



PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147

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VOLUME 116 — NO. 52, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2024

## LPEA board election results announced

By Amanda Anderson  
La Plata Electric Association

Results of the 2024 La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) election were announced at the cooperative's annual meeting on Sept. 18.

This meeting was held to not only elect and seat new directors, but also to present LPEA's 2023 annual report and accomplishments.

In accordance with LPEA bylaws, one seat in each of LPEA's four districts comes up for election annually.

Detailed election results are as follows:

- District 1 (Archuleta County): Candidate Kirsten Skeehan won with 990 votes. Candidate Dusty Mars received 466 votes.

■ See Election A8

## Town, county discuss capping tourism funds

By Derek Kutzer  
Staff Writer

On Sept. 17, the Pagosa Springs Town Council and Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) gathered for a joint meeting.

The conversation sprawled between many topics of mutual interest for both the town and county, but one topic revolved around a conversation spearheaded by the town about capping the amount of its share of lodging taxes that go to the Pagosa Springs Area Tourism Board.

Town council member Gary Williams initiated the idea at a previous council meeting and had asked for the topic to be included on the agenda for the joint meeting with the county.

Currently, lodging tax revenues go toward the tourism board, which is a citizen's advisory committee reporting to the town council and BoCC. The town's 4.9 percent lodging tax and the county's 1.9 percent lodging tax fund the board's overall budget.

The funding allows the tourism department to operate the Visitor Center, fund its staff, and goes toward marketing and promoting Pagosa Springs and tourism-related infrastructure.

Pagosa Springs Mayor Shari Pierce

■ See Tourism A8



Photo courtesy Todd Osmera

Pagosa Country had a taste of three seasons at once on Sept. 21, with the last day of summer featuring the first snow on area peaks and fall colors emerging.

## Bicycle accident claims life on U.S. 160

Pagosa Springs Police Department

The Pagosa Springs Police Department (PSPD) is deeply saddened to report a fatal bicycle accident that occurred Saturday on U.S. 160 at 8th Street.

On Sept. 21 at approximately 1:44 p.m., the PSPD, Pagosa Fire Protection District and Pagosa Springs Medical Center EMS were dispatched to a vehicle and bicycle crash with injuries near the intersection of San Juan (U.S. 160) at 8th Street.

Upon officers' arrival, lifesaving efforts were being administered by citizens on the scene.

The 64-year-old bicyclist, Conrad Steffens, from Seattle, Wash., was

■ See Accident A8

## New rates for geothermal water usage adopted

By Derek Kutzer  
Staff Writer

On Sept. 19, the Pagosa Springs Town Council adopted new rates for the geothermal water that the town sends to The Springs Resort.

The new rates are based on what the council deemed as the "fair market" values of the heat and mineral content of the water.

The council decided that a fair market rate for the heat/energy of the water should reflect the same percentage of rate increases that general customers have experienced.

Geothermal utility customers saw a 100 percent rate increase in the 2022-2023 heating season and a 50 percent increase for the 2024-2025 season.

The council's calculations deem that if The Springs Resort also paid these rate increases for the geothermal energy, its rate would be \$2,084 per month or \$25,007 annually, and this rate would be the fair market value for the heat/energy component of the water.

On the mineral component, the council decided that the fair market value would be determined by the daily entry fee that The Springs charges its nonresident visitors. Currently, the resort charges out-of-town

■ See Geothermal A8

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CMAS results: Percent of students who met or exceeded expectations							
	Archuleta	Alamosa	Bayfield	Durango	Ignacio	Montezuma-Cortez	State average
Math Grade 3	33.0	32.8	39.5	47.4	13.6	31.8	41.7
Math Grade 4	19.2	24.0	27.3	34.9	12.3	20.2	34.1
Math Grade 5	36.1	23.6	32.3	32.4	15.6	24.3	37.3
Math Grade 6	22.1	8.5	19.6	30.3	*	15.8	29.2
Math Grade 7	25.4	14.8	19.8	34.3	*	13.0	29.8
Math Grade 8	29.1	16.1	16.9	39.0	12.2	21.4	32.5
English Language Arts Grade 3	34.5	35.9	32.1	56.9	22.7	30.3	42.1
English Language Arts Grade 4	30.0	35.3	36.7	47.8	32.1	25.9	42.0
English Language Arts Grade 5	44.9	37.9	37.9	49.4	31.1	32.8	47.3
English Language Arts Grade 6	38.6	21.7	33.7	46.7	19.2	29.3	44.0
English Language Arts Grade 7	47.8	38.9	36.0	50.6	31.9	32.8	46.3
English Language Arts Grade 8	41.7	30.3	22.1	49.5	34.7	27.0	42.8
Science Grade 5	32.1	28.1	34.0	38.8	26.7	26.7	37.9
Science Grade 8	31.5	20.0	29.9	38.0	20.4	19.1	32.2
Science Grade 11	28.0	22.3	23.9	51.6	23.3	18.1	24.8
<b>PSAT/SAT mean score results</b>							
PSAT Grade 9	861	788	832	910	767	797	882
PSAT Grade 10	876	829	870	956	831	824	919
SAT Grade 11	935	917	946	1042	881	881	978

An \* denotes a sample size too small to report.

Numbers listed above include all applicable schools within each district as provided by Colorado Department of Education and Archuleta School District.

## Student test results show continued improvement

By Clayton Chaney and Garrett Fevinger  
Staff Writers

Schools in Archuleta County made broad improvements in standardized testing scores from a year ago, demonstrating growth across subjects but falling short of state averages, according to results released by the Colorado Department of Education (CDE).

The Archuleta School District (ASD) Board of Education (BOE) discussed the district's score results from the Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS) and SAT/PSAT results during its regular meeting held on Sept. 10.

ASD Superintendent Rick Holt presented the data as part of an update on the district's strategic initiatives and goals.

Holt began by mentioning that, three years ago, CMAS scores showed only 28 percent of students in the district were identified as being proficient in English language arts (ELA).

"That number has grown to 42 percent in the last two years," Holt said.

Holt mentioned the district should be excited about the progress being made across all categories, with students moving from not meeting expectations to meeting them,

■ See Results A9

# Opinion

## The Pagosa Springs SUN

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HOT MINERAL SPRINGS"



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Best Advertising Special Section

Best Print Ad

Best Editorial Special Section

Best Education Story

Best Investigative Story Package

Best Public Service Project

Best Page Design

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## OUR VIEW

### Ask for help

It's rare to find someone whose life hasn't been touched by suicide.

September is National Suicide Prevention Month, though, unfortunately, the topic is one that is an ever-present struggle in our society.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), "Suicide rates increased approximately 36% between 2000-2022. Suicide was responsible for 49,476 deaths in 2022, which is about one death every 11 minutes. The number of people who think about or attempt suicide is even higher. In 2022, an estimated 13.2 million adults seriously thought about suicide, 3.8 million planned a suicide attempt, and 1.6 million attempted suicide."

According to Archuleta County Coroner Brad Hunt, five people died by suicide in Archuleta County in 2023, with six dying by suicide so far this year in Archuleta County.

In Colorado, suicide is the eighth leading cause of death, according to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.

The numbers are staggering and heart-breaking.

But there is hope.

"Belonging, safety, dignity, and hope can protect against suicide," according to the CDC.

People across our county, state and national stand at the ready to help, day or night, every day of the year.

In 2020, Congress created the 988 dialing code to be a national suicide prevention line.

The national 988 Suicide and Crisis

Lifeline is available 24 hours a day in English and Spanish.

If you know someone who is having thoughts of suicide, there are resources available for how to help that person in the moment and over the longer term.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security lists several ways to help someone you know, including calling 911 if someone you know is at immediate risk of suicide.

The resource also suggests talking and expressing concern, being an active listener, remaining present physically and emotionally, and calling or texting 988.

The 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline promotes a #BeThe1To campaign to spread the word about actions people can take to help prevent suicide.

Some of those actions are:

- Ask: "Research shows people who are having thoughts of suicide feel relief when someone asks after them in a caring way. Findings suggest acknowledging and talking about suicide may reduce rather than increase suicidal ideation."

- Be there: "Individuals are more likely to feel less depressed, less suicidal, less overwhelmed, and more hopeful ... after speaking to someone who listens without judgment."

- Keep them safe: "A number of studies have indicated that when lethal means are made less available or less deadly, suicide rates by that method decline, and frequently suicide rates overall decline."

- Help them stay connected: "Studies indicate that helping someone at risk create a network of resources and individuals

for support and safety can help them take positive action and reduce feelings of hopelessness."

- Follow up: "Studies have also shown that brief, low cost intervention and supportive, ongoing contact may be an important part of suicide prevention, especially for individuals after they have been discharged from hospitals or care services."

Locally, AxisHealth System has a 24/7 care line that can be reached by calling (970) 247-5245.

The agency also offers free training opportunities so everyone can learn how to recognize the signs that someone may be having a suicidal crisis, as well as how to help and support that person.

Pagosa Springs Medical Center also has a Zero Suicide Initiative. Through the effort, the medical center aims to screen patients in the primary care clinic, and all staff also go through mandatory training to recognize the signs of suicidal behavior and to be able to refer a patient for help if needed.

Other programs aimed to help the issue include Colorado's "I Matter" youth therapy program that connects Colorado youth with a therapist for up to six free, virtual counseling sessions. Anyone under the age of 18 can apply at imattercolorado.org.

If you are having thoughts about suicide, know that help is available. Know that there is hope. Know that your family and friends would rather you reach out to them now than be left attending your funeral.

You are cared about. Make the call.

Ask for help.

Randi Pierce

## LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

### 100 years ago

Taken from SUN files of  
September 28, 1924

Teams and work crew arrived last evening and will commence work at once on the Putnam hill contract, held by Edw. Teyssier of Durango.

The Catchpole sheep, numbering about 2,000 head, which were snowed in on Squaretop last week, were rescued Saturday and Sunday with only 14 head unaccounted for. They have been moved to the Little Blanco.

The Montroy well, being drilled by Ike Jones at the rear of the post office, has reached a depth of 150 feet and quite a flow of artesian warm water. Drilling has ceased until sufficient casing has been obtained to complete the well.

Six inches of new snow on Wolf Creek pass is the present report.

Pagosa street was quite lively Monday morning with fistic encounters, the outgrowth of the liquor case tried in the county court. Two offenders enriched the city coffers to the extent of \$7.50 each.

### 75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of  
September 23, 1949

School opened Tuesday morning at the Blanco Basin school house with Miss Phyllis Frost as teacher. The scholars are as follows: Judy and Michael Oppenheimer, Billy Mayer and Ted Hamlin.

It is indeed nice to have school once more at the little white school house.

The dance which was given at the Chromo school house Sept. 17th was well attended. Everyone had a swell time.

The State Highway Oiling Crew finished laying the oil mat in the business section of town last Saturday and it is a great improvement over the chuck holes and dust. It is anticipated that the remainder of the highway will be oiled shortly and a seal coat added.

The Volunteer Firemen were called out early Monday morning by a blaze at the Homer Kingsley residence. The building is of frame and tar paper construction and had a very good start by the time it was reported. The firemen soon extinguished the blaze but the building was badly damaged as were all of the contents. Only prompt action on the part of the firemen prevented complete destruction.

### 50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of  
September 26, 1974

A proposed budget has been presented to the School Board of District 50 Jt. The budget, when bond payments are added in, totals over \$1 million. This is the first time in the district's history that the budget has passed the million dollar mark.

Johnson Chevrolet has announced that this weekend will be new car showing for 1975 model Chevrolets. The company is planning extra events, such as door prizes, gifts, refreshments, and an explanation of the catalytic converter, a new device on 1975 cars of all makes. Details about the showing may be found in an ad elsewhere in this issue of the SUN.

The school district this week let a contract for start of construction on a recreation complex south of town. The first phase of the planned construction there will see the installation of parking areas, graveling of access roads, and general site preparation.

Stevens Field is being oiled by the county. The entire landing strip has received a seal coat of oil and a thick mat is being laid. County equipment is doing the work and at this time it is hoped that work can be completed before bad weather sets in.

### 25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of  
September 23, 1999

Chilling omens presaging the coming winter grinned down on Pagosa Country this past week. Snow dusted the higher peaks Sept. 14. The thermometer added its own special warning Monday by dipping to 31 degrees, the first freezing temperature since June 4.

Wolf Creek Ski Area received final approval to build a new chairlift after more than a year spent getting U.S. Forest Service approval of the associated environmental impact statement. The southern Rocky Mountain ski area is entirely located on Forest Service land.

Called the Alberta Chairlift, the new addition will handle 1,800 skiers per hour and cover a 5,243-foot length at a speed of 475-feet-per-minute. Featuring a four-person, Garaventa CTEC "fixed-grip quad chairlift," the new lift starts in Alberta Park at an elevation of 10,350 feet and rises 1,100 vertical feet to unload below the Knife Ridge Outpost. The lift will service an additional 500 acres of glade skiing within Wolf Creek's established boundaries.



From the Aug. 24, 1978, Pagosa SUN — TELEPHONE OFFICE — This building houses Universal Telephone Co. in Pagosa Springs and is the central exchange office where new equipment has been installed to give telephone users in this area one party service. Direct distance dialing also became available this past week.

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The following weather information is brought to you as a public service by



LA PLATA ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

Date	High	Low	Precipitation		
			Depth	Type	Moisture
9/17	62	42	.67	NA	NA
9/18	67	36	.85	NA	NA
9/19	71	38	-	NA	NA
9/20	75	41	-	NA	NA
9/21	71	43	.02	NA	NA
9/22	60	41	.27	NA	NA
9/23	70	39	.02	NA	NA

Pagosa Springs  
603 S. 8th Street  
(970) 247-5786

# 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.

## Capitalism and a King

Dear Editor:

I have startling news for all the Com-mie/Socialist haters in the US...Russia and China are capitalist societies. OK they are totalitarian but capitalist in economic function!

This is another of the many reasons that Trump/MAGA lies are absolute gobbled-gook. The world has totally changed from the MAGA wanna-be 1950's. Take a trip abroad...see for yourself how computers & capitalism have leveled the world. Forget your political 'tape recording' spiels...now it's all about money/power.

Here's what you need to understand...capitalism works because it rewards...call it human nature. Socialism will always eventually fail...call it human nature. The basic choice for any gov't's is how much to 'steer' the rewards. Yes, capitalism has it's dis-functional/destructive side but today there's no other economic choice.

Ya gotta pity a MAGA supporter, Trump and crew want him to be King... 'Dat's different. 'Dere ain't no freedom w/a King. just obedience and subservience! You...may not have any interest in democracy or your participation in gov't...community, state or national but that doesn't excuse your sinking the nation!

So, if you are one of those...I'm a man/woman-of-my-word, independent responsible rugged person.YOU got a real logic problem having Trump as your Presidential candidate. Well I guess it does require a person to be

absolutely an immoral risk avoider who thinks only of himself..to be a King!  
David Blake

## Proposition 127

Dear Editor:

Why We'll Support Prop 127

We would like to explain who we are opposed to the trophy hunting of mountain lions and bobcats in Colorado. We are not opposed to the type of hunting that is most common in our state where the hunter acquires food for their family. There is no hidden agenda behind proposed initiative 127 that seeks to eliminate all hunting in the state, of its opponents have suggested.

We live in a constantly changing world where improvements come with careful consideration and thoughtful input. We also live in a hunting community, and we're learning to do things differently. After research shows us lead bullets break apart in the body, and since lead is poison (we should not be eating it) we switch to copper, which does not explode on impact. We also have research on CWD (Chronic Wasting Disease) and see how it is spreading both east and west. CWD is always fatal to the animal, but should that animal be taken out by the mountain lion, the lion remains to kill another day. This natural predator cleansing improves the life and breeding stock of the herd. When a hunter "harvests" a mountain lion, often putting little work into the hunt other than following a pack of dogs trained to put that lion in a tree, we take out a natural predator who is often a mother with cubs. This is not a sport, in our opinion, but a trophy obsession. We can do better than that. Proposed initiative 127 will ban trophy hunting of mountain lions and trapping of bobcats, another inhumane practice. We don't want Colorado bobcat pelts auctioned off and sent to China for coats, do you?

Mountain lion hunting has been banned in California for over 30 years. Mountain lion populations have stabilized in that state. Ranchers are issued depredation permits if lions or bobcats are threatening their livestock. These exceptions are also included in our Prop 127.

If we approve Prop 127, we will bring another level of sport we can all be proud of to our state, and the Colorado Department of Wildlife will have time to educate citizens on a better way.

Diane Cirksema  
Lynn Boyd

their supporters' tolerance for deception and its consequences.

Springfield, Ohio, is a town of about 60,000 where manufacturers had been struggling to fill jobs. Haitian migrants legally in this country made their way to Springfield to fill some of those jobs. JD Vance, candidate for Vice President, repeated an outrageous debunked claim about Haitians stealing and eating pets which Donald Trump amplified to the national presidential debate audience. Trump stuck to his lie despite the moderator's correction.

Was the lie ignored as just another Trump tall tale? No. Springfield has had to close schools and public offices and two hospitals were placed on lockdown, all in response to threats of violence.

Ohio's governor, a Republican who has refuted the lies, has had to deploy state law enforcement to conduct bomb sweeps and provide security at school buildings. Think about that ... elementary schools disrupted at the start of the school year because Donald Trump sticks to an outrageous lie. Trump wouldn't even denounce bomb threats.

If you're concerned about the economy, consider what the Trump/Vance lies are doing to Springfield businesses and Ohio's law enforcement costs. (And Vance represents Ohio in the U.S. Senate.) If you don't want to be complicit in the destructive consequences of Trump/Vance lies and morality, don't vote for them.

Candace Jones

## Amendment 79

Dear Editor:

Voters in Colorado will be seeing more ads and articles about Amendment 79 "Constitutional Right to Abortion", which we will be voting on this election cycle. There will be moving and emotionally charged stories from both sides of the issue. Stories often create empathy and impact our views. However, the gravity of this issue requires close attention to the facts about this amendment. Depending on stories alone in support of Amendment 79 camouflages the facts about this amendment and its extreme impact. The consequences reach far beyond Roe v Wade, requiring greater scrutiny before voting.

1. A "NO" vote leaves Colorado's current liberal abortion law intact.
2. Voting "Yes" enshrines our current law, which goes beyond Roe v

Wade, into the constitution. Our current law allows for: abortion any time throughout the 9 months of pregnancy, for any reason; no oversight, no regulation or inspections, despite the fact that other medical/outpatient clinics are licensed and regulated by the state. This is extreme and places women/girls at risk, especially during second and third trimester abortions.

Our current law removes all accountability from abortion providers. If enshrined in the constitution, no state or local law that would "impede" access to abortion could be enacted to protect women/girls in the future.

3. In addition, Voting "YES" on Amendment 79: removes parental notification before a minor's abortion. Anyone will be able transport a minor for an abortion, in state or across state lines, keeping parents from knowing, from helping their daughter through one of the most critical challenges, most serious decisions in her life. This enables traffickers/perpetrators. Leaving uninformed parents to deal with any emotional or physical consequences that may result from the abortion.

4. Voting "YES" would also require public/taxpayer funding potentially diverting millions of tax dollars to pay for abortions for women in state and those who travel from out of state, which has occurred in other states who've enacted similar measures.

5. If we are to favor equity, then these funds would be better used to support women who choose to have their child and ensuring they will have access to state-of-the art care throughout their pregnancy, especially in underserved communities. Keep in mind that 95% of women who seek abortion give socioeconomic reasons for choosing to abort. They feel they have no choice. The majority of abortions involve healthy women aborting healthy babies. Based on research from Colorado's late term abortionist, William Hern, 70% of the women he performs late abortions on are healthy women aborting healthy babies. Women deserve better. Legislators and voters should look for ways to support measures that would have a more positive impact on outcomes, improving women's health, overcoming socioeconomic barriers, thus changing the trajectories of the lives of these women when faced with an unplanned pregnancy, and their babies!

After considering the facts, Vote  
■ See Letters A4



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## Letters

The SUN welcomes letters from readers.

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

All letters must:

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

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

Letters quoting other people must contain proper attribution.

There is no guarantee letters will be published.

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

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

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

## Deepfakes and lies

Dear Editor:

Earlier this year, Colorado enacted a law regulating use of deepfakes generated by artificial intelligence in political advertising. The law defines deepfake as "an image, video, audio, or multimedia AI-generated content that falsely appears to be authentic or truthful and which features a depiction of an individual appearing to say or do something the individual did not say or do."

