



PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147

www.PagosaSUN.com

VOLUME 117 — NO. 15, THURSDAY, JANUARY 9, 2025

Town council recognizes lifesaving efforts of two police officers



Photo courtesy Town of Pagosa Springs

Pagosa Springs Police Department officers Colton Calavan (third from left) and Brandon Bishop (fifth from left) pose with Police Chief William Rockensock and members of the Pagosa Springs Town Council after receiving awards at Tuesday's council meeting for their recent lifesaving efforts.

By Derek Kutzer
Staff Writer

On Jan. 7, the Pagosa Springs Town Council awarded a Life Saving Award to two Pagosa Springs police officers, Brandon Bishop and Colton Calavan.

The official gesture recognized the lifesaving efforts of the two officers, who responded to a medical emergency call on Dec. 26, 2024.

"The incident involved an unconscious individual who was experiencing shallow breathing. These officers responded swiftly and demonstrated exceptional professionalism and skill during this critical situation, ultimately saving the person's life," the agenda documentation states.

"Upon arriving at the scene, Officers Bishop

and Calavan immediately assessed the victim and communicated with the victim's family. The situation escalated rapidly when the victim stopped breathing and lost their pulse," it states.

It continues, "Without hesitation, both officers began life-saving measures. Their quick and decisive actions, including performing CPR, were essential in reviving the victim and stabilizing their condition until medical professionals arrived."

In an email to The SUN, Police Chief Bill Rockensock said that the "quick response and lifesaving efforts [of both officers] embody the dedication we strive for at the Pagosa Springs Police Department."

He added that "this recognition is well-deserved, and we are incredibly proud of Officer Bishop and Officer Calavan."

At the meeting, council member Matt De-Guise read a statement that recognized the "extraordinary" actions of the two officers, adding that they "responded swiftly" to the situation, ultimately saving the life of the afflicted individual.

The statement continued, "while the prompt response of the EMS and Fire Department was invaluable, it was the timely intervention of officers Bishop and Calavan that made the critical difference between life and death."

It concludes, "We are incredibly fortunate to have officers like Officer Bishop and Officer Calavan in our community. Their actions not only reflect their dedication to public safety, but also demonstrate the compassion and composure needed during crises."

derek@pagosasun.com

Guilty plea entered in 2021 homicide

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The suspect in the 2021 death of Michael Kroll, formerly of Archuleta County, entered a guilty plea on Jan. 3, with the plea agreement then being approved by 6th Judicial District Chief Judge Jeffrey Wilson on Jan. 6.

Under the agreement, Glenn Canyon Lee Hunt, 62, is pleading guilty to murder in the second degree.

The agreement states, "In Archuleta County, Colorado, on or

about October 16, 2021, Defendant knowingly caused the death of Michael James Kroll."

The agreement indicates an agreed-upon sentence of 18 years in the Department of Corrections, but later notes penalties could range from a minimum of 16 years imprisonment to 48 years maximum, followed by a mandatory parole period of five years.

Per the agreement, Hunt "agrees to pay restitution for any dismissed

■ See Homicide A8

BoCC votes not to move forward with vacating bridges

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

Last November, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) heard from Public Works Director Mike Torres and Road and Bridge Manager Eric McRae in regard to the county potentially vacating four bridges throughout the county.

Those four bridges include a portion of County Road 337 and Carrico Bridge, a portion of County Road 557 and Carracas Bridge, a portion of Navajo Road and bridge, and Old Gallegos Road and bridge.

Then, on Tuesday, Jan. 7, the BoCC voted unanimously on four separate resolutions to not move forward with vacating those four bridges.

During the Nov. 12, 2024, work session, Torres explained the main reason for vacating those bridges is mainly due to there being no public access from the bridges and that they lead onto private property, noting the county has "bridges that lead to

nowhere."

During the Jan. 7 meeting, Torres stated the matter of vacating the bridges was originally proposed "just because these bridges lead to private land," adding that the county may have to pay for future repairs and maintenance on the bridges.

Before voting on the first of four resolutions, concerning the Carrico Bridge, Commissioner Veronica Medina opened the floor for public comment on the matter.

One man stated that he was unsure as to what exactly it means for the county to "vacate" the bridge.

He also noted that he has been taking care of maintenance on his own street since 2005, noting the county road grader comes just across the Carrico Bridge before turning around.

"So, I'm trying to get my head around what's changing ... because the county hasn't spent any money on our road at least ... 19 years that I'm aware of," he said.

■ See Bridges A8

Water districts discuss upcoming joint meeting over Running Iron Ranch

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

The San Juan Water Conservancy District (SJWCD) discussed an upcoming joint meeting with the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) at its Jan. 6 meeting.

The districts have been involved in a dispute over PAWSD's efforts to sell the Running Iron Ranch, which is jointly owned by the two organizations and where SJWCD plans to construct a reservoir.

In December 2024, PAWSD filed a lawsuit against the SJWCD seeking declaratory judgment on if PAWSD has the right to sell the property without the consent of the SJWCD under the terms of a 2015 three-way agreement between PAWSD, SJWCD and the Colorado Water Conservation Board.

The agreement governs the districts' roles in the development of a reservoir and paying off the loans associated with the property in addition to outlining terms and conditions for a sale of the property.

Following an executive session at the Jan. 6 meeting, SJWCD president Candace Jones explained that the SJWCD was invited to a meeting with PAWSD and that the lawyers for the two districts are in the process of scheduling this meeting.

She added that the meeting would include representatives of both boards and their legal counsels.

Jones stated that the executive session was held to discuss negotiation strategies for her and fellow SJWCD board member Charles Riehm, who will represent the SJWCD

■ See Water A8



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

The San Juan River through Pagosa Springs is pictured Tuesday morning between bouts of winter weather when the mild weather gave way to cooler temps and a dusting of snow.

State snowpack approaching normal levels

■ Local levels still below 30-year median

By Garrett Fevinger
Staff Writer

Colorado's snowpack levels

were observed rebounding from near-historic lows after late holiday storms delivered smatterings of moisture to higher elevations across the state.

As of Jan. 8, the statewide snowpack stood at 95 percent of the 30-year median, according to data from the Natural Resources

Conservation Service (NRCS)—an improvement from weeks earlier when those levels tracked significantly lower.

Snowpack levels are monitored by measuring snow water equivalents, which gauge how much water is held within a snowfield, and are significant predictors of

springtime runoff.

Regionally, NRCS measurements show there's still some ground to make up.

The San Miguel, Dolores, Animas, San Juan River basins were measured to be at 84 percent of its 30-year median snowpack as

■ See Snowpack A8

Index

| | |
|---|-----|
| Opinion | A2 |
| Letters | A3 |
| Obituary | A4 |
| Peggy Jo (Bay) Ellis | |
| Asaph Shomer Mecklenburg | |
| Business | A7 |
| November 2024 sales tax up 3 percent | |
| Sports | A10 |
| Lady Pirates return to action against Sargent | |
| Public Notices | A12 |
| Outdoors | A13 |
| Local Audubon meeting to feature presentation on birding in Ecuador | |

| | |
|------------------|----|
| PREVIEW | |
| Live Performers | 2 |
| PREVIEW Calendar | 14 |
| Sudoku | 14 |
| Crossword | 16 |
| Classifieds | 20 |

PagosaSUN.com
ExplorePagosa.com



6 49247 83181 5

Opinion

The Pagosa Springs SUN

©Copyright 2024
O'Rourke Media Group — Pagosa Springs, LLC
ISSN 2835-3994 (Print) ISSN 2835-4001 (Online)

(970) 264-2100
PagosaSUN.com
Physical: 457 Lewis Street
Mailing: PO Box 9, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

"HOME OF THE WORLD'S DEEPEST
HOT MINERAL SPRINGS"



SUN STAFF

Owner, CEO
Jim O'Rourke, jorourke@orourkemediagroup.com
Publisher, Advertising, Circulation
Shari Pierce, shari@pagosasun.com
Editor
Randi Pierce, editor@pagosasun.com
Reporters
Josh Pike, josh@pagosasun.com
Derek Kutzer, derek@pagosasun.com
Clayton Chaney, clayton@pagosasun.com
Garrett Fevinger, garrett@pagosasun.com
Classified Advertising/Front Office
Cristin Flanagan, classads@pagosasun.com
Head Pressroom Robert Penton
Assistant Press Operator Matt McKinnon
Mailroom William Thomas

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Annual In County - \$35
Annual Out of County - \$45
Monthly - \$10
Digital subscriptions available at PagosaSun.com

ADVERTISING DEADLINES

Display - Noon Monday
Classified - Tuesday 10 a.m.
Legal - Friday 4 p.m. • Deadlines are moved up for holiday weeks. Please check for an ad in the paper for specific dates and times.



PRIZE-WINNING NEWSPAPER

2017 Service to the First Award Recipient

2022 EXCELLENCE IN PHOTO & DESIGN
2022 EXCELLENCE IN ADVERTISING

2022 FIRST-PLACE AWARDS

Best Advertising Campaign
Best Data Journalism Reporting
Best Serious Column Writing
Best Cover Design
Best Page Design
Best Photo Slideshow- Gallery or Photo Essay

2022 SECOND-PLACE AWARDS

Best Advertising Campaign
Best Advertising Special Section
Best Print Ad
Best Editorial Special Section
Best Education Story
Best Investigative Story Package
Best Public Service Project
Best Page Design

PAGOSA SPRINGS, COLORADO

USPS 418-340

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

Periodical newspaper postage paid at
Pagosa Springs, Colorado 81147
Postmaster, Address Service Requested

OUR VIEW

Jobs well done

Tuesday's Pagosa Springs Town Council meeting featured a definite highlight with the recognition of a pair of Pagosa Springs Police Department officers whose actions were critical in saving the life of an individual during a medical emergency.

With so much heartbreaking news occurring across the country and world right now with conflicts and attacks, we love when we get to report on something so positive.

