



PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147

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VOLUME 117 — NO. 6, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2024

2024 Archuleta County Election Results

Unofficial results as of press time.
State and federal results may differ.
*Indicates winner of contest.

Presidential Electors

Kamala D. Harris/3,856
Tim Walz
*Donald J. Trump/5,158
JD Vance

Representative to the 119th United States Congress – District 3

Adam Frisch3,891
*Jeff Hurd4,845

State Board of Education Member – Congressional District 3

*Sherri M Wright5,120
Ellen Angeles3,530

State Senator – District 6

Vivian Smotherman3,411
*Cleave Alan Simpson5,384

State Representative – District 59

Katie Stewart3,645
*Clark Craig5,175

District Attorney – 6th Judicial District

*Sean Murray4,631

County Commissioner District 1

*Warren M. Brown4,605
Wayne Hooper2,760
Ken Bowles985

County Commissioner District 2

*John Ranson6,543

County Coroner

*Brad Hunt6,553

Amdt. G/Veterans' property tax

Yes6,268
No2,414

Amdt. H/Judicial disciplinary board

Yes5,804
No2,557

Amdt. I/Exception to right to bail

Yes5,870
No2,736

Amdt. J/Same-sex marriage

Yes4,628
No4,159

Amdt. K/Modify election deadlines

Yes3,250
No4,913

Amdt. 79/Right to abortion

Yes4,565
No4,297

Amdt. 80/Right to school choice

Yes5,120
No3,644

Prop. JJ/Sports betting tax revenue

Yes6,603
No2,114

Prop. KK/Tax on sale of firearms, ammunition

Yes3,761
No5,074

Prop. 127/Prohibit killing of mountain lions, lynx, bobcats

Yes3,018
No5,854

Prop. 128/Parole eligibility

Yes5,673
No3,003

Prop. 129/Veterinary profession

Yes4,364
No4,184

Prop. 130/Police training and support fund

Yes4,990
No3,640

Prop. 131/Ranked voting

Yes3,761
No4,847

Source: Colorado Secretary of State

Unofficial election results released

Brown, Ranson elected

By Garrett Fevinger
Staff Writer

Unofficial results from Tuesday's general election showed the majority of Archuleta County voters aligning with Republican candidates in local, state and federal races, and largely in step with voters from around the state on proposed constitutional amendments and propositions.

On Wednesday morning, Archuleta County Clerk and Recorder Kristy Archuleta reported her office had received 8,855 ballots by mail and counted 663 in-person votes.

"It was a great election with a good turnout," Archuleta wrote in an email to The SUN.

Warren Brown, John Ranson elected

In the only locally contested county commissioner race, District 1 incumbent Warren Brown, a Republican, defeated challenges by unaffiliated candidates Wayne Hooper and Ken Bowles.

As of Wednesday, Brown had received

4,605 votes, while Hooper and Bowles received 2,760 and 985, respectively.

John Ranson, also a Republican and former commissioner, ran unopposed for District 2 and collected 6,543 votes.

Reached by The SUN while collecting signs from snowy lawns on Wednesday, Ranson described feeling excitement and relief after a long election season.

"It seems like this year was really long ... but I'm excited," he said. "I'm excited to get back in there and see if we can't help out a little bit."

Looking ahead, Ranson expressed hopes to sow unity and prioritize the local business community.

"I'm a big believer in teamwork and that, you know, we all need to work together," he said.

Eying the potential reconstruction project scheduled to take place next spring in downtown Pagosa Springs, Ranson said he hoped to "work together with other entities to make sure we can somehow help our businesses through that construction

■ See Election A9



Brown

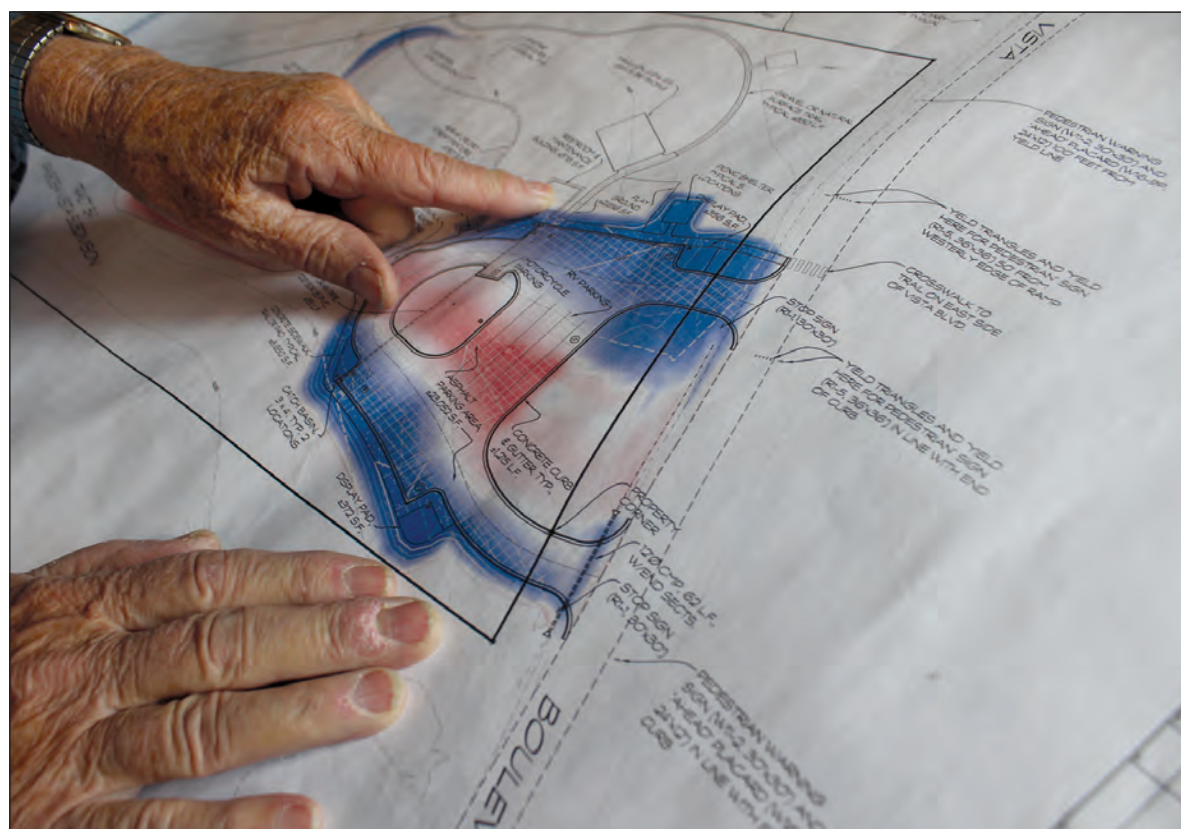


Ranson



Hailey Griego looks on as Archuleta County Clerk Kristy Archuleta collects ballots from an official drop box after polls closed on election night in Pagosa Springs Tuesday.

SUN photo/Garrett Fevinger



Jim Van Liere (pictured top right) shows off plans for the Veterans Memorial Park of Archuleta County. Van Liere, a professional engineer, has been instrumental in the development of the park. Bottom right: A memorial brick honors Michael Glynn, Van Liere's brother-in-law who was killed in Vietnam.



SUN photos/Garrett Fevinger

'Sacred ground': Jim Van Liere, decorated engineer, helps build a space to honor veterans

By Garrett Fevinger
Staff Writer

Landmarks of the West stand tall across the map of Jim Van Liere's five-decade career as a professional engineer.

Recalling a life's work from inside his home office overlooking Lake Pagosa, the 86-year-old semi-retiree offered a dizzying tour that included

stops at Empower Field at Mile High, home of the Denver Broncos; the Denver planetarium and convention center; through hotels, airports and ski complexes; an art installation that for 28 hours in 1972 stretched 200,000 square feet of curtain across Colorado's Rife Gap — all of it bearing traces of Van Liere's touch.

But for the last several years, amid other projects and commissions, Van Liere has trained

his focus on a 7.2-acre patch of windswept land off Vista Boulevard.

This once-vacant property has undergone slow but tenacious change since 2013 and, thanks to the efforts of Van Liere and others, has transformed into a place where veterans are honored and remembered in Archuleta County.

As its known today, Veterans Memorial Park

■ See Honor A8

Progress continues on possible Running Iron Ranch sale

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) Board of Directors continued to move forward with a potential sale of the Running Iron Ranch at its Oct. 30 meeting.

This action follows a series of meetings and executive sessions con-

cerning the sale by both PAWSD and the San Juan Water Conservancy District (SJWCD) Board of Directors, the joint owners of the property where a proposed reservoir would be located.

At an Oct. 24 meeting, the PAWSD board voted to file a lawsuit for declaratory judgment on if PAWSD can sell the ranch under the joint agreement between PAWSD, the SJWCD

and the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) governing its use, despite the opposition of the SJWCD to the sale.

Following an executive session at the Oct. 30 meeting, PAWSD board member Glenn Walsh explained that the board received legal counsel in the executive session concerning a "very attractive" offer to purchase the

Running Iron Ranch.

Walsh commented that this offer "has some very unique community benefits and is a multiparty offer."

He then moved to direct staff and the PAWSD board's Running Iron Ranch subcommittee, composed of Walsh and board member Bill Hudson, to continue negotiations with

■ See Sale A9

Events planned for Veterans Day

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

Veterans Day, Nov. 11, will fall on a Monday this year, but the events honoring the day will begin Saturday, Nov. 9, with a dinner and dance fundraiser hosted by Vets 4 Vets at the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association Clubhouse at 230 Port Ave.

The event is scheduled to go from 5 to 9 p.m., and will also feature live music and a silent auction. Tickets for the event can be purchased online at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/veterans-day-dinner-and-dance-tickets-1022620053107>.

On Sunday, Nov. 10, Boss Hogs restaurant will host the 249th Marine Corps birthday celebration dinner from 6 to 8 p.m.

On Monday, Nov. 11, Veterans

■ See Veterans A8

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Opinion

The Pagosa Springs SUN

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OUR VIEW

Thank you for your service

"The soldier above all others prays for peace, for it is the soldier who must suffer and bear the deepest wounds and scars of war." — Gen. Douglas MacArthur.

Over the years, we here at The SUN have been able to hear the stories of local veterans and share a tiny piece of what makes these veterans so special with our community.

It's something we're honored to do.

We've spent hours talking to veterans from across the branches of the military, hearing stories from times of war and conflict, times of peace, decades of service, loss, and the toll serving has taken on them and their families.

We've heard from veterans whose service was treated with respect, and those who were treated with insults. Families have told us stories of what it's like to stand alongside their loved ones as they served and as they've worked for years and decades to come to terms with and heal from their experiences.

These stories have made us laugh, brought us to tears and made us realize and remember the horror, bravery and good that exist in this world.

We've also had the opportunity to cover numerous events that put our veterans at the forefront, such as the annual ceremonies and the Veterans Day breakfast hosted by local eighth-graders. These events teach and remind folks of all ages that there is much to be learned from this portion of our community, and much that we can so easily find ourselves taking for granted as we go through our everyday lives in peace, without much fear of being attacked by other nations on our own soil.

We've watched students listening attentively as they hear stories from veterans while looking through scrapbooks, records and other items shared by the veterans.

We've seen veterans brought to tears, feeling like their service is truly appreciated — in some instances for the first time.

While few would call our country perfect, we recognize the United States of America would be nothing close to as good as it is without our veterans who fought to maintain those rights we hold dear in our country.

Veterans Day is observed on Nov. 11 to preserve the historical significance of the date.

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs points out, "World War I — known at the time as 'The Great War' — officially ended when the Treaty of Versailles was signed on June 28, 1919, in the Palace of Versailles outside the town of Versailles, France. However, fighting ceased seven months earlier when an armistice, or temporary cessation of hostilities, between the Allied nations and Germany went into effect on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. For that reason, November 11, 1918, is generally regarded as the end of 'the war to end all wars.'"

"Veterans Day continues to be observed on November 11, regardless of what day of the week on which it falls. The restoration of the observance of Veterans Day to November 11 not only preserves the historical significance of the date, but helps focus attention on the important purpose of Veterans Day: A celebration to honor America's veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good."

If you are or have been a part of our military, thank you for your service.
Randi Pierce

LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

100 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
November 7, 1924

The well on the new school grounds has been drilled to a depth of 380 feet, and both the flow and the temperature of the water has been increased, it now being 114 degrees Fahrenheit. Drilling has been suspended until additional equipment has been obtained.

An extensive deal was completed this week whereby C.O. Dunagan purchased the City Garage from Geo. W. Carther, and took possession of the same yesterday morning. The sale not only included the garage building and contents but the Carther home, which will be occupied by Mr. Dunagan and his family. Joe Luxa and Carl Carther will remain as mechanics at the shop with Mr. Dunagan in active charge of the business. Mr. Carther will devote his time to the City blacksmith shop, which he owns.

The Dickerson market has this week purchased and shipped to Denver three bears, making a total of nine this fall. Geo. McDonald and Otis Snooks killed the first two on the Piedra, while Carl Heintz bagged the third one on Turkey creek.

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
November 4, 1949

Fourteen girls helped Rita Lowell celebrate her birthday on Saturday. They enjoyed a picnic at the sawdust pile out by the Y. Mr. Jake Felker and Miss Doris Lowell accompanied the party.

Two new citizens arrived in Allison recently. So far I haven't heard the first name of either, but this much I know, the first arrived, Oct. 20 via the Mercy Hospital is a very welcome addition to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Glen Seibel. He and his mother came home from the hospital on Oct. 25. He is the Seibel's first son. The other arrival also came by way of Mercy Hospital. She arrived Oct. 23 and is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Shock.

Dinner guests Saturday at the Frank Oppenheimer home were Mr. and Mrs. J.O. Jones.

Mr. and Mrs. Leidy Baker returned to Pagosa Springs Tuesday night after staying several weeks in Denver. Mr. Baker appeared on a radio program. Free For All, at the KOA broadcasting station. The subject was A Safe and Sane Halloween and Mr. Baker had to tell what Halloween pranks he pulled when he was a boy.

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
November 7, 1974

A record turnout of voters in Archuleta County on election day resulted in all local incumbent county officials being re-elected. There were three close races with the closest being that for sheriff. John Evans, recently appointed to the position, won by a margin of eight votes. This is the closest contest in some years in county elections.

Construction work on more new condominiums has started at Eaton International's Pagosa development west of town. The Pagosa development now has more than 20 such units and more are planned. The area around the Pagosa Lodge has some very attractive condominium units and a large number of these are occupied.

Search and rescue parties were in this area last week looking for a lost plane. One of the parties became somewhat lost, or stranded. As a result a rescue effort was mounted to bring five people off a mountain where they were stranded. The five, however, made it down under their own power and did not suffer any serious affects from a night out in the snow.

25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
November 4, 1999

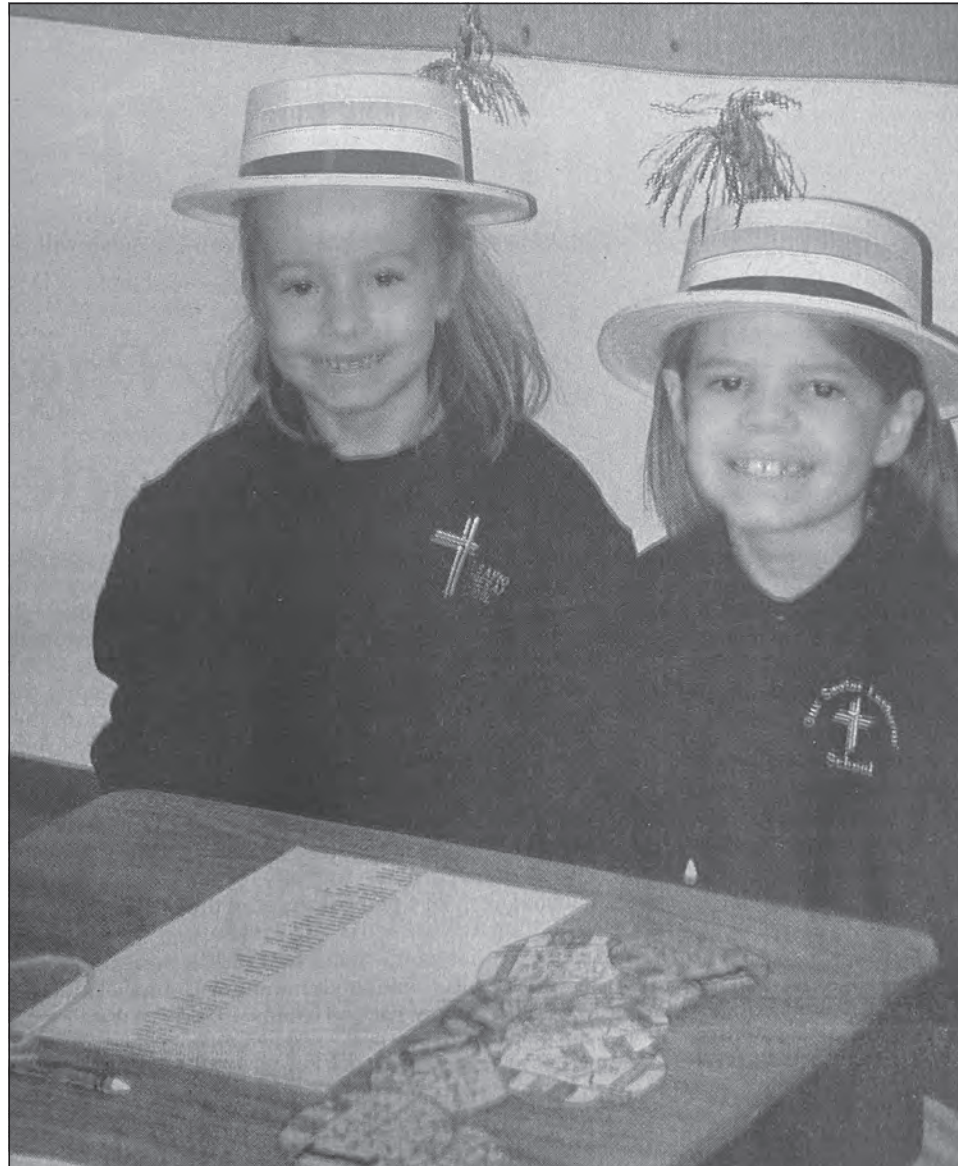
Tuesday was election day across Colorado, the first election constructed around an all mail-in ballot. Multiple elections were included in the process.

Counters in the county clerk's office started adding up the vote at about 6 p.m. Tuesday and finished by 8:45, according to June Madrid, the county clerk and election official.

Archuleta County Referendum 1A passed by a 57.4 percent for, 42.6 percent against, margin. The measure allows commissioners to retain excess revenues without limit and for an unlimited number of years. Not included are excess revenues from property taxes.

Referendum Issue C proposed by the Upper San Juan Library District carried with 1,854 votes for, 422 votes against, an 81.45 to 18.54 percent approval ratio. The approval means the library can retain revenues in excess of TABOR limits. Library officials have promised to purchase additional books and increase modern library services with the anticipated revenue increase.

LOOKING BACK



From the Nov. 4, 2004, Pagosa SUN — They were prepared for the task — red, white and blue straw hats lending importance to their roles as election judges for youngsters voting Tuesday at Our Savior Lutheran School. Madison Lewis, left, and Sara Dale had to check the "voter lists" to make sure the ballot-casters were registered, and patiently kept groups of voters moving through the process.

Archuleta County Commissioners		
Veronica Medina, Chair veronica.medina@archuletacounty.org • (970) 264-8305	Ron Maez rmaez@archuletacounty.org • (970) 264-8303	Warren Brown warren.brown@archuletacounty.org • (970) 264-8300
Pagosa Springs Town Council		
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Date	High	Low	Precipitation		
			Depth	Type	Moisture
10/29	57	28	-	NA	.02
10/30	39	25	.60	S	.20
10/31	47	20	.70	S	.05
11/1	54	22	-	NA	NA
11/2	57	24	-	NA	NA
11/3	46	28	-	NA	.25
11/4	47	28	-	NA	NA

Pagosa Springs
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Letters

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

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

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

Tri-State funding

Dear Editor:
I read with interest the recent Oct 29th Colorado Sun article "Tri-State won 2.5 billion to close coal plants, get new renewable energy for rural customers. Officials say the funds will deliver 1,280 megawatts of renewable energy, more than 100 megawatts of energy storage and 2,000 new jobs in the West." I have a high level of concern about warming greenhouse gas emissions and am thrilled to see this game changing announcement for rural electric cooperatives in Colorado, Wyoming, New Mexico, and Arizona.

Tri-States' aggressive plan to build clean, renewable energy generation and retire their coal plants has won praise from environmental groups including the Sierra Club. By winning these federal loans and grants, they now have the key financing to execute the plan and provide solar, wind, and solar hybrid plus 100 megawatts of storage to a million customers. Also planned are more than 100 megawatts of standalone energy projects, about half of which will lie in Colorado. Officials say the financing will reduce electricity rates 10% by 2034.

U.S. Sen. Michael Bennet welcomed the announcement of \$1.1

billion for rural cooperatives in Colorado through the new Empowering Rural America program.

"This funding will allow Tri-State's anticipated power generation to cut 5.8 million tons of climate pollution annually while creating more than 2,000 new jobs" states the article.

This announcement represents many hours of collaborative background work and is a win-win for Tri-State and all its 41 rural cooperative members. Tri-State's mission is similar to the mission of La Plata Electric- to provide their members a reliable, affordable and responsible supply of electricity in accordance with cooperative principles. LPEA will only remain a member on the non-profit Tri-State Cooperative till April 2026.

Susan Atkinson
Durango, Colo.

Senior Center, county partnership

Dear Editor:

Concerned citizens, Archuleta Seniors Inc. (ASI) welcomes your perspective as you may not have taken advantage of our services personally or participated in our community surveys. We would like to clarify the misconceptions around ASI's reasons for approaching the County with this proposed collaboration. Since 2014, ASI has succeeded in providing continuous quality programming for our 60+ community. Our meal programs served over 700+ unduplicated clients this year. Participation is on a suggested donation basis. No one 60+ is denied services due to an inability to pay. Our devoted, over 55 different volunteers who deliver meals and provide daily welfare checks to the homebound and assist in the Community Café. Other programs include, medical monitoring, exercise, balance, art & social programs offering support for caregivers & resources to maintain independence and combat loneliness and isolation.

Recent presentations by the ASI ED to the BOCC, demonstrate the positive impact ASI provides our aging adult community. ASI's request to form a formal collaboration with the County is not based on fiscal insolvency. Colorado's population aged 55 and older is expected to increase by 35% over the next decade. ASI's funding partner SJBAAA has informed us to expect an 18% reduction in current funding levels by 2026. ASI continues to explore funding options to address future shortfalls. A strategic plan has been developed and will be implemented and/or adjusted based on the BOCC decision.

A formal County partnership would enable ASI to qualify for additional funding & grant opportunities offered specifically to governmental agencies aiding the underserved citizens within our community. Partnering with the County would also provide our hardworking staff with the security of a living wage, health insurance, and retirement benefits that our small non-profit is currently unable to provide. This will greatly improve recruitment and retention of quality staff in the short/long term.

Regarding cutting staff, ASI's Community Café prepares meals for both our seniors and a local preschool totaling 200+ meals daily along with managing the details and demands of a professional commercial kitchen with only 3 FT and 3 PT trained staff. ASI's administrative staff consists of 3 FT employees who, along with the assistance of a volunteer board, manage the administrative duties of a

challenging non-profit. This includes programming, grant writing, training, bookkeeping, fundraising, budgeting, & the accurate detailed reporting required to remain compliant and eligible for future funding.

If the BOCC decides to collaborate and take on the skilled staff of ASI as County employees, the 280K, currently provided to ASI annually, would instead be reallocated toward wages, taxes, & benefits. The County estimates wages and benefits at 610K. An additional investment of 330K. Decision-making regarding personnel would rest primarily with the ED operating within the HR policies of Archuleta County. ASI will maintain management of all other fiscal responsibilities associated with the functioning of the non-profit & advise the ED regarding implementation of the strategic plan. ASI will continue to diligently maintain high quality needed services & invest in our amazing aging adult community.

Sincerely,

Crystal Gillich
vice president, ASI board

PLPOA gymnasium

Dear Editor:

I continue to stand vehemently opposed to a gymnasium! The survey results that was shown to us in the email last week showed in BLACK AND WHITE that a majority of owners, 53% are either NOT LIKELY or NOT AT ALL LIKELY to use a gymnasium!

It would be in the best interest of the board AND management for complete transparency for us to see who is driving this project! With the majority of owners in opposition, this seems like a project driven by special interests.

I am opposed to ANY money being spent for site plans, architects or engineers etc. for a project that the majority of property owners have repeatedly stated they will not use! If those who do think this is a good idea, maybe they should form an investment group and fund the project themselves and leave the wider PLPOA owners out of it.

There are already a lot of so called "amenities" that a large percentage of owners cannot use because they are located too far from our neighborhoods to be useful for us, yet we have to pay for them. This gymnasium

project is one of those so called amenities that will only benefit a small portion of the overall population and the cost of this should not be borne by anyone who is opposed to it, especially when the majority has repeatedly expressed opposition to it!

It is NOT the job of the PLPOA Board to push unwanted projects that will have a high price tag like this! It is your job to protect my property values and by making sure ALL properties in the community are cared for and meet community and county standards. There are far too many properties that have fallen into disrepair and are unkempt and unsightly. Where is the money being spent to enforce the existing standards?

How about taking the millions of dollars this unwanted gym will cost and partner with the county and take care of the roads? That is something EVERYONE uses and EVERYONE wants!

Gary Hardin

Running Iron Ranch

Dear Editor:

A couple of weeks ago I wrote a letter to the SUN expressing my concern about the proposed sale of Running Iron Ranch by PAWSD. This letter prompted an editorial in four parts by Bill Hudson in the Pagosa Daily Post. Bill raised issues with my letter and, in so doing, he has raised more questions for me. Hopefully, this is the beginning of a public conversation on this issue.

First, let me say that my only implied criticism of the PAWSD board is the lack of public engagement on this issue. Apparently there is lingering resentment regarding the original acquisition of this property without public approval, so it seems incumbent to not repeat the same mistake in its disposal.

The Water Supply Community Work Group (WSCWG) report from 2011 (linked in Hudson's editorial) concluded that the reservoir was not necessary and PAWSD had alternatives to secure adequate water. I understand from this report that PAWSD could conserve a great deal of water by reducing loss — at that time about 40% of processed water (four times the loss of comparable water districts); securing water rights at Four Mile and downstream from Pagosa

■ See Letters A4



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Letters

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

All letters must:

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

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

Letters quoting other people must contain proper attribution.

There is no guarantee letters will be published.

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

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

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

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8090199, 8090200, 1350.00 each
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Health board discusses draft community health improvement plan

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

The Archuleta County Board of Health (BoH) held a regular meeting on Thursday, Oct. 17, with the bulk of the meeting spent discussing the draft Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP).

Archuleta County Public Health Department Director Ashley Wilson presented the draft plan to the board, noting her presentation is a working draft.

She explained that a “more finalized draft” will be presented at the BoH’s November meeting, and an official final draft will be presented at the board’s December meeting.

“So, this is just the beginnings of the draft. We’re really focused on the priority areas,” Wilson said.

Wilson explained that the plan includes three priority areas the board has chosen to focus on, along with strategies under watch priority that focus on improving and increasing health care resources and services.

She noted that other health improvement plans that she referenced include history and context of the area, mentioning that the department will look at community assessment data from San Juan Basin Public Health and the county’s health department.

Wilson went on to mention that priority No. 1 that the board chose to focus on is access to health care with a focus on preventative services.