Colorado does not ban deepfakes in political advertising. Instead, the law aims to protect voters from a narrow (but compelling) category of false speech by requiring a warning flag. The law requires sponsors of deepfakes to label them clearly as having been edited to "depict[] speech or conduct that falsely appears to be authentic or truthful."

In a recent public advisory, Attorney General Phil Weiser emphasized that the law applies only to communications about candidates and cautioned that "deepfakes can be used in many other ways to influence the opinions of voters." He recommends that voters verify questionable video and audio through trusted sources.

That's good advice about deepfakes, but what about plain old lies. The First Amendment gives the greatest deference to political speech. Candidates' lying is limited by their own moral character and respect for voters and



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**\$1,399<sup>00</sup>**

**EGO POWER+ 56V 24" Self-Propelled Two-Stage Snow Thrower**

- Includes two 7.5 Ah batteries and charger
- Throws snow up to 50'
- Variable speed auger control
- Four bright LED headlights

7008474

**\$749<sup>00</sup>**

**EGO POWER+ 56V 21" Single-Stage Snow Thrower**

- Includes two 5 Ah batteries and charger
- 21" clearing width
- Throws snow up to 40'
- Two built-in LED headlights

7024673

BUY ONE OF THESE GET THIS **FREE**

**EGO 5 Ah ARC Lithium Battery**  
7805312  
NO LIMIT.

**\$299.00 VALUE**



**PLAN AHEAD!**  
View and shop snow blowers and equipment online at: [acehardware.com](http://acehardware.com)

**\$999.00 - \$150 ACE REWARDS EXCLUSIVE!**  
**\$849<sup>00</sup>**

**EGO POWER+ 56V 21" Single-Stage Auger-Propelled Snow Thrower**

- Includes two 7.5 Ah batteries and charger
- 21" clearing width
- Throws snow up to 45'
- Two built-in LED headlights

7012132  
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# Advisory committee looking at allowing local marijuana businesses to sell more product outside county limits

By Clayton Chaney  
Staff Writer

The Archuleta County Marijuana Update Citizens Advisory Committee held a meeting on Sept. 19 at which the committee began briefly discussing the possibility of amending the county's marijuana ordinance to allow for licensed marijuana growers to sell more of their product outside of Archuleta County.

The county first passed Ordinance 13-2015 in July 2015 outlining regulations and licensing requirements for marijuana establishments in Archuleta County.

During the Sept. 19 meeting, the committee began discussing Section 6 of the ordinance, which specifies a requirement that "no less than seventy percent (70%) of the product grown under the optional premises cultivation operation license is made available for sale to the public through a facility licensed in Archuleta County."

County Attorney Todd Weaver explained in a later interview that the Marijuana Update Citizens Advisory Committee was formed earlier this spring by the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) at his request.

Weaver mentioned that there were "a number of individuals" who have been talking about updating the ordinance for some time now.

He explained that there are five set members on the committee: Archuleta County Undersheriff Robert Hill; local businesses owners Jeremy Bonin, Hannah Burnett and Robert Mellon; and Pagosa Springs Town Clerk/Finance Director April Hessman.

Weaver added that the committee was formed to allow for those in the industry, and others, to have input on the ordinance revisions.

"There's a lot of new licenses that are out there," Weaver said, explaining that the BoCC will need to decide what changes they would like to see, if any, and then the committee will draft a revised ordinance to be presented to the BoCC for approval.

Weaver commented that the discussion in regard to the 70 percent rule

is "rather important" and is "a way to protect our locally owned businesses."

Weaver added that large companies could come into the area and undercut those currently here, potentially putting them out of business.

"I don't think that's what we want," he said.

Weaver also mentioned the town and county have existing relationships with the local owners that are currently operating in the community.

"That would change if it were some big company out of Denver or Pueblo who doesn't really care about Pagosa and Archuleta County," he said.

During the Sept. 19 meeting, Bonin explained that businesses operating in the county currently are set up with the infrastructure needed to ensure that licensed growers in the county are selling at least 70 percent of their flower in Archuleta County.

Burnett mentioned the intention of the 70 percent rule was to keep the industry local.

"We should be able to sell more out of the county if we want to," Bonin said.

Hill disagreed with Bonin's statement, explaining that Archuleta County Sheriff Mike Le Roux does not want marijuana grows getting out of control, to the point where the county is no longer benefiting from it.

"We don't want to have a whole bunch of grow domes popping up so that the product's getting sold elsewhere. We don't want that. We don't want Archuleta to be a grow area and only a portion is being sold here," Hill said.

Hill mentioned that he does not want to see large companies from Denver or Colorado Springs setting up shop in Archuleta County, growing large amounts of marijuana and shipping off to sell in other parts of the state.

"We don't want to be the marijuana capital," Hill added.

"That really constricts businesses that are here, and they're fighting for their life," Bonin replied.

Bonin explained that he was involved in the creation of the original ordinance and the "spirit" behind the 70 percent rule to prevent larger companies from growing product in

other parts of the state and shipping it to Archuleta County to sell.

Bonin explained that this helped keep jobs in the local economy.

Hill mentioned the abandoned hemp farms off of U.S. 160 and that the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) does not want to have more of those popping up.

"We don't want to see six, eight, 10 of those popping up," Hill said.

He added that Le Roux "wants responsible marijuana growth."

Weaver suggested the committee dedicate an entire meeting to this one topic to see what kind of structure makes the most sense for each interested party.

Weaver added that lots of things included in the original ordinance made sense when it was initially adopted, but that with the state updating its policies, some of the contents of the ordinance are no longer relevant.

He mentioned that the state used to have a requirement that any store tied to a cultivation location was required to have a certain amount of its product sold in their own store.

"That has gone away now," he said.

"I also agree that perhaps there's an opportunity where marijuana that's grown here could be sold elsewhere," Weaver added.

Hill mentioned the ACSO is not "completely opposed" to allowing for more marijuana to be sold outside of the county.

"I just know the troubles that Archuleta had a few years ago," Hill said, explaining he is relatively new to the community.

Bonin chimed in, explaining the town and county limiting the number of marijuana business licenses available will help prevent situations that Hill expressed concern about.

Hill commented that the ACSO does not want to hurt the local business owners who have been operating in the county, but that he "just doesn't want Budweiser moving in."

"We don't either," Bonin replied.

He explained that companies have shown interest in either growing or selling in Archuleta County.

"They are totally looking at our

community," he said.

Bonin spoke more about the local businesses being set up with infrastructure that was needed to meet the demands of the past, but now businesses are producing extra "because our sales have gone down so much in this county."

Hill noted that 38 states in the country now have medical and/or recreational marijuana.

The nation's capital, the District of Columbia, and three U.S. territories also have medical and/or recreational marijuana.

Bonin noted that sales from tourism are down over the past few years with neighboring states like New Mexico, Oklahoma and Arizona legalizing marijuana.

Weaver mentioned again that the committee should look to have a meeting dedicated to discussing how the ordinance can be structured to "keep our marijuana industry local" while potentially allowing for more marijuana to be sold outside of the county and still taking measures to prevent large companies from coming in and taking control of the local market.

Bonin noted that the larger companies are mostly looking to set up storefronts and are not looking as much to establish more growing facilities.

Hill commented that there could be issues with larger companies offering local business owners undeniable amounts of money to purchase their businesses.

Bonin indicated that Routt County is the only other county in the state that still has a 70 percent rule, adding that Steamboat Springs and Pagosa Springs have the highest prices in the state for retail marijuana.

During the meeting, Hill also mentioned that the committee should start to think about how the county is going to address the legalization of hallucinogenic mushrooms.

He noted that beginning in January 2025, the sale of hallucinogenic mushrooms in a retail environment will be legal in Colorado.

clayton@pagosasun.com

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## Letters

Continued from A3  
"NO" on Amendment 79.

Wendy Smith  
Colorado Springs, Colo.

### Elect a team

Dear Editor:

Over the last four years, our Board of County Commissioners has struggled to do what is best for our County.

The BoCC hired an unqualified, detrimental County Manager while his wife was the County HR Director, an ethical error. Lawsuits ensued of varying sorts, he was then paid tens of thousands of dollars after he was let go.

Over \$40,000 was wasted on HR software that never worked.

There's been a hiring spree expanding our government by 22 employees in a mere six months along with increased benefits, wages and bonuses far exceeding comparable private sector compensation, thereby competing against our local businesses for

valuable staff.

The BoCC spent taxpayer dollars to promote an increase in our sales tax with Ballot Measure 1A while allowing our property taxes to skyrocket.

Those who appealed their property valuations saw some of the Commissioners fail to even read what was presented by homeowners.

The downtown courthouse on prime real estate was sold in a suspicious fashion for under \$700,000, curiously leaving us with an urgent and dire need for a replacement. We haven't even paid off the new courthouse yet.

Once again we're about to spend too much on yet another government building. Remember the jail and the courthouse debacle? We the people voted for budgetary restraint, the BoCC vetoed our decision. Here we go again.

Our roads are in dreadful condition. We have muddy, dusty, potholed

dirt roads within walking distance of town limits while the 2024 road budget was reduced significantly to spend the money elsewhere.

Meanwhile, the new, tiny and unnecessary 6,500 sq. ft. transportation center was to cost an absurd \$4.8 million, but now has an incurred an additional \$250,000 in cost overruns we get to pay for because nobody thought of looking for bedrock in the Rocky Mountains. Did we even vote to spend that \$5 million?

The taxpayers have paid in excess of \$53,000 in legal fees alone for ethics violations of a current and a previous Commissioner for explicitly voting to reimburse themselves for mileage to and from work.

Our airport operates at a loss of \$500K annually while serving a tiny minority of residents.

Granted, not all of our current Commissioners condoned these wasteful blunders but the current BoCC displays

a uniform absence of cooperation and shared common goals such as fiscal responsibility, effective planning and prioritization, striving for smaller government, making decisions based on voter input rather than forcing their opinions on us.

We are presented with a golden opportunity to elect an effective "team" of Commissioners. If you'd like to see collaboration, experience, fiscal responsibility, transparency and taxpayer representation in this County, let's give Commissioner Veronica Medina a powerful, competent team to work with: Commissioner Candidate John Ranson and Commissioner Candidate Wayne Hooper. This will assure us the best path forward. Elect John and Wayne. Easy to remember.

Marybeth Snyder

## Sheriff's Office to hold Citizen's Academy

Archuleta County Sheriff's Office

The Archuleta County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) is proud to announce the commencement of its Citizen's Academy this fall. The academy will begin on Oct. 8 and conclude on Dec. 3.

The classes will meet on Tuesday evenings from 6 to 9 p.m. at the ACSO Emergency Operations facility located at 777 County Road 600 (Piedra Road).

The ACSO's mission is to protect and serve the citizens of our county through innovative hard work and community partnership. The Citizen's Academy is designed to provide an overview of this commitment and to create open dialog with our community members.

After an introduction by Sheriff Mike Le Roux and his command staff, the topics presented during the academy include:

- Statutory obligations of the sheriff.
- Patrol operations.
- Use of force and firearms.
- Animal control.
- Detention operations and programs.
- Courts and extraditions.
- Criminal case investigations/crime scene investigations.
- The Office of Emergency Management.
- Wildland firefighting.
- Search and rescue.

- Dispatch and public records.
  - School resource officer.
- Our commanders, professional staff leaders and deputies responsible for each area will present on the topics.

One of the highlights of the academy is the field day, during which students will participate in scenario-based training. The scenarios will include responding to calls involving stress and critical decision-making,

traffic stops, and building searches.

The academy's capacity is limited to 15 students.

All applicants must be 18 years old and a resident or business owner in Archuleta County. All students must complete the application to be considered for attendance in the academy.

The fee for the academy is \$20, which covers the cost of a student T-shirt, materials and refreshments.

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3rd in Family	\$466/\$582	3rd in Family	\$350/\$437
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Feb. 1-2, 8-9, 14-16, 22;  
Mar. 1, 8-20

# Business

## County unemployment rate rises

By Garrett Fevinger  
Staff Writer

Archuleta County's unemployment rate rose one-tenth of a percentage point in August to 4.1 percent, according to a monthly report from the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment (CDLE) released Sept. 20.

The county's unemployment rate was slightly higher than the state average, which rose to 4 percent in August, and remains below its peak of 4.5 percent in February.

The last time the state's unemployment rate reached 4 percent was in January 2022, according to the CDLE.

"The total number of employed Coloradans increased by 2,000 in August," the press release states, while the number of unemployed grew by 2,200.

The size of Archuleta County's

labor force rose from 6,912 in July to 6,971 in August, with 6,684 workers employed, according to the CDLE report.

Archuleta County neighbors also saw increases to their unemployment rates in August, with La Plata County at 3.8 percent, Hinsdale County at 2.9 percent and Mineral County at 4.1 percent.

In Conejos County, there was a one-tenth decrease to 4.1 percent.

Across the state, places with the highest unemployment rate in August were Las Animas and Huerfano counties, with 6.6 and 6.3 percent, respectively. The unemployment rate was lowest in San Juan County at 2.3 percent, according to the CDLE.

The U.S. unemployment rate in August was 4.2 percent, according to the CDLE — a decrease from 4.3 percent in July.

### Employment at a glance

- Employers in Colorado added 7,400 nonfarm payroll jobs in August. July figures were revised and reduced by 4,000, showing an increase of 800 jobs rather than the state's original reported increase of 4,800.

- Private-sector payroll jobs grew by 7,700, and government lost 300 jobs.

- The private-industry sectors with significant job gains in August were professional and business services with about 2,900, and educational and health services with about 2,800. There were no private industry sectors with significant job losses, according to the CDLE.

- "Since August 2023, non-farm payroll jobs have increased 41,900, with the private sector growing by 23,200 and government adding 18,700 jobs," the press release states.

- The largest private-sector job gains were in educational and health

services with about 11,100 new jobs added. Professional and business services added 5,400 jobs.

- During the same time period, payroll jobs declined in information (2,800) and construction (2,400).

- The press release notes Colorado's rate of job growth over the past year is 1.4 percent, slightly below the U.S. rate of 1.5 percent.

- "Over the year, the average work-week for all Colorado employees on private non-farm payrolls was unchanged at 33.3 hours, while average hourly earnings grew from \$35.76 to \$37.80, two dollars and fifty-nine cents more than the national average hourly earnings of \$35.21," the report states.

September's Colorado Employment Situation report is scheduled for release on Oct. 18, according to the CDLE.

garrett@pagosasun.com

## LPEA enters into agreement with Mercuria Energy America to build new energy portfolio

By Amanda Anderson  
La Plata Electric Association

La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) announced on Sept. 18

that the cooperative entered into a strategic agreement with Mercuria Energy America LLC, one of the world's largest independent energy and commodity groups.

Mercuria will help LPEA build a new energy portfolio following the transition from its incumbent provider on April 1, 2026.

LPEA's planned exit from its current power contract aims to stabilize power costs and increase clean, local power.

"We're excited to announce a significant update on our energy transition," said Ted Compton, president of the LPEA board. "What sets Mercuria apart is their ability to help us design and secure a portfolio of assets tailored to our specific needs. With their support, we're confident that this collaboration will deliver exceptional reliability and economic efficiency."

Mercuria is renowned for its efficiency and innovation, integrating advanced technology, deep industry knowledge and low-carbon solutions into the energy value chain. The company is a leader in the energy transition, pledging more than 50 percent of its new investment capital toward renewable and transitional energy. Its strategic initiatives include investments in renewable power generation, energy storage and grid optimization, reinforcing its role as a global leader in the shift toward a low-carbon economy.

"We are committed to advancing the transition to a more sustainable, affordable, and reliable energy system for tomorrow. We proactively invest in projects and companies helping the world decarbonize and accelerate the transition towards more sustainable energy sources," said Cody Moore, president and head of U.S. gas and power trading

at Mercuria.

Mercuria's West Power team includes experts on regional opportunities in the Southwest. Its members are Colorado natives based in Denver.

The portfolio Mercuria will help LPEA develop aligns with LPEA's goal to cut its carbon footprint by 50 percent from 2018 levels by 2030 while keeping electricity costs lower than 70 percent of LPEA's Colorado cooperative peers. By leveraging regional resources and Mercuria's market understanding, LPEA aims to enhance energy reliability and progress toward a greener future.

"We've hit the ground running with Mercuria, and their expertise has already proven invaluable in guiding our energy transition," said Graham Smith, interim CEO of LPEA. "Their commitment to integrating renewable energy is essential as we move towards a sustainable future."

### Town hall meetings planned

LPEA invites members to attend a series of town hall meetings to discuss the cooperative's power supply and future initiatives:

- Durango, Oct. 21, 6 to 7 p.m.: LPEA Headquarters, 45 Stewart St., Durango.

- Pagosa Springs, Oct. 23, 6 to 7 p.m.: Ross Aragon Community Center, 451 Hot Springs Blvd., Pagosa Springs.

These meetings will allow community members to voice their questions to LPEA representatives.

For more information on LPEA's energy transition, visit lpea.coop.

## Biz Beat



Riff Raff Brewing Company bids farewell this weekend to its cherished downtown location of the last 11 years. Located in its historic 1898 Victorian building as a cornerstone of the local craft beer scene, Riff Raff looks forward to celebrating with locals and visitors alike this Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 28 and 29. While it's difficult to say goodbye to this classic, cozy space that fostered so many great memories, the Riff Raff team will continue to focus on its thriving riverside location at 356 E. Pagosa St. Nestled along the river with stunning views, the Rio will continue as a haven for craft beer lovers and adventurers alike. Thank you all for your support throughout the years and into our next chapter.

### Informative.

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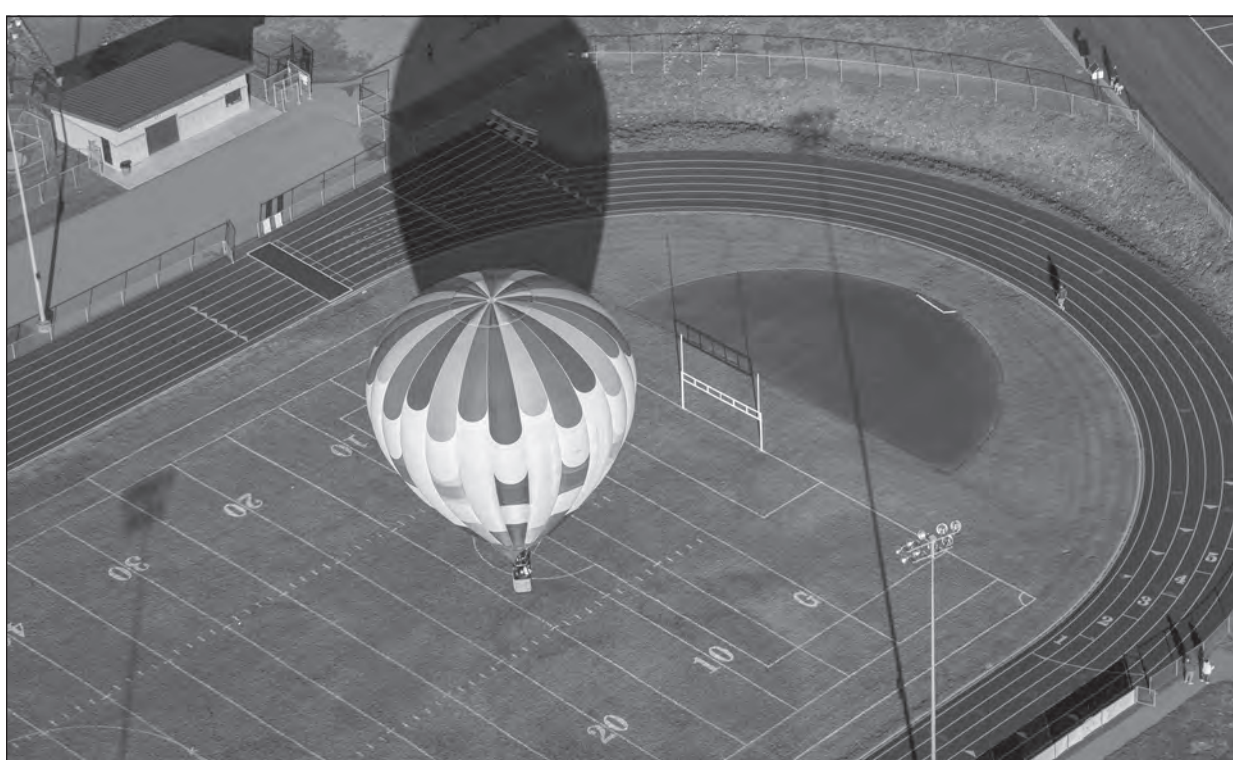
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# ColorFest



SUN photos/Randi Pierce

The annual ColorFest festivities bring color to the downtown area Saturday morning, Sept. 21. The morning mass hot air balloon ascension was one of two over the weekend, with the second taking place on the west side of town the following morning.



