair and makeup while feeding you champagne and chocolate and choosing perfect costumes — imagine a perfect Christmas card when they join you in the picture.

Two other exceptional auction items:

- One is a progressive dinner for 10 people when the actors chauffeur you and your friends to four incredible locations where you'll enjoy serenades along with wine and cocktail pairings to go with a multicourse

meal prepared by the cast.

Past winners have called this offering the crown jewel of the gala.

- Another remarkable auction item is a trip for two to New York City with Thingamajig co-founders Tim and Laura Moore. You'll join them as they audition potential actors to perform in next year's summer musicals. This trip also includes visiting with past Thingamajig performers, enjoying dinners out in the Big Apple and shows on Broadway. Airfare is not included.

"We know from previous galas that our guests have been surprised and delighted by the evening's festivities — and especially the clever and creative auction opportunities," said Laura Moore. "We are deeply grateful for everyone's support because the musicals that folks are seeing on stage this summer — and all our other productions throughout the year — would not be possible without the funding raised at the gala."

Three hit Broadway musicals

Thingamajig has earned a reputation as one of the premiere venues for professional theater in Colorado, and more than 30 talented actors, singers, dancers, directors and designers are presenting a blockbuster summer season.

The three Broadway musicals on stage in rotation until the end of August are generating standing ovations and rave reviews from audiences.

"Beautiful: The Carole King Musical" is the story of the early life and career of one of the most successful female singer-songwriters in the latter half of the 20th century. It was honored with multiple Tony nomina-

tions and one win, plus a Grammy for best musical theater album.

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

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

More about Thingamajig

Thingamajig Theatre Company is an award-winning professional nonprofit 501(c)(3) theater in residence within the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. Its talented cast and crew come from across the U.S. to produce musicals, comedies and dramas year-round.

The theater was co-founded in 2010 by Tim and Laura Moore, both award-winning actors and directors in their own right.

Their mission is to provide high-quality theater experiences at a low cost to our community, thereby making art accessible as well as providing a major economic driver for our tourist industry. They also provide youth, many of whom are recipients of scholarships, with low-cost, hands-on educational opportunities to see and participate in professional productions of important plays.

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Information session to focus on vitamin D

By Rose Chavez
PREVIEW Columnist

A sunny day is a good day, right? Did you know there is a connection between your mood and vitamin D, the sunshine vitamin?

Join us for Fresh Conversations to learn more about this connection and how to get more vitamin D into your diet.

Fresh Conversations is a monthly discussion about relevant health information for adults 60 years and older. You will get a newsletter with resources and tips to take with you, as well as a tasting of some delicious, nutritious food.

Please join us Wednesday morning, July 31, at 10 a.m. at 451 Hot Springs Blvd. in the Pagosa Senior Center dining hall to learn more and gather with community members. This is a free seminar.

Tickets on sale for Spanish Fiesta

Tickets are on sale for the 22nd annual Spanish Fiesta.

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

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 dor-

Senior News

mant for some 20 years before it was revised in 2023.

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

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

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

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

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

Admission is for an afternoon and evening from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m. filled with fun for all. Tickets are available online <https://givebutter.com/SpanishFiesta2024> and will be available starting in June for paper tickets.

If you are interested in volunteering, being a sponsor or vendor please call (970) 264-2167 or email Rose Chavez at rosa@psseniors.org.

Emotional Freedom Technique sessions

Join Judith Newman at the Pagosa Senior Center (451 Hot Springs Blvd.) the second Wednesday of each month — Aug. 14, Sept. 11 and Oct. 9 — to learn and/or refresh your Emotional Freedom Technique, also

known as tapping skills, to support yourself with self-care, relief from anxiety and community support.

All classes start at 10 a.m. and last 45 minutes to an hour. Please bring a friend or come alone. All are welcome.

Healthy aging and yoga therapy classes Series

The healthy aging yoga series continues to 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

■ See Senior on next page

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Senior

■ continued from previous page

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 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.

Farmers market vouchers

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.

Then, visit the Pagosa Farmers Market any Saturday during the growing season (starting July 6 and running through the end of September) to redeem your vouchers.

The Pagosa Farmers Market will be located at the Tennyson Sculpture Garden on Lewis Street from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays.

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, July 18 — Chicken and broccoli crepes, cauliflower, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Friday, July 19 — Vegetable lasagna with marinara sauce, garlic bread, garden salad, fruit, brownie and milk.

Monday, July 22 — Jerk chicken with pineapple and peppers, quinoa rice, garden salad, fruit, Jamaican bread pudding and milk.

Tuesday, July 23 — Pork kielbasa, sweet and sour cabbage, potato pancakes, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Wednesday, July 24 — Artichoke, mushroom and sundried tomatoes pasta with Alfredo sauce; garlic

bread, Garden salad, fruit and milk.

Thursday, July 25 — Crispy codfish with tartar sauce, green beans, garden salad, pistachio fruit salad, fruit and milk.

Friday, July 26 — Korean beef with basmati rice, broccoli, 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.

Meals on Wheels volunteer opportunities

Do you love your community and have a passion for helping your fellow community members live their healthiest lives? ASI has multiple volunteer positions to deliver hot healthy meals via our Meals on Wheels service to homebound older adults.

The time commitment is about three hours per day. We'll provide you with training materials. If you are interested, contact Rose Chavez at rosa@pseniors.org.

Mobile food pantry service

Older adults needing a ride to a local food pantry should contact the MET to schedule a ride with its paratransit service. For more information,

■ See Senior on next page

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Maxwell Miller

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NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BOARD OF EDUCATION



The Board of Education of the Archuleta School District 50 JT is accepting applications from persons interested in serving on the Board of Education from the date of appointment in September, 2024 until the next regular biennial school election in November 2025. To be eligible for appointment, each candidate must be a registered elector of the school district for at least twelve consecutive months prior to the date of appointment. The applicant must also be a resident of the Director District 4 the district that will be served by the appointee.

Any person who meets the qualifications and who desires to be considered for the appointment is invited to file a written notice of such intention with the secretary of the Board of Education by July 31st, 2024. Please mail notice of intention to: Archuleta School District 50 JT, ATTN: Heather Schultz, PO Box 1498, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. The Board will interview prospective candidates on August 20, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. at a public meeting. For further information, contact Heather Schultz hschultz@pagosa.k12.co.us

Senior

■ continued from previous page
 contact Lavonne at (970) 264-2250.

Text reservations

Don't forget that we offer a convenient texting service for you to communicate with us. Text us at (970) 264-2167. When texting, please include your name, phone number and the days you want a meal. If you are canceling a reservation, please include your name, phone number and the days you want to cancel.

Texting services are available for dine-in meal reservations, Grab-n-Go meals and Meals on Wheels recipients.

COVID-19 test kits available

Stop by the Senior Center to pick up a pack of six free COVID-19 tests kits for your personal use. These kits are available to anyone in the public who needs affordable access for health promotion and disease prevention.

Mahjong

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

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

Medicare call by appointment

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

Mindful drawing

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

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

Bridge

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

Bridge is a four-player card game with partners sitting opposite each other around a table. It is a trick-taking card game using a standard 52-card

deck. Come alone or bring a partner.

Hand and foot card game

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

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

No experience is necessary, so come willing to learn.

Board vacancies

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

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

Supporting ASI

Please support our ongoing operations and programming that provide critical services to some of the most vulnerable in Archuleta County.

You may mail your donation to P.O. Box 3444, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 or please visit our website, <http://www.psseniors.org/> (donation button). Donation checks can be written to: Archuleta Seniors Inc.



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@ Yamaguchi Park — 5:30pm - 8:30pm

Friday, July 19th - Heavy Diamond Ring
 all-American folk rock music

Friday, August 16 - Bo DePeña Trio
 Americana and country music

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

Benefits local non-profits

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Photo courtesy MorgAnne Foster

Davina Cizek, Kailey Wiggers, MorgAnne Foster and Shea Becker are the live-wire members of the Forged in Power team for the 2024 Runway for Rise fundraiser. The event is set for Oct. 5.

Runway for Rise slated for Oct. 5

By Dee McPeek
Rise Above Violence

It's time to mark your calendars for Runway for Rise, A Recycled Fashion Gala, to be held Oct. 5 at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts.

This fundraiser for Rise Above Violence is based around teams using imagination rather than cash to create outfits from recycled and natural elements.

On Oct. 5 they will model their creations while the crowd goes wild voting for their favorite couture.

We're delighted to welcome the Forged in Power team to this event. The team members are "determined to empower women with strength and resilience to push back against the darkness of domestic violence."

Their commitment to the mission of Rise Above Violence makes their participation for the first time even more exciting. We look forward to applauding them on the runway.

All donations raised through this unique event are tax-deductible and support domestic violence services

that are provided free and confidentially through Rise Above Violence. Your help promotes the belief that all people have the absolute right to live free from violence.

Future articles in The PREVIEW will highlight each team participating and give details about how to support your favorites online. Tickets for the evening will go on sale in August.

Don't miss this event showcasing many of our most imaginative Pagosans. Event questions? Contact Annie Gian, event coordinator, at annie@riseaboveviolence.org.

Archuleta County Public Health launching women's cancer screening and detection program

By Ashley Wilson
Archuleta County Public Health Department

Archuleta County Public Health is happy to announce that July marks the launch of the women's cancer screening and detection program for breast and cervical cancer.

This program serves women ages 21-64 who have no health insurance or high-deductible plans. There are also income limitations to qualify.

"This program will offer vital screening services to those who would otherwise likely skip these appointments" said Public Health Director Ashley Wilson. "We know that early detection improves rates of survival as well as often reducing the cost of treatment."

The first day for screening appoint-

ments is July 25. Currently, appointments will be offered one day a month, but if there is a lot of need for appointments, we will add days accordingly.

Community members can call (970) 264-2409 to schedule an appointment.

The free screenings for those who qualify are also accompanied by health navigation support to offer wrap-around services with the goal to address other social determinants of health such as food insecurity, mental health needs and other primary/preventive health care needs.

While this program is specifically for women, we do offer low cost, \$15, PSA tests for men to screen for prostate cancer. The Public Health Clinic also offers immunizations for children and adults, as well as STI testing and treatment at low or no

cost to the community.

For the summer, the clinic hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. every Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. every Thursday, and one Saturday a month. The upcoming Saturday clinic is Aug. 24 — just in time for back-to-school immunizations if your child needs anything to meet the school requirements.

To find out about other services at Archuleta County Public Health, call (970) 264-2409 or visit our website, <https://www.archuletacounty.org/771/Public-Health-Department>. You can also follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

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The purpose of the Western Heritage Event Center is to organize the annual three-day Red Ryder Roundup® Rodeo as well as provide a year-round venue for education and training for youth and equestrian events for Archuleta County. The Western Heritage Board is dedicated to preserving the history and traditions of the American West.

