



PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147

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VOLUME 116 — NO. 45, THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 2024

Archuleta County Fair Livestock Auction



Stanton Tully, grand champion market beef



Lilyanne DeClark, grand champion market swine



Tristan Espinosa, grand champion market lamb



Chase Osborn, grand champion market turkey



Cora Linhardt, grand champion market chickens



AnnaBeth Ray, grand champion market goat

Photos courtesy Payton Shahan

4-H'ers and community members joined forces at the annual Livestock Auction last weekend at the Archuleta County Fair.

Harper selected as new county manager

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

At an Aug. 6 meeting, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) selected Jack M. Harper II as the new county manager in a 2-1 vote.

Harper has been serving as the interim county manager since May.

His appointment followed the departure of the previous county manager, Derek Woodman, from county employment after the BoCC declined to move forward with renewing his contract.

The BoCC announced Harper and Richard Bellis as finalists for the position on July 23, following interviews of three candidates by the BoCC the

previous week.

According to his resume, Harper previously served in a variety of city manager and assistant city manager positions in Texas for 22 years, with his most recent position being as the city manager of Fulshear, Texas.

Harper was fired from this position by the city council in February after the city council heard complaints about him in executive session at a meeting before he was fired, according to documents supplied by the city of Fulshear in response to an information request obtained by The SUN.

Bellis' resume states that he served as the city manager and deputy city manager of Taos, N.M., for a total of 12 years.

■ See Manager A8

Vehicle-versus-pedestrian collision leaves one in serious condition

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

A vehicle-versus-pedestrian collision late Thursday morning, Aug. 1, left one in serious condition, according to a press release from the Pagosa Springs Police Department (PSPD).

According to a press release from the PSPD, at approximately 10:53 a.m. on Aug. 1, the Archuleta Combined Dispatch Center received a call of a vehicle-versus-pedestrian collision in the 200 block of Pagosa Street.

It notes that PSPD, Pagosa Springs Medical Center (PSMC) EMS and Pagosa Spring Fire Protection District personnel responded to the scene.

The accident occurred when a 1997 white Dodge Dakota pickup traveling eastbound struck a 68-year-old local man attempting to cross from the north to the south side of Pagosa Street outside of a designated crosswalk, the press release states.

It notes the male was transported by ambulance to PSMC and then by air ambulance to a higher level of care. The male was initially described to be in serious condition.

The 84-year-old driver from Glendale, Ariz., remained on scene and was fully cooperative with the investigation, according to the press release.

The driver and pedestrian are not being identified at this time due to an ongoing investigation, it adds.

On Wednesday morning, Aug. 7, Police Chief William Rockensock reported the incident remains under investigation and that the PSPD has not yet been able to speak with the pedestrian.

Anyone who may have witnessed the accident is asked to contact PSPD Officer Colton Calavan at (970) 264-4151, ext. 251 or the Archuleta County Combined Dispatch Center at (970) 264-2160.

randi@pagosasun.com

Commissioners table decisions for proposed admin building location

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

Following an executive session, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) voted at its Aug. 6 meeting to table decisions on a letter of intent and a purchase and sale agreement with Arenalabs LLC for the purchase of property for a county administration building.

The BoCC voted to move forward

with drafting a letter of intent to purchase the property, an approximately five-acre portion of a larger planned development adjacent to U.S. 160 and South Pagosa Boulevard, at its June 5 meeting.

The purchase and sale agreement considered at the meeting indicates that the county would have purchased the property for a total of \$2,178,000 at \$10 per square foot, al-

■ See Purchase A8

Correction

The article "Two candidates join District 1 county commissioner race" in the Aug. 1 issue of The SUN stated that Wayne Hooper and Kenneth Bowles successfully petitioned to run as write-in candidates for county commissioner District 1.

Bowles and Hooper will appear on the ballot as unaffiliated candidates, not as write-in candidates.

The SUN regrets the error.

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Opinion

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OUR VIEW

Tough decisions

The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners faced two tough and important decisions on Tuesday afternoon — potentially moving forward with a property purchase to give them a place to build a new county administration building and choosing a candidate to negotiate with to be the county's next manager.

Members of the public have come forward to speak on both topics in recent weeks, wanting the commissioners to be diligent, thoughtful and thorough in vetting the options for both decisions, and pointing out concerns.

We appreciate having community members who care enough to do research and come forward ahead of decisions being made instead of only complaining after those decisions are made.

The commissioners voted unanimously to hold off on the land purchase decision, but moved forward with choosing the county's interim manager, Jack Harper, to fill the role on a permanent basis.

Both decisions were made after the commissioners discussed the topics in executive

session.

While we don't know if it was because of the concerns brought up by members of the public who spoke at the meeting or other factors, we applaud the commissioners' choice to table the decision on the property until early September.

We share the concern that \$2.178 million for approximately five acres of a 100-acre planned development may not be the best choice when that cost does not include the new administration building or the main entry road, both of which the county will also have to pay for, though we recognize the need to keep the ball rolling in order to have a county administration building by the time the lease on the former courthouse building expires.

The commissioners did, however, move forward with selecting the next county manager Tuesday, despite a suggestion from Commissioner Warren Brown that the decision be put on hold and the county again advertise the position and possibly seek the help of a recruiter.

The county manager is the county's top

employee and is undeniably an incredibly important position.

We firmly believe that the tone of an organization is set at the top, and we've seen a variety of tones set at the county over the years.

We agree with both sentiments expressed during the brief discussion prior to the vote to appoint Harper: This is an important decision that shouldn't be made hastily, but that our commissioners are elected to make decisions and likely no one with experience will come without naysayers or baggage.

We, again, don't know all the factors that led each commissioner to his or her final decision on the hiring of a new county manager, but we hope the decision will turn out to be in the best interest of the county organization and all the residents who call this county home.

We wish Harper the best in the role and hope he can help lead the county through the big decisions it is facing now and will face in the coming years — among them how to move forward with a new county administration building.

Randi Pierce

LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

100 years ago

Taken from SUN files of August 8, 1924

Chas. (Dick) Brown has been awarded the contract to dig the trench and lay the sewer for the new school house. The work is now in progress, commencing at the river and extending through the park.

Tomorrow is the last day of the One-Cent sale of all Rexall goods in the drug store. It is a sale where you buy an item at the regular price, and then for 1¢ more you get another item of the same kind.

J.W. Taylor and wife were arrivals Monday from Cedaredge, Colo., to visit at the home of the former's daughter, Mrs. S.E. Edmisten. Mr. Taylor was one of the early residents of Archuleta county and will be remembered by the old-timers. He was one of the first school teachers in the county, besides being one of the first to join the Masonic order.

Chas. Parcell and Chas. Brink arrived overland Tuesday from Taos with his pack animals and will soon pilot a party of seven New York residents, including the Merritts, who have been making annual pilgrimages to this territory, on a trip through the San Juan mountains to Silverton. Mrs. Parcell came in Tuesday evening by train.

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of August 5, 1949

According to figures released this week by county assessor Earl Lattin, the assessed valuation of Archuleta County and the Town of Pagosa Springs has increased materially over the 1948 values.

The 1948 valuation for the entire county was \$3,572,635.00 and for 1949 the assessed valuation for the entire county is set at \$3,683,405.00 or an increase of \$110,770.00. The Board of County Commissioners will set the tax levies for the county at a meeting later in the fall.

The valuation for the Town of Pagosa Springs increased from the 1948 figure of \$548,595.00 to the 1949 valuation of \$48,185.00. The increased valuation for the town and county will be a big help in the tax situation and shows most definitely that this area is growing rapidly.

Mrs. Richard DeVore entertained the Pagosa Springs chapter of the Beta Sigma Phi on Monday evening at her home. After a short business meeting, Mrs. DeVore served refreshments to those present. Members present were Mrs. Harvey Catchpole, Mrs. Aubrey Fowler, Mrs. J.F. Thiele, Miss Phoebe Jones, Mrs. H. Ray Macht and Mrs. Herbert Kingsley.

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of August 8, 1974

Building permits issued by the town during the month of July were again at a high point. Total dollar value of permits issued was \$110,000.00. Building the past two years in town has been much greater than ever before in the history of Pagosa Springs. This year is down somewhat from last year, but by the end of the year the totals may be nearly even.

Mrs. Harold Schutz, president of the Woman's Civic Club, said this week that a one day flea market will be held Saturday, August 17. Location will be announced next week. Purpose of the event is to raise money for the County Library. She asks that anyone having articles of any kind — including cooking utensils, clothing, used or unused items of value — to donate for the sale can help by leaving the articles at the San Juan Motel.

25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of August 5, 1999

The Ranch Community Property Owners Association filed an amended declaration of restrictions with the Archuleta County clerk Monday morning that would allow the Ranch Community to withdraw from the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association effective Dec. 31, 1999.

Ranch Community Property Owners Association President Joe Donovan said the main reason for withdrawing from the PLPOA was that "they have nothing to offer the Ranch Community people. We have a home owners association and we are currently doing everything we need from such an association.

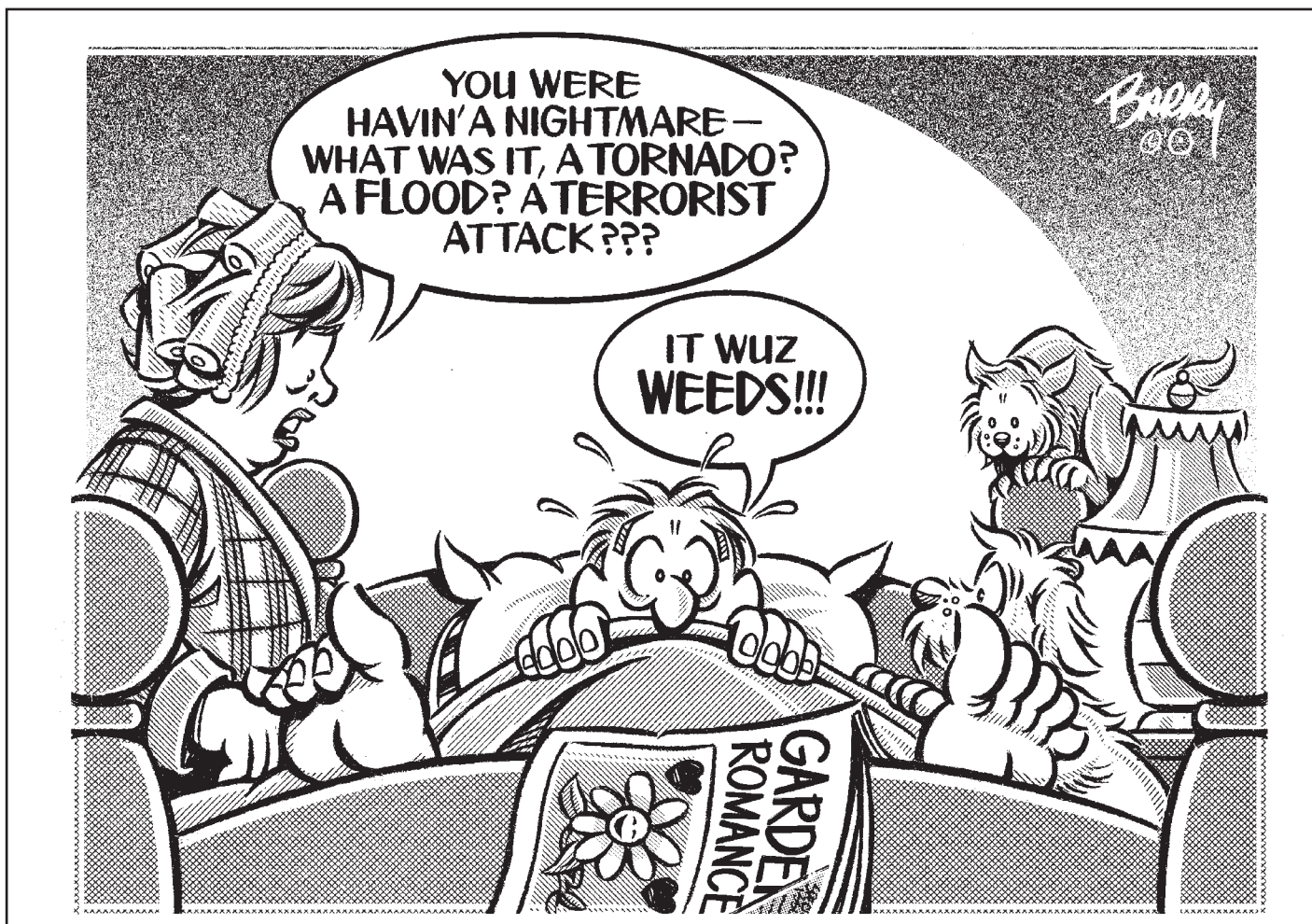
Donovan said 67 of 115 Ranch Community owners signed a document approving withdrawal from PLPOA. Ranch Community Secretary Scott Firth said the document required both a "majority of owners and a majority of lots, and we got both."

Newly-elected PLPOA President Pat Curtis doesn't expect the Ranch Community to be going anywhere soon. "Our attorney has advised us that withdrawal from PLPOA requires a change in the master declaration, so from our standpoint, we think it's probably invalid."



From the June 22, 1989, Pagosa SUN — The new lookout tower at Chimney Rock Archeological Ruins offers an impressive view of the area's twin spires.

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7/30	87	47	NA	NA	NA
7/31	89	49	NA	NA	NA
8/1	89	50	NA	NA	NA
8/2	88	53	NA	NA	NA
8/3	89	51	NA	NA	NA
8/4	89	52	NA	NA	NA

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Letters

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

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

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

Open borders

Dear Editor:
Here we are about 100 days from the election, and it looks like Kamala Harris is going to be the Democratic candidate for President.

Regardless of who the Democrats run, another four years of Democratic control will most likely be the end of our once great Republic. With all the issues on the table - high inflation, high interest rates, crime in our cities, failing schools, the Woke Agenda destroying our institutions and now an unsteady stock market, there is nothing that will bring us down quicker than our open borders and the flow of unvetted people into the country.

Estimates are that 10 to 20 million illegals have crossed the border during the Biden-Harris Administration. This is an unsustainable number that will bankrupt the country and lead to more crime and unrest. If you have been following what is happening in the UK, you are seeing a preview of what is in store for us. While our leaders ignore their oaths of office and bring in more and more people to change the demographics of the country to comply with the New World order, everyday Americans are becoming fed up and are one incident away from riots in the streets. Like in the UK, a revolution is brewing

as everyday Americans have become the enemy and the new arrivals have become the protected class.

Don't believe the current administration is working against the American people? Then how else do you explain the 7 to 9 million people who have been issued visas to enter the country without any vetting or background checks. This information comes from a June 25th report issued by the Inspector General for DHS. Beginning in 2020 and continuing thru 2023, the Biden-Harris Administration waived the vetting process for those wishing to come to the United States on a Visa. Visa applicants were no longer required to sit for an interview with a US Official before having their application processed. Fingerprints and background checks were also waived without justification. Just apply for a visa and you are on your way to the US with an official document that allows you into the country to roam at will. Only those bent on destroying a country would issue such orders.

The overload of undocumented and unvetted people here is reaching critical mass and we will not survive another four years if it continues. Forget the other issues you feel strongly about or your hatred for Donald Trump. Open your eyes to the destruction taking place and vote for the future of the country. I know some of you die hard Never Trumpers are going to say his followers are holding up the Immigration Bill in Congress. The Bill it is a red herring that does nothing to curb illegal immigration created to give the illusion the Dem's were taking steps to control illegal immigration, provide talking points against Trump, and secure votes in November. Read it and tell me how it helps solve the problem.

Milton Dodge

History and truth

Dear Editor:
I find myself writing this letter in response to one submitted last week entitled "Divine Miracle". I firmly believe all are entitled to opinions - however, it is time to clarify the truth with fact. It is lamentable that we have simply abandoned history and supplanted it with ignorance and sheer zealotry.

First and foremost, I'm also a Christian, and a student of history. I don't fear or reject knowledge derived outside my faith. Neither did the founders of our Nation.

You stated: "We stand fearlessly that America was founded by Christian forefathers basing our documents on the Holy Bible..." Regardless of how you've arrived at this conclusion - I can assure you, it isn't true. John Locke, the veritable father of the Enlightenment, published "A Letter Concerning Toleration" in 1689. Although I doubt you will - I challenge you to read it. The Founders certainly did - and were heavily influenced by it when forming our nation. A particularly salient passage:

"Whoever, therefore, is sincerely solicitous about the kingdom of God and thinks it his duty to endeavour the enlargement of it amongst men, ought to apply himself with no less care and industry to the rooting out of these immoralities than to the extirpation of sects. But if anyone do otherwise, and whilst he is cruel and implacable towards those that differ from him in opinion, he be indulgent to such iniquities and immoralities as are unbecoming the name of a Christian, let such a one talk never so much of the Church, he plainly demonstrates by his actions that it is another kingdom he aims at and not

the advancement of the kingdom of God."

Both Jefferson and Madison, as students of Locke, worked to disestablish the dominant Church of England prior to the Revolution, to prevent it from having privileged influence over our new government. They were aided by many Protestants - Quakers, Baptists and Presbyterians, as England was actively undermining the popular faiths of the Colonies. They were on the receiving end of the religious absolutism you now profess. Jefferson, although not particularly religious, knew that for the rights of the Colonies to be secured against England, he must advocate for the equality of all faiths. So much so, that he fought against including the name of Jesus Christ in the Virginia Statute, stating in his autobiography:

"...an amendment was proposed, by inserting the word "Jesus Christ," so that it should read, "a departure from the plan of Jesus Christ, the holy author of our religion;" the insertion was rejected by a great majority, in proof that they meant to comprehend, within the mantle of its protection, the Jew and the Gentile, the Christian and Mahometan, the Hindoo, and Infidel of every denomination."

Your notion of America being rooted in Christian values is not only false, but also a dangerous sentiment that is being actively repeated and exploited by your party and candidate.

History cannot be replaced with ignorance, regardless of how inconvenient the truth might be.

Joe Foster

Reimburse EMS

Dear Editor:
CMS issued a waiver for ambulance services to allow for treatment reimbursement in lieu of transport during the COVID-19 public health emergency, and Medicare paid for TIP during the ET3 demonstration program. These opportunities gave EMS the flexibility to navigate patients to the right care in the right setting, and the results were very promising.

Many patients who call 9-1-1 have non-emergency medical conditions that do not require transport to the emergency department and could be more appropriately managed on-scene, with referral to the patient's primary physician or a non-emergen-

cy setting like an urgent care center. TIP will allow the ambulance service to be paid for care without transport, and Medicare will achieve savings by avoiding the cost of an expensive emergency department visit. The hospital emergency department is one of the most expensive places to receive care, with recent estimates of \$2,500-\$5,000 per visit, many times the amount it would cost to treat non-emergent patients in place.

Medicare beneficiaries make up about 40% of patients treated by EMS and between 12.9-16.2% of Medicare-covered 911 transports involve medical conditions that do not require a hospital ER visit. Using those figures, NAEMT estimates between 2.17 and 2.82 million emergency department visits by Medicare beneficiaries each year would be potentially eligible for TIP, saving Medicare between \$1.5 and \$1.95 billion annually. Payment for TIP will allow EMS agencies to implement patient-centric protocols for patients who use the 9-1-1 system but have conditions that can be treated in the comfort of their home. This is especially important for people with disabilities and mobility limitations whose lives are upended when they have to go to the hospital. TIP can facilitate referral of care to the patient's own caregivers, who know the patient and their medical history, as opposed to emergency department staff who typically do not know much about the patient.

The goal of all healthcare should be to provide patients with the right care, at the right time, and in the most cost-effective manner. The historical payment model for EMS contradicts this goal by only reimbursing EMS if the most expensive means of response and transport is utilized - an ambulance - to take patients to the most expensive setting - the emergency department. Reimbursement for TIP would support better patient care and save both hospital and EMS resources, both of which are in short supply.

To learn more S. 3236 introduced by Senators Welch and Sander in the Senate and H.R. 6257 Representative Balint, contact Marketing and Media Director Kathleen Taormina of the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians at kathleen.taormina@naemt.org.

Bruce Evans

■ See Letters A4

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PAWSD receives clean 2023 audit

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) Board of Directors heard and accepted the results of the district's 2023 audit at its July 25 meeting.

PAWSD auditor Ronny Farmer of rfarmer LLC presented the audit results and began by asking the board if it had any big-picture questions about the audit.

The board members stated they did not.

The audit documents indicate that the overall audit was clean, with an unmodified opinion and no issues detected.

Farmer explained that the audit was different from previous PAWSD audits since it included an audit of internal controls and compliance with rules and regulations for contracts, and a single audit of controls and compliance concerning PAWSD's loan from the state of Colorado in addition to the normal financial audit.

Farmer stated that, in the general fund, PAWSD's investment income in 2023 rose compared to 2022.

He added that the fund balance in the general fund is substantially higher than the "rule-of-thumb" threshold that the general fund balance should be more than 30 percent of the annual operating expenses.

According to the audit documents, PAWSD's general fund balance at the end of 2023 was \$1,768,572 compared to expenditures of \$885,456.

PAWSD board member Glenn Walsh noted that the general fund balance has been increasing and the district has been avoiding transfer-

ring money to its enterprise funds to allow it to receive more grant revenue.

He asked what expenses could be paid for from the general fund without the money needing to be transferred to the enterprise funds and thus reducing how much grant funding the district could accept.

"That's not a bad report if the only criticism is that our [chief financial officer] is working too hard."

**PAWSD board member
Glenn Walsh**

Farmer replied that the general fund could pay for a wide range of district expenses and that PAWSD could shift costs such as staff salaries to the general fund out of the enterprise fund.

He added that the revenues of the enterprise funds are based on fees for services and that, if the district reduces its expenses in those funds, it might have to examine reducing its fees.

Walsh commented that there would likely be compensating increases in expenses in the wastewater fund.

Farmer moved to discussing the water and wastewater enterprise funds, noting that there would be no depreciation on construction projects that PAWSD has in progress until they are completed.

He stated that the water enterprise fund saw a \$4,635,817 increase in its

net position, and the wastewater fund lost \$547,134.

Farmer indicated that these changes include a substantial amount of depreciation and that, with the depreciation taken out of the wastewater fund, it would have a profit of about \$400,000.

He stated that the water fund lost \$1,024,611 in cash when examining the fund's operating expenses, capital and associated financing costs and other expenses on a cash basis while the wastewater fund lost \$327,526 when examined in the same way.

He commented that the cash-flow statement is a helpful metric for assessing if fee changes are needed in an enterprise fund and recommended that the fee structure particularly needs to be changed in the wastewater fund due to it losing money on operations in 2023.

Walsh commented that the board has already significantly changed the fee structure.

The PAWSD board voted to significantly increase rates and capital investment fees for water and wastewater in February.

Farmer concluded that each fund has a sufficient amount of cash, but that adjustments were necessary to prepare for the future and their impact will have to be monitored.

He explained that the district did not overspend its budget in any of its funds in 2023, which he commented is "good."

Farmer stated that the district had to undergo a single audit due to spending more than \$750,000 in federal funds through its loan for the construction of the Snowball water treatment plant expansion.

He indicated that the single audit did not uncover any issues, although PAWSD did not qualify as a low-risk auditee due to not having undergone a single audit in the past two years.

He added that this distinction would have a minimal impact on PAWSD since it only has one program that would have to be audited and, even with a low-risk auditee designation, this would still have to be audited.

Farmer stated that the single audit and the audit of PAWSD's controls and compliance related to grants revealed no issues.

Walsh asked if Farmer had any comments about places that PAWSD could improve its financial procedures.

Farmer stated that he did not have any recommendations and feels that PAWSD's policies are effective.

He added that PAWSD could potentially make its use of staff time more effective by reducing the number of bills reviewed by PAWSD Business Manager Aaron Burns since he felt some of these reviews might be unnecessary.

"That's not a bad report if the only criticism is that our [chief financial officer] is working too hard," Walsh said.

The board then moved to accept the 2023 audit, which passed unanimously.

Following approving the audit, the board briefly discussed the high level of interest income the district is collecting and the savings the district is accumulating due to having PAWSD District Manager/Engineer Justin Ramsey act as the owner's representative for the Snowball water treatment plant project before moving on to the next agenda item.

josh@pagosahun.com

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Continued from A3

Durango, Colo.

