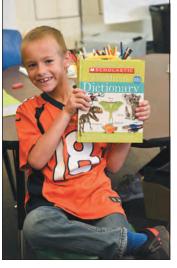
Prepare for the Christmas Bird Count — A14

PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147

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VOLUME 117 — NO. 9, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2024





Pagosa Springs Rotary Club Dictionary Project

SUN photos/Randi Pierce

Pagosa Springs Elementary School third-graders dig into their new dictionaries alongside members of the Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs on Nov. 21. In annual tradition, the Rotarians presented each third-grader with the dictionaries before working alongside them to learn about their new

















Planning commission recommends approval of shooting range

By Clayton Chaney Staff Writer

After tabling the matter twice, the Archuleta County Planning Commission unanimously approved a motion for recommendation of approval of a board conditional use permit for an outdoor shooting range to be operated on the Keyah Grande property.

The approval comes with 13 conditions that Keyah Grande must follow in order to operate the range, two of which were added by the planning commissioners during the commission's regular meeting held on Thursday, Nov. 21.

The 11 conditions proposed by

planning staff include that Keyah Grande must obtain a stormwater discharge permit or a waiver if it is determined that a permit is not needed in accordance with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE).

In the event of future expansion, Keyah Grande must check with the Archuleta County Water Quality Department to determine if the permitted septic is adequate.

Driveways and parking also must meet all requirements of the county's road and bridge design standards, along with installing any necessary ■ See Range A9

Tourism board looks at visitor data

By Clayton Chaney

Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs Area Tourism Board held a meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 19, at which Tourism Director Jennifer Green shared a presentation with data on Pagosa's top visitor markets.

"This is really just a precursor to our marketing plan," she said, explaining the data gathered is used to determine what markets Pagosa is hitting and when, which influences things like social media advertisements and other ad campaigns.

'The one change in our annual visitors is Utah popped up as one of the top states this year," Green said.

She explained Utah has been targeted before, but it never showed up as a significant crowd in the Pagosa

Green added that Utah experienced heavy wildfires over the summer and that may have contributed to the increase in visitor numbers from Utah

"Our states are pretty consistent ■ See Tourism A8

LPEA to raise rates in April 2025

By Amanda Anderson

La Plata Electric Association

The La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) Board of Directors has approved the cooperative's 2025 budget, which includes an average rate increase of 7.72 percent.

This rate increase will take effect for usage beginning April 1, 2025.

LPEA's average rate increase of 7.72 percent compares favorably to the 20 percent increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) since 2020, representing the benefit of effective cost-control measures and strong financial stewardship by the cooperative's staff.

"LPEA's top priority is to deliver safe, reliable electricity at the lowest reasonable cost to our members," said LPEA board president Ted Compton. "This budget addresses the higher cost of labor and materials due to inflation and incorporates the expected short-term costs needed for our energy transition. While we do not take the decision to raise rates lightly, it is essential for the effective management of your electric cooperative."

After careful review of the cooera-

■ See LPEA A9

Town enters into contract to purchase riverfront property

By Derek Kutzer

Staff Writer

On Nov. 21, the Pagosa Springs Town Council approved the second reading of an ordinance authorizing the purchase of riverfront property located at 1040 E. U.S. 160.

The four-acre parcel formerly housed Bob's LP and is currently being leased by Basin Coop. The main goal for the town in purchasing the property is to expand boater access to the San Juan River, states an agenda document on the matter.

Development Director James Dickhoff stated at the council's Sept. 3 meeting that the main boater access in the area is on private property and is currently up for sale, meaning that public boater access to the river in this area could be in jeopardy in the future.

He said, "Currently, we don't have any formal public access on this side of town. It's all private property."

In the past, the town has contemplated installing boater access on the town-owned parcel behind the River Center, "but it would have required ■ See Purchase A8



Letters **Obituaries** Joshua Abrell Edith Zoe (Allen) Graham Lorraine Romero Martinez **Business** Reminder: Employee Benefit

Forum set for Dec. 5 **Sports** Pirates finish 19th at state Education Charter school board approves reduced classroom sizes

Managing old-growth trees and forests an ongoing conversation **Public Notices** A14-A15 **PREVIEW** Live Performers Holiday Church Events Sudoku

PREVIEW Calendar

Crossword

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Opinion



The Pagosa Springs

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11/20	44	12	NA	NA	NA						
11/21	54	16	NA	NA	NA						
11/22	58	18	NA	NA	NA						
11/23	56	20	NA	NA	NA						
11/24	48	23	NA	NA	NA						
11/25	48	30	NA	NA	NA						
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Our View

'Tis the season

"Gratitude is a quality similar to electricity: It must be produced and discharged and used up in order to exist at all." — William Faulkner.

'Tis the season.

We've given out the candy and now our focus is on giving, including giving thanks, giving our time, giving our resources and

And we have a lot to be thankful for. First, we want to again thank you.

Thank you for reading The SUN and advertising your businesses, yard sales and more with us. We love what we do and couldn't do it without your support. Thank you for letting us keep you informed, letting us share your amazing, inspiring stories and for running great businesses we love supporting.

We're thankful for the calls, notes, folks stopping in and emails about what you like and would like to see more of in The SUN. We're even thankful for the input about what you'd like to see us do better (we know that means you care at least a little bit).

Thank you for being a community that

You care about what's going on in your

Veronica Medina, Chair

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Matt DeGuise

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Madeline Bergon

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community, you care about supporting local businesses and nonprofits, and we care about each other. It doesn't get much better than that.

Second, we encourage you to give. Give thanks.

It's no secret that gratitude helps us to be healthier, and helps others to feel good about themselves. Take some time today, this week and as often as you can to say thanks to those around you, for the little things and the big.

We're big believers in saying "thankyou" and have experienced how life-changing those two little words can be. Give of yourself.

Giving of yourself looks different for each of us, and it takes all kinds to make things better in our community and in the

Some generously offer monetary donations to cash-strapped organizations doing work they passionately believe in or that will make their community a better place. Others love to pour their time into volunteering by serving on a board, helping at a fundraiser and in countless other ways.

Both are important, and we encourage

LOOKING BACK

you to reach out an organization to see how you can put your talents and resources to work to help further these amazing causes.

For those who are able to donate funds, Colorado Gives Day is also just around the corner, with giving already underway and matching funds available to help your gift stretch even further.

As we move beyond Thanksgiving and into sales and gift giving, keep the above

Your gratitude, your time and your resources are all great gifts and accessories to gifts that show a lot of heart, and will help make this holiday season bright for evervone.

We also encourage you to take the time to shop local and support our fellow community members who pour their hearts and souls into their businesses. With the planned U.S. 160 reconstruction looming, it will be critical that we continue to support each other and show kindness, but there's no reason to wait until next spring to focus on that.

We wish you all the happiest of Thanksgivings and holiday seasons.

From the Nov. 27, 1996, Pagosa

SUN - Vacationing skiers at Wolf

Creek Ski Area enjoyed short lift lines and ideal skiing conditions

Sunday. The storm that moved into the area Tuesday promises to

confirm the ski area's reputation

in Colorado.

of having the most and best snow

Randi Pierce

LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

100 years ago

November 28, 1924

An offer has been made by a local family to donate to the school district a huge flag for one of the masts on the new school building in the memory of a departed relative. It is a commendable idea and no doubt will be accepted by the board. We believe that the board will consider a similar gift for the other mast, as well as any number of wall flags for the various rooms when completed.

Harold B. Chapson of Pagosa Springs, son of Mr. and Mrs. E.E. Chapson, was one of eighteen men to receive letters and sweaters for participation in athletics at the State Agricultural College at Fort Collins. Sweaters were presented at an assembly of students last week. Mr. Chapson, who is a sophomore, won his letter in track.

75 years ago Taken from SUN files of

November 25, 1949

At the regular meeting of the Pagosa Rod and Gun Club held on Monday night of this week the total fish plant figures for this area were announced. The figures show that there were 10 to 15 per cent more fish this year than last.

The total number of legal size fish planted in all of the streams in this area was given as 6933 pounds or approximately 43,997 fish measuring from 7 to 9 inches. These legal size fish were all rainbows and were planted in the San Juan, Blanco, Navajo and the Piedra.

The figures on the fry which were planted in the entire area show that there were 98,000 of these small natives planted in the various streams.

The County Commissioners this past week let a contract for construction of a new garage building to Laren D. Merrill. Mr. Merrill is the contractor who has been installing the new filter system in the town water supply and he also laid the new water main in the west part of town. Mr. Merrill stated that construction on the garage would start this week and completion would depend upon the weather.

The contract calls for a building of pumice blocks on a rock and cement foundation, metal roof and cement floor. Specifications state that the building will be 110 feet by 60 feet in size and will be located on the county lots north of the old railroad depot.

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of November 28, 1974

Water rate raises are being proposed for some types of users, mostly commercial, by the Town Board. The Board has met several times to discuss this matter and has now drafted a preliminary rate structure.

Under the proposal there would be no raises for an ordinary residence. Trailer houses and apartments would be in line for a raise, as would business houses. The proposed raises are drafted into an ordinance which will be published and then considered for final adoption by the Board very soon.

These proposals are all part of the town's need to raise an additional \$6000 per year to meet bond payments, to operate the system, and to pay for maintenance. Most of this sum is needed to make payments on the town's share of the cost of replacing portions of the town water supply line.

25 years ago Taken from SUN files of

November 24, 1999

Recycling is again possible in Archuleta County. Tuesday during the regular meeting of the county commissioners, the commissioners lifted the moratorium against recycling that was enacted early last December.

The last obstacle to reinstating the recycling program was overcome when the county decided to hire an attendant for the recycling reception point located at the transfer station on Trujillo Road site.

Persons wishing to recycle can haul recyclable materials to the Trujillo Road site or to the county transfer site in Arboles.

"We're as ready as we can be," said officials responsible for emergency communications in Archuleta County in the event of a Y2K disaster.

Those officials are county emergency management director Russell Crowley and Fred Harman III, who is a communications consultant for the county.

The plan is not limited to a Y2K emergency, but could be used for other disasters such floods, fires or earthquakes.

At the center of the plan is a county emergency management command room in the county courthouse. County commissioners, Crowley, and other key personnel in that room will be linked to the communications system. They will be in position to make decisions as needed in response to any emergencies.

Archuleta County Commissioners

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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

Letters to the Editor are opinions and information in them has not been verified for ac-

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

Change

Dear Editor:

America had a fair & honest Presidential election...no question. In doing so the nation turned rightward in it's citizens demands. But more than political swings a very large percentage of voters said...we want change.

So let's just say Washington DC has in many senses become inefficient; and yes the regulations have become onerous. Why, well human nature always wants to do what it wants w/out restrictions...enter Elon Musk. But rules & reg.'s aren't DC's problem, it's the strength and control of Congress by the lobbying industry. Lot's and lots of money flows to those elected who do their bidding.

Trump is purposely appointing wealthy inexperienced Cabinet members charged with destruction of their institutions when the institution isn't the problem. And if that appointee is wealthy well hey they got to be the right person?

So what's the answer as surely outside new money won't restrict the moneyed lobby group. And that's all Trump is doing bringing more money to DC and all that will do is further entrench the problem special interests. SCOTUS said money equals free speech in a very critical court decision. In doing so, the nation started down the path of angering everyone other than the 1% wealthy...as they could now buy elections. Elections are the core part of democracy. So among a lot of other drivers, we lost our economic middle class. What was left is our largest group of citizens

Letters

The SUN welcomes letters from readers.

Please submit your letter electronically in a format that can be copied and pasted to editor@pagosasun.com or via the form at www.PagosaSUN. 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

The SUN generally does not edit letters, but reserves the right to do are non-college educated vs college educated liberals and...BANG...you get Trump worship. It had to happen, the pandemic created our last bout of inflation, not Democrats. And yes, we're all sick of too much PC. But here's the unpleasant truth, college trains the mind to reason not act so much on impulse. Like-it-or-not, Trump was elected on impulse.

Keep in mind the 1% wealthy do not need our nation they can afford to live any where and right/wrong/morale issues aren't their strength. The world has never been more a threat to our nation. The absolute last thing we need now are uniformed idolatry guised as MAGA gop.

Wanna be a patriot, make sure your grandchildren have a nation that defends their pre-Trump rights. David Blake

Unrecognizable

The God that Jan and Tom Carnley reference in their letters is wholly unrecognizable to me, as a follower of $Jesus. \, Jesus \, does \, not, from \, my \, reading$ of scripture, align himself with political parties. He was a Palestinian Jew whose family had to flee and become refugees to save his life when he was an infant. Jesus' sharpest criticism in his ministry was towards the pharisees, the "moral majority" of their day.

Here are a few excerpts from the Sermon on the Mount that Jesus gave:

Blessed are the meek. for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of

Imagine if we, as Christians, were peacemakers instead of calling people sad and telling them to leave.

And, of course, Jesus teaches us to love our neighbor, as ourselves. That would be a good place for all of us

Katy Corbett

Hybrid electric

vehicle

This is to inform my friends and neighbors regarding my current approach to green driving. I decided to lease a Kia Niro PHEV which is a plug in hybrid electric vehicle.

Leasing makes sense as cars made overseas are not eligible for federal and state rebates. The purchase price of my vehicle would have been \$49,000. By leasing, the dealer receives the rebates and can pass them through to the lessor. When I purchase the vehicle in two years, my total costs will be approximately \$39,000 including the lease expenditures.. That includes the State of Colorado rebate to me for purchasing a used electric vehicle at the time of purchase.

The car gets 31 miles on an electric charge so will cover all of my town driving without using gasoline. The tank only holds 8 gallons and in hybrid mode only, gets over 50 miles per gallon.

The hybrid vehicle makes most sense in the Colorado Mountains because the all electric vehicles really don't have enough range. Currently, I have gotten gasoline only a few times and usually the fill up costs less than \$20.00. The car is fully modern with lane control, collision avoidance, blind spot warning, rear camera, bluetooth connectivity, navigation maps, and collision avoidance emergency braking. It is stylish and very comfortable transportation.

The only negative I have encountered is in cold weather driving. The car will not drive on the electric battery in temperatures below 40 degrees. Also there is no towing capacity so I have retained my Honda Rldgeline for those towing and hauling necessities.

Robert Hagberg

Dear Editor:

In the 11/14 Sun, Gail Harriss expresses concern about rising temperatures and climate change, urging our politicians to take immediate corrective action. Alas, global warming and cooling has been going on for countless centuries, long before man ever even rode a horse. Yes. man today does have a microscopic impact on the climate. But it is irrelevant when you consider that many naturally occurring phenomenon, for example a large solar flare, cause more climate change than man could ever hope to achieve.

Climate change

Thus, man's impact on the climate is tiny compared to nature itself. However, man's reaction to naturally occurring climate change is very harmful. Consider the push for unstable solar and wind power versus stable and reliable coal and natural gas power. Utility bills have soared because of the enormous cost of switching to the more unstable wind and solar. Utility prices effect the cost of many things, especially food and rent. To those who have a comfortable income, this is no big deal. But to the single mom raising children, the retired couple trying to live on one social security check, or the family of six, rising utility bills are a serious problem. (I see people like this nearly every week at a food bank in Aurora).

The answer to this problem: Stop spending billions of dollars on climate change (which has had zero impact on rising temperatures) and redirect that money to reliable and cost effect energy production that will stop the crippling increase in utility bills, food and rent. This will take a huge burden off the shoulders of the people on the lower end of the economic scale. If anyone doubts the importance of this to the average American, I suggest they take a close look at what was most important to voters in the last election.

I urge our politicians to do the same thing.

Charles Newton Highlands Ranch, Colo.

Sheep or a goat

Dear Editor:

Obey God and SPREAD His WORD!

According to the Word of God. Jesus will come back to Earth to destroy the ungodly and wicked humans that survive the deadly events which will start when Jesus breaks each of the seven seals of the Book

In 2 Thessalonians 1:8, it says that Jesus will return to earth, "in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the

gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ." Unbelievers should take that as a warning and start seeking the Lord God, who is "the Lord of heaven and earth." God is the only one who gives eternal life to humans, and then gives them to Jesus.

When God gives this eternal life to a person it is said that the individual is "born again." That should be the ultimate goal, which is, salvation from going to hell, and eternal punishment in the lake of fire and brimstone.

The Bible tells us, in the book of Revelation, chapter 19, that the "beast" and the "false prophet" "were taken" and "both cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone." And it also tells us, that their armies were then "slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse", (meaning Jesus).

In the next chapter it tells us an assigned angel comes from heaven, binds the "old serpent" which is the Devil, and Satan, and bounds him for a thousand years.

After the above evil doers have been placed in their proper places, Jesus will sit in his glorious throne, and then his angels will gather what the Word of God calls the sheep and the goats. The angels will separate them and place the sheep to the right of him, and the goats to the left.

The sheep are those truly saved and followed God's and the shepherd (Jesus) commands. They are told to go and rule the Earth for a thousand

The goats are those who claim to be saved but continued to disobey God and his son Jesus, and that commit iniquity against their fellowman. To them Jesus will say "I never knew you, "Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels" (Matt. 25:41)

 $Unfortunately, for the \, masses, the \,$ reason Jesus says, I never knew you, is because God never Gave them to HIM. THEY WERE NOT SAVED BECAUSE THEY FAILED TO OBEY GOD! America is FULL of those people. Manuel Ybarra

Coalgate, Okla.

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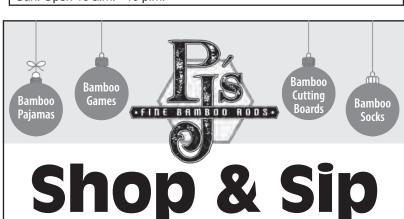
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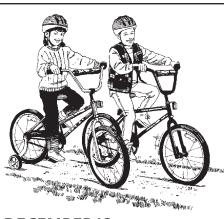
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Epstein Clayworks

Obituaries

Joshua Abrell

With profound sadness, we announce the passing of Joshua Abrell, a father, cherished son, brother

and treasured friend. Joshua left this world on May 31 2024, unexpectedly leaving behind a legacy of love, strength, humor and selflessness.



Joshua was born on 06/23/1978 in Holland, Mich., and from the very beginning, he embodied resilience and determination. We all believed he was invincible. Though life brought its challenges, he faced them with unwavering courage and an open heart. Joshua's greatest joy and pride were his children.

His words of wisdom will forever echo in his children's and family's hearts. Joshua had a quiet strength and a deep capacity for love. He was known for his sense of humor, his ability to fix anything, beautiful landscapes and his passion for the outdoors. He created the most beautiful landscapes for more people than we can count in Pagosa Springs, Colo. He found happiness in the simple things — whether it was sharing a meal with family or friends, cheering on his people, or lending a hand to those in need.

Joshua is survived by Liliana Abrell (daughter), Sumett Abrell (son), Sylis Calavan (grandson), Greg Abrell (father), Beverly Guter (mother), Heather Abrell (sister) and Stephanie Abrell (sister).

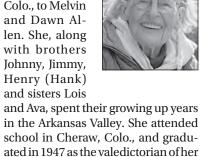
Though he has left us too soon, Joshua's love and legacy live on in the hearts of his children/family, who will carry his spirit with them always. His memory will forever inspire them to live fully, love deeply and face life's challenges with the same bravery

Rest peacefully, Dad. Fly high with your angels. You are missed more than you know, and your love will guide us always.

Edith Zoe (Allen) Graham

Edith Zoe (Allen) Graham went to be with her Lord and Savior on Tuesday, Nov. 12, 2024, at her home in

Pagosa Springs. She was born on March 1, 1929, in Kazan, Colo., to Melvin and Dawn Allen. She, along with brothers Johnny, Jimmy, Henry (Hank) and sisters Lois



in the Arkansas Valley. She attended school in Cheraw, Colo., and graduated in 1947 as the valedictorian of her class. She received a full-ride scholarship to attend any state college in Colorado. She realized that her dream was to be a wife and mother of a big family, so she declined the scholarship. In October of 1947, she married Duane Graham.

In the early years of their marriage, they lived and worked on ranches in the Colorado, New Mexico and

in the Swink area to raise their family. They had nine children, which was Edith's first and most meaningful career. Her child-raising years lasted 35 years. Once her family was raised, she enjoyed using her numerous skills in the workplace. She worked as a supervisor at the sewing factory in La Junta. She also worked at the La Junta Nursing Home as the activi-

Wyoming areas before settling back

ties director and later spent time as an in-home caregiver to countless elderly people in her community. Edith spent a few years working in her daughter-in-law Judy Graham's day care. This allowed her to influence many more children with her love and wisdom. After she retired, she spent several years volunteering to play the piano for the residents at nursing homes in the Arkansas Valley. This allowed her to combine two of her greatest attributes — her love of music and of people. Duane Graham, her husband of 53 years, died in January of 2000 and Edith continued to live in the Arkansas Valley until 2013, when she went to live with her daughters in the Fort Collins area. She stayed there until 2019 and then came to live with other daughters in Pagosa Springs. Edith was a talented writer and enjoyed membership in the Wolf Creek Writer's Group during her time in Pagosa Springs. As a steadfast believer of God her entire life, she enjoyed membership in the Swink Methodist Church, the

area until the time of her death. She was preceded in death by her

Cheraw Methodist Church, the La

Porte Presbyterian Church and the

Pagosa Springs Methodist Church.

She remained in the Pagosa Springs

parents, Melvin and Dawn Allen; her husband, Duane Graham; her sons, J.D. and Dee Graham; her brother, Jimmy Allen; and her grandson, Jarod

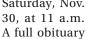
She is survived by her daughtersin-law Judy Graham (Pagosa Springs) and Sharon Graham (Lamar); and her children: Jo Hately (Jim), of Pagosa Springs, Steve Graham (Linda), of Fort Collins, Mikie Lynn Graham, of La Porte, Tom Graham (Diane), of Manzanola, Sally Varner (Steve), of Monte Vista, Brian Graham (Robin), of McClave, and Dawn Ross (Cody), of Pagosa Springs; along with 28 grandchildren, 51 great-grandchildren, and six great-great-grandchildren. She is also survived by her siblings, Johnny Allen, of Swink, Lois Buscher (George), of Fairbanks, Alaska, Hank Allen of Wilburton, Okla., and Ava Richey (Larry), of Bandon, Ore.

A celebration of Edith's life will be held on Nov. 30, 2024, at 2 p.m. at the Swink High School. All who knew and loved her are invited to attend.

Lorraine Romero Martinez

Lorraine Romero Martinez passed away on Nov. 21, 2024. Funeral services will be held at Pope John

Paul II Catholic Church with rosarv and eulogy on Friday, Nov. 29, at 6 p.m., and funeral Mass on Saturday, Nov. 30, at 11 a.m.



will follow at a later date.



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Town adopts 2025 budget, capital plan, fee schedule

By Derek Kutzer Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs Town Council approved the town's budget for fiscal year 2025 at its meeting on Nov. 21.

The budget's approval comes after Town Manager David Harris first presented a draft of the budget document on Oct. 1, with the budget seeing only minor changes since it was first revealed to the public.

To get to the final draft, the council conducted several budget work sessions and public hearings on the document

Harris explained the current budget reflected the council's top priorities, including the town's sanitation district, staffing and workforce housing.

On the issue of the town's sanitation listrict Harris noted that parlier in the evening, the council — acting in its role as the board of the Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District (PSSGID) — approved the first reading of an ordinance to allow the issuance of tax-exempt revenue bonds in an amount not to exceed \$4.8 million.

The bonds will go toward funding repairs to the town's sewer collection

Friends and **Neighbors in Need** part of Colorado Gives campaign

Friends and Neighbors in Need

As we enter this holiday season, many of us have reasons for being grateful. The opportunity to give back is truly a way to give thanks.

Friends and Neighbors in Need is part of the Colorado Gives campaign which ends Dec. 10.

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We see emergency needs in our county directly tied to the weather. Please consider giving to Friends

and Neighbors in Need to help our friends and neighbors in need. For more information or to give,

visit https://www.coloradogives.org/

system, with an agenda document stating, "It's anticipated that these funds will go to address the more critical sections of the collection system, which have commonly been referred to as category 4s and 5s."

Harris said, "We're taking the necessary steps to address this first goal."

On the issue of staffing, Harris explained this priority is also being addressed, pointing to the 2.7 percent cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) reflected in the 2025 budget.

Harris said, "we are [also] adding an additional match of 2 percent of the Colorado Retirement Association ... this will be for nonpolice officers," and would bring other town staff up to parity with police officers.

He added that this is an example of "taking care of our staff," while also and capital funds are by far the largmentioning newly created eight-month positions in the Parks and Recreation and Facilities departments.

On workforce housing, Harris mentioned the hiring of Jeff Sams as multijurisdictional housing coordinator and that the budget reflected funding for

At a previous meeting, Harris explained that the hiring of Sams was a "big win" for workforce housing, adding that once Sams is "up to speed" on everything related to workforce housing in the community, he would dive more thoroughly into the town's Servitas project.

Servitas is a Texas-based developer that the town contracted with to build workforce housing on town-owned

The project has stalled due to the developer and the town having a difficult time making it "pencil" at the price points the town wants to see for

workforce housing in the community.

The town's major capital projects funded in the budget include: the 1st Street pedestrian bridge, river gateway project, a bike park and river access improvements at Yamaguchi Park, and the addition of sheep to the Weeminuche Meadows art installation.

Harris said, "Your total budget for the fiscal year proposed is to be \$16.8

The budget shows \$16,836,988 in total revues anticipated to be brought into the town's coffers, with the total expenditures being \$16,843,455.

Out of the town's seven major funds — general fund, capital fund, lodgers' tax fund, sanitation fund, geothermal fund, Conservation Trust Fund, and trust fund — the general est, with the general fund bringing in about 36 percent and the capital fund bringing in about 42 percent of total revenues, according to the budget.

The main source of revenues for these funds include sales tax, lodgers' tax and property tax, with about 63 percent of total revenues coming from taxes and the rest coming from sources such as charges for service, leases and rents, and license and permit fees, according to the budget.

Along with the budget, the council also approved the town's five-year capital plan and the fee schedule

Highlights of the capital plan include parking lot replacements at Town Hall and Mary Fisher Park; HVAC and boiler replacement at the Ross Aragon Community Center; deck replacement for the 6th Street pedestrian bridge; and installing a curb, gutter and sidewalk along 2nd

The 2025 fee schedule includes an increased fee for special event rentals at town parks from \$100 per day to \$300 per day.

Another change to the fee schedule is the amount that the town will charge The Springs Resort for usage of the town's geothermal water.

The new rate stands at \$2,084 per month, or \$25,007 annually, for the fair market value for the heat/energy component of the water.

The town will also charge for the mineral content of the water, with the rate being \$1,675 per month, or \$20,100 annually, which was calculated by multiplying The Spring Resort's daily nonresident price of \$67 by the number of its soaking pools (25).

The budget, appropriations, capital plan and 2025 fee schedule were ap proved unanimously by the council and will go into effect on Jan. 1, 2025. derek@pagosasun.com



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Saturday, Nov. 30th

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Business

Reminder: Employee Benefit Forum set for Dec. 5

By Mary Jo Coulehan Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce

Next to housing, offering health care coverage to employees is one of the top issues facing employers.

With the high cost of premiums and deductibles, offering full health care coverage is most likely not an option for many of our small businesses.

However, there are now health care options out there that businesses can look at and potentially offer. The Employee Benefit and Retention Forum on Thursday, Dec. 5, from 9 to 10:30 a.m. at the Ross Aragon Community Center is designed to give employers options.

The panel that has been gathered will offer employers a variety of options that might work for their budget.

Our local Archuleta County Public Health Department will be informing the attendees of new services and programs it is offering. While not health care coverage, their services are certainly health care options.

There will also be people and or-

ganizations there to speak about affordiable health care coverage.

Have you ever heard of direct primary care? This medical care coverage is certainly a very attractive option for many businesses and for the health care provider as they can offer more personalized, yet affordable medical services. People will be on hand to describe the services associated with this health care coverage.

Many businesses do not know that there are several providers in this community that offer services to our residents based on a sliding payment scale, and representatives will be on hand to describe new services and siding-scale options.

In addition to health care options, has your business thought about offering other types of benefits to those employees that may not want health care coverage or are covered through another resource? We live in a community with a lot of amenities. Can you utilize those resources to your advantage and offer perks to your employees? Yes, you can.

Have you even surveyed your employees to see what types of benefits they might be interested in: soaking passes, a pass to one of the fitness centers, chiropractic or massage certificates?

The forum is free, snacks will be provided and it is open to business and individuals alike. As we get ready for 2025, please learn more about what options are out there for you as a business owner or an individual. Some of them are more reasonable than you think.

Small Business Saturday

This is your reminder that Small Business Saturday happens this Saturday, Nov. 30.

Numerous business all over town are offering great deals, discounts and giveaways.

Small Business Saturday is an important date to shop local.

Not only do businesses offer great deals and giveaways to get you into the store, you are also supporting your neighbors and friends in their livelihood.

All throughout the year, our nonprofit agencies receive tens of thousands of dollars in goods, gift cards and cash to keep their services going. How about thanking our stores and restaurants for their generosity? Can you imagine what our community would be like if these businesses weren't so generous?

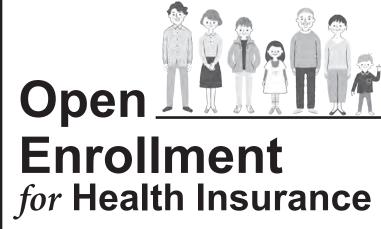
As we shop small, we also send the message that our community wants and supports small business. Why would someone move here and open a business if not supported by the locals?

Remember that you are supporting businesses that provide jobs. And people in these jobs more often provide you with a personal touch and better customer service than anything you get online.

If we don't support our local tax base, we are at risk of losing some of that tax base, and that in turn affects our infrastructure needs.