According to the CHIP, strategy one for the for access to health care and preventative services includes generating measurable increases in child, adolescent and adult vaccination coverage.

Wilson noted that part of the department’s core service that the state asks to be provided in order to secure funding is that the health department work toward increasing youth vaccinations needed for school admittance.

She mentioned that the state “really wants to see” either an increase in vaccinations or an increase in certified waivers for vaccinations, noting there is a group that does not have either.

Wilson also noted that obtaining certified vaccination waivers requires

education and training courses to be completed.

The second strategy under access to health services includes increasing community screening opportunities to educate the community around prevention measures that will increase overall health and postpone or prevent onset of disease.

It also includes engaging the community in order to identify leaders and community members who can influence an increase in screening opportunities.

Wilson explained that the county is able to reference data taken from a study called Healthy People 2030.

“This is also going to help us when we work to find additional funding

Wilson went on to mention that priority No. 1 that the board chose to focus on is access to health care with a focus on preventative services.

for screening,” she said, noting the data may help identify what the community is interested in in terms of screening services.

Wilson also mentioned that Healthy Archuleta is working on creating a health coalition across the county, which she indicated she is hoping will help provide baseline data for some categories the county is trying to improve services for.

The third strategy under the health care access priority involves identifying specific programs to address

prevention needs in the community, and specific measures and tools to overcome barriers.

“I think this is great,” BoH president John Bruss stated, noting the plan to be “pretty comprehensive.”

Bruss also spoke about how different diseases and vaccines can have different measurable, meaningful increases.

He used the example of measles and how that is potentially a life-threatening disease for adults and that there is a number of individuals that don’t get vaccines as adults.

So, “protecting them is really dependent on getting children vaccinated,” he said.

Wilson mentioned that the health department is looking to gather and create a lot of baseline data that is currently missing in the community.

“We don’t know what data we have,” Wilson said. “We certainly as a department do not have a lot of historical data.”

Priority No. 2 listed in the plan is behavioral health prevention services, particularly for youth.

Wilson mentioned things like screen time, social media, the lack of exercise and how the county can create conducive campaigns about negative effects on mental health of youth from those things.

Wilson explained there will be efforts to educate the community on the mental health resources and insurance options available in the community.

“We created our vision to have the healthiest county in Colorado,” Wilson added.

The overarching goal identified for priority two stated in the draft plan is to increase upstream behavioral health solutions for youth and community members while creating partnerships to increase the availability of direct mental health services.

The first strategy listed in the plan under priority two is to increase upstream interventions that could include informal support groups, parent and teen education, and addressing root causes of depressive systems.

Strategy two for behavioral health services is to increase models that reach more people, particularly for youth with substance use prevention “by increasing screenings, parent support groups, crisis intervention

and suicide prevention services, identify root cause analysis, and design programs to overcome barriers,” the draft states.

Strategy three for behavioral prevention services includes collaborating with local organizations to raise visibility of mental and behavioral health coverage to encourage more residents to seek health.

Priority No. 3 included in the draft CHIP focuses on social determinants of health, which are identified as education access and quality, health care and quality, neighborhood and built environment, social and community context, and economic stability.

“We know that there’s a lot of things outside of health care specifically that impacts people’s health, which is where the social determinants of health come in,” Wilson said.

She mentioned that the department will need to gather baseline data to see what the community is choosing to focus on in regard to the social determinants of health.

“So, we don’t have a great direction at this point on the social determinants of health,” she added.

Strategy one under the social determinants of health priority includes identifying the most pressing social determinants of health in the county.

Those efforts could include reducing the proportion of residents living in poverty, reducing household food insecurity, and increasing the proportion of schools with policies and practices that promote health and safety, Wilson explained.

She noted that every public school in the county has procedures that promote healthy practices.

Bruss mentioned there is a large group of private and home-schools in the community that could potentially need additional resources in terms of health care options.

Strategies two and three under the social determinants of health include developing a two- to five-year plan to develop programs to increase community engagement addressing the most pressing social determinants of health issues.

To view the draft CHIP in its entirety, visit https://www.archuleta-county.org/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/_10172024-1433?html=true.
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Letters

■ Continued from A3
Springs at the San Juan pumping site; construct or replace pipelines connecting existing reservoirs and treatment plants; upgrade the Snowball Treatment Plant; investigate the possibility of a reservoir on sites on the West Fork of the San Juan, Turkey Creek and the confluence of Four Mile and Snowball Creeks.

Wait, what was that last one? They are talking about a reservoir on sites PAWSD does not own. I’m a little vague on my local geography, but these sites (they also mentioned Martinez) might be a bit pricey, if available, and there would be necessary negotiations with US Forest Service. Wouldn’t it be prudent to hold off selling this land until we can evaluate what our water needs are now and what they are projected to be, from the standpoint of 2025 instead of 2011? Since 2011 we have learned that the predicted timeline for changes due to climate were overly optimistic and the pandemic changed the projection for local population growth. Why would we use outdated data and recommendations to make such an important decision? Insurance companies certainly don’t — the increased risk of wildfire due to climate change has definitely started showing up in our insurance appraisals.

Last Thursday the PAWSD board decided to entertain an offer on Running Iron Ranch from someone who will be open to having a reservoir — this sounds like a developer wanting to create pricey lake front homes, perhaps excluding public use. Meanwhile, has the public been informed about progress on the 2011 report recommendations? I cannot find the recommended dash board showing water produced, sold and lost on the PAWSD website. Have water rights been secured and what upgrades have been completed? I encourage the PAWSD board to question its own authority, engage some updated water expertise, and allow the community to learn about and give feedback on this important decision.

Lee Stopher

Positive discipline

Dear Editor:
My father was a leading business man in our town and more than that, he was known for his service to the community through various groups. Mother always let us know what he was doing and that we should be very

proud of him. Thus, since he works so hard to make us proud of him, mother raised us to be sure that things we do will make him very proud of us.

So, here is where my parents’ manner of discipline was effective. Mother would simply say, “when your father gets home, you will have to tell him what you did”. Oh my goodness guilt sat on my shoulder all day long as I waited for him to come home. Normally, as he walked in the house, he went right to his favorite chair with the evening paper in hand to relax and read. Soon after, mother would take me by the arm and walk me to where he was sitting as she said, “Ray, Patty Sue has something to tell you”. He would lay the paper down and reply, “Oh really? What is it?” I would confess my wrong doing, ending with I’m sorry. Daddy would then look straight in my face and state, “Well, just do not do that ever again!” He would then pick up the paper and continue to read.

Whew! That huge burden had been lifted from my shoulder and I was free to go play. Having to admit to Daddy that I was not perfect was such a shameful thing to have to do when I always wanted him to believe I was perfect. The experience of seeking and receiving forgiveness was much like I grew to experience as an adult today when I say my daily prayers to our Heavenly Father, that I am iiving God’s purpose for me and thankful they taught me the value of prayers for forgiveness and guidance
Love is powerful!

Patty Tillerson

Please behave

Dear Editor:
It is not surprising that Donald Trump started setting the stage for another coup attempt if he lost. (As I write this I have no idea whether or not he did.) His fragile ego will require him to claim that the election was stolen again. One of his latest fantasies is that Democrats are purposely letting illegals into the country just to get their votes. This is beyond ridiculous.

Noncitizens have been barred from voting in federal elections since 1924. In addition, in 1996, Congress made noncitizen voting in federal elections a crime punishable by fines and imprisonment. Do you honestly think that some poor refugee who just struggled to cross our border, in hopes of legally immigrating, would risk his or her chances of getting a new life here by trying to VOTE? What a crock.

And other conspiracy theories about election fraud have been banded about by MAGA folks right here in town.

In the August 29, 2024, issue of this paper someone wrote a letter regarding the 2020 election. He wrote that Trump had been leading in Georgia, Pennsylvania, Michigan and Wisconsin on the night of November 3, 2020.

Then he says “a phenomenon occurred” when a “flood” of mail-in/absentee ballots were counted. As a result Trumps “huge leads” disappeared and “evaporated” by November 7, 2020. This man quotes convicted criminal Peter Navarro as saying that this was unprecedented. Well, sir and Mr. Navarro, I have news for you. Those states have laws that determine when they can begin counting absentee/mail in ballots and it is either the day of the election or after the polls close on election day. (MI has since changed their law to allow earlier counting).

Please don’t get the MAGA crazies riled up by spreading these baseless claims for 2024. There is no conspiracy here. Just people following that pesky thing called the law.

After groundless claims of fraud around the 2020 election (60+ failed lawsuits), no proof has come to light showing that the 2020 election was anything but free and fair. PBS summarized an “exhaustive fact check” that found less than 475 potential cases of voter fraud. Not nearly enough to make a difference. Since then all states have carefully and thoroughly reviewed their processes to make sure that their systems are secure. That only one (legal) vote is counted per

person. There are security measures and numerous guardrails, overseen by both parties that ensure accuracy. America, can we please go back to trusting our election process? And stop this Trump fabricated nonsense? Considering the above I am writing to ask that all you MAGA folks behave if Donald Trump loses again. It is not so hard to believe that more than half of the voting public does not trust or like that man. Please tell your MAGA friends across the country to act like Americans and accept the results of another free and fair election if he loses. We don’t need a repeat of January 6th.

Sue Wells

FACILITIES MASTER PLAN: PROGRESS & NEXT STEPS

ATTENTION COMMUNITY MEMBERS:
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- Wednesday, November 13** • 6 PM @ Middle school
- Thursday, November 14** • 6 PM @ Elementary school

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Obituaries

Amador 'Max' Chavez

Sept. 26, 1935-Oct. 22, 2024

It is with great sorrow to announce that Amador Max Chavez, 89, of Apple Valley, Calif., passed away on Oct. 22, 2024.



Amador, known as Max, was born on Sept. 26, 1935, in Pagosa Springs, Colo., to Juanita Rodriguez Chavez and Jose Amador Chavez. He was raised on his family's farm in Carracas, Colo. He was one of nine siblings. He graduated as valedictorian from Ignacio High School and afterward traveled to Utah to work in the mines. Shortly after, Max relocated to California in 1957, where he enlisted in the United States Army and served for four years. He landed a job at Proto Tool Company as a tool pusher and, later, a tool and die maker, where he met the love of his life, Patricia. Max and Patricia married on July 26, 1958, in Pomona, Calif.

Max was known for his love and dedication for the "underdogs." While at Proto Tool he became a shop steward, where he advocated for his colleagues. This led Max to pursue a career as a union representative for the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAMAW). Max fought so fiercely and successfully for the IAMAW employees in his district that he was elected directing business manager for the Machinists Union's western territory and held this title until his retirement. Max retired from the IAMAW in 2000 after a career filled with countless achievements, accolades and commendations from the union and local and state government entities. Throughout his life, he worked closely with and contributed to many organizations, including the Guide Dogs of America, which held a special place in his heart. Max had a steadfast devotion for all animals, and he was known to stop on the side of the road to pick up animals in need, feed any strays he came across and give them the love they needed.

Max is survived by his loving wife, Patricia; his children Rick and wife Donna, Teresa, Andy, Katherine and

husband Jesse; grandchildren Jessica, Davey and wife Maggie, Jasmine, Jeremy, AJ, Sophia, Tristan and Kaitlyn; great-grandson Oliver; brother Chris, and numerous nieces and nephews. Max is preceded in death by his son, Ronnie. Max is revered as a great man, a man with a heart of gold, infectious empathy and a remarkable ability to connect with people from all walks of life. Most notable was his deep love for his family and friends. He will be sorely missed by all those who knew and loved him.

A funeral service preceded by a rosary in memory of Max was held at Our Lady of the Desert Church in Apple Valley, Calif., on Nov. 4, 2024. Burial followed at Sunset Hills Cemetery in Apple Valley. The family requested that contributions to Guide Dogs of America could be made in his memory in lieu of flowers.

Marian Joyce Rice

"Those who trust in the Lord will find new strength. They will soar high with wings like eagles."

Marian Joyce Rice, our family rock and matriarch, left this world on Oct. 15, 2024, to join our Lord and Savior. She is soaring with the angels now.



Marian was born on Oct. 4, 1936, to Theodore and Alma Handeland, the 11th of 12 children and the first to be born in a hospital, in Minot, N.D. Growing up on the family farm in rural Lansford, N.D., cultivated her love for good home cooking (in large portions), family fun, animals and the great outdoors. She thought of herself as a tomboy in those early years and recalled the fun she would have playing outside with her older brothers and jumping out of the hayloft.

Marian was a cheerleader for Lansford High and, while participating in a Kenmare basketball tournament, she first laid eyes on her future husband, Leonard (Len) O. Rice. Not long after, Marian met Len at the St. Patrick's Day dance in 1954. He asked her to dance the last dance of the night, and the rest is history. Marian graduated as valedictorian that spring, and Leonard and Marian were married on Nov. 21, 1954. Shortly after their wedding, they

made their home in Minot, N.D., where they raised their four children. This November would have marked their 70th wedding anniversary.

Marian was a true servant of God, using her talents to serve her church, family and friends. She had a love for music — singing in the Cathedral Choir at First Lutheran Church for 30 years, playing the tuba in high school, teaching herself to play the piano or dancing to the music with Len. She was an excellent cook and over the years baked hundreds of pies for their church booth at the North Dakota State Fair. She served as a scout leader and school room mother for her children, creating many innovative activities for the groups. Marian enjoyed playing couples tennis, bowling, skiing and travel. They often took the family on cross-country road trips and had the opportunity to do some international traveling, meeting relatives in Norway and exploring Europe.

Marian had a strong desire to live in the mountains, and that desire was fulfilled in 1996, when they bought a ranch outside of Pagosa Springs, Colo. They joined the Pagosa Bible Church and became active in their church and ranch community. She lived her last 28 years in an environment she truly loved.

Marian will be greatly missed in this world, but we rejoice in knowing she is with her Savior in Heaven.

Marian is survived by her husband of 70 years, Leonard O. Rice; children, Cindee Rice, Susan Schneider (Steve), Jon T. Rice (Sherry) and Deborah Rice; her brothers, Larry and Donald Handeland; sisters-in-law, Carol LeTourneau, Betty Peterson (Gary), Linda Girard; and her 12 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, Theodore and Alma (Weiss) Handeland; six sisters, Helen Helming, Elvira Anderson, Hazel Pendley, Gladys Abernathy, Erma Vlach, Doris Huddleston; and three of her brothers — Melvin, Theodore (Ted) and Lyle Handeland.

A memorial celebration for Marian will be held at the Pagosa Bible Church, Pagosa Springs, Colo., on Nov. 23 at 4 in the afternoon. A second memorial service in Minot, N.D., is planned for early spring 2025.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Pagosa Bible Church, your own church or planting a tree in her memory.

Gertrude Ellen Van Natter

Gertrude Ellen Van Natter (Pagosa Springs, Colo.), passed away peacefully in her sleep on Aug. 24, 2024.



Gertrude (Gertie) was born May 13, 1933, at Mary H. Donaldson's Woman's Hospital in Denver, Colo. Her parents were Ray E. Olson and Gertrude C. (Dawson) Olson. She had two brothers who are both deceased, Ray (Sonny) and Charles (Charley). Gertie's parents owned Ray's Food Market, located at 26th and Irving in north Denver. She and her brothers assisted their parents with operating the grocery store while they were growing up. In 1951, Gertie graduated from North High School (the same high school that her mother graduated from in 1923).

Gertie and James (Jim) were married at St. Dominic's Catholic Parish Feb. 6, 1955. They were married 46 years until Jim's passing Feb. 27, 2001. They are survived by their six children: James (Jim) — Pagosa Springs, Colo.; Dana — Colorado Springs; Kathy — Pagosa Springs, Colo.; Jayne — Naples, Fla.; Lisa — Melbourne, Fla.; and Robert (Bob) — Brainerd, Minn. Gertie has 20 grandchildren and 29 great-grandchildren.

Gertie was community-oriented and volunteered whenever and wherever she could, including Memorial Hospital in Colorado Springs, Garden of the Gods Park and many other places. After her husband, Jim, passed away, she went back to school at age 68 and obtained her real estate license and began selling real estate. She was also a world traveler and went on many trips throughout the world with her childhood friends who she maintained friendships with for a lifetime.

She was strikingly beautiful, pretty face, blue eyes, bob hair style and she frequently wore her trademark fedora hat. Gertie had an easy laugh, self-deprecating sense of humor, was kind and sweet hearted, and her inward beauty radiated outward to all who knew her.

Gertie was buried next to her husband at Eastonville Cemetery in Black Forest, Colo., on Aug. 30. As per her wishes, there was a family graveside service and a reception following.

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Colorado's Low-income Energy Assistance Program accepting applications

By John Rosa

Colorado Department of Human Services

With energy costs expected to rise more than 10 percent nationally this winter, Colorado's Low-income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP) can help eligible Coloradans pay a portion of their winter home heating bills by making a onetime payment directly to the utility company on behalf of each LEAP-eligible household.

LEAP started accepting applications on Nov. 1, and will accept applications through April 30, 2025.

Last winter, more than 85,000 Coloradans statewide received an average benefit of \$455 from LEAP.

LEAP recipients may also be eligible

to receive furnace repair and replacement in heat-related emergencies and weatherization services pending the results of a home energy audit.

"Eligible families can expect to receive between \$200 to \$1,000 in energy assistance depending on the type of heating fuel, household income and other factors," said Theresa Kullen, LEAP manager for the Food and Energy Assistance Division at the Colorado Department of Human Services. "This means they will have more money to spend on other essentials like groceries,

medicine or rent. Anyone who thinks they may be eligible should apply."

To qualify for LEAP, Coloradans may have an income up to 60 percent of the state median income, which is a household income of less than \$78,060 a year for a family of four.

Additionally, LEAP recipients must pay home heating costs directly to a utility company or landlord as part of their rent and have at least one U.S. citizen or permanent legal resident of the U.S. living in the household.

To access an application, visit the

LEAP website. Online applications are processed through the Colorado PEAK system. You can also call the HEAT HELP line at (866) HEAT-HELP [(866) 432-8435] to receive an application via mail or email or visit your county department of human services office to pick up or drop off an application.

Archuleta County Democratic Club to meet Nov. 18

By Lynn Frederick

Archuleta Democratic Club

The Archuleta County Democratic Club will meet for lunch at the Coyote Moon at 11:30 a.m. on Monday, Nov. 18.

The speaker will be Will Ridlehoover, executive director of Build Pagosa.

Build Pagosa is a nonprofit organization that partners with Archuleta School District and local businesses and individuals to provide training for construction trades at the Pagosa Springs High School.

Its mission statement is "to provide a skilled workforce for the Pagosa Springs Community through public-private partnerships, financial support and workforce training."

Anyone interested in seeing our local students workforce-ready should attend this informative meeting.

The Archuleta County Democratic Club meets every month. The club gives local Democrats the opportunity to meet with other Democrats and to hear speakers from the community, meet candidates for local and national offices, and hear about topics of timely interest. All are welcome to attend. Please plan on coming by 11:30 a.m. to order lunch.

For more information, email lynnfederick1@gmail.com.

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November 9, 2024

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SPONSORED CONTENT



Peak Health Alliance makes a comeback: A new era of affordable care in Colorado

By Lauren Wong
O'Rourke Media Group

With renewed purpose and new insurance offerings for 2024, Peak Health Alliance is back thanks to their new partnership with Denver Health Medical Plan (DHMP), a nonprofit committed to making health care more accessible. DHMP's Elevate Health Plans offer Colorado Option plans in Bronze, Silver, and Gold tiers, along with a Bronze HSA option, specifically designed for individuals and families seeking independent insurance coverage.

After their previous partner, Bright Health, folded in 2022, Peak spent all of 2023 rebuilding with their new partner. With Peak's help, DHMP has expanded into nine new counties in 2024, including Lake, Park, Summit and Grand. They are now offering plans for 2025 during open enrollment - Nov. 1, 2024, through Jan. 15, 2025.

Richard Cimino's path to leading Peak Health Alliance was not a straight one. After 25 years in the Air Force, he moved to Grand County, Colorado, and ran for County Commissioner in 2016. "I thought people's concerns were mostly with roads, public safety, and ambulance service," he recalls. "But 80% of the concerns I heard were about healthcare, specifically health insurance."

Driven by these concerns, Cimino began testifying on healthcare legislation in the Colorado State Legislature, where he advocated for reinsurance programs and healthcare reforms. His involvement with Peak began in 2019, joining its board as the alliance expanded into Grand County. In early 2024, he became the Executive Director following Ann Ladd's retirement, committing to Peak's mission full-time.

"That's how I got into it... It was the public outcry and seeing what I could do. One big shift we're doing recently is learning how to help all sides of healthcare. It's not just about insurance and costs, it's also about rural hospitals and providers," Cimino said. "I lobbied hard to protect them from legislation last session that would have eliminated peer review which would have been really bad for hospitals."

Cimino also hopes to engage at

the federal level, advocating for improvements to the Affordable Care Act (ACA) to better serve rural and underserved communities. "We believe in the ACA, but there are adjustments needed—especially in the risk adjustment pool," he explains.

Though Peak Health Alliance offers insurance plans, Cimino clarifies that they are not an insurance company. Instead, Peak functions as a healthcare purchasing coalition. While most states have multiple healthcare coalitions, they're the only one in Colorado.

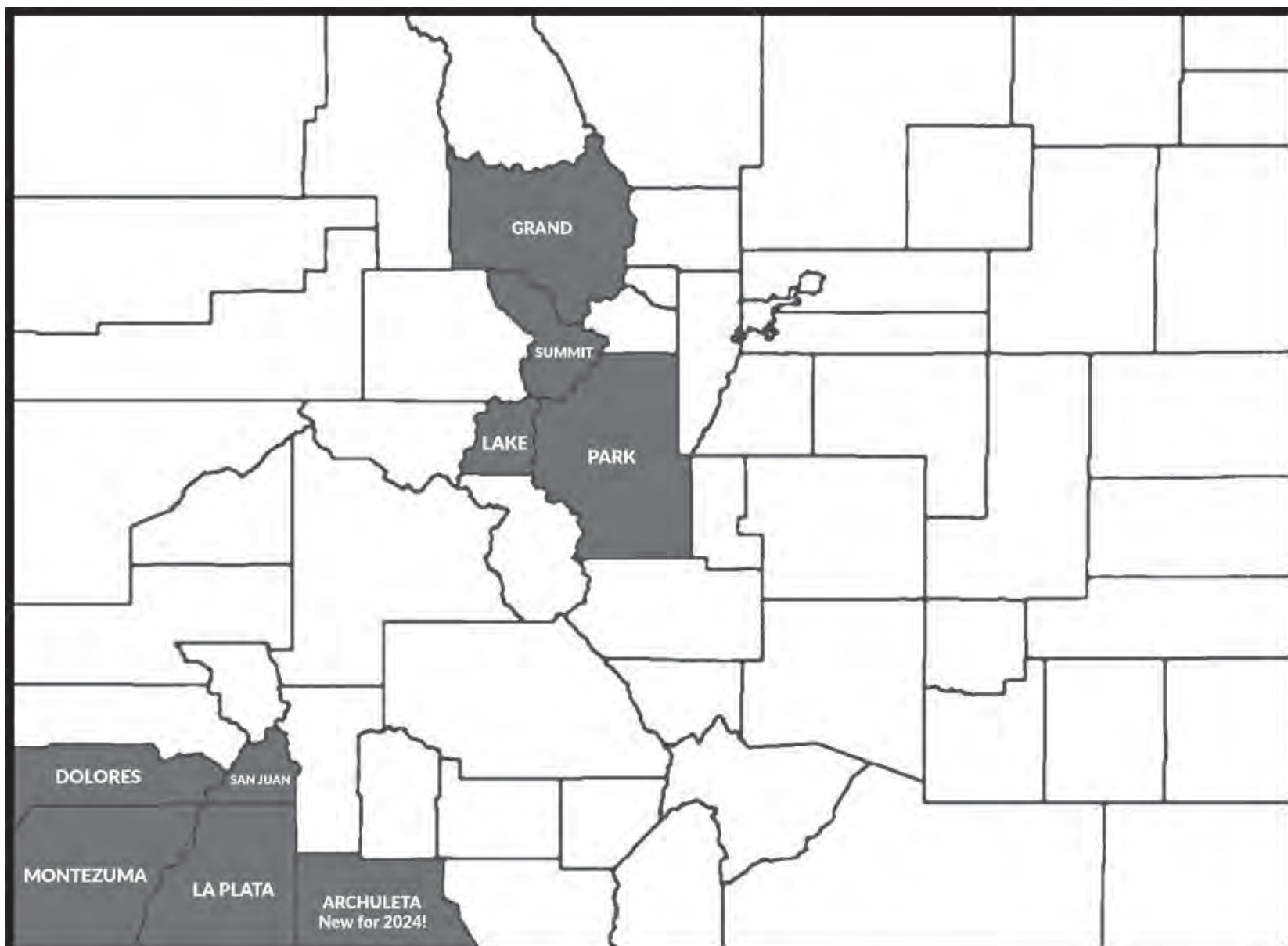
Their role is to negotiate rates with providers, including doctors, hospitals, therapists, and behavioral health specialists, aiming to make local care more affordable. Their three short term goals are to lower insurance costs, increase the number of people covered and drive more business to local hospitals to reduce out migration.

"While these hospitals are lowering the rate, it's really hard for rural hospitals to survive so we have to support the providers as well," Cimino said. "We can't just lower costs and that's it, we're going to be moving into multifaceted support for brokers, hospitals as well as consumers."

Looking ahead, the goal is to continue expanding throughout Colorado and into neighboring states.

There's been concerns and confusion about DHMP and their connection to the Denver Health Hospital system in Denver. The hospital was founded in 1860 and in 1997 they formed the DHMP. They have different CEOs, staff and are separate operations. Cimino explains that over time he hopes community members will be shown DHMP's stability and see that they're here to stay.

"It's hard and it's going to take time. Progress is slow when fixing healthcare, it's a nickel at a time. I welcome the challenge year by year, month by month in seeing where opportunities are, fighting each legislative session, meeting at conferences with these hospitals and patients and with the associations," Cimino said. "It's going to take a lot of time, but I'm ready to dedicate a good decade or more of my life to this mission. I'll look back in 10 years and see how much progress we have made."



Throughout this journey, Cimino has come to see firsthand how brokers are such a key piece in healthcare.

"If you want to support a nonprofit whose long term mission is to steadily improve healthcare you might consider getting an Elevate plan to support that mission," Cimino said. "If the price is close, consider: do you want to help a nationwide for-profit company or do you want to be a member that supports nonprofits dedicated to this mission of making healthcare better all around?"

For more information about Peak Health Alliance visit peakhealthalliance.org.

Peak Health Alliance is a member of the Preferred Business Program.



Business



Main Street board mulls tech-savvy solutions for construction challenges

By Garrett Fevinger
Staff Writer

With details about the plan to reconstruct a stretch of U.S. 160 in downtown Pagosa Springs still forthcoming, the Main Street Advisory Board is continuing to search for ways to amass support — and mitigate disruption — among businesses likely to be impacted by the project.

Consulting with a web developer and marketing firm on Oct. 31, board members questioned how to direct traffic and dollars to businesses when conveniences like access and parking are limited.

One possible answer gaining traction is a revamped Main Street website, which board members speculated could serve a twofold purpose as both an informational hub for all things reconstruction-related and a tool for promoting businesses before, during and after work is completed.

"It became evident that this pending road construction was coming up and a plan needed to be put in place," said Matt Molenaar, whose firm met with the Main Street board on Oct. 31. "There's going to be some hardships, and this is something that a group of people could come together [for] and try to offset and keep businesses afloat."

Molenaar reported his company has been successful in helping the city of Yuma, Ariz., navigate a similar construction project, and, if hired by the board, proposed implementing marketing strategies like short-form videos spotlighting local businesses, social media campaigns and deploying software tools capable of lassoing tourists visiting the surrounding areas.