We thank and commend officers Brandon Bishop and Colton Calavan of the Pagosa Springs Police Department for their quick thinking and coolness under pressure during the incident.

Instead of deciding it wasn't their place as law enforcement and just letting medical professionals tend to the situation, Bishop and Calavan responded and, when things went downhill, sprang into action, giving the patient a chance at survival. It also helped the family not witness the death of

a loved one that day.

We appreciate their willingness to go above and beyond, and we hope the individual saved is doing better and better.

As fantastic as this incident is, we also recognize it's not the only time the quick thinking and knowledge of our local first responders has saved lives.

Some incidents result in awards and commendations that appear on the pages of The SUN, while others fly under the radar with little fanfare, but that makes them no less important. We commend everyone who has been in that scenario, and in scenarios where there may not have been a positive outcome, for doing their best in a life-or-death situation.

There are many in our community who tend to people in some of the worst moments of their lives, and our thanks and respect goes out to them today and every day. Dispatchers, law enforcement officers,

EMTs and other medical professionals, victim advocates, firefighters, coroners, religious leaders and more go to work or volunteer each day not knowing what will be at the other end of a call.

They help people on their worst days and encounter situations we couldn't fathom with level heads and professionalism.

They work on sunny days and in the worst snowstorms (thanks also to the road crews and utility crews who keep us functioning no matter the weather). They respond day and night.

They do it not because they have to, but because they've chosen to take on these vital community roles. Our community would be lost without our neighbors who perform these functions for us, and we should never take them for granted.

To all those who work to keep us safe, thank you.

Randi Pierce

LOOKING BACK



From the Jan. 15, 1970, Pagosa SUN — CAMPING — Wolf Creek Pass Summit was the scene of a large camp over the Christmas and new Year holidays. Igloos were built, shelters were built, and almost 20 people enjoyed several days of winter sight-seeing, sports, and scenery. The two large igloos shown will accommodate three people for sleeping.

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| <p>Veronica Medina, Chair veronica.medina@archuletacounty.org • (970) 264-8305</p> | <p>Archuleta County Commissioners Ron Maez rmaez@archuletacounty.org • (970) 264-8303</p> | <p>Warren Brown warren.brown@archuletacounty.org • (970) 264-8300</p> |
| <p>Matt DeGuisse mdeguisse@pagosasprings.co.gov Madeline Bergon mbergon@pagosasprings.co.gov</p> | <p>Pagosa Springs Town Council Pagosa Springs Mayor Shari Pierce spierce@pagosasprings.co.gov Mat deGraaf mdegraaf@pagosasprings.co.gov Brooks Lindner blindner@pagosasprings.co.gov</p> | <p>Leonard Martinez lmartinez@pagosasprings.co.gov Gary Williams gwilliams@pagosasprings.co.gov</p> |

LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

100 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
January 9, 1925

Mrs. O.F. Boyle of Durango this week "announced" the sale of the Pagosa Springs property, consisting of about 80 acres to Mr. John P. Lynn, real estate and oil man of Pawhuska, Okla. The deal was completed here Tuesday, Mr. Lynn and Atty. Reese McCloskey of Durango being present, and the consideration is said to be a substantial sum.

The property includes the hot spring itself and surrounding ground, including the Springs hotel building and plunges, all of which are located on the east side of the San Juan River. In addition are several lots on the west side of the river which face San Juan Street.

The new owner has been negotiating for the property for some time. While here last summer he realized the possibilities and obtained an option from Mrs. Boyle. The above sale is the culmination of the preliminary transaction.

Mr. Lynn has not as yet completed his plans for the future improvement of the property, but is understood to be working on a building program that will mean much to the proper development of Pagosa Springs.

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
January 6, 1950

Up again — a full 22 percent over last year's record-breaking total — went the 1949 tally of visitors seeking some form of recreation on the national forests of the Rocky Mountain region!

The figures — 3,295,000 as compared with 2,699,000, as shown by reports received in the office of the regional forest forester, Denver, from 16 forest supervisors in Colorado, Wyoming, South Dakota and Nebraska.

Most marked, according to Clare W. Handee, regional head of the Service's division of recreation and lands, is the continuing climb in the number of campers using the forests.

"For every two who pitched a camp somewhere on our forests last year," said Handee, "three more did in 1949: 368,220 people spent an average of 2-1/4 days each for their visits. And plain picnicking soared from about 724,000 to over 851,000."

Showing an increase, also, were the current figures for use of wilderness areas — accessible only by horse or on foot. In 1949, 19,000 visited them; in 1948, 13,400.

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
January 9, 1975

Taxpayers this past week received tax statements for the year, as well as an abstract of assessed valuation for the county, town, school districts and various other districts.

The abstract shows that the total assessed valuation of the county is \$15,888,200 and that all agencies and levels of government combined will collect \$898,823 in local taxes. Of that amount \$617,269 is for the various school districts.

On the valuation side residential property within the county had an assessed valuation of \$9,518,580; commercial property is valued at \$2,101,690; industrial property at \$317,480; agricultural property, which includes livestock, machinery, and land is assessed at \$2,619,900; natural resources assessed valuation is \$227,480 and this is mostly in oil and gas property and equipment for wells; state assessed property, which is utilities, was listed at \$1,103,090. Telephone companies had the largest part of this with a \$514,990 valuation.

25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
January 6, 2000

With the first significant snow of the winter season falling on Jan. 1 and Jan. 2, crews from the Pagosa Springs street department had an opportunity to fine-tune their snow removal system.

According to Town Administrator Jay Harrington, the crews performed admirably and, once traffic into the downtown area increased on Jan. 3, streets were cleared and passable.

The performance of the crews gave Harrington an indication that, with a change in policy by the Colorado Department of Transportation nearly two years ago, town employees can handle snow removal tasks within town boundaries. Mid-winter in 1998, CDOT instigated a new program in which the state crews would no longer remove berms of snow left by CDOT plows in the middle of U.S. 160 in the downtown area.

"Our crews started work on Saturday (Jan. 1) during the day," said Harrington, "then started work early on Sunday. We ran two shifts, and this is one of the few times we've had to transport snow from the entire downtown area since CDOT changed its policy. The snowfall was not enough to force us to hire private dump trucks to haul snow, but we can do that if it is necessary."

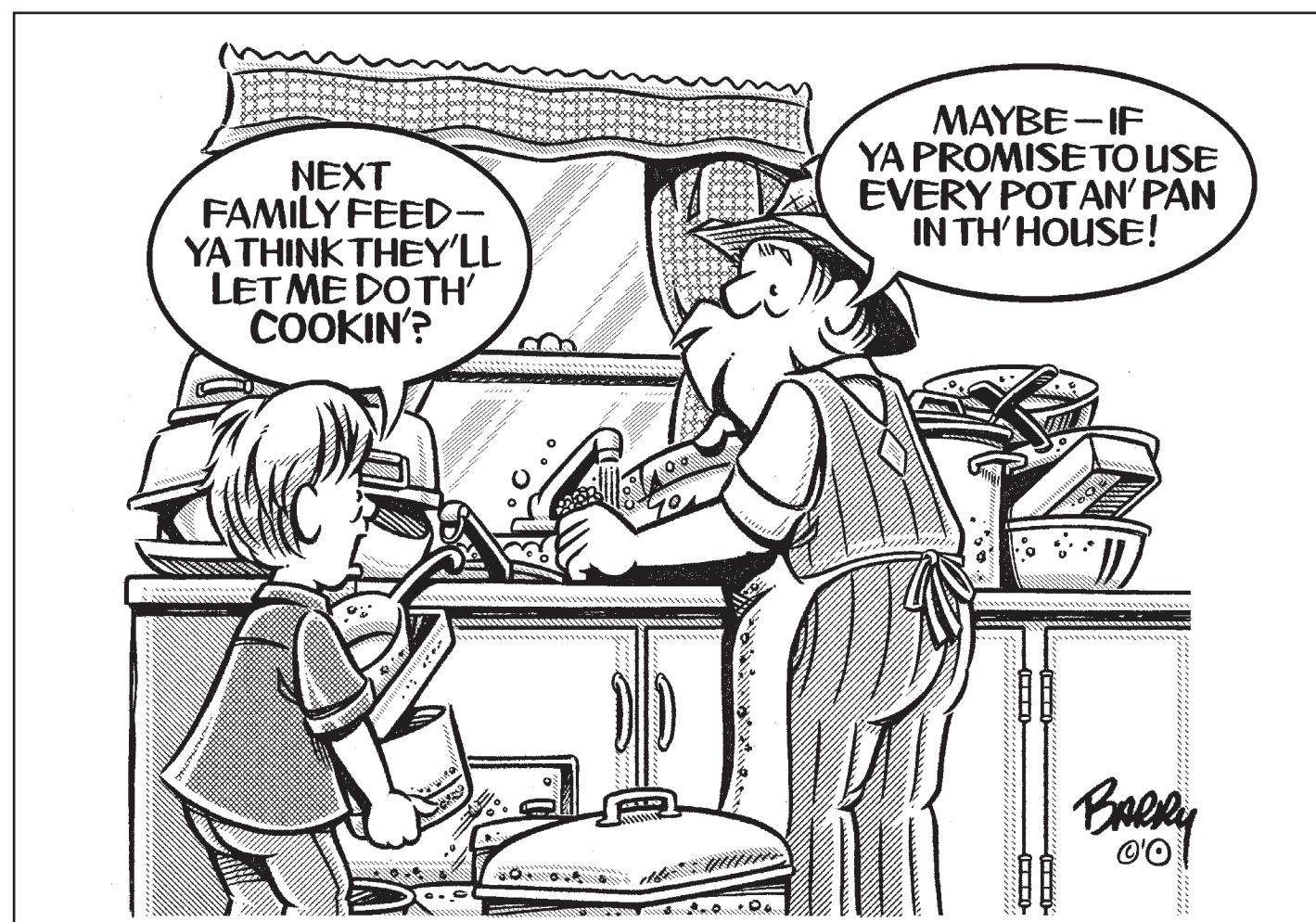
The following weather information is brought to you as a public service by



LA PLATA ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

| Date | High | Low | Precipitation | | |
|-------|------|-----|---------------|------|----------|
| | | | Depth | Type | Moisture |
| 12/31 | 39 | 12 | 0.00 | NA | NA |
| 1/1 | 35 | 9 | 0.00 | NA | NA |
| 1/2 | 47 | 12 | 0.00 | NA | NA |
| 1/3 | 53 | 16 | 0.00 | NA | NA |
| 1/4 | 44 | 15 | 0.00 | NA | NA |
| 1/5 | 36 | 9 | 0.00 | NA | NA |
| 1/6 | 32 | 8 | 0.00 | NA | NA |

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



Letters



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

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

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

Metro districts

Town begins consideration of allowing Metro Districts; is the title of that alarming chomp of news in last week's paper. First of all, down town in not yet considering that idea, that idea is being floated, planted just last week by and brought to the attention of town Council by James Dickhoff. To do what Metro districts do and need money to support a new master planned community he says.