SUN photo/Garrett Fevinger

With balloons lofted overhead, participants celebrate in a cloud of color after completing the Aspen House Color Run on Sept. 21 in Yamaguchi Park.

## ColorFest activities feature highs, challenges

By Mary Jo Coulehan  
Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce

Another year of ColorFest activities has come and gone and, as with every year, there were some highs and challenges.

Starting off with the Passport to Pagosa Wine and Food Festival, the big winner goes to Sage Eatery, who participated for the first time this year. They walked away with four of the six awards, including Best Vegetarian for their mac and cheese, Most Flavorful for their brisket mac and cheese, Best Decorated Booth — it was a food truck, and People's Choice.

The winner of the Most Original food was Black Bart's, another first-time contender, for its Korean BBQ chicken and waffles.

The Best Sweet award went to Farrago Events — yes, Todd and Kellie are back for catering events — for their spiced peach mini trifle layered cake.

There were many very close second-place winners, including Archuleta Seniors Inc. in the Most Original category for its lavender blackberry cheesecake bites, Farrago

Events in the Most Flavorful category for its jerk smoked pork street tacos, Black Bart's in the Best Sweet category for its liege waffle with Belgian chocolate, and Pagosa Springs Medical Center for Best Decorated booth.

Rounding out the evening was the amazing performance of Maxwell Miller as attendees listened and danced to his classic songs.

All in all, it was a stellar event with delicious wines pairing with the fantastic food.

On Saturday, Sept. 22, the Bands and Brews event was dampened somewhat by the rains that plagued the area for most of the day. However, hundreds of hearty souls dealt with the weather, hunkered down in the tent and enjoyed the music of CW Ayon and SolOverLuna.

Turtle Mountain Brewery, out of Rio Rancho, N.M., swept the beer honors with both the Brewer's and People's Choice awards.

Unfortunately, the weather prohibited an evening balloon glow typically held in the park. The pilots also had a little trouble with winds on Saturday, so the full contingency of attendees did not ascend. However, Sunday morning was stunning and

almost 29 balloons took to the skies.

All in all, it was a wonderful weekend with a little moisture that we always need, the beautiful backdrop of Pagosa Springs scenery to complement the colorful hot air balloons, the continuous discovery of our local food establishments and the culinary skills that they possess, and the generosity of the breweries that come and share their special quaffs.

Most importantly, a weekend like this does not happen without all the volunteers who participated. From setup and breakdown to decorating, pouring wine, registration and even selling merchandise, please know your help is so greatly appreciated. Look for our thank you ad in The Pagosa SUN.

### Health fair set for Oct. 19

The second annual Health Fair and Expo will be held on Oct. 19 at Pagosa Springs High School from about 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

This event is important on so many levels for people in our community.

A component of the fair will be the ability to get your blood drawn and have a variety of tests performed at

extremely reasonable rates. Regardless if you have insurance or not, you may want to take advantage of this special pricing for a range of tests.

Another facet of the Health Fair will be the ability to meet with health care providers, find out about insurance options, and receive other services such as hearing tests, STD testing or other exams.

There will also be a lunch with a keynote speaker, which was a hit last year.

There will also be a Spanish-speaking component to the Health Fair, so please reach out to our Spanish community.

More information about products, services, classes and testing will be forthcoming soon.

## July sales tax revenue up compared to 2023

By Allison Brown  
Staff Writer

Sales tax collections for Archuleta County in July are up slightly compared to last year's figures, according to a report from Archuleta County Finance Director Chad Eaton.

The July sales tax report from Eaton notes that the Town of Pagosa Springs and Archuleta County received a total of \$1,855,193.04, with \$925,960.03 going to the town and \$929,233.01 going to the county.

July sales tax revenues are 0.5 percent, or \$8,440.53, higher than July

2023, according to the report.

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

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

- Construction at 7.48 percent, or \$3,096.61.
- Retail trade at 1.94 percent, or \$17,600.30.
- Information at 5.45 percent, or \$1,403.75.
- Finance and insurance at 5.14 percent, or \$80.50.
- Accommodation and food ser-

vices at 4.14 percent, or \$13,958.16.

Categories that are down for July in the month-to-month comparison include:

- Manufacturing at 0.87 percent, or \$512.31.
- Real estate and rental and leasing at 12 percent, or \$4,570.28.
- Professional, scientific and technical services at 45.66 percent, or \$13,209.73.
- Other services (except public administration) at 8.09 percent, or \$2,584.90.
- Miscellaneous at 3.3 percent, or \$6,821.57.

## Card of Thanks

### Anne Hillerman

The Ruby Sisson Library Foundation would like to thank everyone who joined us for a Weekend with Anne Hillerman. We also would like to thank everyone who helped during the weekend. Your support helps us get a little closer to the summit in our building campaign.

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### NOTICE

ACCEPTANCE OF LETTERS OF INTEREST FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR PAGOSA AREA WATER AND SANITATION DISTRICT

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, and particularly to the property owners and residents within Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District ("District" or "PAWSD") of Archuleta County, Colorado.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN the District has an open seat on the Board of Directors for the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District. To be considered, you must own property or reside within the boundaries of the District and be an active registered voter in Colorado. Please submit Letter of Interest by October 3, 2024 to the Board of Directors President/Chairman Jim Smith c/o Renee Lewis at [renee@pawsd.org](mailto:renee@pawsd.org) or 100 Lyn Ave Pagosa Springs, CO 81147.



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# Election

## Continued from front

• District 4 (north and east La Plata County): Candidate Tim Wheeler won with 1,030 votes. Candidate John Purser received 718 votes.

As no challenger applications were received in districts 2 and 3, the following candidates were seated unopposed:

• District 2 (south and west La Plata County): Incumbent Kohler

McInnis was seated.

• District 3 (city of Durango): Incumbent Ted Compton was seated.

Of the 18,479 ballots mailed out in all districts, a total of 3,209 LPEA members cast votes for an approxi-

mate 17.37 percent return rate.

Officers will be elected at the next meeting of the LPEA Board of Directors scheduled for Oct. 16. Meeting details can be accessed at <https://lpea.coop/lpea-board-directors-resources>.

# Accident

## Continued from front

transported to the Pagosa Springs Medical Center, where he was pronounced deceased.

Investigation determined the ve-

hicle was driving westbound on San Juan making a left turn onto South 8th Street. The bicycle was riding east on San Juan.

The bicycle collided with the

passenger-side door of the truck.

The 64-year-old driver of the truck, Barney Pierce, from Pagosa Springs, was issued a summons for careless driving causing death.

The PSPD is asking anyone who may have witnessed the accident or has information related to the incident to contact it at (970) 264-4151.

# Tourism

## Continued from front

explained that the conversation about how these revenues are spent was motivated by a likelihood that lodging revenues are likely to go up with the expansion of The Springs Resort.

She said, "We feel like there's likely to be an increase in lodging taxes, and the council feels like it's our duty to look at this to make sure we are making the best use of those funds."

She added that the council greatly appreciates the work that the tourism board does and wants to make sure that the board continues to receive the funding that it needs.

She told the BoCC that the council has "not made any decisions yet regarding this. We just want you to know that we are looking at it."

A tourism board agenda document titled "Lodgers Tax Fund Comprehensive Summary" states, "Looking ahead to 2025, the town is expecting a significant increase in revenues, with a projected increase of 32%. This increase is in part to downtown construction being delayed and projections based on 2024 revenues, plus the addition of a new 79 unit hotel downtown."

The total tourism board budget for the fiscal year 2024 stood at \$1,124,147, and with the expected increase in revenues, the projected budget for fiscal year 2025 stands at \$1,402,584.

Williams, who spoke next, explained that the town is looking at "capping" the amount of funding the tourism board receives from the

town, with the likelihood that lodging tax revenues would be on the rise with The Springs Resort expansion.

"I had the idea that, when this new money comes online from The Springs, it's gonna be hundreds of thousands of dollars," Williams said.

He cited that the total budget of the tourism board stands at \$1.2 million, stating, "And, so, I just introduced the idea that maybe we should cap spending for the tourism [board] at that level."

He added that any extra funds collected on top of this would be better utilized by the town to help soften the economic impact of the Colorado Department of Transportation's (CDOT's) U.S. 160 reconstruction project through downtown Pagosa Springs.

He said the town would be able "to allocate those extra funds more quickly and more effectively for things like renting parking lots, if we have to, or things that would be tourism related, like acquiring the land at spots for access to the river, expanding parks."

He explained that the current budget of the tourism board includes "money for infrastructure," asking if the town would be better at "allocating this money."

He added that he is not looking to "cut" funding for the tourism board, but "just looking at leveling" it off.

He stated that the tourism board only advertises in the "shoulder months" of the spring and fall, anyways, and that "we may be reaching a point of diminishing returns," if the

two entities fund the tourism board above current levels.

Commissioner Ronnie Maez pushed back on this, saying, "When you're in business, there's never a point where you don't advertise. You gotta always advertise."

He added that "the businesses and lodgers, they send that lodgers tax for it, and on the county side of it, we are obligated" to have the county's share of the revenues spent on the board conducting advertising and marketing.

Williams explained that he didn't "want to do anything" that would affect "staff or the quality of the work environment" at the tourism department.

Commissioner Warren Brown asked Williams if the cap would be "permanent," or if it would be something that would be sort of a trial program and then the town could "re-evaluate."

Williams replied that the council could try it out and "see what happens," adding that he is really thinking about "two things: The Springs coming online with 78 new units and that CDOT is gonna disrupt our downtown, so I was really kinda thinking about the next few years."

Town council member Brooks Lindner chimed in, "Our council might actually be more nimble in making some of these decisions with this money than the tourism board... especially when we are addressing some of the needs that might come about during the construction... it might be more efficient for us to be

# Geothermal

## Continued from front

guests \$67 per day to soak in its hot spring pools.

An agenda brief on the matter states, "There's currently no better way to represent fair market value for the mineral benefit than what the spas charge for an individual daily soak."

The council ultimately decided on \$1,675 per month, or \$20,100 annually, for the usage of the water's mineral component, which was calculated by multiplying The Springs' daily nonresident price of \$67 by the number of its soaking pools (25).

Since the original agreement in 2009, the town has been supplying geothermal water year-round to The Springs, with temperatures ranging from 118 to 140 degrees, at about 450 gallons per minute (GPM), according to the agenda document.

The energy from the water goes to heating the floors, sidewalks and handrails of the resort, and also "provides significant healing attributes" within its soaking pools "from the mineral content of the water," according to the document.

The council also decided that the rate for the heat/energy would rise 2 percent annually, setting future rates going forward beginning in 2026, rather than using the Consumer Price Index (CPI), which currently stands at 2.5 percent.

However, the rate for the mineral content would be based solely on the annual entry price that the Springs Resort charges nonresidents when the town sets its fee schedule.

The fiscal impact to the town of these rate increases amounts to an "increase in revenue for the Geothermal Utility of up to \$45,107," the agenda document states.

The council first discussed these rate changes at an Aug. 29 work session when council members Gary Williams and Leonard Martinez brought findings about their investigation into the fair market rates of geothermal water.

At that work session, Williams suggested that the town has been "way undercharging our biggest user."

"Our basic recommendation is this: There should be two components to the fee," with the first being the heat of the water and the second being the mineral content, he said.

Noting how novel the idea was to set a market value for the mineral content of geothermal water, Martinez explained that their investigation looked "far and wide" for other examples of setting a price for therapeutic minerals, but could not find any.

Council member Matt DeGuise wondered if it would be "onerous for the staff" to determine the yearly market rate based on The Springs Resort's entry fee.

Public Works Director Karl Johnson answered that town staff would need to "just walk in the door, and look on the board" to see what the resort is charging.

Johnson explained that the way he understood the town's current agreement with The Springs is that the

town has the "right to re-establish a rate" and the rate is not set for any "period of time."

He said that The Springs would have "the first right of refusal to take that water in perpetuity" at the town's established rate.

At the previous work session, there was some discussion about what the town would do with the water if The Springs walked away from the agreement.

Martinez said, "A community pool for this community is a real option," adding that the town has the potential to start doing things with the water that it has not even thought about yet if The Springs were to walk away from the agreement.

Mayor Shari Pierce said, "I am so impressed with the staff and council members Martinez and Williams for coming up with this idea of charging for the value of those minerals. I think it's great."

Council member Mat deGraaf motioned to approve the new rates, with the motion reading: "I move to adopt new proposed rate of fair market value for energy of \$2,084 per month, or \$25,007.40 per year, set to increase at 2 percent per year, and the fair market value for the mineral water of \$1,675 per month, or \$20,100 per year, based upon the daily nonresident soaking pass as the multiplier for a current total of \$45,107.40 annually."

The motion was passed unanimously by the council.

The new fees will take effect Jan. 1, 2025, should The Springs agree to

purchase the water at these new rates.

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

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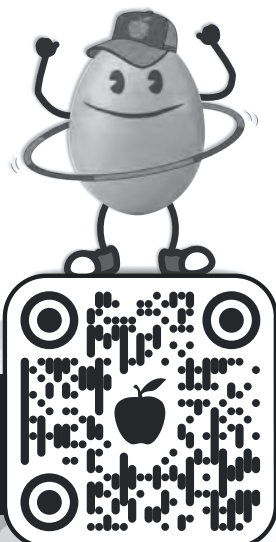
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Photo courtesy Payton McIntyre

The moon rises over Chimney Rock National Monument late Monday night, Sept. 23. Every 18.6 years, the moon's tilted orbit aligns with the Earth's axis, bringing the moon to its farthest northern or southern rising positions. During this event, the moon will rise between the two rock pinnacles, Chimney Rock and Companion Rock.

## Upper San Juan Watershed Enhancement Partnership announces Pagosa Gateway River Project presentation

By Danyelle Leentjes  
Upper San Juan Watershed  
Enhancement Partnership

The Upper San Juan Watershed Enhancement Partnership (WEP) is inviting the public to attend a presentation and Q-and-A of the 60 percent designs of the Pagosa Gateway River Project on Oct. 10 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the Ross Aragon Community Center.

The public can also view and make comments on the designs on mypagosa.org.

The Pagosa Gateway Project is a vital restoration endeavor targeting approximately 2 miles of the San Juan River upstream of the Town of Pagosa Springs.

A recent environmental and recreational water supply needs assessment, commissioned by the WEP, identified potentially significant changes in hydrology and limiting conditions for aquatic life in this section of the San Juan River. Assessment results suggest late summer and fall flows may restrict the availability and quality of aquatic habitat for fish and other aquatic species, as well as the number of days in a year when recreational craft can successfully navigate this segment of the San Juan mainstem.

This presentation will highlight a series of interventions of the project, including the creation of low-flow channels, promotion of bank stabilization, riparian vegetation and fish

passage, as well as the minimization of hazardous streambank materials to increase the resiliency of the San Juan River and its ability to support aquatic life and diverse water users.

The WEP strives to foster communities by developing cooperative solutions to further the responsible use, management and sustainability of streams within the Upper San Juan River Basin for the benefit of the community and health of the environment.

We hope that you can join us for this important and informative presentation. Light refreshments will be provided.

For more information on the project and WEP, visit UpperSanJuanWep.com.

## New funding for renewable energy announced

By Ally Sullivan  
State of Colorado

On Sept. 11, Gov. Jared Polis and the Colorado Energy Office received \$1.96 million from the U.S. Department of Energy through Renewable Energy Siting Through Technical Engagement and Planning (R-STEP) to streamline the development of solar, agrivoltaics, wind, battery energy storage, geothermal projects and other critical clean energy infrastructure across Colorado by improving siting and permitting of projects.

This funding will help the Colorado Energy Office to partner with local governments, developers and landowners to accelerate renewable adoption and ensure Colorado reaches 100 percent clean energy by 2040 and save Coloradans money on energy bills.

"Colorado is rapidly expanding our use of the heat beneath our feet to save people money and for reliable clean energy. This funding will allow us to accelerate our leading work on geothermal siting and development, helping us improve air quality and reli-

ability, promote innovation across the state, and protect our environment for future generations," Polis said.

The U.S. Department of Energy announced six state-based collaboratives to receive funding through the second round of the R-STEP Program.

Polis and the Colorado Energy Office plan to utilize the federal funds to expand on Colorado's renewable energy initiatives by providing the necessary tools, resources and technical assistance to local governments to support smart and efficient permitting.

## Pedestrian in August incident dies

By Randi Pierce  
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs Police Department (PSPD) reported this week that the pedestrian involved in an Aug. 1 collision passed away while hospitalized.

Police Chief William Rockensock identified the pedestrian as 68-year-old Brian Ambrosich.

The vehicle-versus-pedestrian collision took place in the late morning on Aug. 1, according to a press release from the PSPD issued following the incident.

According to the press release, 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 Springs 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.

Rockensock explained this week no charges have been filed in the case.

randi@pagosasun.com

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County Commissioner - District 1

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# Sports

## FOOTBALL



SUN photo/Randi Pierce  
Pirate running back Colton Lucero breaks away from multiple Monte Vista defenders in Friday night's homecoming win. Lucero led the Pirates in rushing with a total of 360 yards and three touchdowns on the night.

### Pirates log homecoming win over Monte Vista

By Clayton Chaney  
Staff Writer

Last week was homecoming week for Pagosa Springs High School, with the Pirate football team hosting Monte Vista last Friday night, Sept. 20, at Golden Peaks stadium for the team's first home game of the year.

The Pirates defeated Monte Vista 28-6, improving their record to 2-1 on the season.

The first half ended scoreless with the Pirates generating momentum on their first couple of offensive drives, but stalling out due to penalties, coach Nathan Morales explained.

"We moved the ball well the first half," Morales said. "Just had silly penalties."

Morales took accountability for the Pirates' penalties in the first half, explaining that most of the penalties were due to illegal shifts.

"I got to be more disciplined, get them ready. That's on me," he said.

The Pirates were able to move the ball down inside Monte Vista's red zone with just under one minute left in the second quarter, but were unable to capitalize and turned the ball over on downs.

The Pirates received the ball to start the second half and were able to score on their first play from scrimmage, with Colton Lucero rushing for an 85-yard touchdown.

The Pirates converted the extra-point attempt, opening the scoring at 7-0 just 20 seconds into the second half.

"We didn't do anything different," Morales said in regard to changing anything at halftime in terms of strategy.

He mentioned that the team knew it could move the ball and "kind of just sat there for a little while" during halftime and, once it was time to come back out, Morales told the team, "Let's go win the second half."

Morales explained that there wasn't much to change and that throughout the second half the Pirates "just kept doing what we were doing."

The Pirates were able to score

again in the third quarter with another long rushing touchdown from Lucero.

This time Lucero went for 65 yards, and the Pirates led 14-0 before the end of the third quarter.

Pagosa kept its momentum in the fourth quarter, racking up two more touchdowns before the night ended. Morales commented on quarterback Creede Dozier's performance saying, "He does a good job for us."

He added that he expects Dozier to keep getting better as the season goes on.

"I thought he played well," Morales said, highlighting Dozier's 45-yard rushing touchdown in the fourth quarter that put the Pirates up 21-0.

"He's the second weapon in the backfield that we have, and we'll continue to use him," Morales said.

Lucero scored his third touchdown of the night with about three minutes remaining in the fourth quarter, this time going for 47 yards.

The Pirates put up a total of 546 yards on offense, with Lucero leading the team in rushing with 360 yards and three touchdowns on 22 carries.

Jayton Ross had two carries on the night, going for 22 total yards.

Seth Ziegler also had two rushing attempts on the night, going for a total of 7 yards.

Dozier ended the night with a total of 63 rushing yards and one rushing touchdown on 13 carries.

The Pirates put up a total of 452 rushing yards as a team.

Dozier also threw for a total of 93 yards, completing five of 10 attempts.

Ziegler led the Pirates in receiving with a total of 59 yards on two receptions.

Ross and Jaxten Schiel each had one reception, each for 8 yards, and Bode Hubbard had one reception for 23 yards.

The Pirate defense tallied a total of 33 tackles on the night, with Ross and Ziegler leading the team each with six solo tackles.

The Pirate defense also forced three turnovers on the night with interceptions from Dozier and Schiel, and a fumble recovery by Tommaso Nigro.

Gavin Carter converted four of four extra-point attempts on the night.