"It inspires some ideas beyond ... our website just being kind of informational, brochure-ware," board member Haz Saïd commented during an earlier meeting about the website on Oct. 10.

"That's what helped our board think bigger [about] this project," Main Street Coordinator Kathleen McFadden added. "This is something that we aspire to."

Seeking to scale Yuma's project to local realities, Pagosa Springs Mayor and Main Street board member Shari Pierce asked how redoubled marketing efforts would help the town surmount challenges like parking and way-finding during its own project — which is expected to take two seasons to complete.

"Have you seen these programs be successful in getting people to want to park-and-ride or park-and-walk on into those blocks where that heavy

[work] is going on?" Pierce asked.

"That, specifically, isn't something that we've had to tackle," Molenaar replied. "But, I'll say, regardless of the challenge or regardless of the message, this platform works as far as communicating ideas out to people."

The Main Street board may have an opportunity to begin refining its message as soon as Nov. 18, when the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) is anticipated to release limited information about what bids, if any, were received for the project and whether or not a contractor was selected.

That update is scheduled for 6 p.m. at Bliss Scoops and Sweets, located at 470 Pagosa St., on Nov. 18.

"They [CDOT] will not tell us the contractor names or bid amounts, but they will tell us if they are moving forward with selecting a contractor," McFadden wrote in an email to The SUN.

According to board president Rick Holter, building public awareness around the project while also girding business owners for potential disruptions could require a multiphase approach.

"We can build the foundation for this [website] in the next couple of months ... and then look to next

spring to summer, when theoretically the project is starting to crank up, as when we add on the bells and whistles kind of stuff," he said.

As part of that effort, Holter emphasized the importance of sharing a vision for what lies beyond the rubble and hassle of construction — something he suggested a new website and visual renderings could help promote.

"There's a whole lot of trepidation about this construction project," Holter said. "We want to put out there that once we get through the trouble, there's a bright future ahead."

For its next steps, McFadden indicated the board would plan to hold additional discussions about its marketing approach and take a closer look at the costs associated with hiring Molenaar, whose services board members have stated would start at around \$10,000.

"I really think that this plan, or some variation on it, is going to make the difference to keep everybody in business and to keep that vision [alive]," Molenaar told the board during his closing pitch. "Sometimes just having something to focus on keeps that hope going and keeps you going through the hard times. Plus, it'll work."

garrett@pagosasun.com

Holiday community events open for participation

By Mary Jo Coulehan
Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce

With the holidays barreling down upon us, oftentimes we get caught up in the busyness of the holidays, especially if you own a business.

As a business or community organization, can you take time to give back a little to the community? In one instance, you may be rewarded with more than just the great feeling of giving back and contributing.

Holiday Lighting Contest

This lighting contest involves residents, commercial buildings and store frontage.

This annual contest rewards the participants with cash rewards and marketing equivalence.

Here's how it works: decorate your home or business by Nov. 29. The lights need to stay on every evening between 6 and 8 p.m. until Dec. 31. While the lights don't come on until

Nov. 29, you must register to enter your home or business by Friday, Nov. 15.

A link to register will be on the home page of the Chamber website, www.pagosachamber.com. If you are decorating, why not enter to win some prizes and also be on the tour for people to see your lovely decorations?

For residents, you could win \$1,000, \$500 or \$250. For free-standing businesses, the prizes are the same except for the amounts are in the equivalence of advertising credit with The Pagosa Springs SUN. For storefronts, the prizes are \$500, \$250 and \$125 in marketing credits with The SUN.

Go to <https://bit.ly/2024LightingContestSignUp>.

Salvation Army red kettle bell ringing

Started in 1891 by Salvation Army Capt. Joseph McFee in San Francisco,

Calif., to provide a free Christmas dinner for the destitute, this annual event takes place in front of City Market from Nov. 24 to Dec. 24 except for Thanksgiving Day.

Many organizations participate in this event every year. However, there are still a few days and slots still open, including a few Sundays.

Is this a program that your business or organization might adopt? Or perhaps a few smaller businesses could band together to cover a full day.

With 90 percent of the funds staying in Archuleta County, it is very possible that some of your employees have been the recipient of their generosity through food banks, emergency services, family support programs or rehabilitation programs. Some of your employees might want to give back and support this worthy cause.

For more information, you can contact Tom Bruin, volunteer coordinator, at thomas.bellringing@tuta.com or (224) 730-7910.

Old-Fashioned Christmas

This unique event takes strollers along the Riverwalk between Town Park and Centennial Park, Mary Fisher Park and the Visitor Center on Dec. 21.

Along the route, businesses, ■ See Events A8

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Sherpa Real Estate Merges with Jim Smith Realty to Innovate the Mountain Living Experience in Southwest Colorado

Sherpa Real Estate

Sherpa Real Estate, a burgeoning real estate firm in Pagosa Springs, Colorado, is pleased to announce its merger with Jim Smith Realty, the area's oldest and largest real estate company, with over 37 years of service.

This strategic merger aims to enhance real estate services in the region, blending innovation with deep-rooted experience to meet the needs of a rapidly growing market.

Founded in 2016, Sherpa Real Estate has quickly built a reputation for its concierge-level services, providing clients with personalized, on-the-ground guidance as they explore the unique mountain lifestyle of Southwest Colorado.

The merger with Jim Smith Realty combines Sherpa's modern approach with the extensive history and knowledge Jim Smith Realty has cultivated since 1987.

"Jim Smith, in my opinion, was Pagosa's original creative thinker in this space from the late '80s forward," said Chris Liverett, founder of Sherpa Real Estate.

"We are excited to combine his long history with our fresh, innovative concepts, and share a mutual desire to provide the best services to our clients."

Liverett added, "This merger brings together two great companies with a shared vision of delivering local expertise to clients who come from all over the world."

Jim Smith, broker/owner of Jim Smith Realty, echoed this excitement. "As the leader of Jim Smith Realty for the past 37 years, I would like to thank everyone who trusted us with their real estate needs. With great anticipation, we join hands with Chris Liverett and Sherpa Real Estate in this merger, which we believe will offer enhanced services and expertise to our clients. Chris and Sherpa Real Estate are bringing more innovation into this marketplace than any other company, and we are thrilled to merge our past with their future."

The merger reflects the growth of Pagosa Springs' real estate market, which has seen increasing interest from both local buyers and out-of-state clients seeking to experience the area's scenic beauty, outdoor activities, and laid-back mountain lifestyle.

By joining forces, the two companies will now offer an expanded range of services, blending cutting-edge technology and marketing with decades of local experience to provide seamless, customized

real estate solutions.

About Sherpa Real Estate

Founded in 2016, Sherpa Real Estate has helped clients realize their mountain lifestyle dreams by offering trustworthy real estate services in Southwest Colorado. Known for its boots-on-the-ground approach, Sherpa provides local guidance and personalized service for those seeking homes and land in Pagosa Springs and the surrounding areas.

About Jim Smith Realty

Established in 1987, Jim Smith Realty has been a pillar of the Pagosa Springs real estate community for over 37 years. The company has earned a reputation for delivering personalized guidance and expert knowledge to clients seeking residential, commercial, and land properties in Southwest Colorado.

Contact information

Email: info@sherparealestate.com.

Website: www.sherparealestate.com.

Sherpa Real Estate and Jim Smith Realty are part of The Pagosa Springs SUN sponsored content program called Spotlight.



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Honor

■ Continued from front

of Archuleta County is a vision its board of the same name has helped keep alive for more than a decade, along with multiple county commissions and countless volunteers.

Reflecting on the journey, Van Liere recounted the early days in 2013 when the fledgling board didn't have enough money for stationary or a checking account, and the progress the park's made since then.

"It started one day when Larry Olin, who was one of the first board members, came over and we got to talking," Van Liere recalled. "He invited me to come because I was a registered engineer in the state of Colorado and I had done a lot of work [locally]. They didn't have any money for anything, so I donated \$100 at the first meeting... From there on, I just sort of got involved."

For Van Liere, his connection to the project was always personal.

"I had three brothers, and three of us were in the Army," Van Liere said.

"Good 'ol Bob had to join the Navy," he added, chuckling. "I had uncles in World War II, one of them was a German POW [prisoner of war] for over a year. He survived. One uncle had three ships sunk from under him."

Those stories and others are memorialized in bricks that form the walls of a structure Van Liere designed and helped build for the park.

One of the names belongs to his wife Cathy's brother, Michael Glynn, who, according to the couple, was killed in Vietnam one day before he was due to return home.

Standing inside the cabin the couple purchased in 2004, Cathy described visiting the park and touching her brother's name in remembrance.

Plans to expand that installation and the park itself are still underway.

Last month, the Archuleta County



SUN photo/Garrett Fevinger

Jim Van Liere stands with a model of a planned sculptural tower representing the seven branches of the armed forces. The sculpture is planned to be located at the Veterans Memorial Park of Archuleta County.

Board of County Commissioners granted approval for a \$30,000 gazebo that will provide additional shelter for visitors — an improvement Van Liere noted he hopes could be completed by the end of the year.

There are additional plans for a Van Liere-designed memorial area and improvements to the all-season trails, as well.

Someday, the park's board hopes to add a sculptural tower that will stand 35 feet tall and represent all seven branches of the armed forces. Inside Van Liere's workshop, a miniature version of the Freedom Tower is already complete.

"It's modeled after one that I designed for the Oklahoma City bomb-

ing memorial," he said, lightly turning the gleaming sculpture. "It's all stainless steel, so it's going to cost a few pennies to build."

After a career of high-profile projects that have lofted him over canyons and stadiums and at least one case of dynamite — "That was interesting," he said — Van Liere's dedication to the one he's volunteered to help build in Pagosa Springs is perhaps best explained by a few worn words stamped along the edge of his desk.

"Success should be defined as being quietly creative," it reads.

"That's been my motto for years," said Van Liere, who sat surrounded by plans and models of projects past and future.

It's a motto that's served him well, and one that's helped Veterans Memorial Park — "sacred ground," as Van Liere describes it — slowly become a reality.

Asked about his enduring commitment to the park, Van Liere acknowledged the many local citizens and agencies that have participated in building it, and also those for whom it's designed.

"I've always admired the military," he said. "I just feel that this is a really great country and we should take care of it, and honor the people that have preserved it for us."

garrett@pagosasun.com

Blood drive to be hosted at high school

By Hailey Sams

Future Business Leaders of America

The Pagosa Springs chapter of Future Business Leaders of America will host a blood drive in the high school library on Nov. 14 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Anyone 18 years or older can donate, and 16- to 17-year-olds can do so with a signed parent permission form. Permission forms can be found with FBLA advisor Sally Riggs in room B13 at the high school.

Before donating, it is recom-

mended that you eat a good meal and drink plenty of water; our staff will provide a snack and beverage after you donate.

Please bring an ID with you. Appointments and additional information can be found at vitalant.org.

Veterans

■ Continued from front

Day, celebrations will begin at 7:30 a.m. with the 23rd annual Veterans Day breakfast hosted by the Pagosa Springs Middle School (PSMS) at the Ross Aragon Community Center.

PSMS Principal Chris Hinger writes in an email to The SUN, "This very patriotic event includes a flag folding ceremony, patriotic music, and this year, we will be specifically honoring our Vietnam Veterans. It is a great way for our community to say thank you and for our 8th graders to learn more about our Veterans and their service to our country."

Archuleta County Veteran Services Officer Raymond Taylor encouraged all veterans to come out and give kids the opportunity to meet and speak with veterans of all kinds.

The flag-folding ceremony will

take place at 9 a.m.

"Any veteran is invited, and their spouse," Taylor said.

Taylor also mentioned the PSMS band will be performing, along with a community choir that will perform the national anthem.

"It's quite special for me," Taylor said, explaining the celebration gives the opportunity for kids to learn more about the military.

At 11 a.m. on Nov. 11, there will be a ceremony at Veterans Memorial Park located at 220 Vista Blvd. that will feature a fly-over ceremony.

The last event planned on Nov. 11, is a spaghetti dinner hosted by the Knights of Columbus at Pope John Paul II Church at 353 S. Pagosa Blvd.

The dinner begins at 4 p.m. and is free for all veterans; all others will be charged \$10 for the dinner.

Operation Green Light

For the second year, Archuleta County is participating in Operation Green Light for Veterans, a nationwide initiative counties participate in to show support for veterans by lighting buildings with green lights from Nov. 4 to Nov. 11.

According to the National Association of counties, "By shining a green light, county governments and our residents will let veterans know that they are seen, appreciated and supported."

Photos of residences or businesses participating in Operation Green Light can be submitted to the county at pio@archuletacounty.org.

For more information about the initiative, call (970) 989-2073.

clayton@pagosasun.com

Birth



Proud parents, Clint and Shelby McKnight are happy to announce the birth of their daughter, Gwendolyn Grace McKnight, born Sept. 24, 2024, in Denver, Colo.

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Events

■ Continued from A7

groups and nonprofits adopt a space to share good cheer with the community.

This is not a commercial event for your organization, and fundraising and the sales of products is prohibited. Participating certainly gives your business or organization exposure, and all participants are encouraged to create a welcoming ambiance.

You can create a musically themed booth or other fun experience to cre-

ate that "old-fashioned Christmas" theme.

To find out more about how your business or organization can participate, contact Becky Engel at (970) 585-4820 or coordinator@visitpagosasprings.com.

It is hard to make time and take time out of your business to participate in community events. That being said, if we don't participate, these events don't happen.

Have you even reached out to staff to see if they would like to participate

in some community activity? There are many other activities also being held this time of year such as food, gift and clothing drives. If you can't commit time, can you commit to even helping with a drive? We are a giving community and there are lots of opportunities.

While we shop local to support our businesses, we can also clean out closets, pick up an extra can or box of food, and enjoy our beautiful community as we engage in the various events this holiday season.

Thanksgiving issue Thursday, November 28 Early Deadlines

Display Advertising
Noon, Friday, November 22

Classified Advertising
10 a.m., Monday, November 25

Too Late to Classify 10 a.m., Monday, November 25

Legal Advertising, Articles & Letters
Noon, Thursday, November 21

The Pagosa Springs SUN office will be closed Thursday, November 28 and Friday, November 29 in observance of Thanksgiving

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Winter storm drops more than a foot of snow on Wolf Creek Pass

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

A winter storm rolled through Pagosa Country this week that brought multiple inches of snow to lower elevations, with more than a foot falling in the mountains as of Wednesday, Nov. 6.

Snow started falling on the mountains on Monday and began making its way into the valleys late Tuesday evening, and is expected to continue through Friday night, according to the National Weather Service (NWS).

According to reports from the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow Network, snowfall totals from Monday, Nov. 4, through

Wednesday, Nov. 6, at 1 p.m. around the county varied from 5.5 inches in the northern portions of the county to 1.5-2.4 inches reported around the Town of Pagosa Springs and in the Aspen Springs area.

Snowfall totals in the Chromo area ranged from 3.8 inches to 5.4 inches.

As of 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 6, Wolf Creek Ski Area reported a total of 19 inches from the storm, with 14 inches falling overnight on Tuesday, Nov. 5.

That brings the year-to-date snowfall total at the ski area to 55 inches.

Snow is expected to continue falling through Friday at the ski area and across lower elevations throughout Archuleta County, according to the

NWS.

According to the NWS, today, Thursday, Nov. 7, temperatures in Pagosa Springs are forecasted to reach a high of 41 degrees and fall to a low of 17 degrees. A 50 percent chance of snow showers is expected throughout the day and into the night.

For Friday, Nov. 8, the high is forecast to be 46 degrees with partly sunny skies. The low is forecast at 20 degrees, with a 40 percent chance of snow showers expected during the day and into the evening.

Chances for snow will disappear on Saturday, Nov. 9, as the high is forecast at 49 degrees with sunny skies during the day. The low is forecast at 16 degrees with mostly clear

skies at night.

For Sunday, Nov. 10, the high will be 54 degrees with sunny skies and a low of 17 degrees with mostly clear skies at night.

Snow showers are expected to continue on the surrounding mountains, with Wolf Creek Pass anticipated to receive up to an additional 8 inches from Thursday through Friday night, according to the NWS.

Sunny skies will return to the mountains this weekend with clear skies and high of 32 degrees forecasted for Wolf Creek pass on Saturday, Nov. 9.

Sunday will be similar on the pass, with a high of 35 degrees and sunny skies in the forecast.

Election

Continued from front period," and added, "I think it's our No. 1 priority."

It was a priority he and Brown could agree upon.

"In my mind it's the most critical thing right now," Brown said Wednesday of the planned project. "We need to be very mindful to try and support our small businesses and aid our tourism in a manner that's responsible."

Assessing his greater feelings after election night, Brown said, "I am so humbled that the vast majority of voters have seen fit to retain me as a commissioner. I am grateful that, above and beyond the political rhetoric, they've been paying attention to the work that I've been doing for the county and for them."

Other races

The majority of Archuleta County voters chose Republican Donald J. Trump over Democrat Kamala Harris for president — departing from trends elsewhere in Colorado that ultimately awarded Harris the state's 10 electoral votes.

Trump received 55.81 percent of the local vote to Harris's 41.72 percent.

In other races, Archuleta County

voters selected Republican Jeff Hurd over Democrat Adam Frisch to represent Congressional District 3 in the U.S. Congress, and Republican Sherri M. Wright over Democrat Ellen Angeles to represent the district on the State Board of Education. Both results were aligned with those from around the state.

Local voters split from statewide results in the at-large regent race for the University of Colorado, with Republican Eric Rinard winning the local vote but Democrat Elliott Hood prevailing statewide. Republican Ray Scott, representing District 3 as regent, won locally and statewide.

Archuleta County voters also chose Republican Cleave Alan Simpson over Democrat Vivian Smotherman as state senator for District 6, as did voters statewide.

In the state representative race, Archuleta County voters chose Clark Craig, a Republican, over Democrat rival Katie Stewart in District 59. Stewart prevailed in state results released Wednesday.

District Attorney Sean Murray, running unopposed, won in the 6th Judicial District, and Archuleta County Coroner Brad Hunt won reelection.

In the state judicial races,

Archuleta County voters agreed with those from around the state that Supreme Court justices Maria Berkenkotter, Brian Boatright and Monica Marquez should all be retained.

Court of Appeals judges Stephanie Dunn, Jerry Jones, Eric Kuhn, Gilbert Roman and Timothy Shutz were similarly retained, as was 6th Judicial District Court Judge Kim Soon Shropshire.

Archuleta County voters mostly agreed with those from around the state when considering state ballot measures.

Constitutional amendments G, H, I and J all passed locally and statewide. Amendment K, concerning the modification of certain election deadlines, failed both in Archuleta County and on the state level. Amendment 79 passed in similar fashion.

Amendment 80, establishing the right to school choice for children in kindergarten through 12th grade, was favored in Archuleta County but failed at the state level.

Propositions JJ, 128, 129 and 130 passed in local and statewide results, while propositions 127 and 131 failed.

Local voters diverged from those around the state when considering Proposition KK, which provides additional funds for mental health services and called for additional

firearm taxes. The proposition was voted down in Archuleta County but passed statewide with 54.06 percent of the vote.

For additional ballot measure results, including summaries of each measure, see the table attached to this story.

Further assessing the results and turnout of the local electorate, Archuleta made special note to thank everyone who voted and helped the process run smoothly.

"I would like to give a huge thank you to my staff (Hazel, Cheree, Eleanor, Ann, Yolanda, Blane, Hailey and Rebecca), Archuleta County Human Resources, Archuleta County Extension Office, Archuleta County Assessor's Office, Pagosa Springs Police Department, Mountain Peak Rentals, PLPOA, J.C., all of our election judges that put in extra long hours, and anyone else that helped with, yet again, another successful election," Archuleta wrote in an email to The SUN.

She also praised the county maintenance and information technology departments.

"We could not do it [without] all of the help [from] our community," Archuleta wrote.

garrett@pagosasun.com

Sale

Continued from front the purchaser.

He then "very strongly" suggested that the purchaser directly submit their offer to the San Juan Water Conservancy District (SJWCD), the joint owner of the property.

"This contract is not exclusively to us and involves a lot of very elaborate and very interesting negotiations, I would imagine, with San Juan," Walsh said.

Hudson commented that he was "delighted with the idea" that the purchaser might be able to work closely with the SJWCD on what he described as a "very attractive offer."

The board unanimously approved the motion.

SJWCD expresses opposition

In a Nov. 1 statement, the SJWCD expresses opposition to the sale of the ranch and states that it will "work to halt sale plans."

The statement adds that PAWSD refuses to share the details of its plans with the SJWCD despite specific requests and to consult with the SJWCD as required by the three-way agreement between PAWSD, the SJWCD and the CWCB.

It calls upon PAWSD to work with

the SJWCD to "secure our water future" and for the public to demand from PAWSD an "open and informed discussion" of water needs and supply.

"It is simply wrong for PAWSD to sell public land vital to water storage without making every effort to retain the property as it agreed to do," the statement reads, referencing the three-way agreement.

The statement continues to outline the history of the ranch, the proposed reservoir and the recent conflicts between the boards, including the SJWCD's opposition to the sale and PAWSD filing a lawsuit against the SJWCD.

It comments that litigation is a poor use of public funds and that this money would be better spent on cooperative water use planning efforts between PAWSD, the SJWCD and the community.

The statement notes the SJWCD's recent efforts to educate the community about the reservoir through outreach and how these have included PAWSD, although PAWSD has not included SJWCD in the sale negotiations.

It concludes by encouraging the public to reach out to members of both boards about the proposed sale. josh@pagosasun.com

SPONSORED CONTENT

Precision Autobody & Collision: Your premier collision repair facility located in Pagosa Springs

By Annette Medina
Precision Autobody and Collision

For over 20 years, Precision Autobody & Collision has established itself as a cornerstone of automotive repair in Pagosa Springs and the surrounding areas.

With a commitment to quality, honesty, and integrity, this full-service collision repair shop has earned a strong reputation, becoming a recommended choice for various auto body services by their customers and many insurance companies.

A Legacy of Experience

Precision Autobody is led by owner and operator Mike Hall, who boasts over four decades of expertise in automotive repair.

Hall's commitment to mastering the craft is complemented by his exceptional six-member team, who bring over 150+ years of experience to the table.

With a spacious 9,000-plus square foot facility featuring two paint booths and a chassis liner, they are well-equipped to handle a wide range of repair needs.

The team includes a master body technician and an expert color matching specialist who are dedicated to staying ahead of industry trends and incorporating new materials and technologies.

This dedication ensures that Precision Autobody consistently delivers top-quality service and remains at the forefront of modern repair techniques, providing customers with confidence in every job.

Comprehensive Services

Precision Autobody & Collision of-



Mike Hall and the team at Precision Autobody & Collision are ready to serve your auto repair needs. The shop is located off Piedra Road on Cloman Boulevard and is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to noon and 2 to 4 p.m.

fers a wide range of services designed to restore vehicles to their pre-accident condition. Their offerings include:

- Auto body repair and refinishing
- A/C Evac & Recharge
- Paint-less dent repair
- Glass replacement
- Frame straightening

At Precision Autobody, the mission is clear: to deliver precise, high-quality repairs that not only meet but exceed customer expectations.

The shop prides itself on maintaining a clean and organized environment, which provides customers with peace of mind when leaving their vehicles for repairs.

This commitment to excellence and attention to detail ensures that every

vehicle receives the care it deserves, reinforcing the trust customers place in Precision Autobody.

Community Focus

While Precision Autobody serves the residents of Pagosa Springs, they also extend their services to nearby communities such as Chama, South Fork, Bayfield and Durango.

The team's dedication to local customers is evident, as they strive to provide timely and efficient repairs, especially during peak seasons.

Preparing for Deer Season and Winter Weather

As deer season and winter weather approach, Precision Autobody & Colli-

sion encourages you to take proactive measures to help you be prepared for winter-driving conditions and avoid accidents.

Trust the Experts

Should you find yourself in need of repairs, the skilled technicians at Precision Autobody are ready to assist with everything from collision repair to windshield replacement.

The team is committed to ensuring that your vehicle is safe and roadworthy for the season ahead.

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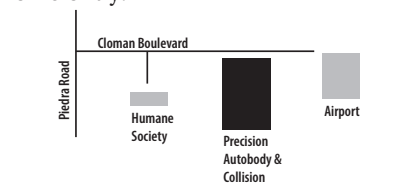
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Sports

CROSS-COUNTRY

Sienna Rose finishes 56th in season's final meet

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

Lady Pirate Sienna Rose placed 56th out of 145 runners at last weekend's 3A state cross-country championships — her highest finish in her three years of qualifying for the season's final meet.

The senior ran a time of 21 minutes, 21.18 seconds.

Coach Rachael Christiansen notes in the team's newsletter that, while Rose didn't set a new personal record, "she was strong the entire race and 56th is her highest placement at State over the 3 years of her attending."

She adds, "It was a good trip and we are so proud of her for qualifying for State, especially in our very tough region. She earned her place on that starting line and she was able to enjoy her last HS XC race. (Although, she already has other races lined up in the next few weeks!)"

Christiansen indicates in an email to The SUN that, while the season had ups and downs, it was a successful one.

"Looking back over the season I'd say overall it was a success. Every season is full of its ups and downs, and we certainly experienced those throughout the season, however, it all really did start to come together at the end," she wrote. "In Monte Vista, our last regular season race, we saw almost every runner earn a new PR! It is great to see the work put in and the patience really start to pay off, especially in one of our last races."

Christiansen also notes the growth across the teams this season.

"This year we saw some pretty significant growth from quite a few athletes and saw a few hit some big breakthroughs," she states.

Of the boys' squad, she highlights, "We had Connor Thomas break the 19 minute mark for the first time ever at

the Monte Vista race and then he did it again at the Regionals meet. Then, we had Dylan Dempster, Merrick Tudor, and Eli Nehring break the 20 minute mark for the first time ever at Monte Vista as well. These 4 will all be returning next year and with the strength of the incoming freshman, I believe we will have a very strong boys team."

The girls' squad also had some big breakthrough, according to the coach.

"Adi Johnson joined us this season as a junior and had a big impact on our scoring. She was 2nd on our team at regionals and broke the 23 minute mark at Monte Vista," Christiansen wrote. "Kaiya Lyons is only 2 seconds off breaking 22 minutes and had some very strong races. Madi Stretton broke the 23 minute mark by 16 seconds at Regionals. These two will be returning as juniors next year and will have our current freshman Bella Jackson, Mila Miller, and Vivy DavRem, all who ran some quality races this season. We're hoping to add a few more girls to the roster and come back with a solid 7 running."

The team will say goodbye to four seniors from this year's team, with Christiansen noting all four "contributed greatly to the team."

Jesse Beck, she notes, "has been a leader on the team since day one. He has been voted as 'Best Teammate' by his peers multiple years in a row and his dedication to his team will be missed."

Peyton Jackson, she states, ran two years with the team, but left his mark.

"He has shown what it takes to bounce back from injury. He has also shown us that the love for our sport is powerful," the coach wrote.

Hailey Sams, according to Christiansen, ran with the team for three years and "always brought a sense of fun and laughter to the team. She was



Photo courtesy Rachael Christiansen

Lady Pirates Sienna Rose runs her third state meet in four years last weekend. Rose finished 56th out of 145 runners to cap off her high school career.

pivotal in bringing both the boys' and the girls' together and helped create our team community."

Rose, she notes, ran with the team four years and qualified for state three years.

"She has shown dedication to our sport and has been the best example

that consistency with running leads to great success," Christiansen noted.

The coach adds that while all four seniors will be missed greatly, the team is "excited to see the next group step up and embrace being our leaders."

randi@pagosasun.com

VOLLEYBALL

No. 34 Lady Pirates advance to regionals

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirate volleyball team will head into this week's regional action as the No. 34 seed.