So, shop small. Say thank you. Make it a fun day with family and friends, and shop, eat and be merry in Pagosa Springs.





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Colorado Department of the Treasury encourages employers to enroll in Colorado SecureSavings Program

Colorado Department of the Treasury

The Colorado Department of the Treasury is encouraging businesses to enroll in the Colorado Secure-Savings program, which provides state-facilitated retirement plans for employees, by the end of the year.

"We want all Coloradans to retire with dignity, whether employers join Colorado SecureSavings or set up their own plan," said Colorado State Treasurer Dave Young. "We designed this program to be a quick and easy way to comply with the law while helping more employees save for their futures.'

State law requires businesses that have been operating for two or more years and employ five or more workers to offer a retirement plan by Dec. 31, 2024. The department has mailed

have received previous instruction, outlining the steps to register for Colorado SecureSavings or file an

An estimated 1.4 million workers lack an employer-sponsored retirement plan, affecting more than 40 percent of Colorado's private-sector workforce. To address this gap, the Colorado General Assembly passed Senate Bill 20-200, establishing the retirement plan requirement and creating the Colorado SecureSavings program.

"Colorado SecureSavings ensures more Coloradans have access to the financial services individuals and families need to thrive." said Hunter Railey, director of the Colorado SecureSavings Program. "We have registered over 15,000 em-

reminder letters to employers that ployers so far, advancing our goals to close the retirement savings gap and reduce the burden on Colorado taxpayers."

Online registration takes 20 minutes or less to complete and integrates with businesses' payroll processes. Workers contribute to Roth IRAs through automatic payroll deductions and can access their savings at any time, even after changing employers. Employees may also opt out of the program within 30 days of enrollment.

"It only takes five minutes a week to give my employees an opportunity to save for the long term. It's a satisfying feeling to give back to them," said Jeff Rogoff, owner of a restaurant and a Colorado SecureSavings participant. "When I was 20 years old, I didn't imagine that a program like this would be possible. I am very proud to be able to help my team save for their retirement."

Colorado SecureSavings accounts leverage the benefits of compound interest, allowing retirement funds to grow faster over time. Since the program launched two years ago, plan participants hold \$81 million in savings across 62,000 accounts with an average balance of \$1,300.

The department urges business owners to take action now to avoid potential financial penalties in 2025. Employers may enroll in Colorado SecureSavings through the registration page or certify their exemption using their unique access code at ColoradoSecureSavings.com/ exempt.

For more information, visit the Colorado SecureSavings website.



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Main Street board discusses website, greenhouse work

By Garrett Fevinger Staff Writer

Editor's note: O'Rourke Media Group is the parent company of The Pagosa Springs SUN.

The Main Street Advisory Board took tentative steps toward overhauling its website and expanding its digital reach during a regular meeting on Nov. 14 in a move that anticipates significant changes coming to downtown Pagosa Springs in 2025 and beyond.

Considering proposals from three web developers, board members sought to strike a balance between cost savings and the need to deploy critical messaging in the months to come as the town prepares for a reconstruction project that will course through the main street business district starting next spring.

"We started with thinking we just need a website for informational purposes," Main Street Coordinator Kathleen McFadden said. "And then we learned, wait, there's so much more that we could do and make such a bigger impact on the community."

Of the three proposals, the board voted to hire O'Rourke Media Group contingent upon satisfactory reviews from other clients.

Citing a potential conflict of interest, Main Street board member Shari Pierce recused herself from the meeting's discussion and vote around the website. Pierce serves as The SUN's publisher.

O'Rourke's pitch detailed a \$3,000 fee to build a website for the board, with additional marketing tools and

At its Nov. 21 special meeting, the

Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation

District (PAWSD) Board of Directors

approved giving Archuleta County

additional time to act on a water

model provided for the extension of

a main line at Stevens Field airport.

hydrants and an expanded water line

began in July 2023 when the Pagosa

Fire Protection District declined to

provide its approval for certificates of

occupancy for several hangars on the

taxiway due to them lacking sufficient

The modeling study included in

water flow for firefighting.

The county project to install new

By Josh Pike

Staff Writer

hosting representing a total initial investment of \$7,000, according to details released by the Main Street

In discussions leading up to the vote, board member Haz Saïd recounted the issue's evolution and raised existential questions about the board's identity moving forward.

"Is Pagosa Main Street heading in the direction of becoming a downtown business improvement district organization, rather than what I think we are now, which is a downtown revitalization advisory board?" he

According to fellow board member and main street business owner Rosanna Dufour, the answer is both.

"Yes, the intention of a Main Street board is to do all of [this] great cultural and historical preservation, all of these things," she said. "However, if we cannot help our downtown community through a major disruption then we don't have that culture and history to preserve."

She added, "I think right now we need the tools in place for the short term, and then we can get back to those roots once we support our community through this."

One of those tools, the board members agreed, is a robust web presence to help disseminate information about the reconstruction project, and support locals and visitors trying to navigate its impacts.

The new Main Street website, should the board finalize its decision to hire O'Rourke, will include "comprehensive website development with integrated SEO and digital

PAWSD board approves extension for airport water project

the model covers the installation of

five new fire hydrants and a proposed

10-inch water line along taxiway

Bravo at the airport, which contains

the full build-out of hangars along the

taxiway, which would add 20 equiva-

lent units of potable water demand

representative Jace Johnson ex-

plained that the water model was

set to expire on Nov. 28 and that,

although the county's work on the

project is "coming along very nicely,"

it could not be completed by this date.

He added that the county is asking

At the meeting, Archuleta County

It adds that the model also covers

several private hangars.

in the area.

marketing," according to information released by the board.

Greenhouse renovations

Plans to rehabilitate the greenhouse at Pagosa Springs Middle School are continuing to develop, McFadden reported during the Nov. 14 meeting, thanks to additional support from Archuleta School District and a grant opportunity on the near

In addition to a new greenhouse, the project — which began as an effort to tidy up landscaping at the school - now includes public Wi-Fi connectivity along the adjacent stretch of U.S. 160.

"We've got all the pieces, we just need the budget estimate for that," McFadden said. "We're working on writing up the application and hope to get that reviewed and submitted quickly."

The T-Mobile-sponsored grant would award Main Street up to \$50,000 to refurbish the greenhouse and enhance its surrounding area, with no required matching funds.

"I just think we have a wonderful community project," McFadden said. "I can't imagine them saying no. It's going to be above and beyond what we initially thought."

Dufour expressed similar enthusiasm about the project's outlook.

"It's just so multifaceted. It's our education system, it's environmentally friendly and it's including a local business," she said. "It's aesthetically pleasing and it's in a prime location downtown."

time to act on the model's conclu-

ager Justin Ramsey stated that

PAWSD only keeps water models

open for a certain amount of time to

ensure that water cannot be held in-

definitely by one group who does not

act on a model, thus denying water

would not be a problem since the

location is at the end of the water line.

son asked if the county is planning

to connect to another water line in

He added that, in this case, this

PAWSD board member Bill Hud-

Johnson confirmed that the proj-

ect would be a "looped system" and

that connecting to the other line

ould be necessary to meet the fire

PAWSD board member Glenn

Ramsey replied that the looped

system would have some benefits

since it will help with water move-

proved the extension request.

josh@pagosasun.com

The board then unanimously ap-

Walsh asked if there would be any

benefits from the connection for the

access to others.

flow requirements.

PAWSD District Engineer/Man-

garrett@pagosasun.com

the PAWSD board packet indicates for a 12-month extension to give more

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from pull down steps in the hallway and is a space you could make into another

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Statewide postelection audit complete

Colorado Secretary of State's Office

On Nov. 22, the Colorado Department of State announced that the 2024 statewide postelection audit has been completed.

The 2024 audit has statistically verified that Coloradans' ballots were counted accurately and that voting equipment worked as it should have.

"Colorado's bipartisan risk-limiting audit is complete, and confirms the accuracy of the 2024 general election results and that voting equipment worked as it should. Colorado's multilayered security approach ensures that each election is fair, accurate and secure, and that every Colorado voter has their voice heard," said Secretary of State Jena Griswold.

After every statewide election, the Department of State works with county clerks to conduct the audit. The risk-limiting audit establishes a

since the 2017 coordinated election. The audit has never found a discrepsystem not working as intended.

General Election are:

• After Election Day, county clerks continued processing and counting ballots until Nov. 15.

statistical level of certainty that ballots were counted according to voters' intent and tabulating equipment worked correctly.

The risk-limiting audit has been conducted in every Colorado election ancy that was a result of the voting

The steps to certifying the 2024

• On Nov. 18, the Department of State conducted the public meeting to establish the seed number for the post-election audit — which was entered into an algorithmic random number generator to determine the ballots that would be audited — to begin the audit. The audit includes statewide contests as well as a target ■ See Postelection A7

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Town to apply for federal infrastructure funding to complete Town-to-Lakes commuter trail project

By Derek Kutzer Staff Writer

On Nov. 21, the Pagosa Springs Town Council approved a resolution supporting the submission of a grant application for the completion of the Town-to-Lakes commuter trail and local road network connectivity.

The town is seeking the federallevel Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation.

The town is requesting \$17 million to complete the project.

An agenda document states that the trail would provide "the final link that will achieve comprehensive nonmotorized connectivity between existing infrastructure in both uptown and downtown Pagosa Springs."

Because 93 percent of the trail project would be located within 2020 Census Tract 9743, identified as a rural and historically disadvantaged community, it would allow the town the opportunity to apply for "no match" funding, the document states.

The project also includes the design and construction of a connecting road between Harman Park Drive and Cornerstone Drive, enabling the inclusion of this section of trail along and detached from the new connecting roadway, the document states.

At the meeting, Development Director James Dickhoff explained that the deadline for the latest round of RAISE grant funding is coming up in mid-January, "so we are starting preparation work for reapplying for that grant application."

He explained that the town previously unsuccessfully applied for \$16 million, but added that "we were invited to submit another application."

He said town staff have met "with RAISE staff a couple times, and they indicated that we actually scored

fairly well, but it's just a very competi- not listening to them." tive national federal grant."

He explained that RAISE received about 1,100 applications in the last round, "and they only awarded 135 applications."

He added that he's meeting with property owners along the proposed trail in order to gain support for the trail, adding that supportive state $ment \, letters \, in \, the \, application \, would \,$ strengthen the town's chances this time around.

"We'll keep applying for these opportunities. They are very competitive, but we feel like we have a very good project," he said.

The agenda document explains the scope of the work outlined in the RAISE grant application, encompassing several key components:

- "Design and construction of a 12-foot-wide concrete commuter trail extending from Great West Avenue to Harman Park Drive."
- "Design and construction of a connecting road and adjacent trail from Harman Park Drive to Cornerstone Drive."
- "Design and construction of a 12-foot-wide concrete commuter trail, extending from Pinon Causeway to S. Pagosa Blvd, including a trail connection to the existing Hospital
- "Design and construction of a trail between the Hospital and Village Drive, providing safe routes to the existing crosswalk facility at Hwy 160 and Pagosa Blvd."

When opened to questions, Mayor Shari Pierce noted that she had heard "from property owners up there, that they are not happy with the placement of the trail ... and I want to make sure that we speak to those people to see if we can work out things that can work for them and us.

"I don't like when I receive phone calls from people who feel like we're

Dickhoff replied that most of the planned trail would adhere to the 40foot setbacks required in the highway corridor and would not impede development in the area since the trail would be running through already nondevelopable sections.

"When we did those preliminary alignments, we were very conscious of making sure that we reduced any impacts ... to the developability of those properties," he explained.

He also mentioned that the town's Land Use and Development Code (LUDC) requires property owners along the trail corridor "to pay for and build the trail and dedicate it to the town" as a condition of development, since the Town-to-Lakes project was adopted by the town.

He added that finishing the trail through RAISE grant funding actually amounted to a "financial benefit" to those who wish to develop this section in the future, "because it takes that obligation off of the future developer of the property.'

He said that he understands "there's a whole scope of concerns and fears" about the trail, but added that "for the most part, what we're hearing is ... that 90 plus percent of the property owners are very supportive of this trail and want it to happen."

On the timeline for "finishing the trail," Dickhoff said that "we're probably looking at about six years for completion of the project."

When a motion was made to approve the resolution supporting the grant application, it was passed unanimously by the council.

"If awarded, the funding obligation deadline will be September 30, 2029, and all funds must be expended by September 30, 2034," the agenda document states.

derek@pagosasun.com

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Fines for noxious weeds set to increase

By Garrett Fevinger Staff Writer

Is there a field of yellow toadflax on your private property?

How about a bright lane of com-

mon tansy? Fines for those species of noxious weeds and dozens of others found in Archuleta County are scheduled to increase in 2025 after the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners voted to approve the first reading of a revised ordinance during its regular meeting on Nov. 19.

The adjusted fines are in alignment with new state requirements, according to Archuleta County Weed and Pest Supervisor Ethan Proud, and could include penalties for each day of noncompliance.

While the ordinance includes the maximum penalties allowed by law, Proud reported his office is likely to start somewhere in the middle.

"The state has changed [the fee schedule] so the first-day offense is \$500 to \$1,000, and then every day after is up to \$100," Proud said. "Our plan is to kind of split the difference."

That means Archuleta County property owners found in violation

Postelection _

■ Continued from A6 contest in each county.

 Colorado counties completed the statewide post-election audit on

Nov. 21. • Each county canvass board convened to approve the final tally of

ballots cast and tabulated by Nov. 27. • After canvass reports are submitted, counties can begin any mandated or requested recounts; mandatory recounts must be completed by Dec. 6.

• Once any recounts have concluded, the 2024 General Election results can be certified by the secre-

tary of state. • Colorado's Electoral College members are scheduled to meet at the state Capitol on Dec. 17 to cast votes for president and vice president. Electoral College votes will then be counted and certified in a joint session of the U.S. Congress on Jan. 6, 2025.

Your source for community news.

The Pagosa Springs SUN 970-264-2100

of the ordinance will likely receive a management resources, visit www. \$500 initial fee and be charged \$50 for every subsequent day of noncompliance, according to Proud.

"We don't go straight to the enforcement," Proud said during the meeting. "There's multiple letters they get before we fine them. We want them to manage weeds."

The county defines a noxious weed as any "non-native plant which has no agricultural or health benefits, and degrades native plant and wildlife habitat while posing a threat to producing lands or human health," according to its website.

For a complete list of the 30 species of noxious weeds found in Archuleta County, in addition to

archuletacounty.org/255/Weed-Pest. According to the ordinance, prop-

erty owners have 10 days after receiving a notice of violation to comply with the terms of abatement, which may include an "acceptable management plan and schedule for the completion of the specified manage-

ment objective." The revised ordinance and fee schedule is scheduled to take effect 30 days after its second reading and publication, according to Proud, meaning a likely effective date sometime in February 2025.

The first reading received unanimous approval by the board. garrett@pagosasun.com



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Local reporting that matters.

Purchase

■ Continued from front

paving over one of the ponds to provide parking and access for trailers ... and we received strong public feedback that they did not want to see this pond paved over," Dickhoff said.

The Bob's LP property being considered is a more ideal location for a river park focused on boater access, Dickhoff explained.

An executive summary plan, titled "East River Park Project," explains that the first phase of development would include "an environmental site assessment, property cleanup, site improvement final design, boat ramp installation, and parking improvements."

The plan adds, "Future project phases contemplate constructing additional amenities, such as restrooms, a handicap-accessible fishing pier, shade structures, paved parking, and a riverwalk trailhead."

The river park project would fulfill a "community vision to create public river boat access facilities at the eastern gateway into Pagosa Springs, where no formal public boat access currently exists," the plan states.

At the meeting, Dickhoff explained that funding for the purchase of the property and construction of the park is anticipated to mostly come from two grants — a state-level Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) grant in the amount of \$420,000 and a federal-level Land, Water, Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant in the amount of \$462,098.

both grants and will find out if it's awarded the funding by March 2025, Dickhoff added.

Additional funding for the project, with a total budget of \$947,315 for purchasing the property and phase one improvements, would come from the Conservation Trust funds of both the town (\$50,000) and county (\$80,000).

A closing date "is proposed on or before April 21, 2025," providing enough time "after the grant award notifications to coordinate property closing and/or Town Council's discussions if funding is not granted," the agenda document states.

A Yellow Book Appraisal identifies the parcel to be valued at \$740,000, according to agenda documentation.

Dickhoff explained that, since the first reading of the ordinance to purchase the property was approved by the council on Nov. 5, the draft contract has seen "only a couple very minor edits," such as the date for the town putting up its \$15,000 in earnest money.

He said, "The seller is still very supportive of the draft contract," explaining that if the council approved the second reading of the ordinance, he could then gather all of the required signatures and be able to present the contract as part of the town's GOCO application.

He said that the town should know if it's awarded the GOCO grant by

The town has applications out for mid-December and that success with the GOCO grant would increase its chances for the LWCF grant.

When opened to questions, council member Leonard Martinez asked Dickhoff why there was not a period of time designated for Basin Coop to continue to lease the property after the town closed on the land.

Dickhoff explained that "based on the work that we'd need to do after we purchase it, it's likely to not be ready for next season, but we do need to do our due diligence to finalize what exactly we need to do to gain access to the river sooner than later."

He added that he met with representatives of Basin Coop, and that if Basin Coop is not ready to move to another location by next year, "there may be an opportunity for them to still operate their small portion," giving "us some room for river access."

"In essence, what I have talked to them about," Dickhoff said, is for the Basin Coop to move locations by "the beginning of 2026."

He added, "They are supportive of not staying at that location. They are actively looking for a new location

But Martinez suggested that it may be in the town's best interest to have Basin Coop stay for a longer period

"It's a pragmatic thing, that the longer they stay, it reduces what we have to pay," Martinez said, adding that "as long as they stay there, we could actually be profiting" by collecting rental fees.

Council member Mat deGraaf asked Martinez, "Are you suggesting that you would be in favor of Basin Coop remaining on that location as long as it's feasible for us to do what we need to do and they could run their business?'

Martinez affirmed that he saw it "as a way to actually pay our portion of what it's gonna cost us to get into this," adding that "as long as they stay there it costs us nothing to buy that land, so that, to me, is just a feature to keep in mind."

When a motion was made to approve the second reading of the ordinance, it was seconded and passed unanimously by the council.

At the Nov. 5 meeting, Dickhoff explained that one of the buildings currently standing on the property has a restroom and is also hooked up to water and sewer, suggesting that the building could be utilized by the town at some point.

He also stated, at previous meet $ings\,that\,public\,sentiment\,has\,shown\,a$ strong "community desire to see more public river access," pointing to the River Corridor Master Plan (2012) and the East End Multimodal Plan (2022), which both identified this particular property as "the last missing link" for expanding public river access.

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Tourism

■ Continued from front

where we pull from," Green said, adding Arkansas now shows up as a top state for visitors in the spring time.

Green also mentioned there are some states that do not register as a top visitor state for certain months, noting that not a significant number of visitors from Oklahoma appear in the months of November or April.

She explained that doesn't mean there aren't any Oklahoma visitors during those times, but that the volume is not enough to register as a

Board member Shane Lucero asked what the number of visitors needed for a state to register as a top

visitor state is. Green explained that it is not an exact number, but that it is generally "a couple thousand," noting that Pagosa has seen upward of 22,000 visitors from Texas in one month.

Green also mentioned that California is "a market we could pull more from," noting California visitors do not show up in significant numbers in January, March, April or May.

Lucero commentea that he was surprised to not see Oklahoma as a top state during November, considering that falls within hunting season.

Green explained that there is a 30day "lag" in her reports and that the November monthly data is from 2023, noting it is possible that Oklahoma could've registered as a top visitor state this year.

According to Green's report, there were only four top visitor states in 2023 for the months of June through August, which include Colorado as No. 1, New Mexico as No. 2, Texas as No. 3 and Arizona as No. 4.

Green notes that, in 2024, Pagosa had 10 states register as a top visitor state for those same months. Those states, in order, were Texas, New Mexico, Colorado, Arizona, Oklahoma, California, Utah, Kansas, Missouri and

Green added that she has data from visitors across all 50 states.

She also explained that data is gathered from cellphone information and that a third-party company, Placer, has been contracted to perform

She mentioned that Placer can ping cellphones in the middle of the night and that it must be within the county for more than 12 hours to be considered a visitor.

Green went on to highlight specific cities and metro areas that continufor Pagosa Springs, noting it does not necessarily align with the top states.

"Albuquerque is by far our top market," she said, noting that those visitors may not stay as long compared to markets like Dallas-Fort Worth.

Green also noted that Espanola, N.M., showed up as a top market for the first time, and that it is geographically far enough away from Santa Fe, N.M., to be considered its own metro area.

"We're seeing people all over the U.S.," Green said, adding that the only state that did not receive visitor guides this year was Vermont.

She also explained that credit card data is used in correlation with data from Placer to get an idea of how much money certain markets are spending in Pagosa Country.

"I think it's always interesting to see who's showing up," Green said, adding that it is one thing to target a specific market with advertisements, but to see them showing up in Pagosa is a good affirmation that the marketing is actually working.

Board member Gary Williams inquired about how the tourism board gets data on international visitors.

Green explained that "anecdotally" it feels like there is a decent number of international visitors from those coming into the visitor center for information.

She also mentioned that a local business recently signed a contract with an international receptive tour ously register as a top visitor market operator, noting most international visitors still use tour operating services.

> "That's certainly going the numbers," she said.

Green indicated that Pagosa does not have a lot of international visitors during the winter, as most internationals are wanting to plan a road trip across the states and find places to stop and explore.

She used the example of an international visitor wanting to take a sixweek road trip from Las Vegas, Nev., to Denver and looking for places to stop along the way.

Additionally, Green noted that Pagosa sees a significant number of visitors from New Zealand in the summer time due to the use of the Continental Divide Trail (CDT).

Lucero added that he has hosted multiple New Zealand visitors who were hiking the CDT.

Green also indicated that Pagosa does not see a whole lot of French visitors and that when they do visit, they are the more "adventurous" French

She mentioned that Pagosa is seeing an increase in visitors from the ■ See Tourism A9

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Range

Continued from front traffic control devices.

Another condition suggested by the planning staff notes that before a certificate of occupancy will be issued, the county Engineering Department will require a signed and sealed letter verifying that all development has been built in accordance to the drainage study and plans.

The sixth condition states that if a driveway, parking area or any portion of the range is improved with an impervious surface, the drainage study must be updated.

The seventh condition concerns noise mitigation and states that the applicants "should institute measures to suppress the noise emitted from firing guns at the Outdoor Shooting Range to alleviate concerns from neighboring properties."

Planning Manager Owen O'Dell explained in a previous planning commission meeting the county does not have legal authority to impose a noise regulation on an outdoor shooting range according to state law.

Condition number eight recommended by planning staff states that the applicant must receive an updated access permit from the Colorado Department of Transportation "if they deem the access point across from County Road 700 is ineligible for a permit, the gate must be replaced with a fence.

Condition nine refers to operating hours, which originally stated hours of operation could be from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., which aligns with the county's noise ordinance.

During the meeting, the planning commission unanimously voted to amend condition nine to include summer and winter hours, while also being closed on certain holidays.

The amended condition includes summer hours of 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. from April 1 through Oct. 31, along with winter hours of 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. from Nov. 1 through March 31. The holidays that the range must be closed on include Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas, New Year's Day and Easter Sunday. The condition also notes that the applicant must choose one day a week that the range will not be in use at all.

Condition 10 recommended by staff notes that the applicant must provide the Planning Department records of rounds fired every quarter to ensure appropriate lead remediation efforts take place.

Condition 11 details how the applicant must provide the Planning Department with paid invoices consistent with intervals outlined in condition 10, or the applicant can obtain a certificate of reclamation from the Environmental lead remediation.

The planning commission voted to add a 12th condition outlining that law enforcement agencies can use the range any day that it is open, but do not have to follow the imposed operating

Planning commissioner Peter Beaudry put forward a 13th condition that notes responsible adult supervision must be provided on site during all operating hours at the range. That condition was unanimously approved by the planning commission.

Warren Sackman, a representative of Keyah Grande, spoke before the floor was opened for public comment, stating that some of the letters and things he read in regard to the range "were pretty unconscionable."

Sackman also commented on the change in operating hours saying, "I'm willing to work with you guys. That's fine."

Planning Commission chair Matt Nobles commented that most outdoor shooting ranges he is aware of close down for the winter season.

Beaudry questioned Sackman on the plan for who would be allowed to use the range, citing comments previously made by Sackman indicating the plan is to cater to a wide range of shooting enthusiasts.

Sackman explained during the Nov. 21 meeting that he planned for Thursday through Sunday to be used by private club members - a club of approximately 100 people in which users would have to apply to be in the club.

Sackman also explained that Monday through Wednesday would be reserved for law enforcement use.

"There seems to be a conflict on this and I'm not sure what your proposal is," Beaudry said.

Nobles asked if there would be any open hours for the general public to use the range or if it would be a membership-only scenario to be allowed on the grounds.

Sackman confirmed that it would be private membership only, with no hours for the general public.

He explained anyone can apply to be in the private club, until a capacity of approximately 100 persons is reached.

"That clarifies for me," Nobles said. Multiple public comments were made, with a total of eight speaking in opposition of the shooting range and two speaking in support of the shoot-

Those who stated they are in opposition of the range indicated they are neighbors of or live near the Keyah Grande property.

The two individuals speaking in support of the range indicated they

Protection Agency's best practices for live in a Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association neighborhood.

The first commenter suggested that Keyah Grande could construct an indoor shooting range that would alleviate all the concerns of the surrounding neighbors.

She mentioned she grew up in a military family and is familiar with shooting, and that an indoor range is the safest environment for such

The second commentator identified himself as a former attorney, former planning commissioner and resident of Archuleta County since 1979.

He claimed that the state statute that prohibits noise regulations on outdoor shooting ranges is potentially unsafe when applied in the setting of Archuleta County and urged the commission to table its decision one more time to re-evaluate the statute and how it is applied in the county.

Next was a resident in support of the range who stated, "I'm baffled as to why this has become such a heated topic at this time 'cause the range has been in use for years."

She claimed that complaints about the range only began once the matter was put into the public.

Additionally, she explained she has used the range previously, but that Keyah Grande has informed her of the price to be a part of the private club and that she would not be able to afford that, adding she will personally receive no benefit from the range.

"My belief is that this range will primarily benefit their guests and a select few with deep pockets as well as law enforcement," she said, explaining she is still in support of the range in order to decrease the amount of shooting use on public lands where no regulation is possible.

Next was a man who identified himself as a former police sergeant from Phoenix with a business in Archuleta County teaching firearm and pistol shooting classes.

He noted that there are three individuals in the county who have been approved by the sheriff to teach such classes, mentioning there is an individual "who I'm told is a current law enforcement officer and he's been using Keyah Grande for some time."

The commenter also spoke about how law enforcement agencies are required to be certified multiple times a year and that night shoots may also need to take place.

Additionally, he addressed concerns of noise, noting there are multiple berms on site that help reduce noise emitted from the range.

"As long as Keyah Grande is in compliance with the state, local and

federal law, I see no reason to deny their application," he said.

Two more residents identifying themselves as neighbors of the property spoke with concerns that those who use public lands for shooting in areas like Mill Creek will not be able to afford to use the shooting range and that there will still be an issue of shooters leaving trash on public

One commenter mentioned that the shooting range at Keyah Grande needs to be fenced in.

One resident identifying herself as a neighbor directly across the street indicated that it is not a big deal when law enforcement uses the range, but expressed concerns about the additional proposed use, adding that it may affect her property value.

Another commentary asked what would happen if Keyah Grande starts to violate the permit conditions.

O'Dell explained that would be cause for fines and potentially the pulling of Keyah Grande's permit.

One commenter, also identifying as a resident near Keyah Grande, acknowledged the need for a shooting range in the community, but asked for reduced hours.

"Mistakes were made and it's there," she said.

Once public comment was closed, Beaudry asked staff if Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) had been notified of the range and if there were any concerns from them.

O'Dell indicated that CPW had been contacted and expressed no concern with the range.

Beaudry offered some closing comments to the meeting, after the recommendation for approval was passed unanimously, acknowledging that the planning staff and commission recognizes the noise concerns expressed by residents, and that he "empathize[s] with those people."

He noted that condition seven recommended by staff emphasizes the concern of nearby residents and encourages the applicant to perform some sort of noise remediation, adding that the county cannot legally require them to do so.

The matter will now go to the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) for final approval.

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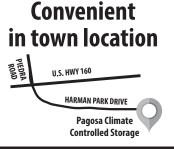
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IDEA

■ Continued from front

tive's financials, the LPEA board determined that the 2025 rate increase will be necessary to maintain a healthy financial profile and support operational needs, such as additional tree trimming for wildfire risk mitigation, increasing member rebates for emerging technologies, and the rising costs of construction materials and

In the Nov. 21 issue of The SUN,

the article "Master deed restrictions

for workforce housing project ap-

proved" indicated that Commission-

er Veronica Medina inquired about

the process for Archuleta County

purchasing and listing a home that

is part of the Pagosa Springs Com-

She explained that the tourism ef-

by international visitors due to inter-

more money while in the market.

Green's visitor audience presenta-

online under the Nov. 19 area tour-

marketing plan should be ready for

Tourism

■ Continued from A8

partnership with Alamosa.

seeing a lot more UK as well."

national privacy laws.

pagosasprings.co.us.

meeting.

ers and wire which are impacted by supply chain constraints and limited manufacturing capacity.

The 2025 budget also includes investments to investigate possible solutions to address the red zone areas impacted by the solar mora-

Correction

An independent, third-party cost-

munity Development Corporation

workforce housing project in the

about what the Archuleta County

Housing Authority's process would

The SUN regrets the error.

Medina was actually inquiring

event of a foreclosure scenario.

be in that event.

critical components like transform- of-service study is currently underway to inform the final rate design. Once completed, the impact of the rate adjustment on members' bills will be shared.