This is a 501(C)3 Non-Profit Organization

17,000 animals later: Humane Society of Pagosa Springs celebrating 40th anniversary

Humane Society of Pagosa Springs

On Aug. 10, the Humane Society of Pagosa Springs invites you to join in celebrating four decades of compassion and dedication to animal welfare in Pagosa Springs at our upcoming 40th Anniversary Luau.

The evening's events will include stories from the early days of the Humane Society of Pagosa Springs, Polynesian luau dancers, Tahitian drummers, a fabulous dinner by a local caterer, live and silent auctions, and other fun activities.

Visit PagosaHumane.org to purchase advance tickets by Aug. 1.

The Humane Society of Pagosa Springs was established in 1984 by founder, Debra Rinker-Brown.

She was passionate about incorporating sustainable animal welfare into a community that had very little animal support. After learning how to care for her own flock of animals by volunteering at the local veterinarian's, Rinker-Brown embarked on her journey of building our local Humane Society.

Though she was told she wouldn't succeed, the fierce passion that motivated Rinker-Brown to care for these animals and the community propelled her forward. She and her husband took the gold Krugerrand they inherited from her mother and

launched their first fundraiser by selling raffle tickets.

Rinker-Brown knew that her dream was about to be realized when Dan Fogelberg, a famous and local singer, offered to help her cause by putting on a local concert to raise money for the shelter.

Forty years later, Rinker-Brown's passion is still very much alive in all that we do at the Humane Society of Pagosa Springs.

Currently, we provide shelter to more than 700 animals annually and have records of sheltering more than 17,000 pets since 1984. We've helped keep countless more animals in their homes.

As we continue to see the population rise in Archuleta County, the Humane Society of Pagosa Springs continues to increase the number of animals we rescue each year, the number of community cats that are spayed/neutered and vaccinated, and the number of pets and their humans that are supported through the community programs we operate.

Our mission is to provide a safe haven for animals in need, promote adoptions, humanely reduce pet overpopulation through aggressive spay/neuter programs, support life-long pet ownership and to educate the community.

We do not receive money from

national animal welfare organizations, but rely on the generosity of the Pagosa Springs community, volunteers, fosters and thrift store patrons. We could not do what we do without all our supporters and support systems.



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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
\$619,000

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.



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>



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>

New Thought Center to meet Sunday

By Shayla McClure

New Thought Center for Inspirational Living

The Sunday service on July 21 at 10:30 a.m. will be "Experience Music and Meditation" with Shelly Sinclair, music director and filmmaker.

Upcoming events

July 18, 6 p.m.: Illuminations with Dr. Elaine Harding: "Feng Shui Keys for Enhanced Prosperity, Love, and Well-Being." A love donation will be accepted.

About us

The New Thought Center is a 501(c)(3) and promotes philosophies similar to Centers for Spiritual Living and Agape Centers. We honor all lifestyles, cultures and religious paths to the divine. The vision of the New Thought Center is to empower possibility through revelation of spiritual truth, and to

enhance our members' life experience through self-empowerment, inner peace and being part of an all-inclusive community. Our mission is to create a world that works for everyone through awareness of a higher power. We are the Good Vibe Tribe that practices Science of Mind principles of positive thinking.

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

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



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Spiritual Experiences Group to meet Sunday

By Lurah Brock Young

Spiritual Experiences Group of Pagosa Springs

There are days when the world is so topsy-turvy that many of us wonder how we will keep our balance reading the news and helping our families cope with everyday life challenges. How do we maintain a spiritual viewpoint amid all these thoughts and experiences?

I found a wonderful ancient mantra and sacred sound called HU that I chant for about 20 minutes each day. There are times I want to bring peace back into my being. It was a gift to find and begin singing HU — a love song to God.

HU can help us expand our awareness, heal a broken heart, experience divine love, and bring peace and

calm. I have experienced these at various times by singing HU with an open heart.

“If you want to lift yourself to a higher state of consciousness—so that the political issues, the family issues, the social issues of the day do not throw you out of balance, so that you can find a happier, more contented life while you’re living here—sing HU, the most beautiful prayer.” — Harold Klemp, “HU, the Most Beautiful Prayer.”

Join the Spiritual Experiences Group of Pagosa Springs on Sunday, July 21, at 1 p.m. for “Develop a Powerful Spiritual Practice - Easy ways to Connect with Divine Spirit Every Day.” Experience the HU song and enjoy a discussion afterward.

We will meet at the Pagosa Lakes

Property Owners Association Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave.

This free event is sponsored by Eckankar, a spiritual resource for people of all faiths and beliefs. It is an individual, creative practice to experience our unique relationship with the Divine.

To join the Spiritual Experiences Group of Pagosa Springs, visit <https://www.meetup.com/pagosa-springs-spiritual-experiences-group/>.

To learn more about Eckankar, visit <https://www.eckankar.org> or <https://eckankar-colorado.org/>.

HUD
Publisher's Notice



EQUAL HOUSING
OPPORTUNITY

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

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

Pagosa UU Fellowship to hold annual summer picnic Sunday

By DeAnna L. Hoyle

Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

“The spirit of this Fellowship is love, and service is its law...” — so begins the covenant statement recited at the Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship.

Unitarian Universalism (UU) is a covenant-based faith tradition, which means we gather in covenantal relationship, rather than a creed with specific beliefs to adhere to.

This Sunday, July 21, we will gather for our annual Fellowship Potluck Picnic and Service, held at a member's home at 11 a.m. No service will be held at the Fellowship this Sunday, and no Zoom service will be offered.

Our service leader will be Michael Demchak, longtime member and lay minister, and will provide context highlighting the covenantal relationship in a faith community and what it means to covenant with each other. Let us celebrate our interconnectedness and love for one another.

We will also be welcoming and conducting a new member ceremony, as well as discussing future plans

and hopes for our Fellowship. All are welcome to this wonderful annual outdoor service and potluck. Come join the fun. If you, as a visitor, would like to join us, email PagosaUUF@gmail.com for further details and directions.

Grab a folding chair and other items (hat, sunblock, etc.) that will provide comfort for being outside and come enjoy the festive atmosphere for this annual event. The Fellowship will provide a main dish and dessert, please bring a side dish to share.

Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship in-person services are normally held on the first and third Sundays of the month at 10:30 a.m. We invite you to visit our website, www.pagosauu.org, to find our current newsletter and location of our offered services and programming.

As a teaser for upcoming services in August, we will be hosting two different UU guest ministers. We welcome diversity and invite everyone to share in our faith community, a vibrant and growing community to make friends, do good and grow your spirit.

SUDOKU

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

Level: Beginner

Fun By The Numbers

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

Here's How It Works:

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

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

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The Pagosa Springs **SUN**

Vacation Bible School to feature half-size tabernacle model

Pagosa Springs Church of Christ

A half-size model of the Old Testament tabernacle will be highly visible for this year's Vacation Bible School (VBS) at the Pagosa Springs Church of Christ.

At half-size, the tabernacle is 7.5 feet tall and 22.5 feet long (based on a cubit being 18 inches long). The tabernacle is surrounded by a white fence and has half-size replicas of the pieces of furniture. In the past, it has been set up and used at more than 18 camps and VBSs.

This year's theme will be "Camping With God" and stories will center around Moses and the Old Testament tabernacle. Children attending will be actively engaged in the stories and Bible study as well as walking through the tabernacle.

The youth group from Woodward, Okla., will return to help the stories

come to life with acting, puppets, games, quizzes, songs and crafts. Refreshments will be served daily.

On Wednesday evening, the children will put on a program demonstrating the things they have learned in VBS. At the end of the program there will also be an opportunity to learn about and tour the tabernacle, to visit the children's class rooms and meet their teachers.

VBS concludes on Friday with a hot dog picnic. Parents, families and friends are invited to those activities, as well as being encouraged to visit the daily classes at anytime.

The VBS will be held July 22-26 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the church building located at 277 Lewis St.

Transportation to and from VBS is available with the Joy Bus. For the stop nearest you and time of pick up in your area, or for more information, call the church office at (970) 264-

2552 and leave a message.

Enrollment forms may be found in the paper, and all children 4 years to 8th grade are invited. Make plans now for your children to attend this exciting time of learning and growing.

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Preview Calendar

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

Thursday, July 18

Geology Hike. 9 a.m., Ice Caves Ridge, San Juan National Forest. A free hike led by geologist Dave Bouquet. Preregistration is required at sjma.org.

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

Summer Reading Program. 10-11:30

a.m., Sisson Library. Join for a special time exploring insects, plants, fossils and animals.

Guided Great House Tour. 10:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This guided tour takes visitors 1/3 mile up the Great Pueblo Trail. Tickets are \$12 for ages 13 and up and \$6 for ages 5-12. Registration is required 12 hours in advance via rec.gov. 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 com-

■ See Calendar on next page



WHY IS SLEEP SO IMPORTANT? (Part 1)

Nike's "Just Do It" campaign has proven to be one of the most effective campaigns in advertising history.

The side effect of this campaign, however, may be that we have become high-octane, stressed out, over-achievers who know how to get it done ... except when it comes to getting sufficient rest.

Today's excerpt will, hopefully, help you find balance. According to a survey by the National Sleep Foundation (NSF), over two-thirds of women associate their sleep problems with stress. Yet, when pressed for time, over half of the women polled said that sleep is the first thing they give up.

Unfortunately, this is an all too common example of the short term gain, long term pain philosophy that is becoming more and more common in our over-scheduled lives.

Stress leads to a loss of sleep and a loss of sleep leads to an increase in stress, which can become a vicious cycle.

Sleep is a basic human need, and when we don't get enough of it, just about every aspect of our functioning is affected. We move slower. We're less productive. We're more irritable. We make poor decisions. We forget things. And all of these problems are exacerbated as we lose more and more sleep.

Excessive sleep loss has been linked to mood disorders, heart disease, diabetes, high blood pressure, substance abuse, obesity, impaired judgment, reckless behavior, and increased accidents at home, work, and on the road.

In fact, in the most severe cases of sleep deprivation, hallucinations and paranoid delusions can develop. The worst case scenario is death. (continued next week)

The point is ... if something has to get bumped from your to-do list, the last thing it should be is sleep.

Source: "Nature Has Charms That Can Reduce Stress". By Kathleen Doheny <http://articles.latimes.com>

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

"It is vain for you to rise up early, to sit up late, to eat the bread of sorrows: for so he giveth his beloved sleep." Psalm 127:2

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

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



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Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

puters, smartphones, tablets, etc. Bring your device charger. We provide assistance with accessing any of the library's online resources. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

Dungeons and Dragons. 4-5:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Join the adventure. Preregistration is required because space is limited. Contact Josie@pagosalibrary.org to join.

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

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. Registration is required 12 hours in advance via rec.gov. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

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

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.