The Pirates almost held on for a shutout victory, but gave up a touchdown with just over a minute left when Monte Vista's quarterback threw for a 50-yard touchdown on a fourth and long, bringing the score to 28-6.

Morales commented that the Pirates will get better at finishing out games, mentioning he was glad that Monte Vista's scoring drive did not affect the outcome of the game.

"We would've liked the shutout," Morales said, noting Monte Vista ran a good play and stuff like that happens in football.

"They [the Pirates] played well for

■ See Football B3

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# HOMECOMING



Photos courtesy Pagosa Springs High School

Students and staff at Pagosa Springs High School celebrated homecoming last week. Sophia Sottek was named queen, with Seth Zeigler named king. Honesty Sweet, Christopher Young-Martinez, Edgar Ortiz, Cadence Kerns, Kaila Limebrook, Tommaso Nigro, Duke Ketchum, Madison De-Clark, Molly Washburn and Gage Sams rounded out the homecoming court.



# CROSS-COUNTRY



Photo courtesy Rachael Christiansen

Merrick Tudor, Eli Nehring and Dylan Dempster stay close during the Boggy Draw Bear Chase on Sept. 20. The trio finished within three seconds of each other.



Photo courtesy Rachael Christiansen

Madisen Stretton and Adison Johnson run together at the Boggy Draw Bear Chase on Sept. 20. Stretton finished 18th and Johnson finished 13th at the meet.

## Pirates battle illness, opponents at Dolores meet

By Randi Pierce  
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate harriers continue to battle illness.

Despite that, however, coach Rachael Christiansen notes in the team's newsletter it had a "decent day overall" at the Boggy Draw Bear Chase in Dolores on Sept. 20.

"The team has been battling a wide variety of illnesses the past couple of weeks, ranging from respiratory to stomach issues and, unfortunately, both were present this weekend. Considering that, I think we had a decent day overall," she wrote.

The Lady Pirates finished third out of six teams at the meeting.

Sienna Rose was the lead runner

for the Lady Pirates, taking fifth overall with a time of 23 minutes, 18.66 seconds, which the coach notes was 28 seconds faster than her time the week before.

Kaiya Lyons followed with a time of 23:35.16.

"Right behind Sienna was Kaiya, finishing in 8th place," the coach wrote. "She keeps getting closer and closer to Sienna, which is exactly what the team needs."

Adison Johnson finished 13th with a time of 25:11.91, with Christiansen highlighting Johnson "had a great day."

Despite battling a stomach bug during the race, the coach notes Madisen Stretton finished 18th overall with a time of 26:48.09.

"She is incredibly tough and didn't

quit despite feeling awful. And, she only added 7 seconds to her time from last weekend," Christiansen wrote.

Mila Miller logged a "stand out race" to finish 19th with a time of 26:51.51, with the coach noting she took over 2.5 minutes off her race from the previous week.

Gwen Tyler was the team's final runner and, despite also being "a little sick heading into the race," according to the coach, finished 41st with a time of 35:21.71.

Christiansen notes the team was without three other runners due to student council responsibilities and illness.

"Missing those 3 girls is tough for the team, however, they pulled out a 3rd place finish with the 'Score 4'

system at 2A Dolores. If it would have been 3A, with a 'Score 5,' the Lady Pirates would have finished 2nd! That is impressive considering everything," Christiansen wrote.

The Pirate boys were also battling illness on the day.

With Jesse Beck out sick, Connor Thomas was the lead Pirate runner.

He finished in 20:41.23 to take 18th.

Merrick Tudor finished 32nd with a time of 22:02.31, followed by Dylan Dempster's 33rd-place finish with a time of 22:04.05 and Eli Nehring's 34th-place finish in 22:05.47.

■ See Cross-country B4

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## Football

■ Continued from B1

four quarters. One play doesn't define us," he said.

Monte Vista was able to recover an onside kick after scoring, but failed to move the ball down field, with Dozier intercepting Monte Vista's quarter-back, effectively ending the game.

The Pirates kneeled a couple of times to run the clock out and come away with the victory.

Morales commented on Lucero's performance, mentioning that he is "a great running back."

"He's a special athlete," Morales added.

Morales also spoke about Nigro's performance on defense.

"He does a good job for us. He's fast, he's physical, he's strong, he's smart. We're glad to have him," the coach said.

Morales also noted the Pirates enjoyed playing at home.

"We love playing at home. I think we've gotten a lot of support and we love it. We want a lot of people here 'cause we feed off of our crowd and

it really helps us. So the more people we have in the stands, the better, for sure," Morales said.

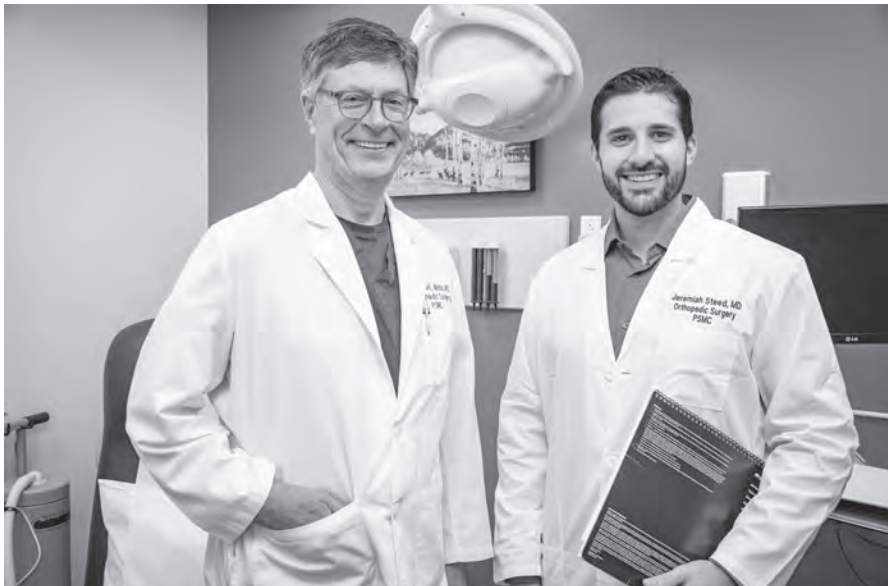
The Pirates are currently ranked eighth out of 41 teams in the Rating Percentage Index (RPI) for the 2A division.

The Pirates will be at home again tomorrow night, Friday, Sept. 27, taking on the Elizabeth Cardinals.

The Cardinals enter the matchup with a record of 3-1 and are ranked seventh in the state's 2A division.

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# VOLLEYBALL

## 'Resilience and grit': Lady Pirates rebound after loss

By Randi Pierce  
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirate volleyball team went 1-1 over the last week, falling prey to the Centauri Falcons before rebounding to defeat the Kirtland Central Broncos.

The Lady Pirates welcomed the Falcons to town the afternoon of Sept. 21 following a week of homecoming festivities.

The Falcons won in three sets: 25-20, 25-17 and 25-23.

"Centauri was a rough game," coach Katie Lorenzen said. "Homecoming week is just a ton of distractions and exhaustion, and you could just see how tired the girls were in practice that week and that game."

She added another coach pointed out in the locker room that, even in the third set when the score was tied or the Lady Pirates were leading you wouldn't have guessed it from their body language.

"There was just not the oomph to push it to a fourth set, to win that, dig deep and win it," she said. "So, it was clearly not our best, and it can definitely be frustrating as a coach when you're dealing with these outside events that shouldn't affect us so much, but it definitely did that week."

Lorenzen noted several of the team's players were hurting after powder puff football, but the team just had to deal with it.

"It was not at all even close to our best showing," she said.

The Lady Pirates logged 17 kills in the affair, with Cadence Kerns leading with six, followed by five from Aspen Pitcher and four from Dawson Iverson.

The team had 13 attack errors.

The Lady Pirates logged two serving aces, one by Sophia Sottek and one by Pitcher.

The team had 44 serving points, led by 15 from Lexi Campbell.

The Lady Pirates had three total blocks, with Pitcher logging a solo block and two assisted blocks. Kerns and Iverson each had an assisted block.

Sottek led the team in digs with 13 of the team's 45, with Pitcher contributing 10.

Sottek led the team with 11 of the 14 assists in the game.

Pitcher, Campbell and Charity Domingo each had 16 of the team's 54 total serve receptions.

The team had seven serve reception errors.

The Lady Pirates, however, rebounded Tuesday evening when they hosted the Broncos from New Mexico.

"Tonight was a completely different team against Kirtland Central," Lorenzen said after the game, adding

the Lady Pirates haven't played the Broncos in her six years coaching with the team and it was nice to see a different team.

The Lady Pirates won in three sets: 25-16, 25-21 and 29-27.

"We just had a really strong performance," the coach said. "We coaches have been nagging on the girls all season about their huddle energy and coming together better, and they actually did it tonight and held a huddle and made sure everyone was in there, and it completely changes the energy."

Lorenzen added the team came out "super strong" against the Broncos behind Campbell's serves.

*"We just had a really strong performance," the coach said. "We coaches have been nagging on the girls all season about their huddle energy and coming together better, and they actually did it tonight and held a huddle and made sure everyone was in there, and it completely changes the energy."*



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Lady Pirate Dawson Iverson prepares to send the ball into Falcon territory during the team's homecoming game against Centauri. The Lady Pirates fell 3-0, then rebounded to win 3-0 against Kirtland Central Tuesday.

of course, the best part was winning the game in three, going into extra points."

Lorenzen highlighted the Lady Pirates were down 23-18 in the third set, then pushed into extra points.

"To see the girls really dig deep and show some resilience and grit and belief that they could win I think was a big milestone ... for us this year," she said, adding, "No one was playing timid or scared."

She added it was also nice for the seniors to get the win at home, with the team having only two more home games this season.

Stats for the game were not available by press time Wednesday.

The Lady Pirates' next matchup will be on Tuesday, Oct. 1, in Cortez, where they'll take on the Montezuma-Cortez Panthers.

The Lady Pirates, who are 6-6 on the season and 1-3 in league play, previously defeated the Panthers 3-1 at home on Sept. 14.

The Panthers are 7-10 on the season and 1-1 in league play.  
randi@pagosasun.com

## Cross-country

Continued from B3

"Merrick, Dylan, and Eli all ran in a very close pack, finishing within 3 seconds of each other," Christiansen highlights. "This was the highest place on the team for Dylan all season and Merrick ran a much more consistent race with the help of Eli, who was feeling a little under the weather as well. This pack is great to see and we love that they are improving TOGETHER!"

Peyton Jackson finished 39th with a time of 22:54.24.

Jacen Easing finished 48th with a time of 24:27.44, and Weston Sweet ran a time of 24:33.57 to finish 50th.

"These two, while both also not 100% healthy, had a solid day," the coach wrote.

Isaac Hanto finished 57th overall with a time of 27:08.05, despite also being sick, according to the coach.

"Before the race started we had made the decision for him to just run and not actually race, giving his body a little break," she explains.

Asher Kurz finished 60th with a time of 29:49.33, with the coach noting he had a good day.

Despite being down two runners due to illness, Christiansen notes the Pirates finished sixth out of the six teams, but were only 21 points away

from Bayfield, who finished fourth.

"So, while it was not the finishing placement we would like to be, we are getting closer to Bayfield," she wrote.

With no meets scheduled for the Pirate harriers over the next week, the coach indicates that she hopes the team will get better and be ready to return to action at its home meet on Oct. 5.

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**Triple Impact Student-Athlete of the Week**  
Aspen Pitcher  
Volleyball



**Favorite subject:** Math  
**Comments from coach Katie Lorenzen:** "Aspen is a talented athlete who consistently works hard to improve her skills in the off season. Whether in a game or at practice, she always gives her all and elevates the level of play of everyone around her. She has truly stepped up as a

leader this year and communicates well with both her peers and her younger teammates, all of whom look up to her not only due to her skills but also because she is always encouraging everyone. Aspen is an exceptional asset to the Pirate Volleyball program and is always a crucial part of every victory."

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# SOCCER



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Chance Ramirez outruns an Alamosa defender with the ball during the Pirates' match against the Mean Moose on Sept. 21.



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Gavin Carter shields the ball from an Alamosa defender on Saturday, Sept. 21. The match ended in a tie with a score of 1-1.

## Pirates tie twice, will host Bayfield Oct. 1

By Clayton Chaney  
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate soccer team played in two matches over the last week, earning a draw in each. The team now boasts a 4-1-3 record.

On Saturday, Sept. 21, the Pirates hosted the Alamosa Mean Moose for the team's second league game of the season.

After a goalless first half, the Pirates fell behind early in the second half after the Mean Moose scored from a play off a throw in the Pirates' half of the field.

"We kind of gave 'em that one," coach Trevor Gian said, explaining the Pirates were slightly lackadaisical and let the Mean Moose through on goal rather easily.

"We missed that one," he added. Gian explained that the first half against the Mean Moose was fairly even, though the Pirates did not produce as much offensively as Gian would've liked.

He mentioned the team has been working on keeping its shape, along with maintaining possession offensively to create scoring opportunities, rather than relying on a kick-and-run style of play.

Gian explained that he switched some players around, moving Alex Pham from a central midfield role to a wide attacking position to give the Pirates a different option going forward.

The Pirates dominated possession for most of the second half, Gian noted, with the Mean Moose trying to settle in defensively and not going for another goal.

The Pirates were able to tie the game with about eight minutes remaining. The goal came from a build-up play through the midfield, with the ball being played out wide on the left flank behind the Mean Moose defenders.

Ryder King was able to get the ball down to the touch line and get a shot on goal that was saved, with the rebound falling to an unmarked Pirate attacker who tapped the ball into an open net.

"It's the best we've looked offensively in a long time," Gian said.

The Pirates thought they had won the match with a late goal with less than two minutes left in the half. An offside call on the play disallowed the goal, leaving the game tied at 1-1.

"I sure thought we won it," Gian said.

He explained that "those are just things" the team has to deal with and that he was proud of the Pirates for getting into a position with a chance at winning the game.

"We came with a lot of heart, lot of fight, lot of emotion," he said.

Gian praised his team for its effort against the Mean Moose, noting it was impressive to see the team fight back and get the tying goal.

With that result, the Pirates remain undefeated in league play with a league mark of 1-0-1.

Gian noted the result could be important moving forward in terms of playoff seeding, adding that the Pirates will face off against the Mean

Moose one more time in the regular season.

On Tuesday, Sept. 24, the Pirates traveled to Taos, N.M., to take on the Tigers.

The game ended in a scoreless draw after two periods of golden goal rule overtime.

Gian explained that New Mexico high school soccer has different rules pertaining to overtime in the regular season than Colorado, which has done away with regular season overtime completely.

"I wasn't anticipating going into overtime," he said, explaining the overtime consisted of two 10-minute golden goal periods.

Under the golden goal rule, the first team to score in overtime is the

*Gian added that he was pleased with some of the Pirates' offensive play, with balls being played out wide and back across the face of Taos' goal.*

winner.

"At that point, we were pretty cooked," Gian added, "but we fought hard and stayed in it."

He mentioned the Tigers pushed hard toward the end and that the Pirates had to weather a storm to keep the Tigers out of the net.

Gian described the Tigers as another fast, physical and a "very quality team."

The Tigers entered the matchup with an overall record of 7-2-1, and were ranked first in the New Mexico 4A District 2 standings.

Gian explained that the Pirates played with three attackers and were able to put pressure on the Tigers' defense throughout the game.

"We looked pretty good for a while," he added, noting the Tigers were able to disrupt some of the Pirates' scoring chances by being physical and knocking the Pirates off the ball.

Gian added that he was pleased with some of the Pirates' offensive play, with balls being played out wide and back across the face of Taos' goal.

"We had a chance to go up there for sure," he said.

He noted the Pirates started to lose some steam toward the end of the second half.

"We got a little gassed," he said, mentioning he started to make more substitutions.

Gian noted that even though the Pirates started to get fatigued, the subs were able to shut down the Tigers and keep them from scoring.

He also praised goalkeeper Christopher Young-Martinez for his performance.

"Another outstanding performance by Chris," he said.

Gian mentioned King's performance, as well, saying, "Ryder King played his heart out."

With a little more than 15 minutes left in the second half, Gian explained that he moved Milo Deitemeyer from his defensive sweeper position into an attacking position to try and get some more fresh legs up top.

Gian explained that after about five minutes of playing as an attacker, Deitemeyer suffered an injury from an "ugly, ugly tackle."

Gian explained that Deitemeyer was slide tackled inside the Tiger box, with the opponent's cleat studs being shown, but that no foul was called.

"I'm pretty disappointed ... it wasn't a soccer play," he said.

Gian noted it was a "real blow" to the team and that Taos was able to gain some momentum after that.

"That kind of shocked us," he added.

Other than the injury to Deitemeyer, Gian commented that the game was a "good match overall" with lots of effort and respect given by both teams.

Gian also indicated Deitemeyer will be out for the remainder of the season.

"He'll be around," Gian said of Deitemeyer, adding that he will be supporting the team and helping coach up some of the other players.


"He's a good voice," Gian added. "He is a really important part of that team."

Additional stats for the games were not available as of press time Wednesday.

The Pirates will be host to another

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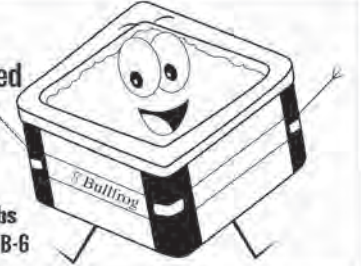
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## DUST2 team takes fifth at Lazy B Ranch Rally

By Sophia Alexander  
DUST2

On Sunday, the DUST2 High School Mountain Bike Team was thrilled to race at a new venue for the Colorado High School Mountain Bike League (COMTB) in Fountain Valley, Colo.

This new race course, the Lazy B Ranch Rally, has a great mix of flowy downhill, quick ascents and lots of pedaling to test the racers' strength and endurance. Each counter-clockwise lap measured 6.5 miles at 5,558 feet of elevation and held 350 feet of climbing.

While the weather was initially predicted to be heavy rain all Sunday, the team was grateful for only a short, spitting rain and cool race weather throughout the day.

The DUST2 team had 13 racers present, including senior James Jolley; juniors Kaylee Hensle and Weston Phillips; sophomores Sophia Alexander, Jackson Chaney, Van Halterman, Adelyn Hittle, Justin Sewell, Eric Smith and Aaron Sowle; and freshmen John Grimes, Gianna Schaeffer and River Wilson.

The freshmen boys were the first to race at 8:30 a.m., and DUST2 was proud to have two freshman boys race for the first time ever with the COMTB League. Racing two laps, Grimes placed 44th with a time of 1:08 and added 294 points to the team. Wilson came in 48th, adding 282 points, with a total time of 1:11. Both showed so much team spirit as they raced in

neon-themed apparel to try to help the DUST2 team win the team spirit competition.

DUST2 had five racers competing in the sophomore boys' division starting at 9:55 a.m., which held a total of 68 racers completing two laps. Chaney was first to cross the finish line, placing 15th with a time of 55:07 and adding 385 points to the team. Smith came in next in 20th with a time of 55:54 and added 370 points to the team. Sewell added 340 points, arriving in 27th with a time of 57:41. Next, Sowle placed 35th with a time of 59:00, adding 314 points. Halterman finished in 54th position, adding 282 points, with a time of 1:03. It is amazing for our small team to have this level of representation in any race category.

The JV boys were next to race at 11:20 a.m., with a total of 89 racers completing two laps. Phillips finished 16th with a time of 52:47, adding 430 points to the team. Jolley placed 62nd with a time of 1:00 and added 314 points to the team.

This is Jolley's first year racing, and his placement continues to be impressive. Phillips shared that he enjoyed jumping the rollers on the race course.

Phillips also competed in the Yeti Skills Course and won the male category. The Yeti Skills course is a timed skills course set up at each race venue to test bike-handling skills and precision.

The JV girls raced at 2:20 p.m., with a total of 21 racers completing two

laps. Our first racer to arrive was Alexander, placing third with a time of 54:18. Alexander added 521 points to the team score, and continues racing this season with a casted right hand and wrist due to a broken bone. Next, Hittle finished strongly in fourth with a time of 55:18. Hittle added 512 points to the team. Hensle crossed the finish line looking determined, placing 15th with a time of 1:06. Hensle added 436 points to the DUST2 score. The JV girls are thrilled to be three of the top four point earners for the DUST2 team this race.

The freshmen girls began their two laps at 2:30 p.m., with a total of 22 racers. Shaeffer represented DUST2 alone in this category and placed 11th with a time of 1:02. Racing alone shows strength of character, and Shaeffer shared that she enjoyed the race. She added 420 points to the team.