Downtown is already as we like it, ungoverned and unburdened by a homeowners association with all its burdensome ideas of other people in power telling us how to live light and paint our houses, implementing taxes and new fees at every turn and being under the thumb of yet another association that wants more of us.

He quotes; the new community's future residents will pay for the infrastructure with and thru property taxes. We don't need or want another association with more fees! We've all had it to here with all that. Leave downtown alone! We like as it is. But I bet you don't. And where are our advocates there?

Paragraph five; 'Dickoff introduced and explained that in the future the town should decide if it wants to allow or prohibit metro districts within its boundaries.

My resounding vote is Prohibit indefinitely.

Why does Dickoff push this or get to determine this? Why does town council need to decide this ever? Perhaps trying to implement more taxes on little old downtown residences that have too long had it too good and perhaps should all be subject to more governance like everyone else in home owners associations are?

We'll like it just fine the way it is! Ungoverned by more new useless money grabbing metro districts being established to bilk and milk us more. Either way, if it's going to affect me and us, we should have the say. Mine is a resounding No Way Jose!

Go peddle those papers elsewhere. Leave downtown out of it. What have you to gain by this proposal of yours but to tax and take more of us and ours that already has all the governance it can handle or wants?

No matter how common 'an essential tool they are becoming' according to your words; prefaced by "the purpose of such districts is really to fund and oversee...and they would definitely have to follow our code for development and could add more stringent codes on top of that, just like a home

owners association." All this we know and don't want!

Residential downtown already has this infrastructure. With all the amenities in place for services it provides that we already monthly pay and are taxed. His plan will call for more, Liens on Our houses and properties if we don't pony up the additional yearly fees of all that governance.

And you know us downtown-folks; poor old sour us, getting squeezed for more.

And I like that Robin Hood vattu, trying to save my people and my town from more governing greed.

Carmen Ferguson

Vision for the future of PLPOA

Dear Editor:

I think the real conflict at the heart of this "gymnasium" issue is the conflict of dramatically differing views for the future of the PLPOA community. A view which is shared by many is of a lovely community in a little mountain town. A homeowners community with well maintained grounds. Nice parks, lakes, trails, green belts and a recreation center that can be expanded and updated as needed by the inhabitants. Perhaps one with a YMCA for the benefit of the whole community.

It is clear that the PLPOA leadership has a competing vision. One that has at its heart a modern sports and recreational center with substantial parking and amenities such as a ball field, gymnasium, hot tubs and lap pool suitable to draw paying patrons from a wide area.

In the case of the PLPOA the sports and recreational complex happens to be surrounded by homes. Homes whose owners are bound by deed restrictions to provide the income necessary to sustain this vision as those funds are required by their homeowners' association. Over six thousand owners whose pockets can be accessed by their Association Board for necessary funds. Funds needed to meet the requirements of the Leadership's Master Plan. I refer to the \$5 million plus capital plan referenced in the "Master Plan" attached to the November 14, 2024 directors' meeting agenda on the PLPOA.com website.

PLPOA bylaws provide that a vote of the membership is not necessary for the Board to undertake a project valued at less than 15% of the PLPOA's total equity. Furthermore no vote is required to levy a special assessment unless that assessment exceeds the amount of the annual dues. Therefore the current General Manager and Board can proceed to finance their Master Plan pretty much on their own, regardless of the wishes of the membership. Except for the gymnasium.

It is proposed that the gymnasium will pay for its own operation through rentals for its space. This scenario presumes that no government entity or other charitable enterprise builds a competing facility over the next couple of decades. If a government grant results in a state of the art gymnasium being built by the county this ongoing "operation paid by rentals" plan will collapse.

Perhaps the PLPOA should shelve the "Master Plan" and get behind building a YMCA. A facility which would really help the youth in this community. The PLPOA could donate the land, confine itself to taking care of its own obligations and save millions of dollars of the membership's money.

In short, the writing is on the wall, or at least set out in the "Master Plan". Even if this particular gymnasium project is voted down it should be expected that the current General Manager and Board will continue to pursue the vision set out in the Master Plan. The degree of participation by the membership will determine whether that "Master Plan", a YMCA, or a different vision for our Association is ultimately adopted.

Patrick Moore

Carbon monoxide detectors

Dear Editor:

On Sunday, our peaceful lunch was ruined when our carbon monoxide (CO) detector began beeping. A call to 911 brought fast response from the Pagosa Fire Protection District. Our gas furnace was producing CO at a level approaching dangerous. Whitney donned her oxygen tank and shooed us from the house with our cat. We are thankful we invested in a CO detector since it probably saved our lives. Symptoms of CO poisoning are flu-like, not likely to cause us to evacuate the house and call the Fire Department.

Now we have three CO detectors for added safety.

Trump and the deep state

Dear Editor:

We've heard a lot from Trump about the "deep state". It turns out that the deep state consists of bureaucrats who send you your social security check, maintain our highways, supply veterans with healthcare, and protect us from terrorists.

Trump hopes to replace the experienced employees in the government with people whose only qualification is loyalty to him. All his cabinet picks are incompetent and corrupt.

Trump's aim is to transform our democracy into a kleptocracy to further enrich himself and his billionaire buddies, and to let him remain in power indefinitely like his heroes Vladimir Putin and Viktor Orban.

If Trump is allowed to do what he plans, we will all suffer.

How do we resist? The ways to push back against Trump and retain our democracy will change over time. We must be resilient and persistent.

First, we encourage our senators to vote against Trump's most dangerous nominees, including:

FBI Director: Kash Patel, who published an "enemies list" of Trump's political opponents he will prosecute.

Director of National Intelligence: Tulsi Gabbard, who Moscow's state run media has called "a Russian agent".

Secretary of Defense: Pete Hegseth, who secretly paid a financial settlement to a woman who accused him of rape.

Secretary of Health and Human Services: RFK Jr., who will limit our access to vaccines.

Call Michael Benett (202-224-5852) and John Hickenlooper (202-224-5941) and encourage them to do everything in their power to stand up to Trump's assault on our rights and to vote against these nominees.

Philip Riffe
Hesperus, Colo.

End all war

Dear Editor:

I have been heading down a spiritual path for about 6 years now and of late, have been feeling things more and more intuitively in my body. My most recent and powerful awakening

has been this: We must end all war. I feel it to be a deep and abiding truth that we will finally be free when we end all war, finally free to go "home." I am not sure what "home" is to us but it is a most peaceful feeling, a unified sigh of relief, a letting go of the tensions and strain that we've all shared on this planet. Please consider these words and let us together find a way to reach for peace and an end to war. It begins with each voice coming together in unity and power and strength.

In Love,
Kristen Roth

Ethics complaint

Dear Editor:

The article published in the SUN on 12/26/2024 regarding Ashley Springer's ethics complaint filed with the Independent Ethics Committee against Commissioner Veronica Medina has prompted me to question the accuracy of numerous statements made, to make clarifications and to provide several key points that were missing.

After investigating further, I learned the Ethics Committee held an executive session on 11/26/2024 to discuss the case. The Minutes from that meeting are not available to the public but the Editor of the SUN remotely attended the meeting, read the Complaint and the reporting portrays the strangeness of that event.

Springer's recall effort was dropped because of a lack of voter signatures. That leads me to challenge the statement that "Medina has broken the trust of more than just me [Ms. Springer] but the community as a whole." If that were true, why were there few recall petition signers?

Why should Medina recuse herself from voting on the land use regulation changes? She shouldn't. Many of us hired her because of her knowledge and experience in these matters. I suppose Commissioners shouldn't vote on any business decisions if they own a business or do any transaction of any type in Archuleta County. Should they recuse themselves from any financial decision because they have a finance background? Nope.

Was there ever a "\$5 million deal" on the table as cited in the article? I attend a majority of BoCC meeting and that number has never come up. Is Springer embellishing her petition

■ See Letters A4

Clip 'n Save 10% OFF Wines & Liquors

OFF 750ML & 1.75L BOTTLES NON-SALE ITEMS ONLY. NO BEER.

Bever of the Month
Montucky 24 pack

Spirit of the Month
Captain Morgan
1.75L

Wine of the Month
14 Hands Wines
750 ml

970-264-2749
M-SAT 9AM TO MIDNIGHT
SUNDAY 9AM TO 10 PM
Next to River Center - Hwy. 160 - East Pagosa Springs



Happy Hour!

15% off
At the Bar Stools Only
Tuesday - Friday 4-5:30 pm

Make your reservation at
exploretock.com/alleyhousegrille



The Patio | The Lounge | The Grille

Open Tuesday - Sunday 4pm - 9pm
Happy Hour Tuesday - Friday 4pm-5:30pm at the Bar Stools
(970) 264-0999 | 214 Pagosa St, Pagosa Springs | AlleyHouseGrille.com

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.com. Letters must not be in all capitals.