San Juan Outdoor Club Presentation. 6-7:15 p.m., Sisson Library. Hear some guidelines and helpful tips for hiking safely from members of the San Juan Outdoor Club. Members of Upper San Juan Search and Rescue and the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office's emergency management team will be present to answer questions about their organizations and their roles in assisting persons lost in the mountains.

'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).

Friday, July 19

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. Registration is required 12 hours in advance via

rec.gov. 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. Registration is required 12 hours in advance via rec.gov. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

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

Murder Mystery. 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Sisson Library. Everyone is a suspect. Solve the clues to discover who the real murderer is. Lunch will be provided.

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

Friday Flix. 2-3:30 p.m., Sisson Library. For all ages. Participants will choose between a selection of PG-rated movies.

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

ComFest. 5:30-8:30 p.m., Yamaguchi Park. Live music. Drink proceeds will benefit DUST2.

'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).

Saturday, July 20

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. Registration is required 12 hours in advance via rec.gov. 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.

Hamburger Fry. 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m.,

Mt. Allison Grange, 2658 County Road 329. Celebrate Christmas in July with a hamburger fry, craft show and yard sale. The menu for the fry will be hamburgers, chips, cookies and drinks. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children (6 to 12) and under 6 are free. Funds will be used to build a handicap ramp.

Pagosa Piecemakers Quilt Guild. 9:30 a.m., Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. Come at 9:30 a.m. for social time with friendly, creative quilters. Stay to see this year's challenge quilts, as well as show and tell. Please use the rear entrance.

Pickleball Beginner Lessons. 10 a.m.-noon, Yamaguchi Park. Register on the Pagosa Springs Parks and Recreation page at https://secure.rec1.com/CO/pagosa-springs-co/catalog.

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. Registration is required 12 hours in advance via rec.gov. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

LEGO Club. 11 a.m.-noon, Sisson Library. For kids 6-11 years old. Free build using the library's LEGOs or your own. Contact the library at (970) 264-2209 for further information.

'Beauty and the Beast.' Noon, Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. For tickets and show information, see pagosacenter.org or call (970)

■ See Calendar on next page

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End of Life Education group announces July guest speaker

By Joan Mieritz
End of Life Education

The End of Life Education group will meet again on Monday, July 22.

End of Life Education is the name decided on for the meetings arranged by a volunteer group of concerned community members who want to complete their lives with the same quality and responsibility as they lived. We will be meeting for several months and are discussing all topics related to the end of life.

If there is something that we haven't touched on and you would like to have a program or guest speaker, please mention it at one of our meetings.

On Monday, July 22, from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., we will be at the library for a talk by a well-known 40-year practicing attorney and now Pagosa Springs resident, Constance d'Angelis, who litigated the decisive case of Terri Schiavo that affected millions of people around the world.

A court in the state of Florida ruled that Schiavo's guardian, her husband, was permitted to remove a feeding tube and allow her to die. Schiavo had existed in a comatose-like state for more than a decade. She was only

26 years old when she originally collapsed.

There are interesting end-of-life concepts that can be discussed, but this also became a culture war, medical ethics dilemma and religious conundrum culminating in vicious political, partisan and activist conflict. This discord found its way to the U.S. Congress and the president of the United States.

There is so much that d'Angelis can tell us about this case. She will try to focus on the interests of the people who are present. I hope to see you there.

I want to give everyone a heads-up that we have something set up a month in advance. Dr. Joanna Estes will be speaking on Aug. 19 from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the library's large meeting room.

Estes is an amazing woman who will share relevant information from her long experience of being an MD and dealing with death. Her main emphasis will be Colorado's End of Life Options Act, which covers access to medical aid at the end of life. She will answer questions. She will also sign do-not-resuscitate forms that require a doctor's signature.

Feel welcome to join us. We have been meeting for four months, but

participation varies for each speaker and time. We are not a closed group.

End of life is a difficult topic which seems to be better handled when fellow humans join together to deal with it, since all of us are faced with it. Most people find that topics like this are empowering and helpful for living life to the fullest. It can be very positive and affirming. We hope to see you.



Trinity Anglican Church

*Holy Communion with our special guest,
The Most Rev. Ray R. Sutton,
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Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

731-SHOW (7469).

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

Full Moon Program. 6:30 p.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. Tickets are \$25 per person, or \$30 with an early, guided tour. Registration is required 12 hours in advance via rec.gov. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

'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).

Sunday, July 21

'Escape to Margaritaville.' 3 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. For tickets and show information, see pagosacenter.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Monday, July 22

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. Registration is required 12 hours in advance via rec.gov. 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 advanced group meets at 10:15 a.m. If you haven't attended before, please call Beverly at (970) 264-2064 for more information.

End of Life Education. 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Sisson Library.

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.

Tween Exploratorium. 3-4 p.m., Sisson Library. Get together with friends and explore the world through projects, games and more.

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

Tuesday, July 23

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.

Veterans for Veterans of Archuleta County. 10 a.m., Tennyson Building Event Center, 197 Navajo Trail Drive. Veterans and family mem-

■ See Calendar on next page

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■ continued from previous page

bers 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.

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. Registration is required 12 hours in advance via rec.gov. For more information, visit www.chim-

neyrockco.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.

Virtual Author Talk: Elizabeth Acevedo. Noon, virtual. Listen live or recorded. Elizabeth Acevedo will talk about the learning power of poetry. For those in ninth through 12 grade. For details and to register, go to <https://library.org/pagosalibrary/upcoming>.

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

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

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

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 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. Registration is required 12 hours in advance via rec.gov. 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.

DUST2 Tuesday Night Ride. 6:15 p.m. Rides vary between the Turkey Springs Trail System and Reservoir Hill. Riders are encouraged to wear appropriate clothing to mountain bike. All levels are welcome. For

■ See Calendar on next page



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Bird of the Week



Photo courtesy Charles Martinez

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

Although its name might have you thinking otherwise, this is a bird of the American southwest. The first one sent to the Smithsonian for classification was collected in 1858 in New Mexico and named for the wife of the collector. Its fairly small breeding range includes parts of Nevada, Utah, Colorado, Arizona and New Mexico. In August they begin leaving their breeding grounds to spend the winter in the mountainous areas of Mexico.

This is another warbler to look for in the shrub layer, primarily in pinyon-juniper and scrub oak woodlands. The male is described as singing a musical song that sounds like "seedle-seedle-seedle, sweet, sweet." Hearing and honing in on its song is one of the best methods of locating this shy bird. They are small and gray with yellow under the tail and on the chest, and have bold white eyerings. The yellow on the chest may be pale or not exist at all on female and young birds. A small patch of chestnut feathers on the crown is usually hidden.

Virginia's warblers don't hold still for long, wagging their tails up and down while hopping through the vegetation. Flying and terrestrial insects, and an occasional drink of flower nectar, are included in this bird's diet.

For nesting they prefer steep slopes with shrubby ravines. Their nests, built on the ground and concealed by a clump of vegetation, are extremely difficult to find. For this reason, information on their breeding habits is incomplete, but it is known that males are involved during the whole cycle, from guarding the female on the nest through feeding young.

Partners in Flight includes the Virginia's warbler on its list of birds that are most at risk for extinction without conservation actions designed to combat their declining numbers.

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

2024 SCHEDULE MAY 25 - OCTOBER 19



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OUTLAW EXPRESS:

Brews, Views, & Que' August 7
3:00pm Departure

OUTLAW EXPRESS:

Surf & Turf Oct. 9 - 3:00pm Departure

GEOLOGY TRAINS:

September 8 - 7:00am Departure

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Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

more information, visit dustx2.org or email info@dustx2.org.

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

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, July 24

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., Community Center. Register on the Pagosa Springs Parks and Recreation page at <https://secure.rec1.com/CO/pagosa-springs-co/catalog>.

Therapy Dog Visit. 11-11:45 a.m., Sisson Library. Stop by and visit with a certified therapy dog.

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. Registration is required 12 hours in advance via rec.gov. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

DUST2 Gravel Night Rides. 6:15 p.m. Meeting locations vary between uptown and downtown. All levels are welcome. For more information, visit dustx2.org or email info@dustx2.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).

Thursday, July 25

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. Registration is required 12 hours in advance via rec.gov. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

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

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

Guided Great House Tour. 10:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This guided tour takes visitors 1/3 mile up the Great Pueblo Trail. Tickets are \$12 for ages 13 and up and \$6 for ages 5-12. Registration is required 12 hours in advance via rec.gov. 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.

Pagosa Panhellenic Gathering. 4-5:30 p.m., Alley House Grille. Women affiliated with a collegiate sorority are invited to attend a gathering of sisters. For more information or reservations, contact Sherry Spears at (940) 887-9208 or sherrykayspears@sbcglobal.net.

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.

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

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.

Noxious Weeds: Landowner Basics 101. 6-7:15 p.m., Sisson Library. Archuleta County Land and Weed Supervisor Ethan Proud will discuss land stewardship, invasive plants and our responsibilities in Colorado.

'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).

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Hiking safety talk plus bike repair kits available for your summer fun

By Carole Howard
PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

Tonight, July 18, from 6 to 7:15 p.m., members of our local San Juan Outdoor Club will offer guidelines and helpful tips for hiking safety in our wilderness at this free session.

As well, members of the Upper San Juan Search and Rescue organization and the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office's emergency management team will be present to answer questions about their work and their roles in assisting persons lost in the mountains.

And as bikers enjoy the summer opportunities for good rides, we want to remind you that your library has a bike repair tool kit available for free check out. This tool kit includes a handbook entitled "Essential Road Bike Maintenance Handbook" by Todd Downs and a toolbox filled with the essential tools needed for basic bicycle repairs. The handbook covers topics such as frame, pedals, brakes and more.

Save the date for noxious weeds talk

Please mark your calendars for a free adult event next Thursday, July 25, from 6 to 7:15 p.m. when Ethan Proud, Archuleta County land and weed supervisor, will discuss land stewardship, invasive plants and our responsibilities in Colorado.

Virtual author talks

Our highly popular free online author talks are taking a special turn for the month of July as they feature people and books aimed at children, tweens and teens.

These sessions offer unique opportunities to interact with New York Times bestselling authors and ask questions. Please see below for details and the ages each talk is aimed at. For more details and to register, go to <https://library.org/pagosalibrary/upcoming>.

On Tuesday, July 23, at noon, bestselling author Elizabeth Acevedo will talk about the learning power of poetry to those in ninth to 12 grades.

Tuesday, July 30, at noon, Dan Santat will explain how to tell your own story in a graphic novel to fifth-through eighth-graders.

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 experi-



ences 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.

Teen/tween murder mystery tomorrow

Teens and tweens are invited to follow clues to solve the murder at a free session tomorrow, Friday, July 19, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Registration is required.

Paws to Read tomorrow

Friday, July 19, from 2 to 3 p.m., youngsters are invited to share their favorite books with Muppet or Maple, therapy dogs who love stories, at a free Paws to Read session.