> The formal rate tariff, detailing specific changes, will be posted in early 2025 in accordance with LPEA's policies and will take effect on April 1, 2025.

Rate increases are always challenging, but this decision was made to ensure the long-term reliability and sustainability of the system while serving the best interests of LPEA members. LPEA remains committed to delivering reliable, affordable energy and will continue to prioritize initiatives that balance the needs of our members with the financial sustainability of the cooperative.

For more information on the budget approval, visit https://lpea.coop/ lpea-board-directors-resources.

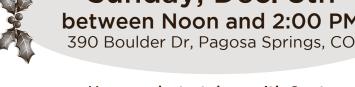
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Dried Pinto Beans Dry Breakfast Cereal (such as cheerios or corn flakes) Dry Milk Powder

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Sports

Unified bowling



Photo courtesy Cyndi Figaro

The Pirate Unified bowling team poses for a picture while at the state tournament for the third straight year. The team, representing Pagosa Springs High School, placed 19th at the tournament.

Pirates finish 19th at state

By Randi Pierce Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School (PSHS) Pirate Unified bowling team placed 19th out of 28 teams at last week's state tournament.

The team logged a total pinfall of 442 at the tournament in Lone Pine on Friday, Nov. 22.

Cyndi Figaro, special talents teacher at PSHS, notes in an email the Pirates' lanes were right by the eventual winners, Northridge, who logged a total pinfall of 651, and one of the other top schools.

"It was a little intimidating," she

But, in addition to the team's ap-

pearance at state for the third con-

RECREATION NEWS

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Springs Parks and Recreation Depart-

ment for updates on current events,

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sessions, and youth fitness.

Pirate Juriah Carter sang the national anthem a cappella in front of a very crowded bowling alley.

The Pirates advanced to state for the third time after finishing first at regionals on Nov. 15 with a total pinfall of 501 over five games, earning them their second regional title.

The tournament was held in a Baker format with five games.

A Baker game, the Colorado High School Activities Association notes, "is when team members rotate between the three players with each participant rolling one ball before a teammate rolls the next. Regardless of a spare or strike, the next participant will always roll the next ball. This format gives equal playing time for

secutive year, Figaro highlights that each member, creating meaningful participation that is essential to the Unified Sports® model."

About Unified bowling

Unified bowling became a sanctioned sport under CHSAA in 2019, with play beginning during the 2020-2021 season. It is in partnership with Special Olympics Colorado.

Special Olympics Unified sports combine students with intellectual disabilities and Unified partners without intellectual disabilities on bowling teams for training and competition.

The Archuleta School District Board of Education added Unified bowling as a sport at PSHS in the fall

randi@pagosasun.com



Photo courtesy Cyndi Figaro

Pirate bowler Juriah Carter takes on a second duty while at the state Unified bowling tournament last week — singing the national anthem a cappella in front of the crowded bowling alley.

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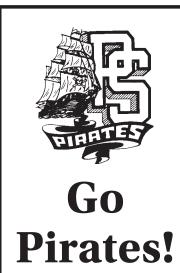
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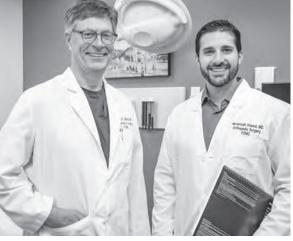
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Education

Charter school board approves reduced classroom sizes

By Garrett Fevinger Staff Writer

Board members at Pagosa Peak Open School (PPOS) voted to cap classroom sizes for kindergarten through third grade at 18 students for the current school year, approving a request by School Director Emily Murphy during the board's meeting on Nov. 20.

In her report to the board, Murphy described the cap as a response to parent concerns about classroom sizes and one that could assist the school in its efforts to attract new students when enrollment opens in

"The No. 1 reason people chose PPOS was for small class sizes," said Murphy, citing exit survey data. "Often when they leave, it's because the classes were bigger than they thought they were going to be."

The cap comes one year after the school approved a 21-student limit for the same grade levels.

"This is not us saying that [current students] cannot enroll next year because we're going to have lower class sizes," Murphy clarified. "It just means that if we lose students throughout the year that we would not fill seats above the proposed cap."

Board treasurer Pamela Meade voiced support for the cap in kindergarten through third grade, but as the discussion expanded to include additional caps for upper grades where PPOS has historically seen a matriculation dip — she requested more time to examine potential enrollment impacts.

"I think these are two different conversations. But, I'd like to actually have a little bit more conversation, because when you're talking about caps, I always get really hung up on those combined classrooms," she said, referring to the school's combined fifth- and sixth-grade classes.

"We are a business," board president Lawrence Rugar added. "In order to function, we have to have students ... We may get to a point where we're not going to cap by grade but cap them by classroom."

"There is a business case to be made," Meade agreed.

The PPOS board ultimately approved the 18-student cap in kindergarten through third grade unanimously, with vice president Jesse White absent.

Fieldwork participation

When fieldwork is an integral part of a school's curriculum, what does it mean when students decline to participate?

That was the question Murphy raised in describing challenges facing PPOS as it attempts to accommodate students who opt out of fieldwork activities, which are frequently of- 20 staff total. Six of them were out fered in lieu of traditional classroom experiences.

"As we've been doing a lot more fieldwork this year, one of the stresses that we've been coming up against are students and families who are choosing to not participate," Murphy said. "Then our staff is having to provide alternatives for those students during the school day."

"As we've been doing a lot more fieldwork this year, one of the stresses that we've been coming up against are students and families who are choosing to not participate," Murphy said. "Then our staff is having to provide alternatives for those students during the school day."

She added that making accommodations for students with special needs or disabilities is routine at the school and mandated by law, but that no school policy exists for what to do when students decline to participate in curriculum-based fieldwork for other reasons.

"Do we know why the parents or the families are not participating?" board member Catherine Siebel

the parent will say, 'OK, you can just go to school instead," Murphy said.

the fly, according to Murphy.

"What I find is that it is a strain on our small school," she said. "We have

Your

source for

asked. "Kids will say, 'I don't want to,' and

The result has meant school staff is rushed to create alternative and equivalent educational activities on

today. We have students who didn't want to participate in fieldwork who now are just sitting in a classroom."

Before drafting a policy, Meade encouraged a survey of other projectbased schools to find out if PPOS is required to provide a matching alternative for every activity.

"It would be nice to find a best practice," she said. "Or, maybe everybody's struggling with it and we'll figure out the best practice."

Murphy proposed bringing a draft policy to the board for further consideration at its December meeting.

Social media

The school's social media presence came under scrutiny during the Nov. 20 meeting as board members expressed concerns over the school's online following and low engage-

According to the board, PPOS is currently paying \$350 a month to a third-party marketing firm — and the numbers aren't adding up.

"Our numbers are so low, that a 25 percent [increase in engagement] would be less than one person," Siebel remarked, recommending the board not renew its contract with the firm. "I think we can for sure do better with the same amount of money."

Reviewing the contract, Siebel noted an absence of strategy that left several key questions unanswered.

"Who are we targeting? What are we saying?" she asked. "That wasn't even part of the contract."

Rugar also acknowledged perceived shortcomings, noting that recent Facebook posts have failed to mention that tuition at PPOS is free.

"That tells me the [firm] doing it had never been here, does not know what we do, does not know who we are, so therefore can't really represent us in order to gain enrollment or anything else," he said.

The board ultimately agreed to cancel the contract when it arrives for renewal in January, but questioned how best to take the reins.

"If we keep doing things in house, and there's a professional group out here that'll do it for a nickel more, we need to look at the more professional way of doing it so we get the bigger bang for our buck," Rugar said.

Siebel proposed defining a strategy that could be easily executed by anyone, in-house or otherwise.

"I think it's possible there are a couple people who could develop the strategy to then pass it on to someone to implement," she said.

"Let's keep a budget item and stipend people to do it," Meade suggested. "If you decide a different way is better, then I'm all for that, but I'd like to continue funding marketing." garrett@pagosasun.com





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The Blotter

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

Archuleta County Sheriff's Office Nov. 4 — Theft-\$300 to \$750 from yard, Oak Drive.

Nov. 4 — Second-degree assaultaggravated family-strangulation, assault in the third degree, menacing-misdemeanor, criminal mischief \$1,000 to \$5,000 private, domestic violence, harassment-strikes/shoves/ kicks DV, West Radiant Court.

Nov. 5 — Disorderly conduct-petty offense, harassment-public placeobscene language or gesture, South 8th Street.

Nov. 6 — Driving under the influence of alcohol, DUI per se, alcoholopen container/drink in vehicle, careless driving, stop sign-fail to stop, Ace

Nov. 6 — Agency assist, County Road 359.

Nov. 6 — Trespass warning, County Road 988.

Nov. 6 — Agency assist, San Juan Street.

Nov. 7 — Information only, Beucler Lane. Nov. 7 — Lost and found, Harman

Park Drive.

Nov. 7 — Information only, Piedra Road.

— Information only, Crooked Nov.

Road. Nov. 7 — Fraud by check-other method, West Blue Lake Drive.

Nov. 7 — Theft-\$50 to \$300 from vehicle, criminal possession of an identification document, Dyke Boulevard/ Bonanza Avenue.

Nov. 7 — Information only, County Road 600.

Nov. 8 — Warrant arrest, West U.S.

Nov. 8 — Violation of protection order-criminal, West U.S. 160.

Nov. 8 — Violation of protection order, information only, Harman Park

Nov. 9 — Agency assist, Hot Springs Boulevard.

Nov. 9 — Warrant arrest, Aspen Village Drive.

Nov. 10 — Information only, no

location listed. Nov. 10 — Information only, Harman Park Drive.

Nov. 10 — Driving under the influence of alcohol, careless driving, turning improperly, Cloud Cap Avenue.

Nov. 11 — Domestic violence, harassment-strikes/shoves/kicks, Cox Circle.

Nov. 11 — Driving under the influence of alcohol, DUI per se, alcoholopen container/drink in vehicle, reckless driving, North Pagosa Boulevard.

Nov. 11 — Driving under restraint, driving under the influence of alcohol, careless driving, South Pagosa Boulevard/South 7th Street.

Nov. 11 — Violation of protection order-criminal, West Radiant Court.

Nov. 12 — Criminal attempt to commit, violation of protection order, tampering with a witness or victim, Harman Park Drive.

Nov. 12 — Information only, San Juan Street.

Nov. 13 — Trespass warning, Ute

Drive. Nov. 13 — Information only, Surrey

Drive. Nov. 13 — Warrant arrest, Eagle's Loft Circle.

Nov. 13 — Second-degree assault, domestic violence, harassment-strikes/

shoves/kicks, Fireside Street. Nov. 13 — Driving under restraintalcohol/drug related, driving under the influence of alcohol, DUI per se,

Nov. 14 — Violation of protection order-criminal, Great West Avenue.

Nov. 14 — Warrant arrest, warrant arrest, 15th Street.

Nov. 14 — Domestic violence, violation of protection order, Canyon Circle. Nov. 14 — Domestic violence, viola-

tion of protection order, Surrey Drive. Nov. 14 — Assault in the third degree, domestic violence, harassmentstrikes/shoves/kicks, Cat Creek Over-

Nov. 15 — Warrant arrest, Sundown

Nov. 16 — Agency assist, 15th Street. Nov. 16 — Recklessly discharges firearm, County Road 988.

Nov. 17 — Warrant arrest, Country Center Drive.

Nov. 17 — Possession of a controlled substance-Schedule III, IV or V, drug paraphernalia-possess, theft-less than \$0-from yard, identity theft-possess to obtain, Harman Park Drive.

Pagosa Springs Police Depart-

Nov. 11 — Shoplifting/departs or attempts to depart without payment, Pagosa Street.

Nov. 12 — Lost and found, East Pagosa Street.

Nov. 12 — Narcotic violation, North 5th Street.

Nov. 12 — Violation of protection order-criminal, North 8th Street.

Nov. 12 — Lost and found, Hot Springs Boulevard.

Nov. 13 — Speeding 25-39 over prima facie limit, San Juan Street.

Nov. 14 — Marijuana prohibited under the age of 21/less than 12 ounces, South 8th Street.

Nov. 14 — Motor vehicle theft, Alpha Drive. Nov. 14 — Agency assist, Aspen

Nov. 15 — Violation of protection

order-criminal, Lewis Street. Nov. 15 — Domestic violence,

careless driving, Great West Avenue. harassment-strikes/shoves/kicks, information only, South 8th Street. Nov. 15 — Violation of protection order-criminal, South 8th Street.

Nov. 16 — Second-degree burglary-firearms and/or ammo, 15th

Nov. 16 — Second-degree burglary-controlled substance, theft-less than \$300, criminal mischief \$1,000 to \$5,000 business, Goldmine Drive. Nov. 16 — First-degree criminal

trespass, Goldmine Drive.

Nov. 16 — Domestic violence, harassment-strikes/shoves/kicks, Meadows Drive/North 8th Street.

Nov. 16 — Unlawful possession of a controlled substance, warrant arrest, U.S. 160.

Nov. 16 — Abandonment of motor vehicle — Zuni Street.

Nov. 16 — Information only, no location listed.

Nov. 16 — Violation of protection order-criminal, driving under restraint, lane usage violation, driving under the influence of drugs (all other, DUI per se, North Pagosa Boulevard.

Pagosa Springs Municipal Court: Judge Anthony D. Edwards

Nov. 18 — Brittany Jaroensap, speeding 10-19 mph over prima facie, four points off, fine and surcharge

— \$162. Nov. 18— Jacob Kovacs, criminal trespass, costs — \$35.

Nov. 19 — Anthony Poma Jr., eluding a peace officer, 10 days incarcera-

Nov. 19 — Damian Kent, shoplifting, 10 days incarceration.

Archuleta County Court: Judge Justin P. Fay

Nov. 13 — Shane Patrick McConnell, alcohol-open container/drink in vehicle, speeding 20-24 over limit, fines and costs — \$358.50.

6th Judicial District Court: Judge Justin P. Fay

Nov. 14 — Phillip A. Montoya, assault 3-know/reckless cause injury, 180 days jail, fines and costs **—** \$286.50.

Nov. 14 — Kamerahn Bass, controlled substance-possession Schedule I/II/II/, fines and costs — \$1,263.50.

6th Judicial District Court: Judge Jeffrey R. Wilson

Nov. 18 — Ethon James Tatum, assault 2-strangulation, 60 months Department of Corrections, fines and costs — \$428.50.

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Social consequences of DUI

Colorado State Patrol

A driving under the influence (DUI) arrest is a serious matter in the eyes of the law and throughout your community. While not often considered before making a choice to drive impaired, the social stigma attached to a DUI charge can have a long-lasting negative impact on a person's life.

"The penalties set by the court and Division of Motor Vehicles are clear and serious with the goal to stop this driver from driving intoxicated again," stated Col. Matthew C. Packard, chief of the Colorado State Patrol. "As word travels, a DUI can have other consequences, including an effect on how a person is treated in all aspects of their life."

A DUI conviction can easily undermine your position as a parent, a spouse, or a friend, not to mention impact your professional opportunities.

Professionally: DUIs require extensive time in court, treatment and screenings. Since many of these services operate during business hours only, you will likely miss a considerable amount of time from work to meet court requirements. Professionally: Your company may

have specific rules associated with DUI that could result in duty modification, loss of employment or demotion. Professionally: DUIs are visible o

background checks and could eliminate you from consideration for new employment.

spreads, a long line of social acquaintances could be impacted. Parentteacher associations, nonprofits and coaching roles could ask you to step down from your responsibilities or distance themselves from you.

Personal relationships: A DUI strains relationships with many close friends and family members. A spouse may resent you for emotional and financial stress caused by the DUI. Children may question your authority, and friends may no longer want to be

seen with you. "You can lose a lot with one decion," explained Packard "Whether a felony or misdemeanor, a DUI gives you a criminal record, creating potential new challenges in employment, Socially: As word of your DUI housing and in your community."

Public Meetings

The following meetings are subject to

change. Monday, Dec. 2

Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners special meeting. 8:30 a.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St. View Zoom meeting at: https://zoom.us/j/91609048375 ?pwd=dlFFV0J1cGVKa1NHWHF sa2taeGxtZz09, meeting ID: 916 0904 8375, passcode: 4141885. For more information, visit http://ar-

chuletacounty.org/agendacenter. San Juan Water Conservancy District budget hearing and regular meeting. 4 p.m., 46 Eaton Drive, Suite 5. Visit https://www.sjwcd. org/ for Zoom option.

Tuesday, Dec. 3

Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District special meeting. 5 p.m., Town Hall, 551 Hot Springs Blvd. See town website for participation information: https://pagosasprings.civicweb. net/portal/.

Pagosa Springs Town Council meeting. 5 p.m., Town Hall, 551 Hot Springs Blvd. See town website for participation information: https://

pagosasprings.civicweb.net/portal/.

Thursday, Dec. 5

Main Street Advisory Board meeting. 4 p.m., Pagosa Senior Center dining room, Ross Aragon Community Center, 551 Hot Springs Blvd. For more information, visit https://pagosasprings.civicweb. net/portal/.

Monday, Dec. 9

CSU Advisory Committee meeting. 11:30 a.m., CSU Extension Office, 344 U.S. 84. For more information, visit http://archuletacounty.org/ agendacenter.

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Outdoors

Managing old-growth trees and forests an ongoing conversation

By Alex Handloff

San Juan Headwaters Forest Health Partnership

We all have a vision of what old growth means when it comes to the forest — tall, big trees, right? though our visions can be so welldefined that they obscure the nuance of what old growth really means and how our actions affect those ideas.

We are fascinated by tall, largediameter trees. One fact that defies our initial feeling about these trees is that size is not always related to age. Depending on growing conditions like soil, aspect, density of trees, geology and more, a tree can grow at different speeds. Big trees are not always old and old trees are not always big.

To complicate matters, the idea of an old-growth forest is always in flux, just like the forest itself. A walk through a stand of giant ponderosa pine is a lovely endeavor, yet only a snapshot in time. Old trees die. New trees take their place. Both are true and must be true given the distur-

bances that are inevitable and necessary in a forested ecosystem, like fire, insects and disease, blowdowns,

Our voices and discussions locally help decide how we will manage our forests here in the Pagosa Springs area. It's a conversation that needs many voices and opinions.

Therefore, the protection and promotion of old growth and large trees is not simply a question of which trees we want to hold on to now, but which actions we want to take for a future filled with trees we admire. We must look at the long-term vision of creating conditions that support the kind of trees and forests we all find inspiring (old and big), even if the fruits of those labors don't appear for a generation or longer.

So, what actions can we take today that lead to that ideal future? That's a difficult question given the unprecedented conditions that many forests face in our region.

But it is a conversation of the utmost importance and one that happens regularly at the San Juan Headwaters Forest Health Partnership (SJHFHP) monthly meetings, among many other topics. It's also a conversation on the national stage, including this National Old-Growth Amendment for the U.S. Forest Service.

Our voices and discussions locally help decide how we will manage our forests here in the Pagosa Springs area. It's a conversation that needs many voices and opinions. For example, just this summer, participants discussed the notion of old growth and large trees on the Jackson Mountain landscape.

An important takeaway was that managing large and old-growth trees is not a binary yes or no question where there is an intervention or none at all. Our actions can, in fact, enhance old-growth characteristics, meaning that it isn't necessarily beneficial to merely leave a stand of old and large trees alone.

There's certainly no easy answer and certainly no quick answer. Whatever direction we choose - and we get to have those exact conversations on what we choose here locally at SJHFHP meetings — if we want to have old-growth and large trees, we need to commit to conversations that acknowledge the nuance and large timescales. We need to equally commit to actions that promote those ideal conditions, all the while understanding the truly more-than-human timeline upon which we work.

Are you interested in joining the conversation about old growth and large trees in the Pagosa Springs area? Join the SJHFHP monthly meetings. Reach out to Alex Handloff for more information at alex@mountainstud-

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Colorado Avalanche Information Center warns of dangerous avalanche conditions

By Kelsy Been

Colorado Avalanche Information Center

The Colorado Avalanche Information Center (CAIC) is warning backcountry travelers of a significant increase in avalanche danger across the Colorado mountains during Thanksgiving week.

An atmospheric river is bringing heavy snowfall to Colorado this week, with up to 3 feet expected in some areas and at least 2 feet across much of the mountains.

"We're particularly worried because we'll see the most dangerous avalanche conditions we've seen so far this season when more people than usual will be getting out to recreate because of the holiday," said CAIC Director Ethan Greene.

This rapid and heavy snowfall, combined with an already weak snowpack, will lead to dramatically different and significantly more dangerous avalanche conditions than seen so far this season.

Avalanche danger was expected to reach high (level 4 of 5) in favored areas by Tuesday night, with large, dangerous avalanches possible.

"There will be an increased likelihood of natural and human-triggered seriously injure or kill a person this week," said Greene.

The CAIC issues avalanche danger ratings based on the North American Public Avalanche Danger Scale from low danger (Level 1) to extreme danger (Level 5).

During certain avalanche conditions, the CAIC also issues avalanche watches and warnings when the avalanche hazard will be or is high (Level 4) or extreme (Level 5). Special avalanche advisories are issued to alert the public of an increased safety risk due to potentially dangerous conditions for many people, such as a big storm occurring during a holiday weekend.

"The avalanche danger is going to be higher and avalanche conditions are going to be trickier this coming week than what we've seen so far this season," said Greene. "There are still lots of great, safe places to go. We want people to check the avalanche forecast and make a plan that keeps them out of avalanche terrain or off of the dangerous slopes."

Forecast timeline

reach 3 feet in areas like the Park terrain during periods of heightened Range, Flat Tops and Elk Mountains,

avalanches that are large enough to with 2 feet or more across most mountains. Avalanche danger will likely reach high (4 of 5) in much of the northern and central mountains, and in the western San Juan mountains.

> • Thanksgiving: Avalanche conditions are expected to remain very dangerous and be considerable (Level 3).

> • Friday through Sunday: While the storm ends late Wednesday or early Thursday, dangerous avalanche conditions will continue as the snowpack adjusts to this rapid load. With clear skies, fresh snow and the holiday weekend, backcountry activity will likely increase. Special avalanche advisories are anticipated.

This timeline is subject to change. For the latest avalanche conditions, visit the CAIC's website at Colorado. gov/avalanche.

The CAIC strongly advises all backcountry travelers to check the avalanche forecast regularly and adjust their plans accordingly.

Always carry proper avalanche safety gear, including a transceiver, probe and shovel, and know how to • Wednesday: Snowfall totals may use them. Avoid avalanche-prone

Nominations sought for Noxious Weed Advisory Committee

Colorado Noxious Weed Advisory state noxious weeds; development Committee

The Colorado Noxious Weed Advisory Committee, a critical link between the citizens of Colorado and the Colorado Department of Agriculture (CDA), is seeking nominations to fill four vacant positions representing an agricultural producer; a resource, industry or environmental specialist; and two at-large positions.

The primary responsibility of the committee is to discuss Colorado's weed management challenges and craft solutions that best reflect public and private interests. The committee makes recommendations to the department concerning designation and classification of and implementation of state weed management plans; and prescribed techniques for eradication, containment and suppression of state noxious weeds.

"The members of the Noxious Weed Advisory Committee play an important role in shaping department and state policy concerning noxious weeds. Their recommendations help protect landowners, agricultural lands and the environment," said Noxious Weed Program Manager Patty York.

The committee's 17 members are appointed by the commissioner of agriculture and represent varying interests and geographic locations on the committee.

Members serve two-year terms and the committee meets quarterly, with most meetings occurring at CDA's Broomfield office and including a virtual option. At least one meeting and corresponding field trip are usually held out of the Denver area annually.

Nominations must be submitted through an online application form no later than Dec. 20.

For more information, please view the Noxious Weed Program's Advisory Committee webpage.

Informative.

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Communities at risk from wildfires can now apply for funding

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service is accepting applications for the Community Wildfire Defense Grant program to assist at-risk communities, including tribes and Alaska Native corporations, with planning for and mitigating wildfire

Now in its third year, this competitive program is funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

Out of the up to \$200 million available, individual grants of up to \$250,000 can be used to develop and update community wildfire protection plans, while individual grants of up to \$10 million can be used for wildfire resilience projects that implement community wildfire protection plans. Projects must be completed within five years of the

The number of projects selected will be determined by available funding, which is up to \$200 million.

Notices of funding opportunities are available on Grants.gov. Applications will be accepted until 11:59 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on Feb. 28, 2025.

regional cooperative fire contacts listed in the Notices of Funding Opportunity.

About the Community Wildfire Defense Grant **Program**

In the first two years of the program, the Forest Service awarded \$467 million to 259 projects across 36 states, two territories and 18 tribes. These projects directly support the agency's 10-year Wildfire Crisis Strategy to treat up to 20 million acres of national forests and grasslands and 30 million acres of other federal, state, tribal and private lands to reduce wildfire risk to communities, infrastructure and natural resources.

The Forest Service is working with underserved communities, tribes and community-based organizations to provide equitable access to this funding opportunity.

Partners, including American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association, Coalitions and Collaboratives Inc., First Nations Development Institute, Hispanic Access Foundation, the Federation of Southern Cooperatives and the Watershed Research and Training Center, are working with

sultation with state or Forest Service ness of this funding opportunity, help complete grant applications, comply with post-application financial and reporting requirements, and build community capacity to do this work independently in the future.

The Community Wildfire Defense Grant program prioritizes at-risk communities that are in an area identified as having high or very high wildfire hazard potential, are lowincome, and/or have been impacted by a severe disaster, declared, designated or recognized by a government authority as having caused damage, loss or destruction to an extent and scale that an unusual or abnormal increase in wildfire risk or hazard potential to a community has occurred.

The program also helps communities in the wildland-urban interface meet the three goals of the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy to maintain resilient landscapes, create fire-adapted communities and improve wildfire response.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to view one of the two-hour applicant webinars about the grant application process. Webinar dates and information will be posted on the Community Wildfire Defense Grant webpage. Recordings will be posted

same content; however, the webinar on Dec. 4 will be more focused on tribal applications. You can register for these webinars in advance at https://www.fs.usda.gov/managingland/fire/grants/cwdg.

Previous applications, including raw scores, can be viewed at cwdg. forestrygrants.org.

More information is available on the Community Wildfire Defense Grants webpage: https://www. fs.usda.gov/managing-land/fire/ grants/cwdg.

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 tollfree number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-

Applicants are strongly encouraged to develop proposals in conthe Forest Service to increase awareonce available. All webinars cover the Bird identification classes planned ahead of Christmas Bird Count

By Jean Zirnhelt

Weminuche Audubon Society The second of three bird identifi-

cation classes in preparation for Audubon's Christmas Bird Count will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 4, at 6 p.m.

This class, presented by Keith Bruno, Audubon Rockies community naturalist, will focus on perching songbirds.

House finch or Cassin's finch, song sparrow or house sparrow, downy or hairy woodpecker — learn how to tell the difference. Everyone is welcome to join us in these fun classes.

The third class, on raptors and protocols for the Christmas Bird Count, will take place on Dec. 12 at

Classes meet at the Community United Methodist Church on Lewis Street and are also available on Zoom. Look for the Zoom link on the events tab of our website, weminucheaudu-

Join a team to help us count all the birds that we identify in our 15-mile diameter count circle on Dec. 14. If you live within one of the count zones, you can also participate by

counting birds at your home feeders.

This is the 125th year of this annual census of birds done by people just like you. Data generated from the count is an important scientific tool used in understanding and predicting how birds respond to changes in our environment.

We welcome participation from all community members and visitors.

For further information and to sign up as a volunteer, email us at weminuche.audubon@gmail.com. This local count is organized by the Weminuche Audubon Society with the support of Audubon Rockies.



This Thanksgiving, PSMC shares its gratitude for our employees and this wonderful community.

The Primary Care Clinic and Outpatient Services will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 28. We will reopen on Friday, November 29th to serve you.

The Emergency Department is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

PAGOSA SPRINGS

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measurement devices in Colorado River Basin

Public Notices

2025 SJWCD Budget - For Public Comment

2023 Actual

2022 Actua

A Public Budget Hearing of San Juan Water Conservancy District is scheduled for Monday December 2, 4 p.m., at 46 Eaton Drive Suite 5, Pagosa Springs, Colorado 81147

1 Impact Fee Revenue

A draft budget is posted at www.sjwcd.org 2025 Budget Message *Pursuant to C.R. S. 29-1-103(1)*

The 2025 Budget for the San Juan Water Conservancy revenues to be similar to 2024

2021 Actua

legal expenses for water rights defense, oppos trans-mountain diversions, and opposition to the sale

2024 Budget

· continuation of support of forest health, stream plan

2025 Budge

2024 Forecast EOY

for Colorado water users within the Upper Colorado River Basin in need of a device to measure their water The Upper Colorado River Com-

Colorado Water Conservation Board

The Colorado Water Conservation

Board (CWCB) and the Colorado Di-

vision of Water Resources are excited

to announce \$7 million in funding

mission (UCRC) approved the \$7 million for Colorado on Oct. 28. The funding comes from the commission's federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Spend Plan. In total, the BIL provides \$8.3 billion to the Bureau of Reclamation for western water infrastructure.

The funding comes at a time when the Colorado Division of Water Resources is working on implementing new water measurement rules in the Colorado River, including divisions 4, 5, 6 and 7.

Rules for Division 6, which includes the Yampa, White and Green River basins, were signed on Jan. 16.

The Colorado Division of Water Resources is currently in the rulemaking process for Division 7, which includes the San Juan and upper Dolores River Basins.

Colorado to receive \$7 million for water

Division 4 covers the Gunnison River basin, San Miguel River basin, lower Dolores River basin and the Little Dolores River basin.