The Lady Pirates will head to Colorado Springs for regionals, where they'll take on No. 3 Village and No. 22 Banning Lewis.

"We'll be looking to go play our hearts out and play against higher-ranked teams this weekend," coach Katie Lorenzen said.

Lorenzen noted Village, which owns a 20-3 record, has a middle who Lorenzen has heard is committed to Stanford.

The Lady Pirates will take on Village at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 9.

Banning Lewis, also from Colorado Springs, is 15-8 on the season.

The Lady Pirates will take on Banning Lewis following their match with Village, with Village and Banning Lewis facing each other after that.

Matches are set to be held at Mitchell High School.

The winners of each of the 12 regions will advance to the state bracket.

The Lady Pirates earned the 34th seed after finishing the regular season with a 10-13 record, which included the team going 1-3 at last week's Coal Ridge Tournament.

"First we played Glenwood

Springs at the Coal Ridge Tournament, and we played them the first match of the season," Lorenzen explained. "And I think we looked a whole lot better this time, but they also improved as well."

The Lady Pirates fell 25-9 to the Demons in the first set.

"Our first set score wasn't so pretty, but we played them really tight in the second set and barely lost, 24-26," the coach added.

Lorenzen noted the Lady Pirates weren't able to get into an offensive rhythm against the Demons.

"They were an incredibly tough-serving team, so we really didn't get that many swings ... in the match, just 35 swings in two sets because they were serving so tough. And so we were struggling to get into any sort of offensive rhythm. Even if we didn't get aced, we weren't always able to take a real swing on the ball and often just had to send free balls over."

But Lorenzen added she was pleased the Lady Pirates "stuck together as a team and didn't give up on each other or the game or any of that and were still fighting the entire time."

Lorenzen indicated the Lady Pirates were aced by the Demons a number of times, but also struggled to pass.

"We passed a 1.5. We want to aim for above a 2.0, and I think a 1.5 is the lowest that we've passed this season," she stated.

Pagosa picked up 13 kills against the Demons, led by four each from Aspen Pitcher and Lexi Campbell.

The Lady Pirates had four aces, with Sophia Sottek leading the team with two.

The team also had four total blocks, with Cadence Kerns, Kaila Limebrook and Dawson Iverson each putting up two assisted blocks.

Pagosa had 16 digs in the matchup, led by Pitcher's five and Campbell's four.

Sottek had all 10 of Pagosa's assists in the matchup.

Pitcher logged 13 of the team's 33 serve receptions.

"But, overall, still I think we played a lot better than the last time we played them and the girls stuck together," Lorenzen said.

Next up, the Lady Pirates took on the Coal Ridge Titans, with Lorenzen noting Pagosa defeated the Titans at the beginning of the season.

"This time they etched out the win," she said.

The Lady Pirates won the first set 27-25 before falling 29-27 in the second set.

"So, those two were extra points and just a battle back and forth," Lorenzen relayed.

The Titans won the final set 15-9.

"We really struggled in the third set with errors at critical points that kind of just hurt our momentum, but had played a really tight match," the

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FOOTBALL

Pirates make playoffs despite falling to Alamosa

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate football team finished the regular season as the 14th-ranked team in the state's 2A division after falling to the Alamosa Mean Moose on Friday, Nov. 1, in Alamosa, earning a spot in the state playoffs.

The 2A state playoffs consist of the top 16 teams in the division.

The Pirates lost to the Mean Moose by a score of 14-8 in what was a heavily defensive battle between the two sides.

"They took the air out of the ball," coach Nathan Morales said, explaining that Alamosa came out with a good game plan.

He mentioned that the Mean Moose used tactics like running the play clock all the way down before snapping the ball in order to keep the Pirates' offense off of the field as much as possible.

"They had a good game plan," Morales said, noting the Pirates did not run as many offensive plays as

■ See Football A12



Photo courtesy Pagosa Springs High School

Pirate center Davian Coss gets set to snap the ball during Pagosa's matchup against the Alamosa Mean Moose on Friday, Nov. 1, in Alamosa. The Pirates fell 14-8, but advanced to the state playoffs.

Volleyball

■ Continued from A10

and having to take out-of-system swings, but she's out there always taking the most swings and receiving the ball the most in serve receive, so she carries a really big load and does it very gracefully."

She added Pitcher "by far led in digs with 16, so that was pretty huge."

The Lady Pirates had 43 total digs.

Tatiana Monterroso logged the team's only ace in the matchup.

Pagosa had five total blocks, with Pitcher logging three assisted blocks. Campbell had one solo block and one assisted block, while Kerns and Iverson each had two assisted blocks.

Sottek tallied 29 of the team's 32 assists.

Pitcher led in serve receptions with 19 of the team's 52 serve receptions.

On Saturday morning, the Lady Pirates took on the Delta Panthers.

The Lady Pirates fell in two sets, 25-16 and 25-23.

Lorenzen noted the Lady Pirates traveled to Delta for regionals last year and lost to the Panthers.

The Panthers then moved up to the 4A division this year, she noted, and boasts "a really good lefty player."

She added that it's hard to mimic a lefty in practice without having one.

"And she was really good and got some good kills, but we also, I think, did a really good job of ... putting up a solid block and making her work for those kills," Lorenzen said.

Lorenzen added the Lady Pirates also hit "really well" with a .230 and passed well at a 2.0.

Pitcher led with 12 of the team's 25 kills.

Pagosa had two aces in the matchup — one by Campbell and the other by Hayden Peterson.

The team had one total block,

which was split between Campbell and Kerns.

Pagosa had 24 digs, led by five from Pitcher.

"Our digs were kinda low," Lorenzen said. "They were scoring on their swings a lot, but we were hangin' in there and putting up a good fight."

Sottek had all 24 of the team's assists.

Pagosa had 42 serve receptions, led by 17 from Pitcher.

The Lady Pirates' final game of the tournament was against the Rifle Bears.

"Our crossover game we were matched up with Rifle, and we were just kinda off for a while and lost the first set 23-25 and then kicked it into gear," Lorenzen explained. "I told the girls the season might really rely on ... that game alone, make it or break it, whether we stay in the regional rankings or not. There was a turnaround and we won 25-19 and then pushed it to a third set and won 15-8."

The Lady Pirates had 26 kills in the affair, led by six each from Pitcher and Campbell.

Lorenzen also highlighted, "Malorie Morton got in and did really well with smart swings. She hit .750 — three kills on four swings with no errors — and was also getting some really good block touches."

Pagosa had five aces, led by two from Charity Domingo.

The Lady Pirates notched three total blocks, including three assisted blocks by Kerns, two by Limebrook and one by Pitcher.

The team had 43 digs, led by Pitcher's 11.

Sottek tallied all of the team's 23 assists, and Pitcher logged 19 of the team's 44 serve receptions.

Lorenzen also noted a number of positives about the team's athletes

over the tournament as a whole.

Sottek, she stated, set really well over the weekend, "dispersing the ball, mixing it up and putting up really hittable balls for all of our players."

Pitcher, Lorenzen stated, received the ball the most and usually took the most swings — a load she noted Pitcher carries all the time.

Lorenzen added Pitcher "struggled a little bit with passing and against big blocks that were [keying] in on her, but she still always had the support of her team and ... when her teammates then were taking swings on the ball and scoring, she was right there to celebrate them as much as possible, which is awesome to see when someone struggles a little bit themselves. She's a tremendous teammate in that way."

Campbell, according to the coach, passed really well, "defensively made some good moves and had some good serving runs."

Of Domingo, Lorenzen highlighted, "We had Charity playing on the right side for defense and ... we were all really pleased with her defense on the right side. I think she made some good reads and ... dug very settable balls."

Kerns, Lorenzen pointed out, did really well blocking, "working her butt off to get everywhere and got a number of blocks, plus slowed down the ball a whole lot. That was definitely her strength this weekend."

Monterroso, the coach noted, "came in and was playing left back as a libero for us and did really well, held her own. I think she passes super well, and we really needed that at times. And then she served not every game, but for some of the games we had her serving and she has great contact with great float, so it was nice to have her in there doing that."

Honestye Sweet, Lorenzen high-

lighted, came in and had some really tough serves also and had a good serving run.

Peterson played some outside and some right side on the weekend and was also getting some touches on the block, Lorenzen relayed.

Limebrook, Lorenzen said, "took some really strong swings this weekend. ... It looked like her confidence in her swing was the best that it's been this season."

Lorenzen also highlighted Iverson's service runs.

"Dawson had some really great service runs. ... She had 15 serve attempts against Coal Ridge. And even though she wasn't getting aces in that match, they were tough serves and she was keeping Coal Ridge out of system and that's why we were scoring. So, she did really well there and overall for the weekend was taking smart swings and low error on her swings."

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SOCCER



Photo courtesy Stephanie Hirshberg

The Pagosa Youth Soccer Rangers all-girls U12 team won the Socctoberfest championship in Farmington, N.M., recently. In the back row, left to right, are Adalyn Burkett, Kensington Wallace, Brooklyn Mees, Kenzie Miller, Sierra Rich, Josie Hirshberg and coach Elsie Wallace. In the front row, left to right, are Lupita Valencia Garcia, Ainsley Bracken, Shiloh Kossler, Kyla Kossler, Amalie Brown, Sedona Zissman and Emma Alexander.

Rangers' all-girls U12 team wins Socctoberfest championship

By Stephanie Hirshberg
Pagosa Youth Soccer

For the first time ever, the Rangers soccer club fielded an all-girls U12 team — and they've already proven they mean business.

The determined squad traveled to Farmington, N.M., recently to compete in the Socctoberfest tournament, returning home as champions after winning every game they played.

The girls competed in four matches — two on Saturday and two on

Sunday — and swept the tournament with an undefeated record, securing the championship title in spectacular fashion.

Their flawless performance has set a high bar for other youth teams, showing that with teamwork, dedi-

cation and passion, anything is possible.

"This victory is a testament to their hard work, resilience and unity," said Coach Elsie Wallace. "These girls gave it everything they had, and their par-

■ See Championship A13

Football

■ Continued from A11
they're used to.

The Pirates were first to get on the scoreboard with a safety in the first quarter that came from a bad snap that went over Alamosa's punter and out of the back of the end zone.

The Mean Moose were able to hit back on their next offensive possession with a 9-yard touchdown pass.

A successful extra-point attempt gave the Mean Moose a 7-2 lead going into the second quarter.

Colton Lucero notched the Pirates' only touchdown of the game with an 11-yard reception toward the end of the second quarter. A failed extra-point attempt left the score at 8-7 in favor of the Pirates.

With just over two minutes remaining in the second quarter, the Mean Moose received the ball and were able piece together a drive ending with a 4-yard rushing touchdown.

A successful extra-point attempt put Alamosa up 14-8, which would become the final score of the game following a scoreless second half from both teams.

"It was a playoff-type game," Morales said. "It was a tough, physical game."

He added that can be expected when playing a league opponent and rival.

"It became a defensive battle," he said.

The Pirates logged a total of 47 solo tackles on the night, with Tommaso

Nigro leading the team, racking up a total of 11 solo tackles.

Four Pirates each had six solo tackles on the night, including Dozier, Lucero, Aven Cole and Aidan Vega.

Morales also mentioned Alamosa kept loading the defensive box to try and take away the Pirates' rushing game.

The Pirates tallied a season low in total yards on the night with just 68 total yards of offense.

Colton Lucero rushed for 41 yards on 11 carries on the night, also picking up one reception for an 11-yard touchdown.

Creede Dozier threw for the Pirates' only touchdown on the night, completing one of three pass attempts for 11 yards.

Morales mentioned the entire Intermountain League (IML) has had the same coaches for the past few years and that the teams have become familiar with each other, which can lead to closely fought games.

"Our league is tough," he said. "That's how it's supposed to be."

Morales also noted there was almost a four-way tie for first place in the IML this year between the Pirates, Gunnison, Alamosa and Montezuma-Cortez.

Three teams from the IML clinched first-round playoff spots which include the Pirates, Alamosa and Montezuma-Cortez.

The Pirates officially finished fourth in the IML, with Montezuma-

Cortez taking first, Alamosa taking second and Gunnison taking third.

"You're gonna have some tough games, and that's what we want," Morales said, explaining that if the Pirates are playing in tough games, that means they're playing games that matter.

Morales explained that the team is looking forward to getting to compete again this weekend.

"We've had ups and downs this season, but we're fortunate to get in still," Morales said, adding that he feels the Pirates deserve to be there.

He also noted the team has dealt with a number of injuries in the last few games.

"We're grateful that we're in," he added.

Morales mentioned that he expects a "good playoff-type atmosphere and game" this weekend.

"We'll get our mojo back on offense and defense ... and do the little things right. And, at the end of the day, that's what wins games," Morales stated.

He noted the Pirates need to take care of the ball, tackle well and give a 100 percent effort.

"We're excited," he said.

The Pirates will travel to Colorado Springs on Saturday, Nov. 9, to take on The Classical Academy Titans at 1 p.m.

The No. 3 Titans claimed the top seed in the 2A Metro League with an overall record of 9-0.

The No. 1 team in the state's 2A

division is the Strasburg Indians with an overall record of 8-1.

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SOCCER

Pirates exit playoffs after first round

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate soccer team ended its season last week in Aurora after falling to the West Aurora College Prep Academy Spartans by a score of 1-0 in the first round of the state playoffs.

Coach Trevor Gian explained that it was a fairly even match, but that the Spartans were able to score the game's only goal with just a few minutes left in the first half.

He mentioned the Pirates battled hard in the second half, but were unable to find a way to get back into the game.

"We threw everything we had at 'em. Unfortunately, we just didn't get it," Gian said.

Pirate goalkeeper Chris Young-Martinez made 16 saves on the day, playing 65 minutes in goal.

Taylor Wells played 15 minutes in goal and came up with two saves.

Gavin Carter had the Pirates' only shot on target that day.

Elmer Castillo took one corner kick for the Pirates and Jacob Castenada took two corner kicks.

"Really awesome to see that we're able to go into there and be in that game against an extremely quality opponent," Gian said.

The Pirates finished their season with an overall record of 9-3-3, including a league mark of 4-1-1, which was enough to take first place in the 3A Intermountain League.

The team's overall record is an improvement from the 2023 season in which the Pirates finished with an overall mark of 6-7-2.

"I couldn't be more proud of who we are and what we've become this season, and it showed out there on that field," Gian said of the Pirates. "It's been a fantastic season."

Gian explained the team took a moment on the field after their loss in Aurora to reflect on the season.

Carter led the Pirates in goals scored with a total of 12 on the season. He also led the team in assists with a total of six throughout the year.

Gian mentioned that Carter has "been phenomenal this year," noting his growth as an individual and a player.

Gian added it's "gonna be awesome to have him as a senior."

Young-Martinez made a total of 176 saves on the season, with Wells tallying a total of 16.

Gian commented on the two seniors the Pirates had on the team this year — Young-Martinez and Alex Pham — stating, "Both of those guys will be missed tremendously."

Gian noted they each brought something different to the squad. Gian noted that Young-Martinez's leadership as a goalie was "instrumental" in the success the Pirates experienced this season.

He mentioned Young-Martinez came up with big saves and gave the Pirates the ability to compete and win some close matches.

"We will most definitely miss that," Gian said.

Gian noted that Young-Martinez is naturally talented athlete and a "heck of a soccer player," mentioning that Young-Martinez also had an influence playing in an attacking role, as he tallied three goals on the season.

Gian mentioned that Pham isn't the loudest guy on the pitch, "but his play speaks volumes."

Gian praised Pham's ability to play multiple different roles, noting his touch, control and vision on the field were crucial to the Pirates.

"Some of the biggest things he did aren't necessarily gonna be recognized on a stat sheet," Gian said, noting Pham's man-marking abilities as a key reason the Pirates were successful against opponents like Bayfield and Manitou Springs.

"It was a pleasure to have him and the ability to move him all over the field," Gian said.

Gian added of Pham and Young-Martinez, "Two really phenomenal kids all around. We're gonna miss them, big time."

This was Gian's first year as head coach of the Pirates, but he has coached Pham and Young-Martinez since the U10 level.

Gian mentioned it's been rewarding to watch them grow into "awesome young men."

Gian also noted that Pham and Young-Martinez were both voted captains for the Pirates this season.

Championship

Continued from A12

ents and I couldn't be prouder of the example they are setting for others."

The excitement didn't stop with the U12 girls — other Rangers teams also shined at Socctoberfest.

The U10 team fought hard and clinched the championship title in its division.

Meanwhile, both the U15 and U12 boys delivered impressive performances, earning silver in their respective categories.

The Rangers organization is celebrating not only the individual successes of these teams, but also the spirit of sportsmanship and com-

munity that each group exhibited throughout the tournament.

The formation of the all-girls U12 team is a significant milestone for the Rangers, marking a new chapter in providing opportunities for young female athletes to excel.

Winning a championship in its debut season only adds to the excitement surrounding the team and the positive impact it's sure to have on other youth in the community.

Pagosa Youth Soccer (PYS), a nonprofit dedicated to promoting the physical, mental and emotional development of the area's youth, continues to inspire kids through the

sport of soccer.

With its mission centered around growth on and off the field, PYS has been pivotal in supporting these athletes every step of the way.

This historic weekend reflects the strength and potential of the Rangers' organization. The U12 girls' achievement, along with the successes of the U10, U12 boys and U15 teams, serves as a beacon of inspiration. With heart, grit, and teamwork, these young athletes have proven that they are a force to be reckoned with.

The future is bright for these champions — and it's only the beginning.

Public Meetings

The following meetings are subject to change.

Thursday, Nov. 7

San Juan Water Conservancy District special meeting. 3 p.m., 46 Eaton Drive, Suite 5. Visit <https://www.sjwcd.org/> for Zoom option.

Main Street Advisory Board work session. 4 p.m., Ross Aragon Community Center, 451 Hot Springs Blvd. For more information, visit <https://pagosasprings.civicweb.net/portal/>.

Combined Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting. 5:30 p.m., Town Hall, 551 Hot Springs Blvd. See town website for participation information: <https://pagosasprings.civicweb.net/portal/>.

Tuesday, Nov. 12

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

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

Archuleta School District Board of Education regular meeting. 6 p.m., Pagosa Springs Middle

School library, 309 Lewis St.

Wednesday, Nov. 13

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

Archuleta School District Facilities Master Plan: Progress and Next Steps community meeting. 6 p.m., Pagosa Springs Middle School, 309 Lewis St.

Thursday, Nov. 14

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

Marijuana Ordinance Update Task Force meeting. 3 p.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St. For more information, visit <http://archuletacounty.org/agendacenter>.

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

Archuleta School District Facilities Master Plan: Progress and Next Steps community meeting. 6

p.m., Pagosa Springs Elementary School, 141 S. 10th St.

Friday, Nov. 15

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

Monday, Nov. 18

San Juan Water Conservancy District work session. 5:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, 2313 Eagle Drive.

Cone Zone Care Committee U.S. 160 reconstruction update. 6 p.m., Bliss Scoops and Sweets.

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Outdoors



RMEF, partners allocate \$3.7 million for Colorado wildlife

By Mark Holyoak
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation

The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) continued its long-standing commitment to Colorado's elk, other wildlife, conservation and hunting by teaming up with partners to distribute \$3,710,181 for 33 projects across the state.

"This funding supports the largest single-state elk population in North America by bolstering five ongoing research studies, seven wildlife-friendly fencing efforts and 10 habitat enhancement projects," said Jenn Doherty, RMEF managing director

of mission operations.

The RMEF allotted \$761,760 that helped leverage \$2,807,421 in partner funding for the 2024 projects, many of which carry over into 2025.

Among the projects is funding for a project within Archuleta County to provide volunteer manpower to remove more than a mile of old fencing and other debris from an RMEF land conservation and access project completed several months earlier. The property features elk summer and winter habitat and is also home to mule deer, black bear and turkey. The parcel lies within a major elk migration corridor and is a popular

hunting and recreation area on the San Juan National Forest.

"We have more members in Colorado than any other state. And they show how much they care for wildlife and wild landscapes by their commitment to raise this funding and also by dedicating their time and efforts to help with volunteer habitat stewardship work," said Kyle Weaver, RMEF president and CEO.

To view all 33 projects, visit <https://www.rmeff.org/elk-network/rmeff-partners-allocate-3-7-million-for-colorado-wildlife/>.

Dating back to 1987, the RMEF and its partners completed 871

conservation and hunting heritage outreach projects in Colorado with a combined value of more than \$207.4 million. These projects conserved or enhanced 508,739 acres of habitat and opened or improved public access to 119,612 acres.

About the RMEF

Founded in 1984 and fueled by hunters, the RMEF has conserved more than 8.9 million acres for elk and other wildlife. The RMEF also works to open and improve public access, fund and advocate for science-based resource management, and ensure the future of America's hunting heritage.

Chimney Rock Interpretive Association taking part in Colorado Gives Day

By Ana Murray
Chimney Rock Interpretive Association

Volunteers and Friends of the Chimney Rock Interpretive Association (CRIA), you can join the statewide movement and make a big impact in your community. This year, Colorado Gives Day is on Dec. 10, and it's easily the best day to give.

Early giving began on Nov. 1.

From Nov. 1 through Dec. 10, every donation made will be boosted with a \$1M+ Incentive Fund, made possible by Colorado Gives Foundation and FirstBank. CRIA will receive

a share of the fund based on the percentage of the total raised.

Plus, if you set up a new monthly donation, the Colorado Gives Foundation will match your first monthly donation up to \$100 and up to \$250,000 in total across all organizations. This is a fantastic opportunity to double your impact and support our CRIA programs such as Life at Chimney Rock, the Junior Archeology Program for Youth, our School Week Program and the Cultural Lecture Series.

During the month of November and through Dec. 10, we kindly re-

quest that you "like" the Chimney Rock National Monument Interpretive Association Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/chimneyrockco>.

If you are so inclined, you can give to CRIA via the Colorado Gives Day event, and encourage your family and friends to do the same by:

1. Visiting our donation page at <https://www.coloradogives.org/organization/CRIA>.
2. Choosing the option for monthly giving.
3. Your donation will be matched automatically.

Last year, Coloradans raised more than \$54 million statewide, and we raised \$2,000. In 2024, you can help us achieve even more to support the programs and events presented by CRIA.

Thank you for your support of CRIA and making this Colorado Gives Day the most successful yet.

New weather radar at Durango-La Plata County airport to provide real-time data

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

La Plata County unveiled its new weather radar system during a special work session held by the La Plata County Board of County Commissioners on Tuesday, Oct. 29.

The radar is located at the Durango-La Plata County airport in the cell-phone waiting lot, La Plata County Manager Chuck Stevens explained, and has been operating since August.

Stevens began the presentation by providing some historical background as to how the county brought the project to fruition.

"We probably won't have a conversation about the radar again," he said, explaining that the hope and intent is "that thing is going to sit out there and quietly rotate and radiate and provide information to our communities for the next few decades."

Stevens mentioned that the project began about nine months before the 416 Fire that occurred in June 2018, which burned approximately 55,000 acres north of Durango. As a result of that fire, the area also experienced flooding due to the fire burning the ground, making it impermeable, Stevens explained.

"We all learned, as we went through that fire, that there is a phenomenon ... about flood after fire," Stevens said, noting the soil can become "glass-like."

Stevens also mentioned that the project first began in September 2017 when Colorado State University (CSU) completed a two-year study assessing weather and climate monitoring systems in Colorado.

Stevens went on to explain that the purpose of that study was to identify gaps in observations and data collection.

One conclusion of a No. 1 priority in that report "was the recommendation to fund and implement gasoline radar systems to serve the San Luis Valley and southwestern Colorado — including Alamosa, Monte Vista, Durango, Cortez, Pagosa Springs, and the national parks and transportation corridors therein," Stevens said.

He mentioned the 2017 report goes on to state that "radar coverage remains nearly nonexistent in south central and southwestern Colorado, rendering real-time detection and warning for severe weather events in these areas difficult."

Stevens mentioned that the CSU study is an unbiased study that identified the lack of radar coverage in the area as a tier-one priority needing to be addressed.

He explained that the purpose and need for the radar system is to be able to provide "real-time detection and warning."

He added, "That's why we have radar," explaining that the radar gives officials the ability to detect and then warn the public of severe weather events before it's too late.

Stevens mentioned the 416 Fire again, noting the KOA campground was one property that was heavily

affected by the flooding that ensued. He noted that the folks staying at the campground were likely not residents of La Plata County and did not get any sort of warning that flooding was likely to occur.

"When we saw what was happening, and our inability to detect in real time and provide warning to those people, is something that resonated with us and our office of emergency management," Stevens said.

He explained that the county did have a tool in use at that time, called CodeRED, and that almost 50 percent of the county had signed up for notifications after the 416 Fire and floods, but that tourists were not signing up for the notification system.

Stevens also mentioned that La Plata County will use the state's Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS), but that it is rarely used and only for imminent threats to the area.

Stevens went on to reiterate that the reason for having the radar is for early detection and "the ability to provide warning and notifications from a public safety lens."

He mentioned that prior to the radar coming online, the National Weather Service (NWS) had a black hole in its coverage in the southwest corner of Colorado.

"We didn't have good coverage. We had an inability to accurately detect and provide early warnings and notifications," he said.

Stevens explained that the NWS would use "nowcasting" to report real-time weather data. The NWS would

spot something on a nearby radar at elevations around 25,000 to 27,000 feet, and then contact La Plata County's Office of Emergency Management and ask what the conditions were like on the ground, by sending someone out in the field to report.

Stevens went on to explain that the radar has the capability to see what kind of moisture and how much of it will fall during a storm, also noting that the radar is able to monitor storm evolution.

"This is going to help us understand that and more accurately predict what's going to happen," he said.

He also mentioned that, over time, the radar system will get tied onto the NWS mosaic of radars across the country.

"Over time it is going to improve the forecasting for the Four Corners region," he said.

Stevens then spoke about how the Durango-La Plata County airport was chosen as the most ideal location for the radar.

He mentioned that there were issues with finding a suitable location that checked all the necessary boxes of having a road to the tower, sufficient power and fiber lines available, and even planning and zoning complications.

"We're not immune from our own land use code," Stevens said.

He explained the site at the airport was chosen because it checked all the boxes necessary for the radar tower to be constructed and installed, without going over budget.