All letters must:

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

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

Letters quoting other people must contain proper attribution.

There is no guarantee letters will be published.

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

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

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

Month-long SAVINGS

ACE REWARDS EXCLUSIVE SAVE \$2 INSTANTLY

1" Filtrete® 1500 Allergen Air Filter
Assorted sizes available. Limit 4 each.

ACE REWARDS EXCLUSIVE SAVE \$1 INSTANTLY

1" Filtrete® 1000 Allergen Defense Air Filter
Assorted sizes available. Limit 4 each.

25% OFF

Select Culligan®, ZeroWater®, PUR®, Frigidaire® and TST Water & Refrigerator Filtration Products*

YOUR CHOICE \$26.99 - \$4 ACE REWARDS EXCLUSIVE \$22.99 each

Ace® 32 Gal. Trash Can
Assorted colors. Made by Rubbermaid®. 7131451, 71162, 71102. Limit 6 each at this price.

\$36.99 BUY THIS GET THIS FREE

O-Cedar® EasyWring® Microfiber Spin Mop & Bucket System
1574185

YOUR CHOICE \$15.99 - \$3 ACE REWARDS EXCLUSIVE \$12.99 each

Ace® Trash Bags
Assorted styles. 6297956, 6186753, 6208805, 6041061. Limit 3 each at this price.

\$9.99 EasyWring® Mop Refill VALUE 1576685

SALE \$79.99

Perfect Aire® Oil-Filled Electric Heater
4010209

STAY READY AND PREPARED FOR THE SEASON

ACE Hardware

See our ads on Terry'sACE.com
Shop www.acehardware.com for free in store pickup

525 Navajo Trail Drive • 731-4022
Mon-Fri 7:30-6 • Sat 8-5 • Sun 9-4

Prices are as marked. All sales final on discounted items, cash and carry, no returns on sale items, discounts do not apply to sale items, sale prices may not be combined with other discounts. Delivery and set up or installation not included. Some other exclusions may apply. Limited to stock on hand.

Archuleta County to swear in new county officials on Jan. 13

By Ashley Springer
Archuleta County

Archuleta County will swear in three elected officials at 9 a.m. on Monday, Jan. 13, at the Archuleta County Justice Facility at 109 Harman Park Drive.

Re-elected District 1 Commissioner Warren Brown, Commissioner-elect District 2 John Ranson and Coroner-elect Brad Hunt will take their oaths of office during the ceremony.

The 2025 Inauguration Ceremony will be unlike years past, taking on a more formal twist.

The event will begin with the posting of the colors, followed by an honor song harmonic and an opening prayer. The newly elected officials will then be sworn in by Judge Justin Fay.

Closing remarks are to be followed by a light brunch offering.

Brown will be taking oath of office for a second consecutive term. As representative of District 1, Brown looks forward to continuing county improvements in 2025.

"The natural beauty and resources that attracted people to Archuleta County today are for the most part the same reasons why the early inhabitants of our area made this piece of paradise their home. We will do well to protect the legacy that has been left to us, while responsibly planning and preparing for the future generations to come," expressed Brown. "I am honored, and I know it is a privilege to have been re-elected as your District 1 commissioner. I am approaching this opportunity and responsibility with the utmost intent to make

Archuleta County a better place to live, work and raise our children."

Ranson, who ran unopposed in the 2024 election, will take the seat departing commissioner Ronnie Maez of District 2, who served for eight consecutive years.

Ranson was previously elected commissioner in 2008, serving from 2009-2011, and looks forward to serving his community once again.

"Thank you, Archuleta County residents, for electing me to represent all of you for commissioner in District 2," said Ranson. "I look forward to working with Commissioner Brown and Commissioner [Veronica] Medina. It is my hope to work together and provide transparency for all."

Hunt, who also ran unopposed in the 2024 election, will join Ranson and Brown.

After being appointed coroner in 2023, Hunt has continued to serve his community and improve on his department.

"The Archuleta County Coroner's Office has a long and proud history of caring for and assisting the recently deceased and their families," Hunt said. "I am honored and humbled to be elected coroner, and I look forward to continuing to provide a high level of care for all residents of Archuleta County."

A light brunch will follow the event, giving residents a chance to congratulate their new representatives, as well as thanking Maez for his eight years of dedicated service to the community. This event is free and open for the public to attend.

Please call (970) 264-8378 or email pio@archuletacounty.org with any questions.

Obituaries

Peggy Jo (Bay) Ellis

Peggy Jo Bay, 75, of Pagosa Springs, Colo., died Dec. 22, 2024, in Durango, Colo.

She was born Dec. 11, 1949, in Liberty, Texas. She was feisty and honest with a zeal for life. She was a friend to many and very generous. No services will be held. Peggy will be missed by her loved ones.



Asaph Shomer Mecklenburg

Asaph Shomer Mecklenburg, age 18, passed away Jan 1, 2025, in Oldham County, Texas.

Asaph was born in Siloam Springs, Ark., on Nov. 3, 2006, to Ted and Michala Mecklenburg. Then, he lived overseas with his family who were missionaries in Nepal. Later, he traveled to Israel, Australia, Cyprus and Mexico for pleasure and missions. Eventually, the family moved to Pagosa Springs when he was in first grade. He loved fishing, but couldn't bear to keep the fish and always put them back. He also enjoyed box-

ing and cars. He loved his friends as well.

He worked three years for Stacyscapes as a landscaper. Asaph graduated from high school on Dec. 20, 2024. He planned to start a car and boat detailing business, and dreamed of serving in the Air Force and becoming a boxer.

Asaph is survived by his mother, Michala Mecklenburg, of Pagosa Springs, and father, Theodore Mecklenburg, of Albuquerque, N.M.; his brother



Isaiah of Richmond, Va.; and sister Anavah, of Dallas, Texas. Also, he is survived by his Grandpa and Grandma Mincks, of Fort Scott, Kan.; Grandma Charlotte Mecklenburg, of Eilat, Israel; Great-grandma Lynette Santiago and her husband, of Bella Vista, Ark.; and uncles, aunts and cousins.

A son, brother, grandson and friend, Asaph was deeply loved by so many. His gentle and kind spirit was seen by all.

All those who loved Asaph are invited to join us for a celebration of life gathering on Saturday, Jan. 11, 2025, at 11 a.m. at Restoration Fellowship Church, 264 Village Drive, Pagosa Springs, Colo.

Traffic code, noxious weed ordinance approved by commissioners

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

The Archuleta Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) recently approved the second readings of two ordinances that implement a new model traffic code and regulate noxious weeds.

The first reading of Ordinance 1-2024, adopting the 2024 model traffic code, was originally read during the Nov. 12, 2024, BoCC meeting and was presented by Sheriff Mike Le Roux.

No changes were made to the ordinance from the time of the first reading to the second reading during a regular meeting held on Dec. 10, 2024, Le Roux indicated.

During the Dec. 10, 2024, meeting, County Attorney Todd Weaver explained that the ordinance only needed to be read during the second reading if there were any changes made from the time of the first reading.

"To my knowledge, there's no changes," Le Roux stated.

The BoCC unanimously approved the second reading, with Commissioner Ronnie Maez explaining the ordinance is available for viewing on

the county's website.

Also during the Dec. 10, 2024, meeting, the BoCC unanimously approved an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) between the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office and the Southern Ute Indian Tribe regarding the housing of inmates between the two agencies.

Le Roux explained that he asked for an IGA to be documented that "gives us the ability to house tribal inmates within our jail and Archuleta County inmates in Southern Ute jail, should that situation arise."

Le Roux noted that the IGA would be "good" to have in place, mentioning the Southern Ute Indian Tribe drafted the IGA and Weaver reviewed it.

He added that it is "a standard operating IGA agreement between two governmental entities for the housing of inmates."

The second reading of Ordinance 2-2024, regulating noxious weeds, was unanimously approved by the BoCC on Dec. 17, 2024.

The first reading of the ordinance was on Nov. 19, 2024, presented by Weed and Pest Supervisor Ethan Proud.

No changes were made to the ordinance between the time of the

first to the second reading, Proud noted.

During the Nov. 19, 2024 meeting, Proud explained that the main difference with this new ordinance is adjusting the fees to align with new state laws.

He also indicated that with the approval of Ordinance 2-2024, Ordinance 20-2018 is rescinded.

Proud further explained that the state has changed its laws so that first day offenses can be fined in the amount of \$500 to \$1,000, with every day after being up to \$100.

"So, our plan is to kind of split the difference for fines," Proud said, explaining the first day fine would probably be a \$500 fine with a fee of \$50 for each additional day.

Proud explained the new fees would be effective 30 days after the second reading.

Emergency operations plan

During the Dec. 17, 2024 meeting

the BoCC also unanimously approved Resolution 2024-91, adopting the county's emergency operations plan, which was presented by Emergency Management Commander Ryan Foster.

He explained that the most significant change to the emergency operations plan is the addition of Appendix E, which is a summary of the Colorado Emergency Preparedness Assessment (CEPA) that was completed in the first quarter of 2024.

According to the emergency operations plan, the CEPA "assists local jurisdictions to obtain a greater understanding of local preparedness levels and to better position the state to support local disaster preparedness, response and recovery efforts. The planning process, performed every three years, assists the County in its efforts to assess risk and local capabilities and the potential need for support and resources during and after emergencies or disasters."

clayton@pagosahun.com

Durango Wine Experience nonprofit partner grant opens to area nonprofits

Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado

The Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado has opened the nonprofit partner grant application for this year's Durango Wine Experience.

The popular shoulder-season event, which serves as the foundation's biggest fundraiser, will be held April 25-26.

This year's event will once again highlight the work of 10 area nonprofits and provide each selected nonprofit with a \$2,500 grant.

This is the third year Durango Wine Experience has incorporated the grant into the event, which helps support the foundation's mission to connect the community to local nonprofits.