Division 5 covers the main stem of the Colorado River. The new rules provide clarity on

what an acceptable water measure- CWCB director. "Colorado is a longment device is and where they are standing leader in water measureneeded.

While Colorado statute gives the state and division engineers authority to require water users to install measuring devices, it does not include specifics on what are considered acceptable measuring methods. "Accurate measurement of diver-

sions is critical to protect Colorado's entitlement to water, including under the Colorado River Compact, and to ensure we are maximizing the beneficial use of the public's water resource," said Jason Ullmann, state engineer. "We appreciate this funding from the UCRC to help Colorado water users with the costs of installing a measurement device."

The Colorado Water Conservation Board will manage the \$7 million program and will hire an engineering consultant to assist with the ad-

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OUR GIVING TREE

at Chow Down Pet Supplies

now until Christmas

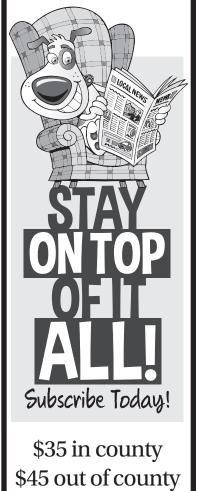
Amazon WishList

PagosaHumane.org | 970 - 264 - 5549

ministration. Details about program eligibility and applications will be announced in 2025.

"This new program is a testament to CWCB's mission to conserve, develop, protect and manage Colorado's water resources for both present and future generations," said Lauren Ris, ment and administration, and we aim to extend these benefits to as many West Slope users as possible, ensuring sustainable water management for years to come."

The CWCB expects to roll out a competitive application process that will allow water users in the Upper Colorado River Basin who are in need of measurement devices, such as flumes and weirs, to apply for funding over the next several years.



Subscribe at PagosaSUN.com or call (970) 264-2100

2 1,552 1,603 1,580 1,600 1,736 Senior Exemption 17,940 3 Misc and Grants 2,310 80,360 90,044 90,641 137,849 135,422 139,542 4 General Property Taxes 5 Specific Ownership 8,985 10,484 10,125 9,000 9,000 9,000 321 250 6 Current Tax Interes 255 210 7 Delinguent Tax Interest 42 80 8 Delinguent Tax 147 111 200 100 9 PILT 60 3,209 11,336 11,000 14,072 14,000 11 Personal Property Exemption 270 275 12 Other Revenue 7.598 TOTAL REVENUE 91,691 105,986 114,365 159,699 186,639 167,252 13 Settlement II 14 Engineering / Studies / Surveys 31,896 15,126 15,680 95,000 100,000 1,742 2,560 898 15 Due Diligence / Applicati 2,000 16 Land Acquisition 4,832 3,240 10,744 8,772 9,000 17 Water Rights Defense 5,000 General (CDOT, fence, etc.) 154 198 225 638 650 1,000 Cloud Seeding 1,000 1,080 1,100 1.080 1,150 750 850 850 21 Audit Expense 900 900 22 Board Expense 1,044 1,269 140 140 500 1,478 1,600 1,413 1,557 1,600 1,760 24 Legal / CORA 192 318 427 750 615 750 25 Office Supplies 5,603 6,000 6,090 6,120 6,370 6,420 26 Office Lease 6,335 10,355 Legal - District Genera 12,055 12,000 Publications / Website 32 232 250 682 375 29 15,237 11,640 11,610 12,000 10,160 Support Services 12,000 733 Telephone / Internet 734 734 800 700 800 31 Dues 515 886 1,000 585 1,500 325 625 647 2,500 1,500 32 Training 886 33 Travel 723 1,514 2,500 384 2,000 34 Contributions / Sponsorships 250 500 2,500 2,500 2,875 2,875 3,000 37 County Treasurer's Fee 2,472 2,750 2,777 5,000 4,352 4,800 Abatements 105 225 57 150 214 200 39 Election Expense 2,500 41 SJ Watershed Enhancemen 2,500 2.500 2.500 2,500 2.500 2.500 42 Forest Health Partnership 2.500 2.750 43 Grant Project Expense 20,250 17,940 2,310 69,314 81,113 96,463 188,020 81,31 187,215 10,000 4,863 TOTAL EXPENDITURES 69,314 81,113 96,463 198,020 81,311 197,215

17,902

-38,321

33,532

232,933

266,465

105,329

51,259

321,400

372,659

-29,963

7,296

335,400

342,696

Published November 28, 2024 in The Pagosa Springs SUN. (251447)

General Savings (Colorado Trust)

Operating Fund (TBK)

Total Cash Balance

COMBINED NOTICE - PUBLICATION CRS §38-38-103 FORECLOSURE SALE NO. 2024-007

To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with regard to the following described Deed of Trust: On September 24, 2024, the undersigned Public Trustee caused the Notice of Election and Demand relating to the Deed of Trust described below to be recorded in the County of Archuleta records. Original Grantor(s)

Jason Robert Dilley

Original Beneficiary(ies)
MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC. AS NOMINEE FOR LIBERTY HOME MORTGAGE CORPORATION, ITS SUCCESSORS

AND ASSIGNS Current Holder of Evidence of Debt SERVBANK, SB Date of Deed of Trust July 12, 2018

County of Recording Archuleta
Recording Date of Deed of Trust

July 12, 2018 Information (Reception No. and/or Book/ Page No.)

21804215 Original Principal Amount

\$178,703.00 Outstanding Principal Balance

\$155,509.73

Pursuant to CRS §38-38-101(4)(i), you are hereby notified that the covenants of the deed of trust have been violated as follows: Failure to pay principal and interest when due together with all other payments provided fo in the evidence of debt secured by the deed of trust and THE LIEN FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST

LOT 13, BLOCK 13, ASPEN SPRINGS SUBDIVI-SION NO. 3 AMENDED, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF FILED JULY 6, 1971, AS RECEPTION NO. 74567, IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK AND RE-CORDER, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO APN#: 569312204028

Purported common address: 383 Steep Place, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147.
THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCUMBERED BY THE LIEN OF THE DEED OF TRUST.

NOTICE OF SALE The current holder of the Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, described herein, has filed Notice of Election and Demand for sale as provided by law and

THEREFORE, Notice Is Hereby Given that I will at public auction, at 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, 01/23/2025, at the Archuleta County Treasurer's Office at 449 San Juan St. Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property and all interest of the said Grantor(s). Grantor(s)' heirs and assigns therein, for the purpose of paying the indebt-edness provided in said Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, plus attorneys' fees, the expenses of sale and other items allowed by law, and will issue

to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law. First Publication Last Publication 12/26/2024 IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO

DATE: 09/24/2024 Elsa P. White, Public Trustee in and for the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado By: Elsa P. White, Public Trustee

CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED;

The name, address, business telephone number and bar registration number of the attorney(s) representing the legal holder of the indebtedness is:

Alison L. Berry #34531
Janeway Law Firm, P.C. 9540 Maroon Circle, Suite 320, Englewood, CO 80112 (855) 263-9295 Attorney File # 24-032994

The Attorney above is acting as a debt collector and is attempting to collect a debt. Any information provided may be used for that purpose. ©Public Trustees' Association of Colorado Revised

Published November 28, December 5, 12, 19 and 26 2024 in The Pagosa Springs SUN. (248168)

ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO Court Address: 109 Harman Park Dr, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

Phone Number: (970) 264-8160

FRVIN ANGST

JAMES M. WARD; and ALL UNKNOWN PERSONS WHO CLAIM ANY INTEREST IN THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THIS ACTION. Submitting Attorney: Duke Eggleston, #24965 Eggleston Kosnik LLC

160 E. 12th St., Ste 7 Durango, CO 81301 Phone Number: (970) 403-1580 E-mail: deggleston@e-klaw.com

Case Number: 2024CV30061 SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION PLAINTIFF ERVIN ANGST

TO THE BELOW NAMED DEFENDANTS: JAMES M. WARD AND ALL UKNOWN PERSONS WHO CLAIM ANY INTEREST IN THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THIS ACTION YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to ap

pear and defend against the claims of the complaint filed with the court in this action by filing with the clerk of this court an answer or other response. You are required to file your answer or other response within 35 days after the service of this summons upon you Service of this summons shall be complete on the day of the last publication. A copy of the complaint may be obtained from the clerk of the court. If you fail to file your answer or other response to the

complaint in writing within 35 days after the date of the last publication, judgment by default may be rendered against you by the court for the relief demanded in the omplaint without further notice.

This is an action to quiet the title of the Plaintiff in and to the real property situate in Archuleta County, Colorado more particularly described as follows:

Lot 27 of Block 10 in ASPEN SPRINGS SUBDIVISION NO. 3, according to the plat thereof filed for record July 6, 1971 as Reception No. 74567, being an Amendment of the plat of Aspen Springs Ranch Subdivision No. 3 filed for record on April 9, 1971 as Reception No. 74284 Respectfully Submitted this 12th day of November

Published in The Pagosa Sun First Publication: November 21, 2024 Last Publication: December 19, 2024 Eggleston Kosnik LLC

/s/ Duke Eggleston Duke Eggleston, #24965 160 E. 12th St., Ste 7 (970) 403-1580 Published November 21, 28 and December 5, 12, & 19,

2024 The Pagosa Springs SUN. (251023) DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, STATE OF

CIVIL ACTION NO. 2023CV030086 DIVISION NO. 1 INITIAL COMBINED NOTICE OF SHERIFFS' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND RIGHT TO CURE AND

REDEEM Plaintiff, Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association

Defendant, AARON BOWMAN

SHERIFF SALE NUMBER 2024-02 This is to advise you that a Sheriff sale proceeding has

been commenced through the office of the undersigned Sheriff pursuant to a Court Order and Decree dated May 3, 2024, and C.R.S. 38-38-101 et seq., by Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association, the current holder of a lien recorded on August 25, 2021 at Rec. No 22106393, in the records of the Clerk and Recorder of the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado. The judicial foreclosure is based on a default under the Declaration of Restrictions Pagosa, recorded on June 24, 1970 at Reception No. 73297 in the records of the Clerk and Recorder of the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado The Declaration and notices, as recorded, establish a

lien for the benefit of Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association. Description of property to be foreclosed: Regarding: Lot 361, Pagosa Highlands Estates according to the plat thereof recorded February 7, 1972 at Reception No. 75409, and as recorded in Book 156 Page 60, in the office of the Clerk and Recorder, Archuleta

County, Colorado Also known as: 64 Durango Ct, Pagosa Springs, CO

81147 NOTICE OF SALE

You and each of you are hereby notified that a Sheriff's Sale of the referenced property is to be conducted by the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office, Pagosa Springs, Colorado at 10:00 o'clock a.m., on the 6th day of January 2025, at 85 Harman Park Drive, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147; phone number (970) 264-8430. At which

sale, the above described real property and improve

ments thereon will be sold to the highest bidder for

cash or certified funds, for the purpose of paying the judgment amount entered herein, and will deliver to the purchaser a Certificate of purchase, as provided by law. Plaintiff makes no warranty relating to title, possession. or quiet enjoyment in and to said real property in con nection with this sale.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE LIEN BEING FORE-CLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN ON THE SUB-JECT PROPERTY. First Publication: November 7, 2024

Last Publication: December 5, 2024 Published In: The Pagosa Springs SUN
The name, address and telephone number of each of the attorneys representing the holder of the evidence of the debt is as follows: ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF ORTEN CAVANAGH HOLMES & HUNT, LLC

Denver, CO 80202 Denver, CO 80202 DATED this 31 day of October 2024. Mike LeRoux, Sheriff

1445 Market Street, Suite 350

Archuleta County, Colorado Published November 7, 14, 21, 28 and December 5, 2024 in The Pagosa Springs SUN. (250183)

FOR BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS HEARING ON De-

Katherine Solbert, representing OUR COMMUNITY EATS, has requested a GENERAL VARIANCE regarding CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL FOR A CONDITION-AL USE PERMIT, on LOT 25Z in PAGOSA VILLAGE SERVICE COMMERCIAL SUBDIVISION, LOT 25Z Sec: 20 Twn: 35 Rng: 2W, at 197 Navajo Trail Drive, Pagosa Springs, CO (PL-VAR-24-182). The property is zoned COMMERCIAL (C).

Comments regarding this case may be submitted to Archuleta County Development Services-Planning Department, P.O. Box 1507, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147-1507, telephone: (970) 264-1390 or to oodell@archuletacounty.org prior to the public hearing by the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners on December 17, 2024, at 1:30 p.m. in the County Commissioners Meeting Room, 398 Lewis Street, Pagosa Springs and via Zoom Link. Public comment will be taken at the meeting in person only.

Published November 28 and December 12, 2024 in The Pagosa Springs SUN. (251650)

LPEA is selling used poles to the public. LPEA will help cut the poles to length as needed and will load approved vehicles by appointment on Fridays. Hold Harmless agreements will need to be signed prior to purchase. Each pole is \$50 regardless of length. Also available are wooden wire spools of various sizes. FREE. Please contact Kathryn Graham via e-mail at kgraham@lpea.coop to coordinate. Published November 28 and December 12, 2024 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (251443)

NOTICE OF PURCHASE OF PROPERTY AT TAX LIEN SALE AND OF APPLICATION FOR ISSUANCE OF TREASURER'S DEED

To Every Person in Actual Possession or Occupancy of the hereinafter Described Land, Lot or Premises, and to the Person in Whose Name the same was Taxed or Specially Assessed, and to all Persons having Interest of Title of Record in or to the said Premises and To Whom It May Concern, and more especially to: SONNY R. COWAN

% AMY DAWN COWAN 926 W 7TH STREET LEAVENWORTH, KS 66048-3244 You and each of you are hereby notified that on the 8th day of November 2010, the then County Treasurer of Archuleta County, in the State of Colorado, sold at public tax lien sale to FRANK E WITHROW III the

following described property situate in the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado, to-wit: All of lot numbered One Hundred and Ninety five (195) in Aspen Springs Subdivision numbered Six (6) According to the amended plat of the said subdivision filed for record in the office of the County Clerk and Recorder of Archuleta County, Colorado, under reception No. 74689.

Account Number: R015815 Schedule Number: 589317101006 Tax Sale Certificate Number: 2010-01242 and said County Treasurer issued a certificate of purchase therefore to FRANK E WITHROW III.

That said tax lien sale was made to satisfy the delinquent property (and special assessment) taxes assessed against said property for the year 2009; That said property was taxed or specially assessed in the name(s) of SONNY R. COWAN for said year 2009; That said FRANK E WITHROW III on the 15th day of October 2024, the present holder of said certificate (who) has made request upon the Treasurer of said

County for a deed to said property; That a Treasurer's Deed will be issued for said property to FRANK E WITHROW III on the 26th day of March 2025, unless the same has been redeemed; Said property may be redeemed from said sale at any time prior to the actual execution of said Treasurer's

Deed. Witness my hand this 28th day of October 2024

The Archuleta County Treasurer's department will be holding a live Public Auction for the property described above on March 12, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at the Treasurer's Office 449 San Juan Street, Pagosa Springs CO. If interested, please contact our office for details about the requirements to participate in this auction. Published November 14, 21 and 28, 2024 in The

Pagosa Springs SUN. (250044)

NOTICE OF PURCHASE OF PROPERTY AT TAX LIEN SALE AND OF APPLICATION FOR ISSUANCE

OF TREASURER'S DEED To Every Person in Actual Possession or Occupancy of the hereinafter Described Land. Lot or Premises, and to the Person in Whose Name the same was Taxed or Specially Assessed, and to all Persons having Interest of Title of Record in or to the said Premises and To

Whom It May Concern, and more especially to: CLAUDIA ASBURY 33 NORTH FOREST AVE ORLANDO, FL 32803 CLEVE ASBURY 33 NORTH FOREST AVE ORLANDO, FL 32803 JOHNSON, SANDRA ASBURY 33 NORTH FOREST AVE

ORLANDO, FL 32803 You and each of you are hereby notified that on the 8th day of November 2010, the then County Treasurer of Archuleta County, in the State of Colorado, sold at public tax lien sale to FRANK E WITHROW III the following described property situate in the County of

Archuleta, State of Colorado, to-wit: All of lot numbered two hundred forty two (242) in Aspen Springs Subdivision numbered Six (6), According to the amended plat of the said subdivision filed for record in the office of the County Clerk and Recorder of Archuleta County, Colorado, under reception No. 74689.

Account Number: R015684 Schedule Number: 589316306005 Tax Sale Certificate Number: 2010-01241 and said County Treasurer issued a certificate of purchase therefore to FRANK E WITHROW III.

That said tax lien sale was made to satisfy the delinquent property (and special assessment) taxes assessed against said property for the year 2009; That said property was taxed or specially assessed in the name(s) of JOHNSON, SANDRA ASBURY and CLAUDIA ASBURY and CLEVE ASBURY for said

vear 2009: That said FRANK E WITHROW III on the 15th day of October 2024, the present holder of said certificate (who) has made request upon the Treasurer of said County for a deed to said property;

That a Treasurer's Deed will be issued for said property to FRANK E WITHROW III on the 26th day of March 2025, unless the same has been redeemed; Said property may be redeemed from said sale at any time prior to the actual execution of said Treasurer's Deed.

Witness my hand this 28th day of October 2024

The Archuleta County Treasurer's department will be holding a live Public Auction for the property described above on March 12, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at the Treasurer's Office 449 San Juan Street, Pagosa Springs CO. If interested, please contact our office for details about the requirements to participate in this auction

Published November 14, 21 and 28, 2024 in The Pagosa Springs SUN. (250059)

NOTICE OF PURCHASE OF PROPERTY AT TAX LIEN SALE AND OF APPLICATION FOR ISSUANCE OF TREASURER'S DEED

To Every Person in Actual Possession or Occupancy of reinafter Described Land, Lot or Premises, and to the Person in Whose Name the same was Taxed or Specially Assessed, and to all Persons having Interest of Title of Record in or to the said Premises and To Whom It May Concern, and more especially to:

MEADPROP UNITS LLC 1133 N. 18TH STREET GRAND JUNCTION, CO 81501 You and each of you are hereby notified that on the 8th day of November 2010, the then County Treasurer of Archuleta County, in the State of Colorado, sold at public tax lien sale to FRANK E WITHROW III the **Public Notices**

following described property situate in the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado, to-wit Lot 47, Lakewood Village, according to the plat thereof filed April 30, 1979, as Reception No. 94867. in the office of the Clerk and Recorder, Archuleta County, Colorado.

Account Number: R010312 Schedule Number: 569919434034 Tax Sale Certificate Number: 2010-01235 and said County Treasurer issued a certificate of purchase therefore to FRANK E WITHROW III. That said tax lien sale was made to satisfy the delinquent property (and special assessment) taxes assessed against said property for the year 2009; That said property was taxed or specially assessed in the name(s) of MEADPROP UNITS LLC for said

year 2009; That said FRANK E WITHROW III on the 15th day of October 2024, the present holder of said certificate (who) has made request upon the Treasurer of said

County for a deed to said property; That a Treasurer's Deed will be issued for said property to FRANK E WITHROW III on the 26th day of March 2025, unless the same has been redeemed: Said property may be redeemed from said sale at any time prior to the actual execution of said Treasurer's

Deed.

Witness my hand this 28th day of October 2024

Pagosa Springs SUN. (250064)

Elsa P. White The Archuleta County Treasurer's department will be holding a live Public Auction for the property described above on March 12, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at the Treasurer's Office 449 San Juan Street, Pagosa Springs, CO. If interested, please contact our office for details about the requirements to participate in this auction Published November 14, 21 and 28, 2024 in The

NOTICE OF PURCHASE OF PROPERTY AT TAX LIEN SALE AND OF APPLICATION FOR ISSUANCE OF TREASURER'S DEED

To Every Person in Actual Possession or Occupancy of the hereinafter Described Land, Lot or Premises, and to the Person in Whose Name the same was Taxed or ally Assessed, and to all Persons having Interest of Title of Record in or to the said Premises and To Whom It May Concern, and more especially to:
ALLEN KUDERCA

P O BOX 1704 PAGOSA SPRINGS, CO 81147 Carla K Kruger % Allen J Kuderca P O Box 1704

PAGOSA SPRINGS, CO 81147 You and each of you are hereby notified that on the 8th day of November 2010, the then County Treasurer of Archuleta County, in the State of Colorado, sold at public tax lien sale to FRANK E WITHROW III the following described property situate in the County of

Archuleta, State of Colorado, to-wit: Lot 595, Twincreek Village, according to the plat thereof filed November 5, 1973, as Reception No. 78738, in the office of the Clerk and Recorder. Archuleta County, Colorado.

Account Number: R004918 Schedule Number: 569907113065 Tax Sale Certificate Number: 2010-01233 and said County Treasurer issued a certificate of purchase therefore to FRANK E WITHROW III. That said tax lien sale was made to satisfy the delinquent property (and special assessment) taxes assessed against said property for the year 2009; That said property was taxed or specially assessed in the name(s) of ALLEN KUDERCA and Carla K Kruger % Allen J Kuderca for said year 2009:

That said FRANK E WITHROW III on the 15th day of October 2024, the present holder of said certificate (who) has made request upon the Treasurer of said County for a deed to said property; That a Treasurer's Deed will be issued for said

operty to FRANK E WITHROW III on the 26th day of March 2025, unless the same has been redeemed; Said property may be redeemed from said sale at any time prior to the actual execution of said Treasurer's Deed.

Witness my hand this 28th day of October 2024 Elsa P. White

The Archuleta County Treasurer's department will be holding a live Public Auction for the property described above on March 12, 2025, at 10:00 a m, at the Treaurer's Office 449 San Juan Street, Pagosa Springs, CO. If interested, please contact our office for details about the requirements to participate in this auction. Published November 14, 21 and 28, 2024 in *The*

Pagosa Springs SUN. (250070)

NOTICE OF PURCHASE OF PROPERTY AT TAX LIEN SALE AND OF APPLICATION FOR ISSUANCE OF TREASURER'S DEED

To Every Person in Actual Possession or Occupancy of the hereinafter Described Land, Lot or Premises, and to the Person in Whose Name the same was Taxed or Specially Assessed, and to all Persons having Interest of Title of Record in or to the said Premises and To Whom It May Concern, and more especially to: DELDEV, INC 1133 N. 18TH STREET

GRAND JUNCTION, CO 81501 You and each of you are hereby notified that on the 8th day of November 2010, the then County Treasurer of Archuleta County, in the State of Colorado, sold at public tax lien sale to FRANK E WITHROW III the following described property situate in the County of

Archuleta, State of Colorado, to-wit: Lot 385-386, Pagosa Trails, according to the plat thereof filed September 13, 1971, as reception No. 74885, in the office of the Clerk and Recorder,

Archuleta County, Colorado. Account Number: R004248 Schedule Number: 569524406024 Tax Sale Certificate Number: 2010-01230 and said County Treasurer issued a certificate of purchase therefore to FRANK E WITHROW III. That said tax lien sale was made to satisfy the delinquent property (and special assessment) taxes assessed against said property for the year 2009; That said property was taxed or specially assessed in the name(s) of DELDEV, INC for said year 2009; That said FRANK E WITHROW III on the 15th day of October 2024, the present holder of said certificate (who) has made request upon the Treasurer of said

County for a deed to said property: That a Treasurer's Deed will be issued for said property to FRANK E WITHROW III on the 26th day of March 2025, unless the same has been redeemed: Said property may be redeemed from said sale at any time prior to the actual execution of said Treasurer's

Deed. Witness my hand this 28th day of October 2024

Elsa P. White The Archuleta County Treasurer's department will be holding a live Public Auction for the property described above on March 12, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at the Treasurer's Office 449 San Juan Street, Pagosa Springs, CO. If interested, please contact our office for details about the requirements to participate in this auction.

Published November 14, 21 and 28, 2024 in The Pagosa Springs SUN. (250073)

NOTICE OF PURCHASE OF PROPERTY AT TAX LIEN SALE AND OF APPLICATION FOR ISSUANCE OF TREASURER'S DEED

To Every Person in Actual Possession or Occupancy of the hereinafter Described Land, Lot or Premises, and to the Person in Whose Name the same was Taxed or ally Assessed, and to all Persons having Interest of Title of Record in or to the said Premises and To Whom It May Concern, and more especially to: P.O. BOX 2283

PAGOSA SPRINGS, CO 81147 You and each of you are hereby notified that on the 8th day of November 2010, the then County Treasurer of Archuleta County, in the State of Colorado, sold at public tax lien sale to FRANK E WITHROW III the ving described property situate in the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado, to-wit ASPEN SPRINGS SUB 2 BIK 16 Lot 29, 3-34-2W.

Account Number: R002989

Schedule Number: 569303102020

Tax Sale Certificate Number: 2010-01225 and said County Treasurer issued a certificate of purchase therefore to FRANK E WITHROW III.
That said tax lien sale was made to satisfy the delinquent property (and special assessment) taxes assessed against said property for the year 2009; That said property was taxed or specially assessed in the name(s) of MELISSA R. MCPEAK for said year

That said FRANK E WITHROW III on the 15th day of October 2024, the present holder of said certificate (who) has made request upon the Treasurer of said County for a deed to said property;
That a Treasurer's Deed will be issued for said property to FRANK E WITHROW III on the 26th day of

March 2025, unless the same has been redeemed; Said property may be redeemed from said sale at any time prior to the actual execution of said Treasurer's Witness my hand this 28th day of October 2024 The Archuleta County Treasurer's department will be holding a live Public Auction for the property described above on March 12, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at the Trea-

surer's Office 449 San Juan Street, Pagosa Springs

about the requirements to participate in this auction (970) 264-8325.

Published November 14, 21 and 28, 2024 in The Pagosa Springs SUN. (250075)

NOTICE OF PURCHASE OF PROPERTY AT TAX LIEN SALE AND OF APPLICATION FOR ISSUANCE OF TREASURER'S DEED

To Every Person in Actual Possession or Occupancy of he hereinafter Described Land, Lot or Premises, and to the Person in Whose Name the same was Taxed or Specially Assessed, and to all Persons having Interest of Title of Record in or to the said Premises and To Whom It May Concern, and more especially to:

CARL KRAUTER
% CHRISTINE DAVIS 217 SIESTA COLIBT GRANBURY, TX 76048-4315 You and each of you are hereby notified that on the

8th day of November 2010, the then County Treasure of Archuleta County, in the State of Colorado, sold at public tax lien sale to FRANK F WITHROW III the following described property situate in the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado, to-wit: ASPEN SPRINGS SUBDIVISION, UNIT 2, BLOCK

15, Lot # 46, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO

Account Number: R002745 Schedule Number: 569302202149 Tax Sale Certificate Number: 2010-01222 and said County Treasurer issued a certificate of purchase therefore to FRANK E WITHROW III. That said tax lien sale was made to satisfy the delinquent property (and special assessment) taxes

assessed against said property for the year 2009; That said property was taxed or specially assessed in the name(s) of CARL KRAUTER for said year 2009; That said FRANK E WITHROW III on the 15th day of October 2024, the present holder of said certificate (who) has made request upon the Treasurer of said County for a deed to said property; That a Treasurer's Deed will be issued for said

property to FRANK E WITHROW III on the 26th day of March 2025, unless the same has been redeemed; Said property may be redeemed from said sale at any time prior to the actual execution of said Treasurer's

Deed. Witness my hand this 28th day of October 2024

The Archuleta County Treasurer's department will be holding a live Public Auction for the property described above on March 12, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at the Treasurer's Office 449 San Juan Street, Pagosa Springs, CO. If interested, please contact our office for details about the requirements to participate in this auction.

Published November 14, 21 and 28, 2024 in The Pagosa Springs SUN. (250077)

PUBLIC NOTICE The Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation (PSCDC) is committed to enhancing our community's growth and economic sustainability through several strategic initiatives. One key initiative is providing affordable housing to ensure local workers have access to quality, affordable homes near their places of employment, contributing to the overall vitality of our

community. As part of this initiative. PSCDC will host the second Housing Opportunity Process for Phase 1 of the Workforce Housing Project in the Trails and Chris Mountain

Event Details PSCDC Housing Opportunity Process December 10, 2024

5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Ross Aragon Community Center 451 Hot Springs Blvd, Pagosa Springs CO 81147 During this public event, PSCDC will draw up to 8 qualified homebuyers from the pool of pre-approved applicants who can select one of our newly built affordable homes. A neutral party will draw the names to ensure fairness. Each household drawn will have the opportunity to select one of the available homes to purchase.

Important Information To participate, potential homebuvers must first apply with PSCDC, obtain pre-qualification from a bank, and receive verification of Area Median Income (AMI) with the Archuleta County Housing Authority. Homebuyers must be present or have a representa-

tive present at the drawing.

• Homebuyers drawn will have 5 minutes to make their home selection. If no desired home is available, the homebuyer(s) will be placed on a waiting list in the order drawn Homebuver applications for 2024-2025 builds will

remain open! Interested homebuyers are encouraged to apply. For more information and to submit an application, please visit: https://pagosaspringscdc.org/workforce-housing/ or contact Emily Lashbrooke at (970) 264-3023 or Emily@pagosaspringscdc.org. Published November 28 and December 5, 2024 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (251420)

> PUBLIC NOTICE AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

poration (PSCDC) plans to submit a Prop 123 Grant application to the State of Colorado, Department of Local Affairs (DOLA). Prop 123 provides funds for municipalities, counties, or tribes that have committed to increasing their affordable housing stock above a base line amount and jurisdictions that have state-accepted commitment filings to increase affordable housing The application being considered would request up to \$675,000 for Phase 2 of the Chris Mountain II Workforce Housing Project. It is estimated that approximate ly 100% of the funds would benefit low and moderateincome persons. Permanent involuntary displacement of neighborhood persons or businesses is not antici-pated. Should it later become necessary to consider such displacement, alternatives will be examined to minimize the displacement. If no feasible alternatives exist, required/reasonable benefits will be provided to those displaced to mitigate adverse effects and hard-

ships. Any low- and moderate-income housing which is demolished or converted will be replaced. compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals needing special accommodations (including auxiliary communicative aids and services) during these hearings should notify Emily Lashbrooke in person at 46 Faton Drive, Suite 4, Pagosa Springs, CO. 81147 or by mail at PO Box 1183, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 or by email at Emily@pagosaspringscdc.org a minimum of 3 days prior to a scheduled hearing so that

appropriate aids can be made available. Please contact Emily Lashbrooke in person at 46 Faton Drive, Suite 4, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 or by mail at PO Box 1183, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 or Emily@ pagosaspringscdc.org to request a public hearing for

citizen views and questions related to: · The proposed Prop 123 application for this proj-

Community development and housing needs, including the needs for low- and moderate-income persons, as well as other needs in the community that might be addressed through the Prop 123 pro

• The performance of the PSCDC in carrying out its unity development responsibilities; and Potential historical effects.