The DUST2 team ended the day in fifth place among the Division 2 teams, with 4,042 overall team points. Only the top 10 point earners are calculated into the overall team score, which emphasizes the importance of everyone participating and doing their best.

While the team did not win the team spirit award for the neon theme, we thoroughly enjoyed participating and had a great time on and off the race course.

DUST2 looks forward to racing our last race of the season at the North Fruita Desert Classic, also a new venue race, on Oct. 5.



Photo courtesy Pagosa Pickleball Club

The Pagosa Pickleball Club's recent Pickle in Pagosa tournament featured 419 matches played over three days.

## Pickle in Pagosa tournament a huge success

By Tina Heffner  
Pagosa Pickleball Club

The Pagosa Pickleball Club is proud to announce that there were 198 registered participants with players ranging in age from 9 to 75+ in our annual tournament.

A total of 419 matches were played over three days Sept. 13-15.

More than half of the players were from outside of

Colorado, with the biggest contingent coming from New Mexico.

Exactly half of the players in the Mixed 3.5 division were 65 years old or older. The Mixed 3.5 division was our largest with 26 teams. About one-third of women in the Women's 3.0 and 3.5 divisions were 65 or older.

There were three father-son teams that won medals. Pagosa Springs Club members medaled in all of the men's divisions, the Women's 4.0, and the Mixed 3.5 and 4.5 divisions.

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# preview

ARTS & LIFE

# Runway for Rise

Oct. 5



Photo courtesy Jeff Laydon

September 26, 2024

# Voting remains open for Runway for Rise

By Dee McPeek  
Rise Above Violence

The Runway for Rise fundraiser for Rise Above Violence has involved a large number of volunteers donating many hours of time. We wouldn't have a show without the team members we've been highlighting in The SUN

for weeks. Their commitment to creating a great show, as well as asking friends, family and local businesses for financial support, has been truly inspiring.

The S.A.D. team of Summer Damico, Amelia Laverty and Courtney Sullivan have a special reason for being involved.

■ See Runway on next page

## Live Performers



### Thursday

**Coyote Moon Lounge:** Karaoke with DJ Marcus, 6 p.m.  
**The Pagosa Bar:** Karaoke, 7 p.m.

### Friday

**Coyote Moon Lounge:** Retro Cats, 7 p.m.  
**Meltdown on Main:** Carl Mori and Friends, 5:30 p.m.  
**Mountain Pizza and Taproom:** Dan Evans, 5:30 p.m.  
**The Springs Resort lodge atrium:** Ron and Susan, 5 p.m.

### Saturday

**Coyote Moon Lounge:** Nat Lefkoff and Dead Nettle, 7 p.m.  
**East Side Market:** Open mic, 11 a.m.  
**Mountain Pizza and Taproom:** Dan Evans, 5:30 p.m.  
**Riff Raff Brewing Company O.G.:** Songs of the Fall, 4 p.m.  
**Riff Raff Brewing Company O.G.:** Carl Mori and Friends, 5:30 p.m.  
**The Springs Resort lodge atrium:** Dustin Burley, 5 p.m.

### Sunday

**Coyote Moon Lounge:** Xina Christel, 5 p.m.  
**Mountain Pizza and Taproom:** Dan Evans, 5:30 p.m.  
**Riff Raff Brewing Company O.G.:** Max Miller, 11 a.m.  
**The Springs Resort lodge atrium:** Maxwell Miller, 5 p.m.

### Monday

**Coyote Moon Lounge:** Totally Happy Campers, 5 p.m.  
**Mountain Pizza and Taproom:** Dan Evans, 5:30 p.m.

### Tuesday

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

The PREVIEW is a publication of

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**SUN**

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# Runway

■ continued from previous page

They have explained, "Being a dental team we see how domestic violence affects people's teeth/hygiene. We see people who feel like they can't smile anymore due to being mentally and physically abused. We want to be here for people to get their smiles back and feel confident in who they are. Take a scary situation and make it a little bit better. We are so grateful to be part of this amazing event."

The volunteer event committee includes Ann Bubb, Sueyel Grace, Michela Marsh, Lynne McCrudden, Dee McPeck, Gus Palma, Sherry Phillips, Nancy Ray, Jan Santopietro, Kristen Roth and Lvonne Wilson.

Working for months, this merry band has made decisions, solved problems and offered remarkable ideas to make this event a success. They are participating because they believe in Rise services like the Youth Violence Prevention Education Program. Serving elementary-aged students through young adulthood, this program provides them with the tools to be safe while being an effective bystander when they see a peer in trouble. Rise believes involving our youth is the way domestic violence and sexual assault truly can be stopped.

Voting for the teams is a way you can thank all these amazing volunteers for their efforts. Your donations support the Rise programs these volunteers are passionate about.

Go to [riseaboveviolence.org](http://riseaboveviolence.org), add your dollars to team totals, and enjoy the good feeling of being part of a community effort to end domestic violence.

Have questions? Email [annie@riseaboveviolence.org](mailto:annie@riseaboveviolence.org).



Photo courtesy Amelia Laverty

The S.A.D. team members — Summer Damico, Amelia Laverty and Courtney Sullivan — will be flashing their smiles to raise funds and awareness at the Runway for Rise fundraiser on Oct. 5.

## Big End of the Year Sale!

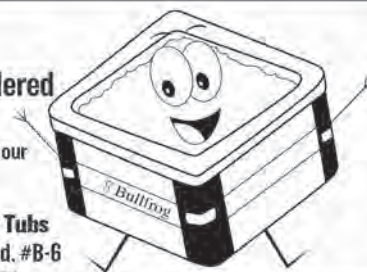
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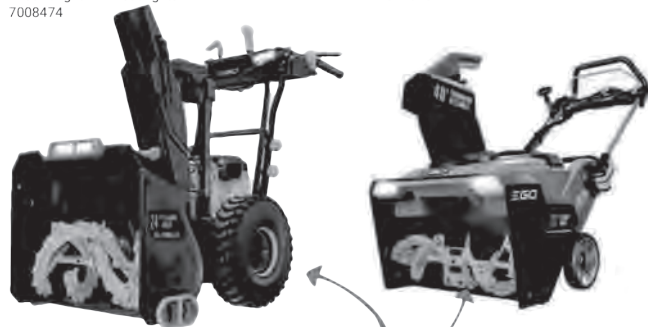
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Photo courtesy Healthy Archuleta

Preregistration is now open for the Archuleta Health Fair and Expo on Oct. 19.

# Preregistration now open for Archuleta Health Fair and Expo

Healthy Archuleta

The Archuleta Health Fair and Expo is a community event that provides education and access to health and wellness services for everyone.

We recently had the opportunity to ask questions and hear feedback from our Spanish-speaking community about their experience at the fair last year. We were moved by their stories and motivated by their excitement. We were able to hear about how the fair impacted them and helped to improve their health and well-being.

The event was so helpful that many plan to attend again this year on Oct. 19.

When asked whether they were able to learn about services in the community they didn't previously know about, many shared that meeting a health care provider was the most beneficial. Some were able to walk away with a new relationship as well as an appointment for medical care.

Ruben shared, "They can assist you medically, and they have someone to translate if you don't speak English."

Interpreters and volunteers were incredibly helpful in guiding attendees toward services available.

The farm-to-table lunch was a hit, and many are looking forward to another locally prepared, healthy meal.

Ruben really enjoyed the food at the fair last year and shared it was "very delicious! Especially the apple

empanadas!"

He had a good experience and found everyone to be very helpful.

When asked if he will attend this year, he shared, "Yes, if God lends me life, I will see you there."

We hope to see you all there.

Volunteers are the backbone to this event.

Kristy experienced a particularly impactful day last year, where she was able to make a huge difference in the life of one of our community

■ See Health on next page

**Don't miss this FREE MOVIE SCREENING at Centerpoint Church**



## LETTER

to the

## AMERICAN CHURCH

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# Health

■ continued from previous page members.

She shared, "I volunteered, and my focus was mainly to help with the Spanish community, but I got to interact with everyone! The phlebotomists were quick and friendly! We even had a bilingual phlebotomist, Lloyd, who was really nice! I met and greeted mostly the Spanish-speaking people, but I assisted anyone who needed help. I also helped people with filling out forms for Axis Health and apply-

ing for the sliding scale in Spanish and English. We talked to one of the doctors, and he pulled out his Spanish and conversed with the Spanish speakers, which they really appreciated! We also had a situation where one gentleman felt very sick. One of the doctors there helped him stabilize and made an immediate appointment to see him at his office the following Monday. He has been following his care! This gentleman has established care with him and is on a journey to recover! I got to

see some of our chefs make some amazing dishes and give alternatives to sweeteners! I got to sit in on a presentation and learn about healing herbs in Southwest Colorado through local native Americans from Dulce! The farm-to-table lunch was amazing! A blast of flavor in every bite! It was a great day!"

Again this year, bilingual volunteers will be available. They are there to interpret English and Spanish, help fill out forms, and help make the whole event run smoothly.

Preregistration is open now.

All registered will have the option to earn a wellness passport. This passport can be redeemed at the fair for a free day pass to soak at The Springs. Make sure to secure your spot for labs (lab participants will be entered into a drawing to win an annual soaking pass at The Springs Resort).

Reserve your meal for our farm-to-table lunch. It is going to be delicious. We hope to see you there.

For more information, visit our website and access the link to the preregistration form <https://www.foodcoalition4archuleta.org/archuleta-health-fair-and-expo.html> or email us at [fsfearchuleta@gmail.com](mailto:fsfearchuleta@gmail.com).

## SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center announces upcoming events

By Shayla McClure

SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center

Spiritual topics are discussed every Tuesday at the SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center.

### Upcoming events

Sept. 29, 11 a.m.: Wolfwood Refuge Tour with Paula Woerner and picnic with pipe ceremony with Grandmother Fire Eagle and Shayla White Eagle.

Oct. 1, 6 p.m.: Illuminations lecture series, Grandmother Fire Eagle, "Messages from Mother Mary." Fire Eagle is a pipe carrier and ceremonialist elder of the Lakota Sioux. A love donation will be accepted.

Oct. 8, 6 p.m.: Illuminations lecture series, "Lymphatic Therapy: Creating Flow with the Lymphatic System for Cancer prevention, Vitality, and Emotional Well-Being" with Shayla McClure, LMT/CST. A love donation will be accepted.

Oct. 12 and 13: Tibetan Master

Sound Healer and Shaman Scott Maki sound bowl concert and workshop. Tickets are on sale now. Contact (970) 510-0309.

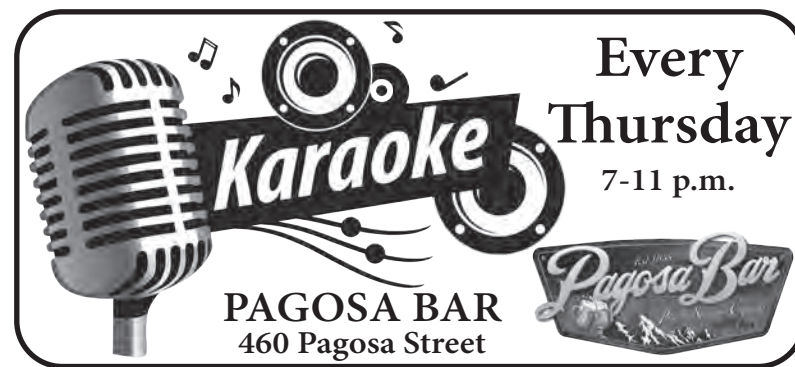
### About us

SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center is a 501(c)(3). We are an all-inclusive community honoring all lifestyles, cultures and religious paths to the Divine. We are the "Good Vibe Tribe" who practices Science of Mind principles of positive thinking.

The vision of SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center is to empower each participating member to become their "best self." Our mission is to create a world that works for everyone through self empowerment and awareness of the creator's divinity.

We welcome local talents to share gifts, aptitudes, and knowledge.

SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center events are held at 3505 W. U.S. 160, on the second floor of the Pagosa Lodge (elevator available).



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Photo courtesy Justin Treptow

The 18th annual Mountain Chile Cha Cha will happen on Saturday, Sept. 28, rain or shine, at the athletic field at Town Park.

## 18th annual Mountain Chile Cha Cha slated for Sept. 28

By Jacque Aragon

Special to The PREVIEW

The 18th annual Mountain Chile Cha Cha will happen on Saturday, Sept. 28, rain or shine, at the athletic field at Town Park.

This year, we are introducing a \$10 entry fee for the event, a first-time initiative. Children aged 12 and under can attend for free.

At the Cha Cha, there's something for everyone. Enjoy tasting green chile, a Mexican beer garden, a margarita contest and tasting, green chiles roasted on-site, an all-day kids' corner and various delicious food vendors.

This nominal charge is a small investment for an enhanced event experience featuring two of our favorite bands.

There will be a double header of music by Sangre Joven and Str8 Shot, who have wowed audiences in previous years.

Prepare for an electrifying music experience that will make this year's Mountain Chile Cha Cha one to remember.


Sangre Joven, a popular and multi-award-winning band, originated in the northern New Mexico pueblo de Las Vegas. The band began its musical journey in 1988 when Lorenzo Miguel Gallegos and brother Daniel Lee Gallegos founded the group. Several other members have contributed to the success throughout the last three decades. Their music style is performed in el estilo del norte de nuevo, Mexico. It consists of rancheras, cumbias, corridos, polkas, and vales, which have been traditional to

their heritage for centuries. The band consists of Manny Lucero (drums), Jerrold Roybal (bass/vocals), Ray Lucero (saxophone/vocals), and the original member Daniel Lee Gallegos (lead guitar/vocals). Their goal is to keep New Mexico music (rancheras) alive and make people happy with their God-given talent.

Str8 Shot is a New Mexico music/variety band based in Bernalillo. The band was established in 2013 and quickly gained popularity due to its unique style and ability to bring life to any venue, from some of the all-

time favorite cover songs to forgotten music that has been given the Str8 Shot sound. The band propelled to new heights in 2015 by releasing its first CD, "El Primero." The release has been very successful and continues to improve the group's notoriety as one of the biggest up-and-coming bands in the New Mexico music scene. The band performed in many shows and some of the most prominent New Mexico music venues in the state and southwest.

Put on your dancing shoes and get ready for the Cha Cha.



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Photo courtesy Carole Howard

Popular singer-songwriter Tim Sullivan and his family will perform Nov. 2 in a cabaret-style benefit concert at 7:30 p.m. in Durango. From left to right are Jon Weber on piano, KT Sullivan, Tim Sullivan, Elizabeth Sullivan and Natalie Douglas. All proceeds go to the Jim and Elizabeth Sullivan Foundation for the Arts to provide scholarships for music lessons, instruments and performance opportunities for local youth.

## Save the date for Tim Sullivan family scholarships concert

By Carole Howard  
Special to The PREVIEW

Fans of country singer-songwriter Tim Sullivan and his hugely skilled musical family will want to save the date of Nov. 2 for a cabaret-style benefit concert in Durango showcasing the musical talents of KT Sullivan and other members of the family, plus two additional special featured performers.

The theme of the event is Broadway in the Rockies.

All concert proceeds will go to the Jim and Elizabeth Sullivan Foundation for the Arts to provide scholarships for music lessons, instruments and performance opportunities for local area youth.

The event will take place in the ballroom of the DoubleTree Hotel at 7:30 p.m.

After the concert there will be an informal reception and jam session with the artists in the DoubleTree's Animas Lounge. This event is included in the ticket price and all attendees are welcome.

### Local scholarship winners

Multiple Pagosa Springs youth

have benefited from scholarships from the Sullivan Foundation over the years.

They have included the Pagosa Springs Girls Choir, Kathleen Isberg's piano student Jovanka Ponce de Leon, and Venita Burch's voice and piano students Gus Palma, Mark Holladay, Regina Sikes, Connor Thomas and Rachel Berndt.

### Concert performers

Tim Sullivan's sister KT Sullivan will return to Durango from New York City to perform as the headliner for the concert. She is the star of numerous Broadway productions and an internationally acclaimed singer and recording artist.

KT Sullivan has sung in several venues in the U.S., including Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, the Spoleto Festival and the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., as well as in London, China and Australia. Her theater credits include Broadway, where she starred in Marilyn Monroe's role of Lorelei in "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes." She also performed and danced the tango with Sting in "Threepenny Opera."

■ See Concert on next page

# Ski & Winter Gear Sale!

Saturday & Sunday  
Sept. 28th & 29th  
10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Demo Skis \* Goggles \* Helmets \* Ski Boots

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- Shop.WolfCreekSki.com

### PEAK ADVANTAGE PASSES -NO Blackout Dates-

	Pre-Season Rate/Regular Rate
Adult	\$1062 / \$1326
Senior (65 & older)	\$466 / \$582
Student (13-18 in school)	\$819 / \$1023
Child (6-12)	\$418 / \$521
Tot (5 & under)	\$58 / \$72

### SUPERSAVER PASSES -43 Blackout Dates-

	Pre-Season Rate/Regular Rate
Adult	\$797 / \$996
Senior (65 & older)	\$350 / \$437
Student (13-18 in school)	\$615 / \$768
Child (6-12)	\$314 / \$392
Tot (5 & under)	\$44 / \$55



### SUPERSAVER BLACKOUT DATES

Nov. 29-30; Dec. 21-31;  
Jan. 1-4, 11, 18-19, 25;  
Feb. 1-2, 8-9, 14-16, 22;  
Mar. 1, 8-20

### PEAK ADVANTAGE FAMILY PASSES

	Pre-Season Rate/Regular Rate
1st in Family	\$1062/\$1326
2nd in Family	\$819/\$1023
3rd in Family	\$466/\$582
4th in Family	\$383/\$478
5th in Family	\$383/\$478

### SUPERSAVER FAMILY PASSES

	Pre-Season Rate/Regular Rate
1st in Family	\$797/\$996
2nd in Family	\$615/\$768
3rd in Family	\$350/\$437
4th in Family	\$288/\$359
5th in Family	\$288/\$359

FAMILY PASSES - All passes must be same type

Families consist of father, mother, or partners in civil unions and their single, dependent children, 22 years old or younger, living together supported by the same income

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Photo courtesy Al Myatt

The Jewels and Jeans Barn Dance has become a much-anticipated annual event. Folks love the opportunity to dress in their finest western wear, from cowboy hats and blue jeans to bandannas and boots. This year, the barn dance is Oct. 12 at the Archuleta County Extension Building. Your support of the barn dance supports the many charitable activities of Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs. Get your \$30 tickets at the Chamber of Commerce, Exit Realty or from any Rotarian. And you just may win the title of the evening's Sexiest Cowgirl or Sexiest Cowboy contest.

## Gala

■ continued from previous page

Tim Sullivan is well known in Pagosa Springs for his many local performances where the dance floor is jammed with people doing the Texas two-step and line dances to his music, both original and covers of such greats as George Jones and the Eagles. Tim Sullivan has performed in seven countries. He also has played with the Los Angeles Philharmonic and in Carnegie Hall, and been a featured performer with country stars such as Alan Jackson, Willie Nelson, Vince Gill, Glen Campbell and Tammy Wynette.

In addition to Tim Sullivan and KT Sullivan, their mother, Elizabeth Sullivan, will return to Durango from Oklahoma to perform. A brilliant vocalist, songwriter and piano player, Elizabeth Sullivan is the matriarch of this accomplished musical family.

When they were young, her eight children formed the Sullivan Family Gospel Singers with their mother, from whom they learned classical piano and voice as youngsters.

Elizabeth Sullivan would be a star at any age, but her fans across the country marvel that she still inspires audiences at age 94. The family has reserved Carnegie Hall for her 95th birthday celebration next May.

Also on stage will be award-winning singer and recording artist Natalie Douglas, as well as jazz pianist and music director Jon Weber, former host of "Piano Jazz" on NPR. Both Douglas and Weber have impressive U.S. and international performing credits and have wowed fans in Durango at previous Sullivan family benefit concerts.

### Tickets available

Nov. 3 marks the 13th Sullivan family scholarship concert.

Tickets are \$100. Half-sponsor or

full-sponsor tables with premium seating are available as well.

Purchases may be made online at [jesullivanfoundation.com](http://jesullivanfoundation.com) or by emailing [jesullivanfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:jesullivanfoundation@gmail.com) or phoning Tim Sullivan at (970) 749-5531 for assistance.

All seats are reserved. Seating is cabaret style and a cash bar will be available.