The nonprofits selected to receive

this year's grant will have the opportunity to share about their organization's mission with key community members during the Walkabout event in downtown Durango from 4 to 6:30 p.m. on April 25.

Attendees will have a unique experience of getting a taste of delectable wines and the nonprofit sector in Southwest Colorado. On April 26, the nonprofits will help with various needs at the Grand Tasting in Buckley Park from 3 to 6 p.m. This portion of the event typically sees more than 850 attendees.

Nonprofits interested in learning more and applying for this unique grant opportunity should go to www.swcommunityfoundation.org/dwe-nonprofit-partners/.

Weekend passes are available now at www.durangowine.com/tickets/.

ROAD MAINTENANCE
Driveways • Ponds • Underground Utilities • Clean Up
Dozer Work • Land Leveling • Foundations

NEXT GEN EXCAVATION
20+ years local experience
Michael Preuit | Cell: (970) 946-7303
Bonded & Insured

A1 Taxi Service
970-585-4903
8am-8pm Sunday-Thursday
8am-10pm Friday and Saturday
or by appointment!

Reliability Matters! Fully licensed and insured!
Smoke-free vehicles!
Local discount system - just ask!
Courtesy Counts!

GO A1 TAXI .COM
PUC 16400, MCT 0021, DOT 2842985

PAGOSA PEAK OPEN SCHOOL

OPEN ENROLLMENT

Now accepting students for 2025-26

- Intentionally small K-8
- Free to all
- Embraces Restorative Practices
- Dedicated to Project-based Learning

Tuition-free public charter

Enroll online and learn more at www.pagosapeakopenschool.org

Humane Society of Pagosa Springs

NEW YEAR, NEW BFF!

Kick off your 2025 with a new best friend!

Come by the Humane Society today and foster a cat or dog who is anxiously awaiting your companionship this new year.

PagosaHumane.org | 970-731-4771
465 Cloman Blvd., Pagosa Springs

Letters

Continued from A4
efforts? It appears to be so, sadly. From the article, "it is rumored that Medina will benefit financially by making 1% of the sale of the property". Why would we read about a rumor in our newspaper? Because that is the quote from the official ethics complaint, which should be based on facts. And this comes from our own County Communications Specialist? We deserve better than that.

By the way, that particular property purchase isn't even being considered at this point.

Speaking of ethics, is it ethical for Springer to be employed as the County Communications Specialist that reports directly to the BoCC while she undermines those she works for, doing everything she can to remove our duly elected officer? No.

It definitely isn't. But for some reason we continue to pay her wages while she wastes our tax dollars on lawyers and petty complaints, harasses our Commissioners, makes false claims and spreads unsubstantiated rumors around the community and beyond.

Did she lie to the Ethics Committee? Apparently so, judging from what the Sun reported. It is worth noting what started this whole anti-Medina debacle: when the ineffective county manager Derek Woodman lost his contract, his government pals have since responded with irrational and targeted retribution that is costing taxpayers huge sums in legal fees, while the effectiveness of our elected official is being grossly diminished.

This ethics complaint needs to be retired too.

Marybeth Snyder

{N}POWER® PRICING ONLY!

NATURAL GROCERS®

Sign up by scanning the QR code to download our NEW mobile app today!

SELECT FREE-RANGE EGGS \$3.99 PER DOZEN LIMIT 4

Terms and conditions apply. See store for details.

2024 YEAR IN REVIEW

2024 was an interesting year in Pagosa Country. There was no want for good news, bad news, controversial issues, and no lack of interesting news to keep SUN readers focused on local events, situations and personalities.

The SUN is taking a look back at some of those events, selected by SUN staff writers. This week, we look back at January, February and March.

2024 was an interesting year in Pagosa Country. There was no want for good news, bad news, controversial issues, and no lack of interesting news to keep SUN readers focused on local events, situations and personalities.

The SUN is taking a look back at some of those events, selected by SUN staff writers. This week, we look back at April, May and June.

April

• In early April, the San Juan National Forest announced it had acquired 160 acres of elk and mule deer habitat within an important migration corridor on the Pagosa Ranger District.

The joint effort, which began in 2021 between the U.S. Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) and the Saunders family, who resides in Albuquerque, N.M., was completed through a conveyance from RMEF to the San Juan National Forest. The Land and Water Conservation Fund funded the acquisition and received broad support from sportsman's and conservation groups, as well as the Southern Ute Indian Tribe and Archuleta County.

• On April 4, the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) and the Town of Pagosa Springs hosted an informational public meeting about CDOT's upcoming U.S. 160 reconstruction project through downtown Pagosa Springs.

The meeting turned contentious at times, with downtown business owners — particularly owners of retail shops — expressing worry that the construction will "kill" business revenues during the important months of the peak summer tourist season.

The project will replace the current asphalt roadway with a new concrete road surface through the main street business district and was slated to begin in the summer of 2024.

• In April, it was announced that members of the Pagosa Springs High School (PSHS) Pirate basketball program received honors for their work over the winter season: coach Wes Lewis (Intermountain League [IML] Coach of the Year), Blake Laner (IML all-conference first team, IML co-Player of the Year, all-state second team), Colt Lewis (all-conference first team, IML co-Player of the Year, all-state honorable mention), Nathaniel Kinsley (all-conference first team, all-state honorable mention), Chase Harper (all-conference honorable mention) and Ridge Wilson (all-conference honorable mention), Annie O'Donnell (IML all-conference first team, Colorado Coaches of Girls Sports all-state team, all-state honorable mention and Colorado High School Coaches Association all-state team), coach Sarah Osborn (IML Coach of the Year) and Daveyann Snarr (all-conference honorable mention, Colorado Coaches of Girls Sports all-state team), Kylie Ketchum (all-conference honorable mention), Elizabeth Currier (all-conference first team, all-state honorable mention) and Karsyn Shahan (all-conference first team, all-state honorable mention).

• A thin layer of clouds and being outside the path of totality didn't stop area residents from taking in the April 8 solar eclipse. The next total solar eclipse that will be visible from the United States will be on Aug. 23, 2044.

• On April 9, 6th Judicial District Attorney Sean Murray confirmed the case against Bret Smith, the driver of the SUV involved in the Jan. 29 crash that included a school bus, had been dismissed due to the defendant's death.

In March, Pagosa Springs Police Chief William Rockensock announced that Smith had been charged with careless driving causing bodily injury.

• The PSHS Lady Pirate track and field team took first at the Bob Archibeque Invitational on April 12 in Cortez, with their Pirate counterparts taking second on the boys' side.

• The 2024 Spanish Fiesta royalty was named at an April 13 event. Thirteen local youth competed for the honors. The honors went to Lilyan Vega, princess; Tesla Morris, queen attendant; and Dazia Villarreal, queen; Annissa Chavez, junior princess attendant; Cambria Herrera, junior princess; Ana Romero Gallegos, princess attendant; and Anthony Rodriguez, junior prince.

The royalty represented Spanish

Fiesta — set for July 27 — and helped the community throughout the year by performing acts of service.

• The Continental Divide Freeride ski and snowboard team sent two athletes to the International Freeskiers and Snowboarder's Junior National Championships for Region 2 (North and South Americas) in Breckenridge in April.

Bradley Lamoreaux and Logan Lamoreaux both received invitations to the championship event.

Logan Lamoreaux claimed fifth-place position in the finals.

Bradley Lamoreaux garnered second place in the National Championship for U19.

With his second-place finish in the championships and a consistent competitive season, Bradley Lamoreaux also earned third place overall in the 2023-2024 IFSA Region 2 Mens' U19 Snow-board Series for the season. The top five athletes from the season were selected to compete in the Freeride Junior World Championships in Austria against athletes from across Europe and the Americas.

• On the morning of April 15, local officials and others broke ground on the Archuleta County Transit Facility in Harman Park.

• On April 16, CDOT announced that it had denied the only bid it received for the planned reconstruction of U.S. 160 through downtown Pagosa Springs.

CDOT Regional Communications Manager Lisa Schwantes indicated that CDOT only received one bid for the project, which was 35 percent, or roughly \$6.6 million, over budget.

"I have to say, after careful consideration of that bid, we rejected it," she said. "So, what this means is that we are going to repackage this project."

• Following extensive debates at several meetings, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) approved a resolution designating Archuleta County as a "non-sanctuary county" at its April 16 meeting.

The concept of passing a resolution stating that Archuleta County is not a sanctuary county for the purposes of sheltering and providing services for undocumented immigrants began with Commissioner Warren Brown presenting the idea at the March 19 BoCC work session, where he noted that he had heard concerns from constituents about the potential that busloads of undocumented immigrants could be brought to the county and that the county does not have a resolution stating that it is not a sanctuary county.

• At its regular meeting held on April 18, the Pagosa Springs Town Council voted to approve the second reading of an ordinance authorizing the acquisition of the 11.85 acre property located at 229 U.S. 84 #A.

• On April 19, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 10th Circuit ruled that the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) is required to provide access to a 300-acre parcel on Wolf Creek Pass that is owned by Leavell-McCombs Joint Venture — the site of the proposed Village at Wolf Creek.

• The PSHS Pirate baseball team built a four-game win streak in April, outscoring its opponent 61-13 in four games. With the wins, the Pirates moved to 8-8 on the season and 2-2 in league play.

• The PSHS Pirate track and field teams continued their seasons in April, with multiple school records set and a number of Pirates setting new personal records.

Riley Carr broke her own record in the 200 and the Lady Pirate 4x100 team — Annabelle Parker, Sienna Rose, Lexi Campbell and Carr — broke the record set the previous season.

• Rachael Berndt and Dieter Denen were named prom king and queen at PSHS's annual spring dance that was held on April 27 with a masquerade theme.

May

• On May 2, sixth-graders in Terri Lindstrom's Pirate Time advisory class released 75 rainbow trout fingerlings into the San Juan River.