A copy of the application(s) as submitted to the State will be available for public review at 46 Eaton Drive, Suite 4, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. Written comments are also welcome and must be received by November 28, 2024, in writing to PO Box 1183, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 or Emily@pagosaspringscdc.org. Oral and written comments will be considered in deciding whether to submit an application for the proposed project. Written summary information will be available at 46 Eaton Drive, Suite 4, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 until November, 2024, on any Prop 123 application(s) the PSCDC intends to submit to the

Information and records regarding the PSCDC proposed and past use of Prop 123 funds are available at 46 Eaton Drive, Suite 4, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 Published November 21 & 28, 2024 in The Pagosa Springs SUN. (251305)

The Town of Pagosa Springs has received an application for "Final Major Design Review" for the Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library located at 811 San Juan Street. The applicant is proposing a building expansion and site modifications.

The Design Review Board will conduct a public hearing on Tuesday, December 10, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. to consider the Final Major Design Review Application, in person at 551 Hot Springs Blvd and available for remote attendance via the Zoom meeting platform. Public comment will be taken in person and over Zoom. To access the meeting agendas and staff reports, click the round Minutes and Agendas tab located along the bottom of the photo on the Town's website home page at pagosasprings.co.gov. You may also view the application at mypagosa.org/proposed-development-projects. We encourage interested parties to contact the Planning Division prior to the public hearing dates, with any questions via phone at (970) 585-8636 or email at ktunnell@pagosasprings.co.gov. Written comments received 7 days prior to the meeting or public hearing will be forwarded to the Design Review Board for their consideration. Public comments will be accepted at the public hearing.

Published November 28, 2024 in *The Pagosa Springs* SUN. (251668)

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-002 AN ORDINANCE FOR THE REGULATION OF NOXIOUS WEEDS BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ARCHULETA, COUNTY, COLORADO, REPEALING ORDINANCES IN CON-FLICT THEREWITH; AND PROVIDING PENALTIES

FOR VIOLATION THEREOF.
WHEREAS, in Archuleta County, Colorado ("County"), noxious weeds are, or may in the future be detrimenta to the public health, safety, welfare, and comfort of the citizens of Archuleta County: and.

WHEREAS, noxious weeds have been demonstrated to bring harm to agriculture, public health, transportation, irrigation, wildlife, natural resources, and the environment. Noxious weeds constitute a present threat to the continued economic and environmental value of lands and to the natural resources of Archuleta County;

WHEREAS, the Colorado Noxious Weed Act ("CNWA"). C.R.S. § 35-5.5-101 et. seq, requires the managemen of all noxious weeds on public and private land; and, WHEREAS, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners ("Board") is charged with providing a comprehensive mechanism for identifying, abating, and compelling the integrated management and control of noxious weeds; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to the CNWA, the Board has the authority to adopt ordinances, including compelling and providing for the removal of noxious weeds within unincorporated Archuleta County; and,

WHEREAS, The Board approved and adopted an Amended and Restated Noxious Weed Ordinance through Ordinance 20-2018 on March 15, 2022; and, WHEREAS. The Board desires to rescind the Ordinance 20-2018 and adopt this Archuleta County Noxious Weeds Ordinance in its stead. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ARCHU-

LETA COUNTY, COLORADO AS FOLLOWS: This Ordinance shall be titled the "Archuleta County Noxious Weeds Ordinance". This Ordinance shall apply to all surface real property ("Land") within the unincorporated territory of Archuleta

County, Colorado,

proved by the Board.

 Every Owner and Occupant of real property within unincorporated Archuleta County is required to manage Noxious Weeds on their Land and is subject to the requirements of the CNWA and this Ordinance. When possible, the County, through the Weed and Pest Supervisor, shall consult with the Owner or Occupant in the development of a management plan for the

abatement of Noxious Weeds on their Land. I. Definitions 1. "Archuleta County Weed Management Plan" ("County Weed Management Plan") means the then current guide for Noxious Weed control, which was developed by the Archuleta County Weed Advisory Board and ap-

"Weed and Pest Supervisor" as used herein means that County employee responsible for enforcement of this Ordinance or their designee or other authorized representative of the County.

3. "Weed Management Plan" means the guide for Noxious Weed control developed by an Owner or Occupant that seeks methods that are least environmentally dam-

aging and most practical and economically reasonable

Methods of control include cultural, mechanical, biological, and chemical controls to eradicate and manage Noxious Weeds. 4. "Management" means any activity that prevents a plant from establishing, reproducing, or dispersing itself. Management objectives may include eradication, containment, suppression, and/or restoration, as those terms are defined in the CNWA.

"Noxious Weed" means an alien plant or parts of an alien plant that has been designated by rule as being noxious or has been declared a noxious weed by the Archuleta County Local Weed Advisory Board via the County Weed Management Plan. Noxious weeds bring harm to agriculture, public health, transportation, irrigation, wildlife, natural resources, and/or the environment. 6. "Person" or "Occupant" means an individual, partner-ship, corporation, association, or federal, state, or local government or agency thereof, owning, occupying or controlling any land, easement, or right-of-way, including any city, county, state, or federally owned and controlled highway, drainage or irrigation ditch, spoil bank, borrow pit, gas and oil pipeline, high voltage electrical transmission line, or right-of-way for a canal or lateral.
7. "Owner" means the surface owner of record of Fed-

eral, state, county, municipal, or private land. The County also adopts herein by reference the terms defined by the CNWA. II. Inspection 1. All Land within unincorporated Archuleta County is

subject to inspection for Noxious Weeds by the Weed

and Pest Supervisor or their designee or other authorized representative, and if necessary, to enforcement pursuant to this Ordinance, when at least one of the a. The Owner or Occupant has requested the inspec-

b. A neighboring landowner or occupant has reported

suspected Noxious Weeds: or.

c. The Weed and Pest Supervisor or another authorized agent of the County has made a visual observation from a public right-of-way or area and has reason to believe at Noxious Weeds exist. 2. Notice of Inspection. a. When possible, inspections will be scheduled and

conducted with the permission of the Owner or Occu-

b. If verbal or written permission to inspect the Land by

the Owner or Occupant is not obtained, no entry upon the Land will occur until the County has attempted to notify the Owner and Occupant that such inspection is needed. Notice shall be by certified mail. c. The County will make reasonable efforts to notify all Owners and Occupants of Land; however, nothing shall require the County to send an inspection notification or

any other notification required under this Ordinance to

all Owners or Occupants of Land. Notice to at least one Owner or Occupant is sufficient. Inspection Warrant, If the Owner or Occupant does not respond to a Notice of Inspection within ten (10) days from the date of the Notice, or if the Owner or Occupant denies access for inspection, the Weed and Pest Supervisor may seek an inspection warrant issued by a county or district court having jurisdiction over the Land, pursuant to C.R.S. §§ 35-5.5-108.5(5)(b) and 109(1-2), as they may be amended from time to time. No Owner or Occupant shall deny access to the authorized agent of the County in possession of an inspection warrant. If the Owner or Occupant is not present at the time of the inspection as provided in the warrant, the County may proceed with the inspection and shall post a copy of the warrant on the Land at the

time of the inspection. 5. An Owner shall notify any Occupant of Land subject to inspection and enforcement under this Ordinance of all notices of inspection and eradication efforts as soon

III. Abatement Noxious Weed Declared, If, after inspecting the Land. Noxious Weeds are determined to exist then the follow ing abatement procedures shall be followed.

2. Notice. A written Notice of Violation ("NOV") that documented Noxious Weeds exists shall be mailed, by certified mail, to the Owner or Occupant. Service Defect Not Fatal. Failure or refusal of the Owner or Occupant to receive the NOV does not affect the right of the County to seek abatement, inspection

prosecution, or any other remedy. 4. Contents of Notice. The NOV shall, at a minimum. contain the following: a. A description of the Noxious Weeds b. Advise the Owner or Occupant to manage the Noxious Weeds and/or identify eradication as the required

management objective. Specify the best available methods of integrated management or eradication. d. Advise the Owner or Occupant to commence management or eradication efforts within a specified period

of time or upon a specified condition.
e. A statement that the recipient of the NOV may appeal the NOV and a description of how to appeal the NOV. 5. Within ten (10) days after the County mails the NOV, the Owner or Occupant shall comply with the terms of the NOV or submit to the County an acceptable management plan and schedule for the completion of the

specified management objective.

6. Once an NOV has been sent or a final management plan established, the Weed and Pest Supervisor shall have the right to perform routine inspections of the property during regular County business hours, upon giving reasonable prior notice to the Owner or Occupant, until the level of management specified in the management plan is achieved. 7. Once the Weed and Pest Supervisor determines that the required level of management has been achieved,

the County shall notify the Owner or Occupant of that fact, and that compliance with the management plan is no longer required, although it may be encouraged. IV. Appeal Appeal to Weed and Pest Supervisor. The Owner or Occupant, with the written authority of the Owner, may

contest the NOV by filing an appeal in writing with the Weed and Pest Supervisor. 2. Service of Appeal to Weed and Pest Supervisor, All appeals must be either hand-delivered to the Archuleta County Weed and Pest Department or sent to that office by Certified Mail, within ten (10) days following the mail-

3. Determination of Appeal to Weed and Pest Supervisor. The Weed and Pest Supervisor shall provide a written response to any appeal within ten (10) days after receipt. The written response shall be served on the

ing, hand-delivery, or posting of the NOV.

appealing party via regular mail or e-mail if an e-mail address is provided.

4. The response by the Weed and Pest Supervisor may include, but is not limited to, based upon a proposed abatement plan, an extension of the period allowed for abatement or may present a counter-proposal to the Owner to secure abatement

V. Arbitration 1. Arbitration, If an Owner of Occupant is not satisfied with the decision of the Weed and Pest Supervisor, the Owner or Occupant, with written authority of the Owner may request arbitration to determine the final manage ment plan to be implemented as a result of an NOV. No other issue may be arbitrated. If arbitration is request ed, the following procedures will be followed.

a. All requests for arbitration must be either hand-deliv ered to the Archuleta County Weed and Pest Department or sent to that office by Certified Mail, within ten (10) days following the determination of appeal by the Weed and Pest Supervisor.

b. The County shall select an arbitration panel com prised of a weed management specialist or weed scientist, a landowner of land in the county similar to the subject Land, and a third-panel member chosen by agreement of the first two panel members.

c. The Owner or Occupant shall be entitled to challenge any one member of the panel, and in that event, the County shall name a new panel member from the same category. The Owner or Occupant shall be entitled to only one such challenge. d. If the Owner or Occupant chooses to exercise the

right to challenge any one of the proposed arbitration members, the Owner or Occupant shall do so by filing a written challenge with the Weed and Pest Supervisor no later than three (3) business days after written notice of the proposed panel is sent to the Owner or Occupant e. The challenge shall specify the member being challenged and the reason for the challenge, and shall provide the names, addresses and telephone number(s) of two proposed panel members to substitute for the challenged member who meets the required qualifications for that member. The County may select one of the proposed members unless the County believes neither

s sufficiently qualified or objective. f. The County shall convene the arbitration panel at the soonest possible date. Disclosures, presentation of evidence, and rules of procedure shall be as established

by the panel. g. The arbitration panel shall render its decision on the required management plan within ten (10) days after the final date on which the panel convenes, unless all parties agree to a longer time.

2. Stay of Enforcement. No further legal action shall be

taken regarding the NOV during any period between the filing of an appeal and/or request for arbitration and service of the determination of the appeal or arbitration The decision of the arbitration panel shall be final.

The arbitration panel may assess all costs associated with convening the arbitration panel to the Owner or VI. Failure to Comply with Notice of Violation

1. Remedies of Law. If an Owner or Occupant fails to respond or comply with an NOV, or otherwise comply with the CNWA and/or this Ordinance, the County may seek any and all available remedies under the law or equity to abate the conditions which constitute a viola-

tion. Remedies include, but are not limited to:

35-5.5-113, as amended from time to time.

upon receipt of a sworn statement.

transmitted to the County treasurer.

VII. General Provisions.

Noxious Weeds.

a. Provide for and compel or complete the management and/or eradication of the Noxious Weeds at such time, upon such notice, and in such manner consistent with achieving the management objective as the County deems appropriate. b. Declare the Noxious Weeds to be a public nuisance and upon such declaration take such action, including management, removal, and destruction as the County in its discretion deems necessary, pursuant to C.R.S. §

from time to time. A civil penalty shall be no less than five hundred dollars and no more than one thousand dollars. Each day the violation continues is a separate offense and subject to a civil penalty of no more than

c. Seek civil penalties through an action in County Court, pursuant to C.R.S. § 35-5.5-118.5, as amended

d. Seek prosecution as a civil infraction pursuant to the CNWA and C.R.S. §§ 30-15-402 and 410, as amended from time to time.

i. Summons and Complaint. A summons and complaint may be issued by the County Sheriff or his deputies

ii. Fine. Violation(s) of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be punishable by a fine of up to one thousand dollars (\$1000) per day. iii. How Paid. All fines, inspection fees, costs and for-feitures (except surcharges) for the violation of these regulations shall be paid to the Treasurer of Archuleta County not later than thirty (30) days after imposition. e Seek an injunction mandamus abatement or other

abate, or remove an ongoing violation 2. Each day that a violation continues is a separate of-3. Except for any surcharges or court costs collected by a court, any fines, fees, penalties, or costs must be

4. If the County provides for and completes the eradica-

tion of the Noxious Weeds, the County may assess the

appropriate action or proceeding to prevent, enjoin

whole cost of the eradication, including administration, inspection, eradication, and other incidental costs, upon the affected land pursuant to C.R.S. §§ 35-5.5-108.5(9) (a)(II) and 109(5)(a), as amended from time to time 5. Abandonment, Vacancy not a Defense. It shall not be a defense to any enforcement action that the property is vacant, abandoned, foreclosed, under contract, boarded up, or otherwise enclosed, unoccupied, or en-

mailed shall be the third business day after the date on which the notification is mailed or the date of actual posting or hand delivery. 2. Supplement to Existing Law. The remedies provided for herein are supplemental and complementary to all of the provisions of State and Federal law, and nothing herein shall be read, interpreted, or construed in any manner to limit any existing right or authority of the County to abate and compel removal of any and all

1. For purposes of this Ordinance, the date of receipt

3. Cumulative. The remedies provided shall be cumulative and in addition to any other remedies, which may be available to the County, including but not limited to injunctive actions. Nothing contained herein shall be construed to preclude the Board from seeking such other remedies in addition to, or in lieu of, the remedies herein specified. 4. The Board of County Commissioners hereby finds,

necessary for the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Archuleta County, Colorado. 5. Severability. If any section, subsection, clause of phrase is, for any reason, held to be invalid, such hold ing shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of these regulations. Conflicting Provisions. Where any provision of this

determines and declares that these regulations are

nance or any other law, the more stringent requirement regulation, restriction or limitation shall apply. 7. This Ordinance shall be effective thirty days after ublication pursuant to C.R.S. § 30-15-405. 8. The County Clerk shall certify to the passage of this Ordinance and make it available for inspection by the public during regular business hours.

INTRODUCED, READ, AND ORDERED PUBLISHED

Ordinance conflicts with any other provision of this Ordi-

BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ARCHULETA COUNTY, STATE OF COLORADO, UPON A MOTION DULY MADE. SECONDED AND PASSED AT ITS REGULAR MEETING HELD ON THE 19TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2024. BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF AR-CHULETA COUNTY, STATE OF COLORADO By: /s/ Veronica Medina Veronica Medina, Chair

I hereby certify that the above Ordinance was in-

troduced to the Board of County Commissioners of Archuleta County, State of Colorado, at its meeting of November 19, 2024, and ordered to be published one time in full in The Pagosa Sun newspaper and on the County website.

Kristy Archuleta Published November 28, 2024 The Pagosa Springs

By: /s/ Kristy Archuleta by Tonya McCann, Deputy

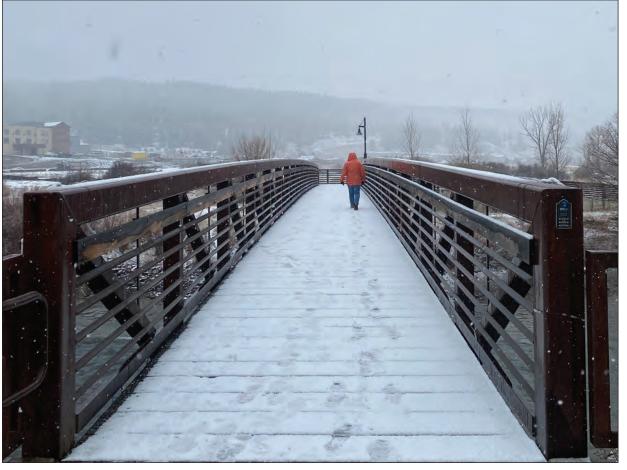
NOTICE TO CREDITORS BY PUBLICATION PURSU-ANT TO § 15-12-801, C.R.S. Estate of Martin Granados Moreno, Deceased Case Number: 2024PR30049 All persons having claims against the above named

estate are required to present them to the personal

representative or to District Court of Archuleta, County,

Colorado on or before March 14, 2025, or the claims

Maria Quezada c/o Klein Law Firm, P.C 8310 S. Valley Highway, STE 300 Englewood, CO 80112 Published November 14, 21, and 28, 2024 in The Pagosa Springs SUN. (250545)



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Winter weather returned to Pagosa Country this week, but didn't stop folks from getting out to enjoy the fresh air and beautiful surroundings.

IRS encourages taxpayers to prepare for 2025 filing season with online tools, key reminders

Internal Revenue Service

As the nation's tax season approaches, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) is reminding people of simple steps they can take now to prepare to file their 2024 federal tax returns

This reminder is part of the IRS's "Get Ready" campaign to help everyone prepare for the upcoming filing season in early 2025.

"Our focus at the IRS continues to be on making tax filing easier and more accessible for everyone," said IRS Commissioner Danny Werfel. "We've added more digital tools to help taxpayers. But as tax season quickly approaches, the IRS reminds taxpayers there are important steps they can take now to get ready for 2025. From reviewing withholding to signing up for an IRS Online Account, there are multiple ways for people to help make the 2025 filing season easier."

As the IRS continues its historic transformation work, the agency continues introducing new online tools as well as expanding and updating other digital tools. These are designed to help taxpayers and make tax filing easier.

Access IRS Online Account for helpful information

Taxpayers can create or access their IRS Online Account, where they can find all their tax related information for the 2025 filing season. New users will need to have a photo ID ready to verify their identity.

Through their IRS Online Account, taxpayers can:

- View key details from their most recent tax return, such as adjusted gross income.
- Request an identity protection
- Get account transcripts to include wage and income records.
- Sign tax forms like powers of attorney or tax information authoriza-
- View and edit language preferences and alternative media (such as braille, large print, etc.).
- Receive and view more than 200 IRS electronic notices.
- View, make and cancel pay-

• Set up or change payment plans and check their balance.

Gather and organize tax documents

Having well-organized tax records can make filing a complete and accurate return easier and help avoid errors that can delay refunds. This may also help identify deductions or credits that may have been overlooked.

Most income is taxable, including unemployment compensation, refund interest, and income from the gig economy and digital assets. Tax-

essential forms, such as Form W-2, Wage and Tax Statement, and other income documents.

It's also important to notify the IRS of any address changes and the Social Security Administration of any legal name changes.

Check withholding before the end of 2024

The IRS Tax Withholding Estimator on IRS.gov can help taxpayers make sure the correct amount of tax is withheld from their paychecks. This tool is especially useful for individuals who owed taxes or received large refunds last year, or those who have experienced life changes such as marriage, divorce or the welcoming of a child.

Taxpayers who need to adjust their withholding can update their information with their employer using Form W-4, Employee's Withholding Allowance Certificate.

Time is running out to make changes for 2024, as only a few pay periods remain in the year. Taxpayers need to act quickly to make any adjustments.

Get refunds faster with direct deposit

The fastest and most secure way to receive a tax refund is through direct deposit. Taxpayers can direct their refund to a bank account, banking app or reloadable debit card by providing their routing and account numbers. If the routing and account number cannot be located, taxpayers should contact their bank, financial institution or app provider.

According to Treasury's Bureau of the Fiscal Service, paper refund checks are 16 times more likely to be lost, misdirected, stolen or uncashed compared to those paid using direct deposit.

Individuals without a bank ac-

payers should watch for and gather ing one through FDIC-insured banks or a credit union using the National Credit Union Locator tool. Veterans can use the Veterans Benefits Banking Program to find participating financial institutions.

Volunteer to help others with their taxes

The IRS and its community partners are seeking volunteers from around the country to join the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) and Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) programs. These programs offer free tax preparation services to eligible taxpayers. Interested individuals can learn more and sign up by visiting IRS.gov.

Helpful IRS resources and online tools

IRS.gov is a valuable resource for taxpayers, offering a variety of online tools like the Individual Online Account available 24/7. These tools help individuals file and pay taxes, track refunds, access account information and get answers to tax questions. Taxpayers are encouraged to bookmark these resources for easy access.

Choosing a tax professional

Tax professionals play an essential role in the U.S. tax system. Certified public accountants, enrolled agents, attorneys and others without formal credentials are just a few of the professionals who help taxpayers file their returns accurately. It is important to choose a professional who is skilled and trustworthy.

Most tax return professionals provide great service, but picking the wrong one can hurt taxpayers financially. The IRS offers tips for choosing

People can use the IRS Directory of Federal Tax Return Preparers with Credentials and select qualifications







Eagle Drive \$590,000

MLS # 819518 .40 Acre Commercial Property located on Hwy 160 off of Eagle Dr. 3,290 Square feet and 2 attached buildings. The front is a gallery and warehouse the back at

one time was a clinic.

3 bedroom/2 ½ bathrooms with 1,703 sq. ft. and conveniently located uptown. This home was built in 2006 and used as a second home by the owners. All three bedrooms are located upstairs with the decks – one off the primary bedroom and the oth-

44 W Golf Place

\$560,000

relax and unwind To tour this home go to: https://pspixeltree.com/44-W-Golf-Pl



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

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



MLS # 811817

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

> To tour this home go to: https://tinyurl.com/65Caballero



MLS # 817526

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

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



MLS # 807337

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

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30 High Drive — MLS # 794628, \$59,900 147 Cat Creek Overlook — MLS # 806842. 1.26 acres. \$25,000 27 D Place — MLS #813258, \$165,000. Owner carry. 98 Saturn Drive — \$67,500





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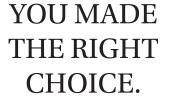
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PREVIEW photos/Shari Pierce

December bingo nights announced

By Shanna Robb

Pagosa Catholic Community

Pagosa Springs is known as a year-round playground for those seeking a combination of relaxation and memory-making adventures.

As the rugged San Juan Mountains get blanketed in white and the temperatures steadily drop, summer sports are replaced by winter sports that lure both locals and visitors to a winter wonderland.

Whether taking advantage of downhill ski runs and cross-country trails, bundling up for dog sledding or a sleigh ride, snowshoeing in the backcountry, ice fishing, skating, sledding or taking a plunge in a mineral-rich hot spring, Pagosa is a destination for fun.

After a day of enjoying local nature and shopping, there is one fun Pagosa Springs' activity that can also potentially replenish the pocketbook. A cherished pastime, it brings locals, families, and tourists together.

This, of course, is bingo.

More than just a game of chance or a catchy children's song, since its introduction to America in the 1920's, bingo has brought generations and cultures together. Originally called "beano" in the United States, "bingo" has been

hosted by the Pagosa Springs Catholic Community for more than eight years.

An affordable night out, the cost to play is \$8 for a bingo packet, \$4 for progressive sheets and \$2 for early-bird sheets. Families are encouraged to play, although you must be 18 to purchase bingo sheets and receive winnings.

The next bingo night is Sunday, Dec. 1. On Dec. 15 there will also be a special Christmas giveaway featuring a variety of amazing home goods. Players that night will receive a free ticket upon entry and winners will be randomly selected throughout the night.

But there is more. If no one wins the progressive pot on Dec. 1, the final pot valued at \$2,500 must go on Dec. 15.

During the winter months, bingo is held the first and third Sundays of the month at Pope John Paul II Catholic Church at 353 S. Pagosa Blvd. The doors open at 5 p.m. Early-bird games start at 5:45 p.m. followed by regular bingo at 6 p.m. Concessions are available, as no outside food and drink is allowed.

Add the first and third Sunday bingo night to your calendar and then get ready to replace the chill of winter with the warmth of fun and fellowship. With luck you might be one of the winners.

San Juan Stargazers to review James Webb Space Telescope's recent discoveries

By Joan Mieritz

San Juan Stargazers

The December Monthly Meeting of the San Juan Stargazers will be on Thursday, Dec. 5, at the regular time of 6 p.m. for the social hour and holiday party, and 7 p.m. for the program.

We will meet at our regular location — the Community United Methodist Church on Lewis Street. Please use the convenient parking lot and side door that leads into the kitchen and fellowship hall. (We keep the front doors locked.)

The James Webb Space Telescope is discovering so many new galaxies; 93 percent of the galaxies discovered have never been seen before. New information is being learned daily about so many deep-sky objects going to the edge of the known universe. I hope you will come to our meeting to get in on something new and well beyond exciting. We also have the program available on Zoom.

Please note that our January monthly meeting will be on Jan. 9, one week later than usual, but at the regular location and time.

In January, February and March of 2025, we will be

■ See Stargazers on next page



Friday

Mountain Pizza and Taproom: Dan Evans, 5:30 p.m. **The Springs Resort lodge atrium:** Jason Rose, 5 p.m.

Saturday

Mountain Pizza and Taproom: Dan Evans, 5:30 p.m. The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Maxwell Miller, 5

Tuesday

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

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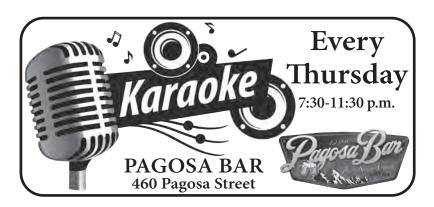
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WHIPS November/ December luncheon set for Dec. 3

By Nancy Ford

Women Helping in Pagosa Springs

The combined Women Helping in Pagosa Springs (WHIPS) luncheon for November and December will be held Dec. 3.

The luncheon will be at 11:30 a.m. at Gustoso's Italian Restaurant, with one of our ladies providing dessert.

The cost is \$20.

You must RSVP to (970) 946-1895 by the evening of Dec. 1.

All women are welcome.

Stargazers _

■ continued from previous page doing something new and fun at our monthly meetings. As a club, we encourage our membership in the areas of personal growth, increased participation and to expand our knowledge of the universe. We will do all three in the new year, and you do not want to miss this great opportunity.

Calendars still available

Only a few deep space mysteries calendars are still available. We are selling them for \$15. Come to our meeting or call (303) 995-2888 to leave a message for a call back to get the most exciting calendar to date with photos by the James Webb, Hubble and a few by land-based telescopes.

Don't look at this as a regular calendar because it is actually an up-date on the latest discoveries in our universe. It is an educational experience.

More about the Stargazers

If you would like to join the San Juan Stargazers, you will also receive Reflector Magazine, which is the publication of the National Astronomical League of which you automatically become a member.

To join both groups and get an excellent astronomy magazine, annual membership is only \$25 per family. You can join the club at any of our meetings or on our website.

Check out our continuously changing website, sanjuanstargazers.org, with new information and spectacular photos. We can be your connection to our extraordinary universe.



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Friday, Dec. 6

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. • Tree auction 7 p.m.

Live music by Steven Blechschmidt Cash Bar Food provided by Chef's Custom Cuisine Advanced ticket sales \$30 per person

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Holiday decorating ideas for the entire home

Special to The PREVIEW

Homes are often described as sanctuaries for their residents. Homes also provide a great way for homeowners to express themselves, an opportunity that is amplified during the holiday season.

Holiday decor takes center stage come December, and there are a number of ways for homeowners to utilize their homes to showcase their holiday spirit during this special time of vear.

- Wrap the front door. Gift-wrapped
- See Decorating on next page



Black Friday Sales are extended from Nov. 27th to 29th





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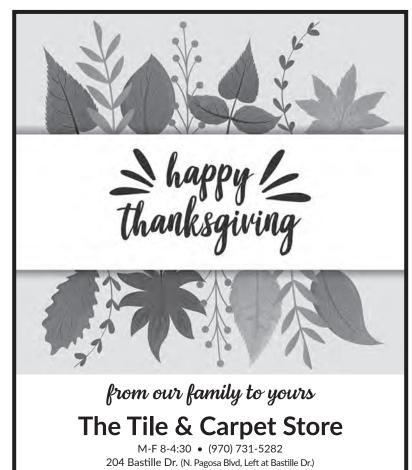
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Decorating_

■ continued from previous page

front doors have been popular for some time, and they remain a great way to utilize a home's entryway to spread a little holiday cheer. Shiny, single-color door wraps may never go out of style, but homeowners can choose patterned wraps as well. A bow door cover lets all visitors know a home and its residents are full of holiday cheer.