Friday Flix tomorrow

Enjoy a free PG movie and popcorn Friday, July 19, from 2 to 3:30 p.m.

LEGO Club Saturday

Kids aged 6-11 are invited to the free LEGO Club on Saturday, July 20, from 11 a.m. to noon. Bring your own LEGOs or use ours.

Pokemon Club Saturday

If you're aged 6-11 and love Pokemon, this free club is for you. Bring your cards on Saturday, July 20, from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Dungeons and Dragons

Next Tuesday, July 23, from 4 to 5:30 p.m., join our Dungeons and Dragons game free for teens, tweens and young adults. Preregistration is required because space is limited. Contact Josie@pagosalibrary.org to join.

Therapy dog visit

Next Wednesday, July 24, from 11 to 11:45 a.m., all ages are invited to a free visit with a certified therapy dog. The visits will be limited to 10-15 minutes — just the right amount of time to pet the dog, read to the dog or just say "Hi."

■ See Library on next page

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 School subj.
- 5 Cut corners
- 10 Seeing things
- 14 Woodwind
- 15 Gyro holders
- 16 Prom night ride
- 17 One way to be sold
- 19 Student overseer
- 20 Like some pets
- 21 Big name in tires
- 23 Fonda flick, "Easy ____"
- 25 Barely at all
- 26 Dismal
- 28 Gym weight
- 31 Rescue ring
- 33 A and B, e.g.
- 37 Thrilla in Manila boxer
- 38 Make, as a meal
- 40 Regret
- 41 Parking sticker
- 43 Raven's remark
- 45 Spotty ailment
- 47 Proton's place
- 48 Stands out
- 51 Mick Jagger, for one
- 53 Able to practice, say
- 56 Annoyance
- 59 Bulb flower
- 60 Like some milk
- 62 Small change
- 63 Oregon's capital
- 64 Tear to bits
- 65 Provocative
- 66 Shoot from cover
- 67 June 6, 1944

DOWN

- 1 Hydrant hookup
- 2 Big-horned goat
- 3 Sleep-inducing
- 4 Londoner's break
- 5 Long key

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15					16			
17				18					19			
20					21			22				
		23			24		25					
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31				32				33		34	35	36
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53					54	55		56			57	58
59					60			61				
62					63				64			
65					66					67		

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- 6 Word with mess or press
- 7 Tabloid twosome
- 8 Algeria neighbor
- 9 Freudian topic
- 10 Getting on in years
- 11 Triangular traffic sign
- 12 Send, in a way
- 13 Heavyweight Liston
- 18 Clear (of)
- 22 Summertime top
- 24 Baltimore squad
- 26 Tickled
- 27 Aggravate
- 29 Throw off
- 30 2021 World Series champs
- 32 Abdominal organ
- 34 Held a sit-in, maybe
- 35 Currency since 1999
- 36 Come across as
- 39 Retirement place
- 42 Official pardon
- 44 Multi-slope roof
- 46 Take stock of
- 48 Pizza serving board
- 49 Brought on
- 50 Cake topper
- 52 Rowing need
- 54 Steve Carell flick, "____ Almighty"
- 55 Mustachioed artist
- 57 Horne or Olin
- 58 Circular current
- 61 Zing

Answers to Previous Crossword:

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

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Library

■ continued from previous page

Teen Camp Half-blood Wednesday

Wednesdays in July 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."

Family storytimes

Wednesdays from 10 to 11 a.m., join a free educational hour of reading, singing and free play to build early literacy skills.

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

"Quilling Patterns for Beginners" by Brenda Sanders is a guide to quickly learning paper-quilling techniques. "The Impactful Vegan" by Robert Creeke offers tips to save the biggest difference for animal safety and planet health. "The Blind Woodsman" by John and Anni Furniss is a memoir of a renowned woodworker who dealt with drug addiction, anxiety, financial issues and blindness. "How to Crochet" by Sara Delaney is a guide to basic stitches and techniques.

Thrillers, suspense and mysteries

"King of New York" by Kathy Iandoli is a thriller about a son who reluctantly inherits his father's role as a Mafia don. "The Midnight Feast" by Lucy Foley is set at a deluxe resort where all is not well with the locals. "Sentinel" by Mark Greaney features two State Department staff and their family posted to West Africa.

Books on CD

"Aeon Burn" by Matthew Mather is book two of the Aeon sci-fi suspense series. Stuart Woods' "Smolder" by Brett Battles is a Stone Barrington adventure. "The Rom-Commers" by Katherine Center is a romance involving two writers. "The Midnight Feast" by Lucy Foley is a new murder mystery set in an elegant English hotel. "Shadow Heart" by Meg Gardiner features two serial killers. "Familiaris" by David Wroblewski is the origin story of the Sawtelle family saga.

"Always Remember" by Mary Balogh is a Ravenswood Regency romance. "The Ball at Versailles," "Never Too Late" and "Resurrection" are three novels by Danielle Steel. "Tom Clancy Act of Defiance" is a Jack Ryan adventure. "Red Sky Mourning" by Jack Carr combines a rogue Chinese submarine, AI and politics.

DVDs

"Poisoned Ground: The Tragedy of Love Canal" is a PBS American Experience documentary. "Origin" explores the global phenomenon of caste. "Nowhere Special" follows a seriously ill father trying to find a home for his son.

Donation guidelines

Our thanks to Joanne Ferko for materials donations.

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

Guidelines for donations: Yes to popular fiction books published in 2013 or later, nonfiction books published 2018 or later, and children's and young adult books — all in excellent condition, please. No to CDs, DVDs, Blu-ray, VHS or cassette tapes; textbooks, outdated travel books or reference books because they do not sell. No more than two boxes at a time because of space constraints.

Quotable quote

"Share all of the life lessons and wisdom that you have. It's so powerful. You've been there, you've seen it before. Tell them that you don't want emotions to overtake the fundamentals to execute the task. ... Athletes need to learn to be more on an even keel, not have the highest highs or also the lowest lows in the trenches of competition." — LaTanya Sheffield, U.S. Olympic women's head track and field coach for the Paris Olympics; hurdler at San Diego State Uni-

versity and at the 1988 Olympics; and coach at Long Beach State University.

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>.

Dr. Jennifer Hurst, AuD

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

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

WORDS

- AIRPORT
- ALL-INCLUSIVE
- CRUISE
- DEPARTURE
- DESTINATION
- EMBARK
- HIGHWAY
- HOLIDAY
- HOTEL
- INTERNATIONAL
- ITINERARY
- LANDING
- LUGGAGE
- MEMORIES
- PACKING
- POSTCARD
- RELAXATION
- RESORT
- ROAD TRIP
- ROOM
- SIGHTS
- TAKE-OFF
- TRAIN
- VACATION

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WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

Colorado to begin issuing Summer EBT benefits

By John Rosa
Colorado Department of Human Services

The Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS) has announced that it has begun rolling out benefits through the Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer (Summer EBT) program, which provides a onetime payment of \$120 to eligible students to help pay for nutritious meals during the summer months when schools are not in session.

Summer EBT is a new, permanent program based on the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Summer EBT for Children demonstration projects and Pandemic EBT (P-EBT), which have been proven to reduce child hunger and improve diet quality. Benefits will come in the form of preloaded cards that families can use to purchase groceries.

Over the next several weeks, Colorado will be processing and issuing these benefits to eligible students.

Families of eligible students will first receive a notice of their student's eligibility for the program through the mail. Families can then expect to receive their student's benefit card 30-45 days after receiving the initial notice of eligibility, although some families may see their cards sooner.

A separate benefit card will be issued for each eligible student. Students from the same school or even within the same household may receive their notices or cards at different times.

CDHS estimates that more than 550,000 eligible students in Colorado will receive the benefit through the Summer EBT program.

"We are thrilled so many Colorado kids will receive increased access to food during the summer through this program," said Laura Kriebel, Food and Energy Assistance Division operations manager. "The strong

partnership and commitment to helping Colorado's children from everyone involved is what made the monumental lift of launching a new program this summer possible."

Who is eligible for Summer EBT?

- Students who qualify for free or reduced-price meals while attending a school participating in the National School Lunch Program or School Breakfast Program.

- Students who are receiving other assistance benefits, including SNAP and Colorado Works (TANF), or meet National School Lunch Program income guidelines and are receiving Medicaid.

What do people need to do to get Summer EBT?

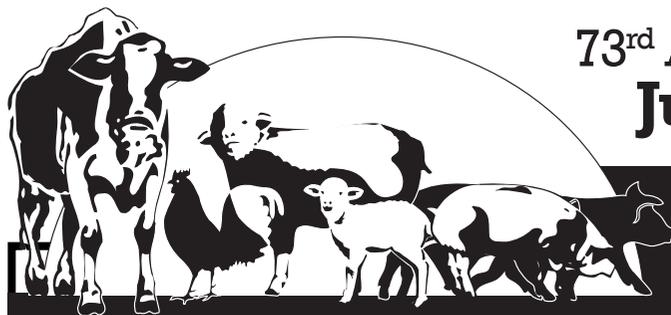
Many families will automatically receive Summer EBT through enrollment in a school that participates in the National School Lunch Program or School Breakfast Program and their prior eligibility for Colorado Works, SNAP and income-eligible Medicaid services. Families with eligible students will be mailed a notice of eligibility for each individual student in the coming weeks.

If you do not receive this notice and believe your students are eligible for 2024 S-EBT benefits, you can contact the support center at (800) 536-5298 for more information.

More information about the program can be found on the Summer EBT page of the CDHS website.

Community news.

The Pagosa Springs SUN
264-2100



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Saturday, August 3rd
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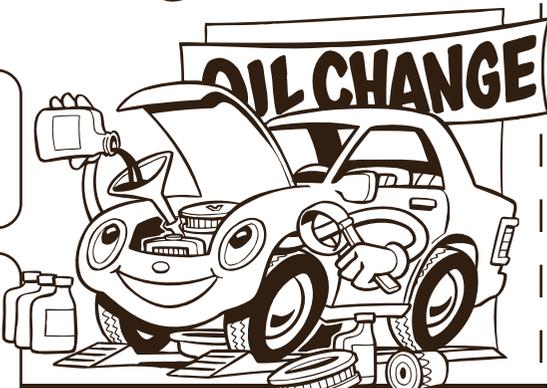
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Gaining perspective on importance

By Betty Slade
PREVIEW Columnist

I was told it's freeing to be unimportant. I have found that statement to be true. But at the time when I heard those words, they were totally foreign to me. Doesn't everyone want to be important?

It's the weirdest thing — I find the older a person gets, the less their importance means to them.

What matters is what they leave behind. They have seen the fickleness of being loved and being shunned. Maybe they've gained some perspective of what is valuable and what is truly important as they get closer to the end of a their days.