Lindstrom's class raised and released the fingerlings through a partnership with the Trout in the Classroom program and Trout Unlimited.

• The PSHS Lady Pirate soccer team ended its season with a 6-0 loss to Crested Butte in Crested Butte on

May 3. The team finished the season with a 6-5-3 overall record and 0-3-3 league record.

• May 4 was a good day for the PSHS track and field teams, with both the Pirates and Lady Pirates taking first at the 10-team Terry Alley Invitational in Pagosa Springs.

• More than 7,300 La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) members lost power early in the morning on May 6 following high winds.

According to LPEA, there were widespread outages, with crews dispatched immediately.

The crews isolated a broken cross-arm on a transmission line, as well as some scattered tree debris due to the high winds at the time.

LPEA's website showed the power outages began shortly after midnight, with the message to members stating power was restored to all members by 6:18 a.m.

According to Pagosa Weather's Shawn Prochazka, the peak wind at Steven's Field airport was 51 mph at 12:55 a.m.

The peak wind at the Lobo overlook on Wolf Creek pass was 83 mph at 12:35 a.m., according to Pagosa Weather.

• The BoCC voted 2-1 to not move forward with appointing a negotiator for the renewal of County Manager Derek Woodman's contract at a May 7 meeting, indicating that the BoCC would not be retaining Woodman beyond the December 2024 end of his contract.

Woodman departed county employment the following day, BoCC chair Commissioner Veronica Medina indicated in an interview.

• At its May 7 meeting, the BoCC also appointed Commissioner Veronica Medina as the negotiator for the renewal of County Attorney Todd Weaver's contract.

• The Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) Board of Directors Running Iron Ranch subcommittee and San Juan Water Conservancy District (SJWCD) board members held a joint work session to discuss potential options at the Running Iron Ranch on May 8.

Bill Hudson and Glenn Walsh attended representing the PAWSD board, while Rob Hagberg and Charles Riehm represented the SJWCD.

Discussion at the hour-and-a-half-long work session touched upon a variety of issues, including a proposed gravel lease extension, options for various activities to generate revenue on the property and the long-term positioning of both boards in terms of paying off the loans for the property.

• In May, Deputy Secretary of Agriculture Xochitl Torres Small announced \$250 million to help at-risk communities protect their homes, businesses and infrastructure from catastrophic wildfire, made worse by the climate crisis.

The grant funding included nearly \$9.9 million for The Nature Conservancy to protect communities in Archuleta County and watersheds that provide irrigation and drinking water to downstream users in Santa Fe and Albuquerque, N.M., which get 50 percent and 90 percent of their clean water from these watersheds, respectively.

• Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser visited with members from the community on May 10.

The meeting lasted for one hour and was held at the Archuleta County administration building. The stop was part of Weiser's tour across the southwestern portion of the state in which he met with communities to discuss current issues each community is facing.

• In May, students at PSHS came together to raise more than \$1,000 for the year's Make-A-Wish Colorado recipient, 6-year-old Brielle, who was diagnosed with leukemia and whose wish was to go to Hawaii.

• At a May 14 special meeting, the BoCC voted 2-1 to hire Jack M. Harper II as the interim county manager following the departure of previous county manager Derek Woodman.

Brown voted against the motion.

• At its meeting on May 14, the Archuleta School District Board of Education (BOE) voted unanimously to approve the first reading of the district's new graduation requirements, which would take effect beginning with the class of 2025-2026.

• At the same meeting, the BOE voted unanimously to renew Superintendent Rick Holt's contract for three more years.

• On May 14, the Pagosa Springs Planning Commission voiced opposition to the idea of installing a new permanent parking lot in a section of Town Park.

Town staff floated the idea for a potential parking lot, near the athletic field, to accommodate for the loss of parking downtown during the CDOT main street reconstruction project.

• On May 15, Tyler James Intermaggio, 39, of Pagosa Springs, was sentenced to 24 years in the Colorado

Department of Corrections by 6th Judicial District Chief Judge Jeffrey Wilson after entering a guilty plea in March to a charge of criminal attempt to commit murder in the second degree. Intermaggio was sentenced in two cases.

The first case involved criminal attempt to commit murder in the second degree and stemmed from a Jan. 4, 2023, incident in which Intermaggio pointed a firearm at Archuleta County Sheriff's Office Deputy Bill Lucero and pulled the trigger before being neutralized by Deputy Hayleigh Brown.

The second case involved criminal attempt to commit assault in the first degree and stemmed from a Jan. 1 incident in the Archuleta County jail that involved a detention officer.

• Fourteen Pirate athletes competed at the state track and field championships beginning May 16: Colton Lucero, Creede Dozier, Jeremiah Jones, Harley Armijo, Laner, Gavin Carter, Carr, Rose, Jordan Lindstrom, Campbell, Abigail Nehring, Parker, Aspen Pitcher and O'Donnell.

The Pirate athletes brought home medals in 11 events at the state track and field championship in Lake-wood. The Lady Pirate team finished 12th in 3A at the event, while the Pirates boys finished 21st.

• The Pirate baseball team drew the regular season to a close in mid-May and entered the 3A playoffs as the No. 28 seed.

The Pirates then took on the No. 5 Coal Ridge Titans for regionals.

The Titans were victorious in the affair, defeating the Pirates 13-3 before later defeating the Montezuma-Cortez Panthers by the same margin.

The Pirates ended the season 11-11 and 4-4 in league play.

• Three Lady Pirate soccer players were named to the all-conference teams for the IML for the 2024 season: Elizabeth Currier and Adison Johnson were named to the all-conference first team, and Ximena Garcia was named to the second team.

• In mid-May, it was announced that Laura Lewis Marchino, executive director of the Region 9 Economic Development District of Southwest Colorado, was re-elected to the National Association of Development Organizations Board of Directors for a two-year term. Marchino was first elected in 2009.

Marchino is the only board mem-

■ See Review A6

LIVE MUSIC

at The Springs Resort =
5-7 pm in the Lodge Atrium

Friday, January 10th
Bob Hemenger

Saturday, January 11th
Maxwell Miller


Tuesday, January 14th
Jason Rose

Friday, January 17th
Bob Hemenger

Join us for
Wine Down Wednesday
on January 15th!
(50% off select wines)



323 Hot Springs Blvd.
800-225-0934
pagosahotspings.com

eat drink gather

City Hall CAFE & GRILLE

TRY SOME OF OUR DELICIOUS

Prime Steaks
Seafood • Pastas • Subs
Wraps & Salads
Full Bar & Extensive Wine List
Homemade Key Lime Pie

Eat In or Take Out

Open Tue-Sat
11 am-9 pm

Call Today to Reserve
Our Private Gondola
970.398.2409

2151 Eagle Drive | cityhallcafe.co | 970.398.2409



New Office Location:

9 Solomon Dr, Unit 1

Open Mon-Fri
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

We'd love to be your propane supplier!
Come, see us today.

Local. Knowledgeable.
Dependable & Reliable
Independently Owned and Operated
Best in Customer Service
Proven Safety Record
Over 150 Years Combined Experience



Arrowhead Propane, Inc.
970-582-3225
arrowheadpropaneco.com

We built our business on Excellence & Customer Service
Give us a call and experience the difference.



Business

November 2024 sales tax up 3 percent

By Garrett Fevinger
Staff Writer

Sales tax collections in November 2024 increased by 3.1 percent compared to figures from one year prior, according to reports released Jan. 7 by Archuleta County Finance Director Chad Eaton.

Eaton notes the Town of Pagosa Springs and Archuleta County received a total of \$1,434,371.62 from November tax revenues, with

\$719,859.58 going to the town and \$714,512.04 going to the county.

The 3.1 percent increase from 2023 accounts for an additional \$43,098.40, according to the reports, which highlight the categories that are up in comparison to November 2023, including:

- Construction at 15.1 percent, or \$4,783.48;
- Manufacturing at 26.03 percent, or \$12,010.52;
- Information at 11.82 percent, or

\$3,103.45;

- Finance and insurance at 19.19 percent, or \$385.46;
- Real estate and rental and leasing at 19.98 percent, or \$4,060.46; and
- Accommodation and food services at 27.84 percent, or \$53,735.25.

Eaton's reports also identify categories that were down in comparison to November 2023, including:

- Retail trade at 2.26 percent, or \$18,181.10;
- Professional, scientific and tech-

nical services at 42.2 percent, or \$10,010.33;

- Other services (except public administration) at 8.44 percent, or \$1,857.86; and
- Miscellaneous at 2.21 percent, or \$4,930.93.

garrett@pagosun.com

WINTER SALE

January 9-23

40% off

Store-wide
including Sale Items

*Exclusions apply

Women, Men, Kids Apparel,
Gifts and More!

190 Talisman Drive C-1 (Behind City Market)

Local reporting that matters.

Chamber Annual Gala and Community Awards set for Feb. 7

By Mary Jo Coulehan
Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce

We have much to celebrate at the start of 2025. A little more snow would certainly be something to celebrate, but we'll have to see how the weather fares in the next few weeks.

At the beginning of every year, the Chamber takes this time to honor our community members, businesses and nonprofit organizations at the annual Chamber Gala and Community Awards. This year the event will be held on Feb. 7, and you don't want to miss it.

The evening is slated to be a fantastic party with delicious food provided by Todd and Kellie Stevens, live music by Maxwell Miller, a silent auction thanks to our generous business community, a cash bar, some fun activities, and, of course, the opportunity to honor those in our community.

This upscale event is not just another Business Happy Hour, but a perfect opportunity to network. Catch up with other business owners that you may not have seen for a while as well as welcome new business owners to our community. If you are a

new business owner, someone who is interested in starting a business here in Pagosa, a home-based business or perhaps you are a business owner that hasn't been to a Chamber function for a while, this is the event for you.

This is not just a Chamber-member event. The gala is open to the public, especially since we will be honoring community members and organizations that you, the public, have nominated. Come out and support all these well-deserved nominees and have a great time doing so.