Wonderful fair

Dear Editor:

A huge thanks to all the Board and staff that put this year's Fair together. What a wonderful Fair, very well organized and fun for all. Great music, food trucks, exhibits and a fantastic livestock auction. Our 4-H is an awesome group. I especially want to appreciate all the effort from the Gomez family to restore the Gomez Store from the Harmon Museum area. That took a great amount of work and to move it (thanks to J. R. Ford) and to clean everything to have it ready to present to the Fair. Our history is so important.

Thank you to all making it a great Archuleta County Fair this year!

Nancy Ford

Thank you

Dear Editor:

Thank you very much for publishing the letter from John Farley - Thursday July 11, 2024. Thanks to John for giving us a concise history of "our democracy" and what led up to it - centuries of kings and state-enforced religions and wars. Now the U.S. is in danger of having rulers who are above the law and forcing one "religion" over many others. The wisdom of our countries founders is slowly fading away.

We are in danger of losing our democracy to "dictatorship" and authoritarian and distorted meaning of "freedom of religion".

And, then: July 18, 2024 - other wonderful reminders

Dave Butcher's "letter" Democracy versus fascism

And - the explanation of Project 2025 by Becky Herman

And, "No Room to disagree" by Candace Jones

And, "Torrent of Lies" by John Porco

I'm sorry to be so late with this note of appreciation but still wanted to Thank You! And, the writers of those letters!

Elizabeth Hinds
Santa Fe, N.M.

Thanks, Patty

Dear Editor:

Each week when I start to read the "Letters" section, I search for Patty Tillerson's submission as it is always positive and upbeat. Then I can handle reading the other submissions, but I sometimes need to reread Patty's afterwards! Thanks Patty!

Patricia McMahon

Dogs

Dear Editor:

For the second time this month I have been approached by an aggressive dog out on the trails around Pagosa. Not bitten but the signs of aggression were quite clear. In both cases the owner was 30-50 yards behind the dog yelling at the dog to come back. The dog was ignoring its

owner. I am pretty tolerant of dogs that are happy and wagging their tails when they approach me. These dogs were both tense, not wagging their tails or smiling, and both were baring their teeth and growling. You may know that your dog is not dangerous but I do not. As I understand it dogs don't have to be leashed but do, by law, have to be under control. These dogs were not under control. I know that the vast majority of dog owners are responsible and that the vast majority of dogs are good and not aggressive or dangerous. But, when they are charging at me I can't tell.

Jeff Milburn

Climate change

Dear Editor:

Last week's paper had two consecutive Letters to the Editor warning of the catastrophe of man made climate change, formerly known as global warming. The first lists recent forest fires and how they exceed anything in the past. BUT, in the late 1940's the Forest Service invented "Smokey the Bear" because forest fires were out of control nationwide, reason; lightning, but also discarded cigarettes. We were told that we were in a precipitous decline in our national forests. The loss was greatly exceeding forest regrowth. But things completely changed due to Smokey, but also to the replacement of wood with plastics....oops, that's a petroleum product.

The second letter, titled "What Will You Do?" lists all the disasters that are happening due to global warming and the futility of our mitigation efforts. The only answers to the title question are many more billions, or say goodbye to this planet and soon. However, current temperatures are NOT higher than previous. In a SUN article this month, "Looking Back" lists an eight-day period of record in July of 1989 with temperatures of 94,93,95,98,99 (July 6), 96,96,93. This is much, much worse than anything I have seen in the twenty years I have been here, and those temperatures occurred 35 years ago! Today 8/2 was very hot but only an 87-degree high.

It would appear that we may indeed, be in climate change, but it is cooling rather than warming....Just maybe?

Dick Riethmiller

Critics

Dear Editor:

I understand the Letter "Torrent of Lies" in last week's Sun was written by someone in a leadership position in the PS Democrat Party.

Imagine a restaurant critic judging a restaurant, not by the quality of its cooking, the reasonableness of its pricing, or the friendliness of its employees but solely by the color of its carpeting or the uniforms of its servers. No help as a 'critic,' at all. In fact, they would be considered silly, superficial, and a waste of time..

Yet, as is typical of Trump's critics, Trump's highly successful policies

during his first 4-years as President (the US economy, tax and monetary reforms, a safe and secure border, energy independence, low inflation, international stability, and upwards of 70% of Americans reporting the lives were better off under Trump than under Harris-Biden!) are NEVER brought up by the Democrats because the Harris-Biden administration is an embarrassment!

Yeah, Dims, keep "majoring in minors" as you point three fingers at yourselves when you point to Trump, while you fail to mention that lies are the nest you live in.

Jesse Wenzel

Fiscally irresponsible

Dear Editor:

The Archuleta County Commissioners are planning to purchase five acres of land off South Pagosa Avenue, east of the hospital to build a new county administration building. The developer is buying the 100 acre tract for approximately \$7 million (\$1.62 per square foot).

The Commissioners and developer have agreed on a purchase price of \$2,178,000 or \$10.00 per square foot which is 6.2 times the developer's cost. This price does not include the cost to build a road to go to the building, nor the proposed 30,000 square foot building.

Estimated costs to build this building would start at \$12 million and not include the interest that would occur over the term of the agreement.

Purchase of this land is fiscally irresponsible. The county is already over budget by nearly \$500,000 for the transit center and extra salary cost of paying for an interim county manager. Additionally, the county is already in debt from the judicial and detention center.

To our knowledge the county only considered fewer than six sites and never considered alternative options such as renovating one of the many empty buildings in town or looking at other sites.

This is a large amount of money to spend without considering input from the public. There are many unanswered questions to consider and the public needs greater transparency before this purchase is made. We hope the County Commissioners reevaluate their decision to go forward on this offer.

Jane Weitzel
Pagosa Lakes Ranch Architectural
Review Committee

Alarming

Dear Editor:

I found it alarming to read in The Pagosa Springs Sun article on the July 25 meeting of the Pagosa Water and Sanitation District Board of Directors about routine water losses of the district in serving the Elk Park subdivision. According to the article, "the district is dumping about 2.5 million

gallons of water 'on the ground' each month". What? Has this been going on for years? I live in Aspen Springs, just over the hill from Elk Park, where water conservation is a way of life and I cannot conceive of this amount of water being dumped.

While it is encouraging to read that a subcommittee will look into options of dealing with the problems created by serving Elk Park, it sounded like the focus of the committee has more to do with shifting the financial burden than with stopping this incredible waste of water. I hope that this is not the case. If a fill station available to residents west of Pagosa Springs would eliminate this need to dump water, then the solution seems obvious. Perhaps there are additional methods that can be investigated.

The website of the water district has a link to the adopted Water Conservation Plan with lots of wonderful ways for residents to conserve water. I believe that many of us feel that in this era of climate warming and long term drought, it is both a moral and financial obligation to do so. I look forward to learning that the water district will join us in efforts to conserve water.

Jean Zirmhelt

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Business



Colorado's tourism industry continues to grow

By **Shelby Wieman**
Colorado Tourism Office

This week, the Colorado Tourism Office (CTO), a division of the Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade, released the 2023 annual tourism industry research reports that showed Colorado's continued strong and steady tourism growth with \$28.2 billion in travel spending and 93.3 million visitors in 2023, boosting our statewide and local economy.

According to the Dean Runyan report, travel spending in Colorado increased by 3.9 percent from \$27.2 billion in 2022 to \$28.2 billion in 2023.

Half of this growth is attributed to the Denver metro area and Front Range counties.

The Longwoods Travel USA Report indicates that visitation to Colorado increased by 3.6 percent, with a total of 93.3 million visitors in 2023 compared to 90 million in 2022. State and local tax revenue also grew to a

combined \$1.8 billion in 2023, a 5.7 percent increase from the previous year.

"Colorado's outdoor recreation, thriving communities, cultural heritage and booming industries continues to draw millions of visitors to our state each year, strengthening local economies in all four corners of the state. Every day is a great day to celebrate our world-renowned and growing tourism industry," said Gov. Jared Polis.

Direct travel-generated employment created approximately 9,450 new jobs, totaling 187,710 in 2023, a 5.3 percent increase compared to 2022. The Accommodations and Food Services sector saw significant growth, adding 3,320 jobs, a 3.3 percent increase from the previous year. Additionally, the Arts, Entertainment and Recreation sector grew by 8.7 percent, creating 3,760 jobs. Overnight business trips increased by 7 percent from 2022. The top three activities and experiences for overnight

visitors to Colorado in 2023 were shopping, sightseeing and attending a celebration.

"We're encouraged by the consistent growth we saw in 2023, with Denver and the Front Range playing key roles," said Timothy Wolfe, CTO director. "Our focus for 2024 is to continue highlighting Colorado's diverse attractions, welcoming more international visitors and supporting all destinations across the state."

Other notable impacts from the Longwoods International and Dean Runyan Associates studies include:

- 85 percent of overnight travelers were repeat visitors in 2023.
- 62 percent of overnight travelers to Colorado had visited before in the past 12 months.
- For 2023 overnight visitors, the average length of stay was 3.5 nights.
- Direct travel-generated earnings grew from \$8.7 billion in 2022 to \$9.9 billion in 2023, an increase of 13.3 percent.
- Earnings from Accommodation

and Food Services grew from \$4.1 billion to \$4.4 billion, an increase of 7.9 percent.

Travelers spent approximately \$13.9 billion in the Denver region alone in 2023, making up 49.3 percent of the statewide total.

In addition to promoting economic development, the CTO continued its focus on destination stewardship. Launched in May 2023, the Destination Stewardship Strategic Planning Initiative aims to balance the quality of life for residents and the visitor experience while enhancing Colorado's environment, cultures and communities. The output will include a statewide destination stewardship plan as well as eight regional plans, available to the public in September.

To view the full reports for Colorado Travel Impacts 2023 (Dean Runyan Associates) and Colorado Travel Year Report 2023 (Longwoods International), visit <https://oodit.colorado.gov/tourism-research>.



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Town council discusses salvaging workforce housing project

By **Derek Kutzer**
Staff Writer

At a July 25 work session, the Pagosa Springs Town Council discussed the issue of workforce housing in the community, particularly a proposed project on town-owned property known as the Enclave at Aspen Village.

The town and Texas-based developer Servitas previously entered into a development agreement for Servitas to design and build workforce housing units on the 3.16 acre parcel located along the south side of Aspen Village Drive.

Servitas is proposing to build up to 70 units at the Enclave, with up to 12 of those being townhome ownership units and the remainder being multifamily rental units.

The town's goal has been to make the cost of the units affordable for those in the community earning between the 60 percent to 140 percent range of the area median income (AMI).

However, the project has been on hold for more than a year after Servitas produced numbers revealing that in order to make the development "pencil" for the developer, the units would need to be more expensive than what the council desired.

This sent the town and its private sector partner to seek grant funding for the project to help keep the costs of rent and purchase prices down for the community's workforce.

Community Development Director James Dickhoff suggested it was "very disappointing" that the town did not receive the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) grant that it applied for, citing a certain level of "politicking" coming from other localities seeking the grant funding, adding that the town was not quite prepared for that.

Dickhoff explained that town staff had given Servitas clear direction on the town's desired AMI levels for the price points of the units, but that this was "complicated by rising housing costs and building costs" to make such AMI levels "pencil."

He said that the council would need to look at other ways to achieve the desired 60 percent to 140 percent AMI levels since the town did not receive the DOLA grant funding.

"One of the most valuable things we can contribute as a governmental entity towards promoting workforce housing is the land," but sometimes this is still not enough to make workforce developments work out, he said.

He added that, initially, the town and Servitas were looking at three different town-owned sites for workforce housing developments, explaining that Servitas had "engaged a number of consultants to start working on these three sites."

"Civil engineers, geotech and preliminary architecture work, doing a housing market study, general contractor pre-construction services, a phase I environmental assessment, water modeling, title work — so there's a number of costs associated with those sites," he said.

When council member Gary Williams asked how much the town has paid Servitas so far, Dickhoff replied that the town has paid about \$480,000 to the developer and that it has incurred about \$600,000 costs of its own.

Dickhoff added that when the town originally entered into a part-

nership with Servitas, the company had never built workforce housing in Colorado, but since the Enclave development has stalled, Servitas has more successful experience in Colorado under its belt, mentioning completed workforce housing projects in Summit County, Telluride, Gunnison and Denver.

He noted that the nature of a public-private partnership carries a certain level of risk.

"And where does that risk lay? Is it with the town? Is it with the developer?" he asked.

"Dickhoff explained that town staff had given Servitas clear direction on the town's desired AMI levels for the price points of the units, but that this was 'complicated by rising housing costs and building costs' to make such AMI levels 'pencil.'"

He stated that a 2022 housing assessment estimated that Archuleta County would need about 800 new workforce housing units in the next decade to fix the affordability problem in the community, which would amount to about 80 new units per year.

He said, "we're not quite there," but that the 70 units at the Enclave would go a long way toward helping the problem, mentioning other workforce housing projects in the works.

One distinguishing factor with the

Enclave project compared to other workforce housing projects in the community is that, since it's on town-owned property, it could be deed restricted as workforce housing in perpetuity, whereas other projects, such as Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) projects, carry only a 30-year deed restriction, Dickhoff explained.

The town-ownership model would allow the town to always keep the units as workforce housing, or it could sell after its private partner is out of the picture, he added.

When opened to discussion among the council, a majority of council members and staff expressed that the Enclave project should move forward in some form or fashion, so the town has "something to show for" the time and money already invested in the project, as Town Manager David Harris stated.

"I'd like to find a way for the town to move forward without incurring more costs," Harris said.

Harris suggested that perhaps Servitas could do a few market-rate units and perhaps sell a few of the townhomes at market rate to "make it pencil."

He added, "How can you make this pencil so we are not breaking our bank?"

Council member Mat deGraaf noted that he favors the town supporting Servitas "to do the thing, rather than us doing the thing," adding that it would be too expensive for the town to subsidize the project to make it pencil.

Mayor Shari Pierce thought that Harris, who is relatively new to the issue, starting with the town in November 2023, might be able to see the conundrum with "fresh eyes."

She expressed that she'd like to see the original agreement with Servitas

"salvaged" in some way, adding, "I'm not ready to scrap it," and directing town staff to continue to look at the issue with fresh eyes.

Council member Matt DeGuise suggested the town has "a lot invested already and it would be nice to see something come out of it."

Pierce asked Garrett Scharton, a representative from Servitas who attended the work session remotely via Zoom, if it was still feasible to move forward since the project has been on pause for so long.

Scharton replied, "Yes. It's always feasible."

He added it would take a lot of "trade-offs" and "pragmatism" on behalf of the council.

He continued that the hard part is that the town is "trying to make something happen that the market forces can't make happen," and there's "so many variables in real estate development."

He recommended to the council that it "zero in" on some concrete goals that it wants for the project, promising that Servitas would "stick around until it's built."

He added that Servitas was in it "for the long haul" as a partner with the town.

Pierce recommended that the town should keep the project on pause until spring of 2025, after a housing coordinator had settled into the new position.

The council then agreed upon some goals for the project, deciding that it wants to keep the costs of rents low, deed restrictions on both sale and rental units, and that time is of the essence and a factor as building costs continue to go up.

It was also suggested that the town would continue to look for other grant opportunities.

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West Slope Startup Week set for Aug. 19-24

By Mary Jo Coulehan
Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce

Do you want to start a business, grow your business or partner with someone who wants to develop a business?

Startup Colorado is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that supports rural entrepreneurs and “ecosystem builders” in 53 rural counties in Colorado. Their mission is to help both of these groups access the human, social and financial capital they need to build a thriving business.

There are a number of avenues Startup Colorado uses to assist startup companies and entrepreneurs and build that culture of entrepreneurship, including online services, in-person events, “coopetitions” and custom programming.

An in-person event that you may be interested in attending in part or as a whole is the upcoming West Slope Startup Week to be held in Durango Aug. 19-24.

As a precursor to the startup week and to find out more information, there will be a meet and greet held by Startup Colorado here in Pagosa Springs on Thursday, Aug. 8, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at Coyote Moon at 120 County Road 600 (Piedra Road).

Startup Week will consist of five days of helpful sessions. The sessions include everything from ideas on starting your business, various aspects of running your business including marketing, brands, communication and AI, employee-owned businesses, financial aspects of the business, and raising capital for your business.

There will be even more detailed breakouts for the tech industry, makers and creators, and many breakouts that will be conducted in Spanish.

You can attend as many sessions as you would like or the whole week for free. However, you must register for the event.

You can wait for the Pagosa Springs open house to find out more or visit Startup Colorado's website at <https://westslopestartupweek.com/>.

You can also access the site through the Chamber's

website at www.pagosachamber.com. Scroll down to “Community and Chamber news” and click on the Hometown Event graphic. At that site you can view the entire week's schedule and all the breakout sessions planned as well as viewing all the presenters.

This startup week also includes lunches and networking opportunities — often some of the most important sessions you can attend. As many people know, it's not just what you know, it is who you know, and you never know who you might meet at a networking event.

Some of the lunches and receptions are on your own and some are included when you register for the event. The details again can be found at <https://westslopestartupweek.com/>.

Come find out more about starting a business, bringing your business idea to fruition and working with experts on how you can accomplish this venture in rural Colorado — particularly Pagosa Springs. Join us on Thursday, Aug. 8, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at Coyote Moon to find out more about West Slope Startup Week.

Colorado Department of Local Affairs awards Region 9 grant for broadband equipment

By Laura Lewis Marchino
Region 9 Economic Development District of Southwest Colorado

The Region 9 Economic Development District of Southwest Colorado and Southwest Colorado Council of Governments (known collectively as Region 9 EDD) announced that it will receive just under \$1 million to purchase and install broadband

equipment in five data centers in Southwest Colorado.

The data centers (also called carrier neutral locations, or CNLs) are in Pagosa Springs, Bayfield, Durango, Mancos and Cortez, and the equipment will allow connect the CNLs into a statewide fiber loop called the Alpine Loop.

Five governments (Mancos, La Plata, Archuleta, Montezuma and the

Southwest Colorado Council of Governments) are providing cash match, along with Region 9 EDD, for this project, which, when complete, will result in a continuous, self-mending loop around the state.

“This equipment, including transmitters and routers, is crucial to ensure reliable connections, as the Loop is specifically designed to reroute information in the case of a broken

connection anywhere on our regional fiber highway,” said Shak Powers, Region 9 EDD regional projects manager. “This technology will support emergency communications, enhance tourism experiences and provide local residents with essential connectivity for work and daily life.”

For more information, please contact Powers at (970) 247-9621 or go to www.region9edd.org.

Main Street Advisory Board recommends three new members

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

The Main Street Advisory Board held a regular meeting on Thursday, Aug. 1, at which three new members were recommended to join the board.

The board voted unanimously to recommend that the Pagosa Springs Town Council add Mario Garcia, Santos O'Cañas and Darren Gantt to the Main Street Advisory Board.

Each position will serve a two-year term.

Main Street Coordinator Kathleen McFadden indicated that the board received a total of five applications.

“Really delighted to report we had five wonderful applicants,” she said, noting that it was encouraging to see people want to be a part of the board.

During the board's previous meeting held on July 18, the board unanimously voted to add two members to the board, bringing the total number of voting members to nine.

After discussion during the Aug. 1 meeting about the five applicants, board members concurred that adding three members felt appropriate.

Board chair Rick Holter noted that adding three members to the board would bring the total number of voting members to 10.

“I just think when you look at the array of things that those three bring to the table, I think it really strengthens us,” Holter said.

He explained that in the previous

meeting the board talked about only adding two members, “but this field was so strong that we want to recommend three — Mario, Darren and Santos.”

McFadden explained that a committee of board members interviewed each applicant, asking them questions such as:

- What is your current role in the Pagosa Springs community?
- Why do you want to serve on the Main Street Advisory Board?
- What do you think are the most important things that the Main Street organization can accomplish in Pagosa?
- What are your strengths and weaknesses?
- What have we not asked you that we should have?

The committee was comprised of McFadden, Holter, board member Rosanna Dufour and board member Jeremy Martin.

McFadden explains in an email to The SUN that former board member Robert Melun was originally part of the committee, but resigned before the interviews.

McFadden states that Melun submitted his resignation on July 10 due to other professional commitments causing him to have limited time to participate on the board.

“Everybody was really excited about what the Main Street program has done so far,” McFadden said in regard to the five applicants.

She explained that O'Cañas is a historian and previously helped the board with its oral history project.

Dufour commented in favor of adding O'Cañas to the board, saying, “I think it's also a valid consideration for us trying to move forward with historical preservation to be inclusive to have somebody that's bilingual on the board.”

McFadden explained that O'Cañas recently started a bilingual newsletter to distribute to the community.

The board members also discussed why they believe Garcia will be a beneficial addition to the board, with multiple members indicating they had received positive feedback from others in regard to Garcia's work ethic.

McFadden explained that Garcia previously worked with Aspen House and helped plan a color run and golf tournament for the organization.

Board member Warren Brown commented that he worked alongside Garcia at Aspen House, noting he did a good job at “making relationships with people.”

Holter also commented on Garcia's attributes, saying, “He has some financial expertise and access to resources that I think could really benefit us.”

McFadden went on to mention that Gantt is the owner of a local business in the 400 block of Pagosa Street, San Juan Lifestyles.

Dufour spoke about initially only

Fuel prices remaining steady, area remains above state average

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

Archuleta County has continued to see some of the highest fuel prices in the state over the course of this summer, at around \$3.71 per gallon for regular unleaded fuel as of Wednesday Aug. 7, according to the American Automobile Association (AAA).

According to a news release from AAA on Aug. 5, the Durango region has the highest current average fuel price of \$3.71 per gallon for regular unleaded fuel.

The news release also notes that, a year ago, the average price for the Durango region was \$4.10 for a gallon of regular unleaded fuel.

According to the news release, the region with the lowest current aver-

age fuel price is Greeley at \$3.32 per gallon of regular unleaded fuel.

In April, average fuel prices in Archuleta County and in Durango were reported at \$3.48, which at the time was the most expensive average in the state.

The AAA news release states, “The good news is that, while Colorado's gas prices have been remarkably firm since the start of the summer, motorists should expect gradual declines into the cooler months.”

“The bad news is that if prices plummet, we're likely facing a significant economic slowdown tied to sustained job losses.”

The news release explains that, at a statewide level, Colorado's gas prices sit at an average of \$3.39 per gallon of regular unleaded fuel.

“Prices are up less than a nickel since June 1,” the news release states, adding that at this time last year, Coloradans were paying an average of \$3.96 per gallon for regular unleaded fuel.

The news release notes that the current national average sits at \$3.47.

The news release explains that communities on the Western Slope and in the high country should expect firm gas prices and “even slight upticks” as tourism continues into Labor Day weekend.

clayton@pagosasun.com

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Spanish Fiesta Committee members

ASI Staff and Board Members: Rose Chavez, Barbara Noriega, Janet Monks, Cynthia Sperry, Al Northrop, Veronica Medina, Crystal Gillich, Joan Ward, Dave Pettus, Martine Colombey, Rebecca Kyser, Elisha Lucas, and Shugery Montes

Community Members: The matriarch Lucy Gonzales, the matriarch Alice Chavez, Connie Chavez, Frances Chavez, Leonard Martinez, Julie Gurule, Marcus Rivas, Toni Gallegos, Crystal Young, Valisattie Chavez, Irene Diaz, Roberta Strickland, Elsa White, Dina Duran, Isabel Webster, Helena Jim, Gina Abalos, Don McKinzie, Lee Stopher, Candace Jones, Amy Nitchman, Kimberly Rochester, Douglas Wiseman, Blain Todd, Jason Bandy, Devon Moffat, Berlinda Vorhies, Mary Jo Coulehan, Mable Barber, Jon Morse, Rob Hagberg, Luis Soto, Lou Dickson, Ginger Baxt, Santos O'Canas, Jacob Pettus, Tomi Bliss, Ernie O'Toole, Jackie Spohr, George Sievers, Mary Tighe, Nate Edelman, Angela Scott, Steve Brown, Michelle Lobato, Holly Hasenbuhler, Maria Gallegos-Kelly, Barbara Asprey, Taylor Courtney, Joetta Osborn and Kim Rivas

2024 Spanish Fiesta Youth Royalty: Dazia Villarreal (Queen), Cambria Herrera (Junior Princess), Lillian Vega (Princess), Tesla Morris (Queen Attendant), Anissa Chavez (Junior Princess Attendant), Anthony Gonzales (Junior Prince), Ana Romero Gallegos (Princess Attendant) and their parents and families.

2024 Spanish Fiesta Scholarship Recipients: Marie Smith, Brook Anne Huddlestone, Jeidy Yajaira Moreno Echavarría, Trey Garcia, Abran Salazar, Patrick Matney, Jatziri Hernandez Arenivar and Heidi Hernandez Arenivar.