Paul was in a state of contentment when he sat in prison writing his epistles. His written words were most important and parchment to write on was his concern, more than the cold he suffered or the notoriety he gained. His tested words from God were most valuable to him. To Timothy, he wrote, "Now godliness with contentment is great gain" (1 Timothy 6:6). He could've added, "That's the goal."

These days, words I have lived by, pondered and struggled with to prove my faith are the important things I hold most dear and want to pass on to my children. Not reputation, not possessions, not creative achievements, but only words I know will stand the test of time and have everlasting benefit.

The devotional book I have just finished writing is dedicated to my children and their children with these words: "My tested and proven words I leave you. You are His inheritance and Jesus will drink from you and be victorious."

"Yet He (Jesus) himself will drink from his inheritance as from a flowing brook; refreshed by love he will stand victorious." — Psalm 110:7 (TPT).

The family recently cleaned out the crawl space under the house. Boxes and boxes full of southwest greeting cards, hundreds of stacks of signed and numbered prints were among the clutter. All were damp and moldy.

The family wanted to know what to do with them. I told them, "Carry them to the dumpster. They aren't salvageable. They were very important to me as I produced prints for the Princess Cruise Line and for the market place. Those were the days I was flying high, self-focused with my art. All those images in cards and prints didn't seem as important as they were at the time when I stressed over them thinking I was important. They marked a time in my art career. That's all."

Some things are important, such as the 10 totes of family photos were discovered, including reels of 8 mm film, which I thought I had lost. We bundled them up in a plastic sack to be processed and developed into

Artist's Lane

Oh my gosh, how freeing it is not to have to be important — to take a back seat, be overlooked and let others run the show. It has taken a lifetime to come to that place knowing godliness with contentment is great gain.

DVDs. They will entertain the family at the next gathering and we will have a good laugh at all the crooked haircuts and lopsided bangs.

Creative people come with certain personalities. They have big egos. They need to be important. Sometimes the world is too small for them; other times, too big. They are not content where they are. They have to prove something, be understood, and their ideas have to be respected.

Oh my gosh, how freeing it is not to have to be important — to take a back seat, be overlooked and let others run the show. It has taken a lifetime to come to that place knowing godliness with contentment is great gain.

In one of Paul's prison epistles, he wrote, "Not that I speak in regard to

need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content" (Philippians 4:11, NKJV).

I always thought it meant to live with less or more and be satisfied.

I've come to the conclusion that he was saying it's not how much we have or have not. What was important is he trusted in Jesus and was satisfied with where life took him — a prison cell where he could write.

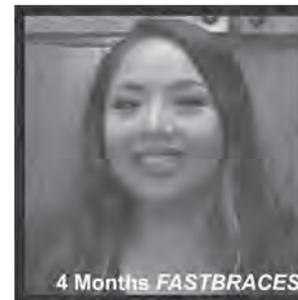
"I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" — Philippians 4:12,13 (NKJV). He learned the secret of what was important.

Final brushstroke: It takes a lifetime to get the clutter out of our lives and the nonsense out of our souls, where we can learn to be content and have a true perspective of what is really important.

Send your comment to bettyslade.author@gmail.com. I'd love to share them with the other folks in Pagosa.

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

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Before you sleep on the ground, read this

By Marjorie 'Slim' Woodruff
PREVIEW Columnist

What fun: You're going on a guided outdoor trip. As you get ready, here are some tips from actual guides about what to expect, as these patient men and women have experienced a few trips that did not go well.

First, follow the packing list. Do not

Opinion: Writers on the Range

leave your rain gear at home because your brother tells you it never rains in the desert. If it is 100 degrees in the shade at your house and the list recommends a down parka, bring it. It can and will snow at 10,000 feet in midsummer.

If the guide goes through your pack removing extraneous objects and gets the weight down from 40 to 20 pounds, do not put the discards back.

If food is provided, you will be given a preferences/allergies form. Obviously you will want the chef to know if peanuts will put you into a coma, but if you will not eat spinach or chard, include that as well.

If you employ a strict diet for reasons of philosophy or fad diets, keep it to yourself. Description of a First World resident: We define ourselves by what we refuse to eat.

If the guide tells you not to ride past the Burr Trail switchbacks in Utah, do not ride past the Burr Trail switchbacks. If the guide says, "Drink some water," drink some water.

Be honest about your medical background. Do not, upon arrival at the first day's campsite, mention that you have diabetes and did not say anything beforehand because you were afraid they would not allow you on the trip.

Do not lie about your physical abilities. You tell yourself you have six months to get into shape, but we know what the road to hell is paved with.

Walking the dog twice a day instead of once is not a strenuous exercise routine.

Be realistic. On the first morning of a five-day mountain bike tour, a participant announced that he had never been on a bike in his life. The entire first day was spent teaching him how to ride and the itinerary readjusted to fit his needs.

Do not stop taking your medications. Medicines can have side effects. Stopping a long-term medication may also have side effects. I did not know that stopping anti-depression meds could cause massive irritation until a non-medicated hiker grabbed their gear and stomped off in a snit.

Don't be selfish. I was on a on river trip that eliminated all-day hikes because one person threw a hissy about "wasting time" that could better be spent sitting on the beach drinking mai tais.



Photo courtesy Dave Marston

Backpackers in Alberta Canada/Canadian Rockies.

Don't be a twit. I was busily bisecting bagels one morning to prepare lunches when a would-be epicurean loftily told me not to touch his bagel.

"Bagels should be sliced just prior to eating."

Everyone began demanding that I stop molesting their bagels until the senior leader chimed in, "Those bagels have been bouncing around in packs for three days. Give us a break."

Use the equipment you will rely on: Try out that new bicycle. Put up that tent, inflate that air mattress. Carry that backpack with the proposed equipment within. You may decide to abandon those hardback books.

Female guides are every bit as competent as their male counterparts. Resist "mansplaining" or telling them they look so amazing lugging gear or

rowing a boat.

Guides will not break the law for you. If there is a ban on fires, they will not build a fire — even if you promise not to tell.

Every company advertises knowledgeable guides, but I have overheard some outlandish "facts" from outdoor companies. Spoiler: Rocks in the Grand Canyon are not red because they are encrusted with dust from Sedona, Ariz., nor do they attract lightning.

If you want a true educational trip, opt for one offered by a nonprofit organization.

A guided trip can still lead to frustration. It can rain for days, high winds can make putting up a tent a chore and blisters can manifest. But, if you're pre-

■ See Writers on next page

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July Colorado Proud recipe of the month: Chicken and Broccoli with Rice

By Robin Young
PREVIEW Columnist

Broccoli is the star of this dish, with the backup dancers of chicken, cheese and rice.

This recipe is cooked in one pan, making your cooking and cleaning faster and easier. Colorado Proud is serving up a yummy one-pan recipe that brings together ease, cheese and local ingredients.

Now that farmers markets are in full swing, it's easy to find this season's produce superhero.

Broccoli has been cultivated for 2,000 years and is a member of the cabbage family. Broccoli is a cool-season vegetable crop that can yield incredible amounts over an extended period of time if properly grown and harvested.

Like most fresh produce from the Brassicaceae family, broccoli florets are rich in vitamin C, and a good source of vitamin A, B6 and folate. Broccoli is also an excellent source of fiber and provides calcium and iron.

Summers are busy, so we invite you to try this one-pan recipe that brings together local ingredients in a well-rounded meal for you and your loved ones. You can make adjustments to this recipe based on your diet, but it is naturally gluten-free and can be made vegan and vegetarian through easy substitutions. You can also appease your picky children by adding as much cheese as you want.

This is a great time of year to try to make all parts of your meals as local as possible.

Chicken and Broccoli with Rice

Yield: 5-6 servings

Prep time: 5 minutes

Cook time: 35 minutes

Ingredients:

3 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
1/2 medium yellow onion, diced finely

1 pound boneless chicken thighs, cut into bite-sized pieces

2 cloves of garlic, minced

1 teaspoon of kosher salt and freshly ground pepper to taste

1 cup uncooked extra long-grain white rice

2 1/2 cups of vegetable broth

2 1/2 cups broccoli florets, cut into bite-sized pieces (fresh or frozen)

2 cups shredded colby jack and cheddar cheese mix (or any cheese of your choice)

Extension Viewpoints

Directions:

In a large oven-safe skillet or oven-safe pan, sauté onions in 2 tablespoons of olive oil over medium heat. Meanwhile, dice the chicken and season with salt and pepper.

Once onions soften, increase the heat to medium high, move the onions to the side and add chicken to the pan and let cook until one side is well-browned.

Skipping meat? Skip chicken in this step or use a meat substitute, cooked according to directions and added at the end with the cheese.

Mix the chicken pieces with the onion and continue sauteeing until cooked through.

Add garlic and cook for about 1 more minute.

Push chicken and onions to one side of the pan and add an additional tablespoon of olive oil to the other side.

Add the uncooked rice in the olive oil and saute it for a minute or two, stirring often.

Add the vegetable broth to the pan, stir well and bring the mixture to a boil. Lower the heat to a low simmer and cover the pan with a lid.

Cook chicken and rice mixture for about 10 minutes.

Sprinkle the broccoli evenly over the chicken and rice mixture and continue to cook covered another 8 minutes on low, or until broccoli and rice are both tender.

Remove from heat and stir in 1/2 cup of cheese (or to taste). Meanwhile, set the oven to high broil.

Skipping dairy? You can use a vegan cheese or no cheese at all.

Sprinkle the remaining cheese on top and then broil it for 4-5 minutes or until the cheese is browned and bubbly.

This recipe is provided by the Colorado Department of Agriculture.

CPR and first aid classes

CPR and first aid certification classes are offered every other month at the CSU Extension office, generally on the second Monday and Wednesday from 6 to 10 p.m. The cost for the classes is

\$80 for combined CPR/first aid and \$55 for CPR, first aid or recertification. Call the Extension office at (970) 246-5931 to register.

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Writers

■ continued from previous page
pared to accept some hardship, getting outdoors can also lead to new friendships and a more relaxed approach to adventure.

Maybe, even, it can be the trip of a lifetime.

Marjorie "Slim" Woodruff is a

contributor to *Writers on the Range*, writersontherange.org, an independent nonprofit dedicated to spurring lively conversation about the West. She works as an educator at the bottom of the Grand Canyon. Views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN.

Nostalgia: a trip down memory lane

By Gregg Heid
PREVIEW Columnist

As we get older, living in the past is common. Our brains accumulate more memories as we age. Most nostalgic memories are positive and produce a rush of euphoria or happiness. When you're having fun, that's when the best memories are made.

Can a picture make you happy? Just think how you feel when you see an old photo of a high school sweetheart or, for us men, our first car — mine was a 67 Chevy Super Sport. I love sitting with kids or grandkids on the couch and looking through old photo albums of vacation pictures, loved ones who have left us, family celebrations or slender adventures.