■ See Radar A16

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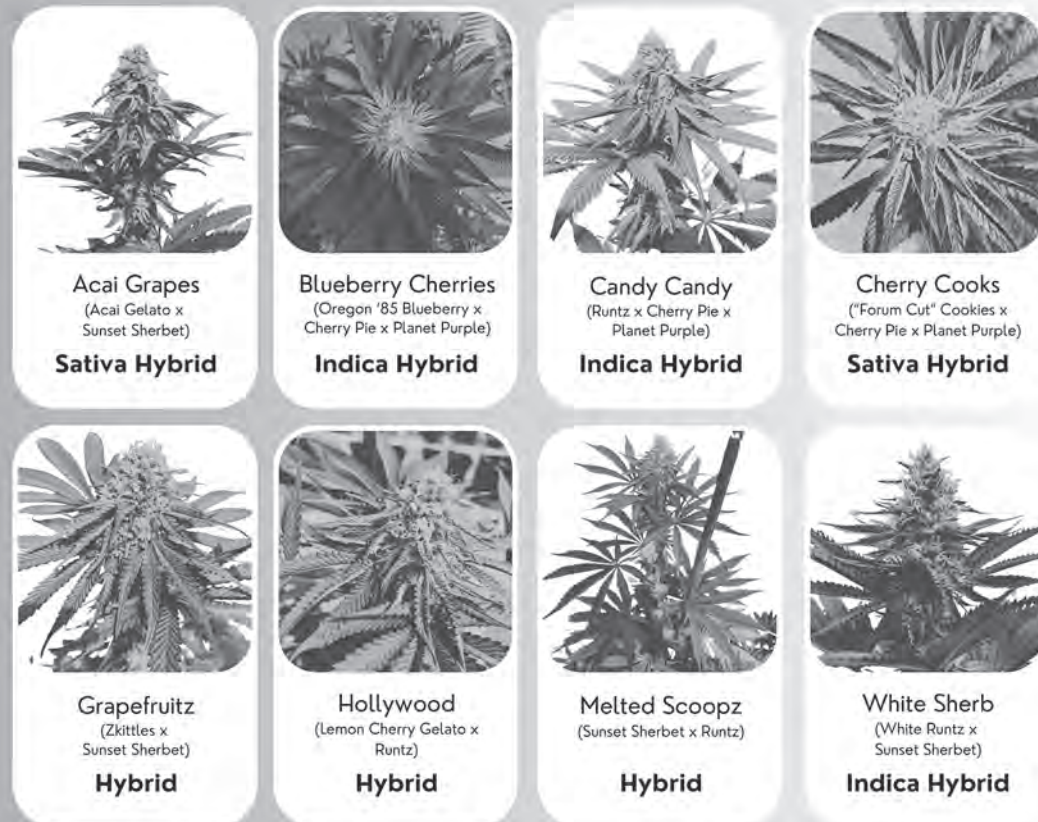


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Town moves toward purchasing riverfront property

By Derek Kutzer
Staff Writer

On Nov. 5, the Pagosa Springs Town Council approved the first reading of an ordinance approving a contract to purchase riverfront property located at 1040 E. U.S. 160.

The four-acre parcel is the former location of Bob's L.P. and is currently being leased by Basin Coop.

The town intends to expand boater access to the San Juan River by purchasing the property, with an Executive Summary Plan stating that the acquisition would "secure public boater access, enhance recreational safety, provide a means for riverwalk trail connectivity to the east, and promote sustainable growth for the recreational economy of Pagosa Springs."

Phase one of the plan includes an environmental assessment, property cleanup and site improvement, boat ramp installation, and parking improvements, with the future possibility of constructing additional amenities, such as restrooms, a handicap-accessible fishing pier, shade structures, paved parking and a Riverwalk trailhead.

Town Development Director James Dickhoff has stated that public sentiment has shown a strong "community desire to see more public river access."

Dickhoff has also pointed to the 2012 River Corridor Master Plan and

the 2022 East End Multimodal Plan, which both identify this particular property as "the last missing link" for expanding public river access.

At a Sept. 3 meeting, he described the chance for the town to acquire the property as a "once-in-a-lifetime opportunity" to link the town's river access, particularly for larger boats, from the East End to the access point downstream at Yamaguchi Park.

At that meeting, the council approved a motion "directing staff to draft an offer to purchase the property ... with a purchase closing date in April 2025 contingent upon awarded grants and other potential contingencies."

At the Nov. 5 meeting, Dickhoff identified the property's appraisal value at \$740,000, down from a previous assessment, with the hope to fund the purchase through potential grants.

The town applied for a \$420,000 Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) grant, with award notifications expected by mid-December, and also applied for a \$462,098 federal Land, Water, Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant from, with award notifications expected by March 2025.

Dickhoff said, "We do have a presentation with GOCO on Thursday for the grant that we've applied for," adding that "it's always a good sign to get to present the grant application before the review board."

He added that, if the GOCO grant is awarded, it would bolster the town's chances of being awarded the federal LWCF grant.

Match funding would come from both the town and Archuleta County's Conservation Trust funds, which would be \$50,000 and \$30,000, respectively, for a total budget for the purchase standing at \$947,315, if the grants are awarded.

Dickhoff explained that Basin Coop has a current lease on the property and also has a first right of refusal for purchasing the parcel, but noted that the Coop's board has signaled that they are not interested in purchasing the property.

He added that the "finer details" about how long the company would be able to continue to lease and stay on the property would be negotiated at a future date.

"They do have an interest to stay a little while," possibly through 2025, he said.

Council member Brooks Lindner wondered if there are any "obstacles" to building on the property, with Dickhoff saying any new buildings on the property would need to abide by the current town building and land use development codes.

However, he added that one of the buildings currently standing has a restroom and is hooked up to water

and sewer, suggesting that the building could be utilized.

When a motion was made to approve the ordinance, authorizing a contract to purchase the property, it was passed unanimously by the council.

Council members Madeline Bergon and Mat deGraaf were absent from the meeting.

The second reading of the ordinance, the passage of which is necessary to authorize the contract, will be on Nov. 21 at the next council meeting.

Radar

Continued from 14

"We're very happy that the location where this landed is at the airport," he said.

Stevens also credited the success of the project to multiple partners that La Plata County worked with.

"We wouldn't have this tower out there if we didn't have our partners," he said.

Stevens explained that the county secured funding for the radar system in 2019 and spent more than three years finding the right location to place it.

Funding for the project came in part from a \$1.7 million grant from the Colorado Department of Local Affairs and a \$500,000 grant from Colorado Department of Transportation.

Stevens explained that the county received three bids on the project and chose to purchase the radar system from Barron Weather.

He mentioned the county wanted a "turnkey project" in that it only wanted to work with one contractor to have the entire project completed from trenching utility lines to having the actual radar constructed.

"It's really a tool for public safety," Stevens added, noting it will benefit residents and visitors.

He mentioned the radar system comes with a 10-year warranty, a maintenance plan and spare parts.

"We shouldn't have to worry about any maintenance activities," he said.

The radar will be able to see weather

activity from Alamosa; Los Alamos, N.M.; and into eastern Utah, Stevens explained.

"So, that hole has definitely been filled with the new radar," he said.

The county is working on a mobile application called La Plata County Weather Radar that will incorporate data from the radar system in which

residents and visitors can view real-time weather data and receive severe weather notifications.

La Plata County Commissioner Marsha Porter-Norton commented that there has been support from the community for the project and that it's "something that actually brings everyone together."



Photo courtesy Terri House

Wintry weather returned to Pagosa country this week, coating the landscape and giving the area the look of a snow globe.

Trooper tips: It's time to prepare for winter

Gear up and gear down

By Patrick Rice
Colorado State Patrol

As we gear up for another winter driving season, motorists on mountain grades need to remember to gear down.

Braking unnecessarily can cause your vehicle to slide with no ability to steer or control it. Gearing down keeps your vehicle's tires rotating, which gives you traction and keeps you in control while still slowing the vehicle on downgrades.

The good news is that Colorado is cyclical, and for those of you who enjoy milder temperatures and driving conditions, these conditions are temporary. Right now, however, everyone who drives the mountain corridor should be gearing up.

Take a minute to ensure there are warm blankets and water and snacks in the trunk. Check your tires for a snowflake emblem, "M+S" for mud and snow, or at very least three-sixteenths of an inch of tread depth.

Grab that quarter in your pocket you've been holding onto for the next time you need to use a payphone, and turn ol' George upside down. If the top of his forehead disappears into your tread, you meet the legal required depth. Top off that windshield wiper fluid reservoir and check the weather before you go.

If you find yourself stuck behind an endless line of taillights, you will be glad you planned ahead and brought those snacks. Too often in the high country motorists are stuck with no way out, by no fault of their own. When they are unprepared, they cause an additional drain on resources to rescue them, not to mention increase their own anxiety of experiencing a helpless situation for themselves and their passengers.

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Albuquerque, NM



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U.S. Army, U.S. Navy
Buck Sgt.,
2nd Class Petty Officer
Oshkosh, WI



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Staff Sergeant
Pagosa Springs, CO



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U.S. Army
SP4/E4
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Dee Archuleta
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SP5/E5
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Kyle Bell
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Spec 5
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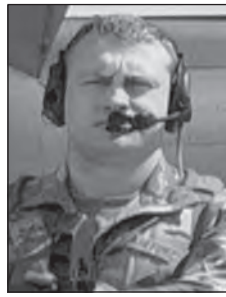
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Columbus, ND



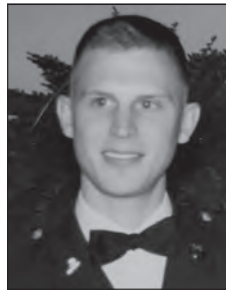
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Senior Airman
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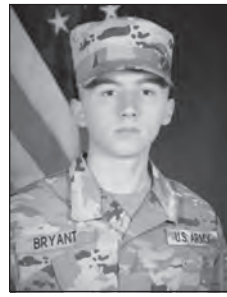
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Paloma Bruce
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Senior Airman
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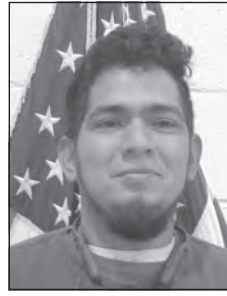
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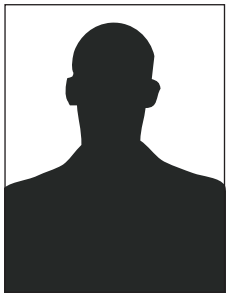
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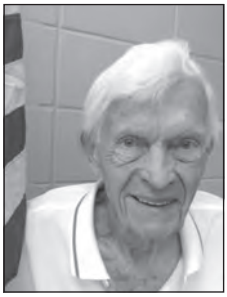
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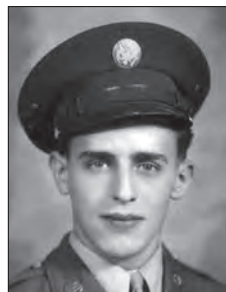
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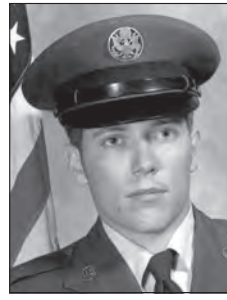
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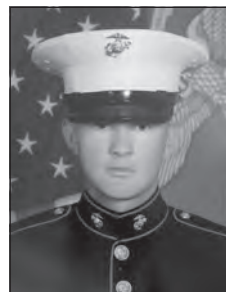
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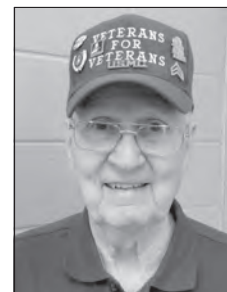
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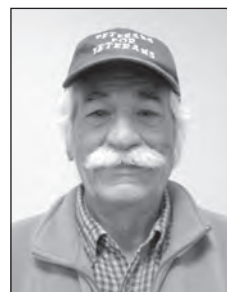
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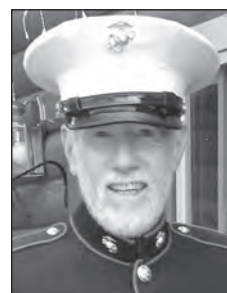
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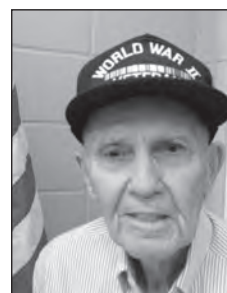
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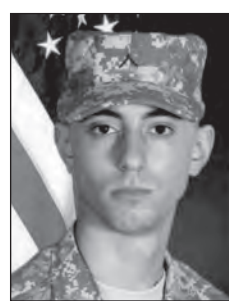
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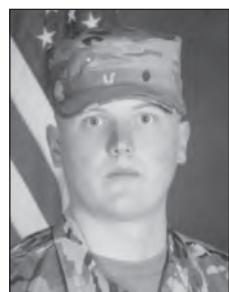
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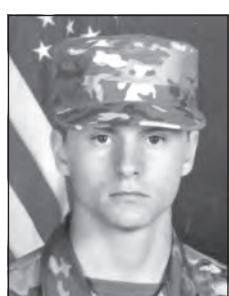
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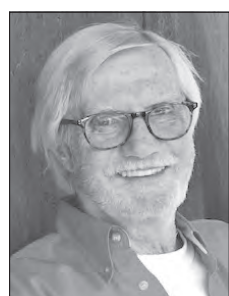
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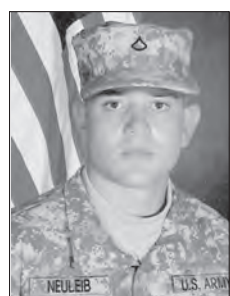
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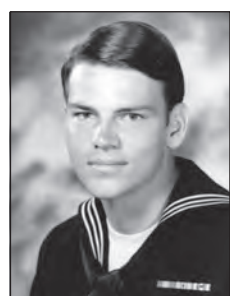
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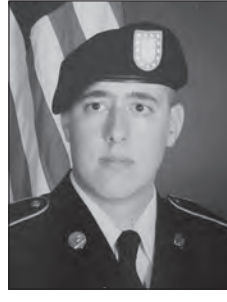
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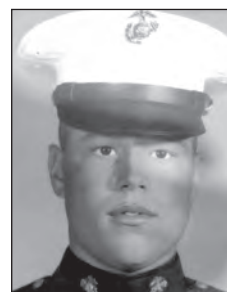
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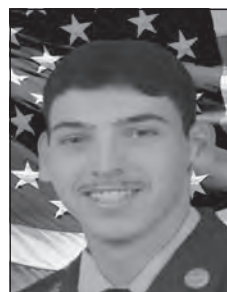
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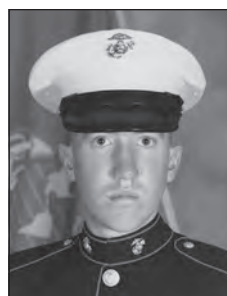
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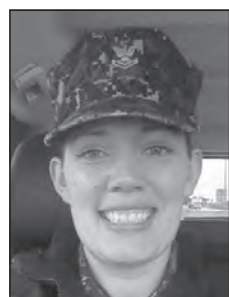
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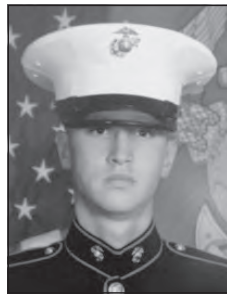
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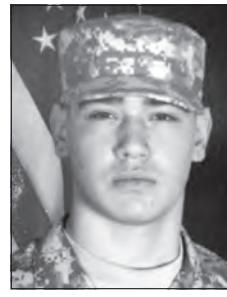
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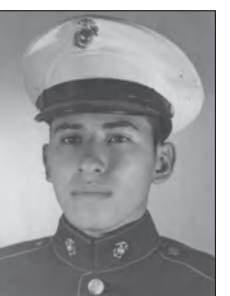
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ARTS & LIFE

Gingerbread House Contest

Support Rise Above Violence



Photo courtesy Paula Byra

November 7, 2024

Inaugural Gingerbread House Contest to benefit Rise Above Violence

By Paula Byra
special to The PREVIEW

The holidays spirit is about to get a little sweeter as the inaugural Gingerbread House Contest, themed "A Happy, Healthy Home."

This delightful event benefiting Rise Above Violence, aims to bring the community together while showcasing creativity and culinary skills.

The contest is set to take place this December and serves as a test run for future expansions.

Participants can enter in one of three categories: Family (\$25 entry fee), Teen (\$15 entry fee) and Adult (\$25 entry fee).

In addition to these categories, a special prize—the Happy Healthy Home Rise Prize—will be awarded to the entry that raises the most funds for the cause.

With a limit of just 12 total entries, the competition promises to be both fierce and festive.

Rules for participants

Entries will be accepted starting Nov 8. Participants can register online or pick up a form at Pagosa Baking Company.

Contestants will be given a "12x12" board for their gingerbread houses. All materials must be edible and the use of pre-made kits is prohibited.

Entries will be judged based on creativity and taste, with each creation required to feature an element that can be removed for tasting.

All entries must be delivered to Pagosa Baking Company on Dec. 1 or Dec. 2 between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Community members can participate online or in person at any time, while in-person voting will take place at the bakery from Dec. 4 to 8.

■ See Contest on next page



Photo courtesy Paula Byra

The holidays spirit is about to get a little sweeter as the inaugural Gingerbread House Contest, themed "A Happy, Healthy Home," to benefit Rise Above Violence.



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Friday

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The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Wonder Bread, 5 p.m.

Saturday

Cork and Board Wine Bar: Maxwell Miller, 5 p.m.

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

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

Tuesday

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

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SUN

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Eight ways to honor veterans

Special to The PREVIEW

Millions of people make considerable sacrifices to protect the freedoms of their fellow citizens.

According to the Pew Research Center and data from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and the U.S. Census Bureau, there are currently more than 18 million living veterans in the United States.

The term "veteran" refers to a person who served in the active military, naval, air service or space service and was discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable.

In the U.S., there are actually five types of protected veterans, according to the Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act (VEVRAA) of 1974. Under VEVRAA, a veteran may be classified as a disabled veteran, recently separated veteran, active duty wartime or campaign badge veteran, or Armed Forces service medal veteran.

Veterans deserve respect and admiration all year long, but also get their own holiday each November. Veterans Day celebrates veterans' patriotism and willingness to sacrifice and serve.

This Veterans Day, people can consider these eight unique ways to honor the veterans in their community.

1. Attend events. Organize or participate in local Veterans Day celebrations and ceremonial events.
2. Get involved with veterans' affairs. Support veterans by volun-

teering with organizations that assist them, such as local veteran's groups or charities dedicated to veteran services.

3. Petition for veteran speakers. Reach out to schools, scout troops or other groups and arrange opportunities for veterans to share their stories and contributions. Learning about the sacrifices these men and women made can heighten individuals' appreciation for veterans.

4. Support the families of veterans. Reach out to veterans' families, who also must make sacrifices and concessions. Anything from shopping, babysitting, doing chores or making a meal can help the families of veterans.

5. Make a donation. If finances allow, make contributions to reputable charities that provide services for veterans like those that offer mental

■ See Honor on next page

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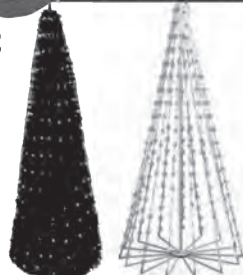
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Contest

■ continued from previous page

Winners will be revealed during the Pagosa Baking Company Holiday Open House on Dec 8 from 3 to 5 p.m.

"This contest is a wonderful opportunity for our community to come together and showcase their creativity while supporting a great cause," said Paula Byra, a passionate gingerbread enthusiast. "We're excited to see what unique gingerbread creations participants will bring to life."

For those eager to showcase their baking skills and spread holiday cheer, registration opens soon. For more information and to register, please visit pagosabakingcompany.com.

Join us in celebrating the joy of this season and supporting a worthy

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Photo courtesy Knights of Columbus Council #7650

Veterans are invited to attend the annual Veterans Appreciation Spaghetti Dinner from 4 to 6 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 11, at Pope John Paul II Catholic Church.

Veterans Appreciation Spaghetti Dinner slated for Nov. 11

Knights of Columbus Council #7560

Veterans are invited to attend the annual Veterans Appreciation Spaghetti Dinner on Monday, Nov. 11, at Pope John Paul II Catholic Church.

The doors will open at 4 p.m.

The sit-down spaghetti dinner will be from 4 to 6 p.m. and will include a video salute to the men and women who served our country.

The evening is being hosted by the Fourth Degree Patriotic Assembly #2704 members, which are part of the Knights of Columbus Council #7560.

The Knights of Columbus was found in 1882 and the Fourth Degree designation was added in 1900.

The goal of the Fourth Degree is to reach out to veterans and active military. The annual Pagosa Springs Spaghetti Dinner aims to honor veterans in our community.

Veterans are admitted free. The suggested donation for guests and nonveterans are \$10.

The dinner is being held at Pope John Paul II Catholic Church located at 353 S. Pagosa Blvd. No RSVP is required.

Veterans

■ continued from previous page health counseling or job placement services. If there isn't a charity that fits with your vision, begin one.

6. Hire veterans to work. If you are a business owner or hiring manager, consider hiring veterans for open positions at your company. It can be challenging to re-enter the workforce after service, so make it known that your firm welcomes veterans.

7. Offer personal acknowledgments. Take the time to speak to veterans and thank them for their service. If possible, when dining out,

ask the server if you can pay for the meal of a veteran who also is dining that day.

8. Don't forget the fallen veterans. Although Memorial Day is designed to honor those who lost their lives through military service, people still can honor the fallen veterans on Veterans Day by sharing stories or placing flags at veteran cemeteries.

Veterans Day is celebrated on Nov. 11, marking an opportunity to express one's gratitude and support for the scores of veterans who have served honorably.



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November 9, 2024

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Photo courtesy Doug Large

The San Juan River draws a crowd each spring for rafting, kayaking and paddleboarding. Pagosa Paddle's Lindsey Kurt-Mason will answer questions at "This Is Your Watershed" on Nov. 18. All are welcome at the free event at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts.

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San Juan Water Conservancy District to host video premiere, water discussions

By Sally High
 San Juan Water Conservancy District

The San Juan Water Conservancy District (SJWCD) will host "This Is Your Watershed: Upper San Juan River," a video premiere and water education event, on Nov. 18 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Numerous water-related organizations will join the SJWCD at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts (PSCA), 2313 Eagle Drive.

The public is invited to this free event.

These groups have committed to host a tabletop exhibit and talk with guests about varied water uses here in our upper San Juan River basin:

- Pagosa Weather.
- San Juan Headwaters Forest Health Partnership.
- San Juan Water Enhancement Partnership.
- Creation Care.
- Town of Pagosa Springs, Pagosa Gateway and Yamaguchi Park.
- Mountain Studies Institute
- Friends of the Upper San Juan River and Pagosa Paddle.
- Colorado Division of Water.
- Colorado State University Extension and Natural Resources.

"This Is Your Watershed: Upper San Juan River" is a series of three short videos by local filmmaker Christi Bode.

The first, "The Value of Snow," was

released in September. The second, "The Waterways that Connect Us," will premiere on Nov. 18.

The doors will open at 5:30, and films will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Interviews with local water experts are featured in both films.

A panel of water professionals will discuss the topics featured in the films and address audience comments and questions.

The PSCA will provide a cash bar, and SJWCD will provide finger foods in the front room.

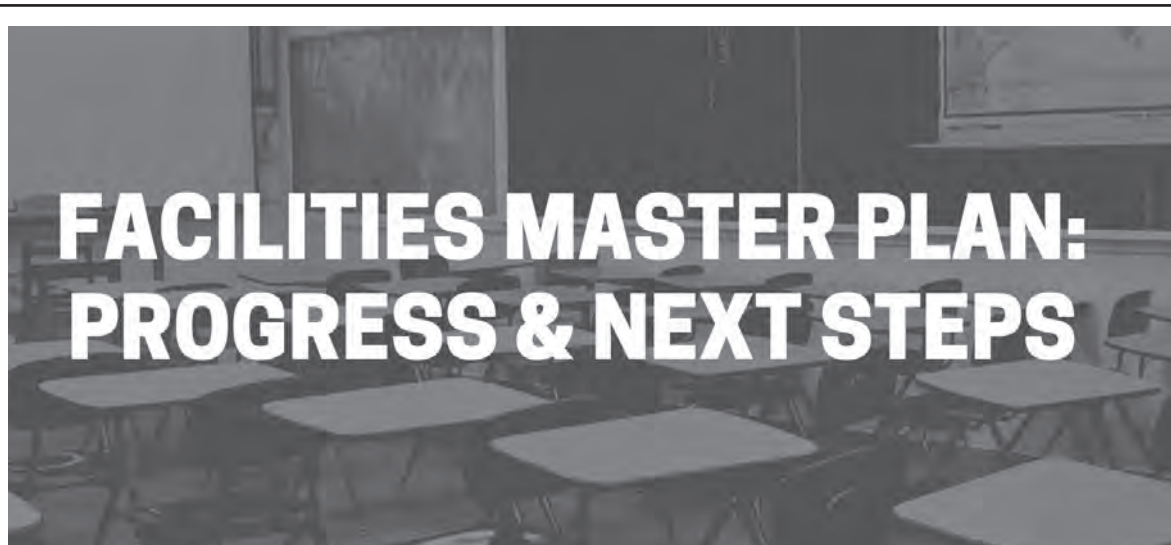
Funding to create "This Is Your Watershed: Upper San Juan River" comes from Colorado Water Conservation District and the SJWCD.

The mission of SJWCD is to be an active leader in all issues affecting the water resources of the Upper San Juan River Basin.

More information can be found at www.sjwcd.org.

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ATTENTION COMMUNITY MEMBERS:

You are invited to participate in our discussion about the Facilities Master Plan for the school district. The District will provide an update on the progress and outline the next steps.

Feel free to attend any of the meetings listed below that suit your schedule. Each session will present the same information.



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- ✓ Tuesday, October 29 • 6 PM @ High school
- ✓ Wednesday, November 13 • 6 PM @ Middle school
- ✓ Thursday, November 14 • 6 PM @ Elementary school

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'Real Friends, Real You: Real Talk on Navigating Friendships' workshop for tween girls announced

By **Laurah Brock Young**
Special to The PREVIEW

Have you ever been bullied at school, work, online or in your neighborhood? Or, do you know a youth who has been bullied and doesn't know how to handle it?

Kimberly Young, the Amazon best-selling author of the novel for tweens, "From Bullied to Brave," transformed her middle school bullying experiences into a mission to empower children and their families.

Young will be conducting a workshop for tween girls, "Real Friends,

Real You: Real Talk on Navigating Friendships," on Friday, Nov. 8, from 2 to 3 p.m. It will be held at the Ruby Sisson Library.

Are you ready to make your friendships even more awesome? Come join us for "Real Friends, Real You" — a super fun workshop just for girls ages 9-13.

We'll chat about everything from figuring out our unique roles in friendships to handling those tricky conflicts without losing our cool. There'll be creative activities and real-life scenarios to help us see how we can stay true to ourselves while

being great friends. Plus, we get to share our stories and learn from each other. Let's grow, support each other, and build friendships that are real and lasting.

With more than 30 years of experience as a pediatric health educator, teacher, confidence coach, and Draw Your Future facilitator, Young delivers workshops that blend heartfelt storytelling, actionable insights and engaging activities. Her sessions help young people navigate friendship dynamics and build resilience while parents learn to support their children's social and emotional growth.

Area Marines to hold Marine Corps birthday celebration

By **Ed Robinson**

Pagosa Springs Marine Corps Birthday Committee

Once a Marine, always a Marine. Sunday, Nov. 10, marks the 249th birthday of the United States Marine Corps.

Pagosa-area Marines and their guests will celebrate the event at Boss Hogg's Restaurant and Saloon,

157 Navajo Trail Drive, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Wilderness Room on the restaurant's main floor.

The traditional cake-cutting by sword and a video birthday message from Headquarters Marine Corps will be featured. The oldest and youngest Marine present will be honored.

Food and drink may be ordered from the restaurant's menu and

paid for by each attendee with a 20 percent gratuity added. Complimentary birthday cake will be served.

Other service members, especially U.S. Navy Corpsman, are welcome. Dress is casual; however, uniforms are always welcome.

Contact Don MacNamee, (970) 731-0306, or Ed Robinson, (970) 731-0718, with any questions.

Salvation Army of Archuleta County to kick off annual fundraising campaign

By **Tom Bruin**

Archuleta County Salvation Army

The Salvation Army of Archuleta County will launch its annual fundraising campaign on Nov. 24.

This year, volunteers from various organizations, churches and civic groups in our community will participate by cheerfully ringing bells and collecting donations for our iconic red kettle.

Bell ringing will take place daily

from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Saturday, and noon to 6 p.m. on Sundays. Bell ringing will not take place on Thanksgiving Day.

As an all-volunteer organization with no paid staff, the Archuleta County Salvation Army has continually supported the less fortunate in our community through emergency shelter, substance abuse rehabilitation, prescription medication assistance, and family and newborn support. All decisions are made lo-

cally by our volunteers, allowing us to adapt to the ever-changing needs of the community.