Thank you to all the craft vendors, community organizations and food trucks that had a booth at the fiesta this year.

Dedication: The 22nd Annual Pagosa Springs Spanish Fiesta is dedicated in honor of Lucy Gonzales and in memory of Darlene and Chris Gallegos. Thank you to our elders and ancestors for reminding us that returning to heritage and tradition doesn't mean returning to the past, rather it means reconnecting to the wisdom of our ancestors and bringing it forward with us.

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Parks and rec board discusses long-term goals, property acquisition

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

The Combined Parks and Recreation Advisory Board discussed some of its adopted goals during a regular meeting on Aug. 1, with the main topic being the importance of property acquisition and how the formation of a recreation district could influence that.

Parks and Recreation Director Darren Lewis indicated that the board previously decided to wait until all voting members of the combined advisory board are present to approve the adopted goals, noting that board members Josh Sanchez and Kevin Metzler were absent at the Aug. 1 meeting.

Lewis noted the board may want to reconsider that decision as the year goes on and may decide to adopt the goals with whatever quorum is available, noting the next regular meeting is currently scheduled for Sept. 5.

Lewis explained that Sanchez was involved in drafting the goals and that he was in favor of them at the time.

"If Josh [Sanchez] isn't here, I think he'll support them," Lewis said.

Board member Larry Lynch stated that, after the board's previous meeting, he realized the board had not discussed the long-term goal of future property acquisitions for parks and open space in the town and/or county.

"Here we see tonight that we're running out of room at Yamaguchi Park," Lynch said, referring to new bike skills park proposal in Yamaguchi Park South that the board heard earlier during the Aug. 1 meeting.

Lewis commented that the location being proposed for the new bike skills park is one of the last locations that he is able to develop in Yamaguchi Park South.

"What else is there for future park development in the community? And it's getting kind of slim," Lynch said, questioning if the board wanted to consider adopting property acquisitions as a long-term goal for the advisory board.

Lewis noted that the current drafted adopted goals include exploring funding mechanisms for parks and recreation development and improvement, and town and county growth collaboration, adding property acquisition could fall under either of those goals.

Lynch indicated that he'd like to

see be a specific goal, but didn't "know if anybody else agrees with that."

"I feel property acquisition is always important," board member Mat deGraaf commented, noting the town council looks at it regularly.

He went on to explain that in his opinion the creation of a recreation district may be a way to incorporate property acquisition for parks and open space.

Board member Larry Lynch stated that, after the board's previous meeting, he realized the board had not discussed the long-term goal of future property acquisitions for parks and open space in the town and/or county.

"Then that [a recreation district] would be a taxing entity that in and of itself could go and purchase property ... I feel like that's the bigger thing that can then move the parks in a bigger and better direction," deGraaf said, in comparison to prioritizing property acquisition at the advisory board level.

Lynch agreed with deGraaf about the benefits of forming a recreation district, but expressed a need for the advisory board to consider property acquisitions as a goal.

"A parks and rec district would be the perfect mechanism to go out and purchase a large piece of property," Lynch said. "I still think its worth considering if the right opportunity comes up."

Lewis questioned if the board wanted to add the creation of a recreation district to its adopted goals.

Board member Sally High explained that the topic of creating a recreation district has been discussed multiple times and questioned if it has been determined if the town or the advisory board could spearhead the process of forming a recreation district.

Lewis indicated that neither entity could and that it would have to be an

"outside entity" to lead the process.

High commented that it will take "a group of motivated citizens with access to a lot of money."

Board member Veronica Medina mentioned the possibility of having the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association (PLPOA) join in with creating a recreation district, noting that the town and Archuleta County could provide some of the funds needed.

deGraaf commented that the PLPOA "needs" to be a part of the district and that it would be odd to exclude PLPOA neighborhoods from the recreation district boundaries.

He went on to explain that talks about building a recreation center or establishing a recreation district have happened in the past, but that nothing has come to fruition.

deGraaf mentioned that he hopes this time something can happen in "a way that will be more successful."

"This community is at a point where we really need ... we need a proper rec center, and the best way to do that is through a rec district," he added.

Lewis mentioned that in previous meetings Archuleta County Attorney Todd Weaver suggested the recreation district needs to have a project behind it for it to be successful.

"It's very expensive for the town to run the parks and rec system," Lewis added.

Lynch noted other communities such as Salida, Gunnison and Cortez funded their recreation centers through a sales tax, noting that residents in the Pagosa community may not want to do that.

Lewis noted that in 2014 town voters denied a sales tax proposal that would have funded a recreation center.

deGraaf explained that the town has the Parks and Recreation Department that is funded through the town, but that the department "serves so many more people than the taxpayers that are actually funding that department."

"I'll tell ya because I've been there and done that," Lewis said in regard to proposing a sales tax. "I am not going to waste my time — I'll be very honest about it — if this is just a town initiative because I know it's not going to work."

He added he would like to see a countywide vote.

"If there's some traction there, I'll be happy to dive back into it," Lewis

added.

He explained that most of the community's families live outside of the town limits.

Lewis also suggested expanding the community center to the north "and try and start adding these amenities that we desperately need" through different phases.

High commented that every discussion about the topic is of value and having representatives from the town and county in the same room is important when considering different options of creating a recreation district or recreation center.

At the end of the discussion, the board directed Lewis to amend the drafted goals to specifically include property acquisition.

New hours

Lewis reminded the board that hours for town facilities are changing, after being approved by the Pagosa Springs Town Council last month.

He indicated that beginning this week, Town Hall and the community center will be open during regular hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., but on Fridays the facilities will only be open until 11:30 a.m.

"In the summertime we do not get very many people on a Friday afternoon in the community center because it's so nice outside," he said.

Lewis explained that he "tweaked the community center" so that during the winter the building will remain open for regular hours due to the increased use.

"I feel it's important that that building stays open in the winter time," he said, explaining there will be summer and winter hours.

The summer hours will be in effect from May 1 through Oct. 31, with the community center open all day Monday through Thursday and a half day on Friday.

Winter hours will be in effect from Nov. 1 through April 30, with the community center open all day Monday through Friday.

Lewis added that during the wintertime the community center gets more traffic due to the weather and with kids getting out of school around 1 p.m. on Fridays, the community center offers a space for them to go until the evening.

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Obituary

Steven Eugene Orr

Steven Eugene Orr passed away from this earth on July 9, 2024, at the age of 72. He had been ill with COPD for several years and passed peacefully in his sleep. He was the baby whisperer. He could calm the most fussiest baby. He loved playing Candy Crush with his grandchildren, especially Logan. He loved talking football with Kurtis. He truly loved our country and wanted the very best for all of us. Steve was born



in Silverton, Colo., to Gene and Esther Orr on June 18, 1952. He graduated from Silverton High School in 1970. Beginning at 16, he worked in the hard rock mines aboveground for a few years until he was 18 and could mine underground. After a few more years of mining, he moved to Pagosa Springs, Colo., where he worked as a police officer for the Pagosa Springs Police Department from 1975-1979. After his time at the Police Department, Steve worked for La Plata Electric for 37 years, where he retired from in 2016.

He was preceded in death by his father, Gene Orr; mother Esther Orr; nephew Matt Orr; and his ex-wife Sue Betts. He is survived by his older sister, Beverly Rich, and his younger brother, Tom Orr. He is also survived by his wife, Lilly Reed Orr, and four children: Jerry (Katy) Orr, Heather

(Kevin) Pearson, Brandon (Kayla) DeBates and Kortney (Derek) Hujus; and eight grandchildren, one special addition grandchild and three foster grandchildren, the loves of his life.

He had many passions throughout his life, including dressing up as Santa for the local church, walleye fishing with his little brother and celebrating his love for his wife each year on Valentine's Day with a special crab dinner. Steve was an avid sportsman, and hunted and fished all of his life. He truly loved being a dad and raising his son, Jerry. He and his wife, Lilly, loved to travel and took 13 cruises and trips around the world.

There will be a celebration of Steve's life next Memorial Day with his extended family in Bayfield, Colo. There will also be a celebration luncheon in Pagosa Springs in September or October to be announced.

Reynolds Ash + Associates announces promotions

Reynolds Ash + Associates are thrilled to announce some exciting updates in 2024! In our ongoing commitment to excellent and growth, we are proud to share the following achievements:

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to Cody Simons, who has recently obtained his architectural license, and to Dakota Miller, who has achieved licensure as a Professional Engineer. This significant milestone marks the beginning of an exciting journey of professional development and contribution to our firm's work in the area.

It is with great excitement that we also announce the promotion of

Lauren Davis to the position of Partner. Lauren has consistently demonstrated exceptional leadership, creativity, and a deep commitment to our firm's values and her clients. This promotion not only reflects Lauren's individual achievements but also RA+A's confidence in her vision and ability to drive our collective success forward.

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Davis



Simons



Miller

Please join us in congratulating Lauren Davis, Cody Simons, and Dakota Miller on their well-deserved accomplishments. We look forward to continuing our journey of innovation and excellence together.

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MLS # 811817

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

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 BTU 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
\$355,000

MLS # 811750

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

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



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ECONorthwest selected as consultant for housing needs assessment

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

At its Aug. 6 meeting, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) voted to select ECONorthwest as the consultant to perform a housing needs assessment for the county.

At a work session earlier in the day, Pamela Flowers, the county's development director, explained the rationale for recommending ECONorthwest as the preferred consultant.

Flowers explained that the county, the Town of Pagosa Springs and the Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation (PSCDC) received a Stronger Communities Planning Grant to pay for a housing needs as-

essment for Archuleta County and the Town of Pagosa Springs.

She stated that the group went out for bids for the work and received six bids, with three bidders being removed due to being over budget or lacking appropriate experience.

Flowers added that the selection committee for the assessment included herself, Pagosa Springs Community Development Director James Dickhoff and PSCDC Executive Director Emily Lashbrooke.

The committee interviewed the top three consultants, including having them give a presentation on elements of their proposals the committee wanted more elaboration on and asking a series of questions, Flowers explained.

Following the interviews, she stated that each committee member scored each applicant to help select a consultant.

"Any of the three could do the job," Flowers said, adding that ECONorthwest had the "edge" due to having the most experience in Colorado and strong connections with the state of Colorado, including experts involved with the company presenting at state-hosted webinars and working with the state to develop policy.

"That really kind of put them over the edge," Flowers said.

ECONorthwest's bid was \$68,565, she stated, adding that this was more than finalist Ayres Associates at \$67,500 and finalist Point Consulting at \$58,000.

Flowers explained that the entities will receive \$59,200 from the grant and will have to pay the remaining \$9,365 as matching funds, although this will be split with the town and can be paid over two years.

She added that the match would be higher than with the other potential consultants, but that the committee felt that, with ECONorthwest's experience, "the bang we get for the buck is worth it."

At the BoCC meeting later that day, Flowers reiterated her summary of the reasons for ECONorthwest's selection prior to the BoCC unanimously voting to select the company as the consultant for the housing needs assessment.

josh@pagosasun.com

Manager

Continued from front

He departed from Taos in 2022, a departure which ultimately resulted in ongoing litigation between him and Taos over leave payments and the mayor of Taos requesting an investigation by the state auditor's office into severance payments made to Bellis.

This investigation found no wrongdoing.

According to a communication from County Attorney Todd Weaver, the finalists were interviewed by county departments heads and other elected officials on July 29, although the BoCC declined to perform additional interviews of the candidates.

At the Aug. 6 meeting, the BoCC heard several public comments urging them to delay the selection of a new county manager or seek new applicants due to concerns about the transparency of the hiring process and other issues.

Following an executive session, the board briefly discussed the selection process and the applicants.

Commissioner Veronica Medina explained that the commissioners received one reference from each

finalist, "some" letters of recommendation and that Harper had passed a background check since he was serving as interim county manager.

Commissioner Warren Brown commented that the hiring process has been "drawn out."

"It's always difficult to make sure that you bring the right people on board that represents to the community in the way that you would like to be represented and that's able to get the most work out of our staff and also to encourage that work in a genuine way," Brown said. "I think, for where we are and what has been submitted to this point ... I've heard a lot of comment, specifically with Mr. Harper. I've talked to a number of people. I've talked to Mr. Harper himself. And, looking at this just from a business standpoint of a risk benefit analysis — and this is same for Mr. Bellis from a risk benefit analysis — I realize and I can anticipate what the outcome might be, but I think we're at a point where the folks that have cared to comment to me and have reached out to me, they would like to bring in someone without baggage if

possible. And while I like both of the candidates — I found Mr. Bellis to be very engaging and I think Jack is a very genuine man — but, with those things in mind, I personally would not be able to support either one and I believe that we should go out for a readvertisement and even go to the extent of getting a recruiter in to bring us candidates that the community, as a whole, would support and feel comfortable with. Not that either one of these two gentlemen I don't think may do a good job. I'm sure they can. Their qualifications speak for themselves."

"I was in that position two and a half years ago, Warren, and I understand your passion," Commissioner Ronnie Maez said.

When the BoCC hired Woodman as county manager in December 2021, Maez advocated for the board to readvertise the position and seek new candidates but was overruled by Brown and then-commissioner Alvin Schaaf, who voted to select Woodman as county manager in a 2-1 vote.

"But, we're elected to make a decision," Maez continued. "We need to

make a decision. I pretty much know what your answer would be but, you know, the thing of the matter is, if there's any of us without baggage, stand up."

No one at the meeting stood up.

"Right. We all have some, you know," Maez said. "Life's like that. We have our things and we learn to ... move on, and that's the same for both of the candidates."

Medina then opened the floor for a motion.

Maez moved to select Harper as the "preferred candidate" for the county manager position and to instruct Medina to serve as the negotiator to negotiate an employment contract with Harper.

Medina seconded the motion which passed 2-1 with Maez and Medina voting in support and Brown voting against.

Medina and Maez did not reply to requests for comment by press time Wednesday on what action was recommended by the county department heads and elected officials following their interviews with the finalists.

josh@pagosasun.com

Purchase

Continued from front

though the agreement indicates that this price could change if the size of the parcel being purchased changes.

At the meeting, the BoCC heard several public comments opposing the purchasing, with commenters stating that the overall 100-acre parcel on which the building would be located was purchased for about \$6 million and that the asking price for the smaller parcel is exorbitantly high.

Commenters also objected to a perceived lack of transparency in the purchasing process and expressed that the county could likely find less expensive property for its administration building elsewhere.

Following the executive session, County Attorney Todd Weaver explained that the letter of intent before the commissioners would be non-binding and that, after the county went under contract to purchase the property, there would be a 120-day due diligence period where the county could investigate if the prop-

erty would suit the county's needs.

He stated that, if the county found the property was not suitable, it could cancel the contract and receive its deposit for the property back.

The letter of intent is a "pretty typical first step in a commercial property transaction," Weaver indicated, adding that the agreement did not address the construction of an administration building or roads in the area, which would be handled by separate agreements.

Weaver also replied to a prior public comment concerning broker commission for the sale, indicating that the county would not pay any commission for the property and that it has not paid commission for any property during his six-year tenure as county attorney.

He added that both documents before the BoCC indicate that the county would not pay any commission.

He also emphasized that the letter of intent and the purchase and sale agreement are not binding and that

the county would not be purchasing any land at the meeting.

Commissioner Ronnie Maez moved to table a decision on the letter of intent until the BoCC's Sept. 3 meeting.

Commissioner Warren Brown seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Discussion then moved on to the purchase and sale agreement, which Weaver explained incorporates the language of the letter of intent in a purchase and sale agreement.

He added that it would "make sense" to table the purchase and sale

agreement due to the letter of intent already having been tabled.

Brown moved to table a decision on the purchase and sale agreement, which Maez seconded.

The motion also passed unanimously.

Commissioner Veronica Medina and Maez did not reply to requests for further information on what steps, if any, the county intends to take concerning the property prior to considering the issue again at its Sept. 3 meeting by press time Wednesday.

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Education



Photo courtesy Annette McInnis

Members of the Pagosa Fire Protection District visit the children at Aspire on Monday, Aug. 5.

Charter school students to start class Aug. 19

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

Some Archuleta County students will be headed back to school in just over a week, with the Pagosa Peak Open School (PPOS) resuming class on Monday, Aug. 19.

PPOS will also host its Back to School Night on Thursday, Aug. 15, starting at 4 p.m.

PPOS is a charter school serving kindergarten through eighth grades that uses a project-based learning curriculum in a restorative practices environment.

New families can meet their teachers, check out classrooms, sign up for after school and turn in enrollment paperwork at the back-to-school event, School Director Emily Murphy states in an email to The SUN.

"I look forward to seeing all our families at this event," Murphy writes.

All grades, kindergarten through eighth, will begin class on Aug. 19, with the same daily schedule as last year of Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. and Friday from 8 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.

Murphy explains in her email that PPOS will be offering a paid after-school program from 3:15 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. every school day.

This will be Murphy's first year as school director, taking over for An-

gela Reali-Crossland, who served the PPOS school director for the past five years.

Murphy has been serving as assistant director over the past year and worked directly with Reali-Crossland throughout the transition.

"After five years with Pagosa Peak Open School, School Director Angela Reali-Crossland has decided to move onto new adventures, leaving the school in the hands of its current staff, and with myself taking over the director position," Murphy writes. "I am grateful and excited to say our staff is returning; some in new positions, all with their talents, experience and passion for our students and work at PPOS. Joining our team this year will be Brian Tunin, our new physical education teacher; and Alison Beach, our new English Language Arts teacher."

Murphy notes that PPOS is "sad to see" that the Pagosa Community Initiative will be moving its after-school program downtown.

Linda Hayduke will be running PPOS's after-school program, Murphy notes, which will include hands-on collaborations and is based around the Destination Imagination SkillFire curriculum.

"This time with Linda will surely be fun and educational for our students," Murphy writes.

Murphy also notes that Forge will be taking over the school's warehouse space and adding additional after school programming for the entire school. The programs will include gymnastics, Ninja Warrior courses and martial arts.

She explains that Friday's will be "Forge Days," with every student receiving programming with Forge two Fridays a month.

"We are happy to have this partnership with such a great community program," Murphy adds.

For more information about PPOS, or to enroll a student, visit the school's website at pagosapeakopenschool.org.

Supply lists available

Supply lists for kindergarten through second grade are available on the schools website at pagosapeakopenschool.org, and teachers for third through eighth grade will be purchasing their own supplies, Murphy explains.

Murphy notes that parents of third- and fourth-grade students can make a classroom supply donation via Venmo to @Wildflowers24-25, and parents of fifth- through eighth-graders can make a class supply donation through Venmo as well to @msreuppos.

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Join us in supporting Veronica Medina!



Veronica is one of the Stars in this year's Dancing with the Pagosa Stars fundraiser for Seeds of Learning.

She is focused on this event to support early childhood education in our community.

One of the reasons we love Pagosa Springs is that when someone is facing hard times, everyone comes together to support them.

One of the Medina's sons was involved in a terrible accident in June, which has forever changed their lives.

In spite of this, Veronica remains committed to fundraising for Seeds of Learning through Dancing with the Pagosa Stars.

Veronica's friends ask for your thoughts and prayers for the Medina family. We also appreciate your support and contributions on behalf of Veronica.



**1 vote is \$1,
100 votes is \$100.
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Please vote for Veronica Medina at this QR code, or visit VoteVeronica.dwtps.org



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Healthy Archuleta presents community health survey results

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

At a July 29 meeting, Healthy Archuleta representatives presented the results of its recently completed nutrition security and community health access survey.

Healthy Archuleta staff member Mozhdah Bruss opened the meeting by explaining the goals of Healthy Archuleta's nutrition security and health access work, indicating that the organization was interested in understanding access to and utilization of health care in the community, as well as the connections between food and health.

She indicated that Healthy Archuleta took an "iterative" approach to its community health assessment work, which began in 2021 with the organization gathering community members to formulate questions.

That was followed by 2.5 years of surveying the community to answer these questions using a variety of data sources and iteratively implementing interventions to assess the impact of different approaches.

Bruss stated that the assessment used 22 "convenient samples" such as health care professionals or food pantry clients in addition to random samples.

In an interview, Healthy Archuleta staff member Vanessa Skean explained that the iterative process involved initial outreach and data gathering with a wide range of community groups and stakeholders, such as health care institutions or food pantries.

As this data was collected, the organization would work with partners to make suggestions or improvements at these organizations based on patterns in the data as well as refining the questions asked for future data gathering, Skean explained.

She added that these processes helped refine the questions used in a later randomized survey of the community.

At the meeting, Bruss explained that the results that Healthy Archuleta would be presenting at the meeting were primarily from a recent county-wide survey that provided a "representative sample" of the community.

A representative sample can be used to make statements about an issue in a community overall due to representing community composition and being randomized, Bruss stated, adding that this survey is the first time that such a sampling had been done in the county.

She then noted several overarching issues in health, including the importance of consistent access and affordability of nutritious foods, the difficulties experienced by marginalized or minority communities in accessing food and medical resources, and the prevalence of chronic diseases in the U.S.

She noted that, according to data from San Juan Basin Public Health, Archuleta County has notable issues with excessive weight and poor cardiac health, both of which can be addressed with consumption of healthy foods.

However, she commented that such foods tend to be more expensive in the area, limiting access, particularly among low-income or non-English speaking populations.

Bruss indicated that Archuleta County has a higher rate of food insecurity compared to the state of Colorado, according to various data sources, in addition to having a lower rate of enrollment in the Supplemental Nutrition Access Program (SNAP) than the state average.

She introduced David Metz from Fairbank, Maslin, Maullin, Metz and Associates (FM3), who she explained is involved with the Colorado Health Foundation and performed — along with his firm — the representative survey for the community health assessment with guidance and assistance from Healthy Archuleta.

Demographics

Metz then presented the key findings of the survey, beginning by explaining its methodology.

He stated that the survey worked to obtain a representative sample of the community using a random sampling methodology combined with population quotas based on census data intended to ensure that the population interviewed was representative of the county as a whole.

A total of 417 residents were interviewed for the survey, he indicated, adding that this led to a margin of error on the survey of 4.9 percent.

Metz stated that the demographics of Archuleta County and those interviewed for the survey skew older than many communities and that 14 percent of the population identifies as Latino or Hispanic.

According to the survey, 91 percent of respondents indicated that they had health insurance, although

those below 40 years old were "significantly less likely" to be insured and all those over 65 interviewed had insurance.

He stated that, among those who had insurance, about a third stated they had Medicare, a third were on employer-provided health insurance, and the remaining third stated they were on Medicaid, had purchased their own insurance plan or were insured through another means.

Metz noted that one in five of the respondents stated that they speak a language other than English at home and that the distribution of how long respondents had lived in Archuleta County was "pretty broad," with only a small portion being born and raised in the county.

Fifty-two percent of respondents lived in a two-person household, he stated, adding that a third lived in a household with three or more people.

He added that households with four or more residents were disproportionately likely to be Latino and that larger households were typically younger, which Metz commented is not surprising due to younger households often containing children.

Survey results

Metz then reported on the results of the survey, starting with indicating that respondents had varied responses to what items make a community healthy.

He stated that low levels of crime and violence; affordable healthy food options; easy access to affordable physical health care; and treating people of varied ethnic, racial and income groups with respect were rated the most important.

He added that the food and health care availability were investigated in depth in the survey.

However, he noted that the diversity of responses was notable and included items not traditionally associated with health care, such as transportation.

Metz explained that respondents were asked about their financial circumstances, with more than one-quarter stating that they were just getting by financially or struggling, and 47 percent stating that they were living comfortably but not able to save money.

He commented that these responses reflect general economic conditions in the U.S., with many having difficulties with high costs of living.

Financial security strongly correlated with income, Metz stated, with lower-income households being more likely to be struggling and higher-income households being more secure.

He indicated that college-educated men were the most financially secure, while non-college-educated women were the most financially insecure.

Seventy-three percent of respondents stated they got a physical checkup in the past year, while 57 percent received dental care and 13 percent received mental health care, Metz stated.

He added that 13 percent stated they visited a food pantry in the county.

Metz commented that the question only concerned accessing these services within Archuleta County and that it is possible some respondents obtained these services outside the county, although he added that the responses are important since access to providers was a significant issue in later survey questions.

Metz stated that the survey showed a strong correlation between income and the use of dental and mental health care and food pantries, with households with incomes below \$50,000 having a lower likelihood of using either type of health care and a higher likelihood of using food pantries.

He added that white residents were more likely to use dental health care than residents of color.