### Master classes available

While here, the gifted musicians from New York will follow their past tradition by hosting a vocal performance master class for local high school and college-age performers who want to take advantage of their experience and expertise.

The sessions will take place at the DoubleTree Animas Room on Nov. 1 from 2 to 5 p.m. and Nov. 2 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The cost is \$25 and scholarships are available through the Sullivan Foundation by emailing [j.e.sullivanfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:j.e.sullivanfoundation@gmail.com).

One of the master class participants will be chosen to receive a scholarship from the Sullivan Foundation to perform next year in New York City. Three talented Pagosa musicians have won this prestigious honor: Palma, Allora Leonard and Berndt. They enjoyed the privilege of singing at the International Cabaret Convention at Lincoln Center.

As well, some of the master class participants will perform at the Nov. 2 concert.

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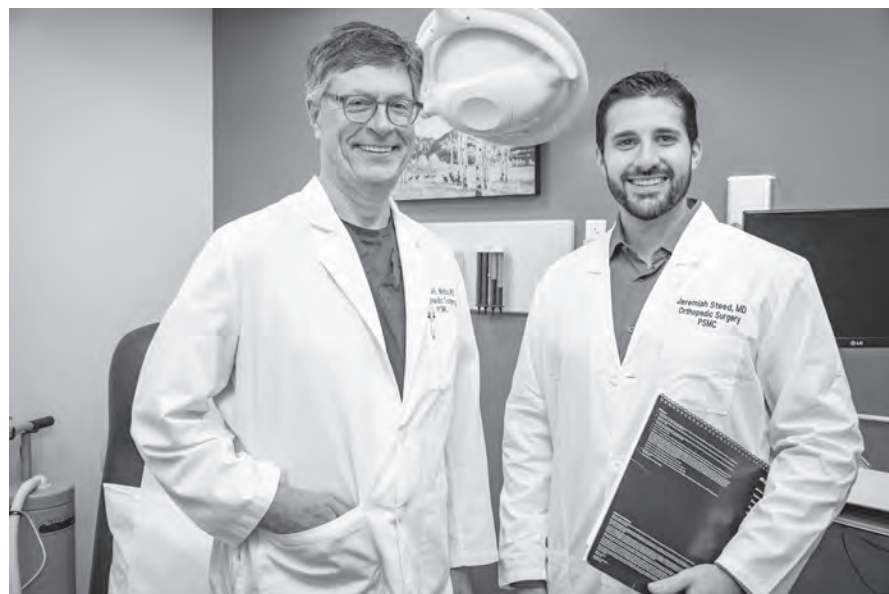
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Candidate for  
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**Shop the SUN classifieds.**

# Bird of the Week



Photo courtesy Byron Greco

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

In late summer, many of the colorful birds that have spent the summer here are migrating south for the winter. They arrived in late spring to claim a nest site and raise young when the insects they rely on for food are abundant, but are now moving on.

For a few weeks in late summer and early fall, the Townsend's warbler provides the splash of yellow missing in the trees with the departure of our summer wood-warblers. The small adult male has a yellow face with a black cheek patch, a black cap and throat, and a yellow breast streaked with black. Its back is olive-green and his gray wings have white wing-bars. In females and immatures, colors are paler and the throat is yellow.

In the fall, the Townsend's migratory journey is spread out over a long period and in a wide pathway over the western third of the United States. Some follow the West Coast to winter in California and the Baja Peninsula, while others travel inland to the highlands of central Mexico and Central America.

These warblers breed in old-growth fir forests from southern Alaska and northwestern Canada to the Pacific Northwest in the United States. In summer they both nest and forage high in the canopy, making them a challenge to see and study. After their young have fledged, they will hunt for food lower and feed in shrubs, bushes and on the ground.

Townsend's warblers feed on a variety of insects and larvae by gleaning conifer needles and buds, and on occasion they dart out for flying insects. On their winter grounds, they switch to a nectar-rich diet, favoring honeydew, a sticky, sugary liquid produced by some insects that feed on plant sap. The birds will guard territories that include trees infested with honeydew-producing insects. During winter, they will come to feeders to eat mealworms, peanut butter and suet.

To discover how many nocturnal migrant birds are crossing Archuleta County skies each night, investigate the Birdcast website.

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



# Wings Early Childhood Center



Construction to double capacity is finished  
Now enrolling children ages 6 weeks-5 years.

*Thank you to the following local contractors and supporters who helped to make this expansion possible:*

Kevin Edwards, General Contractor  
Courtney King, Architect  
Brad Myers, Engineering  
Chris Pitcher, Engineering  
Gabe Campuzano, Excavation  
Bryan Madsen, Plumbing  
Paul Bauer, Electric  
James Mckaughan, Integrity Heating  
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Mike Flihan, Flooring  
Brady Lee, OCD Painting  
Town of Pagosa Springs  
Archuleta County  
Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs  
LPEA  
Community Foundation of SW Colorado  
Josh Potter, Artist



*"I strive to be the kind of politician I want to see in office"*



## Re-elect WARREN BROWN County Commissioner - District 1

I am Warren Brown; it has been my honor serving you. I hope to continue to have this privilege, and I am asking you for your vote in the General Election, Tuesday November 5, 2024.

Committee to Re-Elect Warren Brown

<https://www.electwarrenbrown.com>

[Instagram.com/electwarrenbrown](https://www.instagram.com/electwarrenbrown)

email: [info@electwarrenbrown.com](mailto:info@electwarrenbrown.com)



*Paid for by Committee to Re-Elect Warren Brown Archuleta County Commissioner District 1. Warren Brown Registered Agent.*



Photos courtesy Pagosa Catholic Community

The Pagosa Catholic Community hosts the eighth annual Community Fall Picnic and Raffle on Sept 22. Approximately 250 people attended the free event. Food was provided by the Knights of Columbus Council #7560 with live musical entertainment by the Retrocats and Jocelyn Martinez.



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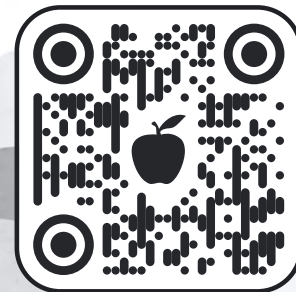


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# Ideal back-to-school gift for your youngsters

By Carole Howard  
PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

Do you know the value of a home library for your youngsters? Research shows that kids who have books in their home have improved vocabulary and overall reading performance; do better in math, science and social studies; perform better on standardized tests; and are more likely to go to college.

Those are impressive skills for your child to cultivate — and they are especially relevant now that Archuleta County kids are back in school.

Another valuable tip to help your youngster be successful in school and in life is reading aloud. You are stimulating language and literacy skills, as well as building motivation, curiosity and memory.

The free storytimes at your library can help build a love of reading in your children. Storytimes are a great way for kids to have fun while building the skills they need to become independent readers.

As school is underway again, this may be a good time for parents, grandparents and other caregivers to make a personal resolution to help build home libraries for your loved ones.

## Grant funding advice Sept. 30

Next Monday, Sept. 30, from noon to 1 p.m., we are hosting a free educational presentation on how to navigate the world of grant funding. Bring your lunch and take advantage of Marcy's expertise on how to best use the Colorado Grants Guide.

Registration is required at (720)

## Library News

644-9887.

### Save the date for book fair

Friends of the Library will host a mini book fair at the library on Oct. 12 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

### New Lifelong Learning Lectures coming soon

The free fall Lifelong Learning Lecture series will begin Thursday, Oct. 10, from 6 to 7:15 p.m. with four interesting presentations, starting with Pagosa Weather.

Watch for more details in future "Library News" columns this month.

### Online author talks

Our highly popular free online author talks continue with three opportunities in October for you to interact with New York Times best-selling authors and ask questions.

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

Wednesday, Oct. 2, at noon we will take a journey into the hidden world of bats thanks to the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute.

Wednesday, Oct. 9, at 5 p.m. will showcase Silvia Moreno-Garcia discussing liberating Latin America genre fiction.

Tuesday, Oct. 22, at noon will feature Lori Gottlieb examining the truths and fiction we tell ourselves.

### Craftapalooza tomorrow

All ages are invited to create a variety of crafts Friday, Sept. 27, from 2 to 3:30 p.m.

### Adult knitting Saturday

Join new and experienced knitters Saturday, Sept. 28, for our free Knitters Circle from 1 to 3 p.m. It is

■ See Library on next page

## Precision Autobody & Collision Pagosa's premier collision repair facility

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## Wayne Hooper for County Commissioner, District 1

*As an Unaffiliated candidate,  
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of Archuleta County.*

### KEY PRIORITIES

**ROADS**

**PUBLIC SAFETY**

**TRANSPARENCY**

**FISCAL CONSERVATIVE**

### ETHICS

As an Associate Professor at a Community College, I taught Ethics to First Responders for 10 years. Ethics is my passion, but it seems to be lacking in many of our political figures or those in political positions today. My goal is to be a leader in the area of Ethics.

As Commissioner of Archuleta County, I will:

- Put the citizens in this county first and act in the public's best interest
- Act impartially and NOT give preferential treatment to any private organization or citizen
- Be accountable to each and every taxpayer of our county
- Act in the public's best interest
- Thoroughly research proposals and plans before voting to approve them.

Public Service is a public trust, requiring loyalty to the Constitution, the laws, the citizens, and ethical principles above private gain.

**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.**

[Hooper4Bocc@gmail.com](mailto:Hooper4Bocc@gmail.com)

"...government of the people, by the people, for the people."

*Abraham Lincoln*

**Regardless of your party affiliation, please vote this November 5th.  
If not currently registered, please register at [GoVoteColorado.gov](http://GoVoteColorado.gov)**

*Advertisement Paid for by Wayne Hooper. ©The Pagosa Springs SUN, 2024, used with permission.*



## Long-running local business closing

After proudly serving the auto glass needs of Pagosa Springs and the surrounding communities for almost 22 years, **NOVUS Auto Glass** will be closing on September 20, 2024. Meanwhile, we will continue to provide auto glass replacements and repairs with the same courtesy and professional care through the 30th.

Joe and Mary Beth have finally conceded that you cannot outrun Father Time, so we are retiring while we are still able to enjoy life in this wonderful place. We want to express our gratitude to all our loyal customers and friends for their support and personal kindness, and invite you to drop by during the remaining time for one last visit.

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve the community during these many years, and we will miss you all.



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# Library

■ **continued from previous page**  
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.

## Spanish conversation

Practice your Spanish in a free group setting on Tuesday, Oct. 1, from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. There is no minimum skill level needed.

Note this group now meets twice a month, on the first and third Tuesdays.

## Dungeons and Dragons

Next Thursday, Oct. 3, from 4 to 5:30 p.m., join our Dungeons and Dragons game free for teens and young adults. Preregistration is required because space is limited. Contact Josie@pagosalibrary.org to join.

## Family storytime

Wednesdays from 10 to 11 a.m., join a free educational hour of reading, singing and free play to build early literacy skills.

## Teen/tween activity

Join us in the teen area every Wednesday after school from 4 to 4:30 p.m. this month for a fun craft or challenge. Activities will range from taste tests to art challenges to minute-to-win-it-style games.

## Writers Guild

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

The guild has published a new anthology, "Tales from the San Juans," which the members say includes "life musings, creative short fiction, retrospectives, poetry, novellas and short observations — all inspired by the beauty that surrounds us."

The book is available at the library, with net proceeds going to the library's building campaign.

## ESL classes

Free in-person evening classes take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays, with 4 to 5 p.m. reserved for beginners, 5 to 6 p.m. for intermediate and 6 to 7 p.m. for advanced students. Please help us share the word about these classes.

## Tech Time

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

No appointment is needed for these drop-in sessions, but please bring your device's charger and passwords with you. Note there will be no Tech time Oct. 3, 8, 10 or 15.

## Pagosa Adult Learning Services (PALS)

Join Mark or Sally for free PALS

sessions Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 to 8 p.m. to help with high school equivalency, GED, college prep, financial aid, tutoring and more.

## Activities calendars

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

## Downloadable books

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

## Large print

"House of Glass" by Sarah Pe-

kkanen follows a young girl who stopped speaking after a murder in her household. "The Days I Loved You Most" by Amy Neff is about a couple who've decided to end their lives on their own terms. "Robert Ludlum's The Bourne Shadow" by Brian Freeman is a Jason Bourne adventure. "The Missing Witness" by Allison Brennan is a Kara Quinn-Matt Costa mystery.

## Nonfiction

"Fox and I" by biologist Catherine  
■ See Library on next page

## HUD Publisher's Notice



## EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

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

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

# SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

## Here's How It Works:

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

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

ANSWER:

## Fun By The Numbers

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

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# Unitarian Universalists to continue 'What Our World Needs Now - Universalism in a Polarized Age' series

By De Anna L. Hoyle  
Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Join us at the Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship this Sunday as we continue our series "What Our World Needs Now: Universalism in a Polarized Age" presented by the ministers at Foothills Unitarian Church, this week the Rev. Gretchen Haley.

On Sept. 29, an added fifth Sunday to our regularly scheduled services, we will stream the sermon entitled "The Underdog."

We start with the understanding that we are all in this together, but also, we aren't all in the same situation, and we don't all hold the same power. This sermon explores how power and vulnerability impact the message and call of Universalism. Coffee and conversation will con-

tinue after the service for fellowship.

Join us in person at our services, normally held on the first and third Sundays of the month at 10:30 a.m. We are located at Unit B-15 of the Greenbriar Plaza, 301 N. Pagosa Blvd. on the north side facing the Pagosa Peak.

We offer Zoom streaming of our service, which can be found at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8991941305>. Visit our website, [www.pagosauu.org](http://www.pagosauu.org), to find our current newsletter with other offerings.

Offered on alternate Sundays, in-person meditation practice is on the second and fourth Sundays, 9 to 10:30 a.m. We encourage you to email your interest to [info@PagosaUU.org](mailto:info@PagosaUU.org) to be added to the email list for announcements or changes.

As a Welcoming Congregation

we believe that all of who you are is sacred, and all of who you are is welcome. Find out more at <https://www.uua.org/lgbtq>.

## Library

■ continued from previous page  
Raven documents her amazing friendship with a wild fox. "Gullah Geechee Home Cooking" by Emily Meggett is a collection of more than 100 recipes by this descendant of West African slaves featuring lowcountry seasonality, rice and seafood. "Paper Quilling for Beginners" is a guide to creating paper flowers, plants, vegetables and more with 800 step-by-step photos.

### DVDs

"Mad Max" is a five-film collection. "Treasure" explores the ups and downs of a father-daughter road trip in 1990s Poland. "If" is a comedy about a girl who can see everyone's imaginary friends. "Dark Winds" is a Navajo Country mystery featuring Lt. Leaphorn and Chee.

### Books on CD

"Capture or Kill" by Vince Flynn is a Mitch Rapp thriller. "Break Every Rule" by Brian Freeman is the latest in Robert Ludlum's Jason Bourne thriller series. "First Do No Harm" by Joe Kenda is a debut thriller set in Colorado Springs by a former homicide detective. "The Mercy of Gods" by James A. Corey is book one of a new space opera sci-fi fantasy series.

### Donation guidelines

We are grateful to Dave Pinkus for his generous monetary donation.

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

"Mistakes are part of the dues one pays for a full life" — Italian actress Sophia Loren.

### 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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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>

**NEW LISTING**



**814 Ginger Circle**  
**\$199,000**

Beautiful wooded, mountain property located in a gated community. Potential building site is private with views of Broken Off Point. Well maintained roads. Elk Park Meadows is located just 10 minutes (6 miles) west of uptown Pagosa Springs.

To tour this property go to:  
<https://pspixeltree.com/814-Ginger-Cir>

**Price Reduced**



**1001 Soaring Eagle Court**  
**\$925,000**

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>

**Price Reduced**



**Cloman Industrial Park**  
**\$380,000**

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.

**Price Reduced**



**2453 Running Horse Place**  
**\$2,250,000**

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>

**Under Contract**



**125 Coyote Drive • \$620,000**

MLS # 817374

One owner 2nd home has 3.12 acres, 3 bedrooms, 3 baths. The master is on the ground floor, front deck and back porch are covered.

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30 High Drive — MLS # 794628, \$59,900  
147 Cat Creek Overlook — MLS # 806842.  
1.26 acres. \$25,000  
27 D Place —MLS #813258, \$165,000



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Photos courtesy JoAnn Laird

Rotarians work with Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County recently, helping with Habitat's three homes being built this year.

## Rotarians help Habitat for Humanity

By JoAnn Laird  
Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs

The beauty of the many Pagosa Springs nonprofits is that they are all about helping our community to be a better place to live, work and recreate.

On a beautiful autumn morning, about a dozen of Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs' finest strapped on tool belts and wielded paint brushes to work side by side with Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County mentors in helping to build the three homes Habitat currently has under construction.

The Rotarians helped with installing flooring, soffits, covers for heat pumps, interior painting and building front porches. Saturday was a busy, productive day for both

community-service-minded organizations.

Habitat is celebrating its 30th year in Archuleta County and the Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs has been lifting up the community for 45 years.


Local nonprofits have a positive impact on others, and the volunteers that serve those organizations are to be commended. Ideas are exchanged, long hours are put in and the community is better for it.

The Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs not only commits to international endeavors such as fighting polio, building schools and providing medical assistance, but it is hard at work in our town, as well. Scholarships of more than \$25,000 are given each year to graduating students, highway trash is picked up, weekly backpacks are filled with food for

some of our elementary students, teacher mini-grants are provided, third-grade dictionaries are distributed, inbound and outbound exchange students are orchestrated, and there's even a fun evening of boot-scooting coming soon at the annual Jewels and Jeans Barn Dance on Oct. 12.

Rotarians love to lend a helping hand, not only to Habitat, but also to the town for the Fourth of July Parade and at the Archuleta County Fair. In short, Rotarians are everywhere.

Their motto is "Service Above Self." They live and breathe that motto. For more information about Rotary, go to [www.pagosaprotary.org](http://www.pagosaprotary.org). This past weekend, Rotary helped Habitat in moving three families into a new home. They would love to have your giving spirit join their team.



## Trinity Anglican Church

*Jesus was asked,  
"Which is the greatest commandment?"  
He replied, "Love God with all your...?"  
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[trinityanglicanchurch.org](http://trinityanglicanchurch.org)

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- 🐾 Give a shelter dog the invaluable gift of a **vacation from the shelter**.
- 🐾 You help **socialize an animal**.
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Or e-mail us at [sheltermanager@pagosahumane.org](mailto:sheltermanager@pagosahumane.org)

  
Scan to apply!





Photo courtesy Gene Tautges  
 The Pagosa Catholic Community will host its Blessing of the Animals at 10 a.m. on Oct. 4 at Pope John Paul II Catholic Church, located at 353 S. Pagosa Blvd.



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## Community Blessing of the Animals set for Oct. 4

By Shanna Robb  
 Pagosa Catholic Community

Lions and tigers and bears — oh my. While Dorothy in the 1939 “Wizard of Oz” musical was apprehensive about what animals awaited her in the forest, the Dorothy of 2024 would be happy to discover the Blessing of the Animals on Oct. 4.

In attending the blessing, Toto would be among fellow pets and working animals brought to the local Catholic church by those who care for them.

Celebrated on the feast day of Saint Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals and the environment, the gathering and blessing extends God’s initial blessing found in Genesis 1:22 onto the animals.

All community members are welcome to bring their pets and animals to Pope John Paul II Catholic Church to be blessed at 10 a.m. on Friday, Oct. 4. The blessing will be held outside at 353 S. Pagosa Blvd. and there is ample parking.

Questions? Contact the parish office at (970) 731-5744.

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# Meals on Wheels volunteers needed

By Rose Chavez  
PREVIEW Columnist

For more than 50 years, the Pagosa Senior Center (established in 1971) / Archuleta Seniors Inc. (ASI, established in 2013) has been meeting the social and nutritional needs of older adults (age 60 and better) in our community.

We serve thousands of nutritious meals annually in Archuleta County, and volunteers deliver Meals on Wheels and friendly visits/wellness checks to homebound older adults. We depend on more than 55 volunteers annually to help us serve and deliver meals and provide other wrap-around services.

The cost of each meal is \$10.50, but we only ask for a suggested donation of \$6 per meal. Meal recipients are asked to contribute what they can afford and no one is ever turned down. Meals are delivered Monday through Friday. Participants must be at home to receive meals. Meals will not be left. Meals on Wheels volunteers receive background checks and training prior to delivery. Typically a volunteer shift is one day a week from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. depending on the size of the route.