Better yet, music from the past always brings up fond memories: first prom — "Blue Velvet," listening to the car radio — 93 KHJ — while dragging main; Creedence, The Beatles, Doors, Monkeys and many more; our wedding dance, Vicky and I practiced our waltz for days.

Even fragrances we smell produce strong flashbacks. I always remember my first girlfriend when I smell Leur de Taump perfume. When I smell lilac blossoms I think of my mother; they were her favorite. Pine candles remind me of my brother, and the smell of Vitalis hair tonic reminds me of Dad's slicked-back hair. The smell of baked bread brings me back to Aunt Jeannie's ranch. She made dozens of fresh-baked rolls at Thanksgiving. The anticipation from the aroma right out of the oven — unbearable. I would sneak eat six before dinner.

I'm waining nostalgic with these memories.

A Matter of Faith

God gave us memory to help us remember where we came from so we can be grateful for where we are now and help us plan for the future.

Dr Nicolas Evans, Ph.D., states, "The memories people reflect on when experiencing nostalgia are ones that are significant, meaningful or monumental. They help define a person's life or tie together one's life story. Thinking about key moments from your past might help you feel better about yourself today."

Memory is part of the soul, along with reason (free will) and imagina-

tion. It sets us apart from the animals. Only human beings are made in God's image.

Thinking about things past, even if they have a tinge of sadness — like the death of my son — allow us to understand where we've been in our lives and see the meaning of the people we've known along the way. Nostalgia can boost our self-esteem, our social connections and feelings of gratitude.

I've been reading my journals from the past 40 years. Wow, what a trip down memory lane. What a gift they are to me now, to see how God has blessed me and my family in our ups and downs of life. I can see how He protected me from dying many times to give me the chance to repent and give my life to Him.

For people experiencing chronic pain or loneliness, fond memories, especially of loved ones or listening to music can decrease perceptions of emotional and physical pain. If I end up at the nursing home, I want a digital photo screen with all my old photos constantly playing to keep me sane and full of fond memories.

Now, when I wake in the middle of the night, I like to think of those happenings from the past: a hike with a special friend, teaching algebraic functions or a fun day of skiing. God gave us memory to help us remember where we came from so we can be grateful for where we are now and help us plan for the future.

So, let's take a trip down memory lane and thank God for this gift.

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

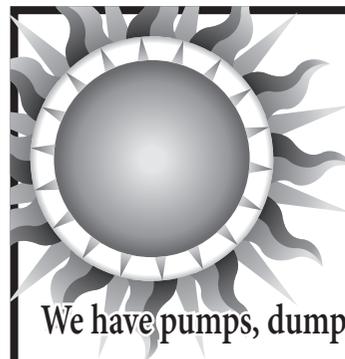


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Your eye in the sky. Call Julia at (720)660-2379. Offering a unique perspective! Trying to stay up to date on an in-progress build, make your new real estate listing pop or commemorate an event or milestone? Our certified drone pilots deliver high resolution eye catching images and videos. Have an idea in mind that drones would be perfect for? Contact us for a free estimate today.

(970) 264-2100 Classifieds (970) 264-2100

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SERVICES



ONE SIXTY Concrete Works

Patios • Driveways • Flat Work • Steps
Retaining Walls • Decorative Concrete

Call 719-355-0097
more than 20 years experience
insurance & references available

No job too big or too small

SERVICES

SERVICES

SERVICES

HELP WANTED

EXTERIOR AND INTERIOR HOUSE painting and staining. Kitchens, bathrooms, decks, granite countertops and more. Call Josh Soniat (970)903-5892.

HOME SERVICES—REPAIR/INSTALL. Specializing in Rentals and VRBOs Anything in or around your property. INTEGRATED, LLC (970)731-3558.

HANDYMAN SERVICE. Noah's Ark Enterprises. (970)901-5298.

HOOF CARE. Horseshoeing and trimming. (970)317-5162.

LOCAL MOVING SERVICES. Reasonable and reliable. (970)946-2061.

MINT ROOFING Re-roofs, commercial and maintenance. Contact Mint Roofing at (970)426-5255.

PREMIUM PEAK CLEANING. Local. Reliable. Detailed. Call (970)902-3145.

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE/ HOME CARE checks, providing snow removal, landscaping, handyman services. Call Eric (970)946-2061.

LET US GIVE YOU A HELPING HAND with all your home improvement projects, both interior and exterior. Also, offering window screen replacement. We are Handy Helpers and we are here to help! (970)403-9159.

PAGOSA SPARKLES, LLC. Group of high standard cleaners, reliable, trustworthy and affordable. Window cleaning also available. Text/ call KIM. (970)946-6446.

PAGOSA SPRINGS STORAGE has all size units available. 24 hour access, gated, with security cameras. Call for specials. (970)731-0007 www.pagosaprinssstorage.com.

PROFESSIONAL SNOW REMOVAL. Residential and Commercial. Fully insured. Shovel and salt upon request. Call now for quote. (970)946-4450.

RICHARD DECLARK ELECTRICAL is available for all your electrical services from remodels to new construction. I have been in Pagosa for 15 years, no job too small or too large. (970)903-1456.

RIVERSTONE CARPET CLEANING. 25 cents/sq. ft. and \$3 per stair. No hidden charges. Owner/operator 20 years experience. Professional, trustworthy and punctual. 100% eco-friendly. Call Mike at (970)403-9222. Credit cards accepted with no fee. Hallways and closets always free.

ROOF REPAIRS, LEAKS, RESCREWS, INSPECTIONS. 35+ years experience. Call Jeff at Blair Roofing. (970)903-6556.

SENIOR COMPANION/CARE-ASSIST Services in Pagosa Springs. Services include a wide range of tasks. Call for questions and pricing at (970)325-3585.

SKID STEER EXCAVATOR, DUMP trailer for hire. Driveways, foundations, gravel, septic systems, etc. Call Josh Soniat (970)903-5892.

TREE FELLING, TRIMMING, REMOVAL and lot cleaning! MTN Forestry specializes in hazardous and technical tree trimming and removals. Call anytime for a free quote! (970)403-6396.

TREE REMOVAL. Licensed and insured up to \$2 million. Free estimates. No obligations. Call OR text (970)903-8068.

WINDOW CLEANING —RESIDENTIAL Bonded and insured. 25 yrs. experience REFLECTIONS Window Cleaning. (480)892-1999 -FREE estimates.

TANKLESS/ON DEMAND WATER HEATERS. Largest inventory in the area, including replacement parts. Same day Installation and service in most cases. We are the only company that extends the parts & labor warranty from 1 year to 5 years. VAIL HOME SERVICES, (760)835-1041.

HEALTH

HOT SPRINGS HEALERS. Sessions at hot springs! Also, cranial sacral, bodywork, massage. Serving Pagosa 27 years, Dr. Dean and Amanda, (970)844-0645, (970)903-5309.

HELP WANTED

ALLEY HOUSE GRILLE. We are looking for Line Cooks and Pizza Salad Cooks. Nights, \$18 per hour. See Chef Anthony or Chef Garrett.

BANK OF COLORADO is seeking to hire a Lead Teller /New Accounts. Performs regular teller duties, answering phones to assist customers with balances and transfers, and various account maintenance. Bank of Colorado offers PTO, health vision and dental insurance, and a 401K plan. Must be willing to work rotating Saturdays and have a flexible schedule to either open or close. To apply visit www.bankofcolorado.com/careers.

BOOKKEEPER. Accounting firm needs a bookkeeper with QuickBooks online experience. Submit resumes to jjas@jjaccountingsvc.com, by fax to (970)264-4451 or in person at 191 Talisman Dr. Unit 103.

DEDICATED CLEANERS ranging from \$15-\$20 /hour. Must be detail oriented, trustworthy, reliable and committed. Text Pagosa Sparkles, LLC, (970)946-6446.

EXPERIENCED LINE COOK for City Hall Cafe and Grill. Apply within. 2151 Eagle Drive.

FT/PT HOST at City Hall Cafe and Grill. Apply within. 2151 Eagle Drive.

FT FOH MANAGER at City Hall Cafe and Grill. Apply within. 2151 Eagle Drive.

GENERAL LABORER NEEDED F/T or P/T Seasonal. Assorted Duties. Please send resume or work history to frontdesk@pagosalandcompany.com. Phone (970)264-5000.

HELP WANTED Experienced server /bartender preferred. City Hall Cafe and Grill. Apply within. 2151 Eagle Drive.

Join our Team!

Hiring all positions, including shift leads, assistant manager and manager

Competitive wages

Weekly pay

Fun atmosphere!

Stop in for your application

175 Pagosa Street



Gymnastics Instructors

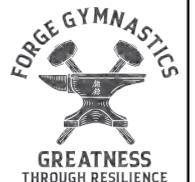
Forge Martial Arts is now expanding to Forge Gymnastics.

The demand for gymnastics has been so great we already need more instructors to fill all the needs of our community.

We have two main instructors yet anyone with previous experience would be perfect!

Please call Morganne Foster for more information.

970-585-4354



HILLSIDE INN is looking for two part-time housekeepers. Housekeeper responsibilities include (but not limited to): performing a variety of cleaning activities (bathrooms, rooms, hallways), make beds, ensure all rooms are cared for and inspected according to standards, etc. Depending on the amount of rooms, shifts are usually from 8a.m.- about 1p.m. or 2p.m. Must be able to work on weekends and holidays. Email Natalie your resume to hillsideinnpagosa@gmail.com or stop by the hotel to pick up an application.

HOMETOWN INSURANCE is looking to fill a full-time receptionist/administrative assistant position. Prior experience is required. Must be detail oriented, able to multi-task and proficient in Google Docs, Sheets, Excel, Word and Adobe. Phone and typing skills are a must. Our ideal candidate will have a friendly and warm personality while being professional, responsible and motivated. A customer-oriented approach is essential. Send resumes with references to info@hippsllc.com.

IMMEDIATE OPENING for CDL Driver / Equipment Operator. Experience is forestry equipment helpful. Must pass drug test. Local driving only. Please send your resume to frontdesk@pagosalandcompany.com.

LABORER LANDSCAPING. General help for assistance in landscaping around homes. For details, call Charlie at (970)264-0913.



Pagosa Construction Services

Remodels including Kitchen & Bath Siding • Decking • Drywall • Painting
No Job Too Small

Call (970) 749-4252
Licensed & Insured • 20+ Years Experience

TURN A JOB TO DO INTO A JOB WELL DONE



RESIDENTIAL SPECIALIST
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Have your plans drawn now. Don't wait!
Be ready to start your house, barn, garage or deck on time.



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Licensed, insured & references
Plans drawn & submitted



Call Rick
(970) 946-1737

CHIMNEY CLEANING -Roof rescrowing-25+ years. Courteous reliable service. Free quotes. Arlie's Chimney Sweep. (970)731-2543.