Metz explained that younger respondents, who are more likely to be uninsured and healthier, were less likely to have gotten a physical checkup in the past year.

The survey also asked respondents if they postponed accessing medical services or skipped meals due to a lack of food, Metz stated.

He indicated that a minority of residents stated they had these experiences, although, in some cases, this was a "fairly sizable minority," particularly among lower-income respondents and residents of color.

He explained that those who had skipped meals or some form of health care tended to skew younger, were more female than male, were more likely to be lower income, were more likely to have children at home and were disproportionately Latino.

Metz explained that the remainder of the survey focused on a "deeper dive" into food and health care avail-

ability.

He indicated that the majority of respondents stated that they were able to purchase the food they wanted most of the time, although a significantly lower percentage stated that they could always purchase the food their household needs and wants.

More than a third of respondents were concerned about if they will be able to feed their family, Metz stated, with those concerned being younger, more likely to be female, lower income, often having children and being more likely to respond to the survey in Spanish.

He stated that the most common source of food was from stores, although a majority stated they also shop at a farmers market and a significant number grew their own food or obtained it through hunting or fishing.

He commented that the highest use of farmers markets was among the most affluent county residents.

Metz explained that respondents were asked to identify the issues preventing them from accessing the food they need.

He stated that the largest obstacle survey participants identified was food costs, with difficulty growing food, extreme heat or rainfall and a lack of stores near where they live also being cited as less-significant issues.

Metz explained that lower-income households were more likely to report barriers to food access, particularly food costs.

He added that a larger portion of Latino or respondents of color cited a lack of available food from their cultural background as a challenge compared to white respondents.

The survey also asked respondents what supports would be most helpful to them in obtaining the food they need, Metz stated, with respondents rating lowering the cost of food as the most helpful and a majority stating that increased access to locally grown food products would be useful.

He added that a larger number of respondents stated that making it easier to get benefits like SNAP would be useful compared to those who stated that making it easier to use these benefits would be useful.

Those with household incomes between \$50,000 and \$100,000 per year were most likely to say that getting SNAP benefits would be helpful, Metz noted.

He added that this is a typical pattern that those just outside the income range for a public benefit like SNAP feel it would be most helpful to have it expanded.

Metz stated that the survey asked respondents about what actions they could take or already taking to improve their food access, with responses focusing on purchasing food from farmers markets and from local growers.

He then moved on to discuss the responses to questions about access to health care.

Metz indicated that about 85 percent stated they are receiving the physical health care they need to maintain their health, with those who have health insurance being more likely to say they were receiving the care they needed compared to those without insurance.

He noted that a lower number of Latino residents stated that they were very likely to get a physical checkup in the next year compared to white residents.

The survey asked residents what barriers exist to them receiving care, Metz explained, with a lack of appointments, doctors in the community not accepting new patients, difficulty finding a provider who will accept your insurance and wait times being too long being the largest challenges identified, although no barrier was identified as an issue by the majority of respondents.

He commented that cost of health care was rated behind these concerns, which Metz stated is a common pattern in rural communities.

Metz indicated that lower-income households were more likely to face barriers in terms of access to health care and affording it.

He added that difficulties in finding a doctor that accepts a respondent's insurance was more prevalent in the middle income range, which might indicate that those in this range are more likely to be uninsured or have more narrow health insurance coverage than those above or below them in income.

Those respondents who were insured or uninsured expressed equal levels of concern about affording health care, Metz stated, commenting that even those who are insured still can face significant health care costs.

He indicated that those respondents who stated that they postponed receiving health care reported facing a wider range of barriers to seeking health care, although they ranked those barriers similarly to the general

population.

Metz stated that those who answered the survey in Spanish stated more frequently that they could not find a doctor or clinic whose staff spoke the same language as them or a family member.

Two-thirds of respondents stated they could obtain the mental health care they needed, Metz explained, adding that this was lower than approximately 90 percent who indicated they could get the physical health care they needed.

He added that a "counterintuitive" finding was that those who are uninsured were more likely to state that they had access to the mental health care they needed than those who were insured.

He added that one of reported barriers to receiving mental health care was that insurance would not cover it and speculated that those who have insurance may seek mental health care at a higher rate and be denied coverage, while those without insurance have not tried to seek out such care and thus do not experience the barriers.

"That's something that might merit a little further explanation," Metz said.

He stated that a relatively low number of respondents rated any barrier to mental health care as significant, although he commented that this was more likely due to many respondents not trying to access such care rather than because they were accessing such care successfully.

He indicated that cost of care, dif-

■ See Survey A11

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Sports



Photo courtesy Kate Alfred

Thingamajig Theatre Company actors competed in the second annual Bob Howard Memorial Pickleball Tournament Aug. 5 in honor of Howard, a longtime theater patron who died in October 2022, two weeks after his 80th birthday. He was an active member of the Pagosa aviation community, having owned 13 planes and two gliders during his lifetime, and also a member of the Gray Wolf Ski Club and Pagosa Springs Golf Club. Two-person mixed doubles tournament teams were created by a random card drawing. The tournament director was Kate Alfred and the scorekeeper was actor/director Dennis Elkins. The winners were Nyla Eitahir and Keenan Pasqua. Host Carole Howard is standing second from the right.

GOLF

Pirates set to tee off fall season in Cortez

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School golf team will kick off its fall season today, Thursday, Aug. 8, at the Cortez Tournament at Conquistador Golf Course in Cortez.

The team's first day of practice was Monday, Aug. 5.

Last season, Pagosa Springs High School Pirate sophomore Johnathon Smith tied for 10th at the 3A state golf championships, making him an all-state golfer.

Smith tied for 10th with four other golfers, with all five finishing with a total of 162 at the two-day tournament.

Cedar Liverett, a junior last sea-

son, was the first alternate for the state championships, but did not end up competing.

Coach Mark Faber could not be reached for comment by press time Wednesday.

Schedule

The following schedule was accurate as of Tuesday, but is subject to change.

All tournaments begin at 9 a.m. unless otherwise noted.

After opening the season today, the Pirates will next be in action at the Alamosa Golf Tournament at Cattails Golf Course on Aug. 16.

On Aug. 26, the team will take part in the Durango Tournament at Hillcrest Golf Course in Durango at a time

to be announced.

The following day, the team will head back to Cortez for another tournament.

At noon on Aug. 28, the team will host its home tournament at Pagosa Springs Golf Course.

The Pirates will again hit the road on Sept. 6 for the Monte Vista Tournament at Monte Vista Golf Club at a time to be announced.

On Sept. 9, the team will head to Gunnison for the Gunnison Golf Tournament.

The Pirates are slated to close the regular season at the Durango Tournament at Dalton Ranch Golf Club on Sept. 10.

Regionals will be hosted the week of September 30, with the state championships being Oct. 7 and 8.

randi@pagosasun.com

Survey

Continued from A10

faculty finding a provider who will accept your insurance and difficulty making appointments were the largest barriers to accessing mental health care identified, followed by issues related to social stigma around such care.

Difficulties paying for mental health care was strongly correlated with lower incomes, Metz stated, and many barriers were more prominent among residents of color than among white residents, including much higher barriers related to social stigma, such as discomfort speaking about personal problems with another and concerns about being judged by family or friends.

Among those who postponed seeking mental health care, the ranking of the barriers were similar to the general population, Metz stated.

He noted that there were a greater variety of potential solutions to improving mental health care access that survey respondents stated would be significant compared to physical health care, with increasing access and affordability being top-rated solutions.

He added that lower-income households were more likely to be interested in these supports, although the solutions rated as effective were similar across income levels.

Latino residents had a higher likelihood of stating that access to more health resources in Spanish would be helpful, Metz indicated.

He explained that, if the supports related to accessing physical health care were implemented, there was a 5 percent increase in the number of respondents who indicated that they would be very likely to get a physical

checkup in the next year.

Metz commented that the overall survey results showed a broad recognition that a wide range of factors feed into community health beyond health care and that residents in the area are facing financial challenges.

He added that, while most are comfortable with their access to physical health care, most are not comfortable with their access to mental health care and point to lack of access and cost of care as barriers to accessing both.

He stated that most residents can access the food their families need and want, although many are concerned about their ability to do so in the future.

Metz also noted that there is a strong interest in accessing food from farmers markets and local producers.

"The main help that I think most county residents want, both when it comes to food and health care, is lower costs," Metz said. "Just at bottom line — affordability to afford it."

At several meetings, the Archuleta County Board of Health has indicated that the data from this survey will be a valuable tool in its planning processes for the five-year Public Health Improvement Plan the board is working on finalizing.

In an interview, Skean and Healthy Archuleta staff member Drew Brown added that the data will be used to shape Healthy Archuleta's future priorities and grant funding applications, such as an upcoming grant-funded effort to investigate the local mental health care system and develop interventions to improve access to mental health care in the community.

josh@pagosasun.com

Correction

The article "Fall sports just around the corner" in the Aug. 1 issue of the SUN states that the Pagosa Springs High School football and volleyball teams were scheduled to have their first official practices on Monday, Aug. 5.

The first official day of practice for both teams will be Monday, Aug. 12.

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Outdoors



Photo courtesy Tina Heffner

A member of the San Juan Rangers pauses for a bit of fun while insuring safe and efficient parking at the Archuleta County Fair last week. To volunteer or receive info about the Rangers, text (352) 424-4447 or email Ljmetal@gmail.com.

\$7.2 million in grant funds now available to reduce wildfire risk

By Kristy Burnett
Colorado State Forest Service

The Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS) is now accepting applications for the Forest Restoration and Wildfire Risk Mitigation (FRWRM) Grant Program.

Community groups, homeowner associations, utilities and nonprofit organizations are just some of the groups eligible to apply for grants from the \$7.2 million funding pool.

Applications will be accepted until 5 p.m. on Oct. 10, and applicants can request help from their local CSFS field office.

Field office locations can be found at <https://csfs.colostate.edu/areas/>.

"Since the FRWRM program started, we've seen many examples of community-led wildfire mitigation efforts providing real results, successfully limiting the spread of wildfires and reducing the risk to homes and buildings," said Matt McCombs, state forester and director of the CSFS. "I strongly encourage towns, HOAs and neighborhood groups to apply for these funds and take action to mitigate wildfire at local levels. When this work occurs throughout the state, all Colorado residents benefit from

healthier and more resilient forests."

The FRWRM Grant Program helps fund projects that strategically reduce wildfire risk to property, infrastructure and water supplies, and that promote forest health through scientifically based forestry practices.

The competitive grant program can fund fuels and forest health projects that reduce hazardous fuels and promote forest health. These grant funds can also be used for capacity-building projects that provide communities with the resources and staffing necessary to plan and implement fuels and forest health projects. The projects can be on private, state, county or municipal forestlands.

There is a fund-matching component of the grant awards. The state can fund up to 50 or 75 percent of the cost of each awarded project; grant recipients are required to match at least 50 or 25 percent of the total project cost. This can be through cash or in-kind contributions, and the required matching amount depends on whether or not the project location falls within an area of "fewer economic resources," as identified in the Colorado Forest Atlas, available at <https://coloradoforestatlas.org/>.

Applicants must coordinate proposed projects with relevant county officials to ensure consistency with county-level wildfire risk reduction planning.

Follow-up monitoring is a necessary component of this grant program to help demonstrate the relative efficacy of various treatments and the utility of grant resources. The CSFS will work with successful project applicants to conduct project monitoring and conduct site visits to assess effectiveness and completion of projects.

Additional emphasis will be given to projects that have some specific features:

- Identified through a community-based collaborative process, such as a community wildfire protection plan.
 - Implemented strategically across land ownership boundaries.
 - Conducted within a priority area identified in the 2020 Colorado Forest Action Plan.
 - Use the labor of an accredited Colorado Youth or Veterans Corps organization.
 - Include forest treatments that result in the protection of water supplies.
- Applications must be submitted

electronically to local CSFS field offices by 5 p.m. on Oct. 10.

A technical advisory panel convened by the CSFS will review project applications and make funding recommendations. Funding will be awarded by March 31, 2025.

Applications and additional information about the FRWRM Grant Program are available at CSFS field offices and on the CSFS website, <https://csfs.colostate.edu/>.

USDA Rural Development awards Region 9 \$90,000 to leverage timber businesses

By Laura Lewis Marchino
Region 9 Economic Development District of Southwest Colorado

The Region 9 Economic Development District of Southwest Colorado announced that it will receive \$90,000 from the U.S. Department of Agriculture-Rural Development to work with Eco Strat USA to identify timber industry assets and receive a Business Development Opportunity (BDO) Zone rating for Southwest Colorado. The project will support the devel-

opment of small and emerging businesses and will benefit existing logging and sawmill companies, transportation and logistics companies, as well as emerging bio-manufacturing companies.

Existing timber businesses could benefit from being a promoted BDO Zone to further develop supply chain and commercial markets.

"A significant part of Region 9 EDD's work in economic development involves coordination and participation with regional efforts

including helping to develop timber industry businesses," said Laura Lewis Marchino, Region 9 executive director. "This project will work with existing groups including forest health and management efforts, which are prevalent in the region."

The project area will cover Montezuma, La Plata and Archuleta counties, specifically including Pagosa Springs, Mancos and Dolores.

Please contact Region 9 at (970) 247-9621 or at www.region9edd.org for more information.

Chances of scattered thunderstorms in forecast

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

High temperatures for this weekend are forecast to be in the 70s, with chances of scattered thunderstorms starting today through Sunday, Aug. 11, according to the National Weather Service (NWS).

Today, Thursday, Aug. 8, the high is forecast at 85 degrees, with thunderstorms likely from 3 to 5 p.m. and a 60 percent chance of precipitation. The low is forecast at 52 degrees.

For Friday, Aug. 9, the chance of precipitation during the day is 90 percent, with a high forecast at 74 degrees. The low is forecast at 52 degrees with an 80 percent chance of precipitation from thunderstorms after 9 p.m.

The high forecasted for Saturday, Aug. 10, is 76 degrees with showers

and thunderstorms expected after noon. The chance of precipitation is 80 percent during the day. The low is forecast at 51 degrees.

For Sunday, Aug. 11, the high is forecast at 78 degrees with showers and thunderstorms likely throughout the day and into the night. The low is forecast at 51 degrees.

According to an Aug. 6 forecast post by Shawn Prochazka at Pagosa Weather, monsoon moisture will remain in our area over the next week.

"We'll see scattered storms each afternoon and into each evening. You won't get hit every day, but I'm confident that everyone will get a decent soaking during this period," Prochazka wrote.

River flows

According to the U.S. Geological

Survey (USGS), as of 2 p.m. on Aug. 7, the San Juan River in Pagosa Springs had a flow rate of 67.4 cubic feet per second (cfs). This is down from last week's instantaneous reading at 2 p.m. on July 31 of 72.8 cfs.

According to the USGS, based on 88 years of water records, the record low for the date of Aug. 7 was in 2018 at 18.6 cfs, and the record high was in 1999 at 1,210 cfs. The average flow for that date is 218 cfs.

As of 2 p.m. on Aug. 7, the Piedra River near Arboles had a flow of 49.7 cfs, according to the USGS. This is down from last week's instantaneous reading at 2 p.m. on July 31 of 56.7 cfs.

Based on 61 years of water records, the record high flow for the Piedra River for that date was in 1999 at 1,910 cfs and the record low was in 2018 at 22 cfs, according to the USGS.

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Colorado's lane-filtering law goes into effect

Colorado State Patrol

A new law (SB24-079) allowing motorcyclists in Colorado to lane filter is now in effect.

As part of this law, the Colorado Department of Transportation will complete a SAFETY report over the next three years to determine the impact on Colorado roadways. The law automatically repeals on Sept. 1, 2027.

Lane filtering is legal in Colorado under these conditions:

1. To pass, traffic in the rider's lane and adjacent lanes going the same direction must be at a complete stop.
2. The lane must be wide enough to fit the vehicle and motorcycle while passing.
3. The motorcycle must go 15 mph or less.
4. The rider must pass safely and control the motorcycle.
5. The rider must pass on the left and not enter the oncoming traffic lane.

"It's up to the rider to assess the scene ahead to determine if the conditions are safe and legal to filter — riders should reflect back to their foundational motorcycle licensing course," stated Col. Matthew Packard, chief of the Colorado State Patrol. "Riders will recall learning how important it is to maintain a safety cushion around them, so riding between vehicles places riders in a vulnerable position. Weigh the pros and cons of every scenario before filtering."

Whether you are a new motorcycle rider or someone with experience, the best way to enjoy the ride is to continually increase your knowledge and training.

The Motorcycle Operator Safety Training, or M.O.S.T., offers three courses for every skill level.

"Motorists also need to respect the legality of this new practice for motorcycle riders even if they don't always understand their motives or driving experience," explained Packard. "There are frequent gaps of empathy and tolerance between roadway users regardless of vehicle type. It's not a hierarchy out there, the roads are meant to be shared and safety is everyone's responsibility."

Hospice of Mercy seeking volunteers

By Laurie Marks
CommonSpirit Hospice of Mercy

CommonSpirit Hospice of Mercy is seeking volunteers in the Pagosa Springs area. Several volunteer opportunities exist, the most common being to provide caregiver respite in a patient's home or patient companionship at a skilled nursing facility.

Hospice in the United States was founded in the 1970s by volunteers. These volunteers continue to provide an important and valuable role in hospice care and operations. Hospice is a unique Medicare provider in that it requires volunteers to provide at least 5 percent of the total patient care hours that are provided by hospice

staff, including physicians, chaplains, nurses, aides, social workers and bereavement counselors.

CommonSpirit Hospice of Mercy serves residents in La Plata, Archuleta and Montezuma counties. In-home and residential hospice care is designed to help patients comfortably reach their end-of-life goals. Patients and their loved ones help plan the kind of care received and play a vital role communicating needs, questions or concerns to members of the hospice team.

Hospice volunteering is a deeply rewarding experience. Volunteers need no previous experience, although they must wait at least one year after the death of an immediate

family member or loved one. They must be in good health, compassionate, reliable, a strong listener and communicator. Finally, they should have a certain level of comfort with all aspects of death and dying.

Volunteers must successfully complete a two-day training, a criminal background check and drug screen. While volunteers must commit to at least one year of service, days and times are flexible. The next training will take place on Oct. 7 and 8 at the Mercy Hospital campus in Durango.

For more information on hospice volunteering, contact Laurie Marks, volunteer coordinator, at (970) 764-3501 or complete an online application.

Public Meetings

The following meetings are subject to change.

Thursday, Aug. 8

Southwestern Water Conservancy District meeting. 8 a.m., Ross Aragon Community Center, 451 Hot Springs Blvd.

Monday, Aug. 12

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

Pagosa Springs Public Arts Committee meeting. 4:30 p.m., Ross Aragon Community Center, 451 Hot Springs Boulevard. For more information, visit <https://pagosasprings.civicweb.net/portal/>.

Tuesday, Aug. 13

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

Wednesday, Aug. 14

Archuleta County Fair Board meeting. 6 p.m., CSU Extension office, 344 U.S. 84. For more information, visit <http://archuleta-county.org/agendacenter>.

Thursday, Aug. 15

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

Main Street Advisory Board work session. 4 p.m., Pagosa Springs Visitor Center, 105 Hot Springs Blvd. For more information, visit <https://pagosasprings.civicweb.net/portal/>.

Monday, Aug. 19

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

Cone Zone Care Committee Colorado Department of Transportation update. 6 p.m., The Springs Resort and Spa conference room, 323 Hot Springs Blvd.

Tuesday, Aug. 20

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

CSU Advisory Committee meeting. Noon, CSU Extension Office, 344 U.S. 84. For more information, visit <http://archuleta-county.org/agendacenter>.

Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners meeting.

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

Pagosa Peak Open School Board of Directors meeting. 5 p.m., 3133 Cornerstone Drive. For more information, visit <https://pagosapeakopen-school.org/>.

Archuleta School District Board of Education. 5:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs Middle School, 309 Lewis St. For more information, visit www.mypagosaschools.com.

Thursday, Aug. 22

Archuleta County Marijuana Ordinance Update Task Force meeting. 1 p.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St. For more information, visit <http://archuleta-county.org/agendacenter>.


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

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


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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
July 29 — Criminal mischief \$5,000-\$20,000 private, Colo. 151.

July 29 — Warrant arrest, warrant arrest, Sam Houston Avenue.

July 29 — Possession of a controlled substance, criminal impersonation-felony, violation of protection order-criminal, Sam Houston Avenue.

July 29 — Drug paraphernalia-possess, Sam Houston Avenue.

July 29 — Warrant arrest, Sam Houston Avenue.

July 30 — Criminal mischief \$300-\$1,000 private, Canyon Circle.

July 30 — Driving with revoked license-aggravated, Turkey Lane.

July 30 — Warrant arrest, Hurt Drive.

July 30 — Assault in the third degree, harassment-insults/taunts/challenges, Lyn Avenue.

July 30 — Not completed, Navajo Trail Drive.

July 31 — Information only, Cat Creek Overlook.

July 31 — First-degree criminal trespass motor vehicle, Harman Park Drive.

July 31 — Warrant arrest, Colo. 151.

Aug. 1 — Information only, Pompa Drive.

Aug. 1 — Not completed, Cox Circle.

Aug. 1 — Information only, Cloman Boulevard.

Aug. 1 — Not completed, Juniper Court.

Aug. 1 — Not completed, no location listed.

Aug. 2 — Driving under the influence of drugs (all other), U.S. 160.

Aug. 2 — Under investigation, Harman Park Drive.

Aug. 2 — Harassment-strikes/shoves/kicks, U.S. 84.

Aug. 2 — Not completed, no location listed.

Aug. 3 — Warrant arrest, warrant arrest, Harman Park Drive.

Aug. 3 — Trespass warning, Pines Club Place.

Aug. 3 — Not completed, Indian Paint Brush Drive.

Pagosa Springs Police Department

July 28 — Menacing-felony-aggravated-family-gun, East Pagosa Street.

July 28 — Remained in park/rec facility between dusk and dawn, San Juan Street.

July 29 — Assault in the third degree, domestic violence, South 7th Street.

July 29 — Criminal mischief, Trinity Lane.

July 29 — Lost and found, Pagosa Street.

July 29 — Driving under the influence of alcohol, Majestic Drive.

July 30 — Warrant arrest, 15th Street.

July 30 — Information only, Pagosa Street.

July 31 — Theft/intending to deprive, Hot Springs Boulevard.

July 31 — Warrant arrest, Eagle Drive.

Aug. 1 — Information only, Pagosa Street.

Aug. 1 — Lost and found, South 5th Street.

Aug. 1 — Sex assault, South 9th Street.

Aug. 2 — Suspicious activity/vehicle, Pagosa Street.

Aug. 2 — Information only, Country Center Drive.

Aug. 3 — Shoplifting/departs or attempts to depart without payment, criminal trespass, Aspen Village Drive.

Aug. 3 — Speeding 10-19 over limit, driving under the influence of alcohol, alcohol-open container/drink in vehicle, North 8th Street.

Pagosa Springs Municipal Court:

Judge Anthony D. Edwards

July 22 — Justin Sallee, stood, stopped or parked between safety zone and curb, fine and costs — \$50.

July 22 — Michelle Grazioli, unsafe backing, two points off, fines, costs and surcharges — \$72.

July 22 — Wayne Gilbert, failed to yield to oncoming traffic when making a left turn, three points off, fine, costs and surcharges — \$116.

July 22 — Jessica Sullivan, owner allowed animal to run at large, fine — \$25.

July 22 — Juvenile, marijuana prohibited, 20 hours community service, six months supervised probation, fine, costs and surcharges — \$370.

July 23 — Chloe Dawson, following too closely, four points off, fine, costs and surcharges — \$146.

July 23 — Francisco Koerdel, speeding 10-19 mph over PFL, four points off, fine, costs and surcharges — \$197.

July 23 — Shirell Monarco, harassment, six months unsupervised probation, fine, costs and surcharges — \$185.

July 23 — Samuel White, owner allowed animal to run at large, fine — \$25.

July 23 — Brian Garcia, open burning, five days incarceration.

July 23 — Dylan Sanchez, criminal trespass, 10 days incarceration.

Archuleta County Court: Judge Justin P. Fay

July 31 — Michael C. Hanley, weaving from traffic lane, fines and costs — \$135.

July 31 — Adam Jones, careless driving, fines and costs — \$238.50.

July 31 — John J. Collins, driving under restraint, fines and costs — \$177.50.

July 31 — Nicholas Robert Smoke, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$224.

July 31 — Seth X. Quirova, speeding 5-9 over, fines and costs — \$160.