Every donation makes a difference. As you pass by our red kettle this holiday season, please consider making a contribution. Your support helps us meet human needs throughout the year.

For more information about our red kettle initiative or to volunteer as a bell ringer, please contact Tom Bruin at (224) 730-7910.

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Photo courtesy Ken Morrison

The Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs recently hosted two visitors from the African country of Niger. Abdoulaye Dabougui, president of Club Rotary Niamey Gaweye in Niger, visited Pagosa Springs with his wife, Assamaou Ouacho. David Smith, chair of the International Service committee of the Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs, hosted the couple. Niger is one of the poorest countries in the world; half the population lives on less than \$2 a day. The Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs members recently contributed \$1,200 of personal funds to the Niger club to provide uniforms and special supplies for students attending a school for the blind there. Pictured, left to right, are Smith, Dabougui, Ouacho and Rob Foster, president of the Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs.

Early giving open to support nonprofits on Colorado Gives Day

By Rachel Rosenthal

Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado

Colorado Gives Day is the biggest 24-hour giving movement in the state and one of the most successful giving days in the nation. This year, it takes place on Dec. 10.

But donors don't have to wait until the big day to support their favorite local charities, as early giving began Nov. 1.

There are more than 150 nonprofits from Southwest Colorado on the online platform at SWCOGIVES.ORG.

The Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado spearheads the Southwest Colorado Gives initiative, which helps locals connect to organizations in their community to inspire generosity and increase online donations.

SWCOGIVES.ORG is a secure, easy-to-use platform for donors to contribute online. Last year, more than \$54 million was donated state-wide, with about \$675,000 raised for nonprofits across Archuleta, Dolores, La Plata, Montezuma and San Juan counties.

"It's inspiring to see how our community rallies together each year to support local causes," said Briggen Wrinkle, executive director of the Community Foundation. "I think over the years, this online platform has made it much more streamlined for people to give not only to the organizations they already love, but to new nonprofits they wouldn't have known about otherwise. Year-end

donations are such a vital time for nonprofits, so it's been wonderful to see our neighbors embrace the opportunity to support them."

Nonprofit organizations depend on donations to fund programs that support a thriving community for all.

The Community Foundation encourages charitable giving that keeps

dollars local.

Southwest Colorado Gives is an opportunity for donors in our region to support nonprofits across multiple sectors, including arts and culture, human services, animal protection, youth organizations, and many more.

For more information, visit www.swcogives.org or call (970) 375.5807.



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Valerie S., Google review

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Sunday Night Unplugged to feature opera on Nov. 10

By J. Marsh
Saint Patrick's Episcopal Church

Opera is coming to Pagosa Springs. Please save the date for a Sunday, Nov. 10, performance at 5 p.m. at Saint Patrick's Episcopal Church. The performance is free and open to the public.

Sunday Night Unplugged, Saint Patrick's monthly music program featuring an hour of music and contemplation, presents Kimberly Schmidt (soprano) and Dale Scrivener (tenor and piano) performing arias and duets by Mozart, Handel,

Puccini, Faure, Herbert, Morricone and Andrew Lloyd Webber.

The Rev. Wren Blessing will provide contemplative comments on themes found in these pieces.

Schmidt is a retired professor of history who lives in the Washington, D.C., area. Her research and publishing focuses on the history of Mennonite missions to Indigenous Americans, especially Cheyenne peoples in Oklahoma and Montana. She leads history tours in Europe during the summer months, also focused on the Mennonite experience.

As the daughter of a Mennonite

pastor, Schmidt has been singing all her life, but started focusing on opera 13 years ago under the direction of Dr. Nakia Verner at the Catholic University of America. She sings opera and sacred music at performance venues and churches in the Washington, D.C., area.

Schmidt has two children: one, a graduate of the Bolshoi Academy in Moscow who danced professionally; the other, a forest firefighter moving to Pagosa Springs this fall.

Scrivener has been involved in the Pagosa music and arts community since 2016. He loves to share his passion for music and theater with others. Scrivener makes art on stage with Curtains Up Pagosa (our local community theater) and high school theater, and has played piano for many churches in town. He is also an avid vocalist, having graduated with a bachelor of music in vocal performance from Mansfield University.

Come and experience a spirited performance on Nov. 10.



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Photo courtesy Nancy Crouse, St. Patrick's Episcopal Church

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church will continue its tradition of preparing and serving an early Thanksgiving dinner for the community on Nov. 21.

Early community Thanksgiving Dinner planned for Nov. 21

By Anthony Aldwell
St. Patrick's Episcopal Church

The early Pagosa Community Thanksgiving Dinner tradition is continuing this year.

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church will again sponsor a full and free Thanksgiving dinner, served from the entryway of the Parish Hall, 445 Lewis St., on Thursday, Nov. 21.

This year's meal will be distributed

via walk-up or drive through.

Distribution of the turkey and trimmings meal will begin at 11 a.m. at this downtown location. The plan is to serve until 1 p.m. or until the food runs out.

Due to anticipated high demand, there will be a limit of three dinners per guest.

All are welcome to partake of this community celebration of Thanksgiving.



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Photo courtesy Pagosa Catholic Community

Father Samuel Auta oversees a parishioner lighting a candle in remembrance of a deceased loved one during the Nov. 2 All Souls' Day Mass held at Pope John Paul II Catholic Church.

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Centerpoint Church to offer Surviving the Holidays seminar

By Holly Shook
Centerpoint Church

DivorceCare Surviving the Holidays is a free event where you can learn practical, effective strategies to help you make it through the holidays.

Held Nov. 23 at Centerpoint Church from 4 to 5:30 p.m., this seminar will begin with a video featuring interview clips from respected Christian counselors, psychologists and authors speaking on topics pertinent to people in separation or divorce. The videos also include practical advice from people who've experienced a marital breakup and have faced at least one holiday season since then.

At Surviving the Holidays, you'll receive a holiday survival guide that includes practical strategies, encouraging words, helpful exercises, questions and answers, and more to help you construct a healthy approach to the days ahead.

You'll also spend time with other people in separation or divorce who have an idea of what you're going through and who will accept you as you are without expectations or judgment.

"With the people at DivorceCare I don't have to have it together," said

Monica. "I don't have to be a certain way. I come as I am, and they know what I mean."

This holiday season can be a wonderful time of personal growth and peace as you learn to discover joy amidst the heartache.

To register or find out more about DivorceCare Surviving the Holidays, call the church office at (970) 731-2205 or email Holly Shook at hollymarie36@yahoo.com.



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Photo courtesy Pagosa Catholic Community

Deacon Mark McVay and Father Samuel Auta are assisted by Lalo Reaza during final All Souls' Day blessing at the columbarium located behind Pope John Paul II Catholic Church on Nov. 2.

Believing what we don't see

By Richard Gammill
PREVIEW Columnist

A Matter of Faith

I was waiting at a red light at a busy intersection when something odd caught my eye.

Two clunky-looking, modified Jaguar sedans had pulled up and stopped next to me, but when I glanced over, there wasn't a driver in sight. A moment later, two more driverless Jaguars rolled smoothly through the intersection ahead of us, making a perfectly orchestrated, empty parade of four. No steering hands, no feet on the pedals — just cars gliding along, obeying every signal.

Around Phoenix, a scene like this is pretty ordinary now. But imagine a driverless car cruising along U.S. 160 through Pagosa Springs. There'd be gasps, rubbernecking and maybe a photo or two to confirm that the car had moved, like a phantom, entirely on its own. The truth is, of course, these cars aren't truly alone. Somewhere out there, a system is guiding them — eyes never distracted, a mind never weary.

For a moment, I pictured someone muttering in disbelief, "This can't be. If I don't see a driver, there isn't one." And yet, there they were, keeping pace with traffic, responding precisely to every signal and obstacle. Proponents of autonomous driving say this is exactly what we need to make the roads safer. Unlike human drivers, these cars don't drift into daydreams, miss a brake light or respond a split second too late. They're always alert, tuned in to the road

with sensors and radars that never blink. Every day, dozens of these autonomous cars drive through my neighborhood. And with all their precision and instant reactions, I feel a strange sense of ease in sharing the road with them.

It's funny, though. Seeing is believing for most of us. There's no driver, yet we trust there's a guiding presence somewhere. And yet, when it comes to life's biggest questions, that certainty often fades.

"I've never seen God," some say. "How could I believe in something I can't see?"

But, as scripture reminds us, "The heavens declare the glory of God."

Nature's intricate beauty and vast complexity speak to a hand at work, but it's easy to overlook the Designer and dismiss the design.

My friend David, after struggling in the grip of alcoholism for years, turned his life over to the God of deliverance and now for a year has been living a healthy life of sobriety. What caused the change?

It's like those classic tales of Sherlock Holmes, who would examine a scene and draw out the truth from the smallest clues. His friend Watson often looked on in bewilderment as

Holmes pieced together mysteries from fragments of evidence, reaching conclusions Watson couldn't see. We might observe the same world, but sometimes fail to see what's right before us.

Even if the driver is out of sight, the car is guided. And even when we can't see the cause, the effect is there, whispering of something greater.

This column may include both fiction and nonfiction, and views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN. Submissions can be sent to editor@pagosasun.com.

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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

Nov. 9, 5 to 9 p.m.: Veterans Day Dinner and Dance at the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association Clubhouse. Music by SoulFire. Tickets are on sale for \$50 at <https://www.zeffy.com/ticketing/57e43305-d27f-472f-b614-dc0584712d22>.

Nov. 10, 11 a.m.: "Meditation and Drumming Circle for Inner Peace" with Shayla Azriel.

Nov. 12, 5:30 p.m.: Illuminations on "Claim Your Health Back with Natural Remedies to Enhance Your Life" with Dr. Dave Carpenter, ND/

MD, author from Idaho. A love donation will be accepted.

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). Obtain information by joining us; emailing pagosacommunitynewthought@gmail.com; mailing P.O. Box 1052, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147; or calling (970) 510-0309.

Sign up now for Holiday Lighting Contest

By Jennifer Green
Visit Pagosa Springs

Once again, the Pagosa Springs area will be bright with holiday cheer this season.

The Pagosa Springs Area Tourism Board and The Pagosa Springs SUN are sponsoring a lighting contest this holiday season.

The lighting contest will make the holiday season shine. It includes enhanced lighting in downtown Pagosa, as well as many other festive events taking place in and around the Pagosa Springs area through the end of December.

Participating addresses will be promoted to locals and visitors. Voting will be conducted online between Nov. 29 and Dec. 22.

To enter the contest, please complete the following form by end of day on Nov. 15: <https://bit.ly/2024LightingContestSignUp>.

Residential lighting contest

The holiday residential lighting competition will test participants' creativity and award cash prizes for first (\$1,000), second (\$500) and third (\$250).

Participating residential properties must be decorated by Nov. 29.

We ask residential properties to turn on their lights every evening from 6 to 8 p.m. between Nov. 29 and the end of the year.

Winners will be announced in The SUN on Dec. 26.

Business lighting contest

The business lighting contest is open to any Pagosa Springs area

business with a property to decorate.

Participating businesses must decorate by Nov. 29. We ask business properties to turn on their lights every evening from 6 to 8 p.m. between Nov. 29 and the end of the year.

Winners will be announced in The SUN on Dec. 26. Business prizes of first (\$1,000), second (\$500) and third (\$250) will be awarded as advertising in The SUN.

Storefront window contest

The storefront window contest is open to any Pagosa Springs area business with a storefront window to decorate.

Participating businesses must decorate by Nov. 29. We ask business properties to turn on their lights every evening from 6 to 8 p.m. between Nov. 29 and the end of the year.

Winners will be announced in The SUN on Dec. 26. Storefront window prizes of first (\$500) second (\$250) and third (\$125) will be awarded as advertising in The SUN.

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Gennette Erickson
Owner,
Hearing Aid Specialist



Preview Calendar

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

Thursday, Nov. 7

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.

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

Dungeons and Dragons. 4-5:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Join the adventure. Preregistration is required because space is limited. Contact Josie@pagosalibrary.org to join.

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

Virtual Author Talk: Stanley Milford Jr. 5 p.m., virtual. Stanley Milford Jr. will speak on "A Navajo Investigator's Search for the Unexplained." For details and to register, go to <https://libraryc.org/pagosalibrary/upcoming>.

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.

Lifelong Learning Lecture Series. 6-7:15 p.m., Sisson Library. Matt Huber from the Colorado Avalanche Information Center will explain the power of avalanches and give you practical advice on how you can have safe fun in the mountains during the winter.

San Juan Outdoor Club. 6-8 p.m., PLPOA Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Sue Fischer, club member and author, will give a presentation on Chimney Rock National Monument and the people who lived there. She will discuss where the people came from and why they chose to live there. She will explain why Chimney Rock is referred to as a Chacoan outlier and the relationship between the local Indigineous culture and the Chacoans. She will also discuss why the Great House pueblo was built on top of the Chimney Rock mesa. The meet-

ing starts with a social half hour at 6 p.m. with light refreshments, and the meeting will start at 6:30 p.m. For more information, email sanjuanoutdoorsclub@gmail.com.

San Juan Stargazers. 6 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Social time will begin at 6 p.m., with the meeting beginning at 7 p.m. Dr. Andy Green will speak about the formation of galaxies.

Friday, Nov. 8

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

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 ceflittlekids@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.

Real Friends, Real You Tween Girls Workshop. 2-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Are you ready to make your friendships even more awesome? Join local author Kimberly Young for a chat about managing conflict and staying true to ourselves while being a great friend.

Saturday, Nov. 9

Chess Club. 9:30-11:30 a.m., Sisson Library. Learn how to play chess with quick lessons and game time or practice your skills. All ages and abilities are welcome.

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.

Virtual Author Talk: Javier Zamora. Noon, virtual. Javier Zamora will speak on child migration from Central America. This will be a Spanish-language talk. For details and to register, go to <https://libraryc.org/pagosalibrary/upcoming>.

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

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.

■ See Calendar 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

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

Level: Beginner

Fun By The Numbers

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

Here's How It Works:

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

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

ANSWER:

Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

Vets 4 Vets Dinner and Dance. 5-9 p.m., PLPOA Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. A fundraiser with music and a silent auction. Tickets are available at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/veterans-day-dinner-and-dance-tickets-1022620053107>.

Sunday, Nov. 10

Sunday Night Unplugged. 5 p.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Local artist Dale Scrivener and visiting soprano Kimberly Schmidt will be featured.

Marine Corps Birthday Celebration. 6-8 p.m., Boss Hogg's Restaurant and Saloon, 157 Navajo Trail Drive.

Monday, Nov. 11

Annual Veterans Day Breakfast. 7:30-10 a.m., Community Center. A free breakfast will be served. There will be a flag-folding ceremony at

9 a.m. **Veterans Day Ceremony.** 11 a.m., Veterans Memorial Park.

Shakespeare Read Aloud Club. 3:30-5 p.m., Sisson Library. Practice your olde English, read "Romeo and Juliet" and have a fun time.

High School Math Tutoring. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. Math tutors are available for ages 14 and up. Registration is required.

Knights of Columbus Veterans' Dinner. 4-6 p.m., Pope John Paul II Church, 353 S. Pagosa Boulevard. Veterans eat free at the spaghetti dinner, with all others \$10.

Tuesday, Nov. 12

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.

Veterans for Veterans of Archuleta County. 10 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.

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.

Ruby's Book Club. 2-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Join to discuss "The Lost City of Z" by David Grann. Pick up a copy at the library.

Dungeons and Dragons. 4-5:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Join the adventure. Preregistration is required because space is limited. Contact Josie@pagosalibrary.org to join.

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

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

Men's Fellowship. 6 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms.

Wednesday, Nov. 13

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

Introduction to Pickleball. 8:30-11 a.m., Ross Aragon Community Center. Register on the Pagosa Springs Parks and Recreation page at <https://secure.rec1.com/CO/pagosa-springs-co/catalog>.

Kids Kare. 9:30-11:30 a.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park

■ See Calendar on next page

SPONSORED CONTENT

Precision Autobody & Collision: Your premier collision repair facility located in Pagosa Springs

By Annette Medina

Precision Autobody and Collision

For over 20 years, Precision Autobody & Collision has established itself as a cornerstone of automotive repair in Pagosa Springs and the surrounding areas.

With a commitment to quality, honesty, and integrity, this full-service collision repair shop has earned a strong reputation, becoming a recommended choice for various auto body services by their customers and many insurance companies.

A Legacy of Experience

Precision Autobody is led by owner and operator Mike Hall, who boasts over four decades of expertise in automotive repair.

Hall's commitment to mastering the craft is complemented by his exceptional six-member team, who bring over 150+ years of experience to the table.

With a spacious 9,000-plus square foot facility featuring two paint booths and a chassis liner, they are well-equipped to handle a wide range of repair needs.

The team includes a master body technician and an expert color matching specialist who are dedicated to staying ahead of industry trends and incorporating new materials and technologies.

This dedication ensures that Precision Autobody consistently delivers top-quality service and remains at the forefront of modern repair techniques, providing customers with confidence in every job.

Comprehensive Services

Precision Autobody & Collision of-



Mike Hall and the team at Precision Autobody & Collision are ready to serve your auto repair needs. The shop is located off Piedra Road on Cloman Boulevard and is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to noon and 2 to 4 p.m.

fers a wide range of services designed to restore vehicles to their pre-accident condition. Their offerings include:

- Auto body repair and refinishing
- A/C Evac & Recharge
- Paint-less dent repair
- Glass replacement
- Frame straightening

At Precision Autobody, the mission is clear: to deliver precise, high-quality repairs that not only meet but exceed customer expectations.

The shop prides itself on maintaining a clean and organized environment, which provides customers with peace of mind when leaving their vehicles for repairs.

This commitment to excellence and attention to detail ensures that every

vehicle receives the care it deserves, reinforcing the trust customers place in Precision Autobody.

Community Focus

While Precision Autobody serves the residents of Pagosa Springs, they also extend their services to nearby communities such as Chama, South Fork, Bayfield and Durango.

The team's dedication to local customers is evident, as they strive to provide timely and efficient repairs, especially during peak seasons.

Preparing for Deer Season and Winter Weather

As deer season and winter weather approach, Precision Autobody & Colli-

sion encourages you to take proactive measures to help you be prepared for winter-driving conditions and avoid accidents.

Trust the Experts

Should you find yourself in need of repairs, the skilled technicians at Precision Autobody are ready to assist with everything from collision repair to windshield replacement.

The team is committed to ensuring that your vehicle is safe and roadworthy for the season ahead.

Visit Precision Autobody

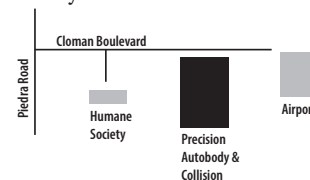
For those seeking estimates, no appointment is necessary. Precision Autobody & Collision is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., with a lunch break from noon to 2 p.m.

The shop is conveniently located at 667 Cloman Blvd., off Piedra Road, just past the Humane Society.

Get in Touch

For more information about services or to schedule a consultation, contact Precision Autobody & Collision at (970) 731-3111.

With a focus on quality repairs and customer satisfaction, the team at Precision Autobody is here to help you get back on the road safely and efficiently.



Precision Autobody & Collision is part of The Pagosa Springs SUN sponsored content program called Spotlight.

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Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page**

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 at ceflittlekids@gmail.com.

Emotional Freedom Technique Session. 10-11 a.m., Senior Center.

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. For all ages. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

Therapy Dog Visit. 11-11:45 a.m., Sisson Library. Stop by and visit with a certified therapy dog.

Legal Clinic. 2-3:40 p.m., Sisson Library. Meet with a volunteer civil attorney via Zoom at the library. Registration is required and opens on the first of each month. Call the library at (970) 264-2209 to register. Space is limited.

Elementary Tutoring. 3:30-4:30 p.m., Sisson Library. After-school tutoring in reading and math for grades 1-3. Registration required. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information or to sign up.

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.

Archuleta School District Facilities Master Plan Discussion. 6 p.m., Pagosa Springs Middle School. The district will provide an update on the progress and outline the next steps, and the public is invited to participate in discussion about the plan.

Order of the Eastern Star Peace and Harmony Chapter #158. 7 p.m., Masonic Lodge, 277 Lewis St. Call Donna at (970) 946-8201 for more information.

Thursday, Nov. 14

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.

Virtual Author Talk: Javier Zamora. 2 p.m., virtual. Javier Zamora will speak on child migration from Central America. For details and to register, go to <https://libraryc.org/pagosalibrary/upcoming>.

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.

es. 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.

Archuleta School District Facilities Master Plan Discussion. 6 p.m., Pagosa Springs Elementary School. The district will provide an update on the progress and outline the next steps, and the public is invited to participate in discussion about the plan.

Lifelong Learning Lecture Series. 6-7:15 p.m., Sisson Library. Doug Coombs, a member of the Pagosa Springs Photography Club, will share his photos from four different trips to Africa and describe options for traveling to Africa.

Friday, Nov. 15

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

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 ceflittlekids@gmail.com.

Build Better Boundaries with Rise Above Violence. 2-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Join Rise for some fun activities about setting healthy boundaries and why it's important.

Paws to Read. 2-3 p.m., Sisson Library. For all ages. Read with Maple, a therapy dog who loves stories.

Steam Engines. 2-3:30 p.m., Sisson Library. For all ages.

Saturday, Nov. 16

Pagosa Piecemakers Quilt Guild. 9:30 a.m., Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. Park and enter at the rear of the building. Social hour begins at 9:30 a.m., followed by the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

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.

LEGO Play. 11 a.m.-noon, Sisson Library. For kids 6-11 years old. Bring your own or use the library's LEGOs to free build. Contact the library at (970) 264-2209 for further information.

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

DivorceCare/DivorceCare for Kids. 4-5:30 p.m., Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. A 13-week program that provides a safe

■ **See Calendar on next page**

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Connect for Health Colorado announces open enrollment for plan year 2025

By Michelle Mendoza
Connect for Health Colorado

Connect for Health Colorado, the state's official health insurance marketplace, is announcing that open enrollment for plan year 2025 opened Nov. 1.

This annual enrollment period offers Coloradans the opportunity to shop for new affordable health insurance plan options or renew their current plans.

Connect for Health Colorado is dedicated to increasing access, affordability and choice for individuals, families and small businesses purchasing health insurance in Colorado. Connect for Health Colorado is the only place where Coloradans can get federal financial help to purchase health insurance.

In fact, during this year's open enrollment, three out of five customers are expected to find a plan for \$10 or less a month.

"We have seen record numbers of Coloradans enroll for the last four years. I'm proud that some of the largest enrollment increases have been in rural counties," said Connect for Health Colorado CEO Kevin Patterson. "Plan prices and options change every year, so we encourage residents to access our experts and tools to review options. Connect for Health Colorado provides support to allow consumers to find the best plan for their family's health needs and budget."

Many Coloradans can find more affordable health insurance options if they shop and change plans.

Important open enrollment details for 2025

- Open enrollment for plan year 2025 began Nov. 1 and ends Jan. 15, 2025. Dec. 15 is the deadline to sign up for coverage that begins Jan. 1, 2025.

- Customers are encouraged to begin the application process as early as possible to explore available health insurance plan options and financial assistance, and avoid a lapse in coverage.

- Six health insurance companies,

including Anthem, Cigna, Denver Health, Kaiser Permanente, Rocky Mountain Health Plans and Select Health, will offer medical plans for 2025. Additionally, dental and vision plans are available from several providers.

- The Quick Cost and Plan Finder tool allows customers to browse plans and see what financial help they may be eligible for without having to create an account.

New policies expand access and affordability

- Due to state and federal changes, immigrant families now qualify for health coverage through Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid program), Child Health Plan Plus (CHP+) and Connect for Health Colorado. Customers are strongly encouraged to work with a broker or assister to determine which program is appropriate for them in 2025.

- The federal Inflation Reduction Act that provides the enhanced Advance Premium Tax Credits remains in effect for 2025, which means people can continue to expect a high level of financial help. In fact, 81 percent of customers will qualify for financial help.

Year three of OmniSalud program

Nov. 1 marked the start of the third Open Enrollment Period for Colorado Connect, Connect for Health Colorado's public benefit corporation and online enrollment platform.

Colorado Connect is home to the OmniSalud program, which provides undocumented Coloradans with a safe way to compare affordable health insurance plans, get financial help if eligible and enroll securely.

This year, in coordination with the Health Insurance Affordability Enterprise, OmniSalud re-enrollment is prioritizing continuity of coverage. Current customers enrolled in a SilverEnhanced Savings plan with financial help through OmniSalud will have until Nov. 22 to claim their spot. New customers seeking financial help can apply starting on Nov. 25. People interested in enrolling in

the OmniSalud program are strongly encouraged to contact a certified broker or enrollment assister. Find help by visiting the OmniSalud Help website page.

■ See Enrollment on next page



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THE BENEFITS OF A PLANT-RICH DIET PART-2

The benefits of the dietary fountain of youth and regeneration are many and profound. For additional discussion, consult the video linked here and read today's excerpt below. Science supports a low-fat, plant-based diet for optimal health.



The Academy for Nutrition and Dietetics (AND), the nation's largest organization of nutrition experts, states that "vegetarian diets, including total vegetarian or vegan diets, are healthful, nutritionally adequate, and may provide health benefits in the prevention and treatment of certain diseases.

Well-planned vegetarian diets are appropriate for individuals during all stages of the lifecycle, including pregnancy, lactation, infancy, childhood, and adolescence, and for athletes." The ADA's position paper on vegetarian and vegan diets, published in 2009, references more than 200 studies and papers to support its conclusions. Studies continue to show that plant-based diets can aid in reversing the symptoms of America's most devastating diseases: type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and some types of cancer. People who follow a plant-based diet have a healthier heart. They reap the benefits of lower cholesterol levels than meat-eaters, and heart disease is less common in vegetarians. Plant-based meals are typically low in saturated fat, and since cholesterol is found only in animal products such as meat, dairy, and eggs, it's easy to consume a cholesterol-free diet.

Another benefit of consuming a plant-based diet is getting your blood pressure numbers down. An impressive number of studies show that vegetarians have lower blood pressure than nonvegetarians. A low-fat, plant-based diet has also shown to reverse the symptoms of type 2 diabetes. A diet based on vegetables, legumes, fruits, and whole grains, which is also low in fat and sugar, can lower blood sugar levels and often reduce or even eliminate the need for medication. Since individuals with diabetes are at high risk for heart disease, avoiding fat and cholesterol is important, and a vegetarian diet is the best way to do that. A plant-based diet helps prevent cancer.

Studies of vegetarians show that death rates from cancer are only about one-half to three-quarters of those of the general population. Breast cancer rates are dramatically lower in countries where diets are typically plant-based. When people from those countries adopt a Western, meat-based diet, their rates of breast cancer soar. Vegetarians also have significantly lower rates of colon cancer than meat-eaters. Colon cancer is more closely associated with meat consumption than any other dietary factor.

Source: "Why The Power Plate? Plant-Based Diets Promote Health." By The Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine. <http://www.pcrm.org>

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

"And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat." Genesis 1:29

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

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

Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page
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@centerpointpa-

gosa.com. You can register online at www.divorcecare.org. There is a \$20 fee for the workbook. Scholarships are available.

Sunday, Nov. 17

Bingo. 5:45 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd. Doors open at 5 p.m., early-bird bingo at 5:45 p.m., bingo at 6 p.m.



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Bird of the Week



Photo courtesy Charles Martinez

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

The first thing to mention is that the pinyon jay is currently under review to be listed as endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act, as the population is estimated to have declined to the tune of 85 percent since 1970. Unfortunately, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with a current backlog, and a determination that would provide extra protections may still be years out.