While at the event, there will be opportunities to also win Chamber-related prizes to help you get the most of your Chamber membership. Included will be the opportunity to win a free yearly basic membership along with other prizes. Let's really celebrate the new year with our community. Member businesses should watch for their invitation in the mail.

Tickets are available online at www.pagosachamber.com and are only \$35 per person or \$265 per table for all this fun. Rally your business or friends and come out for a gala of an evening.

If you have not nominated a person or organization for one of the following awards, you still have time. Nominations for Citizen of the Year, Volunteer

of the Year, Small Business of the Year and Non-Profit of the Year are due by close of business Monday, Jan. 13.

I am always amazed at the nominations roll in the caliber of the nominees and the work they have contributed to this community, whether that be a person or an organization.

We must take time to thank at least a handful of people every year. These are people and organizations that provide services and give selflessly of themselves to make our community a better place to live.

Remember, the person or business must have lived in or have been in business for at least three years. For the Volunteer and Citizen of the Year, the work they do must not be a part of a job they get paid to do. For Citizen of the Year, the nominee must have made a lasting impact in one of the following categories: philanthropic, lifestyle, economic or cultural.

Please, look around at the people you work with, go to church with, perhaps your kids go to school with or people who are your neighbors. We all know someone that should be given an extra thank you. Let's do it now.

Then, come out on Feb. 7 for an evening of excellent food, music and honors.

Governor reappoints Waner to state's Minority Business Advisory Council

By Garrett Fevinger
Staff Writer

Gov. Jared Polis reappointed Sherry Waner to a third term on the state's Minority Business Office (MBO) Advisory Council on Jan. 3, offering the Pagosa Springs local a seat at the table focused on increasing economic opportunities for minority, veteran and women entrepreneurs across Colorado.

In an interview with The SUN, Waner reflected on her reappointment and spoke to the council's role in supporting rural communities such as Pagosa Springs, where she's made a home since 2001.

"Our role primarily is to oversee the Minority Business Office of Colorado and ... provide feedback

based on our real-life experiences and information from businesses that we work with in our communities," Waner said.

She added, "Rural communities face very unique challenges that can be distinctly different from what you might see in a metropolitan area. I think it's important for us to be voices and advocates for those communities and bring forth to the MBO the challenges that we're seeing in real life in our communities so that they can contemplate what resources and tools they might be able to offer in support of ensuring the success of our minority-owned businesses, especially in our rural areas of the state."

The MBO is situated within the state's Office of Economic Development and International Trade, and

offers databases and resources such as small business grant and loan opportunities, pathways to securing government contracts, advising services and more.

For Waner, who also serves as board president for the Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation, the decision to accept another term was an easy one, she recalled.

"Absolutely," said Waner. "It's important for folks to get involved in whatever way, means, or level is appropriate for your circumstances as an individual. I think it's important to give back to our communities in whatever ways folks see valuable."

With her reappointment, Waner is set to serve on the advisory council through Jan. 31, 2027.

LPEA announces 2024 Round Up Foundation grants

La Plata Electric Association

La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) Round Up Foundation proudly announces its 2024 year-end impact, reflecting the generosity and community spirit of its members.

Through this program, LPEA members round up their electric bills to the nearest dollar, collectively funding grants that uplift local nonprofits and provide vital community support.

In 2024, the Round Up Foundation distributed \$177,677 to 50 nonprofit organizations across La Plata and Archuleta counties, advancing initiatives that improve the quality of life for residents. Through the participation of 16,715 LPEA members, 33 nonprofits received \$128,969 in Round Up grants, supporting a diverse range of community programs.

Archuleta County nonprofits receiving funding include A Safe Place in Pagosa Inc., Aspen House, Friends and Neighbors in Need, Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, Our Community Eats, Pagosa Springs Initiative — The Studios, Pagosa Springs Middle School, Project Sanctuary, Southwest Housing Providers Socorro, Southwest Organization for Sustainability, and Upper San Juan Search and Rescue.

Additionally, Round Up funds

contributed \$123,155 to the Community Emergency Assistance Coalition and \$10,221 to the Pagosa Outreach Connection, providing vital emergency assistance to individuals and families in need.

Beyond member contributions, unclaimed capital credits were used to fund educational grants, with more than \$62,708 allocated this year to support local education initiatives.

Registered nonprofit organizations in La Plata and Archuleta counties can apply for up to \$5,000 per grant request through the Round Up Foundation. These grants have funded initiatives in education, environmental sustainability, healthcare and social services, helping to address a wide range of community needs. Application forms and additional details are available at lpea.coop/round.

LPEA members who wish to participate in the Round Up program can sign up via SmartHub or at lpea.coop/round-foundation. On average, members contribute approximately \$7 annually — small change that makes a big difference. Members also have the option to donate additional amounts monthly to further support local nonprofits automatically.

"Through the collective power of our members' monthly contributions, we've been able to make a sub-

stantial impact," said Carrie Hugas, community outreach specialist with LPEA. "The Round Up Foundation embodies the strength and generosity of our community, and we're grateful to all who participate."

For more information on how to contribute or apply for a grant, visit lpea.coop/round-foundation.

About the Round Up Foundation

The Round Up Foundation is a philanthropic initiative of LPEA, supporting local nonprofits and programs that enhance community well-being. Since its inception, the program has empowered countless organizations to create lasting, positive change in La Plata and Archuleta counties.

About LPEA

LPEA is a member-owned, not-for-profit, electric distribution cooperative serving La Plata and Archuleta, with segments of Hinsdale, Mineral and San Juan counties.

LPEA is the fifth-largest cooperative of 22 in Colorado and aims to provide safe, reliable electricity at the lowest reasonable cost to its approximately 36,500 members.

For additional information, contact LPEA at (970) 247-5786 or visit lpea.coop.

SQUARE TOP BAR-B-QUE

Authentic Texas BBQ

Winter Hours:
Thursday-Sunday
11 am-6 pm

**Located @ the Golf Clubhouse
1 Pines Club Place
(970) 398-5267
SquareTopBBQ.com**

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

YOU SHOULD BE HERE.

At Bank of the San Juans we know a lot about banking. But we know even more about people. And the first thing we ever learned was to treat folks the way you want to be treated. Seems pretty simple.

DIVISION OF GLACIER BANK

ONE BIG HAPPY LITTLE BANK

WWW.BANKSANJUANS.COM
144 EAST EIGHTH ST., DURANGO CO 81301 970.247.1818
1710 NORTH MAIN, DURANGO CO 81301 970.247.2828
305 HOT SPRINGS BLVD., PAGOSA SPRINGS CO 81147 970.264.1818

Member FDIC

Town's sanitation district discusses possibility of going to voters for sales tax increase

By Derek Kutzer
Staff Writer

During an update on the Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District's (PSSGID's) efforts to rehabilitate the town's struggling wastewater system, the PSSGID board was presented with the likelihood that it would need to ask the voters to raise the town's sales tax in order to pay for necessary expensive repairs coming down the pike.

The PSSGID is responsible, per its agreement with the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD), for 25 percent of any upgrade costs to the PAWSD-run Vista Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The PSSGID currently sends its wastewater 7 miles to the Vista plant for processing, but Colorado Regulation 85, which has to do with phosphorus and nitrogen output into area watersheds, requires that the plant be upgraded to meet this regulation.

At the Jan. 7 PSSGID meeting, Public Works Director Karl Johnson explained that the PSSGID's portion of this upgrade would cost about \$2.5 million.

Johnson added that "we are going to need to discuss how we are going to fund" the PSSGID's share of this required upgrade.

In addition to this, the PSSGID is in

the process of rehabilitating what it calls "Category 4 and 5" problems with its wastewater pipes through town.

Town Manager David Harris told the Pagosa Springs Town Council, which sits as the PSSGID board, that after conversations with PAWSD, it should consider a sales tax election and should form a joint-committee with PAWSD to address the problems.

Board member Brooks Lindner asked, "So, we are talking about a ballot issue, right?"

Harris answered, "Yes, sir."

Lindner stressed that the board should be prepared for a "Plan B in case the voters reject" the ballot measure to raise the town's sales tax.

Board president Shari Pierce suggested that the board should consider putting in front of the voters "one package deal to address our laundry list of" things we need to pay for.

Later in the meeting, Financial Advisor Joey McLiney told the board that the sales tax measure is the "Plan B," and, if it failed, the district would need to raise its rates to an unsustainable level to pay for all the necessary repairs.

McLiney also advised the board to amend a previous ordinance authorizing revenue bonds for financing the project of fixing category 4 and 5 problems.

He explained this comes in the

wake of the bond insurance company turning it down, lowering the district's rating to "Triple B" status.

He explained that the lowering of the district's rating was due to the insurance company being "afraid" to insure the project because the district has too many other projects on top of the category 4 and 5 project.

"There are so many projects that are required that they are afraid if they insure us that we'll continue to fix the system and continue to raise rates and it won't be affordable," he said.

The district is "still on track" to receive the \$4.8 million in revenue bond funding and should receive "money in the bank" within about 30 days, he told the board, but that it would "take more work and more risk to find an underwriter."

The amendment to the ordinance would change the sale of the bonds from a competitive sale to a negotiated sale, and the principal and interest payments for the \$4.8 million in bonds will still be funded through user fees that are reflected in the existing adopted rate structure.

McLiney explained, "A competitive sale is when you have something that is, for example, a triple B with a double A insured wrapper, if you will, that takes your bond and turns it into a commodity. Everybody knows what it's worth and everybody knows the

risk, and so you can get everyone to participate and bid on it."

He continued, "A triple B stand-alone, without insurance, takes a little bit more nuance and takes a different kind of underwriter willing to take a little more risk."

The motion to amend the ordinance to a negotiated sale of the bonds, instead of a competitive sale, was passed unanimously by the board.

McLiney then went back to the sales tax idea, saying that "continually raising rates to pay for the next \$15 million is not affordable for anyone."