July 31 — Alfonso T. Zavala, speeding 5-9 over, fines and costs — \$160.

Aug. 1 — Jauris Monaleto Lopez-Lehi, license plates-expired, alcohol-open container/drink in vehicle, fines and costs — \$149.50.

Aug. 5 — Jacinto Robles-Perez, assault 3-know/reckless cause injury, two years probation, fines and costs — \$1,464.50.

6th Judicial District Court: Judge Justin P. Fay

July 31 — Richard Leonard Salas, assault 3-know/reckless cause injury, 24 months probation updated sentence, fines and costs — \$1,531.50.

6th Judicial District Court: Judge Jeffrey R. Wilson

Aug. 5 — Jacinto Robles-Perez, criminal mischief-\$2,000-\$5,000, two years probation, fines and costs — \$1,673.50.



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Reminder: Children need to buckle up under state law

Colorado State Patrol

There is not a parent out there who doesn't remember how nervous they were driving their newborn away from the hospital. The traffic around them was all too close and moving way too fast.

But, somehow, over time, even parents seem to forget how fragile kids are.

In 2023, Colorado State troopers wrote 1,143 citations for improperly secured children in vehicles on Colorado's roadways.

"It is a primary offense for children under 16 to be without a seat belt or improperly restrained in a vehicle," explained Trooper Kent Trimbach, Colorado Child Passenger Safety Program coordinator. "This means you can be pulled over without committing any other traffic infraction because the bottom line is kids are relying on you for their safety."

In the above circumstances where a citation was issued, the seat was either improperly installed into the vehicle, or the child wasn't using a child restraint at all. Troopers will not forego a ticket because a child has just figured out how to defeat the system, doesn't want to wear a seat belt and is roaming free in the vehicle.

Last year, out of more than 5,000 free car seat checks performed in Colorado, there was a 66 percent misuse rate.

Car seats can be tricky, but there are free resources to help you get it right. Parents and caregivers can learn more about Colorado child passenger safety laws, recommendations and recalls at CarSeatsColorado.com. Parents can also locate a free car seat check station to inspect their seat

for free.

With demands pulling us in all different directions, we can get good at cutting corners. Don't cut corners where your child's safety is at stake, and remember it may not be your driving that is dangerous, but those around you who pose risks to your children you did not plan for when you failed to buckle up.

Colorado child restraint requirements

- Less than 1 year and weighing less than 20 pounds: Properly secured in a rear-facing child restraint system in a rear seat of the vehicle.
- One year to 4 years, and weighing 20 to 40 pounds: Properly secured in a rear-facing or forward-facing child restraint system.
- Children up to 8 years: Properly secured in a child restraint system, such as a booster seat, according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- Eight to 15 years: Properly re-

strained in a safety belt or child restraint system according to manufacturer's instructions.

Source: Sections 42-4-236 and 42-4-237, Colorado Revised Statutes.

In addition, teen drivers can also be pulled over if they or any of their passengers are seen without a seat belt.

Colorado's seat belt laws for youth

Teens: Colorado's graduated driver's licensing law requires all drivers under 18 and their passengers, regardless of their age, to wear seat belts. This is a primary enforcement, meaning teens can be pulled over simply for not wearing a seat belt or having passengers without seat belts.

Children: Colorado's child passenger safety law is a primary enforcement, meaning the driver can be stopped and ticketed if an officer sees an unrestrained or improperly restrained child under age 16 in the vehicle.

**HUD
Publisher's Notice**

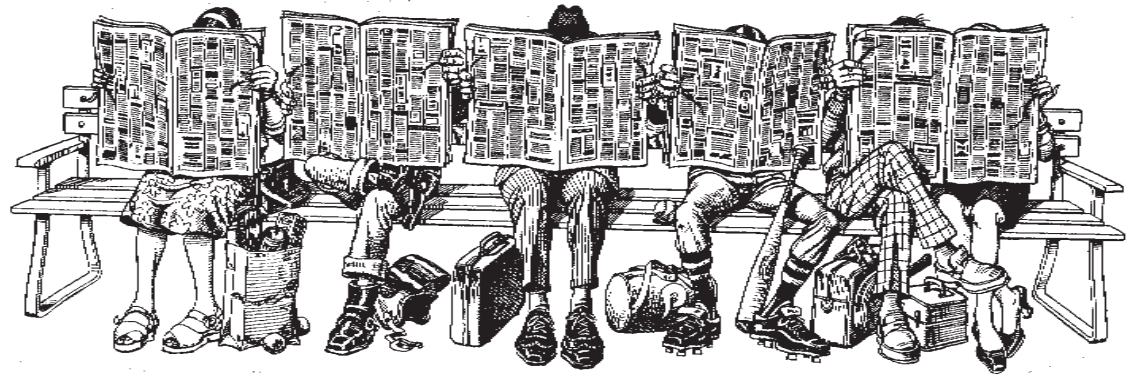


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OPPORTUNITY**

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

Request for Proposal
The Archuleta School District is accepting proposals for School Photography Services for the 2024-25 school year, for approximately 1600 students enrolled in grades K-12. This includes Pagosa Springs Elementary, Middle and High Schools, San Juan Mountain School and Pagosa Family School. Full details of the RFP are located on the district's website mypagosa-schools.com under District and Bids/RFPs/RFQs. Please contact Eric Burt at eburt@pagosa.k12.co.us with any questions.
Published August 8, 2024 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (242928)

DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO
Court Address: 109 Harman Park Drive
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Telephone: (970) 264-8160

**In the Matter of the Estate of:
CHARLES LOWELL BARRY, Deceased.**
Attorney for Personal Representative, Kathleen J. Bryan-Barry.
Thomas A. Rodriguez, #30377
Lathrop GPM LLP
675 15th Street, Suite 2650
Denver, Colorado 80202
Telephone: (720) 931-3200
Tom.Rodriguez@LathropGPM.com
Case Number: 2024PR30037

NOTICE TO CREDITORS BY PUBLICATION PURSUANT TO C.R.S. § 15-12-801
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Estate of Charles Lowell Barry, Deceased
Case Number 2024PR30037
All persons having claims against the above-named estate are required to present them to the Personal Rep-

resentative or to the District Court of Archuleta County, Colorado on or before December 8, 2024, or the claims may be forever barred.
Thomas A. Rodriguez, #30377
Lathrop GPM LLP
675 15th Street, Suite 2650
Denver, Colorado 80202
Attorney for Personal Representative, Kathleen J. Bryan-Barry
Published August 8, 15, and 22, 2024 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (243211)

Notice of Annual Meeting 2024
The annual meeting and election of Directors for Western Heritage Event Center, Inc. (WHEC), also the organizer and sponsor of the annual Red Ryder® Roundup® Rodeo, will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, August 20, 2024 at the WHEC grounds, in the 4-H Hall, 344 Hwy 84, Pagosa Springs, CO.
Only registered members of record as of June 21, 2024 will be entitled to vote. Proxy votes must be in writing designating the person who is to cast the vote (who must also be a registered member of the corporation) and have the signature of member and date. Proxies must be presented at the beginning of the annual meeting at registration. The maximum number of proxies any individual can represent is five. Current board members are: Diana Talbot, President; Bob Kavil, Vice President; Katelyn Bailey, Secretary; Pennie DeClark, Treasurer; and Directors Keith Jacobson, Wes Lewis, Ryan Montroy, Twyne Register, Lane Schaaf, Lisa Scott.
Published August 8 and 15, 2024 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (243033)

PUBLIC NOTICE
The Pagosa Springs Community Development Corpo-

ration (PSCDC) is committed to enhancing our community's growth and economic sustainability through several strategic initiatives. One key initiative is providing affordable housing to ensure local workers have access to quality, affordable homes near their places of employment, contributing to the overall vitality of our community.
As part of this initiative, PSCDC will host the first Housing Opportunity Process for Phase 1 of the Workforce Housing Project in the Trails and Chris Mountain II subdivisions.
Event Details
PSCDC Housing Opportunity Process
August 22, 2024
5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Ross Aragon Community Center
451 Hot Springs Blvd, Pagosa Springs CO 81147
During this public event, PSCDC will draw up to 10 qualified homebuyers from the pool of pre-approved applicants who can select one of our newly built affordable homes. A neutral party will draw the names to ensure fairness. Each household drawn will have the opportunity to select one of the available homes to purchase.
Important Information
• To participate, potential homebuyers must first apply with PSCDC, obtain pre-qualification from a bank, and receive verification of Area Median Income (AMI) with the Archuleta County Housing Authority.
• Homebuyers must be present or have a representative present at the drawing.
• Homebuyers drawn will have 5 minutes to make their home selection. If no desired home is available, the homebuyer(s) will be placed on a waiting list in the order drawn.
PSCDC will hold a second drawing in late September or early October. Details for this second drawing will be announced as available.

Homebuyer applications for 2024-2025 builds will remain open! Interested homebuyers are encouraged to apply. For more information and to submit an application, please visit: <https://pagosapscdc.org/workforce-housing/> or contact Emily Lashbrooke at (970) 264-3023 or Emily@pagosapscdc.org.
Published August 8 and 15, 2024 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (242937)

Public Notice: San Juan Basin Public Health Bar Date Announcement
Please take notice that the San Juan Basin Public Health Department has established a Bar Date of September 3, 2024. All claims against the SJBPB Department must be submitted by September 3, 2024 to be reviewed. All claims must be submitted by this date to be considered for review. Late submissions will not be accepted. For further information on how to submit your claim or any related inquiries, please contact Damon Torkelson at dtorkelson@coresco.com.
Published August 8, 15, 22, and 29, 2024 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (242934)

**SECTION I
INVITATION TO BID**

Separate sealed BIDS for the **2024 PLPOA Mailboxes at Park Avenue and Vista Boulevard Project** will be received by the **Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association (PLPOA)** at the office of Davis Engineering Service, Inc. located at 188 South 8th Street, P.O. Box 1208, Pagosa Springs, Colorado 81147, until 2:00 p.m. local time on **August 29, 2024**, and then at said office-publicly opened and read aloud.
The project consists of the construction of an approximately 600 linear feet of asphalt roadway, a small asphalt parking area, approximately 1,200 square feet of

concrete sidewalk and approximately 170 linear feet of asphalt trail. The project is located near the intersection of Park Avenue and Vista Boulevard, with the proposed asphalt trail section connecting to the existing Vista Boulevard Trail. The project will include cleaning, excavation and embankment, imported embankment, subgrade preparation, gravel placement, concrete curb and gutter, concrete sidewalk, drainage structures and other associated work.
Copies of the CONTRACT DOCUMENTS may be obtained on or after **August 13, 2024**, at the office of Davis Engineering Service, Inc. located at the address mentioned above, upon payment of \$25.00 for each set. No refund will be made for returned copies.
A mandatory pre-bid conference and inspection trip for prospective Bidders will be held **August 20, 2024**, at the office of Davis Engineering Service, Inc. (phone number (970) 264-5055), located at the address mentioned above, at 2:00 p.m. local time.
Date: August 2, 2024
Published August 8 and 15, 2024 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (243134)

The Town of Pagosa Springs has received an application for "Sketch Major Design Review" for a 4,932 square foot multi-story dental facility building to be located 2737 Cornerstone Drive.
The Design Review Board will conduct a public hearing on **Tuesday, August 20, 2024**, at 5:30 p.m., to consider the **Sketch Major Design Review Application** at 551 Hot Springs Blvd and available for remote attendance via the Zoom meeting platform. To access the meeting agendas and staff reports, click the round **Minutes and Agendas** tab located along the bottom of the photo on the Town's website home page at pagosapscdc.org/proposed-development-projects.
We encourage interested parties to contact the Planning Division prior to the public hearing dates, with any questions at either (970) 585-8636 or kdeluche@pagosapscdc.org.
Written comments received 7 days prior to the meeting or public hearing will be forwarded to the Design Review Board for their consideration. Public comments will be accepted at the public hearing. Published August 8, 2024 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (242948)

We encourage interested parties to contact the Planning Division prior to the public hearing dates, with any questions at either (970) 585-8636 or kdeluche@pagosapscdc.org.
Written comments received 7 days prior to the meeting or public hearing will be forwarded to the Design Review Board for their consideration. Public comments will be accepted at the public hearing. Published August 8, 2024 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (242942)

The Town of Pagosa Springs has received an application for "Sketch Major Design Review" for the Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library located at 811 San Juan Street. The applicant is proposing a building expansion and site modifications.
The Design Review Board will conduct a public hearing on **Tuesday, August 20, 2024**, at 5:30 p.m., to consider the **Sketch Major Design Review Application** at 551 Hot Springs Blvd and available for remote attendance via the Zoom meeting platform. To access the meeting agendas and staff reports, click the round **Minutes and Agendas** tab located along the bottom of the photo on the Town's website home page at pagosapscdc.org/proposed-development-projects.
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PUBLIC NOTICES: YOUR RIGHT TO KNOW

Trooper Tips: The hazards of following too close

By Patrick Rice
Colorado State Patrol

Colorado State Patrol troopers frequently talk about the dangers of speed and distracted driving.

Speed and distracted driving are two significant contributors to vehicle crashes, often resulting in severe injuries or fatalities.

Understanding the dangers associated with these behaviors is crucial for promoting safer driving practices. The combination of distracted driving and speeding exponentially increases the risk of crashes. A distracted driver is less aware of their speed and the surrounding environment, while a speeding driver has less time to react and greater difficulty controlling the vehicle. Together, these behaviors create a perilous situation on the road.

If the dangers of distracted driving and speeding weren't enough, I would like to discuss an additional

part of the equation: following too closely.

Although there isn't a magic number of feet to put between yourself and the car in front of you, we do know that according to the National Safety Council, a lightweight passenger car traveling 55 mph can stop in about 200 feet. Other vehicles require different stopping distances.

So, following at a distance of 50 feet in a 20 mph zone might be plenty, but 50 feet on the interstate is way too close.

The law states when following another vehicle, you must do so at a safe distance and consider the conditions of the roadway at the time.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has studied the topic and determined the average person's response time is between two and 2.5 seconds.

The most effective way to describe a safe following distance is to talk about time-distance.

Troopers are equipped with an excellent tool for determining if you are following too closely. Most people are aware we can measure speed, but we also have a LIDAR, or a light detection and ranging tool.

We use LIDAR to determine the speed and distance of two separate vehicles. We can see how fast both vehicles are traveling and how much physical space is between them. With this information, the LIDAR can calculate the time-distance between them.

The time-distance will provide how long it will take for the trailing vehicle to be occupying the space where the lead vehicle was at the time of measurement. If the time is under two seconds, you're following too closely.

Using this calculation method, it does not matter if you are traveling 35 or 75 mph. The fact that you allow yourself fewer than two seconds to respond to a hazard makes that following distance unsafe. So, is it

possible to follow too closely when you are completely stopped? The answer is yes.

Have you ever seen a multi-vehicle rear-end collision at a red light? When you are stopped too close, it causes a domino effect of each vehicle that is too close to the next slamming into each other. This could have been avoided by giving the vehicle in front of you more space.

A good rule of thumb: Stop where you can see the tires meet the pavement on the vehicle in front of you. From here, you can steer around the vehicle in front of you in either direction if needed, and you reduce the likelihood of being pushed into the vehicle during a rear-end collision.

Awareness and adherence to safe driving practices, such as keeping attention focused on the road, obeying speed limits and giving space to the vehicle in front of you, are essential steps in reducing crashes and enhancing road safety for everyone.



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Colorado attorney general advises consumers of new rights as state's updated 'lemon' law goes into effect

Colorado Attorney General's Office

Attorney General Phil Weiser is informing consumers about their new rights under the law if they purchase a new motor vehicle that turns out to be defective.

Weiser issued a public advisory designed to help consumers understand their rights and provide guidance to dealers to understand their responsibilities.

The updated law, which went into effect Aug. 6, expands which vehicles are covered by the law, increases the duration of lemon law protections, lowers the requirements for a vehicle to be considered a lemon, extends the amount of time for consumers to file a lemon claim, and clarifies the amount consumers can receive in a refund.

Additionally, the law now affords consumers protections if they are considering purchasing used "lemon buyback" vehicles.

"Colorado's lemon law, which used to be one of the worst in the country, just got a lot better for

consumers," Weiser said. "If you're in the market for a new vehicle, you can breathe a little easier knowing you now have more protections against buying a lemon. And if you're buying used, you now have more information and negotiating power if you want to buy a 'lemon buyback' vehicle from a dealer."

Though defective new motor vehicles are uncommon, purchasing one can be costly for consumers. While any defects should be covered under a vehicle's warranty, the law protects consumers from being stuck with a defective vehicle.

The updated law:

- Expands the vehicles included under the lemon law to include motor vehicles used by small businesses for both business and personal purposes.
- Extends the duration of lemon law protections to two years after purchase or within the first 24,000 miles of the vehicle's operation, whichever is earlier.
- Lowers the requirements for a vehicle to be presumed a lemon from

four to three failed repair attempts of the same defect or after the vehicle has been out of service for repair for 24 or more business days. Also, if a defect significantly impacts the safety of a vehicle, it will be presumed a lemon after two failed repair attempts of the defect.

- Extends the amount of time for consumers to file a lemon law claim to 30 months following the date the vehicle was delivered to the consumer, and any time that a vehicle is under repair and unusable does not count toward this limit. Prior law limited this to six months following the expiration date of the manufacturer's warranty or within one year of delivery to the consumer.

- Clarifies the amount that may be deducted from a consumer's refund by providing a formula that the manufacturer can use to calculate an allowance for any use of the vehicle by the consumer, thereby ensuring a fair and predictable refund process.

- Gives consumers more information when buying used "lemon

buyback" vehicles by requiring that a decal be affixed to them indicating "Lemon Law Buyback," as well as a notation in the vehicle's title.

In general, the attorney general's office suggests consumers do their homework when purchasing a vehicle. Research different makes and models of vehicles to ensure quality and reliability, test drive the vehicle first, have the vehicle examined by a trusted mechanic, ensure the dealer is reputable, and familiarize yourself with any warranty details.

Coloradans who believe they have purchased a defective vehicle, or who have any consumer issues with vehicle purchases, should file a complaint with the attorney general at StopFraudColorado.gov.

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County fair fun

Photos: Randi Pierce and Jeff Laydon

The 73rd annual Archuleta County Fair, held Aug. 1-4, provided days of fun for all ages, with competition, live music, fun and games, food and more.



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Announces Candidacy for

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Wayne Hooper

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ARTS & LIFE



August 8, 2024



Photo courtesy Cindi Galabota

Coming back for their second year of the Runway for Rise event, the Radical, Radiant, Rotarians team members of Susan Geer, Pat Love, Cindi Galabota and Kirsten Bennett are jumping for joy at perfecting another amazing recycled outfit. The Rise Above Violence Fundraiser is set for Oct. 5.

Live Performers



Friday

Meltdown on Main: Unexpected Emily, 5:30 p.m.
Mountain Pizza and Taproom: Dan Evans, 5:30 p.m.
The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Jason Rose, 5 p.m.

Saturday

East Side Market: David Richter, 11 a.m.
Mountain Pizza and Taproom: Dan Evans, 5:30 p.m.
The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Maxwell Miller, 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: Jason Rose, 5 p.m.

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Runway for Rise set to return Oct. 5

By Dee McPeek
Rise Above Violence

Last year at the 2023 Runway for Rise, the Rotarians fashioned an incredible recycled creation using wire tomato cages, duct tape and a wedding dress purchased at a local thrift shop. The addition of furry snow boots repurposed from an old rug resulted in a delightful snow bunny costume that was modeled with an attitude by Cindi Galabota and was a huge crowd favorite.

As a small town, Pagosa Springs relies on volunteers to provide many services that would go unaddressed without their "free labor."

For example, all teams providing

their creativity to benefit domestic violence victims at this event are comprised of volunteers.

The Rotary team notes they "support our community through a variety of projects, such as providing scholarships for graduating high school seniors, offering teacher mini-grants, sponsoring a Little League team, and supporting local nonprofits like Rise Above Violence."

In 2023, volunteers with Rise Above Violence provided more than

2,500 hours in advocacy, awareness and fundraising. While volunteering offers vital help to those in need, the Mayo Clinic and Harvard Health agree that the benefits can be even greater for you, the volunteer.

To learn more about opportunities to get involved, please contact jennifer@riseaboveviolence.org.

Be sure to attend Runway for Rise on Oct. 5 to see what the Radical, Radiant, Rotarians have created for this year.

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Pagosa Peak Genealogical Society will meet Aug. 10

By Carolyn Paschal
Pagosa Peak Genealogical Society

The Pagosa Peak Genealogical Society will hold its next monthly meeting on Saturday, Aug. 10.

The meeting will be held at the Community United Methodist Church at 434 Lewis St. and will begin at 10 a.m.

We will begin with a short business meeting where you can learn about the upcoming activities of our society and the topics of future programs.

Following the business meeting, the program will be a video by Matt Baker entitled "I Took 5 DNA Tests and Compared Them/Which One Should You Take?"

Baker compares each according to price, method of obtaining the sample, whether they emphasize medical or genealogical information, and what the results you receive look like for each one.

He also gives a brief explanation of the different kinds of DNA.

This will be an in-person meeting only, so please come join us as we explore this fascinating aspect of genealogical research.

Contact Carolyn at carolynpaschal@gmail.com for more information or visit our website, pagosa-peakgs.org.



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Pagosa Springs Photography Club meeting set for Aug. 14

By Andy Butler

Pagosa Springs Photography Club

The August meeting of the Pagosa Springs Photography Club will be held on Wednesday, Aug. 14, at the Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St.

We will begin with social time at 6 p.m., and the meeting will start at 6:30 p.m. Please enter the church through the side door next to the parking lot.

This month's presentation will feature Dave Anderson speaking about "Artificial Intelligence in Photography."

Artificial intelligence (AI) is now in common use in digital photography. One example of AI use is adding functionality to digital cameras, including face, eye and other subject recognition and tracking; scene recognition; and intelligent automatic cameras.

AI is also used for post-processing images, including reducing noise, sharpening, digital enlargement and removing minor imperfections. Generative AI is being combined with digital photographic images to add, delete, replace or modify objects, to expand overly-cropped images, turn single images into panoramas, change the image background, or to change the style of a photographer's images, blurring the line between photography and digital art.

Anderson's presentation will discuss the main AI approach to image analysis and classification, convolutional neural networks.

He will also cover use of two generative AI approaches to image modification, generative adversarial networks and diffusion models, as well as AI-based defensive measures to combat unwanted image web-scraping for training sets. A number of examples will be used to illustrate these approaches.

Anderson has a wide range of experience in photography, from film to digital imaging, and uses both medium format and standard DSLRs. He has been a member of the Pagosa Springs Photography Club for several years.

The presentation will be followed by our monthly image share, for which Photography Club members may bring up to five images each to share and discuss.

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

August events

On Friday, Aug. 16, Photography Club members will travel to the ghost town of Summitville, high in the San Juan Mountains, for a photo outing.

We will leave Pagosa Springs at 8 a.m. The drive is about 1 hour and 45 min.

Summitville was a gold mining town beginning in the 1870s, and was occupied during several boom and bust cycles. Most of the remaining structures were likely built during



Photo courtesy Dave Anderson

The night sky at Chimney Rock, de-noised using artificial intelligence. Artificial intelligence in photography will be the featured topic of the Pagosa Springs Photography Club meeting on Aug. 14.

the 1930s, but a few could be older. The site is about 11,400 feet high, above tree line. In addition to the old mining town, there are some great mountain views and alpine flowers in the area.

Summer brings numerous photographic opportunities in our local mountains. There are still many summer wildflowers blooming in the area. Expect a transition to late-summer species, such as gentians, during August. Potential afternoon monsoon showers may provide excellent landscape photography opportunities this time of year. If you want to make a positive out of a negative, look for periods when wild-fire smoke from fires throughout the west drift over us to provide colorful sunsets or sunrises.

August is also a good time for night sky photography. The Milky Way is visible earlier at night than earlier in the year, and will be near vertical. Find a dark, clear night and a good foreground subject, and you can make excellent images of our home galaxy.

Good nights to see the Milky Way

■ See Photography on next page

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Dr. Roy Tinguely's original art will be auctioned on Sunday, August 11, 5:30 PM at Thingamajig Theatre

Perseid meteor shower events to be held at Chimney Rock

By Joan Mieritz
San Juan Stargazers

The peak of the Perseid meteor shower this year is on Aug. 12 and 13.

The meteor shower actually started at the end of July and will continue through most of August as the earth passes through the remains left by Comet Swift-Tuttle, which was an amazing sight as it passed through our solar system in 1862.