Due to widespread decline in the species from the Colorado Plateau, stretching west into the interior "Sagebrush Sea," the Great Basin Bird Observatory (GBBO) located in Nevada currently leads conservation efforts to recover pinyon jay numbers. These fastidious jays are prone to caching pinyon pine nuts, and thus the health of pinyon pine tree populations are intertwined with recovering flocks of this avian species. Fire suppression, grazing pressure, habitat loss and drought conditions have been driving forces behind the loss of these trees. The GBBO encourages folks to log observations of pinyon jays using the app Survey 123. To read the "Pinyon Jay Conservation Strategy," look up the interagency PJ Working Group on the Partners in Flight website.

Adults of this species are blue-gray and sleek with a black, pointed bill, lacking the crest of a Steller's jay and the sooty eyebrow of a Woodhouse's scrub jay. Juveniles favor grayish tones. This highly social species can be detected through its loud wavering and nasal caws as flock members locate one another readily along their nomadic feeding trajectories. They produce one brood per year of two to five eggs. Young birds provide cooperative breeding support, jumping in to help with feeding new birds each year. Food sources include pinyon pine seeds, acorns, juniper berries, insects and even lizards.

Though not readily visible in Pagosa Springs, this species can be viewed in the nearby region with minor travel, as it frequents forests dominated by pinyon pine and juniper, found both to the south of us as close as Chimney Rock and to the east of us in San Luis Valley. At this time of year, flocks can form in the hundreds. By logging observations of this species, we can help scientists better understand pinyon jay numbers and develop land management protocols that benefit their recovery.

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



Enrollment

■ continued from previous page

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Connect for Health Colorado is committed to empowering Coloradans with the resources they need to make informed health insurance plan choices.

Its certified network of assisters and insurance brokers are located throughout Colorado and can provide support in multiple languages. They can help Coloradans apply free of charge, and there's no obligation to buy a plan when contacting an expert.

Those who need health care insurance are encouraged to learn more about open enrollment, plan options and financial help at ConnectforHealthCO.com or by calling (855) 752-6749.

About Connect for Health Colorado

Connect for Health Colorado is the state's official health insurance marketplace. Its mission is to increase access, affordability and choice for individuals, families and small employers purchasing health insurance in Colorado. It is the only place where residents can qualify for and receive financial help for their health insurance.

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Library staff's money-management skills get high grades from state

By Carole Howard
PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

Library patrons and visitors know from personal experience what an exceptional library we have in our community.

And, statistics from the Colorado State Library show that your library staff are providing superior programs and services in a very impressive way from a money-management standpoint.

Statewide numbers show that our library's per capita income — meaning the revenue we receive from your taxes as well as from donations and grants — falls just above the median for other libraries our size in Colorado — and well below the median for tourist community libraries. (For the non-math folks among us, the median means we are in the middle, with the same number of libraries in the state above us as below us.)

Yet our stats show impressive results when we are compared with libraries of all sizes in Colorado, including those much bigger. In fact, our circulation per capita is nearly that of the wealthiest libraries in the state, including those in major tourist locations like Aspen and Telluride.

As well, our number of library card holders as a percent of population exceeds the median for all tourist libraries throughout the state.

These results translate into exceptional value for our taxpayers, and we all should be hugely proud of our staff for such money-management skills, according to Library Director Barb Brattin.

She can offer a relatively unbiased view since she arrived here from Wisconsin to be our new library director only two months ago.

"I inherited this success," she said. "Based on more than 30 years working in libraries, I am very impressed."

As Brattin told the library Board of Trustees at their Oct. 16 meeting when she reviewed the statewide stats, "It's clear from my interactions with the public since I came here in September, our library is a beloved local institution — and all the praise goes to library staff for providing this community with the service they value and appreciate. It's impressive to see that this goodwill is backed up by statistics that put our library in such a remarkable position statewide."

Early library closure

Your library will close early on Monday, Nov. 11, for our regular monthly staff meeting at 5 p.m.

'Real Friends, Real You' for teens/tweens

Join local author Kimberly Young tomorrow, Friday, Nov. 8, from 2 to 3 p.m. to chat about managing conflict and staying true to yourself while being a real friend.



Special Friends event

Next Wednesday, Nov. 13, from 4 to 6 p.m., Brattin will join the Friends of the Library for a social gathering and potluck.

This is an excellent opportunity to meet Brattin and hear about her background and plans. Bring an appetizer to share; the Library Foundation will provide sodas, water, beer and wine.

If you're not already a Friend, consider making this a perfect reason to join.

Annual memberships are \$15 per person or \$25 for a family, with lifetime memberships available for \$150 per person.

Lifelong Learning Lectures continue

Our new free weekly Lifelong Learning Lecture series continues today with two more interesting presentations, both from 6 to 7:15 p.m.:

- Today, Nov. 7, Matt Huber from the Colorado Avalanche Information Center will explain the power of avalanches and give you practical advice on how you can have safe fun in the mountains during the winter.
- On Nov. 14, Doug Coombs, a

member of the Pagosa Springs Photography Club, will share his remarkable photos from four different trips to Africa and describe options for traveling to Africa.

No registration is required to attend.

Online author talks

Our highly popular free online author talks in November will celebrate diverse cultural experiences and National Native American History Month. They offer four more opportunities this month for you to interact with New York Times bestselling authors and ask questions.


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

Today, Thursday, Nov. 7, at 5 p.m. will feature "A Navajo Investigator's Search for the Unexplained," a conversation with Stanley Mitford Jr., known for his shows about Skinwalker Ranch on Netflix and the History Channel.

Saturday, Nov. 9, at noon will showcase a Spanish-language conversation with Javier Zamora, author of "Solito," on "Sobre la Migracion Infantil Desde Centroamerica," followed by the same presentation in English on Thursday, Nov. 14, at 2 p.m.

On Nov. 20 at 5 p.m., we'll enjoy a conversation with Mona Susan Power, PEN/Hemingway Prize winner and member of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, on "Native Rights and Culture in Fiction."

■ See Library on next page



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Library

■ continued from previous page

Chess Club Saturday

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

Adult knitting Saturday

Join new and experienced knitters Saturday, Nov. 9, for our free Knitters Circle from 1 to 3 p.m. It is aimed at anyone over the age of 18 who would like to knit together or get some help if you are stuck on your project.

Math tutoring Monday

High school math tutors will be available for ages 14 and up Mondays from 4 to 5:30 p.m. except for the second Monday each month when it ends at 5 p.m. because of our staff meeting. Registration is required.

Math tutoring will continue depending on demand and tutor availability.

Shakespeare read-aloud

Shakespeare fans of all ages are invited to join in reading aloud "Romeo and Juliet" on Monday, Nov. 11, plus Nov. 18 if needed, from 3:30 to 5 p.m. at the free Shakespeare Read Aloud Club. This is an all-ages program. Call Jenny at (240) 426-7887 for more information.

Ruby's Book Club next Tuesday

Ruby's Book Club will meet from 2 to 3 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 12, to discuss "The Lost City of Z" by David Grann. Copies are available at your library.

This book club is held the second Tuesday of each month, alternating between fiction and nonfiction titles. Anyone is welcome to attend. Snacks will be provided.

Legal clinic next Wednesday

This month's free legal clinic is by appointment on Wednesday, Nov. 13, from 2 to 3:40 p.m. at the library. Meet privately via Zoom with our volunteer civil attorney.

For an appointment, phone us at (970) 264-2209. Registration opens the first of the month and is required as space is limited.

Therapy dog visit

Next Wednesday, Nov. 13, from 11 to 11:45 a.m., all ages are invited to a free visit with a certified therapy dog. The visits will be limited to 10-15 minutes.

Elementary tutoring sessions

Children in first through third grade are invited to free sessions on Wednesdays from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. where they will build essential skills in core subjects as they are tutored in reading and math. Preregistration is required.

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.

Dungeons and Dragons

Tuesday, Nov. 12, 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.

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.

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.

■ See Library on next page

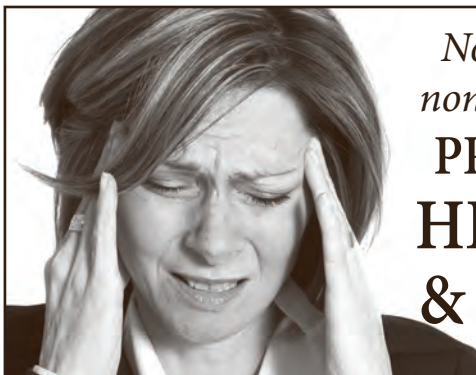


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Library

■ continued from previous page 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.

DVDs

“Halo” is a four-disc collection of season two episodes. “Despicable Me” is a four-movie collection of Illumination’s family comedy films. “Bikeriders” follows Midwestern biking club members evolving from a friendly gathering to a violent underworld. “Alpha” is an epic adventure of a man and a wolf set in the Ice Age.

Mysteries, suspense and thrillers

“Identity Unknown” by Patricia Cornwall is a Kay Scarpetta forensic science mystery. “The Women Behind the Door” by Booker Prize-winner Roddy Doyle features a mother and daughter untangling past memories and revelations. “The City and The City” by China Mieville is a gritty sci-fi murder mystery set in two cities whose residents are not allowed to interact. “The Village Library

Demon-Hunting Society” by C.M. Waggoner is a Cozy fantasy mystery.

Large print

“The Forest of Lost Souls” by Dean Koontz tells of an accident that may have been more than that. “Shadow State” by M.P. Woodward is a Tom Clancy Jack Ryan Jr. adventure. “I Need You to Read This” by Jessa Maxwell is a murder mystery involving an advice columnist. “Proof” by Fern Michaels is a Lost and Found mystery that begins with an old dresser.

Donation guidelines

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

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

Quotable quote

“Everybody thinks of changing humanity, and nobody thinks of changing himself.” — Leo Tolstoy (1878-1910), Russian writer regarded

as one of the greatest authors of all time.

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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Age-friendly community listening session announced

By Rose Chavez
PREVIEW Columnist

The Colorado Commission on Age Friendly Communities Subcommittee and Archuleta Seniors Inc. (ASI) are interested in hearing from community members and visitors of Pagosa Springs and Archuleta County to better understand what an "age-friendly Archuleta community" means to you.

The listening session will be held virtually on Dec. 4 from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Currently, Archuleta County doesn't have the designation of an "age-friendly community"; however, ASI anticipates integrating this important policy work into the ASI strategic planning goals and collaborative efforts over the next three years, between 2025 and 2027.

An age-friendly community is livable for people of all ages. Additionally, an age-friendly community is a place that adapts its services and both social and built environments/physical structures to be more inclusive and receptive to the needs of its population to improve their quality of life as they age. A friendly community encourages healthy aging by optimizing resources to improve the health, safety and inclusion of older people in the community.

This initiative also encourages older adults to take a more active role in their communities and have their voices heard, with focus on areas such as nutrition, housing, transportation, outdoor spaces and buildings, caregiving, community engagement and employment opportunities, civic participation/volunteering, community support and health services, respect and social inclusion/participation, communication and information, and combating isolation among older citizens.

A community's age-friendly leaders and champions likely include: elected officials, government agencies, nonprofit organizations and foundations, academic institutions, area agencies on aging, community coalitions, local businesses, Chambers of Commerce, residents, families, advocates and volunteers.

The meeting will be held virtually at bit.ly/ccoa-age-friendly-communities-listening-session24. The meeting ID is 817 8755 1403 and passcode is 937382.

If you are unable to attend the listening session, we still want to hear your voice. Use the Google Form at forms.gle/vnCPQroFm8szcsFa9 to input your feedback/ideas.

For more information, please contact ASI Executive Director Rose Chavez at rosa@psseniors.org or Kristine Burrows, senior specialist on



aging within the Colorado Office of Adult, Aging and Disability Services at kristine.burrows@state.co.us.

Winter fundraiser

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

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 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-and-older 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 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 P.O. Box 3444, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147.

We also take donations by phone at (970) 264-2167 or online donations via our Colorado Gives ASI winter fundraising page: <https://www.coloradogives.org/story/Asi-fallfundraiser>.

Meals on Wheels volunteers needed

For more than 50 years, the Pagosa Senior Center (established in 1971)/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

■ See Senior on next page

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Coop residents
- 5 Hawthorne's "___-Told Tales"
- 10 Harsh review
- 14 Beat anagram
- 15 It's a shore thing
- 16 Cornmeal cake
- 17 Like most citizens
- 19 Miner's quest
- 20 Tasty mollusk
- 21 Broadway backdrop
- 23 Shampoo brand
- 24 Royal title
- 25 Credit cards, slangily
- 28 Grant basis
- 29 Race unit
- 30 Fling with force
- 32 Downy duck
- 36 Territory
- 38 Quick rides
- 40 Cut up
- 41 Bakery treats
- 43 Falk or Fonda
- 45 Junior, to Senior
- 46 Vegan's staple
- 48 Campus figure
- 50 Cancel a choice
- 54 Very, in Avignon
- 55 Cardinal address
- 56 Hung in there
- 59 "Shane" star
- 60 Reject as false
- 62 Scrabble piece
- 63 Bruce Lee film, "___ the Dragon"
- 64 Astin or Bean
- 65 Nautical direction
- 66 Thorny bunch
- 67 Animated crime-fighting quartet, briefly

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- 3 It's breaking, at times
- 4 Union members?
- 5 Dust Bowl's decade
- 6 Get hitched
- 7 Football's Fighting ___
- 8 Geological seven
- 9 Mesh, as gears
- 10 "Delightful!"
- 11 Off the leash
- 12 Llama's land
- 13 Track events
- 18 Bed on board
- 22 Calcutta butter
- 25 Surveyor's map
- 26 Actress ___ Flynn Boyle
- 27 Frothy coffee drink
- 31 Contend (for)
- 33 Hold in low regard
- 34 Univ. course
- 35 Monopoly payment
- 37 One who shows up
- 39 Oregon Trail folks
- 42 One and only
- 44 Like Mayberry
- 47 Stratocaster maker
- 49 Partner of cease
- 50 Tucker's tune, "___ Dawn"
- 51 Send, in a way
- 52 Move stealthily
- 53 Doctor's orders
- 57 John, in Wales
- 58 Job for a body shop
- 61 Worker in a garden

Answers to Previous Crossword:

A	G	H	A	S	T		L	A	S	T		D	B	A		
C	R	E	C	H	E		I	M	P	A	I	R	E	D		
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P	E	P			P	E	N	T			S	E	D	G	E	S

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Senior

■ continued from previous page

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 pick up an application. Questions? Please call ASI 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, with the next session being on Nov. 13, to participate in the popular, ongoing "Tapping" class (also known as EFT, or Emotional Freedom Technique) from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. that is free and open to all ages and walks of life.

The first half of class is learning or reviewing the technique, and the second half of the hour is practicing the technique and answering questions.

This is a supportive, fun, informative class taught by Judith Newman, LPC.

EFT is an evidence-based, self-regulating technique using acupuncture trigger points as well as elements from other therapeutic practices. Extensive research shows EFT to be effective in lowering both psychological and physical symptoms of anxiety, depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, insomnia, stress and more.

This technique is easy to learn and then use any time you want to lower your anxiety, gain clarity about emotional challenges and increase your ability to work with difficult transitions in your life.

Join the class and improve your well-being; meet new people in the community; support yourself and others while learning a powerful, helpful tool; find new ways to deal with insomnia, stress and change.

For more information or questions, please contact Newman at (505) 577-0194 or ASI at (970) 264-

2167.

Healthy aging and yoga therapy classes series

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

■ See Senior on page 23

Sponsored Content

Sherpa Real Estate Merges with Jim Smith Realty to Innovate the Mountain Living Experience in Southwest Colorado

Sherpa Real Estate

Sherpa Real Estate, a burgeoning real estate firm in Pagosa Springs, Colorado, is pleased to announce its merger with Jim Smith Realty, the area's oldest and largest real estate company, with over 37 years of service.

This strategic merger aims to enhance real estate services in the region, blending innovation with deep-rooted experience to meet the needs of a rapidly growing market.

Founded in 2016, Sherpa Real Estate has quickly built a reputation for its concierge-level services, providing clients with personalized, on-the-ground guidance as they explore the unique mountain lifestyle of Southwest Colorado.

The merger with Jim Smith Realty combines Sherpa's modern approach with the extensive history and knowledge Jim Smith Realty has cultivated since 1987.

"Jim Smith, in my opinion, was Pagosa's original creative thinker in this space from the late '80s forward," said Chris Liverett, founder of Sherpa Real Estate.

"We are excited to combine his long history with our fresh, innovative concepts, and share a mutual desire to provide the best services to our clients."

Liverett added, "This merger brings together two great companies with a shared vision of delivering local expertise to clients who come from all over the world."

Jim Smith, broker/owner of Jim Smith Realty, echoed this excitement. "As the leader of Jim Smith Realty for the past 37 years, I would like to thank everyone who trusted us with their real estate needs. With great anticipation, we join hands with Chris Liverett and Sherpa Real Estate in this merger, which we believe will offer enhanced services and expertise to our clients. Chris and Sherpa Real Estate are bringing more innovation into this marketplace than any other company, and we are thrilled to merge our past with their future."

The merger reflects the growth of Pagosa Springs' real estate market, which has seen increasing interest from both local buyers and out-of-state clients seeking to experience the area's scenic beauty, outdoor activities, and laid-back mountain lifestyle.

By joining forces, the two companies will now offer an expanded range of services, blending cutting-edge technology and marketing with decades of local experience to provide seamless, customized

real estate solutions.

About Sherpa Real Estate

Founded in 2016, Sherpa Real Estate has helped clients realize their mountain lifestyle dreams by offering trustworthy real estate services in Southwest Colorado. Known for its boots-on-the-ground approach, Sherpa provides local guidance and personalized service for those seeking homes and land in Pagosa Springs and the surrounding areas.

About Jim Smith Realty

Established in 1987, Jim Smith Realty has been a pillar of the Pagosa Springs real estate community for over 37 years. The company has earned a reputation for delivering personalized guidance and expert knowledge to clients seeking residential, commercial, and land properties in Southwest Colorado.

Contact information

Email: info@sherpaparealestate.com.

Website: www.sherpaparealestate.com.

Sherpa Real Estate and Jim Smith Realty are part of The Pagosa Springs SUN sponsored content program called Spotlight.

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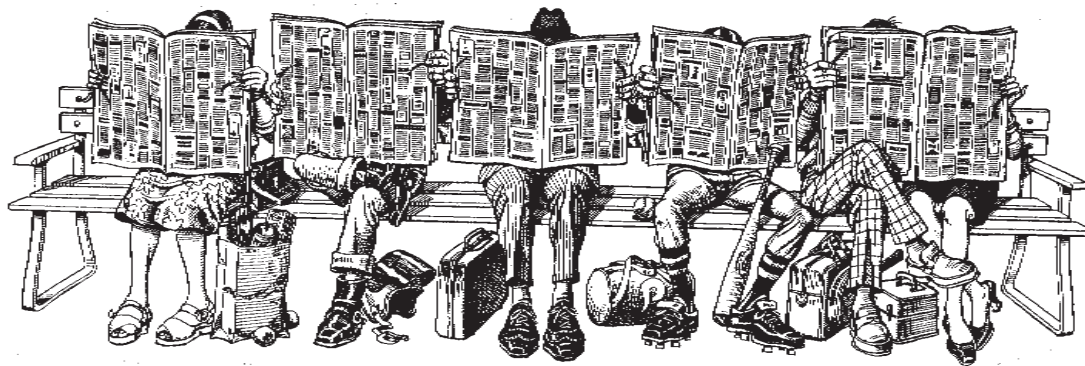
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Senior

■ continued from page 21

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 Nov. 8, Nov. 22, Dec. 6 and Dec. 20.

Participation is free, and we ask you bring yourself and a friend for joyful fellowship. We will provide prizes from local businesses for all winners, and snacks will also be provided.

No RSVP is required; just show up. All ages are welcome, but we ask those 18 and younger to come with an adult chaperone.

For more information, contact us at (970) 264-2167.

T'ai Chi Chih

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

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.

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 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, Nov. 7 — Tuna salad on croissant, broccoli salad, garden salad, fruit, vanilla pudding, sunrise muffin and milk.

Friday, Nov. 8 — Ginger lime shrimp with grits, Caribbean beans, garden salad, fruit, lemon cookies and milk.

Monday, Nov. 11 — Closed in honor and recognition of Veterans Day.

Tuesday, Nov. 12 — Hawaiian beef with peppers, coconut rice, garden salad, pineapple fluff and milk.

Wednesday, Nov. 13 — BBQ chicken, creamed corn, biscuit, garden salad, vanilla yogurt, fruit and milk.

Thursday, Nov. 14 — Stuffed giant portobello mushroom with veggies and feta, couscous, garlic toast, garden salad, fruit, chocolate pudding and milk.

Friday, Nov. 15 — Korean pork ribs, quinoa brown rice, glazed ginger carrots, garden salad, fruit, fortune cookies 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.

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Stories behind the music

By Betty Slade
PREVIEW Columnist

When our children walk through the front door, they hear western music. Kitty Wells sings, "As I sit here tonight, the jukebox's playing the tune about the wild side of life. It Wasn't God who made honky tonk angels." Or, with his smooth buttery voice, Ray Price sings "For the Good Times," and my Sweet Al and I tap our toes and remember our good times, and the stories behind the music.

I mute the volume on the "Country's Family Reunion" show when I hear our children come in. They snicker. They indicate their skeptical silence with raised eyebrows. I read their minds: "Really? You two need a life. Get out more." Somehow it has escaped our children. They don't believe Al and I were once young and had a life before them. We loved to dance to western music and we shuffled around the wooden floor every Friday night.

Al and I fell in love dancing to Glen Campbell's music in 1958 before he became famous. The pianist tickled the piano keys and the band member made the steel-guitar cry like a baby. The lonesome moan floated through the dance hall as Al held me close and whispered in my ear.

Today, two months at home since the accident, I've taken only three trips out of the house, twice to the doctor's office and once to a funeral. It sounds like a movie title. My feet and legs took the brunt of the accident. Much of my time is spent with my feet propped higher than my head while Al is catching a nap in his recliner.

The music is from our younger days. I knew Al Slade in high school, but we saw each other again at the Hitchin' Post on Route 66, west of Albuquerque, N.M. Barely 18, I was there with a date. I was in my senior year and Al had graduated two years before.

The one and only time I've ever seen Al drunk, and high as a kite, he walked past the booth where I was sitting. He tripped over my date's feet and fell into my lap and asked me to dance.

Al twirled me around, and after the music had stopped, he kept me on the dance floor. He said he was going to take me home. I said, "No, I came with someone." After several dances, Al finally took me back to the young man I was with.

I went home with my date. Al went home alone. I didn't think this would be the beginning of a life together. The next morning Al was at my mother's house bright and early. He hung around and he is still hanging around. It's our story behind the music, and the rest is history.

As we listen to the stories of all the great singers and their songs on the "Country's Family Reunion" and the "Next Generation," we hadn't known or thought about the stories behind their songs. We saw the singers and musicians as icons and they shined brightly in the spotlight. We didn't

Artist's Lane

Al twirled me around, and after the music had stopped, he kept me on the dance floor.

know of the heartbreak, their families and spouses they left at home. Or when they stayed at some two-bit motel.

The children spoke of their parents and where their songs came from. One told of his father when he said this song came from next door in the motel room, a woman yelled at her husband, "Please release me, let me go. I don't love you anymore." The song was written by Eddie Miller and Robert Yount in 1949. In 2018, Engelbert Humperdinck released the song and brought it back to life.

I love how the singers and songwriters spoke highly of each other. They praised the talent of the other entertainers and laughed at those times back when. Each of those lyrics came from somewhere, mostly in heartbreaks and hard living. Most of them today are releasing gospel albums and singing in churches.

For me, there is no dancing today as Al pushes me in my wheelchair from the recliner to the kitchen. It's a different kind of shuffling — an old-person shuffle.

Final brushstroke: Today, I am making a transition from the wheelchair to the walker. That's a sight to see: a tiny step with a lot of ouchy, ouchy, ouchy. Al asked me why I grunt all the time. I told him, "It feels better when I grunt." It's a long way from when we were shuffling on the dance floor when Al whispered sweet nothings in my ear.

If you want a good laugh, check out Tim Conway's "The Oldest Man" on "The Carol Burnett Show." I am still laughing.

This video is too close to home, but you will get a better idea of where Al and I are. No wonder our children are shaking their heads. It could be another honky tonk story that needs a song: "I've been here too long. I'm running away. Don't try to catch me."

Send your comment to bettyslade.author@gmail.com.

Views expressed do not necessarily represent those of *The SUN*.



Photo courtesy Thomas Mangelsen

Bear 399 traverses the landscape with cubs.

Thanksgiving issue Thursday, November 28 Early Deadlines

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The Pagosa Springs SUN office will be closed Thursday, November 28 and Friday, November 29 in observance of Thanksgiving

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Grizzly 399: A bear for the ages

By Wendy Keefover and Kristin Combs
PREVIEW Columnists

She was 28 years old and dealt with aplomb the hordes of picture-taking tourists and repeated motherhood. When she was killed by a car a few weeks ago, the loss of Grizzly 399 left people all over the world shocked and saddened.

Grizzly 399 wasn't just another wild bear in northwestern Wyoming; she was a window into the secret lives of grizzlies.

Over nearly three decades she raised 18 cubs amidst the millions of visitors and residents of Jackson Hole and Grand Teton National Park.

Her death speaks, as her life did, about the urgent need to better protect these intelligent, rare creatures from roads, human foods, farm animals and trophy hunters.

Grizzly 399's life captivated millions of people. Attentive and patient, she worked hard to make sure her cubs had sufficient food and warm dens, and were protected from male bears and other dangers.

The doings of her many families, the first in 2004 and the last in 2023, made her legendary, like the time she and her four cubs feasted on serviceberries right next to a road, gently picking berries among the leaves.

There was also the time she crossed the Snake River with four cubs following like the tail of a kite while hundreds of people gathered to witness. These intimate glimpses inspired countless numbers of visitors to Wyoming's wilderness and gave them a connection with the famous bear and her broods.

Grizzly 399 had always been careful around roads. She often waited at a highway's edge until a photographer stopped traffic or she heard no vehicles coming her way. She frequently navigated busy highways and the streets around Jackson Hole.

In the end, it was not enough.

Vehicle collisions, a leading cause of wildlife deaths, are just one more threat for grizzly bears. This year alone, the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem has seen record numbers of mortalities.

By October, at least 68 grizzlies had died — most killed because they came near humans or were shot by hunters.

With their habitats shrinking, their foods vanishing and more roads fragmenting their territories, grizzlies have become marooned on geographic islands for their survival. Their lands have been increasingly hemmed in by developments, energy projects and deadly highways.

Once 50,000 strong, fewer than 2,000 grizzly bears now survive in the lower 48 states. Coexisting with them means addressing preventable conflicts by bear-proofing human food

Opinion: Writers on the Range



Photo courtesy Thomas Mangelsen

Over nearly three decades, Bear 399 raised 18 cubs amidst the millions of visitors and residents of Jackson Hole and Grand Teton National Park.

sources or safeguarding livestock. Many of Grizzly 399's cubs were killed by humans. Perhaps half of them survived to adulthood.

One Jackson Hole resident, for example, deliberately and defiantly fed them, despite the dangers of getting bears accustomed to human-provided meals.

Teton County has since introduced tougher enforcement measures, including requiring bear-resistant garbage cans with self-locking mechanisms. The Wyoming Department of Game and Fish and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service also required residents of Teton County to make garbage and bird feeders inaccessible to keep Grizzly 399 and her cubs safe.

One takeaway is that grizzly bears can be managed with compassion. This needs to be the norm, not the exception, and we need to shift practices to prioritize coexistence over killing.