Staff works closely with volunteers to allow for periodic breaks. If you are interested in volunteering, please stop by the ASI office at 451 Hot Springs Blvd. to pickup an application. If you have questions, please call ASI at (970) 264-2167.

## Fall fundraiser

Let the doubled donations pile up like the leaves in autumn.

Jump into the pile: As the seasons change, so too do ASI's need to reach out again to our caring community for support.

Thanks to the kind donation of a matching grant provided by an anonymous benefactor, your generous donation during our fall fundraiser will be doubled up to \$5,000 through the end of October.

Although we are very grateful to our current funding partners, Archuleta County, San Juan Basin Area on Aging, Town of Pagosa Springs and grants from private foundations, still, it is not enough.

Thirty-seven percent of our funds are dependent on our ability to fundraise, via fundraising campaigns, community events and the generosity of people like you. Unfortunately, we have been informed that we can expect an 18 percent decrease in funding this next fiscal year even while our operation costs and need for services continue to increase.

But, with your help, we can make a difference and enhance the lives of our 60+ community and those who care about them. Please jump in today with your 100 percent matched donation and join in our ongoing efforts to provide our cherished elders, who have given so much to this community, with nutritional, health and social programming that will

## Senior News

continue to enrich their lives.

Donations can be made directly to ASI, located in the Ross Aragon Community Center, at 451 Hot Springs Blvd., or by mail to P.O. Box 3444,


Pagosa Springs, CO 81147.

We also take donations by phone, (970) 264-2167, or online donations via our Colorado Gives fall fundraising page: <https://www.coloradogives.org/story/Asifallfundraiser>.

## Healthy aging and yoga therapy classes series

The Healthy Aging Yoga Series continues to be offered in person at

■ See Senior on next page



*"I endorse Warren Brown - Warren has a long history of working collectively with people from all walks of life to better his community."*

- Sean Murray,  
6th Judicial District Attorney

### Re-elect WARREN BROWN

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County Commissioner District 1

## GALLERY



Summer Spitsbergen is thrilled to announce the opening of her fine art gallery located in the heart of downtown Pagosa Springs. As a native to the town, this has been a life long dream come true. She has always loved the town and surrounding areas of Pagosa.

Summer has spent the past 10 years establishing herself as a successful professional landscape and western artist. She currently shows in the most prestigious western art shows throughout the United States. Summer and her husband, Daniel, made the decision to bring her artwork to her hometown. Together they are excited to share these creations with the community.

Summer Spitsbergen  
619-889-7770

[fineart@summerspitsbergen.com](mailto:fineart@summerspitsbergen.com)



Opening October 4th

422 PAGOSA STREET

PAGOSA SPRINGS, CO



# Senior

■ continued from previous page

the Pagosa Senior Center on Mondays from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

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

Classes will be educational for participants to utilize practices in daily life and are meant for all levels of experience with yoga.

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

We request that individuals new to the series arrive early for intake inquiries and to please communicate with our new instructor, Kimberly Anderson, directly by email at zinkgraf@gmail.com.

## Stretching and mobility class

Community members are invited to attend new free weekly classes every Tuesday this fall and winter from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at the Pagosa Senior Center (located at 451 Hot Springs Blvd., in the back of the Ross Aragon Community Center).

The stretching and mobility classes for older adults (age 55 and up) are designed to help build balance in the body through functional exercises that aim to improve mobility and flexibility.

Participants will have the opportunity to enjoy a variety of techniques that can help enhance overall movement efficiency.

Though not necessary, a mat is recommended for this class.

The program is instructed by local ballet dance instructor Dee Pitchon, who will provide modifications to ensure the safety and effectiveness of the exercises.

## Bingo

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

Bingo will be on Sept. 27, Oct. 4 and Oct. 11.

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 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.

## 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. to support older adults who want to discover purpose and fulfillment in this transitional phase of life. Meet at the gazebo in Yamaguchi Park, 684 S. 5th St.

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

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

No special clothing or equipment is required.

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

## Senior Conversations

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

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

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

## Scrapbooking Club

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

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

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

## 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

■ See Senior on next page

# The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

## ACROSS

- 1 Like mud, in an idiom
- 6 Can't stand
- 10 Takes badly?
- 14 Lustrous fiber
- 15 "A Prayer for \_\_\_ Meany"
- 16 Race track shape
- 17 Jason Bateman series
- 18 Ritzy apartment
- 20 Golf course freebies
- 22 Like tidy beards
- 23 Dunce cap shaped
- 24 Ump's call
- 25 Umbrella pelter
- 28 Dummy
- 32 Sixth sense, briefly
- 33 Current fashion
- 35 Antler prong
- 36 Map feature
- 38 Stimpy, for one
- 39 48th U.S. VP
- 40 Oz visitor
- 41 Viking serf
- 43 Large wine cask
- 44 Foul odor
- 46 Team in black and gold
- 48 Active type
- 50 Type in
- 51 Substitute for
- 54 Title for Gandhi
- 57 Unoccupied
- 59 Burger topping
- 60 Rodeo critter
- 61 Hold in check
- 62 Send payment
- 63 "Trick" joint
- 64 List anagram
- 65 One of the Astaires

## DOWN

- 1 Jockey's whip
- 2 Loll about

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14					15				16			
17					18				19			
20				21		22						
		23				24						
25	26					27	28			29	30	31
32			33			34			35			
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40				41			42			43		
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51	52	53					54				55	56
57						58			59			
60				61					62			
63				64					65			

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- 3 Free from bondage
- 4 House cooler, for short
- 5 Ignite again
- 6 Sidewalk game
- 7 Leave dumb-struck
- 8 Campground sights
- 9 Race participant
- 10 Sleeping car feature
- 11 Egg, biologically
- 12 It may be stolen
- 13 Toy with runners
- 19 Platter player
- 21 Milan money, once
- 25 Musical intervals
- 26 Fancy tie
- 27 Anjou and Bartlett
- 29 Cold season
- 30 Run up, as expenses
- 31 Most new drivers
- 34 Witness account
- 37 Like some batteries
- 39 Overabundance
- 41 Ocasek's band
- 42 Songstress Horne
- 45 Snowman's eyes
- 47 Tilted
- 49 Billy Idol's "\_\_\_ Yell"
- 51 Billiards need
- 52 Hunter of fiction
- 53 Whitish
- 55 Work like a dog
- 56 Initial stake
- 58 52, in old Rome

## Answers to Previous Crossword:

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

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# Senior

■ continued from previous page

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, Sept. 26 — Chicken lo mein, stir-fry vegetables, spring roll, garden salad, coconut-mango rice pudding, fruit and milk.

Friday, Sept. 27 — Beef spaghetti, Romanesco, garlic bread, garden salad, ambrosia fruit salad and milk.

Monday, Sept. 30 — Chicken tortilla soup, squash casserole, garden salad, fruit, chocolate cake and milk.

Tuesday, Oct. 1 — Beef spaghetti with Parmesan cheese, sauteed greens, garlic bread, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Wednesday, Oct. 2 — Mushroom and spinach crepes, peas and pearl onions, dinner roll, garden salad, fruit, and milk.

Thursday, Oct. 3 — Pork carnitas with chimichurri sauce, zesty black beans, corn tortillas, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Friday, Oct. 4 — Chinese plum chicken with jasmine rice, snow peas, garden salad, fruit and milk.

## Grab-N-Go meals

Dine-in and Grab-N-Go meal reservations and cancellations are required. Please call or text by 9 a.m. the morning of the day you want to pick up a meal. A suggested donation of \$6 helps to sustain our program. For ages 59 and younger, the cost is \$10.50. No one will be turned away for their inability to donate. Please call or text us at (970) 264-2167 to make a reservation.

## Meals on Wheels

We deliver fresh Meals on Wheels five days a week (and provide frozen Meals on Wheels for weekends) to homebound Archuleta County residents. Call or text us at (970) 264-2167.

## Mobile food pantry service

Older adults needing a ride to a

local food pantry should contact the MET to schedule a ride with its para-transit service. For more information, contact Lavonne at (970) 264-2250.

## Text reservations

Don't forget that we offer a convenient texting service for you to communicate with us. Text us at (970) 264-2167. When texting, please include your name, phone number and the days you want a meal. If you are canceling a reservation, please include your name, phone number and the days you want to cancel.

Texting services are available for dine-in meal reservations, Grab-N-Go meals and Meals on Wheels recipients.

## COVID-19 test kits

The Senior Center will no longer be distributing free COVID-19 test kits.

Please stop by the Archuleta County Public Health Department at 502 S. 8th St. These kits are available to anyone in the public that needs affordable access for health promotion and disease prevention.

## Mahjong

Mahjong is a 19th century Chinese tile-based game that is commonly played with four players. Each player receives 13 tiles with a goal to make matching sets and pairs (like poker). To win, a player must form four sets and one pair.

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

## Medicare call by appointment

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

## Mindful drawing

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

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

## Bridge

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

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

## 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.



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

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

## WORDS

- ACCOUNTING
- ACCOUNTS
- ACCRUALS
- AFFILIATE
- BALANCE
- BUSINESS
- CAPITAL
- CATEGORY
- COSTS
- EARNINGS
- EMPLOYEE
- EQUITY
- EXPENSE
- GROSS
- LIABILITIES
- LOCATION
- MARGIN
- MARKETING
- PAYABLE
- RECEIVABLE
- RETURN
- SHEET

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# Preview Calendar

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

## Thursday, Sept. 26

**Outdoor Pickleball.** 8 a.m.-noon, Yamaguchi Park South pickleball courts.

**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.

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

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

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

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

## Friday, Sept. 27

**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.

**Indoor Pickleball.** 8-11:30 a.m., Ross Aragon Community Center.

**Outdoor Pickleball.** 8 a.m.-noon, Yamaguchi Park South pickleball courts.

**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.

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

**Good News Club.** 1:15-3:15 p.m., Pagosa Springs Elementary School. A weekly club for kids in kindergarten through the fourth grade where the Bible is taught with songs, stories, object lessons, games and more. For more information, email Frank and Connie Porter at ceflittle-kids@gmail.com.

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

**Craftapalooza.** 2-3:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Create a variety of crafts for all ages.

**Stars and Galaxies Program.** 5:45 p.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This program is offered when the earth is closest to the new moon, when the sky is at its darkest. A video presentation will be followed by a presentation explaining the significance of the night sky to the Ancestral Puebloans. Telescopes will be used to observe several different sky objects. Tickets are \$20 for ages 13 and up, \$10 for ages 5-12, and under 5 are free. Registration is required 12 hours in advance via rec.gov. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

**Pagosa Springs Varsity Football.** 7 p.m., Golden Peaks Stadium. Pagosa Springs High School vs. Elizabeth.

## Saturday, Sept. 28

**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.

**Mountain Chile Cha Cha.** 10 a.m., Town Park. The will include the Patty Aragon Green Chile Classic, live music and more. Entry is \$10, with those 12 and under admitted free. For more information, visit www.ilovegreenchile.com.

**GriefShare.** 10-11:30 a.m., Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. A 13-week program to assist with the healing process, regardless of how long it is since your loved one passed. For more information, call Marie Rasco at (970) 946-9379 or Centerpoint Church at (970) 731-2205. You can also register and learn more at www.griefshare.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.

■ See Calendar on next page

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# Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

**DivorceCare/DivorceCare for Kids.** 4-5:30 p.m., Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. A 13-week program that provides a safe environment for people who have gone through, are going through or are considering divorce and features experts on divorce and recovery topics. DivorceCare for Kids is for kids 5-12, with topics mirroring the adult sessions. For more information, email Jim Shook at jshookup@gmail.com or the church at admin@centerpointpagosa.com. You can register online at www.divorcecare.org. There is a \$20 fee for the workbook. Scholarships are available.

## Sunday, Sept. 29

**Outdoor Pickleball.** 8 a.m.-noon, Yamaguchi Park South pickleball courts.

## Monday, Sept. 30

**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.

**Indoor Pickleball.** 8-11:30 a.m., Ross Aragon Community Center.

**Outdoor Pickleball.** 8 a.m.-noon, Yamaguchi Park South pickleball courts.

**Women's Fellowship.** 9 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.

**Archuleta County Democratic Club.** 11:30 a.m., Coyote Moon. All are welcome to attend.

**Community Resource Center Lunch and Learn.** Noon-1 p.m., Sisson Library. Nonprofit staff can bring a bag lunch and learn more about the Colorado Grants Guide.

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

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

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

## Tuesday, Oct. 1

**Outdoor Pickleball.** 8 a.m.-noon, Yamaguchi Park South pickleball courts.

**Veterans for Veterans of Archuleta County.** 9 a.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. Veterans and family members are

invited to share experiences with vets of all ages. Find out about the latest in vets benefits, vets news and community-focused events. Contact (970) 880-8387 for more details.

**Stretching and Mobility Class.** 9:30-10:30 a.m., Senior Center. A stretching and mobility class for those age 55 and up.

**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.

**LPEA Focus Group.** Noon-2 p.m. Members can sign up for a session via the form at <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf1E12mBhg1UlrPbVSwgu17OS5Oey0iT0cZpDTsjHETIm86aw/viewform>. Participants will be contacted by email to confirm their session date and location.

**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.

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

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

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

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

**Conversational Spanish.** 4:30-5:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Practice your Spanish conversation skills in a group setting. No minimum skill level required.

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

**Pagosa Springs Varsity Boys' Soccer.** 4 p.m., Golden Peaks Stadium. Pagosa Springs High School vs. Bayfield.

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

## Wednesday, Oct. 2

**Indoor Pickleball.** 8-11:30 a.m., Ross Aragon Community Center.

**Outdoor Pickleball.** 8 a.m.-noon, Yamaguchi Park South pickleball courts.

**Pickleball Beginner Lessons.** 8:30-11 a.m., Ross Aragon Commu-

nity Center. Register on the Pagosa Springs Parks and Recreation page at <https://secure.rec1.com/CO/pagosa-springs-co/catalog>.

**Pagosa Catholic Quilters.** 9 a.m.-2 p.m., John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms. For more information, contact Maxine Everaert at quilters@ihmjp2.org.

**Kids Kare.** 9:30-11:30 a.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. A weekly club for 3- to 5-year-olds where the Bible is taught with songs, stories, object lessons, games and more. For more information, email Frank and Connie Porter

■ See Calendar on next page

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# Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

at ceflittlekids@gmail.com.

**Family Storytime.** 10-11 a.m., Sisson Library. Join us for great stories, fun songs, and plenty of reasons to get up and move. It's a great way for kids to have fun while building the skills they need to become independent readers. All ages. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

**Virtual Author Talk.** Noon, virtual. Take a journey into the hidden world of bats thanks to the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute. For details and to register, go to <https://library.org/pagosalibrary/upcoming>.

**Teen/Tween Activity.** 4-4:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Head to the teen area every Wednesday after school for a fun craft or challenge. Activities will range from taste tests to art challenges and minute-to-win-it-style games.

**Thursday, Oct. 3**

**Outdoor Pickleball.** 8 a.m.-noon, Yamaguchi Park South pickleball courts.

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

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

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

**Dungeons and Dragons.** 4-5:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Join the adventure. Preregistration is required because space is limited. Contact Josie@pagosalibrary.org to join.

**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.

**Friday, Oct. 4**

**Indoor Pickleball.** 8-11:30 a.m., Ross Aragon Community Center.

**Outdoor Pickleball.** 8 a.m.-noon, Yamaguchi Park South pickleball courts.

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

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

**All-Ages Gaming.** 2-3:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Play on the library's Xbox.

**Tween/Teen Takeover.** 2-4 p.m., Sisson Library. The large meeting room and some of the computers will be set aside for tweens/teens to use and spend time with friends.

**Saturday, Oct. 5**

**GriefShare.** 10-11:30 a.m., Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. A 13-week program to assist with the healing process, regardless of how long it is since your loved one passed. For more information, call Marie Rasco at (970) 946-9379 or Centerpoint Church at (970) 731-2205. You can also register and learn more at [www.griefshare.org](http://www.griefshare.org).

**Pickleball Beginner Lessons.** 10 a.m.-noon, Yamaguchi Park South pickleball courts. Register on the Pagosa Springs Parks and Recreation page at <https://secure.rec1.com/CO/pagosa-springs-co/catalog>.

**Pagosa Springs Varsity Cross-Country.** 10 a.m., Reservoir Hill.

**LEGO Club.** 11 a.m.-noon, Sisson Library. For kids 6-11 years old. Bring your own or use our LEGOs to free build. Contact the library at (970) 264-2209 for further information.

**DivorceCare/DivorceCare for Kids.** 4-5:30 p.m., Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. A 13-week program that provides a safe environment for people who have gone through, are going through or are considering divorce and features experts on divorce and recovery topics. DivorceCare for Kids is for kids 5-12, with topics mirroring the adult sessions. For more information, email Jim Shook at [jshookup@gmail.com](mailto:jshookup@gmail.com) or the church at [admin@centerpointpagosa.com](mailto:admin@centerpointpagosa.com). You can register online at [www.divorcecare.org](http://www.divorcecare.org).

org. There is a \$20 fee for the workbook. Scholarships are available.  
**Runway for Rise.** 6 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, 2313 Eagle Drive. A fundraiser for Rise Above Violence. For tickets and more information, visit <https://www.riseaboveviolence.org/>.

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**MORE LIGHT MAY HELP REVERSE DEPRESSION**

There's a reason depressed people stay indoors: it's easier to stay depressed when you're not out in the sun. Sun rays have a way of penetrating clouds of gloom and lifting mood. Today's research excerpt explains why.

A study of more than 81,000 women found those with the highest intake of vitamin D from food sources had a significantly lower prevalence of depressive symptoms.

The researchers suggested that vitamin D may affect the function of dopamine and norepinephrine. These are neurotransmitters that are likely involved in depression, while also modulating the relationship between depression and inflammation ...

The connection between vitamin D and depression is not new. In 2006, scientists evaluated the effects of vitamin D on the mental health of 80 elderly patients and found those with the lowest levels of vitamin D were 11 times more prone to be depressed than those who received healthy doses.

In the current study, researchers found that intake of more than 400 IU of vitamin D from food sources was associated with a 20 percent lower risk of depressive symptoms compared with intake of less than 100 IU. This was a significant benefit from a very small amount of vitamin D -- as 400 IU is far too low to benefit most people (not to mention your body is made to get vitamin D primarily from the sun, not food or supplements, as I'll explain below).

It now appears as though most adults need about 8,000 IUs of vitamin D a day in order to get their serum levels above 40 ng/ml, which is the lowest they should be. Ideally your serum levels should be between 50-70 ng/ml, and up to 100 ng/ml to treat cancer and heart disease. It's likely that vitamin D fights depression via several pathways, not only directly in your brain but also via inflammation. Vitamin D receptors have been identified throughout the human body, and that includes in your brain. Researchers have located metabolic pathways for vitamin D in the hippocampus and cerebellum of the brain, areas that are involved in planning, processing of information, and the formation of new memories.

Source: "New Study Shows Vitamin D Helps Prevent Depression." By Dr. Mercola. <http://articles.mercola.com>

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

*"Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." John 8:12*

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# How do we hear from God?

By Betty Slade  
PREVIEW Columnist

How do we hear from God? It's pretty simple: Listen.

Are people seeking God today? Are they hearing His voice? It's hard in all the deafening noise of the world to tune into the voice from heaven. We are in a season that doesn't make sense, and our minds are spinning out of control and we wonder what on earth is happening and if God hears us.

We have entered a new season that has muffled out the predictable sweet summer life we once enjoyed. Just like in nature. Yellow is topping our trees, temperatures are coming down, the fun summer activities have come to a close, and fall is about to burst forth in wild colors.

In a couple of weeks my family will drive to Opal Lake and admire the aspen trees. The brilliant yellow leaves catch the sun and I stare in awe. I've said many times I want to be like one of those aspen leaves quivering in the quiet breeze. I want to shiver in God's presence when He passes by, to be so sensitive that when He speaks, I feel His breath on my face.

A fellow writer wrote an article a few months ago titled "Find out if God likes you." The way things look, we could easily think God doesn't really like us. Lying in the hospital bed, I found God loves me. His presence was strong. I felt such peace as I lay there mangled by a recent accident, which could have easily taken My Sweet Al and me home.

God only allowed what was necessary to get my attention. Nothing was broken that can't be fixed, and I'm so much better off spiritually for going through this situation. I know, it sounds crazy. I'd do it again for that gentle touch from God. He is not to be feared, but loved. We can trust Him in all the chaos and violence of this new season.

We hear about these last days and many feel we are in them. What does that mean? Well, I know "hell's a poppin'." We are sensing evil as we've never known. It's as if the devil has been unleashed into this world sevenfold. As I read the scriptures, the signs are pointing to the "day of the God, the last days." How do we live in the light in the end?