We will create a relaxed night at Chimney Rock with special viewing places for those who love to be there and have the night sky entertain us. You can bring blankets, etc. to lie on the ground or bring a folding chair to have a spot on "a sky bridge" with a fantastic view, or just stay in your car in the upper parking lot.

This would be a wonderful outing for the elderly who cannot walk around or someone with a baby who can be sleeping in the car. Of course, there is no hiking around in the dark due to the drop-offs in all directions.

The entrance fee is a donation. Both nights the gate will open at 7:30 p.m. and the brief program will start at 8 p.m. Sunset is at 7:58 p.m., so people need to be settled in the upper parking lot and at their viewing location before dark.

Night sky programs

There are still two night sky programs at Chimney Rock in August.

On Friday, Aug. 9, is the program called Our Solar System and is when we focus our telescopes on the moon.

The gate will open at 7 p.m., with the program at 8 p.m.

We will also have a night sky program on Aug. 30 called Stars and Galaxies. The gate will open at 6:30 p.m. and the program will begin at 7:30 p.m.

We need volunteers for these programs, so if you can help, call Joan.

August meeting

Our August monthly meeting will be on Aug. 22, at the Methodist

Church on Lewis Street.

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 had members from Mexico to Maine and many places in between. This should be super fun sharing.

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.

Photography

■ continued from previous page without too much interference from the moon are from the beginning of August until Aug. 14 and again from Aug. 24 through the end of the month.

Night sky enthusiasts may also photograph the Perseid meteor shower this month. The Perseids will be active from the beginning of

August through Aug. 24, but peak on Aug. 12-13. The moon will set about midnight on the night of Aug. 12-13, so the early hours that morning could be ideal for observing and photographing the Perseids.

About the club

The Pagosa Springs Photography Club welcomes everyone who enjoys

making and viewing great photography. The club sponsors educational programs, image sharing and discussion, and outings to help our members improve their photography.

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

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Our Community Eats finds new home

By **Sandra Dillon**
Our Community Eats Pantry

Our Community Eats (OCE) is on the move.

We are thrilled to share that OCE has secured a permanent location to better serve our patrons who face food insecurity.

Currently situated in the former Sears building on Cornerstone Drive, OCE will soon be moving to its new home at the former Tennyson Building Events Center (TEC), located at 197 Navajo Trail Drive.

Katherine Solbert, OCE president, expressed her enthusiasm: "Securing our own facility has been a long-time goal, allowing us to streamline our operations and serve our community more effectively."

Lindy Waldrop added, "This new building secures our future and enables us to focus even more on

servicing the people who rely on us. May 2024 was a milestone month for OCE as we provided food support to nearly 3,500 individuals."

The OCE Board would like to acknowledge the benefit the TEC has contributed to the Pagosa community in the past, and in the same spirit, OCE plans to use the facility as a food pantry to ensure everyone has enough to eat in our county.

OCE understands the importance of continuity in service and will keep our patrons informed about the timing of our move. We will do everything possible to minimize any disruption to our essential services.

Tasha Kossler expressed thanks: "With the amazing volunteers who are willing to help with the move of our equipment and inventory, we should be able to transition and settle into our new facility quickly with minimal interruption to serving our community."

None of this would have been possible without the incredible support of our community.

Sandra Dillon, OCE treasurer, remarked, "We are deeply grateful for the generosity of a community member whose financial support made this move a reality."

Kodi Trujillo, vice president, added, "And we have been overwhelmed by the generous support of people who will help with the setup of the interior to make it operationally friendly for our needs."

If you are interested in learning more about OCE, the impact we make, or if you would like to contribute to our mission, please reach out to Solbert at katherine@ourcommunityeats.com or visit our website at www.ourcommunityeats.com.

Together, we are making a meaningful difference in the lives of families in Archuleta County and beyond.

Colorado Secretary of State's Office announces 'I Voted' digital sticker design competition open to Colorado high school students

By **Jack Todd**
Colorado Secretary of State's Office

The Colorado Secretary of State's Office announced recently that all high school students throughout the state can participate in the statewide "I Voted" digital sticker competition by submitting their designs for a new digital "I Voted" sticker.

"The digital 'I Voted' sticker is a great opportunity for students to engage with our democracy," said Secretary of State Jena Griswold. "I'm already looking forward to seeing the designs Colorado high schoolers come up with to encourage Coloradans to vote!"

The new sticker design will be sent to voters via BallotTrax once they have voted in the upcoming general election. It will also be featured on the Secretary of State's website, media channels, press releases, in media coverage and as part of digital effort to encourage people to vote across

the state.

Staff from the Colorado Secretary of State's Office will also present the award during an assembly at the artist's school.

Additional information can be found at <https://coloradosos.gov/pubs/elections/votedSticker/contest.html>.

Contest Rules

- All entrants must be 13-18 years old and enrolled in a Colorado high school or Colorado home-school program.
- All artwork submitted must be that student's original work; no stock or borrowed images may be used.
- Entries must include the words "I Voted."
- Artwork must be nonpartisan.
- Entries may be created on paper or digitally.
- Paper entries must be either scanned or photographed clearly for submission.

• Digital and paper files must be under 1 GB, and must be a .pdf, .png, .jpg or jpeg.

• If the winner submitted artwork created on paper, the Colorado Secretary of State's Office will provide a pre-paid envelope for the artwork to be mailed for image processing for the digital image, if necessary. The artwork will be returned to the artist after processing.

• Entries will be used for social media and other marketing materials for the Colorado Secretary of State's Office

• All entries must be received by Sept. 2.

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Free fun Summer Reading finale party and legal clinics resume

By Carole Howard
PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

Tomorrow, Friday, Aug. 9, from 2 to 4 p.m. is the free fun Summer Reading Program closing party when we'll award prizes, celebrate Smokey Bear's 80th birthday and enjoy ice cream, snacks, cold drinks and fun games out in the garden.

We are partnering with the U.S. Forest Service and the Fire Prevention Education Office to have Smokey Bear at the party for pictures and multiple activities in the afternoon. He arrives at 2:30 p.m. for activities and pictures before the Summer Reading grand prizes ceremony from 3:30 to 4 p.m.

Grand prizes are selected by computer based on the number of entries from completed bingo cards. You do not have to be present to win.

Legal clinics resume

Your library is one of six in our state chosen by the Colorado Access to Justice Commission to restart the free legal clinics.

They will happen from 2 to 3:40 p.m. the second Wednesday of every month starting Aug. 14. We will start with five patrons each month, 20 minutes per patron.

We will use a Zoom platform that can translate from English to the patron's primary language. To reduce our no-show rate, we will start with just one waitlisted patron per month.

Come to the library to meet privately via Zoom with our volunteer attorney. To schedule an appointment, at the beginning of the month send an email titled "Sign-up for Free Legal Clinic" with your first name and phone number to ruby@pagosalibrary.org, phone (970) 264-2209 or stop by the library.

Library News

Early library closure

Your library will close early on Monday, Aug. 12, for a staff meeting at 5 p.m. This is our regular staff meeting schedule — on the second Monday of the month.

Online author talks

Our highly popular free online author talks continue in Aug. with two more opportunities for you to interact with New York Times bestselling authors and ask questions.

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

Thursday, Aug. 15, at noon will showcase Irena Smith, Ph.D., discussing "The Golden Ticket to College Admissions is Not What You Think: Redefining Success for Parents of Teens."

On Aug. 21 at 5 p.m. we'll interact with Shelby Van Pelt, novelist and author of "Remarkably Bright Creatures," about a widow's unlikely connection with a giant Pacific octopus.

Dungeons and Dragons

Today, Thursday, Aug. 8, from 4 to 5:30 p.m., join our Dungeons and Dragons game free for teens and young adults. Create a character and join the adventure. Preregistration is required because space is limited. Contact Josie@pagosalibrary.org to join.

Teen/tween survival skills

Friday, Aug. 9, from 11 a.m. to

noon, teens and tweens are invited to a free session where you can learn some skills you might need if you ever had to survive alone in the wilderness, and make a survival kit that fits in a soap box.

Paws to Read tomorrow

Friday, Aug. 9, from 2 to 3 p.m., youngsters are invited to share their favorite books with Maple, a therapy dog who loves stories, at a free Paws to Read session.

Chess Club Saturday

Learn how to play chess with free quick lessons and game time to practice your skills on Saturday, Aug. 10, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. All ages and abilities are welcome.

Adult knitting Saturday

Join new and experienced knitters Saturday, Aug. 10, for our free Knitters Circle from 1 to 3 p.m. It is aimed at anyone over the age of 18 who would like to knit together or get some help if you are stuck on your project.

■ See Library on next page

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- Two Old Crows
- Mountain and Meadow Real Estate
- Liberty Theatre
- PJ's Fine Bamboo Rods
- Pagosa Mountain Sport
- Sherpa Real Estate Office (downtown location)

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Library

■ continued from previous page

Ruby's Book Club next Tuesday

Ruby's Book Club will meet from 2 to 3 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 13, to discuss "The Old Lion" by Jeff Shaara. Copies are available at your library. This book club is held the second Tuesday of each month, alternating between fiction and nonfiction titles. Anyone is welcome to attend. Snacks provided.

Sensory garden play for kids

Children are invited to a free sensory garden playtime next Wednesday, Aug. 14, from 10 to 11 a.m.

Therapy dog visit

Next Wednesday, Aug. 14, 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."

Tween rock hounds

Get together with tweens every Wednesday this month from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. for free sessions to uncover the mysteries of gems, minerals, crystals and rocks.

Writers Guild

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

Services (PALS)

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

Activities calendars

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

Downloadable books

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

Large print

"The Rom-Comers" by Katherine Center features a wannabe screenwriter. "Shanghai" by Joseph Kanon follows a European Jew escaping after Kristallnacht. "Clete" by James Lee Burke is a Dave Robicheaux detective story. "W.E.B. Griffin Zero Option" by Peter Karanow is a Men at War story. "The Year of What If" by Phaedra Patrick tells of a woman following a fortune teller's

advice. "Beyond Summerland" by Jenny Lecoat is about Nazi collaborators in the Channel Islands. "The Guncle Abroad" by Steven Rowly is book two in the Guncle series.

DVDs

"The Long Game" is the true story of five young Mexican-American caddies. "Ezra" is an endearing story of an autistic boy and his family. "The Ministry of Ungentlemanly Warfare" is a World War II thriller.

Nonfiction

"We Married Adventure" by Gap Pucci tells of a family's life in the Wyoming wilderness. "Taste of Home Easy Everyday Cooking 2024" contains 400 recipes and tips. "The Nourishing Asian Kitchen" by Sophia Nguyen Eng has 100 garden-to-plate recipes. "The Friday Afternoon Club" by Griffin Dunne is a celebrity memoir by a man who knew them all. "This Ordinary Stardust" by Dr. Alan Townsend is a look at science by a man whose family received two unthinkable medical diagnoses.

Books on CD

"A Refiner's Fire" by Donna Leon is a Guido Brunetti mystery. "The Infinite Light of Dust" by Anna Todd is the conclusion of the Brightest Stars trilogy. "No Road Home" by John Fram is a thriller featuring a father trying to protect his son. "The Au Pair Affair" by Tessa Bailey is book two of the "Undefined" romance series. "The Summer Pact" by Emily Griffin reunites four college friends after 10 years apart. "I Was a Teenage Slasher" by Stephen Graham Jones is a horror story. "Ezra" features an autistic boy and his hotheaded, divorced dad who learns life lessons from his son.

Novels

"Embers in the London Sky" by Susan Sundin follows a woman separated from her young son in World War II. "Teddy" by Emily Dunlay features the free-spirited wife of an American diplomat in Rome.

Donation guidelines

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

Guidelines for donations: Yes to popular fiction books published in 2013 or later, nonfiction books published 2018 or later, and children's and young adult books — all in excellent condition, please. No to CDs, DVDs, Blu-ray, VHS or cassette tapes; textbooks, outdated travel books or reference books because they do not sell. No more than two boxes at a time because of space constraints.

Quotable quote

"A party without a cake is really just a meeting." — Julia Child (1912-2004), American chef, author and TV personality. She is credited with bringing French cooking skills to the American public with her first cook-

book, "Mastering the Art of French Cooking," and her TV programs.

Website


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




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Join us in supporting Veronica Medina!



Veronica is one of the Stars in this year's Dancing with the Pagosa Stars fundraiser for Seeds of Learning.


She is focused on this event to support early childhood education in our community.

One of the reasons we love Pagosa Springs is that when someone is facing hard times, everyone comes together to support them.

One of the Medina's sons was involved in a terrible accident in June, which has forever changed their lives.

In spite of this, Veronica remains committed to fundraising for Seeds of Learning through Dancing with the Pagosa Stars.


Veronica's friends ask for your thoughts and prayers for the Medina family. *We also appreciate your support and contributions on behalf of Veronica.*



**1 vote is \$1,
100 votes is \$100.**

No donation is too big or too small.

Please vote for Veronica Medina at this QR code, or visit VoteVeronica.dwtps.org



Senior Center to host free bingo Friday

By Rose Chavez
PREVIEW Columnist

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 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.

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 practices and reflective meditative moments.

Monthly themes for the series will include topics such as sustainable strength for healthy aging in-

Senior News

dividuals, 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.

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.

■ See Senior on next page

Maybe it's just earwax.

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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
\$355,000

MLS # 811750

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

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

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Seniors

■ continued from previous page

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.

Scrapbooking Club

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

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

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

Pagosa Springs Share lunch Monday

through Friday

Join us at the Silver Fox's Den, aka the Community Cafe, in person for daily hot/cold meals Mondays through Thursdays at the Community Center between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. It is open to all. Pickup is available all week, including Fridays.

Our dining hall is open to all ages and welcomes you all with kindness and warmth. We provide hot/cold meals for anyone in the community interested in a nutritious and delicious meal. For those 60 or older we request a suggested donation of \$6, but no one will be turned away. There is a \$10.50 charge for guests under the age of 60.

Meals include a main course, side dish, fruit/dessert, garden salad plus beverage. Some popular menu items include Frito chili pie, pork tenderloin with harvest chutney, Singaporean pork ribs, vegetarian lasagna, Hawaiian shrimp with coconut rice and always a beautiful green salad. Many of our items are locally sourced and organic.

Our chef works with a team of local food professionals to hand-prepare your meal for dine-in service in our cozy dining room (with an amazing view of the San Juans) or for takeout (via our convenient drive-through). Our menu changes daily.

To reserve your meal for the day, please make your reservation via text or phone call to (970) 264-2167 by 9 a.m. weekdays.

Community Cafe menu

Thursday, Aug. 8 — Chicken fajitas, tortillas, pinto beans, garden salad, fruit, flan and milk.

Friday, Aug. 9 — Fish sandwich with tartar sauce, sweet potato fries,

garden salad, fruit and milk.

Monday, Aug. 12 — Chicken cashew salad on croissant, broccoli salad, garden salad, fruit, orange blossom muffin and milk.

Tuesday, Aug. 13 — Pork zuppa Toscana with focaccia bread, garden salad, cottage cheese, fruit and milk.

Wednesday, Aug. 14 — Sundried tomato, artichoke hearts and mushroom quiche; garden salad; fruit; chocolate Rolo cake; and milk.

Thursday, Aug. 15 — Beef stroganoff with egg noodles, glazed carrots, garden salad, peach cobbler, dinner roll and milk.

Friday, Aug. 16 — Fish sandwich with tartar sauce, sweet potato fries, garden salad, fruit, lemon bars 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
■ See Seniors on next page

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Call the MET to reserve your seat 24 hours in advance to Durango or Arboles (970) 264-2250.



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CURIOUS TO KNOW HOW YOUR TAX DOLLARS ARE SPENT?

The County Commissioners are considering adding to the already high county debt by purchasing 5 acres of land to build a new county administration building.

Purchase of this land is fiscally irresponsible. The County plans to purchase this land for \$2,178,000 or \$10 per sq/ft or 6.2 times the purchase price by the developer. This does not include the cost of the building.

You might ask are there no other lower cost alternatives?

Three people are deciding how your tax dollars are spent. Let them know how you feel about this debt burden while you can.

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Seniors

■ **continued from previous page**
 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@psseniors.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 para-transit service. For more information, contact Lavonne at (970) 264-2250.

Text reservations

Don't forget that we offer a convenient texting service for you to communicate with us. Text us at (970) 264-2167. When texting, please include your name, phone number and the days you want a meal. If you are canceling a reservation, please include your name, phone number and the days you want to cancel.

Texting services are available for dine-in meal reservations, Grab-n-Go meals and Meals on Wheels recipients.

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.

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. We are located at 451 Hot Springs Blvd. For more information about Archuleta Seniors Inc., please visit <http://www.psseniors.org/>.

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HEALTHY SELF REFRESHING REST MAY HELP PREVENT AND REVERSE TYPE 2 DIABETES

You have done everything possible to control your blood sugar, but you may be overlooking the obvious.

Current research now confirms that the quality of your sleep not only increases your risk of Type 2 Diabetes, it also increases its severity.

This makes proper rest an important part of diabetic intervention, management, and even prevention.

Sleep is a simple remedy that is worth its weight in gold.

Educate yourself further with today's article. In the past decade, there has been growing evidence that too little sleep can affect hormones and metabolism in ways that promote diabetes, Knutson tells WebMD. She cites a 1999 Lancet study by colleagues at the University of Chicago.

The researchers monitored the blood sugar levels of 11 healthy young men who were allowed only four hours of sleep per night -- from 1 a.m. to 5 a.m. -- for six nights. "That study showed that after only a week of short bedtimes, their glucose tolerance was impaired. There could be dramatic effects even after only a week," according to Knutson. After 6 nights of little sleep, the men had higher-than-normal blood sugar levels. (The levels were not high enough to be diagnosed as diabetes, however).

The effects went away once the men were back on their normal sleep schedule. Experts also believe that chronic sleep deprivation may lead to elevated levels of the stress hormone, cortisol. Elevated cortisol may in turn promote insulin resistance, in which the body can't use the hormone insulin properly to help move glucose into cells for energy.

Source: "The Diabetes and Sleep Connection." By Katherine Kam. WebMD - Better information. Better health.

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

"Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." Matthew 11:28-30

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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Garage sales with Brian

By Daris Howard
Special to The PREVIEW

My wife, Donna, likes to go to garage sales. Now and then she'll take a Saturday morning and enjoy the treasure hunt. Sometimes she comes home with next to nothing, and sometimes she comes home with some prize. Now that we are grandparents, she usually comes home with things for the grandchildren.

I'm not much of a person for garage sales. Even when I go shopping, I usually have one or two things in mind to get, and I get them and get out. But at garage sales, you have to wander through a lot of things you don't need to occasionally find one thing you do.

One Sunday, Donna was visiting with her friend, Ann, and the subject of garage sales came up.

"I love to go to them," Donna said. "Daris goes with me occasionally, but he isn't much of one to wander around and buy anything."

Ann laughed. "My husband is just the opposite. I try not to let him know I plan to go, because if I do, he will go along, and, frankly, we can't afford it."

"What do you mean?" Donna asked.

"If Brian knows I'm going, he will peruse the ads online and in the newspaper. He figures out which ones have the things he would like the most, and then he puts them in order of priority. We start early in the morning and follow his planned route."

"So, the problem is, you want to go to other ones or go alone?" Donna asked.

Ann shook her head. "Not really. I like his company, and I just write down the addresses and soon forget what they're selling, so I don't care which ones we go to or the order."

"Does he spend too much money?" Donna asked.

Again, Ann shook her head. "It isn't even that. He is the king of bargaining. It's what he buys."

"How's that?" Donna asked.

"Let me give you an example," Ann said. "One day, he planned our day to start at an estate sale. An old couple was selling their property after living there for 50 years, and they had a lot of stuff they needed to clear out before they could list it. The husband had become incapacitated, so the wife was running the sale.

"While Brian headed for the detached garage, I wandered through the house. I found a few things I could use, but most of what they had were

older versions of new items I had that were more efficient. I admit that I was tempted to buy a few things that worked by hand and didn't need electricity, but I couldn't think where I would put them in my kitchen.

"Eventually, I made my way out to the garage. To my surprise, Brian had his pickup backed up to the door, and the back was piled high above the cab, mostly with woodworking equipment. I gasped and asked him what he was doing. Before he could answer, the sweet little lady said, 'All is OK here, dear. You just go back to the house.' She held my hand and led me back to the house before returning to the garage.

"Brian soon was strapping things down, preparing to leave. As he climbed into the pickup, he turned to the lady and said, 'I'll be back over the next few days to finish hauling everything.' I was shocked and asked how much he bought. He said the

lady wanted the garage cleared, so they had bargained a price for a few hundred dollars for him to take it all."

Ann shook her head and sighed. "I asked him where he planned to put it, and he said he'd been planning to add on to his shop."

Ann looked at Donna and smiled. "That's why I can't afford to take him garage saling with me."

Views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN.

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SUDOKU

						5		4
	4			9		3		
					8	6		7
9	7			3				
	8	2					3	
	6			8	1			
5			1					
		1	6				2	
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Level: Advanced

Fun By The Numbers

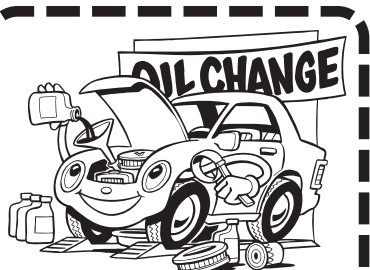
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4	9	6	8	7	2	1	5	3
7	3	1	6	5	9	4	2	8
5	2	8	1	4	3	9	7	6
3	6	5	7	8	1	2	4	9
1	8	2	9	6	4	7	3	5
9	7	4	2	3	5	8	6	1
2	5	3	4	1	8	6	9	7
8	4	7	5	9	6	3	1	2
6	1	9	3	2	7	5	8	4

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One person who cares can change a student's life

By Katie Klingsporn
PREVIEW Columnist

By the time she took the dais at the Arapaho Charter High School graduation this spring, Principal Katie Law was beyond tired. She'd spent the last two days coaching students at the state track meet, and they made the drive back to Wyoming's Wind River Indian Reservation just in time for the ceremony.

Maybe it was the fatigue of the trip. Maybe it was the years she spent herding this class to the finish line. The hours answering their phone calls, figuring out plan Bs, worrying about them at every setback.

As she addressed the crowd, Law was nearly overcome with emotion. She paused before regaining control. There was so much to celebrate.

On this day, 14 students donned caps and gowns, the largest graduating class in the school's history. Among them were a record four students who graduated at least a semester early and three who were dual enrolled in a community college. Eight were headed to college or Job Corps.

For a tiny school that lags far behind conventional performance measures, these were significant wins.

The school, which serves majority Native American students, reports higher-than-average rates of foster care, homelessness and involvement in the criminal justice system. Some 70 percent of students live in single-parent households or have a deceased parent. In 2018, the on-time graduation rate was zero percent.

I spent four months visiting the school during the semester before graduation this year. Data points can't capture the hurdles they faced — lost loved ones and an education system that's historically failed Indigenous students.

But what the seniors had to their advantage was an advocate and a reliable source of support: Law. An athletic white woman, Law often engaged in tasks that went beyond traditional principal duties. She made sure to learn the personal lives, history and family dynamics of all her students.

Opinion: Writers on the Range

Well before Law was recently awarded Principal of the Year by the Wyoming Association of Secondary Schools in a surprise ceremony, it was clear she had a rare level of commitment.

"You're not going to find another principal or educator that puts as much time in as she does in the evenings, on the weekends," District Superintendent Curt Mayer said.

Law helps students get their driver's licenses, chaperones college visits and makes calls when kids get arrested. Students have gone to Law with news that they are pregnant, and she has later cared for their infants in her office while they attend class.

The motivation is simple.

"I want to see these students succeed, and I'm going to do what it takes," she said.

Law grew up in Colstrip, Mont. — 30 miles from the Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation. She was the daughter of educators and never thought she would enter that world.

But, she wanted to help people, and education ultimately became the vehicle for that. During her first year of teaching in Nebraska, she found a distraught student crying in the bathroom one day and sat comforting her for an hour. When Law saw her years later, the student told her she was a pivotal teacher. It dawned on Law then that she's different.

"I get a lot of, 'That's not your job,'" she said. "I'm like, 'I know, but whose job is it?'"

She was hired to teach in the Arapaho school's district 18 years ago, at age 23. The school was rough. Drug use and gang violence were common. She kept her head down, helped where she could. Slowly, she started building relationships.