- Go for the garland. Garland can add a touch of the holiday season to any room of the house. Wrap garland around a staircase, alternating between the banister and spindles so residents and guests can still safely navigate their way up and down. Garland streamed along foyer tables sets a decorative tone for all guests, and living room television stands and dining room banquets also can be made a touch more festive with some garland.
- Hang stockings throughout the house. Stockings have long been hung by chimneys (with care), but they also can be incorporated into holiday decor throughout a home. Spread holiday cheer in each room with brightly colored holiday stockings, which can be hung along a staircase wall as well.
- Don't forget the kitchen. Realtors and contractors often note the popularity of the kitchen, a room where families tend to congregate each day before work and school and then again upon returning home. Some festive kitchen accessories, like a holiday-themed cutting board, jar sets and table settings can bring the spirit of the holiday season into the busiest room in the house.
- Create some pine cone Christmas trees. Involve the whole family in holiday decorating by spending a weekend afternoon creating pine cone Christmas trees. Gather pine cones from your own backyard, if possible, or take a trip to some nearby woods for some supplies. There's no shortage of websites offering instructions on crafting pine cone trees. Once completed, the trees can be placed in various rooms to spread holiday cheer throughout the house.

Decorations are a big part of the holiday season. Families can make their homes holiday central by ensuring each room is decorated for this special time of year.



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Photo courtesy Rick Artis

The Pagosa Springs Instrumental Music Society will again present the Heralds of Christmas this year. This year's concert is set for 3 p.m. on Dec. 8.

Heralds of Christmas set for Dec. 8

By Rick Artis

Pagosa Springs Instrumental Music Society

The Heralds of Christmas concert will once again be hosted by St. Patrick's Episcopal Church on Sunday, Dec. 8, at 3 p.m.

The church is located at 225 S. Pagosa Blvd., just south of the hospital.

This year's event promises to be better than ever. Many of Pagosa's favorite performers will fill the hall with a variety of holiday music. Festive seasonal favorites combined with a few less-traditional arrangements promise to delight the audience.

Heralds of Christmas is presented

by the Pagosa Springs Instrumental Music Society (PSIMS).

PSIMS is dedicated to music education in Pagosa Springs, providing equipment, instrument repair, private lessons and more to several of the schools in town. This year, the schools have a variety of needs, from providing pairs of drumsticks or a series of lessons to needed instruments, and many items in between. Donations to help fill these needs will be graciously accepted.

Mark your calendar and plan to join us early next month at the Heralds of Christmas. This is a free event. As a holiday favorite, the church will fill quickly.



ATTENTION COMMUNITY MEMBERS

You are invited to participate in our discussion about the Facilities Master Plan for the school district. The District will share the current state of our facilities and discuss the next steps for developing our master plan.

JOIN THE CONVERSATION. WE VALUE YOUR PARTICIPATION.





Monday, December 2nd, 5 PM @Pagosa Bible Church (209 Harman Park Dr.)

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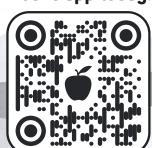
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The Community Choir will present its annual Christmas concerts at 7 p.m. on Dec. 13 and 14 and 4 p.m. on Dec. 15 at Pagosa Springs High School. Admission is free.

Pagosa Springs Community Choir's Christmas concerts announced

By Heidi Tanner

Pagosa Springs Community Choir

It's that time of year again. Snow will be falling soon. Lights are appearing on businesses and homes around town, and the star is lit on Reservoir Hill.

The Christmas season is upon us, and that means the Pagosa Springs Community Choir will soon be performing its three annual Christmas concerts.

This year's concert series is slated for Dec. 13 and 14 at 7 p.m., and Dec. 15 at 4 p.m. in the Pagosa Springs High School auditorium.

The Pagosa Springs Community Choir was founded in 2002, making 2024 the 22nd year that the organization has been bringing joy during the Christmas season to Pagosa. Our concerts are a Pagosa tradition not to be missed.

The choir is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Our concerts are free, but donations will be accepted with gratitude and are tax-deductible. We use your donations to keep the choir operating and to fund our annual vocal scholarships. Each year we offer two \$500 scholarships toward vocal music lessons for Pagosa voice students.

This year's scholarship recipients are Lillian Jones and Avonlea Thomas. Congratulations to these two young ladies for their achievements.

Our concert theme this year is "Joy to the World." In addition to our full choir, our program will include two small vocal ensembles, one of which is our own jazz choir, and this year we have a new highlight as Pagosa Harmony, an ensemble of eight men, will be singing for you. The full choir

will once again sing a cappella in the round on the auditorium floor sur-

■ See Concerts on next page

BOOK SIGNING Meet the Authors! Wolf Creek Christian Writers Network Derinda Babcock · Fessica Tanner · Helene Prins Smith · Lynn Moffett Saturday, Dec. 7, 2024 10:00am to 2:00pm San Juan Salt Cave 2800 Cornerstone Drive Blda 1 Unit 4 Fan Meyer Karn & Faith & Richardson will also be present with books available! Great Christmas Gifts for All Ages!

Links to purchase books can also be found at www.wolfcreekwriters.com

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3 bedroom/2 ½ bathrooms with 1,703 sq. ft. and conveniently located uptown. This home was built in 2006 and used as a second home by the owners. All three bedrooms are located upstairs with the primary bedroom towards the back. Two covered decks — one off the primary bedroom and the other off of the living room — allow for a nice place to relax and unwind.

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MLS 811817

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4 bed, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ bath, 2,350 sq ft on approx. 1 acre, Back deck boasts a view of the mountains and a hot tub. Main floor primary bedroom with three additional bedrooms upstairs.

> To tour this home go to: https://pixeltreecreativellc.hd.pics/65-Caballero-Dr

To tour this home go to:





Barbara Swindlehurst CIPS CRS GRI SFR CNE REALTOR®, BROKER/OWNER C: 303.618.7423 • 0: 970.264.6673 Barbara@MountainMeadowRealEstate.com







Holiday Church Events



All events listed in the holiday church events calendar are free of charge. Submit events to editor@ pagosasun.com.

Sunday, Dec. 1

Advent Service. 10 a.m., Trinity Anglican Church, 246 Harman Park Drive. Dedicated to the reflective preparation for the arrival of Jesus Christ's nativity at Christmastime.

Tuesday, Dec. 3

Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena. 6:30 p.m., John Paul II Catholic Church, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd. Bilingual rosary followed by a hosted dinner and fellowship. For more information, visit ihmjp2.org.

Wednesday, Dec. 4

Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena. 6:30 p.m., John Paul II Catholic Church, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd. Bilingual rosary followed by a hosted dinner and fellowship. For more information, visit ihmjp2.org.

Thursday, Dec. 5

Main Street Bethlehem. 6-7:30 p.m., Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. Visit Bethlehem in Pagosa Springs as the ancient city of Christ's birth comes alive.

Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena. 6:30 p.m., John Paul II Catholic Church, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd. Bilingual rosary followed by a hosted dinner and fellowship. For more information, visit ihmjp2.org.

Friday, Dec. 6

Main Street Bethlehem. 6-7:30 p.m., Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. Visit Bethlehem in Pagosa Springs as the ancient city of Christ's birth comes alive

Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena. 6:30 p.m., John Paul II Catholic Church, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd. Bilingual rosary followed by a hosted dinner and fellowship. For more information, visit ihmjp2.org.

Saturday, Dec. 7

Advent Pilgrimage. 8 a.m., John Paul Il Catholic Church, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd. In preparation of the Christmas season, community members are invited to experience the story of Advent based on a documentary

visiting places in the Holy Land associated with Christ's life. An 8 a.m. Mass will be followed by breakfast, fellowship and discussion.

Main Street Bethlehem. 6-7:30 p.m., Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. Visit Bethlehem in Pagosa Springs as the ancient city of Christ's birth comes alive.

Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena. 6:30 p.m., John Paul II Catholic Church, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd. Bilingual rosary followed by a hosted dinner and fellowship. For more information, visit ihmjp2.org.

Sunday, Dec. 8

Advent Service. 10 a.m., Trinity Anglican Church, 246 Harman Park Drive. Dedicated to the reflective preparation for the arrival of Jesus Christ's nativity at Christmastime.

Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena. 6:30 p.m., John Paul II Catholic Church, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd. Bilingual rosary followed by a hosted dinner and fellowship. For more information, visit ihmjp2.org.

Monday, Dec. 9

Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena. 6 p.m., John Paul II Catholic Church, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd. Bilingual rosary followed by a hosted dinner and fellowship. For more information, visit ihmjp2.org.

Tuesday, Dec. 10 Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena.

6:30 p.m., John Paul II Catholic Church, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd. Bilingual rosary followed by a hosted dinner and fellowship. For more information, visit ihmjp2.org.

Wednesday, Dec. 11

Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena. 6:30 p.m., John Paul II Catholic Church, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd. Bilingual rosary followed by a hosted dinner and fellowship. For more information, visit ihmjp2.org.

Thursday, Dec. 12

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. 6 p.m., John Paul II Catholic Church, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd. Bilingual rosary will be at 6 p.m. At 6:30 p.m. there will be special music and celebration prior to 7 p.m. Mass.

Mass. For more information, visit ihmjp2.org. Sunday, Dec. 15 Advent Service. 10 a.m., Trinity An-

There will be dinner, dancing and

re-enactment immediately following

glican Church, 246 Harman Park Drive. Dedicated to the reflective preparation for the arrival of Jesus Christ's nativity at Christmastime.

Sunday, Dec. 22

Advent Service. 10 a.m., Trinity Anglican Church, 246 Harman Park Drive. Dedicated to the reflective preparation for the arrival of Jesus Christ's nativity at Christmastime.

Tuesday, Dec. 24

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. 5 p.m., Open Door Church, 110 Trinity Lane.

Christmas Eve Mass. 5 p.m., John Paul II Catholic Church, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd. For more information, visit ihmjp2.org.

Christmas Eve Mass. 6 p.m., Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, 455 Lewis St. For more information, visit ihmjp2.org.

■ See Events on next page



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Orthopedic Surgery

Bill Webb, MD, FAAOS Jeremiah Steed, MD Orthopedic Surgery

Concerts

■ continued from previous page rounding you with pure vocal sound along with our stage performances accompanied by Venita Burch.

You will be treated to Christmas melodies that are familiar and dear to you such as "O Little Town of Bethlehem" and "Angels We Have Heard On High." You will also enjoy "I Have Seen the Light," a more contemporary Christmas selection featuring a solo men's trio. Our performance of this rousing piece will feature choir members Perry

Schjolin, Andy Hockman and Doug Roberts singing the trio. You will be touched by these fine voices and their beautiful harmonies as they sing of the light of Jesus.

Mark your calendar for Dec. 13 and 14 at 7 p.m., and Dec. 15 at 4 p.m. and join the Pagosa Springs Community Choir as we present our holiday gift of song. The concerts will be held in the Pagosa Springs High School auditorium.

We will welcome you with joyful holiday song.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Tuesday, December 3 | 5:30-7 p.m. at the Liberty Theatre • 418 Pagosa Street To reserve seating, call 970-507-3811 or email jodi.scarpa@psmedicalcenter.org



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Thanksgiving observations to inspire and entertain you

By Carole Howard

PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

As you gather with family and friends to celebrate Thanksgiving, we wanted to wish you a very happy Thanksgiving and offer observations from a wide variety of people with thoughts that range from inspirational to comedic:

"You know it's a good Thanksgiving when your heart is as full as your stomach." — Richard Paul Evans, American author.

"I started out giving thanks for small things, and the more thankful I became, the more my bounty increased." — Oprah Winfrey, talk show host, TV producer, actress and author.

"Wear gratitude like a cloak, and it will feed every corner of your life." — Rumi, 13th century Persian poet,

Library News

scholar and theologian.

"I come from a family where gravy is considered a beverage." — Erma Bombeck, newspaper columnist and author who used humor to describe American suburban life in her writing.

ing.
"I love Thanksgiving because it's a holiday that is centered around food and family, two things that are of utmost importance to me." — Marcus Samuelsson, Ethiopian-born Swedish-American celebrity chef, TV

personality and owner of multiple restaurants from BBQ joints to bars and elegant establishments.

"Let us be grateful to the people who make us happy. They are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom." — Marcel Proust, French novelist, literary critic and essayist.

"Reflect upon your present blessings, of which every man has plenty; not on your past misfortunes, of which all men have some." — Charles

■ See Library on next page

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Holiday Church Events

■ continued from previous page Wednesday, Dec. 25

Christmas Day Mass. 9 p.m., John Paul II Catholic Church, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd. For more information, visit ihmjp2.org.

456 Pagosa Street in downtown Pagosa Springs

Wednesday, Jan. 1

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God Mass. 9 a.m., John Paul II Catholic Church, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd. For more information, visit ihmjp2.org.

Foot Prints





Sunday BBQ Brunch

11 am-2 pm

Sunday Football Menu

2 pm-6 pm
ALL the games on multiple screens

Drink Specials All Day Sunday

Mixed, Drafts, Mimosa & House-made Bloody Marys

Also Available

Thursday-Sunday Specials

Let Us Host Your Party

To Go Orders

Catering

Bring in or show us this coupon for a complimentary side with a carved menu meal purchase.

Thursday-Saturday only

Library

■ continued from previous page

Dickens, English novelist, journalist, short story writer and social critic.

"[Our mother] never made it about what we didn't have. She made it about what we did have. And how to celebrate that." — Whoopi Goldberg, actor, comedian, author and TV personality.

"The turkey. The sweet potatoes. The stuffing. The pumpkin pie. Is there anything else we all can agree so vehemently about?" — Nora Ephron, journalist, writer and filmmaker, especially romantic comedies.

Library closure

Your library will be closed Nov. 28 and 29 for Thanksgiving.

Nondenominational talk

Next Wednesday, Dec. 4, from 2 to 3:15 p.m., Larry G. Allen will speak on adversity and loss, sharing short stories and offering personal tips based on his faith in Jesus about how to live your legacy with prayer. This is a nondenominational talk.

High school math tutoring

High school math tutors will continue to be available for ages 14 and up Mondays from 4 to 5:30 p.m. through Dec. 16 for free tutoring, except for Dec. 9, when it ends at 5 p.m. because of our regular monthly staff meeting. Registration is required.

Free math tutoring will resume in the spring, depending on demand and tutor availability.

Online author talks

Our highly popular free online author talks continue with two opportunities in December 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.

Wednesday, Dec. 4, at noon, Jeff Post will take us behind the scenes with surprising stories about the Smithsonian national gem collection.

Wednesday, Dec. 11, at noon will showcase Laura Dave, author of "The Night We Lost Him," a combination suspense and family drama.

Knitting and crochet lessons

Learn to knit or crochet on Monday, Dec. 2, at our free gathering from 2 to 3:15 p.m. for ages 8 and up. All supplies will be provided.

Music fun Monday

Pagosa Unplugged is free from 4 to 6 p.m. Monday, Dec. 2, for amateur musicians of all abilities and expertise to jam and sing with others.

Spanish conversation

Practice your Spanish in a free group setting on Tuesday, Dec. 3, from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. No minimum skill level is needed. This group meets twice a month, on the first and third Tuesdays.

Elementary tutoring

Children ages 6-11 are welcome at these free sessions on Wednesdays from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. where they will build essential skills in core subjects. 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.

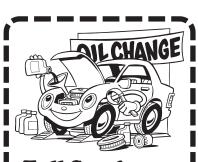
Teen/tween activity

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

Next Thursday, Dec. 5, from 4 to 5:30 p.m., join our Dungeons and Dragons game free for teens and young adults.

Preregistration is required be-



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cause 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.

ESL classes

Free in-person evening classes take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays, with 4 to 5 p.m. reserved for be-

■ See Library on page 15

HUD Publisher's Notice

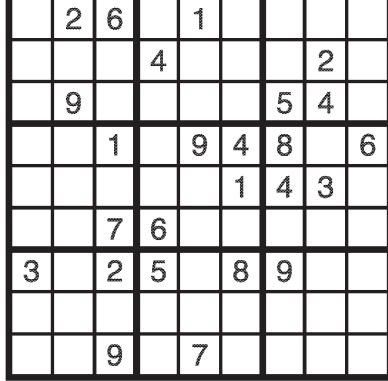


EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

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



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!

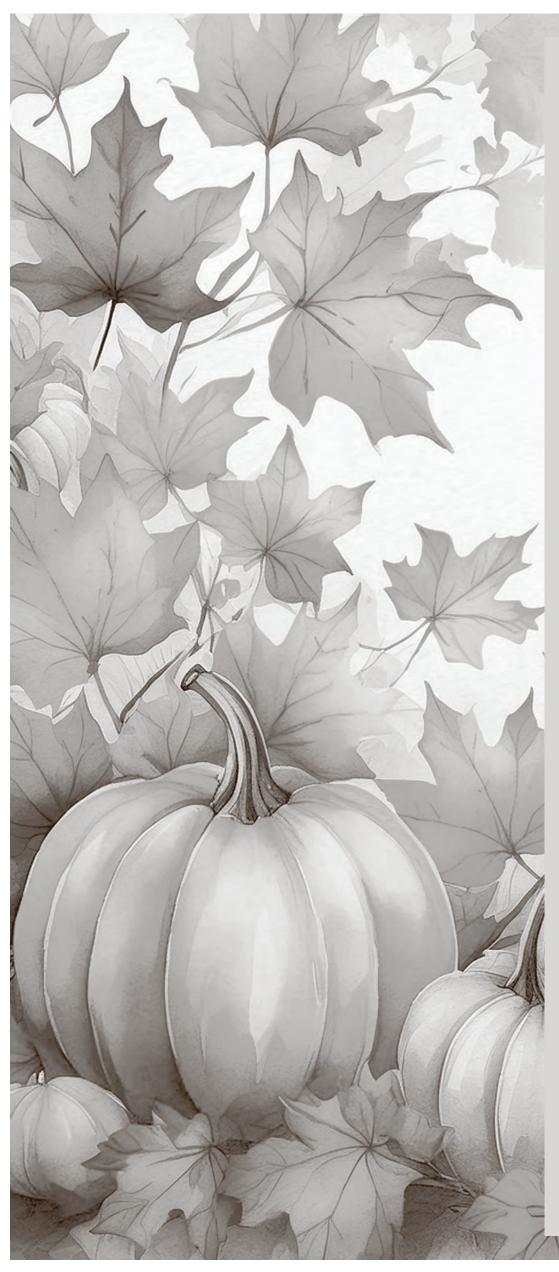
Level: Advanced

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!

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:RAWER:



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PREVIEW photos/Randi Pierce

Members of St. Patrick's Episcopal Church hand out free meals as part of its annual community Thanksgiving dinner. This year, the group handed out 370 meals to members of the community.

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Andrew L., Yelp review

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The workshop in the backyard is insulated, sheet rocked, has epoxy floor, and power. Next to that is a beautiful chicken coop. Your girls will live in comfort, style and

There is a large 40' deep by 36' wide barn built over a 40' shipping container. This barn can hold all your animals or toys! At the top of barn is all storage for hay or whatever suits you. One more shed is complete with two shed roofs for additional storage or animals.

Once you enter the home you will feel relaxed and cozy. The kitchen is open to the dining and living room and comes with appliances. The gas fireplace in the living room will heat the home nicely, but you will always be warm in the winter with the wood stove

The bedrooms are spacious, and the master has a walk-in closet. The attic is accessible from pull down steps in the hallway and is a space you could make into another bedroom, bathroom and family room.

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WE ARE OPEN FOR LUNCH AND DINNER

Library

■ continued from page 12

ginners, 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.

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.

Christmas-themed novels

"Bright Lights, Big Christmas" by Mary Kay Andrews features a smalltown North Carolina girl who comes to New York City to help her brother sell Christmas trees.

We also have three large print Christmas books: "Evergreen Christmas" by Janet Dailey is a holiday romance. "One Big Happy Family" by Susan Mallery begins when adult children want to celebrate Christmas at the family cabin. "Santa's Secret" by Fern Michaels is book three of the Santa's Crew series. "A Christmas Duet" by Debbie Macomber is a holiday story with humor, romance, mystery and faith.

Books on CD

"The More the Terrier" by David Rosenfelt is a murder mystery with doggy humor and courtroom drama. "In Too Deep" by Lee and Andrew Child is a Jack Reacher thriller. "The Grey Wolf" by Louise Penny is an Armand Gamache mystery.

Large print

"The Stars are Dying" by Chloe C. Penaranda is book one of a new dark romantic fantasy Nytefall trilogy. "A Song to Drown Rivers" by Ann Liang is an epic historical fantasy. "The Sequel" by Jean Hanff Kurelitz is book two in the Book series featuring a literary widow. "The Boyfriend" by Freida McFadden is a murder mystery set in New York. "The Last One at the Wedding" by Jason Rekulak features a father invited to his daughter's wedding after three years of no contact. "Targeted: Beirut" by Jack Carr and James M. Scott is a behindthe-scenes look at the 1983 Marine barracks bombing.

"Intermezzo" by Sally Rooney follows two brothers in Dublin dealing with their father's death. "Killing Time" by M.C. Beaton and R.W. Green is an Agatha Raisin mystery. "Syndicate" by Felix Francis is a Dick Francis race horsing mystery. "You'll Never Find Me" by Allison Brennan is book one of an Anglehart Investigations book on white collar crime. "Just Water: My Swimming Life" by Katie Ledecky is a memoir by the woman who has won more individual Olympic races than any female swimmer in history. "The Daybreakers" by Louis L'Amour is a Sackett Lost Treasures adventure.

Nonfiction

"The Weight of Nature" by neuroscientist Clayton Page Aldern looks at the effects of climate change on our brains and behavior. "The 12-Hour Film Expert" by Noah and James Charney offers readers a guide to film history, how films are made and how to watch them in a more thoughtful way. "Guide to Death, Grief and Rebirth" is a Lonely Plant guide to global grieving customs to help you live (and die) well.

"How to Winter" by psychologist Dr. Kari Leibowitz provides a blend of scientific tools, original research and cultural insights to help you cultivate a positive winter mindset. "Bones of the Master" by George Crane is a memoir about a Ch'an master's return pilgrimage to remote Inner Mongolia after 40 years of exile.

Novels

"Katherine, the Wright Sister" by Tracey Emerson Wood looks at the vital role their sister played in Wilbur and Orville's aviation success. "Fight Club" by Chuck Palahniuk follows the lives of young men involved with secret boxing matches in the basements of bars.

Thanks to our donors

We are grateful to Johanna and Arnold Brooks for their generous monetary donation, and to our anonymous donors for their materials donations.

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

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

Quotable quote

"As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them." — President John F. Kennedy, 35th president of the U.S. and the youngest man ever elected

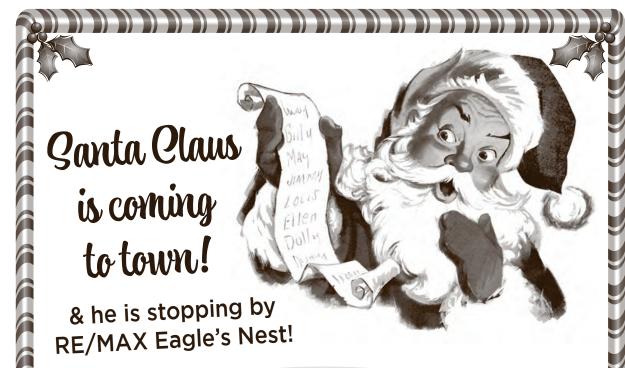
president in this country.

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.

FALL/WINTER HOURS: MONDAY: 11 AM - 10PM TUESDAY: CLOSED WEDNESDAY: CLOSED THURSDAY: 11AM - 10PM FRIDAY: 11AM - 11PM SATURDAY: 11AM - 11PM SUNDAY: 11AM - 10PM 120 Piedra Rd, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

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Healthy Archuleta FSFE Food Coalition. Food dive! Donate one of the items below or give a cash donation and be entered into a drawing for a \$100 Gift Certificate to Wolf Creek Ski Area

We are collecting food for the

Canned Beans (black and pinto) Canned Fruit (in fruit juice) Canned Meats (tuna and chicken) Canned Pasta Sauce Canned Soups (meat and

vegetarian) Canned Tomatoes (all styles) Canned Vegetables (mixed veggies or individual such as green beans, carrots, or corn) Carton Milk (non-refrigerated/ aseptic containers)

Crackers, Saltine **Dried Pinto Beans** Dry Breakfast Cereal (such as cheerios or corn flakes) Dry Milk Powder Jelly Oatmeal Pasta Noodles, dry Peanut Butter (crunchy or

Spaghetti Noodles, dry





We wish you a Merry Christmas!

RemaxEaglesNest.com 970-731-0500

Age-friendly community listening session set for Dec. 4

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/Archuleta County to better understand what an "agefriendly Archuleta community" means to you.

Save the date: The listening session will be held virtually and in person at 451 Hot Springs Blvd. in the Pagosa Senior Center dining room on the morning of Wednesday, Dec. 4, from 9:30 to 11 a.m.

Currently, Archuleta County doesn't have the designation of an "age-friendly community"; however, ASI will integrate this important community building and 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 (i.e. physical structures) to be more inclusive and receptive to the needs of its population to improve their quality of life as they age.

An age-friendly community encourages healthy aging by optimizing resources to improve the health, safety and inclusion of older people in the community.

This initiative encourages older adults to take on a more active role in their communities and have their voices heard with a 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 systems, and combating social 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.

Again, the meeting will be held in person at the Senior Center and/ or online. Please use the following link at: bit.ly/ccoa-age-friendlycommunities-listening-session24. The meeting ID is 817 8755 1403, and the 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 share your feedback/ideas.

Senior News

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, the 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

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/Asifallfundraiser.

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 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

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 Dec. 11, to participate in the popular, ongoing "Tapping" class (also known as EFT, or Emotional

■ See Senior on next page







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to 150+ organizations that serve youth, the arts, animals, environment, human services, and more.

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December 10, 2024 swcogives.org





Ballantine Family Fund 1st SouthWest Bank

Senior

■ continued from previous page

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 acupressure 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-

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 instructor, Kimberly Anderson, directly by email at zinkgraf@gmail.com.

Stretching and mobility class

Community members are invited to attend new free weekly classes every Tuesday this fall and winter from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at the Pagosa Senior Center (located at 451 Hot

Springs Blvd., in the back of the Ross Aragon Community Center).

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

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

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

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

Bingo

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

Bingo will be on 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.

Salmansohn brings to our conversations a variety of topics designed to stimulate discussions within a safe and comfortable environment as we explore our well-being and shared experiences.

This is a unique opportunity to connect with others living within the Archuleta community for friendship and togetherness.

Snacks will be provided.

Afterward, hosted by Robin Williams, is a get-together created for those who wish to continue the conversation. This opportunity is typically from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m., following Senior Conversations.

The group occasionally reconvenes as an informal gathering at various local restaurants.

Scrapbooking Club

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

■ See Senior on next page





HAPPY THANKSGIVING FROM BANK OF COLORADO

We are very thankful for the opportunity to live and work in this great community. Thank you for your continued support. Have a happy and safe holiday from your Bank of Colorado family.

PAGOSA SPRINGS 205 Country Center Drive, 970.731.4166 bankofcolorado.com







Senior

■ continued from previous page

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.

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.

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. 28 — Closed for Thanksgiving holiday.

Friday, Nov. 29 — Closed for Thanksgiving holiday.

Monday, Dec. 2 — Beef barley soup, veggie side, roll, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Tuesday, Dec. 3 — Veggie lasagna, garlic bread, sauteed greens, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Wednesday, Dec. 4 — Singapore pork ribs, squash casserole, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Thursday, Dec. 5 — Cobb salad with bacon, avocado, blue cheese, tomato, chicken and cucumber; cream of chicken soup, bread, fruit and milk.

Friday, Dec. 6 — Crispy codfish with tartar sauce, peas and carrots, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Grab-N-Go meals

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

make a reservation.

Meals on Wheels

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

Mobile food pantry service

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

Text reservations

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

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

Mahjong

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

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

Medicare call by appointment

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

Mindful drawing

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

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

Bridge

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

Bridge is a four-player card game with partners sitting opposite each

other around a table. It is a trick-taking card game using a standard 52-card deck. Come alone or bring a partner.

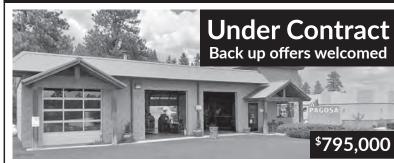
Hand and foot card game

Whether you are new to hand and foot or interested in learning, please join us most Tuesdays at 1:15 at the Senior Center.

This card game involves four rounds of playing until the final round is reached—some two to three hours later. Plan to stay and meet some new friends or catch up with those you have missed over the last couple of years.

No experience is necessary, so come willing to learn.

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Send us your letter to Santa and his elves at the North Pole!
Your letter may be selected for publication in The Pagosa Springs SUN.
Please include your first name and age on your letter.

Make sure we receive your letter by noon on Friday, Dec. 13th

You can also email your letter to editor@pagosasun.com or drop it off at the Santa mailbox at 457 Lewis Street

The Pagosa Springs SUN

Unitarian Universalists to hear about process theology, magical moments

By De Anna Hoyle

Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

"It's a blessing you were born and it matters what you do./What you know about God is a piece of the truth./Let the beauty you love be what you do, and you don't have to do it alone." — "Chalice Camp Song" by Laila Ibrahim and the Rev. Sheri Prud'homme.

The above lyrics will serve as the foundation for sharing a perspective on process theology and magic moments in the everyday. "A Personal Theology Processed through Process Theology" is the title of the homily that will be shared at the Pagosa Unitarian Universalist (UU) Fellowship on Dec. 1 beginning at 10:30 a.m. by De Anna Hoyle, who serves as the community engagement coordinator for the UU Fellowship here in Pagosa.