CUSTOM PICTURE FRAMING. Reasonable prices. Linda Lerno, (970)731-5173.

CHOICE CLEANING, LLC. (970)507-1399. Commercial, construction, vacation rentals, long-term rentals, some residential.

CLEANING WITH ATTENTION TO DETAILS. Residential and commercial. Please call Julie (970)946-8229.

(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

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

We Are Now Hiring!



You belong on the Archuleta School District team!

Currently accepting applications for the following positions:

Elementary School Instructional Aide Paraprofessional
Full-time center-based special education paraprofessional position with a starting salary \$27,899-\$31,175 for 173 days paid over a 12-month period.

Elementary School Special Education Paraprofessional
Full-time position special education paraprofessional with a starting salary \$27,899-\$31,175 for 173 days paid over a 12-month period.

Middle School Instructional Aide Paraprofessional
Full-time center-based special education paraprofessional position with a starting salary \$27,899-\$31,175 for 173 days paid over a 12-month period.

Bus Drivers/Transportation
Hourly position with a starting hourly pay of \$25.83 up to \$30.73 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.

Archuleta School District
strives to achieve
"Success for Every Student — Every Class — Every Day."



For more details and to apply for these positions, click on "Job Postings" at www.mypagosaschools.com
EOE

Terry's Colorado Home Supply and Ace Hardware

Hiring for:

Full time Seasonal Cashier

Weekend days required.
Starting at \$17/hr.
Must be reliable, motivated and team oriented.
Benefits include discounts, paid time off, profit sharing and more.
Apply in person.
Applications available at terrysace.com



Terry's ACE
525 Navajo Trail Dr.

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

PAGOSA BAKING COMPANY is hiring a 4a.m. shift baker, and a kitchen assistant. Application on our website; or come in to fill out and submit. (970)264-9348.

RN OR LPN NEEDED for a busy medical practice. Looking for a Full Time Employee. Work week is a 4 day week. Start day is ASAP. We look forward to meeting and working with you. Please email resume and letters of interest to info@pagosamedicalgroup.org.

ROOF LABORER NEEDED with some construction experience. Will train. \$20-\$25/ hour to start. (970)749-0830.

PAGOSA LIQUOR IS HIRING a full-time cashier. Please come and apply in person at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

PAGOSA SPRINGS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE Seeking office administrator/ membership coordinator. Good writing and verbal communication skills including face to face engagement. Knowledge of computer skills such as Word, Excel, Power Point, some social media, and be able to learn data base system. Must be able to multi-task and have attention to detail. FT position, M-F, occasional weekend work during event season and evening work once a month. Send resumes to director@pagosachamber.com or drop off at Chamber of Commerce M-F, 8-4 p.m., 105 Hot Springs Blvd.

WANTED

1 full-time office person and 1 full-time Driver

Paid Vacation
Simple IRA Match
PTO and other perks.

Please apply within.





WJP/PRO
3505 W. Hwy. 160
in the lobby of the Pagosa Lodge



• Superintendent
• Project Manager
-Good pay, excellent benefits, must have experience for manager roles.

BWD Construction is NOW HIRING!

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.

PAINTER'S HELPER. Must have own transportation, experience in spray and brush, \$25 /hour to start based on experience, paid cash weekly.

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!

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 [RMPT117 Navajo Trail Dr., Suite T or email to rockymountainpt@yahoo.com](mailto:RMPT117NavajoTrailDr., Suite T or email to rockymountainpt@yahoo.com).

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](mailto:ChadRichardson@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.

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.

LOOKING FOR A CHANGE to get out of the extremely hot weather and work indoors while still being in construction? Mountain Men Disaster Mitigation is hiring! Full time guaranteed 40 hours a week and year round work with competitive wages. We are looking for smart individuals with good critical thinking skills. Call or text Lars at (970)946-0238 or Bruce (970)749-9028. MountainMenDm.com

MALT SHOPPE NOW HIRING. Apply in person between 9a.m. and 2p.m.

NORTH PAGOSA MARATHON is hiring a full-time cashier nights and weekends. Competitive wages. Please apply in person at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

NOW HIRING BAKERS AND BARISTAS for Bruin Coffee at 643 San Juan Street. \$18 -\$20 /hr DOE. Email resume to katie@bruincoffee.com.

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL is hiring a church and school secretary. Please contact Leah Hellrich for position details at (816)585-2892.

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN SCHOOL is looking to hire a Preschool Aid. Please contact Leah Hellerich if you are interested in the position at (816)585-2892.

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN SCHOOL is looking to hire an Aftercare Teacher for our school. Hours are M -Th from 3 -5:30 p.m. and Friday from 1:15 -5:30 p.m. Please contact Leah Hellerich if you are interested in the position at (816)585-2892.

OWNERS, THERE IS A LONG TERM RENTAL SHORTAGE IN PAGOSA SPRINGS. We have a waiting list for approved tenants. Need all types of rentals. Call us today for lowest commission and highest customer service. All you have to do is wait for your rent check to come in. We do the rest! Rocky Mountain Realty & Rentals (970)507-1192.

PAGOSA BAKING COMPANY está contratando un panadero para el turno de 4a.m. y un asistente de cocina. Solicitud en nuestra página web; o venga a completarlo y enviarlo. (970)264-9348.

(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

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.

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!

MASSAGE THERAPISTS Are you an L.M.T. who would love to work in a beautiful space with fabulous clients, without taking on the weight of starting a new business or the burnout that can accompany working in a spa? Check out this unique opportunity that includes mentoring in a rare specialty at embodiworkmassage.com/career-opportunity/.

MASTERCRAFT REDI MIX. Experienced drivers only. Must have CDL license. Redi Mix concrete driver. (970)946-4670.

MOUNTAIN MAMA MASSAGE is looking for LMTs to join our team! Utilize your healing gifts in our fun, relaxed work environment where you are appreciated! TOP PAY \$50 /hour +tips. Email racheldevloo@gmail.com.

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR /TEACHER: Restorative Practices. Pagosa Peak Open School is looking for a passionate person to join their team. The Restorative Practices Coordinator will help build positive school culture, coach staff, and work with students and families on implementing Restorative Practices in our school. This is a 30 hr/ week (during the school year) position with a salary range of \$30,000 - \$35,000. Please reach out to the school director, Emily Murphy, at emurphy@ppos.co.

SEEDS OF LEARNING is hiring new preschool teacher's aides to start immediately. These positions are full-time Monday through Friday 8 -5 at our amazing preschool. Please submit resumes to Michelle at seedsoflearning@growingseeds.org. Applicants without experience or education will be provided with training and opportunities to further ECE education. PTO and 100% paid health insurance available to employees. Pay range will depend upon position and qualifications (\$16- \$18.50 hour). Come and join our wonderful team of educators!

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

SMALL MOTEL AND RV PARK hiring part-time maintenance person. 20 hours per week. Pool and spa knowledge helpful but not required. Pay depending on experience. Call (970)731-5345 for more information.

HELP WANTED

THE HUMANE SOCIETY THRIFT STORE needs you to help us support our shelter. The Humane Society of Pagosa Springs has an opening for a full-time thrift store employee. Must love to work with people, be a team player and have great customer service skills. Experience in retail or hospitality a plus. Know that you are doing good work to support the HSPS shelter and the animals we care for. Generous PTO and shelter and thrift store discounts as benefits. Starts at \$15.50 per hour. Apply online www.pagosahumane.org or stop in the Thrift Store and complete an application.

THE TOWN OF PAGOSA SPRINGS is seeking to hire a **Utility Operator** in the Public Works Utility Division. The individual selected for this position will perform a variety of duties related to the construction, installation, maintenance, and repair of the Sanitation District collection system, pump stations, and Geothermal System. Some of these duties include: sewer main and geothermal main locates and small lift station maintenance. This is a full-time position with benefits. For more information on the position and to apply, go to the Town's website at www.pagosasprings.co.gov and select Employment.

TIDY TOUCH CLEANING LLC. Looking for an experienced, honest and reliable cleaner. Call or Text (801)201-0496.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

PRIME LOCATION NEAR NAVAJO State Park. 1.6 Acres, Gas station, liquor store, convenience store, restaurant, motel, post office. \$1.65 million. AP-1. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

FOR SALE

1997 HARLEY FLHRI ROAD KING, EFI, 36,350 miles. New: rear tire, brake pads, seat, W/S and extras. Runs great. \$5,250. (970)507-0375.

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.

FIREWOOD FOR SALE. Pine and aspen. Cut about 16" long, split. Delivered by longbed truckload. Call (970)946-4450.

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 STAINLESS 27 CU FT FRENCH DOOR REFRIGERATOR: 2.5 Yr Old; Excellent condition; Fingerprint Resistant; Ice maker. Model GNE27JYMNFFS. \$525. (949)394-9006.

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.

SEASONED FIREWOOD FOR SALE. Priced for early stock up. (719)937-8707.

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).

TENT TRAILER. Old. Hunter special. \$200 OBO. (970)264-4543.

TWIN BED log frame, all bedding, \$75. Cub Cadet snowblower, 32", 420cc, heated grips, chains, \$500. (970)422-2073.

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.

USED HOBIE MIRAGE REVOLUTION KAYAK. Caribbean blue, 13 feet 5 inches long. Perfect for fishing or just cruising. Includes paddle, cart, peddle drive, and seat. Very good shape, has been stored inside. \$860. Light weight luggage trailer by Pulmor, can be used to haul kayak and light enough for a 4 -cylinder vehicle. \$850. Call or text (970)903-0861.

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

THREE STALL HORSE BARN with breeze-way and tack room. For rent, long term in Meadows ¶ 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.

PETS

ADOPT FROM THE Humane Society. Stop by or call (970)731-4771. You'll be amazed at what we have to offer, www.PagosaHumane.org.

AKC FRENCH BULLDOG PUPPIES. Ready to go Aug. 7. Full DNA, chipped, wormed, shots, 30 days insurance, lifetime support. \$3,500. (719)640-6404. www.DuneView-Frenchies.com.

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.

PETS

FOR POOCH SAKES GROOMING. Appointments available with Kelly (303)819-2015. Mobile appointments with Barb (970)903-1290.

LOVING DOG CARE BY LESLIE N. Text Pet Info to (469)667-4480. Boarding, day care, drop ins, house sitting. References and reviews available. Look for info on: leslieslittles.com.

AUTOS

2001 BUICK LESABRE 122k miles. FWD. Sold as is. Mechanically sound. Body in great condition. \$2,800 OBO. (310)245-0555.

2004 BMW R1150RT. 37,500 miles. New fork re-build and brake flush; good rubber, runs great. \$4,750. (970)507-0375.

2015 FORD FOCUS - one owner, runs, drives like new. 108,400 miles, cold AC, manual shift. \$6,950. Call (231)570-0055.

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.