The work can be devastating, and many fixes don't last. Law is stubborn. "I think my biggest asset is I won't give up."

Law doesn't pretend to share a background with her reservation students, but she uses her own experiences to build empathy. School didn't come easily to her. Her brother died young from diabetes. And she witnessed a murder at age 14. These are experiences her students can relate to.

■ See Writers on next page

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Photo courtesy Katie Klingsporn

Katie Law hands out a diploma.

Writers

■ continued from previous page

It seems to work. At graduation, the seniors handed out roses to people who were meaningful. Law received six roses, and six heartfelt hugs.

It's not realistic to expect all struggling schools to find admin-

istrators like Law, who live and breathe their jobs and don't burn out. Still, parents and educators can take this to heart: One caring adult can make an enormous difference in a student's life.

Katie Klingsporn is a contributor to Writers on the Range, writerson-

therange.org, an independent non-profit dedicated to spurring conversation about Western issues. She lives in central Wyoming, where she reports on education and outdoor recreation for WyoFile.com. Views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN.

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100 years ago this month: historical events from August 1924

Special to The PREVIEW

The month of August has been home to many historical events over the years.

Here's a look at some that helped to shape the world in August 1924:

- Three people are killed and 10 others are injured when a boiler fire erupts on the French battleship Courbet on Aug. 1. The Courbet survives the fire and is eventually utilized during World War II.

- Boca Raton, Fla., is incorporated as "Bocaraton" on Aug. 2. The name is changed to "Boca Raton" less than a year later.

- John Carroll O'Connor is born on Aug. 2 in Manhattan. O'Connor would become one of the most memorable television actors of all time, notably portraying "Archie Bunker" in the sitcoms "All in the Family" and "Archie Bunker's Place" in the 1970s and early 1980s.

- Berlin Jews hold a memorial service for Jewish soldiers who died during World War I on Aug. 3. The Jewish service takes place after a Jewish preacher was forbidden from delivering a prayer during a similar service held outside the Reichstag commemorating German soldiers who died during the war.

- Women from six European nations compete in the first Women's

International and British Games in London on Aug. 4. The competition is held because track and field events at the Summer Olympics were limited to men only.

- Confidence man Charles Ponzi is released from prison in Plymouth, Mass., on Aug. 6. Ponzi served less than four years of a five-year sentence for financial crimes.

- Grand Duke Kirill Vladimirovich of Russia, a first cousin of the late Tsar Nicholas II, declares himself "Guardian of the Throne" for the Russian Empire on Aug. 8. Two years later, the grand duke would declare himself the emperor in exile.

- On Aug. 10, Austrian police claim they discovered a Soviet slush fund for stirring up unrest and revolt in the Balkans.

- The earliest sound film footage of an American president is recorded on Aug. 11 when Lee de Forest films U.S. President Calvin Coolidge on the White House lawn. De Forest uses his experimental Phonofilm process to make the recording.

- Andrew S. Anderson, the Democratic Party nominee for South Dakota governor, is gored by a bull on his property on Aug. 11. Anderson does not survive the attack.

- Former world middleweight title holder Kid McCoy shoots his lover, Teresa Mors, on Aug. 12 in Los Angeles. McCoy, retired from

boxing at the time of the shooting, shot Mors in a drunken rage after she told him what her friends thought of him.

- Anthropologist Margaret Mead arrives in Samoa on Aug. 17. Mead proceeds to begin working on her book, "Coming of Age in Samoa: A Psychological Study of Primitive Youth for Western Civilisation," which became a landmark text and sparked years of ongoing, intense debate upon its publication in 1928.

- Canadian mountaineers complete the first ascent of the 2,603-meters-tall Mount Fitzsimmons in British Columbia on Aug. 19.

- U.S. Sen. Nathaniel B. Dial and John J. McMahan, his challenger for the Democratic Party nomination in an upcoming election, are each arrested for disorderly conduct in South Carolina on Aug. 20. Dial approached McMahan brandishing a chair during a campaign meeting that became contentious.

- On Aug. 23, the planets Mars and Earth are the closest they had been since Aug. 18, 1845. The two planets, which were the equivalent of around 34.6 million miles from one another, would not be as close again until August 2003.

- Director John Ford's first major film, "The Iron Horse," premieres in New York City on Aug. 28.



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PAGOSA SCENE . . .

THINGAMAJIG THEATRE COMPANY BENEFIT GALA

Photos courtesy Carole Howard

Scene ... actors, directors and patrons gather July 30 at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts for an elegant gala fundraiser to benefit Thingamajig Theatre Company. Actors performing in this summer's Broadway in the Mountains musicals served dinner, performed in a spectacular concert and were auctioned off in online and live auctions for unique private events with lucky winners. Three shows continue through August — Jimmy Buffett's "Escape to Margaritaville," "Beautiful: The Carole King Musical" and Disney's "Beauty and the Beast." Tickets are available at pagosacenter.org or (970) 731-SHOW (7469).



Bird of the Week



Photo courtesy Jeffrey Reichel

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

Among most of the species of woodpeckers that we see here, plumage differences between the sexes are limited to markings on the face and head. Such is not the case with the Williamson's sapsucker. Males and females are so different in appearance that until they were seen together at a nest, they were identified as separate species and given different names.

Males have glossy black upperparts, two white stripes on the face, a white patch on the wing and a red throat patch. The more camouflaged female has horizontal black and white barring on the back, a black breast patch and brown head. Vivid yellow coloring on the belly is a marking shared by both sexes.

Williamson's sapsuckers drill neat rows of tiny holes, known as wells, in conifers. Here they feed on tree sap, insects attracted to it and inner tree tissues. In spring, shallow holes tap into the xylem layer, which carries water from the roots to the leaves. Later in the season, larger rectangular wells tap into the phloem layer transporting food from the leaves to other parts of the tree. As old wells dry up, new ones are formed in a ladder formation up the tree.

When their young are in the nest, they eat and feed to their chicks primarily ants, which they pick from tree trunks and branches. They also eat beetles, aphids, flies and other insects, Later in the season they add fruits and berries.

These large sapsuckers breed in higher-elevation dry forests in North America west of the Rocky Mountain range. Their specific habitat requirements, including large, mature conifers, have made them an indicator species of old-growth forest health. Some northern populations migrate as far as southern Mexico for the winter while others just move downslope. They are never reported here in high numbers and only rarely in winter months.

Although global population numbers of Williamson's sapsuckers are considered stable, in Canada, where suitable habitat has been lost to commercial logging, they have remained on the Endangered Species list since 2005.

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

New Thought Center to meet Sunday

By Shayla McClure
New Thought Center for Inspirational Living

The Sunday service at 11 a.m. on Aug. 11 will be an outdoor service at Xanadu with a potluck after.

Stephanie Morrow will present "The Importance of Sharing Community Spirituality & Love as We Move Through Interesting Times".

Come and join us to share community, spirituality and love. We always have amazing speakers sharing their wisdom with positive, thought-provoking and positive messages.

Upcoming events

Every Thursday, 6 p.m.: Illuminations. Various subjects and speakers. A love donation will be accepted.

Join our Facebook page for announcements: Pagosa New Thought.

Aug. 8, 6 p.m.: Candace Isenberg, astrologer, will present "How Squares in Your Chart Can Affect Your Lifepath". A love donation will be accepted.

Aug. 22, 6 p.m.: Niara Isley, author of "Facing The Shadow, Embracing the Light: A Journey of Spirit Retrieval & Awakening," will speak about her experiences that inspired her to write about her Journey. A love donation will be accepted.

Sept. 13-14: "Blessing of the Animals." Tickets are on sale now. Contact (970) 510-0309.

New Thought events are held at 3505 W. U.S. 160, on the second floor of the Pagosa Lodge (elevator available).

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Preview Calendar

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

Thursday, Aug. 8

Art at the Pinnacles. 8 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. Tickets are \$25 for ages 10 and up. Registration is required 12 hours in advance via rec.gov. For more information, visit www.chimney-rockco.org.

Geology Hike. 9 a.m., Piedra River, 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.

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.chimney-rockco.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.

Dungeons and Dragons. 4-5:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Create a character and join the adventure. Preregistration is required because space is limited. Contact Josie@pagosalibrary.org to join.

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

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

'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).

Friday, Aug. 9

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.

Tween/Teen Survival Skills. 11 a.m.-noon, Sisson Library. Could you survive alone in the wilderness? Make a survival kit that fits in a soap box.

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

■ See Calendar on next page

Silver Thread Studio Tour

Saturday August 17 9am - 5pm

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The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Garbage boat
- 5 Stop order?
- 9 Gulf War missile
- 13 Kilauea output
- 14 Varied mixture
- 15 In great shape
- 17 Miss a wake-up call
- 19 Moscow money
- 20 Bedrock resident
- 21 Keep apart
- 23 Beauty's love
- 25 Run-down digs
- 26 "Later!"
- 29 Seek a seat
- 30 Thurman of "Kill Bill"
- 31 Some lawsuit resolutions
- 36 Skater Lipinski
- 38 Greek letter
- 39 Cry of pain
- 40 Inconceivable
- 45 Sundial's seven
- 46 "Jersey Shore" network
- 47 Jesse Jackson, for one
- 49 Mast flapper
- 53 Banister post
- 54 Vicious old woman
- 56 Whoops it up
- 59 "I'll have the ___"
- 60 Good one
- 62 "___ when?"
- 63 Give off, as light
- 64 European erupter
- 65 Psychic
- 66 Nerve network
- 67 Have a bawl

DOWN

- 1 Mess maker
- 2 Vena ___ (large vein)

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	
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40					41	42				43	44		45	
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49	50	51					52		53					
54							55		56				57	58
59							60		61					
62							63					64		
		65					66					67		

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- 3 Bad place to be, at sea
- 4 Gave a heads-up
- 5 Papal office
- 6 Draft pick
- 7 Commits perjury
- 8 AA candidate
- 9 Layer of rock
- 10 Singer Love
- 11 Open, as a cage
- 12 Airline based in Atlanta
- 16 Like a billionaire's pockets
- 18 Elite Navy group
- 22 Whittle down
- 24 Tribal pole
- 26 Ballet attire
- 27 Arab League member
- 28 Playful aquatic animal
- 32 Weighted down
- 33 Long short story

- 34 Kind of bed
- 35 Lost traction
- 37 Cold War concern
- 41 Online seller
- 42 Like some fans
- 43 Stuffed oneself
- 44 Not as many
- 48 Rotten Tomatoes write-up

- 49 Consequently
- 50 Fertile spot
- 51 Trim
- 52 Surgery tool
- 55 Point a finger at
- 57 The Beatles' "Penny ___"
- 58 Cinch
- 61 Cambridge sch.

Answers to Previous Crossword:

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

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Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

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

PAWS to Read. 2-3 p.m., Sisson Library. For all ages. Read with Maple, a therapy dog who love stories. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

Summer Reading Party. 2-4 p.m., Sisson Library. Summer Reading and Smokey Bear's 80th birthday party. There will be food, fun, games, drinks, prizes and more.

Twilight Gala. 5:30-9 p.m., Keyah Grande. A fundraiser for Aspire Medical Services and Education with a catered dinner, dessert, live music, prizes and more. For more information and tickets, visit aspirepagosa.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).

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

Saturday, Aug. 10

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.

Birding at Chimney Rock. 8 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. A fun and casual two-hour guided bird walk. Tickets are \$20 for ages 13 and up, and \$10 for ages 5-12. 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.

'Beauty and the Beast.' Noon, Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. For tickets and show information, see pagosacenter.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Chess Club. 9:30-11:30 a.m., Sisson Library. Learn how to play chess with quick lessons and game time or practice your skills. All ages and abilities are welcome.

Pagosa Peak Genealogical Society. 10 a.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. After a short business meeting, the program will be a video by Matt Baker entitled "I Took 5 DNA Tests and Compared Them/Which One Should You Take?" Contact Carolyn at carolynpaschal@gmail.com for more information or visit pagosapeakgs.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.

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

or sit and knit.

Humane Society of Pagosa Springs 40th Anniversary Luau. 5-8 p.m., Community Center. 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 for tickets.

'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).

Sunday, Aug. 11

'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).

Bingo. 5:45 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd. Doors open at 5 p.m., early-bird bingo at 5:45 p.m., bingo from 6-8 p.m.

Monday, Aug. 12

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.

■ See Calendar on page 21



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

WORDS

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- ALLOCATION
- ASSETS
- BALANCE
- BOND
- CAPITAL
- CASHFLOW
- COST
- EARNINGS
- ECONOMICS
- EMPLOYEE
- ENTREPRENEUR
- EQUITY
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- FINANCE
- INPUT
- LIABILITIES
- LOAN
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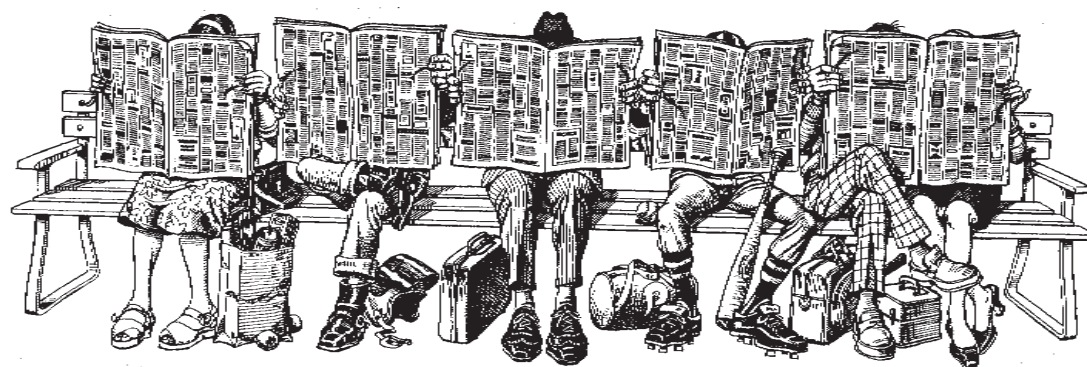
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Preview Calendar

■ continued from page 19

Women's Fellowship. 9-11 a.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms.

Line Dancing. 9:30-11:30 a.m., PLPOA Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Beginners meet at 9:30 a.m. and the advance group meets at 10:15 a.m. If you haven't attended before, please call Beverly at (970) 264-2064 for more information.

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

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

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

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

Perseids Meteor Shower Viewing. 7-8:30 p.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. Drive to the upper-mesa parking lot to designated areas for optimum viewing of the annual Perseids meteor showers. Bring a chair, cushion or blanket to sit or lie down outside your car. Members of the San Juan Stargazers astronomy club and Chimney Rock Interpretive Association will be on hand to enhance this event. One ticket will be issued per car for \$5. Registration is required 12 hours in advance via rec.gov. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

Tuesday, Aug. 13

Labyrinth Guided Tour. 9:30-11:30 a.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Join a docent for a guided walk. Walking the labyrinth can bring a sense of releasing, receiving and renewal. The labyrinth is available from dawn until dusk and is located in the wooded area behind the parking lot at the wooded cross.

Pagosa Springs Stitchers. 10 a.m.-noon, Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Bring your current stitching project and a snack/drink if you wish, and enjoy the fellowship of other stitchers. All are welcome.

Tech Time. 10 a.m.-noon, Sisson Library. Basic questions related to computers, smartphones, tablets, etc. Bring your device charger. We provide assistance with accessing any of the library's online resources. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

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

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

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

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

Ruby's Book Club. 2-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Join to discuss "The Old Lion" by Jeff Shaara. Pick up a copy at the library.

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

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.
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

■ See Calendar on next page

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Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page**

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.

Perseids Meteor Shower Viewing. 7-8:30 p.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. Drive to the upper-mesa parking lot to designated areas for optimum viewing of the annual Perseids meteor showers. Bring a chair, cushion or blanket to sit or lie down outside your car. Members of the San Juan Stargazers astronomy club and Chimney Rock Interpretive Association will be on hand to enhance this event. One ticket will be issued per car for \$5. Registration is required 12 hours in advance via rec.gov. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

Wednesday, Aug. 14

Sensory Garden Play. 10-11 a.m., Sisson Library. Play in the garden with water and other natural elements.

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

Therapy Dog Visit. 11-11:45 a.m., Sisson Library. Stop by and visit with a certified therapy dog.

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

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

Emotional Freedom Technique Session. 1:30-2:30 p.m., Senior Center.

Free Legal Clinic. 2-3:40 p.m., Sisson Library. Meet with a volunteer civil attorney via Zoom at the library. Registration required. Registration opens on the first day of each month. Space is limited. Call (970) 264-2209 or email ruby@pagosalibrary.com.

Tween Rock Hounds. 4:30-5:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Get together with friends to uncover the mysteries of gems, minerals, crystals and rocks.

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.

Pagosa Springs Photography Club. 6 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. There will be social time at 6 p.m., and the meeting will start at 6:30 p.m. Please enter the church through the side door next to the parking lot. This month's presentation will feature Dave Anderson speaking about "Artificial Intelligence in Photography." This meeting will also be available on Zoom. The Zoom link will be emailed to members; others who wish to attend may request the

link by email to abutler@mac.com.

Order of the Eastern Star Peace and Harmony Chapter #158. 7 p.m., Masonic Lodge, 277 Lewis St. Call Donna at (970) 946-8201 for more information.

'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, Aug. 15

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.

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.

Virtual Author Talk: Irena Smith. Noon, virtual. Listen live or recorded. "The Golden Ticket to College Admissions is Not What You Think: Redefining Success for Parents of Teens" with Irena Smith, Ph.D. For details and to register, go to <https://libraryc.org/pagosalibrary/upcoming>.

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**



Archuleta Seniors Inc. thanks our Spanish Fiesta 2024 sponsors

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Spanish Fiesta Committee members

ASI Staff and Board Members: Rose Chavez, Barbara Noriega, Janet Monks, Cynthia Sperry, Al Northrop, Veronica Medina, Crystal Gillich, Joan Ward, Dave Pettus, Martine Colombey, Rebecca Kyser, Elisha Lucas, and Shugery Montes

Community Members: The matriarch Lucy Gonzales, the matriarch Alice Chavez, Connie Chavez, Frances Chavez, Leonard Martinez, Julie Gurule, Marcus Rivas, Toni Gallegos, Crystal Young, Valisattie Chavez, Irene Diaz, Roberta Strickland, Elsa White, Dina Duran, Isabel Webster, Helena Jim, Gina Abalos, Don McKinzie, Lee Stopher, Candace Jones, Amy Nitchman, Kimberly Rochester, Douglas Wiseman, Blain Todd, Jason Bandy, Devon Moffat, Berlinda Vorhies, Mary Jo Coulehan, Mable Barber, Jon Morse, Rob Hagberg, Luis Soto, Lou Dickson, Ginger Baxt, Santos O'Canas, Jacob Pettus, Tomi Bliss, Ernie O'Toole, Jackie Spohr, George Sievers, Mary Tighe, Nate Edelman, Angela Scott, Steve Brown, Michelle Lobato, Holly Hasenbuhler, Maria Gallegos-Kelly, Barbara Asprey, Taylor Courtney, Joetta Osborn and Kim Rivas

2024 Spanish Fiesta Youth Royalty: Dazia Villarreal (Queen), Cambria Herrera (Junior Princess), Lillyan Vega (Princess), Tesla Morris (Queen Attendant), Anissa Chavez (Junior Princess Attendant), Anthony Gonzales (Junior Prince), Ana Romero Gallegos (Princess Attendant) and their parents and families.

2024 Spanish Fiesta Scholarship Recipients: Marie Smith, Brook Anne Huddleston, Jeidy Yajaira Moreno Echavarría, Trey Garcia, Abran Salazar, Patrick Matney, Jatziri Hernandez Arenivar and Heidi Hernandez Arenivar.

Thank you to all the craft vendors, community organizations and food trucks that had a booth at the fiesta this year.

Dedication: The 22nd Annual Pagosa Springs Spanish Fiesta is dedicated in honor of Lucy Gonzales and in memory of Darlene and Chris Gallegos. Thank you to our elders and ancestors for reminding us that returning to heritage and tradition doesn't mean returning to the past, rather it means reconnecting to the wisdom of our ancestors and bringing it forward with us.

Reynolds Ash + Associates announces promotions

Reynolds Ash + Associates are thrilled to announce some exciting updates in 2024! In our ongoing commitment to excellent and growth, we are proud to share the following achievements:

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to Cody Simons, who has recently obtained his architectural license, and to Dakota Miller, who has achieved licensure as a Professional Engineer. This significant milestone marks the beginning of an exciting journey of professional development and contribution to our firm's work in the area.

It is with great excitement that we also announce the promotion of

Lauren Davis to the position of Partner. Lauren has consistently demonstrated exceptional leadership, creativity, and a deep commitment to our firm's values and her clients. This promotion not only reflects Lauren's individual achievements but also RA+A's confidence in her vision and ability to drive our collective success forward.



Davis



Simons



Miller

Please join us in congratulating Lauren Davis, Cody Simons, and Dakota Miller on their well-deserved accomplishments. We look forward to continuing our journey of innovation and excellence together.

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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.

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

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

'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).

Friday, Aug. 16

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.

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

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.

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

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

Fresh Conversations. 1:30 p.m., Senior Center. A nutrition education program with recipe tastings.

Fairy Tale Theatre. 1-3:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Read fairy tales and act out your favorite characters.

ComFest. 5:30-8:30 p.m., Yamaguchi Park. Live music. Drink proceeds will benefit Wings Early Childhood Center.

'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, Aug. 17

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.

Art at the Pinnacles: Plein Air Workshop. 8 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. Participants will be introduced to the process of plein air painting. All materials will be provided. Tickets are \$75 for ages 10 and up. 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.

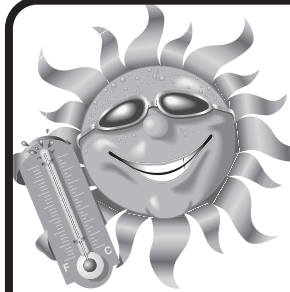
Pickleball Social Round-Robin. 8:30-11 a.m., Yamaguchi Park. Two courts will remain available for open play.

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.

■ See Calendar on next page



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By Betty Slade
PREVIEW Columnist

I said to my Sweet Al, "I have an idea for the next article. Who would get married over 80?" Set in your ways. Find a new wife, change your address, insurance and doctors. Keep your kids happy, and hers, and learn how to share things?

Our writers' group is giving one of our members a wedding celebration for his upcoming marriage. He is over 80. He became reacquainted with a lady he knew 30 years ago. They just clicked, had a lot in common and enjoy each other's company. He is in love. They had moved their wedding date up from December to August.

Al asked, "What's the rush?"
"Well, I'm sure it's not a shotgun wedding if you're asking."

My romantic Sweet Al remembered how it was as a young man dreaming the impossible dream.

"How do the lyrics go?"
I looked them up. "Run where the brave dare not go." The song goes on just as life goes on. "That one man, scorned and covered with scars, still strove with his last ounce of courage, to fight the unbeatable foe, and reach the unreachable star."

My writer friend has stars in his eyes. Maybe they will be on a honeymoon for the rest of their days. Wouldn't that be nice? I wish the best for them. I don't know if I would have the courage to reach that unreach-

Artist's Lane

able star. A lot of water has run under that bridge they will soon cross over.

"So, what advice would you give to the happy couple?" I pressed Al again for an answer.

"Just tell her, I don't care if you sleep with me or not, just let me sleep."

Everyone has advice for a couple who is about to make that jump.

"Love recognizes no barriers. It jumps hurdles, leaps fences, penetrates walls to arrive at its destination full of hope." — Maya Angelou.

"Sounds like a young man to me. Maybe love makes one young again."

Even a famous quote from "When Harry met Sally": "When you realize you want to spend the rest of your life with somebody, you want the rest of your life to start as soon as possible."

My Sweet Al and I found love early in life and he would've climbed the tallest mountain for me.

But we've seen a lot of water rush under our bridge. It almost took out the bridge a couple of times, yet we survived.

For this couple in love, let's hope those torturous floods have come

and gone and there is music in the flowing waters.

Final brushstroke: Al and I have walked together and we've heard music in the tall grass. This is our song: "To fight for the right without question or pause, to be willing to march into hell for a heavenly cause. And I know if I'll only be true to this glorious quest that my heart will lie peaceful and calm when I'm laid to my rest."

Send your comment to betty-slade.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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Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page**
Bring your own or use the library's LEGOs to free build. 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) 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.

Dancing with the Pagosa Stars. 5:30 p.m., Community Center. Visit dwtps.org for tickets and to vote for your favorite star.