Hoyle is a trained religious educator and spiritual director working with people of all ages to engage more deeply to what is described as the magical in the mundane.

This magical sense is what she hopes to express in her offering.

She states, "There is something that intrigues me about those moments of synchronicity, those times when all of life's little disturbances fall away and I am left with a sense of awe and connection — I feel held. I hope to convey a sense of wonder through stories, music with a little bit of science thrown in."

Come with some curiosity, stay for refreshments and fellowship after the service, and join us on a journey of making friends, growing your spirit and doing good.

As part of our monthly offerings, we will gather on Dec. 8 for our Going Deeper Sharing Circle, which will begin at 11 a.m., after meditation. The sharing circle is a way to explore the sermon topics more deeply and offers a safe space to be in community with others to share what is on our hearts.

About the fellowship

Our website has more information about our local fellowship and a link to our current newsletter. Check out PagosaUU.org.

We meet the first and third Sundays in person at Unit B-15 of the Greenbriar

Plaza, 301 N. Pagosa Blvd., on the north side facing the Pagosa Peak.

You can also join us through our offered Zoom services using the following meeting link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8991941305.

Offered on alternate Sundays, inperson meditation practice is on the second and fourth Sundays from to 10:30 a.m. All are welcome. The sessions begin promptly, so kindly allow a few extra minutes to settle in.

Although meditation instruction itself is always free, a suggested donation of \$10-\$20 is greatly appreciated; no one will be turned away.

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Wilderness Journeys Pagosa, Inc Call 970-731-4081 for scheduling PUC # 16400. DOT# 2842985. MCT# 0021



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. 28, 3 p.m.: Community potluck Thanksgiving dinner. The doors will open at 2:30 p.m. Bring a dish to share and enjoy good harvest and a sacred prayer and meditation circle. RSVP to (970) 510-0309.

Dec. 1, 11 a.m.: Gratitude prayer and meditation circle with Shayla Azriel. A love donation will be accepted.

Dec. 3, noon: Health club luncheon. Pack a Lunch. We will discuss health issues and problem solving. A love donation will be accepted.

About us

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

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

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

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

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Holiday lights

Entrants for the 2024 Pagosa Springs Area Holiday Lighting contest have been announced, with participants turning on their lights for viewing every evening from 6 to 8 p.m. between Nov. 29 and the end of the year.

Vote for your favorite between Nov. 29 and Dec. 22

Contest winners will be announced in The Pagosa Springs SUN on Dec. 26.

Residential

506 Morro Cir

150 Lassen Dr

42 Ruby Ct

385 Stagecoach Ln

585 Shenandoah Dr

184 Sweetwater Dr

305 Snow Cir

155 Pike Dr

28 Bienvenido Cir

601 Stevens Cir

954 Monument Ave

660 Apache St

344 Capricho Cir

Business

Wyndham - 538 Village Dr

The Springs Resort - 323 Hot Springs Blvd Healing Waters Resort & Spa - 140 Hot Springs Blvd

Pagosa Mountain Sports - 162 Pagosa St PJ's Fine Bamboo Rods - 262 Pagosa St **Unit 103**

Kips Grill & Cantina - 121 Pagosa St Pagosa Springs House of Jerky - 262 Pagosa St Unit 102A

Rainbow Gift Shop - 611 San Juan St Engel & Volkers Pagosa Springs - 286 Pagosa St

You Deserve This Massage + Wellness -103 Main St

Cork & Board - 150 Pagosa St Pagosa Craft - 127 Goldmine Dr

Storefront window

Happy Trails Ladies Boutique - 454 Pagosa St

Goodman's Dept. Store - 402 Pagosa St Community United Methodist Thrift

Store - 427 Lewis St

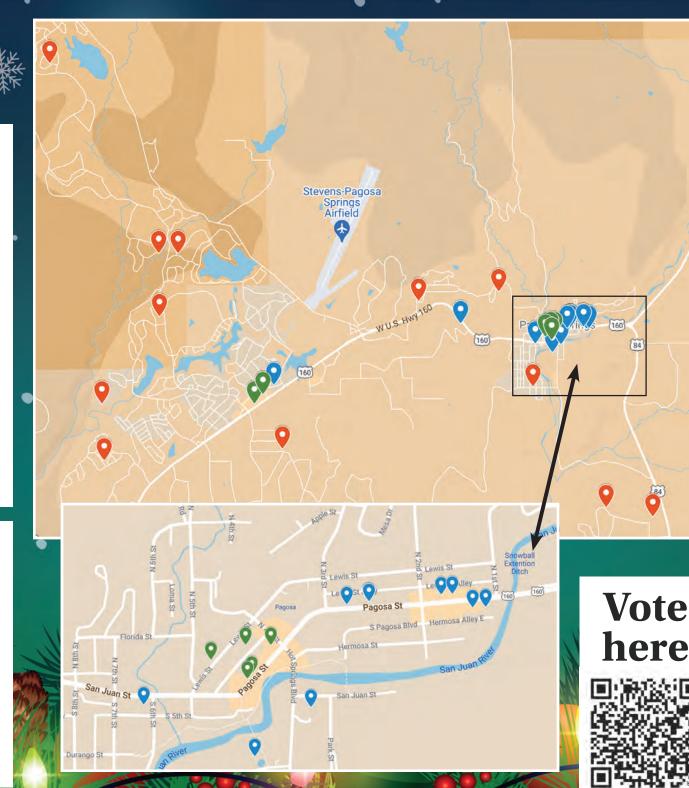
Two Old Crows - 468 Lewis St

Chow Down Pet Supplies - 100 Country

Center Dr A/B

Foot Prints - 456 Pagosa St

Uncle's Bar & Social Club - 56 Talisman Dr Unit 8C



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 green-winged teal.

Along with mallards, pintails, wigeons, gadwalls and wood ducks, teal species are members of the group known as puddle ducks. Of these, the green-winged teal is the smallest in North America. These dabbling ducks locate food by tipping up rather than by diving, and feed in shallow waters like those found in flooded fields and wetlands.

Closely spaced comblike projections, lamellae, which line the inside edges of their bills, allow these ducks to filter food from the water. They strain out tiny invertebrates, including insect larvae, from the surface of the water, and tip up to reach those that are submerged. Seeds of grasses and sedges are also a part of their diet.

More than any other duck, these teal feed along mudflats found at the edges of small ponds. They often rest out of the water on low snags or branches close by. They are fast, agile flyers that can take off straight out of the water when disturbed. Flocks maneuver in unison, twisting and turning while flashing their deep green wing patches.

Hardy green-winged teal are common and widespread across North America, and they winter farther north than other teal species. As long as there is open water, when other shallow water areas are frozen they are found here in winter hanging out in the warm water ponds along the Riverwalk and in the river.

In late fall and winter, males court mates with elaborate movements and vocal displays. If you listen, you can hear males giving their whistled peeps and females quacking. Mated pairs move north to breeding grounds together, preferring wooded ponds over the prairie potholes used by other dabblers.

With chestnut-colored heads and broad, bright green stripes behind the eyes, male green-winged teal are showy birds. A vertical white stripe on the side is a visible identification mark. Females are mottled brown with the creamy patch shown by both sexes at the tail.

These teal are just one of the waterfowl species that we hope to be able to include in our waterfowl count on the Dec. 14 Christmas Bird Count in Pagosa Springs.

For information on events, visit www.weminucheaudubon.org and www.facebook.com/weminucheaudubon/.



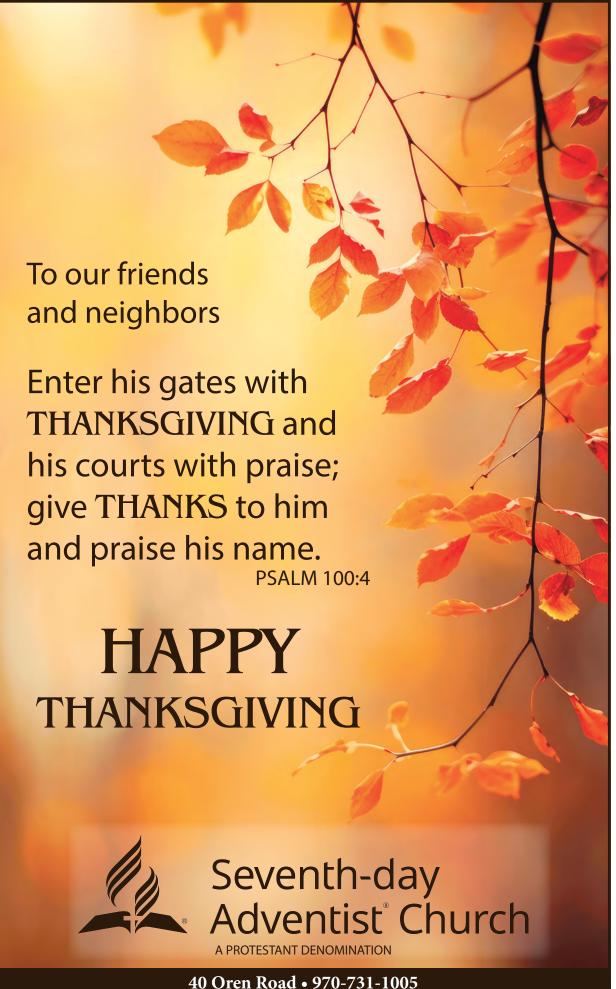
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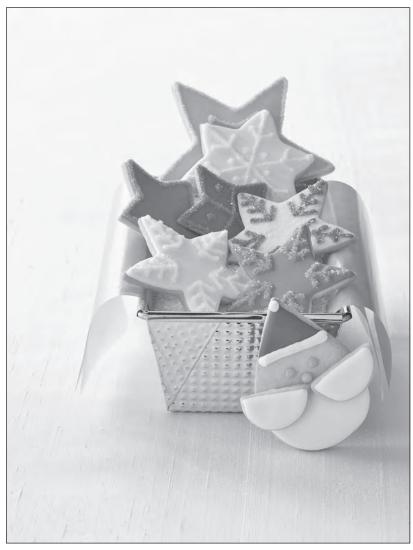
The Pagosa Springs SUN 264-2100



MARY KAY? I'M YOUR GIRL!

Darcie Sutherland Mary Kay Consultant (carrying inventory) (970) 529-0464





This holiday season, hosts can involve their guests in family baking sessions and whip up a batch of these delicious and colorful Christmas

These colorful cookies are tailor-made for family baking sessions

Special to The PREVIEW

Baking during the holiday season is a tradition in many households across the globe.

Family baking sessions provide a perfect holiday season bonding activity, and the payoff is both cherished family time and delicious, indulgent foods once the items are ready to eat.

Holiday hosts know they'll need to feed their guests over the course of their stay, and that includes snacks. This holiday season, hosts can involve their guests in family baking sessions and whip up a batch of these delicious and colorful "Christmas Biscuits" from Lines+Angles.

Christmas Biscuits

Makes approximately 24 cookies Preparation time: 1 hour, 20 minutes

Cooling time: 30 minutes For the dough:

- 11/2 cups all-purpose flour, sifted, plus extra for dusting
- 1 1/3 cups confectioner's sugar, plus extra for dusting
 - 3/4 cup almond meal
- 1 cup unsalted butter, cold and cubed

- 1 large egg yolk
- 1 tablespoon cold water
- 1/2 teaspoon fine salt
- For the icing and decoration:
- 4 cups confectioner's sugar
- 3 tablespoons meringue powder
- 7 tablespoons warm water, combined with 1 teaspoon vanilla extract, assorted food color (e.g., red, pink and turquoise), assorted colored sugar crystals (e.g., red, pink and white)
- 1. For the dough: Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Grease and line two large baking sheets with parchment
- 2. Combine flour, confectioner's sugar and almond meal in a large mixing bowl. Stir well to mix.
- 3. Add butter, egg yolk, water and salt, and mix well with an electric mixer with spiral attachments until mixture starts to come together as a dough.
- 4. Turn out onto a floured surface and knead briefly until even. Wrap in plastic wrap and chill for 30 minutes.
- 5. After chilling, roll out dough on a lightly floured surface to approximately 1/4 inch thickness.
- See Cookies on next page

The Weekly Crossword

13

16

19

28

59

14

36

41

60

63

52

53

20

22

40

45

ACROSS

- **1** A ways away
- 5 Kind of bar
- 9 Assist in crime
- 13 Lair for a bear
- 14 Oven setting
- 15 In the vicinity
- **16** Humdrum
- 17 Walmart department
- **19** Heavenly
- 21 Library workers
- 22 Got off the fence
- 23 Time-honored
- 25 Nasty-smelling
- 27 Clue game room
- **28** Grouchy Muppet
- 29 C-worthy?
- 30 Genesis man
- 34 Scrooge's cry
- 35 No-hitter, usually
- 38 Zsa Zsa's sister
- 39 Let fly, as lava
- **41** Lane anagram 42 Direct
- elsewhere
- **44** Premature
- **46** Cake sections
- 47 Tack room items
- **50** Mixing board slider
- 51 Basic belief
- **52** Nonstop
- 56 Payment
- 58 Feed the kitty
- 59 Poetic adverb
- 60 On in years
- **61** Read a bar code
- 62 Sign of hunger
- **63** Graded item
- **64** Grazing group

DOWN

- 1 "Let There Be Rock" rockers
- 2 Taxi rider
- 3 Alpine hazard
- 4 Laurence Olivier Hitchcock film

- 5 Ancient Celtic priest
- 6 Tiny amount
- 7 It can be moving
- 8 Krueger's street 9 Turkish resort
- citv
- **10** Neutral shade
- 11 House overhang
- 12 Lock of hair
- 14 Held, as breath
- **18** Kind of column
- 20 Moves a muscle
- 24 Wise guy
- 25 Knocks off
- 26 "Immediately!"
- 27 Thai skewers
- 29 Unrestricted
- 31 Courteous regard
- 32 Profess
- 33 Milky Way maker
- 36 Now's partner
- **37** Kind of show or school

- 40 Sandler flick, "The
- **43** Mascara target
- 45 Very much

Singer"

- **46** Kind of printer
- **47** Doggie-bag bit
- 48 Gladiators' venue
- 49 It may be cast

by Margie E. Burke

32

55

54

15

18

21

37

42

43

61

64

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- 50 Diamond feature
- **53** Brings to a close
- 54 Walk of Fame symbol
- 55 Transmit
- 57 Little one

Answers to Previous Crossword:



Subscribe to The SUN PagosaSUN.com

Do you have a burning desire to control your GERD?

By Nicole Clark

PREVIEW Columnist

What could be better than enjoying a holiday meal with all your favorites - pumpkin pie, mashed potatoes (extra gravy), white bread and butter, turkey, caffeine, carbonated or alcoholic beverages, and snacks in between, all while in good company?

The only thing I can think of is enjoying this without the subsequent heartburn.

Count your blessings if you can't relate. However, the numbers suggest 20 percent of you are well-acquainted with GERD, or gastroesophageal reflux disease.

When contained within the stomach, hydrochloric acid does wonders for digestion (breaks down nutrients for absorption in the small intestine) and keeps us healthy (reduces pathogens). But, if your lower esophageal sphincter (LES) gets lazy, that strong gastric acid finds its way from your stomach to your esophagus. Unlike your stomach, the lining of the esophagus is not designed to protect against such acidity — and it's uncomfortable.

Perhaps describing your LES as "lazy" is unfair. More accurately, it is relaxed. Who isn't after a big, carbo-

Extension Viewpoints

hydrate and fat-rich meal?

Lifestyle modification is one of the first approaches to managing GERD.

Alcohol, caffeine, carbonation, mint, meals high in simple carbs and fat, and spicy foods are all believed to relax the LES.

Yet, oddly enough, the effectiveness of dietary modifications for controlling GERD is inconsistent from one person to another.

Not to say an elimination diet isn't worth a try. It may help you identify your trigger(s). Conversely, and more often than not, you'll discover no one food or type of food triggers your GERD.

Back to the drawing board. The following practices may be more effective in reducing the incidence and severity of GERD:

- Reduce portion sizes.
- Choose high-fiber carbs over simple sugar carbs.

- · Allow two to three hours between the last meal and bedtime.
 - Elevate your head during sleep.
- Try weight loss and smoking cessation, if indicated.

If all else fails, talk to your provider about proton-pump inhibitors. They are highly effective and may outweigh the complications of uncontrolled GERD.

Of course, change can wait until after the holidays. What difference will a few more episodes of heartburn make, anyway?

CPR and first aid classes

CPR and first aid certification classes are offered every other month at the CSU Extension office, generally on the third Monday and Wednesday from 6 to 10 p.m. The cost for the classes is \$80 for combined CPR/first aid and \$55 for CPR, first aid or recertification. Call the Extension office at (970) 246-5931 to register.

Check out the online option on our website, https://archuleta.extension.colostate.edu/.

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Cookies

continued from previous page

6. Use assorted star-shaped cookie cutters to cut out approximately 23 variably sized star shapes. Arrange between prepared sheets, spaced apart.

7. From remaining dough, cut out one teardrop and two semi-circles of dough, using appropriate cutters or working freehand with a paring knife. Arrange on one of the baking

8. Bake cookies for 12 to 15 minutes, until golden and dry to the touch. Remove to cooling racks to

9. For the icing and decoration: Thoroughly stir together confectioner's sugar and meringue powder in a large mixing bowl.

10. Gradually beat in warm water and vanilla extract mixture using an electric mixer until icing is smooth and of a flooding consistency; you may not need all of the water.

11. Divide icing between three bowls. Color two bowls pink and red, respectively, by beating in enough pink and red coloring to achieve uniform colors. Leave the third bowl uncolored.

12. Spoon pink and red icing into separate piping bags fitted with small, round-tip nozzles.

13. To ice the cookies, pipe around their perimeters with the icings to create borders. Fill in middle of cookies with more icing; you can use a damp, warm offset palette knife to spread out icing to an even finish.

14. Carefully transfer iced cookies to cooling racks, decorating with the sugar crystals in festive patterns.

15. Using same technique as in steps 13 and 14, ice teardrop cookie with red and white icing for Santa's hat and beard, respectively. Ice the two semicircle cookies with white

16. Before icings have set, carefully attach semicircle cookies to teardrop cookie to fashion Santa's mustache. Color any remaining white icing with turquoise coloring and then dab onto teardrop cookie for Santa's eyes. Pipe some pink icing below eyes for his nose.

17. Let cookies set and harden before serving.

Tip: Flooding consistency should be similar to the consistency of toothpaste. If your icing is too thick, thin it out with some warm water, mixing it into the icing in drops.

Community news.

The Pagosa Springs SUN 264-2100



This Thanksgiving, PSMC shares its gratitude for our employees and this wonderful community.

The Primary Care Clinic and Outpatient Services will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 28. We will reopen on Friday, November 29th to serve you.

The Emergency Department is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.



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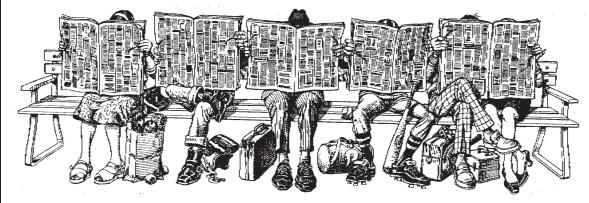
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The Pagosa Springs Sun PO Box 9 Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 (970) 264-2100

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

Wednesday, Nov. 27

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.

Pre-Thanksgiving Meal. 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Senior Center. Archuleta Seniors Inc. will service a traditional turkey menu with stuffing, mashed sweet potatoes, cranberry sauce and pumpkin cheesecake. All are welcome to attend. Please call in advance and make your reservation by 9 a.m. on Nov. 26 or earlier by calling or texting (970) 264-2167.

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-towin-it-style games.

Sunday, Dec. 1

Bingo. 5:45 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd. Doors open at 5 p.m., earlybird bingo at 5:45 p.m., bingo at 6 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 2

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

Women's Fellowship. 9 a.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms.

Senior Conversations. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

Learn to Knit or Crochet. 2-3:15 p.m., Sisson Library. Come learn to knit or crochet. For ages 8 and up. All supplies will be provided.

Healthy Aging and Yoga Therapy Class. 2:30-3:30 p.m., Senior Center.

High School Math Tutoring. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. Math tutors are available for ages 14 and up. Registration is required.

Pagosa Unplugged. 4-6 p.m., Sisson Library. Musicians of all abilities are invited to jam and sing with others. Call Susan at (970) 946-3396 for details.

Deepening the Faith Classes. 6-8 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms.

Tuesday, Dec. 3

Veterans for Veterans of Archuleta County. 9 a.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. Veterans and family members are invited to share experiences with vets of all ages. Find out about the latest in vets benefits, vets news and community-focused events. Contact (970) 880-8387 for more details.

Stretching and Mobility Class. 9:30-10:30 a.m., Senior Center. A stretching and mobility class for those age 55 and up.

Pagosa Springs Stitchers. 10 a.m.noon, Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Bring your current stitching project and a snack/drink if you wish, and enjoy the fellowship of other stitchers. All are welcome.

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.

WHIPS (Women Helping in Pagosa Springs). 11:30 a.m., Gustoso's Italian Restaurant. The cost is \$20. All women are welcome. An RSVP to (970) 946-1895 by the evening of Dec. 1 is required.

Bridge. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

Hand and Foot Card Game. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center. No experience is necessary, so come willing to learn.

Mahjong. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center. English as a Second Language.

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

Conversational Spanish. 4:30-5:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Practice your Spanish conversation skills in a group setting. No minimum skill level required.

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

Men's Fellowship. 6 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms.

Wednesday, Dec. 4

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 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.

■ See Calendar on next page

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RotaryClub of Pagosa Springs



■ continued from previous page

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.

Virtual Author Talk: Jeff Post. Noon, virtual. Jeff Post will speak on "The Smithsonian National Gem Collection Unearthed: Surprising Stories Behind the Jewels." For details and to register, go to https://libraryc.org/pagosalibrary/upcoming.

Adversity and Loss: Living Your Legacy with Prayer. 2-3:15 p.m., Sisson Library. A nondenominational talk with Larry G. Allen. Learn how to share your own legacy with prayer to others. Throughout these short stories you will see how his personal prayer life and faith in Jesus has allowed him to impact other people's lives as well as his own.

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-towin-it-style games.

Yamaguchi South River Improvement Project 60 Percent Design Presentation. 5:30-7 p.m., Community Center. An opportunity to see the additional design detail for the project and see plans to improve recreation access, enhance aquatic habitats and make the river area more enjoyable. Community input will be accepted.

Christmas Bird Count Bird Identification Class. 6-8 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St.

Thursday, Dec. 5

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

T'ai Chi Chih. 1:30-2:30, Senior Center. Free for those 60 and better.

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

Dungeons and Dragons. 4-5:30

p.m., Sisson Library. 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.

Festival of Trees Public Viewing.

Noon-6 p.m., Community Center.

View the trees and vote for your favorites. Santa will be there from 3-6 p.m.

Wolf Creek Classic: Pagosa Springs High School Varsity Girls' Basketball. 5 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Pagosa Springs vs. Grand Junction High School.

Wolf Creek Classic: Pagosa

■ See Calendar on next page



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■ continued from previous page
Springs High School Varsity
Boys' Basketball. 6:30 p.m.,
Pagosa Springs High School.
Pagosa Springs vs. Delta High
School.

Friday, Dec. 6

A Woman's Retirement Outlook: Time Matters. Noon-1:15 p.m., Sisson Library. Retirement income strategies, including perspectives on Social Security and making your savings last. How to prepare for the unexpected, including market risks and the impact of rising costs.

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.

All-Ages Gaming. 2-3:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Play on the library's Xbox.

Teen/Tween Takeover. 2-4 p.m., Sisson Library. The large meeting room and some of the computers will be set aside for tweens/teens to use and spend time with friends.

18th Annual Festival of Trees. 5:30 p.m., Community Center. Experience the magic of 19 beautifully decorated Christmas trees, each crafted by local nonprofits to raise funds for their causes. Tickets are \$30, and table reservations are available for groups. Tickets are available for purchase at The Ross Aragon Community Center or online at https://secure.rec1.com/CO/pagosa-springs-co/catalog. For more information, call (970) 264-4152.

Saturday, Dec. 7

LEGO Club. 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.

Wolf Creek Classic: Pagosa Springs High School Varsity Girls' Basketball. 1 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Pagosa Springs vs. Gunnison High School.

Wolf Creek Classic: Pagosa Springs High School Varsity Boys' Basketball. 2:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Pagosa Springs vs. Gunnison High School.

Sunday, Dec. 8

The Heralds of Christmas Concert. 3 p.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. A myriad of holiday and seasonal works will be performed by local musicians. Presented by the Pagosa Springs Instrumental Society. Monday, Dec. 9 Indoor Pickleball. 8-11:30 a.m., Ross

■ See Calendar on next page

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"Never have I experienced a more efficient and professional dealing than this one. David and Mary Helen made this a smooth and effortless experience for me." - George Diestelkamp

- continued from previous page Aragon Community Center.
- Women's Fellowship. 9 a.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms
- **Senior Conversations.** 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.
- Healthy Aging and Yoga Therapy Class. 2:30-3:30 p.m., Senior Center.
- Deepening the Faith Classes. 6-8 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms.

Tuesday, Dec. 10

- 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.

 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.
- 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, Dec. 11

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.
- Pagosa Catholic Quilters. 9 a.m.-2 p.m., John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms. For more information, contact Maxine Everaert at quilters@ihmjp2.org.
- Kids Kare. 9:30-11:30 a.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. A weekly club for 3- to 5-year-olds where the Bible is taught with songs, stories, object lessons, games and more. For more information, email Frank and Connie Porter at ceflittlekids@gmail.com.
- Family Storytime. 10-11 a.m., Sisson Library. Join us for great stories, fun songs, and plenty of reasons to get up and move. It's a great way for kids to have fun while building the skills they need to become independent readers. For all ages. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.
- Emotional Freedom Technique Session. 10-11 a.m., Senior Center.
- 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.
- 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, Dec. 12

- 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, Senior Center. Free for those 60 and better.
- **Tech Time.** 2-4 p.m., Sisson Library. Basic questions related to computers, smartphones, tablets, etc. Bring your device charger. We provide assistance with accessing any of the library's online resources. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.
- Dungeons and Dragons. 4-5:30 p.m., Sisson Library. 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.
- Christmas Bird Count Bird Identification Class. 6-8 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St.

Friday, Dec. 13

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

- Good News Club. 1:15-3:15 p.m., Pagosa Springs Elementary School. A weekly club for kids in kindergarten through the fourth grade where the Bible is taught with songs, stories, object lessons, games and more. For more information, email Frank and Connie Porter at ceflittle-kids@gmail.com.
- **Bingo.** 1:30-2:30 p.m., Senior Center. Free. Those under 18 must have an adult chaperone. For more information, contact (970) 264-2167.
- Pagosa Springs Community Choir Christmas Concert. 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium.

Saturday, Dec. 14

- Pi Beta Phi Cristmas Angel Luncheon. 11:30 a.m., home of Carole Howard. San Juan Alumnae Club members are invited. Guests are asked to dress in holiday attire. Please being an anonymous wrapped angel gift (does not have to be an ornament) to exchange and a monetary conribution to Healthy Archuleta for food banks. RSVP to Carole
- Late Night at the Library. 4:30-7:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Explore the art
- See Calendar on next page

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■ continued from previous page

of Zentangle or learn to transform used books into holiday crafts while enjoying food and fun. Tickets are \$50 and support the Mountains of Opportunity campaign to expand and renovate the library. Tickets are available at pagosalibrary.org or at the door. This is a 21-andover event.

Pagosa Springs Community Choir Christmas Concert. 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium.

Sunday, Dec. 15

Pagosa Springs Community Choir Christmas Concert. 4 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium.

Bingo. 5:45 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd. Doors open at 5 p.m., earlybird bingo at 5:45 p.m., bingo at

Monday, Dec. 16

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

Women's Fellowship. 9 a.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church class-

Line Dancing. 9:30-11:30 a.m., PLPOA Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Beginners meet at 9:30 a.m. and the advance group meets at 10:15 a.m. If you haven't attended before, please call Beverly at (970) 264-2064 for more information.

Senior Conversations. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center

Healthy Aging and Yoga Therapy Class. 2:30-3:30 p.m., Senior

Deepening the Faith Classes. 6-8 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms.

Tuesday, Dec. 17

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. A holiday potluck lunch will follow the meeting.

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.

Community Blood Drive. 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. Contact Sharee Grazda by call or text at (970) 946-2760 for information or to book an appointment. You may also go directly to Vitalant.org or call 877/25-VITAI

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. 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-itstyle games.

English as a Second Language. 4-7 p.m., Sisson Library. Your library offers English as a second lanquage 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, Dec. 18

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.

Pagosa Catholic Quilters. 9 a.m.-2 p.m., John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms. For more information, contact Maxine Everaert at quilters@ihmjp2.org.

Kids Kare. 9:30-11:30 a.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. A weekly club for 3- to 5-yearolds 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.

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.

Elementary Tutoring. 3:30-4:30

p.m., Sisson Library. After-school tutoring in reading and math for grades 1-3. Registration required.

mation or to sign up. Pagosa Springs High School Booster Club. 5:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School.

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Answer: True

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Identify the four differences between these pictures.



B



Answers: 1. Plant is taller 2. Bread is larger 3. Missing lemon 4. Missing spoon in dad's hand



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1961: Enos, a chimpanzee, is launched into space.

1982: Michael Jackson releases "Thriller," which becomes the best-selling music album of all time.

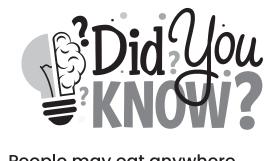


be situated or live somewhere



English: Dine
Spanish: Cenar
Italian: Cenare
French: Dîner

German: Abendessen



People may eat anywhere from 3,000 to 4,500 calories during Thanksgiving dinners, which is more

which is more than what should be eaten in a day.