YARD SALES

240 ANTELOPE, Friday and Saturday from 8-2. Two family, men /women nice clothing and handbags, toys, bedding, storage and household, Christmas, pet supplies.

ALTA VISTA TOWNHOME annual community garage sale. July 19 -20. 8:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. 61 Lakeside Drive.

BE SURE TO CHECK for more yard sales in the Too Late To Classify section.

MULTI FAMILY YARD SALE Saturday 7/20, 8 -2. 15 Manor Court in Vista. Follow signs. House with the gardens. 1/2 price after 12. Check it out!

RIVAS GOODIES. 926 Rosita Street. 8 a.m., 20th and 27th.

YARD SALE: SATURDAY July 20. 7:30-noon. Antique table and chairs, drafting table, canning supplies, 24" kids bike, books, household goods. 63 Driftwood.

PagosaSUN.com

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4 OFFICE SPACES. Freshly remodeled, \$400-\$525. Well suited for spa services, 140-270 sq. ft. Beautiful spacious restrooms. (970)946-3232.

DOWNTOWN OFFICE for rent on 2nd floor with private bathroom. \$400/ month including utilities and WiFi. No smokers. No pets. (970)946-2728.

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.

OFFICE SPACE DOWNTOWN in the Metropolitan Hotel. \$470 a month. Jacque (970)946-7636.

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.

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HOMES FOR RENT

UPSTAIRS SMALL EFFICIENCY APARTMENT. \$700 a month. No pets. No Smoking. Water, Gas and Electric included. Call (970)946-0369.

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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, 1 BATH apartment, centrally located. Ground floor entry. Water, sewer, gas, fiber optic Internet included. (970)946-8687.

3 BEDROOM 2 BATH furnished condo on Lake Hatcher. 6 months lease. \$2200 /month. Deposit required. Available November 2024. (720)333-1622.

3 BEDROOM 2 bath with storage. Vista Subdivision, park, access to lake and rec center. \$1,900. (719)850-8680.

3 BEDROOM COMING AVAILABLE JULY 1. 5 minute walk to Pagosa Lake. Washer/ dryer, dishwasher, etc. Some utilities paid. No pets. \$1575. Call John for details and photos (720)960-4910 or (303)881-1407.

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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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RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

LONG TERM RENTALS AVAILABLE! Contact Team Pagosa by calling (970)731-8599 or visit teampagosa.com to see listing pictures. TP-12: Lightly furnished studios/ rooms for rent -pets may be accepted- \$850 -1250/ month. TP-21: Rustic unfurnished 2 bed 2 bath mobile on 3 acres with large covered deck and patio, water must be hauled -pet friendly- \$1800/ month. TP-22: Furnished lakefront 3 bed 2 bath apt. with air conditioning, large parking space, deck and lake access, all utilities included with visionary internet, small dogs considered- \$2500/ month. TP-23: Adorable furnished 3 bed 1 bath 1 car garage, located downtown close to schools, large yard with great views, NO PETS- \$1950/ month. TP-24: Unfurnished 2 bed 2 bath, 1 car garage duplex unit, recently remodeled, centrally located -pet friendly- \$1800/ month. TP-25: Minimally furnished studio with loft and 1 bath located uptown, air conditioning and wood stove, laundry room on site, some utilities included -NO PETS- \$1450/ month.

3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH RENOVATED double-wide mobile home. Covered porch. No smoking. Pets will consider. Washer / Dryer. Parking undercover for two vehicles. Storage. Quiet country setting. 10 minutes from town. \$1400 /month. Deposit. Available end of August. (970)264-6779. Please leave a message.

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.

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.

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INTERESTED IN HOUSE SITTING Chromo area or Coyote Park Road. August through end of February, possibly March. Reliable references upon request. Please call (505)795-5952.

LONG TERM RENTALS AVAILABLE. Call Team Pagosa (970)731-8599, 46 Eaton Drive, Suite #1, pagosaspringsrealty.com.

STORAGE UNITS FOR RENT. 5x10 -\$59.99, 10x10 -\$99.99, 10x15 -\$129.99, 10x20 -\$149.99. Gated, 24 hour entry. Call (970)264-3333, neminstorage.com.

VERY NICE AND CLEAN DUPLEX UNIT 3 bedrooms, 2 bath, 1 car garage. Close to City Market. \$2100 /month. (970)946-2768.

COMMERCIAL

.28 ACRE COMMERCIAL LAND County Road 982 frontage \$55,000. AP-7. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

.35 ACRE COMMERCIAL LAND County Road 982 frontage \$55,000. AP-8. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

DOWNTOWN, MULTI-FAMILY .52 acre -3 lots, views, close to river, all utilities available. \$500,000. AP-2. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

MULTI USE 5,700 SQUARE FOOT building in prime location on .60 of an acre. \$1,250,000. AP-3. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

COMMERCIAL

OWN YOUR OWN BAR AND GRILL by Navajo Lake. The Lone Wolf Bar and Grill, on 1 Acre \$450,000. Motivated Seller. AP-4. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

HOMES FOR SALE

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20 MINUTES FROM DURANGO. 4 Bedroom, 3 Full baths with office on 5 Acres. Carport and shed with no HOA \$475,000. AP-12. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

3 BED 2 BATH HOME on one acre with great views and NO HOA! for \$235k. AP-23. Call Deb Archuleta (970)903-2817 at Archuleta Properties.

64 ACRES, 46 SHARES OF IRRIGATION. 3 bedroom, 2 bath home. 3 garages and shed, 3-3 phase electric outlets. Brand new Generac Generator, Pastures with beautiful views, too many extras to name them all. \$995,000. AP-10. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

HOME FOR SALE. 3200 square feet on 3 acres. 181 River Forest Drive. Motivated seller. \$730K (970)585-9181.

HOMES FOR SALE

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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.

REDUCED PRICE Artesian Well! Hobby Farm. No HOA. \$650,000. AP-22. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

LAND/ BUILDING SITES

1.19 ACRES WITH VIEWS OF NAVAJO LAKE. All utilities nearby. \$99,000. AP-18. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

1.2 ACRES, MOUNTAIN VIEWS, electricity near, No HOA, close to town. \$35,000. AP-13. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

1.48 ACRE COMMERCIAL LAND. Highway frontage. \$99,000. AP-19. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

1.62 FLAT BUILDABLE ACRES with mountain Views, all utilities accessible. Located in the Ranch Community, within minutes of town. \$220,000. AP-21. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

LAND/BUILDING SITES

5.25 ACRES Mountain views flat buildable. Located between Allison and Ignacio. \$105,000. AP-20. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

ALL UTILITIES NEWLY INSTALLED and insulated pump house. No HOA. Cleared for new home. 1 acre. \$159,000. AP-16. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

MOUNTAIN VIEWS, MEADOWS. Unique high elevation and complete privacy. 5.6 acres bordering national forest, (970)769-3588 blancoretreat@gmail.com.

OWNER FINANCING. 1.3 acres. 27 D Place, mountain views. Utilities available. Private location. Not in PLPOA. Call Gail Brault Realtor, Mountain Meadow Real Estate. (970)946-2051.

TWO ADJACENT 5 ACRES LOTS. Available Separately. Meadows 4. Details at www.BLANCA257.com. Scott (970)731-4421 or fscott409@outlook.com.

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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.

Habitat for Humanity volunteer spotlight: Brian Reid

By Monica Nigon

Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County

For Brian Reid, originally from New England, Habitat for Humanity is more than just building homes.

"I met my wife on a Habitat affiliate in Boston," Reid said. "At the end of the two-year project, that Habitat did a walk from Portland, Maine, to Atlanta, Ga., and we said, 'Let's go for a long walk.'"

Reid said that on this Habitat walk, he and his would-be wife got to know each other even better, and "I proposed to her on that walk."

He added that whenever he and his family go somewhere new, they look up the local Habitat affiliate to get involved.

"I like the people. I like the work that they do. I like what they're all about," Reid said.

Reid said that he initially got involved in Habitat for Humanity because he was interested in learning more about building a house.

"And 30 years later, I'm still learning," he said.

He added, "Construction is hard. And you get some people who were working in an office, and what is so cool is seeing people come out and appreciate how hard it is to build a house ... It's encouraging to see those different worlds come together."

While Reid has volunteered for the Dallas Habitat affiliate, which builds more than 100 homes per year and is the fourth-largest builder in the city by volume, he's never seen partner families who show up and "jump right in" they like do at Habitat Archuleta.

"Our partner families are really active here," Reid added. "They're out here much more than what I've seen in other affiliates ... and they know what



Photo courtesy Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County

Brian Reid

they're doing."

Reid added that he loves seeing how a neighborhood evolves when Habitat for Humanity gets involved.

"Out of where there was really nothing — or there was no affordable housing in a certain area — Habitat will come in, and over time, you have a whole community," he said.

While Reid modestly said he's not involved in much else in Archuleta County, he recently donated two lots to the Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation, which is building affordable housing in a nearby neighborhood to this year's Habitat builds. He was the only individual to

do so; the other lots were donated by organizations and companies.

Reid said while in Pagosa Springs, he and his wife enjoy hiking and heading to the local pickleball courts. He also comes up to Wolf Creek to ski a few times per winter.

Reid is part of the Texas contingent of Habitat Archuleta volunteers; he spends his winters in the Dallas area and his summers in Pagosa Springs. He said he and his family are hoping they can live in Pagosa Springs full-time soon.

"We drove in circles from Dallas until we found someplace pretty, and this is the first place we found," he said.



JOIN THE FUN
Pagosa Family School enrollment is **OPEN** for all homeschool and private school students K-8th grade.

Enroll now for the 2024-2025 school year. Course offerings for the upcoming school year will include art & STEAM, music, Spanish, choir, as well as fun and interesting exploratory classes.



Pagosa Family School classes are held at Pagosa Springs Middle School on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1-4pm.

Reserve your student's space in this dynamic program TODAY! Find an enrollment form online at family.mypagosaschools.com.



Contact Jane Lewis for more info:
jlewis@pagosa.k12.co.us or call 970-264-2228 x5408

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3B, 3BA, 2023 sq. ft., views, near town, 8-car garage, over 5 acres. MLS 811190



431 Talisman Dr • \$897,512

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



148 Cloud Cap • \$499,000

3B, 2B, close to Lake Pagosa with views on paved road. MLS 815014



36 Tor Ct • \$789,700

Lake Front home with extra large lake frontage with boat dock. 3B, 2BA. MLS 811639



224 Mansions Cr. • \$42,000

Backs to green belt, electric is very close. MLS 811003



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



161 Inspiration Dr • \$507,000

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



340 Midiron Ave • \$445,700

One level, 2B, 2BA, mountain and golf course views, close to amenities and walking paths, new build. MLS 812000



11 Pinon Hills Pl • \$265,000

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



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