In bear country, people can make human foods unavailable, ranchers can employ electric fencing and remove cattle and sheep carcasses, and hunters can carry bear spray and accurately identify their targets before shooting.

Grizzly 399's last surviving cub, Spirit, has not been seen since its mother's death. Nearly 2 years old, the cub was last reported as healthy and may have a chance at survival. Its future — indeed, the future of all grizzlies — depends on people's willingness to change behaviors.

It is especially important that we resist calls to strip grizzly bears of their Endangered Species Act protec-

tions, certainly until grizzlies are truly recovered, with genetically diverse and connected populations across secure habitats.

This means creating safe passages, including highway crossings, between their populations. We must also hold the line against trophy hunting. Removing Endangered Species Act protections, which are now under attack in the U.S. Congress, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and elsewhere, could set back years of conservation work.

With Grizzly 399's passing, it feels as though something is missing in the Tetons — something vivid and wild that moved us.

Her legacy calls us to act, to create a future in which grizzly bears and people live together in safety.

The writers are contributors to Writers on the Range, writersontherange.org, an independent non-profit dedicated to spurring lively conversation about the West. Wendy Keefover works for the Humane Society of the United States; Kristin Combs is executive director of Wyoming Wildlife Advocates. Views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN.

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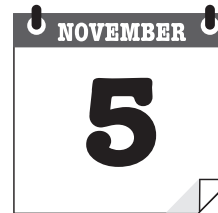
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The numbers in each column add up to the totals on the bottom.

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20	20	24	

6	1	9
12	8	10
3	11	4

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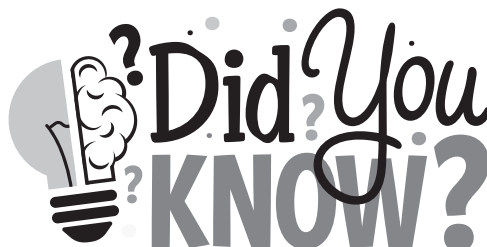
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Text pet info to: 469-667-4480
Look for info on: leslieslittles.com

- ❖ Boarding
- ❖ Daycare
- ❖ Drop ins

References and reviews available

FREE. CONFIDENTIAL. HELP. 24-hour domestic violence and sexual assault helpline. (970) 264-9075.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONCERNED ABOUT ANOTHER'S DRINKING? Pagosa Springs Al-anon Family Group meets Tuesdays 6-7p.m., Pagosa Bible Church. Questions? Call/ text (303)815-8569. www.al-anon.org.

LUCY'S TAMALES. Open Saturdays at 335 Rob Snow Road. 9-5p.m. Serving pork, chicken, and veggie tamales. Burritos breakfast and lunch. Order (970)317-9409. Xmas order deadline Dec. 17th.

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

THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF PAGOSA SPRINGS' Board Election Meeting will be held at 4:30p.m. on Nov. 19 at the Humane Society Thrift Store. The main purpose of the meeting is to vote for new board members. Meeting attendance is limited to persons who are current members/ donors, and have been for at least 3 months prior to the meeting. You must have become a member in good standing no later than Aug. 19 or have renewed your existing membership prior to the election meeting to attend and vote. Please contact hsadmin@pagosahumane.org or (970)264-5549 to make arrangements to participate.

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

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ELEVATE YOUR BUSINESS, Locally. Green Lotus Designs / Pagosa's Web and SEO Experts. Call Jesse at (970)779-7885. greenlotusdesigns.com.

EXTERIOR AND INTERIOR HOUSE painting and staining. Kitchens, bathrooms, decks, granite countertops and more. Call Josh Sniat (970)903-5892.

GOPHER DELIVERY SERVICE. You buy, I fly. Offering grocery, pharmacy, beer, to-go food, etc. (970)398-5096.

HANDYMAN SERVICE. Noah's Ark Enterprises. (970)901-5298.

HOMECARE AND COMPANION SERVICES. Medical attention, cooking, cleaning, experienced, fully insured. Always Love HomeCare. Call today (303)601-2390.


KRITTER GITTERS, SKUNK AND BAT Busters. We specialize in capturing and removing unwanted rodents and varmints. We don't trap pigs. 50 years experience, lifetime resident. Dan Snow (719)849-8873.

LOCAL MOVING SERVICES. Reasonable and reliable. (970)946-2061.

MINT ROOFING Re-roofs, commercial and maintenance. Contact Mint Roofing at (970)426-5255.



Hello there! I'm Artemis, a kitten full of life and energy. I'm always ready to explore, chase after toys, and solve the mysteries of the world around me. I'm playful and curious, always eager to turn any object into a game. Come meet me at the Humane Society Shelter, 465 Cloman Blvd.



Hey there, I'm Woody! I'm full of energy, always up for a game of fetch, and I promise to keep you laughing with my goofy antics. If you're looking for a partner in crime who's always up for an adventure, then I'm your guy! Come by the Humane Society to visit, open seven days a week, 10:00am-4:00pm.

DRY PINE. \$250/ cord. 2 cords at a time preferred. (970)903-0731.

FOR PUBLIC NOTICE: Starting on November 11, 2024, the Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District working with an excavation contractor will start an emergency sewer replacement project on N. 3rd St. from the intersection of Lewis St to the intersection of Apple St. During this project N. 3rd St. will be closed to through traffic and detoured to N. 2nd St. to Mesa Drive to access the Mesa Heights Subdivision. Accommodation will be made as much as possible to allow residents with driveways in the closed section access to their residences in a safe manner. The project is scheduled to last up to two weeks to complete.

MISSING TEETH? Do you have missing or failing teeth? Maybe bad dentures you can't wear anymore? We have a one-day solution to all your problems. Get your confidence back and eat anything you want to again. Call now to see if you qualify for a dental implant educational grant that could save you \$5- \$20,000 off your treatment. These grants are limited, so call today to see how your life can change immediately! (970)731-6600.

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(970) 264-2100

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Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

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MISSING TEETH? Do you have missing or failing teeth? Maybe bad dentures you can't wear anymore? We have a one-day solution to all your problems. Get your confidence back and eat anything you want to again. Call now to see if you qualify for a dental implant educational grant that could save you \$5- \$20,000 off your treatment. These grants are limited, so call today to see how your life can change immediately! (970)731-6600.

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RICHARD DECLARK ELECTRICAL is available for all your electrical services from remodels to new construction. I have been in Pagosa for 15 years, no job too small or too large. (970)903-1456.

RIVERSTONE CARPET CLEANING. 25 cents/sq. ft. and \$3 per stair. No hidden charges. Owner/operator 20 years experience. Professional, trustworthy and punctual. 100% eco-friendly. Call Mike at (970)403-9222. Credit cards accepted with no fee. Hallways and closets always free.

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WINTER WORK!

Wolf Creek Ski Area is Hiring
 Full & Part-Time/Holiday Positions:
Winter Seasonal: November - April

- Lift Department
- Base Operations/Parking
- Ski School Instructors & Reservationist
- Food & Beverage * Baker * Barista
- Retail
- Ticket Office
- Ski & Snowboard Rental
- Snow Removal * Grooming
- Custodial Building Maintenance
- Ski Patrol
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Applications at
WolfCreekSki.com/employment
 Send applications and resumes to:
 WolfCreekSki@WolfCreekSki.com
 P.O. Box 2800, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

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Classifieds

(970) 264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

WE ARE NOW HIRING!



Archuleta School District

strives to achieve
*"Success for Every Student —
 Every Class — Every Day."*

Currently accepting applications
 for the following positions:

Mechanic

Full-time position with a starting salary of \$49,496-\$54,711 for a 250-day work schedule.

Maintenance Technician

Full-time position with a starting salary of \$45,662-\$50,800 for a 250-day work schedule.

Bus Drivers/Transportation

Hourly position with a starting hourly pay of \$25.83 up to \$30.73 for 169 days

Middle School Instructional Aide

Full-time special education paraprofessional position with a starting salary \$27,899-\$31,175 for 173 days paid over a 12-month period.

High School SSN Instructional Aide Full-time

Significant support needs special education paraprofessional position with a starting salary \$29,283-\$32,559 for 173 days paid over a 12-month period.

High School SSN Instructional Aide Part-time

Significant support needs special education paraprofessional hourly position with a starting hourly pay of \$21.16 up to \$25.53 for 173 days.

High School Spring Musical Director

One-time stipend payment of \$3,570

Benefits for all FULL-TIME positions include (but are not limited to) PERA State Retirement, Life Insurance, optional Health and Dental Insurance and paid Discretionary Days.



You belong on the Archuleta School District Team!

For more details and to apply for these positions click on "Job Postings" on the following web-site:
www.mypagosaschools.com

EOE

HILLSIDE INN is looking for part-time housekeepers. Housekeeper responsibilities include (but not limited to): performing a variety of cleaning activities (bathrooms, rooms, hallways), make beds, ensure all rooms are cared for and inspected according to standards, etc. Depending on the amount of rooms, shifts are usually from 8a.m.- about 1p.m. or 2p.m. Must be able to work on weekends and holidays. Email Natalie your resume to hillsideinnpagosa@gmail.com or stop by the hotel to pick up an application.

HELP WANTED Experienced server /bartender preferred. City Hall Cafe and Grill. Apply within. 2151 Eagle Drive.

IMMEDIATELY HIRING EXPERIENCED: Lead HVAC Installer (\$28-\$35+/hr) FT, HVAC Service Technician (\$45+/hr) PT flexible hours. Pay depends on experience. Must have a clean driving record. Must have EPA Universal Section 608 certification. Must have own tools. Paid Weekly/Direct Deposit. Area Best HVAC. Under new ownership. office@areabesthvac.com. (970)946-6314.

MALT SHOPPE NOW HIRING. Apply in person between 9a.m. and 2p.m.

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Now Hiring for our 36th Winter season!
 Full & part-time positions available in both retail and rental
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 Please apply in person.

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EXPERIENCED LINE COOK for City Hall Cafe and Grill. Apply within. 2151 Eagle Drive.

FT ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT The Humane Society of Pagosa Springs is seeking an Administrative Assistant who will play a key role in fostering our relationships with donors and supporters. This position involves crucial administrative tasks, including donation processing, grant writing, working closely with the bookkeeper to manage accounts receivable and payable, all of which support the successful operations of our shelter and thrift store. Skills needed to succeed in this role: Proficiency in Microsoft Excel, Word, and other Office software. Comfortable learning and using new technologies, databases, and online business portals. Strong written communication skills. Excellent customer service skills, communication, and teamwork. Strong organizational skills and ability to prioritize multiple tasks. If you love animals and would you like to be an integral part of our organization's administration, supporting the important work of our thrift store and animal shelter, see our website for more information <https://pagosahumane.org> or submit a resume to hsjobs@pagosahumane.org.

GENERAL LABORER NEEDED F/T or P/T Seasonal. Assorted Duties. Please send resume or work history to frontdesk@pagosalandcompany.com. Phone (970)264-5000.

MEDICAL ASSISTANT. Are you looking to work with a great team of health care professionals and make a difference in your local community? Axis Health System is seeking Medical Assistants to support the growth of our Pagosa Springs Integrated Healthcare location. The Medical Assistant will work as a member of the multi-disciplinary integrated patient care team performing delegated clinical and administrative duties consistent with the MA's education, training and demonstrated competency. Education and experience requirements: HS or GED. One to three years of experience as a medical assistant is required and medical assistant certification is preferred. Pay Range: \$20.00 - \$24.64 which includes a \$1.00 locale differential at our Pagosa Springs worksite and considers preferred experience and preferred education. Benefits: All Paid Leave, Health, Dental, Vision, Life, Short Term Disability and 401k. Apply online or see detailed job description at, Axis Health System, Current Openings. Axis Health System is an equal opportunity employer, and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability status, protected veteran status or any other characteristic protected by law.

MOUNTAIN MAMA MASSAGE is looking for dependable LMTs to join our team! Utilize your healing gifts! TOP PAY \$55/ hour +tips. Email racheldevloo@gmail.com.

MOUNTAIN SPIRITS IS SEEKING customer service associates. Must be available nights and weekends. We offer accrued vacation/ personal time, performance-based bonuses twice a year, and employee discounts. Please apply in person.

NORTH PAGOSA MARATHON is hiring a full-time cashier nights and weekends. Competitive wages. Please apply in person at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

Join Our Team!

MOUNTAIN PIZZA & TAPROOM

Mountain Pizza & Taproom is hiring all positions including management and shift lead positions.

Fast-paced, fun atmosphere!
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Ponderosa Lumber is seeking a customer service oriented individual to assist contractors with purchasing building materials. Knowledge of building materials is necessary.

Responsibilities include:

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- Data Entry

Please apply in person at

Ponderosa Lumber
 2435 Eagle Drive or call (970) 731-4111

ARCHULETA SENIORS INC. IS HIRING. Food preparation and packaging needed for the Pagosa Springs Senior Center community cafe. Join our positive professional team in a commercial kitchen dedicated to serving the seniors in our community. Hours 7a.m. to 3p.m., full-time or part-time with weekends off. Strong communication skills are a must. Competitive pay and daily meal provided. Call (970)264-2167 or stop by to pick up an application.

WANTED

1 full-time office person and 1 full-time Driver

Paid Vacation
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Please apply within.

WJP/PRO
 3505 W. Hwy. 160
 in the lobby of the Pagosa Lodge



CDOT is looking for a full-time highway maintenance specialist for our Pagosa Springs location. CDL is required. Position starts at \$2014.00/ biweekly. To find out more and apply at careers.codot.gov.

CDOT is looking for a temporary highway maintenance specialist for our Pagosa Springs location. CDL is required. Position starts at \$25.17/ hour. To find out more and apply at careers.codot.gov.

(970) 264-2100

Classifieds

(970) 264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HELP WANTED

OFFICE ASSISTANT: TFI is seeking a highly organized and responsible office assistant to join our growing organization. Knowledge of Quickbooks helpful. Please send resumes to redshop@timberlineframers.com or call (970)585-1021.

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL is hiring a church and school secretary. Please contact Leah Hellrich for position details at (816)585-2892.

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN SCHOOL is looking to hire a PE Teacher for our school. Hours are M-Th from 12:30 -3:30 p.m. Please contact Leah Hellerich if you are interested in the position at (816)585-2892.

OWNERS, THERE IS A LONG TERM RENTAL SHORTAGE IN PAGOSA SPRINGS. We have a waiting list for approved tenants. Need all types of rentals. Call us today for lowest commission and highest customer service. All you have to do is wait for your rent check to come in. We do the rest! Rocky Mountain Realty & Rentals (970)507-1192.

PAGOSA LIQUOR IS HIRING a full-time cashier. Please come and apply in person at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

PAGOSA THERAPEUTICS AND THE GREEN HOUSE are looking for friendly and enthusiastic people who are eager to share their knowledge and help customers navigate the wide world of cannabis. Must be 21 years of age. A Marijuana Enforcement Division badge is required to start work. Come join a growing company with opportunities for advancement and involvement in outreach events. Please email your resume to employment@jandjinc.net.

PATIENT CARE COORDINATOR. Full-time, \$20/hour. Growing hearing health practice. Good opportunity for increases and advancement. Email resume and cover to careers@hursthearing.com.

PHYSICAL THERAPY TECH Rocky Mountain Physical Therapy has an opening for a full time Physical Therapy Tech. We are looking for a dependable, energetic multitasker who will enjoy helping people recover from surgeries, injuries, accidents and other health issues to join our team. No prior experience necessary. We offer competitive pay, \$16- 18 per hour, and benefits including paid holidays, paid sick leave, 401k plan, and a profit-sharing program. Please submit resume to RMPT 117 Navajo Trail Dr., Suite T or email to rockymountainpt@yahoo.com.

ROOF LABORER NEEDED with some construction experience. Will train. \$20-\$25/ hour to start. (970)749-0830.

ROOFERS or just good dependable help needed. Willing to teach. Pay according to experience and willingness to work. (970)946-5265.

RUBY SISSON LIBRARY is hiring for part-time Maintenance 24 h/w. Full list of duties at www.pagosalibrary.org. Send qualifications to director@pagosalibrary.org.

HELP WANTED

SECRETARY/ FRONT DESK team member wanted. Willing to train. What we do matters! We make people's lives better through excellent customer service. We show up every day, work hard, and make a great living serving our patients. We are blessed to have weekends and holidays off! We work in a beautiful facility with great pay, 401K, & bonuses. Gain a sense of fulfillment by helping people! E-mail resume to office@pagosasmiles.com.

SUBWAY IS HIRING. Enjoy working in a fun environment with a great team? Earn a strong hourly wage with tips while serving our wonderful community. Apply online at subway.com, or in person.

THE BUCK STOPS HERE MARKET AND EATERY currently seeking a server/ bartender for 2 days a week and a Dishwasher for 4 evenings a week. Please stop in to fill out an application at 19 Navajo Trail Dr., Pagosa Springs, CO.

TRI-COUNTY HEAD START is NOW HIRING caring and talented Toddler and Preschool Teachers at our Pagosa Springs locations. Sign-on bonuses available. To find out more about these employment opportunities and apply online at tchs4c.org/careers/. Positions are open until filled. Equal Opportunity Employer.

TRIMMER WANTED. We are looking for a trimmer to join our Pagosa Craft team. Pay is based per pound. Flexible hours- Previous trim experience preferred. 21+ only, MED badge required. Please bring a resume into the store at 127 Goldmine Dr.

WANTED- DENTAL HYGIENIST. Full-time/ Part-time. Flexible hours. \$100/ hour for right candidate. Send inquiries at pdimplants@yahoo.com

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

DREAMING OF OWNING your own clothing boutique? The Emerald Fox Boutique is For Sale! \$59,900. Call Bianca at (505)507-1152. emeraldfoxboutique995@gmail.com.

SMALL CRANE BUSINESS FOR SALE. National Crane truck, business, client list, and all attachments come with business. Inquire at (970)903-2381.

TURNKEY CARPET STEAM CLEANING BUSINESS for sale. Enclosed trailer with all equipment. www.pagosasteam.com, \$5,000 OBO. (970)712-1300.

FOR SALE

27" HUSQVARNA SNOW THROWER. Used twice, includes two aluminum ramps. Paid \$1389.69. (970)946-1737.

DRY FIREWOOD-PINE. Pick up \$255 a cord. Delivery available. Call for prices. Bayfield. Gabe (970)403-2784.

FIREWOOD FOR SALE. Pine and aspen. Cut about 16" long, split. Delivered by longbed truckload. Call (970)946-4450.

FIREWOOD LOGS FOR SALE. \$50.00 per ton, must have trailer. Sawmill Scrap \$30 per self-load pickup truckload. Forest Health Timber Products sawmill located on Cloman Blvd.

FOR SALE

NEED FIREWOOD? Pine mix, \$350 a cord split and delivered. GUARANTEED to be full cords! Contact Dan with FIRE&ICE at (970)582-0006.

NEW 20' CONTAINERS FOR SALE or rent. We deliver to homes or businesses. Pagosa Springs Storage (970)731-0007.

OUTDOOR VEHICLE STORAGE SPACES available. 16', 20', 25', plus indoor 12'x20'. Winter specials starting at \$60. Pagosa Springs Storage. Gated with security cameras. (970)749-1500.

SEASONED FIREWOOD FOR SALE. \$350/ cord. Free delivery. (970)317-3120.

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

TIRE CHAINS. QV757- VOLT LT. Never used, in original carrying case. \$100. Call (713)703-3196. No text.

TRACTOR SNOWBLOWER with hydraulic shoot control. 72 inch, 3-point category 1. Blows 3000 ft/min., 60 feet out. Requires 25-65 horsepower PTO. \$1500. (719)588-2872.

TRUCK CAMPER. Northwood Arctic Fox 990. 2017. Excellent shape. Call Steve (970)903-7567.

LIVESTOCK

EXCELLENT HORSE QUALITY GRASS HAY. Barn stored. \$9. (970)264-6779. Please leave a message.

RABBITS FOR SALE. Weaners pet grade and meat rabbits. Different sizes and colors. Dan Snow (719)849-8873.

PETS

ADOPT FROM THE Humane Society. Stop by or call (970)731-4771. You'll be amazed at what we have to offer, www.PagosaHumane.org.

DOGGY DAY CARE 81147.COM. Open 365 days of the year! Full day and half day doggy day care and overnight boarding. Conveniently located just 1 mile from downtown Pagosa. Call (970)264-9111.

FOR POOCH SAKES GROOMING. Appointments available with Kelly (303)819-2015. Mobile appointments with Barb (970)903-1290.

LOVING DOG CARE BY LESLIE N. Text Pet Info to (469)667-4480. Boarding, day care, drop ins, house sitting. References and reviews available. Look for info on: leslieslittles.com.

RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

2014 ECLIPSE EVOLUTIONX 20FBS travel trailer, good working condition. Queen walk-around bed, slide-out with U-shape dinette, 3-burner range/oven, 2 propane tanks, 2 lead acid batteries included. \$10,500. Paul (970)309-5035.

RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

HUNTERS Ready to go 2012 Forest River Pop-Up camper. Dry inside, even in rain and snow. Heated. Sleeps 4-6. Three burner stove and outdoor gas grill. Indoor toilet and shower. Refrigerator. Good battery and back up system. Full propane bottle. Winterized. \$5000. (970)585-9084.

AUTOS

1993 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE. Excellent condition. 150,000+ miles. Red. (970)946-0988.

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GUARANTEED CREDIT APPROVAL! 4X4 Auto Sales, 21698 Hwy. 160 West, Durango. (970)385-7940.

YARD SALES

BE SURE TO CHECK for more yard sales in the Too Late To Classify section.

ESTATE/ GARAGE SALE. Everything must go. Saturday, Nov. 9, 8:30a.m. No early birds please. 85 Driftwood Dr. Pagosa.

LIKE NEW COUCH with fold-up bed, gas oven, upright freezer, roll-top desk and bar mirrors. 288 Bonanza Ave. Saturday and Sunday. 9a.m.

YARD SALE at Mesa Heights, 322 Mesa Dr. Everything must go. Saturday and Sunday.

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with a 12-month lease

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For information & application: sunethaproperties.com

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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, raswheel-er@gmail.com.

2000 SQ. FT. SHOP/ WAREHOUSE 14x 14 overhead door. Restrooms and natural gas. Good parking. 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.

FOR RENT- COMMERCIAL STORAGE UNITS in town. 10x5 with garage door and electricity, \$100/ month. 7x29 units with lots of shelves, \$100/ month. Michael C. Branch (970)769-2036.

HIGH-VISIBILITY EAGLE DRIVE location with large signs facing 160. Nicely renovated with two offices, large flexible space, bathroom, plenty of parking. \$1,800/ month includes utilities. Call/ text (970)444-2124.

METROPOLITAN HOTEL. 450 SF prime location on Main St. Available January 1, 2025. Rent is \$1,150 per month. Call Jacque at (970)946-7636.

NEW STORAGE WAREHOUSES/ WORKSHOPS available to rent. Cloman Park. 1100 to 2200 sqft. 1.20 a sq. ft. Contact: (720)470-2653. Vehicle Lot.

PAGOSA VALLEY PROPERTIES: Offering "Aspen Plaza ProSuites" These are Professional Office Suites available for Long Term rental from 135 SF to 205 SF, priced from \$465-\$669/ month. Also, Large Conference/ Event Room Available. Call (970)889-2022 for more information.

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 pr (970)946-4925.

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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.

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ACREAGE PRICE REDUCTIONS! All NO HOA! (Highway 160) 2 creekside parcels (\$80s), (Hollow) 2 parcels, electric & RV pad installed, 2.4 acres (\$80s). Off-Grid, Seasonal RV Welcomed: (Crooked) 3.94 Acres, 2 parcels (\$30s), (Gun Barrel) 1+ Acre, flat, RVs Welcome (\$20s), (Waynes) 2.51 Acres, mountain views (\$40s). More Land Available. Call For List! Wen Saunders (970)903-0038. Keller Williams Realty Southwest Associates.

BUILD READY BARGAINS! City Water/ Sewer, Electric, and Rec Center Available: (Paradise), (Lake), (Trails), (Fireside) 1/4 Acre (40s), (Trails) .10 Acre (\$20s),(Caddy) 1/4 Acre, golf course (\$70s), (Arbor) 1/3 Acre, views, wooded (\$60s). (Pacifco) 5+ Acres, NO HOA, City Water (\$100s). Wen Saunders (970)903-0038. Keller Williams Realty Southwest Associates.

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100 years ago this month: Historical events from November 1924

Special to The PREVIEW

The month of November has been home to many historical events over the years.

Here's a look at some that helped to shape the world in November 1924:

- The Meteorological Flight Service is introduced by the British Royal Air Force on Nov. 1. The service is implemented to identify temperature, pressure, humidity and general weather conditions.

- Éamon de Valera, future president and taoiseach of Ireland, is sentenced to a month in prison on Nov. 1 for illegally entering Ulster, Northern Ireland.

- A freight train hits a street car after midnight in Chicago on Nov. 2. Witnesses reported the freight train had no lights on as it reached the railroad crossing at the intersection of North Avenue and Kingsbury Street. Ten passengers on the street car are killed and 31 others are injured.

- On Nov. 3, presidential hopefuls Calvin Coolidge, who is seeking to be elected after succeeding to the presidency upon the sudden death of President Warren G. Harding in 1923, and John W. Davis make their final appeals to voters via radio addresses. Coolidge is elected the following day.

- A mutiny occurs on the Brazilian battleship Sao Paulo on Nov. 4. Eight Brazilian Navy officers and 260 sailors are involved in the failed rebellion.

- Despite having no experience in finance, Winston Churchill is appointed British chancellor of the Exchequer on Nov. 6.

- Korean nationalist Syngman Rhee announces plans to gain independence for Korea from the Japanese Empire on Nov. 8. Rhee makes the announcement in Honolulu, Hawaii.

- In a political misstep, 185 opposition members fail to show up for a new session of the Italian Parliament on Nov. 12. The move is a protest against the Fascist Party, which uses the members' absence to enact Prime Minister Benito Mussolini's restrictive program.

- On Nov. 14, noted explorers Roald Amundsen and Lincoln Ellsworth announce plans for a joint polar flight expedition in 1925.

- Nine members of the infamous, St. Louis-based bank robbing gang Egan's Rats are each sentenced to 25 years in federal prison on Nov. 15. The conviction puts an end to the gang, which had employed hundreds of people over the course of more than

three decades.

- Maj. Gen. Sir Lee Stack, British governor-general of the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, is shot in Cairo by Egyptian nationalist students on Nov. 19. Stack dies the following day, and the British government later blames his death on its Egyptian counterpart for its failure to suppress anti-British agitation.

- Two days after attending a celebrity-filled gathering aboard William Randolph Hearst's private yacht, Hollywood producer Thomas H. Ince dies at home on Nov. 19. Rumors of a coverup regarding the cause of Ince's death persisted into the 21st century.

- The Gandy Bridge across Tampa Bay opens to drivers on Nov. 20. The 2.5-mile bridge was the longest bridge in the world at the time of its opening.

- United States Navy aviator Dixie Kiefer takes off from the deck of the U.S.S. California on Nov. 21. Kiefer becomes the first pilot to take off from a warship at night.

- On Nov. 23, Edwin Hubble announces that Andromeda, previously believed to be a nebula, is actually another galaxy.

- Australian anatomist and anthropologist Raymond Dart discovers the fossilized remains of the "Taung child" on Nov. 24. The remains were sent to Dart in a box by a shotfirer who saved them from a limestone quarry in South Africa. Carbon dating indicates the remains are around 2.8 million years old.

- The first Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade is held in New York City on Nov. 27.

- The Montreal Forum opens in Canada on Nov. 29 when the Montreal Canadiens defeat the Toronto St. Pats 7-1.

- Shirley Chisholm is born in Brooklyn on Nov. 30. Chisholm would grow up to become, in 1968, the first Black woman elected to the United States Congress.



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