Answer: Turkey

Let's scrap the stigma of mental illness

By Dave Marston

PREVIEW Columnist

Even though one in five Americans is estimated to suffer from mental health illness, talk about mental health in the rural West remains muted.

I'd like to talk about it this Thanksgiving because I'm grateful I got the help I needed after a long-fought problem: I'm bipolar and I'm being treated for it.

I didn't start out bipolar. I was 24 when my behavior took a dive. At first, I chalked it up to my job in New York where I was buying and selling stocks all day. I became manic and anxious, prone to periods of depression laced with sleepless anxiety.

During a period of ramped-up mental anguish, I jumped out of a moving car. It was going fast, over 30 miles per hour. I was with friends when someone made a joke at my expense, and rather than fire back a witty response, I thought, "I'm going to explode."

I opened the door and jumped. Ten seconds later I was hobbling down a dark suburban street. Sure, I was bloody, gravel lodged in my hands, but I was relieved to be out of that car.

Running from problems became my life's work. It was that or suddenly erupting in anger, seeming without notice. But for years I dodged seeing a psychiatrist, consulting a therapist instead. I'd grown up in a rural Western community, and seeking psychiatric help seemed impossible.

When I finally sought out a psychiatrist 15 years later, he asked tough questions. What were the most erratic things I'd done? Jumping out of a moving car ranked first on the list. Had I ever been hospitalized for my behavior? No, nothing that severe. He took notes, then gave me his diagnosis: I was bipolar. I firmly resisted that conclusion.

Skeptically, he offered antidepressant medication.

"Typically, a bipolar person will have a poor reaction," he said.

I had seven bad reactions to seven antidepressants. I finally gave up.

"I'm not saying I'm bipolar," I said, "but if I were, what medication would you prescribe?"

"I'd prescribe an antipsychotic," he said. At that point the continuing anguish of my daily life outweighed my fear of being diagnosed as mentally ill.

"I'm ready," I said.

Sure enough, the medication was effective, and life changed. I slept soundly and could readily work. I experienced calm. I married, had a child and eased into what passes for normal life. But I never talked to people about being bipolar, about the medication that made life worth living. I bought life insurance and went through a medical exam. Afterward, the agent said I could get a much better rate without an antipsychotic in my daily

I paid the higher rate for what I

Opinion: Writers on the Range

called my "bipolar tax."

In 2022, my family and I moved from New York to the town of Durango, Colo. I called psychiatrists in the area and explained I was looking to start treatment locally. One doctor quickly texted me back and asked me to text my medications.

"Whoa," he texted, "I don't treat bipolar patients."

The next psychiatrist rejected me

I tried to wean off medication, but the old hamster wheel of anxious thoughts spun faster and faster. In western Colorado, it took finding a telehealth doctor who would prescribe the medication that allowed me to function.

I also got to know my neighbor John Truitt, who is, among other things, on the autism spectrum and happy to chat about it. Sensing a kindred spirit, I began, "This is a big

His reaction to my confession was surprising: "Big deal you're bipolar," he said. "You're what's called 2E for twice exceptional."

That meant I was "neurodiverse" and gifted, he said.

My gift had once been turning the chaos of financial markets into profitable trades, something I can't do now while medicated, but I'm fine with that.

Since that day, I've told more people about my diagnosis and subsequent learning curve. This spring, I gave a commencement speech at the private Heron School for Twice-Exceptional Students in Moab, Utah, sharing with parents, teachers and students my bumpy ride with mental

Looking at the audience, I saw understanding and acceptance.

Because so many of us live with it, mental illness needs to be acknowledged, treated and talked about. I could have saved so much time, energy and pain by seeking the right kind of help earlier. How much healthier we would be if we treated mental illness the way we treat any other illness - with openness and



Dave Marston is the publisher of Writers on the Range, writersontherange.org, an independent nonprofit dedicated to spurring lively conversation about Western issues. He lives in Durango, Colo. Views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN.

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MLS # 819518

.40 Acre Commercial Property located on Hwy 160 off of Eagle Dr. 3,290 Square feet and 2 attached buildings. The front is a gallery and warehouse the back at one time was a clinic



3 bedroom/2 ½ bathrooms with 1,703 sq. ft. and conveniently located uptown. This home was built in 2006 and used as a second home by the owners. All three bedrooms are located upstairs with the primary bedroom towards the back. Two covered decks - one off the primary bedroom and the other off of the living room — allow for a nice place to relax and unwind.

> To tour this home go to: https://pspixeltree.com/44-W-Golf-Pl



MLS # 813551

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

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



MLS # 811817

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

> To tour this home go to: https://tinyurl.com/65Caballero



MLS # 817526

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

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



MLS # 807337

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

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Common giving scams and how to spot them

Special to The PREVIEW

Phishing emails are one charity scam individuals must learn to recognize, particularly during the giving season.

December is a season of giving, and that charitable spirit is evidenced by the uptick in donations over the final month of the year.

Perhaps inspired by Giving Tuesday, which is celebrated annually on the first Tuesday after Thanksgiving, donors tend to be especially generous in December.

According to Donorbox, which provides an online fundraising platform to facilitate charitable donations, 31 percent of yearly charitable giving happens in December.

Nonprofit organizations undoubtedly recognize the spirit of generosity that surfaces each December, but criminals are likely cognizant of individuals' desire to give back during the holiday season as well.

Indeed, a 2023 press release from the United States Attorney's Office in the Western District of North Carolina cited fake charities as one of the most common scams encountered by consumers during the holiday season.

With that in mind, well-meaning prospective donors can learn to recognize common giving scams to ensure they are not victimized by criminals looking to prey on their generosity this holiday season.

Fraudulent charities

Criminals targeting people who want to donate during the holiday season may set up fraudulent charities in an effort to trick people into giving them money.

The New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs notes that fraudulent charities may feature impressive names or a name similar to one used by a reputable, well-known charity.

Phishing emails

Phishing emails have been around for decades, and for good reason. Such scams are easy to implement and highly successful.

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) reported receiving 358,000 reports of scammers contacting individuals via email in 2023, and the real number is likely much higher, as few consumers take the time to report such emails to the FTC.

Phishing emails typically prompt recipients to click on a link embedded in an email. These emails may seem as though they're coming from an individual's bank or credit card company, while others may indicate recipients can win a prize if they open the email and click on a link within it.

The New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs warns consumers against sharing their credit card information in an email, even if the sender claims to be from a reputable charity.

Pressure tactics

Seeking to capitalize on the spirit of giving that surfaces each December, some scammers will pressure prospective donors and potential victims into making donations over the phone or via links embedded in an email.

Reputable charities do not pressure donors into giving over the phone or via email, so solicitations for immediate donations are a telltale sign of a charity scam.

If prompted to make donations with cash or via gift cards or wire transfers, hang up the phone, as the FTC notes such payment methods are how scammers request donations

Thank-you messages

Another common giving scam is to thank potential victims for past donations they never made. This is an attempt to trick generous individuals into thinking they have a past relationship with a charity they believe is reputable, which might make them less inclined to vet the person or organization thanking them.

Scammers are banking on establishing that false sense of security and trust, particularly during a notably busy time of year when donors may feel as though they don't have the

time to research organizations they want to support.

More information

Scammers prey on individuals' generosity each holiday season. More information about giving scams and how to avoid them is available at consumer.ftc.gov.



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Tips to choose your next book

Special to The PREVIEW

Avid readers are always seeking new material to whet their literary appetites. Reading can be an immensely enjoyable activity, and one with notable benefits.

According to Basmo, a reading tracker app, a couple hundred thousand books are published each year. The sheer volume of material to choose from can make it challenging to find a good book.

Readers can pursue many avenues to find new books. The following are just a few ways to find the next book you won't want to put down:

• Visit the library. With so much content at your fingertips, it may be tempting to turn to the internet to find a new read. Instead, go back to where many people first fall in love with reading. The local library has many great offerings and personnel who can help you find something that will prove a good match.

• Visit a bookstore. If you'd rather purchase a book, a bookstore is an ideal place to get feedback on books. Whether it's a chain store or an independent retailer, many bookstores employ individuals who are book lovers themselves. Ask for recommendations.

• Try an app. Options like Whichbook enable you to find your next book based on various qualifiers, such as emotion, geography or type of character.

• Go with a classic. Browse a list of classics and find books that you haven't read yet or even ones you may want to reread now that you are older. There are reasons these books have withstood the test of time.

• Ask family and friends. Query the people in your life who love to read and find out what they are reading. You may be introduced to an author that you weren't familiar with or a book series that is right up your alley.

• Join a book club. A book club will

expose you to a rotation of new books for as long as you are a member. Since books tend to be suggested by members each go-round, you won't fall in the trap of only choosing one genre or "safe" titles that you are used to.

• Go with authors' recommendations. If you like a particular author, research who he or she is reading. Some authors recommend others in the industry. While some of these recommendations may be for compensation or publicity, many are legitimate suggestions.

• Let your reading history dictate. Reading services like Amazon's Kindle will recommend new titles based on your reading habits; otherwise, search for "books like (name title)" online to discover books that have a similar theme or style.

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Why supporting local small businesses matters

Special to The PREVIEW

The holiday season is a time of year when shopping takes center stage.

While online giants and big box retailers seem to be everywhere, offering an endless array of products with the convenience of low prices, small businesses provide a range of benefits that go far beyond the ease of a mouse click or mountains of merchandise.

Shopping local retailers is more than just a transaction — it is crucial for maintaining the economic foundation of local communities.

Let's take a look at the many ways it pays to shop small businesses during the holidays and all year long:

- Strengthen the local economy: A large percentage of the money spent at small businesses stays in the community. That's because these businesses often are owned and operated by local residents who are invested in the community themselves. Various studies indicate that for every \$100 spent at a small business, roughly \$70 stays in the community.
- Enhanced customer service: Owners and employees of small businesses have a keen interest in keeping customers happy. They often do so by providing superior customer service. Tailoring recommendations, exhibiting a willingness to accommodate special requests, offering a more engaging shopping experience, and being more friendly and connected with regular customers sets many small businesses apart.
- Support the community: Small businesses serve the community through the products and services they offer, and many give back in other ways as well. Small, locally owned businesses often sponsor

schools, sports teams and charities. This helps foster a sense of belonging in the community.

- Innovative offerings: Small businesses are not beholden to corporate policies or franchise restrictions, so they can more readily bring new life to existing ideas and trends. Small businesses can offer customers different options that larger retailers cannot match.
- Job creation: Small businesses employ a significant percentage of the workforce and frequently provide jobs that might not be available in

larger corporate settings. The U.S. Small Business Administration Office of Advocacy states that small businesses have generated 12.9 million net new jobs over the past 25 years, accounting for two out of every three jobs added to the U.S. economy. Keeping residents working helps strengthen local communities.

There are numerous benefits to shopping at small businesses this Small Business Saturday and throughout the year. Such firms help to establish a more resilient, diverse and bustling local community.



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Eight easy holiday centerpiece ideas

Special to The PREVIEW

The holiday season is a great time to make any home a bit more merry and bright. Most individuals let their personalities show through their home decor, and holiday decorating is just as personal as decorating throughout the rest of the year.

The main living areas of a home get the most decorating attention, with a Christmas tree or menorah taking a prominent position in the front window. Garlands, candles and other accoutrements also may dress up spaces.

However, when it comes to holiday hosting, attention also should be given to the dining table, which can benefit from a festive centerpiece.

Premade centerpieces are undeniably attractive, but adding a homespun touch can be a fun creative pursuit and become a family tradition. Explore these eight simple ideas to dress up your holiday table.

1. Frosted pine cones: Take advantage of a crisp winter's day to venture into a forest or park that is rich with evergreen trees. Gather pine cones from the forest floor and, if possible, a few evergreen boughs.

Give the pine cones a touch of winter whimsy with a little faux snow in a can or even white paint. Nestle the boughs and pine cones into a widemouthed vase or bowl in the center of the table. Individual pine cones can later be turned into place cards for seating guests.

2. Holiday thanks: Cut many strips of paper roughly 6 inches in length from various colored pieces of paper to match the holiday theme. When guests arrive, ask them to write a favorite holiday memory or two, or what they're thankful for. Twirl the paper strips around a pencil to curl them, and then place the curlicues into a decorative bowl in the center of the table. Later in the evening, the host or hostess can read some of the sentiments.

- 3. Magical forest: Use green and silver conical party hats to turn a table or sideboard into a veritable evergreen forest. Arrange them on a blanket of faux snow or white confetti.
- 4. Freshly cut: Select attractive flowers in vibrant holiday hues from a florist or even the supermarket floral section. Cut the stems and place them into an unusual display container, such as holiday-themed

mugs or a punch bowl.

- 5. Glass baubles: Who says ornaments should be exclusive to the tree? A crystal or glass cake stand can be transformed into an icy delight when topped with silver and clear glass ornaments.
- 6. Birch wood: The crisp white coloring of birch bark is right at home with holiday decor. Go stark with pieces of the cut wood in varying heights intermingled with white candles that mimic the shapes and scale of the wood.
- 7. Fruit and vegetables: If guests are coming over and the race is on for a fast centerpiece, look no further than the kitchen. Lemons, artichokes, pears or pomegranates look festive in a bowl interspersed with some greenery and baby's breath.

8. Cornucopia: The horn of plenty can be customized to any holiday. Purchase a horn in wicker or woven grapevine and fill with flowers, fruit and greenery, or even painted gourds or miniature pumpkins.

Holiday hosts and hostesses should not neglect the dining table when they decorate. Festive centerpieces can be handmade without much effort on the part of hosts.





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Consider these Thanksgiving facts

Special to The PREVIEW

Thanksgiving is a time to gather with family and friends and reflect on one's blessings.

In anticipation of these holidays, here are some interesting facts about the Thanksgiving celebration.

- 1. American Thanksgiving is largely modeled on a 17th century harvest feast shared by the English settlers and the Wampanoag tribe.
- 2. Canadians celebrate Thanksgiving on the second Monday of October. It is based on European harvest festivals.
- 3. The National Turkey Federation says around 45 million turkeys will be eaten on Thanksgiving, which equates to about 720 million pounds of turkey being consumed (with the average turkey size being 16 pounds).
- 4. The Butterball hotline answers roughly 100,000 calls every year on its turkey question hotline.
- 5. In 1953, the Swanson company overestimated the number of frozen turkeys it would sell for the holiday season by 26 tons. Rather than waste the meat, Swanson sliced it up, repackaged it and created the first frozen TV dinners.
- 6. Thanksgiving in America may be older than many recognize. While Thanksgiving is largely tied to the 17th century settlers, the National Parks Service says in 1565 Spanish settlers in St. Augustine (now Florida) celebrated by having a meal to which they invited the native Seloy tribe. The Spanish served pork stew, sea biscuits, red wine and garbanzo

beans. Some say the Seloy contributed turkey, venison and maize.

- 7. Thanksgiving didn't become a civic holiday until Abraham Lincoln made it one after the Civil War tragedy. Thanksgiving was declared a national holiday on Oct. 20, 1864.
- 8. The Pilgrims did not refer to themselves as "pilgrims." They used the word "separatists" as they were separating themselves from a larger belief system.
- 9. In addition to Canada and the United States, Grenada, Liberia, the Philippines, Saint Lucia and the Netherlands celebrate their own versions of Thanksgiving.
- 10. Each year, the American president "pardons" a turkey from slaughter on Thanksgiving. This tradition dates back to when Abraham Lincoln's son was upset that his family's turkey that was going to be killed for Thanksgiving dinner.
- 11. According to the U.S. Calorie Control Council, an average American may consume 4,500 calories and 229 grams of fat on Thanksgiving Day.
- 12. The Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade is an annual tradition. People line the parade route in New York City or tune in to watch the parade on television. It originated in 1924 and the famed balloons were added in 1927.
- 13. Apple pie is the pie of choice for Thanksgiving, even though pumpkin pie is prevalent this time of year.

Thanksgiving is a popular holiday in Canada and the U.S. Many traditions have been borne of the holiday, and it is a favorite time of year for many people.



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THERE IS A SOLUTION GROUP of Alcoholics Anonymous meets Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, 5:30-6:30p.m. Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. Questions? Richard: (970)903-1456. Diamond: (970)264-1073. More resources: www.aa.org, www. aa-westerncolorado.com, (970)245-9649, (888)333-9649 (24 hours).

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ELITE RECYCLING AND DISPOSAL, a division of Bruin Waste Management, LLC is a rapidly growing organization with services expanding the Western Slope of Colorado. We currently have a Route Truck Helper / Tipper position open. The starting rate for this position is \$19 /hour. Helpers ride on the trucks and empty trash carts and dumpsters. A valid driver's license is a plus, as helpers do a variety of tasks including cart delivery, shop cleaning, light mechanical and washing trucks and carts. We offer a competitive benefits package including a matching 401k Plan with opportunities to earn safety bonuses. We are committed to first-class service, where safety and people are our top priority! Applications can be picked up at 250 Industrial Circle in Pagosa Springs, Colorado or call our office at (970)731-2012 or email tanner@elite-recycling.com to request one.

EXPERIENCED HEAVY EQUIPMENT OP-**ERATOR.** This is a full-time position, offering competitive pay, health insurance, 401K and PTO. Please email resume to coloradorock08@gmail.com or call (970)264-3478.

GENERAL LABORER NEEDED F/T or P/T Seasonal. Assorted Duties. Please send resume or work history to frontdesk@ pagosalandcompany.com. Phone (970)264-

Classifieds

(970) 264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HELP WANTED

ELITE RECYCLING AND DISPOSAL. a division of Bruin Waste Management, LLC is a rapidly growing organization with services expanding the Western Slope of Colorado. We currently have a Class B CDL Driver Trash/ Recycle Route Driver position open. The starting rate for this position is \$24/ hour and includes a sign-on bonus of \$500 payable after 6 months of accident-free employment. We offer a competitive benefits package including a matching 401k Plan with opportunities to earn safety bonuses. Must be able to pass a pre-employment drug test. We are committed to first-class service, where safety and people are our top priority! Applications can be picked up at 250 Industrial Circle in Pagosa Springs, Colorado or call our office at (970)731-2012 or email htanner@elite-recycling.com to

GROWING SPACES is actively seeking enthusiastic individuals to join our team! We have multiple positions available, both full-time and part-time. For more information and to apply, please visit our website https://growingspaces.com/employment. Join us in making a difference in the gardening community and help others grow their dream gardens. We look forward to meeting you.

HELP WANTED. Service tech at Homespun Hot Tubs. Full /Part-time. Training. Must have winter reliable car. \$20 /hour start pay plus mileage. Ready to start. If interested text (818)963-0836 or come in and fill out application. 301 N. Pagosa Blvd. B6.

MALT SHOPPE NOW HIRING. Apply in person between 9a.m. and 2p.m.

MASSAGE THERAPIST –position open at Healing Waters Resort & Spa! We are looking for someone proficient in deep tissue and therapeutic massage to join our small team of therapists – medical or sports therapy background a plus! Must be available weekends. If this sounds like you, let's talk! Email Kanaka at sales@pshotsprings.com or drop your resume by Healing Waters Resort & Spa at 140 Hot Springs Blvd. Soaking included with employment.

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.

HELP WANTED

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.

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 RENT-AL 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@iandiinc.net.

PHYSICAL THERAPY TECH Rocky Mountain Physical Therapy has an opening for a full time Physical Therapy Tech. We are looking for a dependable, energetic multitasker who will enjoy helping people recover from surgeries, injuries, accidents and other health issues to join our team. No prior experience necessary. We offer competitive pay, \$16- 18 per hour, and benefits including paid holidays, paid sick leave, 401k plan, and a profit-sharing program. Please submit resume to RMPT 117 Navajo Trail Dr., Suite T or email to rockymountainpt@yahoo.com.

ROOF LABORER NEEDED with some construction experience. Will train. \$20-\$25/ hour to start. (970)749-0830.

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.

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@ vahoo.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.

TURNKEY CARPET STEAM CLEANING BUSINESS for sale. Enclosed trailer with all equipment. www.pagosasteam.com, \$3,000 OBO. (970)712-1300.

FOR SALE



FOR SALE!

Triggs Horse Trailer, excellent condition Back loading bumper pull All new tires and new wiring Removable mats and center panel Contact (575) 770-2161, leave message

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.

DRY PINE. \$250/ cord. (970)903-0731.

DRY, SEASONED DOUGLAS FIR for sale. Ryan Whitlow (970)585-4578.

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.

KING CUTTER BRUSH HOG 6ft wide rotary mower. 3-point tractor category 1 PTO compatible. \$650. (719)588-2872.

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.

RETAIL SLAT BOARD. 4' x8' panels (maple look), \$50 each. 7 panels. (970)264-5168 or (970)946-4925.

FOR SALE

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).

STORAGE UNIT SALE. Quality stuff. Indoor/ Outdoor misc. U-take all, U haul all. \$900.00. (970)382-1285.

USED SNOWBOARD BOOTS and bindings for kids and adults. \$20 -\$75. See the selection at Summit Ski in the River Center.

WINTER SNOW TIRES 265-65-R18. Moving to Florida. Used November -April, 1 year '23-'24. Less than 4K miles. \$300 OBO. Call or message (407)921-1554.

LIVESTOCK

EXCELLENT HORSE QUALITY GRASS HAY. Barn stored. \$9. (970)264-6779. Please leave a message.

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.

AUTOS

2001 BUICK LESABRE 122k miles. FWD. Sold as is. Mechanically sound. Body in great condition. \$2,650 OBO. (310)245-0555.

2001 SUBARU OUTBACK 3.0 High mileage 300k. Body and engine in good condition. New tires. \$1600. (312)608-2626.

2008 FORD F250 V10 engine. 162,000 miles. New studded snow tires and new snow plow. \$18,000 OBO. (303)601-2390.

AUTOS

2017 KIA SORENTO EX Premium Package SUV 4D in very good condition. 95,000 miles, 25 MPG Highway, AWD with Locking Differential, 2.0L Turbo, 18" Alloy Wheels, 1st and 2nd Row Leather Seats, Heated Front Seats, UVO 7" Touchscreen with Android Auto and Apple CarPlay, SiriusXM Radio, Bluetooth, Push Button Start with Smart Key, Remote Start, 2nd Row Window Shades, Fog Lamps, Heated Outside Mirrors with Turn Signal Indicators, Privacy Glass, Roof Rails, Power Folding Side Mirrors, Blind Spot Detection, Rear Cross Traffic Alert, Smart "Hands Free" Power Liftgate, Cargo Cover and Tray, 2 Remote Keys. \$16,900. Contact Angelene at (970)264-4321

GUARANTEED CREDIT APPROVAL! 4X4 Auto Sales, 21698 Hwy. 160 West, Durango. (970)385-7940.

YARD SALES

BE SURE TO CHECK for more yard sales in the Too Late To Classify section.

COMMERCIAL FOR RENT

MOVE-IN SPECIAL 1st month free rent

with a 12-month lease

This mixed-use office is 1500 sq ft. This building has roll-up doors, on the front and back. The building has an enclosed office, a cubby office with a window that connects both offices, lots of bay storage area, a bathroom, two heaters and a water heater.

Call us to schedule a tour: 970-731-4344 For information & application: sunethaproperties.com

1000 SF flexible commercial/ industrial space on the western side of Pagosa Springs. Overhead garage door and small bathroom. Will be delivered as a shell space ready to be customized. Available December 1st. \$1,000. raswheeler@qmail.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.

DOWNTOWN OFFICE for rent on 2nd floor with private bathroom. \$400/ month including utilities and WiFi. No smokers. No pets. Available Dec. 1st. (970)946-2728.

HIGH-VISIBILITY EAGLE DRIVE location with large signs facing 160. Nicely renovated with two offices, large flexible space, bathroom, plenty of parking. \$1,800/ month includes utilities. Call/ text (970)444-2124.

Email us at classads@pagosasun.com to submit your classified. PagosaSUN.com

Classifieds

(970) 264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

www.RMREALTYANDRENTALS.COM

HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

"We owned a condominium in the Pagosa Springs area which was a rental property. For many years the firm provided property management services for us and we always found them to be very professional and responsive. If you are in need of a competent, professional property management firm or realtor, we would strongly recommend them. ~



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COMMERCIAL FOR RENT

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/ WORK-SHOPS 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 RETAIL SPACE AVAILABLE. 970 sq. ft., \$1 per sq. ft., plus utilities. Call (970)946-

VACATION RENTALS

OWNERS, WE ARE BOOKED UP AND NEED MORE VACATION RENTAL PROP-ERTIES! Call us today for lowest commission and highest customer service. All you have to do is wait for your rent check to come in. We do the rest! Rocky Mountain Realty & Rentals (970)507-1192.

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

1 BEDROOM, 1 BATH apartment, centrally located. Ground floor entry. Water, sewer, gas, fiber optic Internet included. (970)946-8687.

2 BEDROOM, 1.5 BATH DUPLEX APART-MENT. Located on large lot with lawn, borders golf course. \$1500/ month plus utilities. Has garage and lots of storage. (970)946-4181.

800FT APARTMENT FOR RENT. \$1375. Very nice complete remodel with new appliances. Near downtown. No pets. (405)623-1743.

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

3 BEDROOM 1.5 BATH Fenced yard. Near City Market/ Hospital. Hiking and biking. \$2150. First month and deposit. (970)903-5309

4 BEDS/ 2.5 BATHS. Approx. 2,350 sq. ft, uptown, 6 month lease, partially furnished, background check. \$3,000 month/ first and last month deposit/ utilities paid by tenant, background check, small dogs (up to 25 lbs) considered with additional deposit. Call Barbara Swindlehurst, licensed real estate broker, at (970)264-6673 for showings.

DOWNTOWN UNITS FOR RENT. New 3 bedroom, 2 bath unit. Granite countertops, all appliances and utilities included. Porch and patio. \$2100/ month. (318)347-6100.

LONG TERM RENTALS AVAILABLE. Call Team Pagosa (970)731-8599, 117 Navajo Trail Dr., pagosaspringsrealty.com.

ONE BEDROOM AVAILABLE. \$1300. New construction. 303 S. 7th Street. Conveniently downtown right behind Natural Grocers. Call (720)470-2653.

ROOM RENTAL/ efficiency with separate entrance under home. (One quiet occupant only) \$750 plus deposit; all bills paid, available 3 -6 months. Non-smoking; Twin Creek. Send info with references to mnenergy88@gmail.com.

VERY NICE AND CLEAN DUPLEX UNIT 3 bedrooms, 2 bath, 1 car garage. Close to City Market. \$1900 /month. (970)946-2768.

COMMERCIAL

BAR AND GRILL IN ARBOLES on 1 Acre for \$380,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

GAS STATION, CONVENIENCE STORE comes with nine long-term leases, high producing. \$1,650,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

COMMERCIAL

LARGE BUILDING AND LAND in prime business location. \$1,250,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

HOMES FOR SALE

REAL ESTATE SERVICES

Whether Buying or Selling



Call Marcie Lewis (970) 759-8672 GALLES PROPERTIES

MarcieLewis.com

HUNTER CABINS. Off Grid, 1 Bedroom, 3.3 Acres, Mountain Views (\$90s). 1 Bedroom, 1 Bath (\$100s) includes: 3- Bedroom Septic, Water Cistern, Electric, RV Pole Barn. Wen Saunders (970)903-0038. Keller Williams Realty Southwest Associates.

MOTIVATED SELLER. Artesian well, hobby farm. Two bedroom, two bath. 1.7 acres. No HOA. \$595,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

SPRAWLING ENCOURAGED! 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, 2072 square feet. Detached 30x60,10x24 steel garages, 24x20 carport. 1.4 acres. NO HOA. Flat Access. Wen Saunders (970)903-0038. Keller Williams Realty Southwest Associates.

LAND/ BUILDING SITES

1.1 ACRE WITH RV GENERATOR and system tank, circular drive in, tall cool pines. NO HOA! \$75k. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

1.1 ACRE WITH TALL PINES on flat buildable land with drive in. NO HOA! \$70k. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

1.19 ACRES WITH VIEWS OF NAVAJO LAKE. All utilities nearby. \$99,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

1.48 ACRE LAND. Highway frontage. \$99,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

.28 ACRE LAND County Road 982 frontage \$55,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

3 FLAT BUILDABLE ACRES. Great mountain views, water cap and driveway in. Power to the property, fully fenced, corners marked. \$300k. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

.35 ACRE LAND County Road 982 frontage \$55,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

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.

LAND/ BUILDING SITES

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). (Pacifico) 5+ Acres, NO HOA, City Water (\$100s). Wen Saunders (970)903-0038. Keller Williams Realty Southwest Associates.

EXCHANGE GOLD/ SILVER FOR REAL

ESTATE. Your high value precious metal holdings as part payment, OWC, premium Pagosa Springs developed residential lots on paved, maintained roads in The Reserve (www.reservepoa.org), a GATED community. gencohomes@outlook.com. (720)626-9326.

FANTASTIC VIEWS with electricity, concrete floor garage on 1 acre for \$195,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

MOUNTAIN VIEWS, MEADOWS. Unique high elevation and complete privacy. 5.6 acres bordering national forest, (970)769-3588 blancoretreat@gmail.com. \$450K.



EQUAL HOUSIN OPPORTUNITY

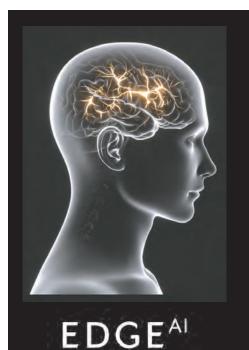
All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, or national origin, or an intention, to make such preference, limitation or discrimination."

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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Edge AI is hearing technology that helps you hear better in all situations and is reliable no matter what.

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