It's pretty simple: Keep our eyes on Jesus, the light of the world. That light that lights man's heart. Be like that shivering golden aspen leaf catching the light. We are fragile, but God is holding us to the branch. He has measured pain, counted tears, and we can trust Him.

God uses multilayered expressions to show His presence — the wind, His breath, His voice and His Spirit. He moves in mysterious ways to let us know He is here. Listen for Him.

When we feel a touch of the wind and hear its sound in a minor key, He's talking to us. His presence is nearer than we think. He tells us that the kingdom of God is within us. We

## Artist's Lane

sense Him in our hearts and know He is real. He is sovereign and absolute.

Do I see Him sovereign? Yes, I do. Then why do I worry? Do I believe he possesses supreme political power? Yes, I do. I know from scriptures He places kings on thrones and takes them off.

This is the season we are in. There will be a reason for the outcome. His reason. His thinking is so much higher than ours. Can I trust Him in the darkness of this world? Yes, I can, but I must draw closer to the light, like a moth to the flame. There is no darkness in Him, no shadow in His turning. He is the father of lights.

"It's impossible to disappear from Him (God) or to ask the darkness to hide me, for your presence is everywhere, bringing light into my night. There is no such thing as darkness with you. The night, to you, is as bright as the day; there's no difference between the two." — Psalm 139:11,12 (TPT).

I read in a footnote of The Passion Translation in 2 Peter, "The Bible is the only book whose Author is present every time it is read. The Holy One is the Divine Author of Scripture and is the one who can open our hearts to understanding truth."

The Bible tells us, "Actually, God considers all of humanity to be prisoners of their unbelief, so that he can unlock our hearts and show his tender mercies to all who come to him" (Romans 11:32, TPT).

We can trust Him. He wants us to know Him. Does God like us? Yes, He does. He sees us trapped. He wants to deliver us from ourselves. He wants to show us His tender mercies and unlock our hearts.

Final brushstroke: We must listen and hear before we can answer. The Lord is waiting for us to answer Him. He knows every leaf on every tree. He sees our vulnerability as we go in this next season of this crazy world in which we live. He's holding us to the branch.

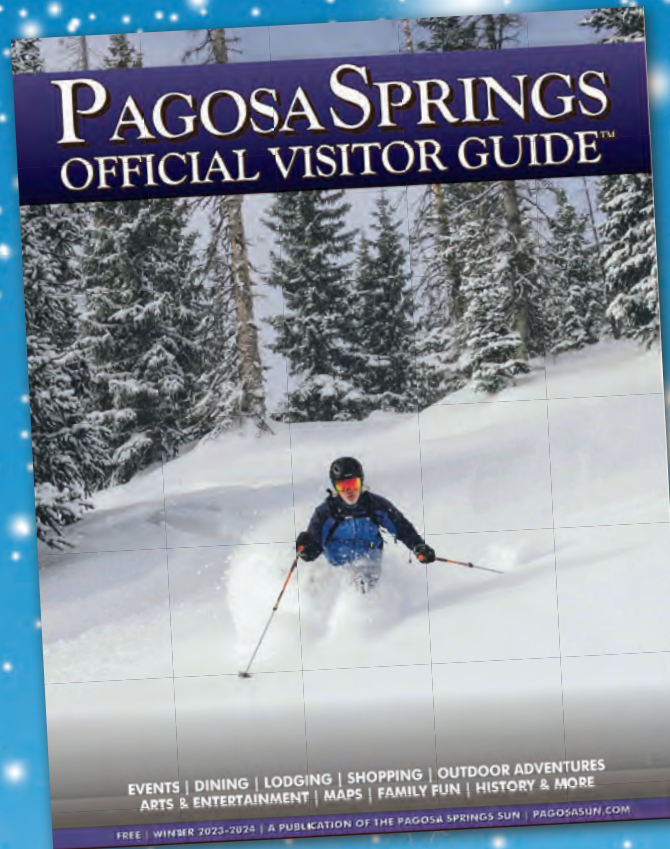
Send your comment to [bettyslade.author@gmail.com](mailto:bettyslade.author@gmail.com).

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

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The guide will be mailed in one edition of The Pagosa Springs SUN to subscribers.

A digitally enhanced version of the guide will be online at **PagosaSUN.com** and **ExplorePagosa.com**.

The Pagosa Area Tourism Board will provide a link to this guide on [visitpagosasprings.com](http://visitpagosasprings.com).

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# Volunteers power the Colorado Trail

By **Dave Marston**  
PREVIEW Columnist

The Colorado Trail, an iconic 567-mile high-elevation trail that crosses the Rockies, owes its existence largely to Gudy Gaskill, a charismatic, 6-foot-tall woman who could make tough things seem easy.

Gaskill not only carried out the vi-

## Opinion: Writers on the Range

sion of a state trail, beginning slowly in the late 1970s, but also gave birth to it. In 1972, she lobbied Congress, along with forester Bill Lucas, credited with the Colorado Trail idea, to change federal law so that volunteers could be allowed to build trails on public land.

Volunteerism was so potent an idea, that when, in 1984, writer Ed Quillen broke the story about Gaskill's efforts to revive trail building that had foundered under the Colorado Mountain Trails Foundation, people were energized to join her. Soon, thanks to fundraising, she had 350 volunteers coming each summer to join trail crews she often led herself.

She made creating the Colorado Trail seem like a privilege: You camped out in beautiful backcountry, ate great food and found stamina you never knew you possessed.

In 1985, caught up in the story, my father, Ed Marston, then the publisher of High Country News, volunteered my sister, Wendy, 15, and me, 13, for a week of trail building. That's how we learned how to swing those ax-like tools called Pulaskis on the section from Molas Pass to Durango.

Gaskill herself led our crew, setting out early with orange ribbon to mark the trail. She was efficient and tireless, and, in just a few hours, older, urban and young volunteers became trail builders with blisters to prove it.

It was exciting to work on a trail that unfurled along the rooftop of Colorado.

Typical trails in those days led up mountains or over steep passes. The Colorado trail rejected peak-bagging and offered a moderate route of week-long, 70-mile sections, neither losing nor gaining elevation rapidly, though often charting a route above tree line.

I joined a trail crew to revisit my childhood adventure this summer and, from Aug. 7 to 11, Denver friend Jeff Miller and I worked to repair trail in Chaffee County's Collegiate Peaks Wilderness.

In wilderness, if there's a tree to fell, you use a handsaw. We needed to move big rocks, so two of us yoked ourselves together in nylon harnesses to do that. We divided labor this way: Men hauled big rocks, and women wielding rock hammers smashed the rocks into gravel.



Photo courtesy Matt Smith

**Jeff Miller and Dave Marston work in the Collegiate Peaks Wilderness in Gunnison County.**

Trail work has changed a lot in 39 years. Back then we built water bars to stop erosion from runoff. Logs anchored into slopes sluiced water off trails but required annual maintenance. Now, water moves off trail through "grade reversals." The trail swoops below grade, efficiently shunting water off the path, then swoops back up to level grade. Drains are large versions of grade reversals.

My fellow volunteers were largely thru-hikers, skilled backcountry voyagers who spend their holidays hiking the trail from Denver to Durango in one go. Mark Stephenson, 26, from Pittsburgh, Penn., was one of the trail's most ardent fans.

He arrived on the trail via Greyhound bus with \$40 in his pocket, saying, "This is a place where money doesn't matter."

Thinking a reported 2.5-mile hike to camp would be easy, my friend and I arrived at the trailhead loaded up with both front and back packs. I confess to having done the shopping. My friend was optimistic: "I can carry anything two and a half miles."

But our camp had moved 6 miles away and 2,700 feet uphill. We made it, slowly, and once at camp, we quickly became free-store proprietors. But there was another problem: I'd left my tent poles at home. Crew leader Matt Smith, an engineer from Golden, easily came up with a fix: He used parachute cord to rig up the tent fly, then added a tarp to ward off the rain that soaked us every afternoon and night.

I don't recall meeting thru-hikers in the mid-1980s, but today they seem to dominate hiking culture. I could only listen as the rest of the group talked about trails known by acronyms, including the famous AT — Appalachian Trail.

"You're doing great work!" hikers told us as they passed by. Smith offers this perspective today: "19,000 volunteer person-hours go into trail improvement every year."

We owe thanks to those original trail stalwarts — Lucas, journalist Merrill Hastings and, of course, Gaskill. Their vision created one of the

state's wonders.

*Dave Marston is the publisher of Writers on the Range, writersontherange.org, an independent non-profit dedicated to spurring lively conversation about the West. He lives in Durango, Colo. Views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN.*



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**2017 KIA SORENTO EX Premium Package** SUV 4D in very good condition. 95,000 miles, 25 MPG Highway, AWD with Locking Differential, 2.0L Turbo, 18" Alloy Wheels, 1st and 2nd Row Leather Seats, Heated Front Seats, UVO 7" Touchscreen with Android Auto and Apple CarPlay, SiriusXM Radio, Bluetooth, Push Button Start with Smart Key, Remote Start, 2nd Row Window Shades, Fog Lamps, Heated Outside Mirrors with Turn Signal Indicators, Privacy Glass, Roof Rails, Power Folding Side Mirrors, Blind Spot Detection, Rear Cross Traffic Alert, Smart "Hands Free" Power Liftgate, Cargo Cover and Tray, 2 Remote Keys. \$16,900. Contact Angelene at (970)264-4321.

**GUARANTEED CREDIT APPROVAL!** 4X4 Auto Sales, 21698 Hwy. 160 West, Durango. (970)385-7940.

**SUBARU BAJA TURBO 2005.** 160k, \$14,999. One owner, very good condition, white over gray, moon roof, mud/snow tires. (505)688-7382.

**YARD SALES**

**BE SURE TO CHECK** for more yard sales in the Too Late To Classify section.

**BIG ESTATE SALE** in South Fork. Friday and Saturday. Sept. 27 and 28. 9a.m. sharp. Tools, patio furniture, bar and barware, pool tables, foosball table, signs, phone booth, furniture, kitchen items, household items, antique dental cabinet, yard decor, fishing, neon signs, sail fish, gold stuff, antiques, bottle opener collection and lots more. In South Fork, turn north towards Creede, right on Landen, right on Highland, house #30. Rain or shine. AEHPOS.

**HUGE MULTI-FAMILY SALE.** Furniture, kids clothes/ toys, small appliances, office supplies, tools, pet supplies, housewares, costume jewelry, yard stuff, Polaris RZR 800 (4 seater with extras), much more. Saturday, Sept. 28, 8a.m. -2p.m. 128 Bastille. Cash only.

**YARD SALE** at barn by house. 57 Capricho Circle, Pagosa Springs, Saturday, September 28th, 8a.m.

**COMMERCIAL FOR RENT**

**1800 S/F SILVERADO CITY SHOPPING CENTER** between Upscale Resale and Gustoso's restaurant. \$1800 monthly. (970)946-3902.

**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.

**HIGH-VISIBILITY EAGLE DRIVE** location with large signs facing 160. Nicely renovated with two offices, large flexible space, bathroom, plenty of parking. \$2k/ month includes utilities. Call/ text (970)444-2124.

**PRIME MAIN STREET LOCATION.** 1625 sq. ft. retail space located at 458 Pagosa St. Includes water, sewer and parking. \$2200. Available November 15. Call Tom or Ellen at (970)264-5168.

**VACATION RENTALS**

**OWNERS, WE ARE BOOKED UP AND NEED MORE VACATION RENTAL PROPERTIES!** Call us today for lowest commission and highest customer service. All you have to do is wait for your rent check to come in. We do the rest! Rocky Mountain Realty & Rentals (970)507-1192.

**RESIDENTIAL RENTALS**

**1 BEDROOM, 1 BATH** apartment, centrally located. Ground floor entry. Water, sewer, gas, fiber optic Internet included. Available November 1st. (970)946-8687.

**3 BEDROOM** 1200 sq. ft. 5 minute walk to Pagosa Lake. Washer/ dryer, dishwasher, etc. Some utilities paid. No pets. \$1,450. Call John for details and photos (720)960-4910 or (303)881-1407.

**RESIDENTIAL RENTALS**

**BEAUTIFULLY FURNISHED** 2 bedroom home. Internet, full bath, washer/dryer, fenced yard, pets OK. Sept- June lease. \$1500/ month. Text only (970)308-1986.

**DO YOU WANT TO LIVE OUT OF TOWN?** Two bedroom cabin. Two people max. Refurbished. Woodstove, new appliances, new flooring. First month, last month and security deposit. \$1700. Available Oct. 1st. (970)731-2010. Please leave a message.

**DOWNTOWN UNITS FOR RENT.** New 3 bedroom, 2 bath unit. Granite countertops, all appliances and utilities included. Porch and patio. \$2100/ month. (318)347-6100.

**FEMALE ROOMMATE WANTED** for beautiful three bedroom home. Homeowner lives in California, rarely there. No smokers, no children, no pets. Off street driveway parking. \$1150/ month, \$1000 deposit. \$150/ month shared utilities. Month to month lease for three months, then six month lease after that. Available October 1st. Call Lori, (619)992-0700.

**FOR RENT** 2 bedroom, 1 bath in town of Pagosa Springs. \$1,200 rent. \$800 deposit. No pets. You pay gas and electric. (970)946-4382.

**HICKORY RIDGE APARTMENTS.** Under New Management and Ownership! 1-, 2-, and 3-bedroom units available; ranging from \$619 - \$1,348 a month. Affordable, restrictions apply. Stop by and apply at 650 Florida Street or call (720)869-8877 to set up an appointment.

**HOME FOR RENT.** \$1,850. Pines Drive. Two bedroom plus office. Available Oct 1st. 9 months lease only. (970)507-0703.

**HOUSE FOR RENT** in Pagosa Lakes. 1,000 SF, 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, garage. No pets, unfurnished. \$1,900/ month +deposit and utilities. Call (970)398-1515.

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**RESIDENTIAL RENTALS**

**LONG TERM RENTALS AVAILABLE!** Contact Team Pagosa by calling (970)731-8599 or visit teampagosa.com to see listing pictures. **TP-4:** Unfurnished 3 bed 2 bath 1 car garage townhome duplex, one unit available. Newly remodeled and updated. All appliances including gas fireplaces. Pet allowed. \$2200/ month. Call for more info. **TP-8:** Amazing furnished 3 bedroom, 2 bath home that sits on 35 private acres in the Chimney Rock area. This is a must see property. \$2000/ month with some utilities included. Call for more info. **TP-26:** Unfurnished 3 bed 2 bath 2 car. Wood burning stove. Lake Hatcher area. Pet OK. \$2250/ month. **TP-30:** Sweet furnished loft bedroom 2 bath condo. Washer/ dryer and updated kitchen. Great views. Call for more info. Available 9/01/24. \$1650/ month. No pets. **TP-31:** Single story 3 bedroom 2 bath 2 car garage home. \$2650/ month. No pets. Call for more info. **TP-33:** Beautiful unfurnished and updated 1 bedroom 1 bath condo. Ground floor entry. Available around 09/20/24. \$1500/ month. **TP-34:** Beautiful furnished. 3 bed, 2.5 bath, 2 car garage home in Twin Creek. Small dog allowed. Available through the winter starting 10/15/24 -5/31/25. All utilities included. \$3000/ month.

**LONG TERM RENTALS AVAILABLE.** Call Team Pagosa (970)731-8599, 46 Eaton Drive, Suite #1, pagosaspringsrealty.com.

**LUXURY HOME DOWNTOWN,** 10 Pierce St. 4 beds, 2.5 baths, fresh renovation, new appliances. \$4,500/ month, first/ last/ deposit required. Owner finance possible. (970)946-2933.

**RV SPOT FOR RENT.** Single spot approximately 1 mile from hospital. Hilltop location on 8 acres at end of cul de sac, great views, quiet no traffic. Septic, city water, 30A electric hookups. \$750/ month. Plenty of parking. Burt (619)992-9100.

**RESIDENTIAL RENTALS**

**STUDIO APARTMENT** available in the Davis Cup units for \$1200/ month. Utilities not included. Please contact (719)439-5360 for details and rental application.

**APARTMENT/CONDO FOR SALE**

**TWO BED 3 BATH.** Central location. Close to everything. Clean, updated. New furnace, washer and dryer, and a Murphy bed. 1345 sq. ft. \$355k. **Motivated seller willing to pay, with full price offer, buyer's agents concession and 6 months HOA fees.** Call Gail Brault Realtor, Mountain Meadow Real Estate. (970)946-2051.

**COMMERCIAL**

**41-SPACE RV and 14 CABINS RESORT.** Rare River and Highway frontage! 35+ Acres. Turn-key furnished, 2025/ 2026 bookings (stays & events). Gift Shop, Restaurant (chef leased), Home. Barn, Corral, Horses. Multi-generational Colorado business opportunity. Work 4 months, relax 8 months! Wen Saunders (970)903-0038. Keller Williams Realty Southwest Associates.

**BAR AND GRILL IN ARBOLES** on 1 Acre for \$380,000. 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.

**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.

**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**

*Planning to buy or sell a property? Call me today!*

**Christie Calderwood**  
970-946-6856  
christie@jimsmithrealty.com

**4 BED 3.5 BATH** 1/2 acre. 20 minutes from Wolf Creek Ski Area. \$850,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

**FOR SALE BY OWNER** 2 bedroom 2 bath mobile in Vista completely updated on 2 lots, all appliances. Move-in ready. \$225k. (970)946-2636.

**FOR SALE BY OWNER** 3 bedroom 2 bath mobile on cul-de-sac in Vista. Completely updated, all appliances, shed, covered decks. \$249k. (970)946-2636.

**GORGEOUS TIMBER HOME,** amazing views, spacious layout, wrap around decks. 5 bed, 6 bath, 6630 square feet, 5 acres. \$1,995,000. 207 LaTierra. Call Lauren -Sherpa RE. (970)409-7837.

**HOME FOR SALE.** 3200 square feet on 3 acres. 181 River Forest Drive. See on Zillow. Agents welcome. \$730K (970)585-9181.

**HUNTER CABINS.** Off Grid, 1 Bedroom, 3.3 Acres, Mountain Views (\$90s). 1 Bedroom, 1 Bath (\$200,000) includes: 3- Bedroom Septic, Water Cistern, Electric, RV Pole Barn. Wen Saunders (970)903-0038. Keller Williams Realty Southwest Associates.

**HOMES FOR SALE**

**MOTIVATED SELLER.** Artesian well, hobby farm. Two bedroom, two bath. 1.7 acres. No HOA. \$595,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

**SPRAWLING ENCOURAGED!** 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, 2072 square feet. Detached 30x60,10x24 steel garages, 24x20 carport. 1.4 acres. NO HOA. Flat Access. Wen Saunders (970)903-0038. Keller Williams Realty Southwest Associates.

**LAND/ BUILDING SITES**

**ACREAGE PRICE REDUCTIONS!** All No HOA! (Highway 160) 2 creekside parcels (\$80s), (Hollow) 2 parcels, electric & RV pad installed, 2.4 acres (\$90s). Off-Grid, Seasonal RV Welcomed: (Crooked) 3.94 Acres, 2 parcels (\$30s), (Gun Barrel) 1+ Acre, backs tribal land (\$20s), (Waynes) 2.51 Acres, mountain views (\$50s). More Land Available. Call For List! Wen Saunders (970)903-0038. Keller Williams Realty Southwest Associates.

**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.

**1.19 ACRES WITH VIEWS OF NAVAJO LAKE.** All utilities nearby. \$99,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

**1.48 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.

**LAND/ BUILDING SITES**

**.35 ACRE LAND** County Road 982 frontage \$55,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

**BUILD READY BARGAINS!** City Water/ Sewer, Electric, and Rec Center Available: (Paradise), (Lake), (Trails), (Saddle) 1/4 Acre (40s), (Trails) .10 Acre (\$20s), (Caddy) 1/4 Acre, golf course (\$70s), (Arbor) 1/3 Acre, views, wooded (\$60s). (Pacifico) 5+ Acres, NO HOA, City Water (\$100s). Wen Saunders (970)903-0038. Keller Williams Realty Southwest Associates.

**FANTASTIC VIEWS** with electricity, concrete floor garage on 1 acre for \$195,000. 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.

**OWNER FINANCING.** 1.3 acres. 27 D Place, mountain views. Utilities available. Private location. Not in PLPOA. Call Gail Brault Realtor, Mountain Meadow Real Estate. (970)946-2051.



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