Flute Music at Twilight. 6 p.m.,

Chimney Rock National Monument. Tickets are \$20 for ages 13 and up, \$10 for ages 5-12, and under 5 are free. Recommended for ages 4 and up. Registration is required 12 hours in advance via rec.gov. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

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

Sunday, Aug. 18

'**Beautiful: The Carole King Musical.**' 3 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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The myth of leaving it natural

By Ethan Proud
PREVIEW Columnist

A long time ago, there were no fences, dams (beavers have an exemption), parking lots or large-scale developments.

Now, it's a rare sight to see pristine, untouched wilderness, whether it is a high mountain peak, a desert vista or a raging river.

Even when you make it out to the backcountry, you access it via a man-made trail and find signs that other humans have been there before you, and quite recently. Fire rings, established camp sites devoid of plant life, and sometimes human waste and other nasty signs that someone was not educated in Leave No Trace. You can even find invasive plants in the high country, displacing native species that serve as forage for large game, birds and insects.

Let's head 40 miles back to town and into your backyard. You may be tempted to leave it natural, but what does that really mean? You have a house, a driveway, a fence — all signs of human presence that are certainly not natural. The native biodiversity has been quashed by large equipment moving dirt and materials around. If you strive for a natural or native yard, you are going to have to work for it.

None of us are exempt from this, so I will use my own property as an example. If I were to let it go "natural," I would have a stand of millet, cheatgrass, ragweed, musk thistle, prickly lettuce, kochia and redstem filaree. The open space adjacent to my property is filled with sego lilies, prairie smoke, penstemon of all

Extension Viewpoints

kinds, wild onion and Indian rice grass. There is a sharp contrast to the plant community in my yard and what's just across the street.

Some of the weeds in my yard are serving a purpose, holding the soil and adding organic nutrients back into the dirt, and until I have a plan to replace them with either grasses, wildflowers or xeriscaping, they can stay. The invasive species like cheatgrass, redstem filaree and musk thistle need to be managed.

If left to its own devices, cheatgrass will quickly spread and rob the early-season moisture from native plants like penstemon and they will go dormant until the cheatgrass is removed or dies back completely after several years. Redstem filaree can quickly colonize bare ground and create a monoculture which will not yield to the succession of native species. Musk thistle produces up to 100,000 seeds and sometimes more. These seeds can persist between 20 and 50 years before germinating, making its ultimate eradication difficult.

When a natural yard is desired, you will need to have vision and a solid work ethic. You will also

need to understand plant communities and what belongs and what doesn't.

Introduced species can be included if they are not invasive, but be sure your property hosts a few native species to better benefit local pollinators and wildlife.

To plan for your natural yard, take a stroll through an open space near your home and get an idea of what plants are doing well there. Take pictures of meadows, trees and rocks, and decide how best to incorporate these natural features into your landscape.

Decide what "unnatural" features you want — like a vegetable garden, a fence or a patio — and think of how to seamlessly blend these into a natural setting.

Without work and planning, a "natural" yard is the furthest thing from the truth. It is a testament to the power of mankind to permanently alter the landscape without regard for the species and ecosystems that were there first.

Archuleta County Weed and Pest is your local resource for managing noxious weed populations and controlling other pests.

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

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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.

Bus Drivers/Transportation

Hourly position with a starting hourly pay of \$25.83 up to \$30.73 for 169 days

Custodians

Full-time position with a starting salary of \$41,279-\$45,941 for a 250-day work schedule.

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

CO2 PIPELINE SYSTEMS SPECIALIST. Red Cedar Gathering. Responsible for ops and maintenance of CO2 pipeline facilities, including measurement equipment/ basic instrumentation/ controls. Will be scheduling and at times directing contract personnel. HS diploma or equivalent with 8 years experience in CO2 or natural gas pipeline ops AND live within 50 mile radius of the Bondad office. Preference is given to qualified Southern Ute Tribal members and other Native Americans. **Closing date: 5:00p.m. on 8/16/24.** To apply, visit: www.sugf.com.

COLORADO ROCK & DIRT EXCAVATION is expanding our team. We are looking for experienced CDL Drivers -local driving only. This is a full-time position, offering competitive pay, health insurance, 401K and PTO. Please email resume to coloradorock08@gmail.com.

DEDICATED CLEANERS ranging from \$15-\$20/hour. Must be detail oriented, trustworthy, reliable and committed. Text Pagosa Sparkles, LLC, (970)946-6446.

DENTAL ASSISTANT AND SECRETARY wanted. We will train you. We work hard and make a great living serving our patients. We are blessed to have weekends and holidays off. Beautiful facility, modern equipment, excellent pay. Get the satisfaction of helping people! E-mail resume to office@pagosasmiles.com.

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.

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.

GOODMAN'S DEPARTMENT STORE is looking for a sales associate, Saturdays required. Sales associates must be friendly and self-motivated. Ask about our benefits and employee discounts. Come pick up an application at 402 Pagosa Street.

GRADER DRIVER WANTED as a part-time employee to plow and maintain roads; or, contractor with own plow equipment. (970)585-6899.

HELP WANTED Experienced server /bartender preferred. City Hall Cafe and Grill. Apply within. 2151 Eagle Drive.

HELP WANTED: PART-TIME ACCOUNTANT Community United Methodist Church seeks a part-time accountant (20 hours/week). Candidates must have an accounting degree and at least 5 years of experience. Responsibilities include managing financial records, preparing reports, and overseeing budgeting. Strong organizational skills are required. Send your resume to the church at pastor@cumcps.org, or mail it to P.O. Box 300, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 or drop it off at the church 434 Lewis St. to apply.

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.

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



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

JOIN OUR TEAM Here at ROOT, we are on a mission where it's not just about what we build, but who we build up. We are looking for a few good leaders to join our crew. Root House is looking for an incredibly action-oriented leader for our Shop Manager, responsible for leading and improving our Relationship-Based and Performance-Driven operations, on both sides of the counter. Root House is also looking to actively grow our coffee subscription program locally and beyond. We are interested in any coffee lover who enjoys sales through building relationships over conversations with and about coffee. Root is hiring a Director of Hospitality + Brand Development. This leadership position will develop better customer and team experiences and help us keep telling a better story through digital media and market growth across all Root brands. Send resume to Howdy@roothouseco.com.

LANDSCAPING TEAM team seeking a skilled Landscape Assistant with experience operating skid steer machinery. Drivers license required. Starting at \$17.00. Email hr@pagosahotsprings.com.

MALT SHOPPE NOW HIRING. Apply in person between 9a.m. and 2p.m.

MOUNTAIN SPIRITS IS SEEKING customer service associates. Must be available nights and weekends. We offer accrued vacation/ personal time, performance-based bonuses twice a year, and employee discounts. Please apply in person.

NEWSPAPER REPORTER — We are searching for a talented reporter to fill a full-time position in Pagosa Springs, Colorado, at The Pagosa Springs SUN. Our journalists are driven to find stories that matter to our community and are dedicated to fairness, accuracy, and ethics. The successful candidate for this position is someone who knows how to cover hard news but also loves to write about people and their passions. They know that a good interview is often a good conversation and know when to ask the tough questions, but also when to listen. The ideal candidate has exceptional writing skills and is willing to put in the extra effort and research to deliver an engaging story. Preferred qualifications for this position include: Degree or diploma in journalism, or a related field; At least 1-3 years of experience as a reporter with experience covering hard news and feature stories or experience at a college newspaper; The ability to meet tight deadlines and report the news as it happens; Superior language, writing and editing skills; Strong photography skills; Able to work a variety of schedules, including evenings, nights and weekends; Excellent critical thinking and problem-solving skills; Ability to work in a fast-paced environment; A valid driver's license and a reliable vehicle; Willingness to live in or near Pagosa Springs, Colorado. If this sounds like the perfect position for you, we would love to hear from you! To apply, please send your resume, letter of interest and relevant samples of your work to Chad Richardson, Vice President of News, crichardson@orourkemediagroup.com. Company Benefits: We offer competitive compensation plans and employees are eligible for medical, dental, vision, life insurance benefits, paid time off and our 401 (k) savings plan. This is an excellent opportunity for career development and growth within the company O'Rourke Media Group is a fast-growing company that owns and operates hyper-local, community newspapers, websites, niche publications and a full-service digital agency. We are family-owned and mission-driven to save newspapers and local media companies by investing in the people, resources and technology needed to thrive for many years to come. We believe that every community can benefit from a well-run, properly resourced, local newspaper and website. Our News teams produce hyper-local, high interest local news and accurate and trustworthy reporting. Our Sales and Digital Fulfillment teams bring omnichannel advertising solutions to local businesses in the communities we serve. O'Rourke Media Group now operates in nine states and 38 markets with 51 publications and hyper-local websites. We started from ground zero in December 2018, totally bootstrapped, confident and with an entrepreneurial mindset.

NORTH PAGOSA MARATHON is hiring a full-time cashier nights and weekends. Competitive wages. Please apply in person at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

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 LIQUOR IS HIRING a full-time cashier. Please come and apply in person at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

PAGOSA THERAPEUTICS AND THE GREEN HOUSE are looking for friendly and enthusiastic people who are eager to share their knowledge and help customers navigate the wide world of cannabis. Must be 21 years of age. A Marijuana Enforcement Division badge is required to start work. Come join a growing company with opportunities for advancement and involvement in outreach events. Please email your resume to employment@jandjinc.net.

PHYSICAL THERAPY TECH Rocky Mountain Physical Therapy has an opening for a full time Physical Therapy Tech. We are looking for a dependable, energetic multitasker who will enjoy helping people recover from surgeries, injuries, accidents and other health issues to join our team. No prior experience necessary. We offer competitive pay, \$16- 18 per hour, and benefits including paid holidays, paid sick leave, 401k plan, and a profit-sharing program. Please submit resume to [RMPT 117 Navajo Trail Dr., Suite T](mailto:RMPT117NavajoTrailDr.,SuiteT@rockymountainpt@yahoo.com) or email to rockymountainpt@yahoo.com.

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!

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!

(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.

PS FROYO ASSISTANT MANAGER Assist with all aspects of daily operations of Frozen Yogurt Café, work closely with adults with disabilities, and deliver excellent customer service. Nights/weekends & holidays required. Contact Holly: psfroyo@gmail.com.

RESPONSIBLE LABORERS WANTED. \$23/ hour. Must have own car. Be able to lift 60lbs, be on time, work 8 hours/ day, 40 hours week. Call (970)398-1100.

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.

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.

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.

SEEKING PART-TIME Digital Marketing Manager with sales skills, great personality and active social media knowledge on multiple platforms. Text: (928)246-1321.

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 TOWN OF PAGOSA SPRINGS is seeking to hire a **Public Works Coordinator** in the Public Works Division. The individual selected for this position will perform a variety of entry level, skilled and technical duties related to the construction, installation, maintenance and repair of Town's streets, sidewalks, alleys, sanitation and geothermal utilities. 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*.

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*.

TRIMMER WANTED. We are looking for a trimmer to join our Pagosa Craft team. Pay is based per pound. Flexible hours- Previous trim experience preferred. 21+ only, MED badge required. Please bring a resume into the store at 127 Goldmine Dr.

UPSCALE RESALE HIRING part-time employee, weekdays only. No weekends. Pick up application at 117 Navajo Trail Drive #B or email resume to upscaleresale07@gmail.com.

WOLF CREEK SKI AREA is hiring a Full Time Staff Accountant. Those with Bookkeeping, Payroll, Accounts Payable or public accounting experience are encouraged to apply. Familiarity with Microsoft Excel is preferred. Attention to detail, and organizational skills are required. The office is located at the Ski Area located on top of Wolf Creek Pass and requires commuting throughout the year. This is a year-round position, with longer hours during the winter operating months, and a shorter work week in the summer months. This position offers skiing privileges and the compensation starts at \$34 per hour depending on experience. Full slate of insurance benefits and PTO available after a probationary period. Please email resume to: Payroll@WolfCreekSki.com.

WOLF CREEK SKI AREA is hiring an Accounting Assistant. Those with Bookkeeping, Accounting, Clerical or Human Resources experience are encouraged to apply. The office is located at the Ski Area located on top of Wolf Creek Pass and requires commuting throughout the winter months. This position offers skiing privileges and the compensation starts at \$24 per hour depending on experience. Please email resume to: Payroll@WolfCreekSki.com

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

GAS STATION, CONVENIENCE STORE comes with nine long-term leases, high producing. \$1,650,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

FOR SALE

BICYCLES 2016 Surly LHT, size medium with extras, \$900. 2019 Salsa Horsethief, size small, carbon. \$2,600. Both excellent condition. (970)264-0373.

DEAL OF THE SUMMER! Great for fall excursions. 2020 LANCE bumper pull TRAILER, model 2375. Original owner, used twice, new. ~~\$40,000~~ \$35,000. Call or text (970)749-4640.

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.

FOUR PATAGONIA SNOW TIRES 265/ 65R/ 18. Used one season (approx. 2,000 miles). Excellent condition. \$350 OBO. (407)921-1554.

LOOK TRAILER, 5' X 8" enclosed. Excellent condition. \$2500. (970)946-2268.

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.

OVAL HICKORY KITCHEN TABLE with 6 chairs. Glass top 42" x84". \$250. (970)403-9472.

RED OAK ENTERTAINMENT CENTER. 4' wide 6' tall 2' deep. 38 1/2 x24" center opening. Fits 42" flat screen. \$150. (970)403-9472.

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).

STACKED ROCK TILES by Shaw. Approximately 50 sq. ft. of 6" x24" cream, tan, gray mix tiles. Pick up only. (254)459-2762.

TWO 50-GALLON STEEL DRUMS with lids. Used, great condition, \$45 each. Can be seen on Thursday or Friday at Pagosa Springs SUN, 457 Lewis Street.

WRIGHT NATURAL BAKERY. Located at East Side Market. Open 9a.m. to 3p.m. Friday through Sunday. Best of pasture-raised eggs. Baked items have reduced sugar, same sweetness. Organic, gluten-free products. Unique, gluten-free muffins and cookies. (970)903-1998 or (970)883-2600. wrightnaturalbakery@gmail.com.

YOKOHAMA TIRES WITH WHEELS came off 2023 Toyota Rav 4. Less than 500 miles. \$1,600. (970)403-9472.

LIVESTOCK

HAY FOR SALE. \$950 bale. No rain. Located in Tiffany. No delivery. Text (970)749-1307.

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.

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

2000 SUBARU OUTBACK. Very good condition. Body is in good shape and interior is in excellent shape. CD and cassette player. All wheel drive and heated seats. Very good in the snow. It has been serviced every 3000 miles. New radiator, tires, battery and other parts. Runs great. 150,000 miles. \$6,500. (970)946-4615 or rwkern61@gmail.com.

2001 BUICK LESABRE 122k miles. FWD. Sold as is. Mechanically sound. Body in great condition. \$2,650 OBO. (310)245-0555.

DEAL OF THE SUMMER! Great for fall excursions. 2020 LANCE bumper pull TRAILER, model 2375. Original owner, used twice, new. ~~\$40,000~~ \$35,000. Call or text (970)749-4640.

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

BE SURE TO CHECK for more yard sales in the Too Late To Classify section.

ESTATE /MOVING SALE. 8 -3. Friday and Saturday, August 9 and 10. 581 Leaning Pine Place. Priced to sell.

FURNITURE AND HOUSEHOLD GOODS garage sale. Rain or shine. Friday & Saturday, August 9/10 - 140 Seminole, 8-3. Dining set, reclining sofa, recliners, patio chairs, plus.

HUGE MOVING SALE. Starting Saturday, August 10 -Every Saturday and Sunday in August. 8 -3. 418 South 7th Street.

YARD SALES

MOVING SALE. August 9 and 10. 8a.m. sharp. Sofa and love seat, dining room table, bed and bedding, glass desk, patio furniture, side tables, fly-tying, kitchen items, decorative items, snow blower, grill and lots more. Hwy 160 West, right on Piedra Road, left on Handicap, house #369. Rain or Shine. AEHPOS.

MOVING YARD SALE. 249 Steamboat Dr. Saturday 10th. 8- noon.

MULTI FAMILY YARD SALE. Friday and Saturday 9th and 10th, 8am -3pm. Cooking disco's, sm. Mig Welder, sm. 110 stick welder, Honda snow blower, horse tack, tools, clothing, kitchen items, and more... 375 West Golf Place.

YARD SALE 80 Cleek Court. August 9 and 10, 9- 3p.m. Clothing (Nordstrom and Anthropologie), furniture, household items, oriental rugs, vintage toys, many other items.

YARD SALE. Furniture, bunk bed, household items, clothes, toys, books. Saturday, Aug. 10th, 8am -1pm, North Emisary Court.

COMMERCIAL FOR RENT

2000 SF (WITH ADDITIONAL LOFT STORAGE) flexible commercial/ industrial space on the western side of Pagosa Springs. 15' Ceilings with 2 14' overhead garage doors. 3 Phase Electric. Will be delivered as a shell space ready to be customized. Available August 1st. \$2,100. (415)999-7931, raswheeler@gmail.com.

2000 SQ. FT. SHOP/ WAREHOUSE 14x 14 overhead door. Restrooms and natural gas. Good parking. \$1700 per month. Call Doug (970)946-3762 or (970)731-4792.

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.

OFFICE SPACE DOWNTOWN in the Metropolitan Hotel. \$470 a month. Jacques (970)946-7636.

PRIVATE OFFICE Uptown at 543 Park Ave. 10 x12. \$150 price includes utilities. (970)300-9444 or info@pagosaselbstorage.com.

HOMES FOR RENT

UPSTAIRS SMALL EFFICIENCY APARTMENT. \$700 a month. No pets. No Smoking. Water, Gas and Electric included. Call (970)946-0369.

VACATION RENTALS

OWNERS, WE ARE BOOKED UP AND NEED MORE VACATION RENTAL PROPERTIES! Call us today for lowest commission and highest customer service. All you have to do is wait for your rent check to come in. We do the rest! Rocky Mountain Realty & Rentals (970)507-1192.

(970) 264-2100

Classifieds

(970) 264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

"We owned a condominium in the Pagosa Springs area which was a rental property. For many years the firm provided property management services for us and we always found them to be very professional and responsive. If you are in need of a competent, professional property management firm or realtor, we would strongly recommend them."
 ~ Michael Gamba

WWW.RMREALTYANDRENTALS.COM

Rocky Mountain
 REALTY & RENTALS
 970.731.5515

Info@rmrealtyandrentals.com
 117 Navajo Trail Dr. Ste E, Pagosa Springs

Largest Local Property Management Co.



150+ SW Colorado
 Property Owners Served
 19+ Years. Mortgage &
 Real Estate Exp
 FULL LT TENANT SCREENING
 NATIONWIDE ADVERTISING
 ON CALL 24 HR 7 DAYS



RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

1 BEDROOM, 1 BATH apartment, centrally located. Ground floor entry. Water, sewer, gas, fiber optic Internet included. Available October 1st. (970)946-8687.

3 BEDROOM 1200 sq. ft. 5 minute walk to Pagosa Lake. Washer/ dryer, dishwasher, etc. Some utilities paid. No pets. \$1,550. Call John for details and photos (720)960-4910 or (303)881-1407.

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 unit. Access to lake, park and rec center. \$1,900. (719)850-8680.

BEAUTIFUL 2240 SQUARE FOOT 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 living areas located on quiet cul de sac. Natural gas in floor heat. No Pets and No smokers. \$2500.00 per month plus utilities. 1st, last and security deposit. (970)946-6917.

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.

FURNISHED LAKEFRONT LOG CABIN. Two beds, two bath with garage. Six months or less. Start Nov. 1st. Core area. No pets. Utilities negotiable. \$2900 month. (970)946-4967.

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- \$795- \$1195/ 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-26: Unfurnished 3 bed 2 bath 2 car. Wood burning stove. Lake Hatcher area. Pet OK. \$2250/ month.

LONG TERM RENTALS AVAILABLE. Call Team Pagosa (970)731-8599, 46 Eaton Drive, Suite #1, pagosaspringsrealty.com.

COMMERCIAL

BAR AND GRILL IN ARBOLES on 1 Acre for \$450,000. 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. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

LARGE BUILDING AND LAND in prime business location. \$1,250,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

HOMES FOR SALE

HOME FOR SALE. 3200 square feet on 3 acres. 181 River Forest Drive. Motivated seller. \$730K (970)585-9181.

MOTIVATED SELLER. Artesian well, hobby farm. Two bedroom, two bath. 1.7 acres. No HOA. \$650,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

HOMES FOR SALE

Christie Calderwood
 SRS, ABR, ePRO
 Serving Sellers & Buyers
 970-946-6856
 christie@jimsmithrealty.com

REAL ESTATE SERVICES

Whether Buying or Selling
 Call Marcie Lewis
 (970) 759-8672

MarcieLewis.com

RANCH STYLE HOME, .25 mile walk to Lake Forest. Backed up to green belt on .25 acre lot, 3 bedroom 2 bath and 2 car garage. \$499,000 call (970)946-0009.

LAND/ BUILDING SITES

1.1 ACRE WITH RV GENERATOR and system tank, circular drive in, tall cool pines. NO HOA! \$75k. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

1.1 ACRE WITH TALL PINES on flat buildable land with drive in. NO HOA! \$70k. 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. 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. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

1.48 ACRE LAND. Highway frontage. \$99,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

.28 ACRE LAND County Road 982 frontage \$55,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

.35 ACRE LAND County Road 982 frontage \$55,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

5.25 ACRES Mountain views flat buildable. Located between Allison and Ignacio. \$95,000. 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.

LAND/ BUILDING SITES

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EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

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.

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Photo courtesy Friends of the Library

Wenonna Brown is the latest book winner for the Friends of the Library. She states she has always been a reader, always carrying a book with her so she had something to do. Her mom was blind and used books on tape. Brown reads a little bit of everything and has a firsthand look because she volunteers at the library sorting books for Friends of the Library and Ruby's Book Club. She chose Kate Quinn's "Diamond Eye" because she has always loved her books. We're sure she can provide recommendations if you ask.

Dr. Joanna Estes to be guest speaker for End-of-Life Education group

By Joan Mieritz
End-of-Life Education

End-of-Life Education is the name of 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 have lived.

We have been discussing many topics related to the end of life.

Our next meeting will be Aug. 19, with the time being 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. using the Ruby Sisson Library's large meeting room. If you would like to bring cookies, coffee and tea will be available.

Dr. Joanna Estes is an amazing woman who will share relevant information from her long experience of being an MD and dealing with death.

She will share the medical perspective of end-of-life care. She will detail the procedure involved

in utilizing MAiD CO. She will also distinguish between hospice and palliative care. Then, she will answer all of our questions. This may be a very important talk that you won't want to miss.

I got vetoed for this being the last gathering for this year. So, keep checking The SUN for future programs this fall. If there is a topic you want presented, please let us know.

Feel welcome to join us. We have been meeting for six months, but participation varies for each speaker and time.

End-of-life can be a difficult topic which seems to be better handled when we join together to deal with it, since all people are faced with it. Most people find that topics like this are actually empowering and helpful for living life to the fullest. It can be very positive and affirming, and there is so much to learn.

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Wayne Hooper

Announces Candidacy for
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"As an Unaffiliated candidate, I would be honored to represent 'ALL' citizens of Archuleta County in our local government."
Wayne Hooper

KEY PRIORITIES

ROADS

- Initiate a residential road paving program. Lets reduce the damage to our vehicles and eliminate the dust from our pristine community. We need to get this done.

PUBLIC SAFETY

- I support our fine men and women in law enforcement, who protect us by putting their lives on the line every day.
- Wildland Fire Safety is crucial to our community. As a retired Fire Captain and Associate Professor teaching Wildland Fire Behavior/Prevention for 10 years, I believe there are things we can do that will reduce our risk of a potential natural disaster striking our community.
- We have one of the best EMS systems around. Our Paramedics and EMTs provide a critical service through our local Hospital. With over 30 years experience as a Paramedic, including several years as a SWAT Medic and Flight Medic, I will support the men and women in this field wherever needed.

TRANSPARENCY

- You have a right to know what is being decided on your behalf by your County Commissioners. No hidden agendas.
- It's your government and your money.
- I will be available to you as your representative to ensure you have a "voice" at the seat of our local government.

I have over 10 years experience serving on elected and appointed government Boards. I know how to get things done through cooperation, unity and respect for others.

To schedule a "meet and greet" for your club, group or neighborhood gathering and to learn more about Wayne Hooper's campaign, please email Wayne at: Hooper4Bocc@gmail.com

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Abraham Lincoln*

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