He added, "Again, it's everything we already knew. It's what we've already been discussing since August. So, that's where we are."

He then looked further ahead.

"Once the sales tax [increase] is in place ... we can refinance in five years," and that would allow the district to climb out of the triple B status back to an A status, he explained, adding that he would like to meet with the board and have a work session about a strategy going forward on the possible November sales tax ballot measure.

He said that he "ran 25 elections last year" and that from now until November would be plenty of time to run a successful campaign.

derek@pagosasun.com

Location for official county notices set, appointments made

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

On Tuesday, Jan. 7, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) unanimously approved Resolution 2025-1, establishing a location for the posting of official county notices, setting meeting dates and office hours for county offices.

According to the resolution, pursuant to Colorado Revised Statute 24-6-402, in its first meeting of the year the BoCC is required to designate a posting place of official notices.

The official posting place for public notices "shall be a link on the home page of the county website at www.archuletacounty.org," the resolution states.

Public notices will continue to be posted at the current county administration building located at 398 Lewis St., "as a supplementary location," the resolution notes, adding, "however, such postings are for convenience only and the official public notice posting shall be the link on the home page of the county website."

All other county boards, committees, commissions, authorities, or other advisory, policy-making or rule-making bodies will also have public notices posted for meetings, along with agendas, on the county website, according to the resolution.

Regular BoCC meetings will be held on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 1:30 p.m., with the

exception of March 4, June 3 and Nov. 4, which will be held on March 6, June 5 and Nov. 6. Meetings will be held at 398 Lewis St. unless otherwise noticed, the resolution explains.

During the Jan. 7 meeting, Commissioner Veronica Medina asked if there needed to be an adjustment to have a work session and special meeting scheduled for Dec. 30.

County Manager Jack Harper explained the adjustment was needed, with Commissioner Warren Brown then moving to adopt the resolution to include a work session and special meeting on Dec. 30.

County facilities will be open as follows:

- Administration building, 398 Lewis St.: Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Clerk's, treasurer's and assessor's offices, 449 San Juan St.: Monday through Thursday 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Public Works building, 1122 U.S. 84: Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- CSU Extension building, 344 U.S. 84: Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Human Services building, 550-A Hot Springs Blvd.: Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Public Health building, 502 S. 8th St.: Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.;
- Landfill, 9179 County Road 500: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

• Pagosa Transfer Station, 2140 County Road 500: Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

• Arboles Transfer Station, 95 County Road 973: Thursday and Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Appointments

Also during the Jan. 7 meeting, Harper was unanimously appointed as the budget officer for 2025.

Harper indicated that the budget officer for Archuleta County has "historically" been the county manager.

The BoCC also unanimously approved its consent agenda, which included Resolution 2025-2 and Resolution 2025-3, appointing one member to the Archuleta County Fair Board and two members to the Archuleta County Planning Commission.

Development Director Pamela Flowers explains in an email to The SUN that three of the planning commissioners reached the end of their term: Mont McAllister, Peter Beaudry and Richard Vihel.

According to Resolution 2025-3, Andre Hubbard-Redstone and Peter Vecvanags have been appointed to a three-year term on the planning commission, concluding on Jan. 7, 2028.

Flowers explains that these two appointees will fill two of the three vacancies and the third vacancy will be filled by one of the three whose

term has expired, which will be determined at the next planning meeting scheduled later this month.

According to Resolution 2025-2, Ann M. Radford has been appointed to the Archuleta County Fair Board and will serve a three-year term concluding on Jan. 7, 2028.

clayton@pagosasun.com

KEYAH GRANDE
Beyond the Gates
GRAND
Opening
Reservation Only Restaurant
Open for Dinner Fridays & Saturdays Starting, January 31st, 2025
Sunday Brunch 10:00 AM 2:00 PM
RESERVE ONLINE:
<https://tables.toustop.com/restaurants/0096cc5-0af4-4318-b70-7c1472d418be/findTime>
Or call: (970) 731 1162

Bill & Susan Schwab,
Owners & Operators Since 2003

Drive Safe This Holiday Season

10% OFF
Winterization Service or Full Service Oil Change

This Holiday Season make sure your family is safe.

There is no better time to have your vehicle winterized, put on all-season or studded snow tires, and equip it with Winter Wiper Blades to ensure easy start-ups and safer driving on the snowy, icy roads.

Bring in or mention this ad for this limited time offer. Shop supplies and tax not included. May not be combined with any other offer. See the pros at Piedra Automotive for details. Offer ends 1/15/2025

Piedra Automotive
(970) 731-3335
505 Piedra Rd.
Open 7-6 Mon. - Thur.

24 Hour
TOWING & EMERGENCY ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE

BoCC approves resolution certifying levies and revenues for 2025

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

On Tuesday, Jan. 7, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners voted unanimously to approve Resolution 2025-4, certifying levies and revenue to the assessor and property tax administrator for 2025.

Accountant Allison Wylie presented the resolution, stating that she was filling in for Finance Director Chad Eaton.

According to the agenda, the certification of levies and revenues for Archuleta County includes 23 government entities, which include one county, one town, three school districts and 16 special districts.

A copy of the certification of levies and revenues is available to view un-

der the Jan. 7 meeting agenda documentation on the county's website.

The resolution also notes that pursuant to Colorado Revised Statute (CRS) 39-1-111, the BoCC "shall certify all such levies to the Assessor" on the certification of levies and revenues form, with a copy sent to the property tax administrator, division of local government and the Department of Education.

CRS 39-1-111 states, "No later than December 22 in each year, the board of county commissioners in each county of the state, or such other body in the city and county of Denver as shall be authorized by law to levy taxes, or the city council of the city and county of Broomfield, shall, either by an order to be entered in the record of its proceedings or by written approval, levy against the

valuation for assessment of all taxable property located in the county on the assessment date, and in the various towns, cities, school districts, and special districts within such county, the requisite property taxes for all purposes required by law."

clayton@pagosasun.com

Shop LOCAL



BJ Jones and Lars Schneider, owners, have spent a combined total of over 45 years in Pagosa Springs.

As long-time locals, we operate with small-town hospitality without the "Pagosa-time mentality." Your time is as valuable as ours, so we operate with punctuality.

Mountain Men Disaster Mitigation is here to service you and your family through providing quality in our work, and being timely and efficient.

Don't forget to check your crawl spaces for standing water. Water mixed with the normal environments produced in a crawlspace is the perfect breeding ground for microbial growth. We also offer sump pump system installations and repairs as well as moisture barriers. Call today for a free evaluation!

Pipes froze and flooded your home?
Call us for 24/7 Emergency Response
Call 970-946-0238 or 970-749-9028

DISASTER RESTORATION FLOOD MITIGATION CRAWLSPACE INSPECTIONS/ WORK



Fire Restoration Mold Remediation Smoke and Odor Removal
Water Extraction Structural Drying

Lars Schneider
970-946-0238

BJ Jones
970-749-9028

MountainMenDM.com • mail@mountainmendem.com

NATIONALLY LICENSED INSURED LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED

Sports

SWIMMING

Lady Pirates return to action against Sargent

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirate swim team returned to action Tuesday in Sargent following a holiday break that included only two team practices.

But, despite the limited practice, coach Heather Miller notes in an email to The SUN the team swam as expected and, in some cases, better than expected.

“With only 2 formal practices and the hardest practice of the season on Monday I expected a real challenge to be at or near best times,” she wrote. “We saw a few significant time improvements and many were at or near their best times. We also had no relay false starts and only 1 disqualification.”

She also explains she pushed the Lady Pirates outside of their comfort zones at the meet.

“Most swimmers swam one new or unusual event for them and everyone rose to the occasion, they may not have liked the event but they all gave 100% effort,” she wrote. “I am truly impressed with the effort and attitude at the meet.”

Sargent scored 122 points, while Pagosa scored 44.

“We had two real standouts at the meet Kaiya Lyons and Ruby Snell both had best times and swam [some] very challenging events,” Miller highlights.

The Lady Pirate team of Marlowe Hedgecock, Leah Blackman, Chloe Gantt and Asia Gorman took second in the 200-yard medley relay with a time of two minutes, 23.40 seconds to score four points.

The team of Bree Gerdel, Gianna Shaeffer, Grace Cram and Brooklyn Trujillo took fifth with a time of 2:49.54.

In the 200-yard freestyle, Slingerland took fourth with a time of 3:11.12 to score three points. Ruby Snell followed in fifth with a time of 3:11.25 to earn two points. Lucia Rivera finished in sixth with a time of 3:53.66.

Cram took third in the 200-yard individual medley with a time of 3:37.32 to earn three points.

Gerdel took third in the 50-yard freestyle with a time of 33.41 seconds to earn three points. Kateyln Fricke finished fourth and earned two points with a time of 35.01 seconds. Shaeffer followed in fifth with a time of 36.09 seconds to earn one point.

Lyons swam the event as an exhibition, logging a time of 36.39 seconds, which Miller notes is about five seconds off her previous time.

Miller adds, “this is a huge drop for a short event. She also swam the 500 free, which is a big challenge for a first year swimmer.”

Trujillo also swam the 50 free event as an exhibition, swimming a time of 42.23 seconds.

With a time of 1:23.13, Gantt took third in the 100-yard butterfly, scoring three points. Hedgecock followed in fourth with a time of 1:40.37 to score two points.

Three Lady Pirates took to the water for the 100-yard freestyle, with Gerdel taking third and earning two points with a time of 1:22.47. Snell followed in fourth and earned one point with a time of 1:23.56 — cutting a minute from her previous time, according to Miller. Fricke took sixth with a time of 1:29.62.

Lyons took third in the 500-yard freestyle with a time of 9:15.67 to earn three points. Blackman followed with a time of 9:17.88.

In the 200-yard freestyle relay, the Lady Pirate team of Gorman, Cram, Hedgecock and Gantt earned four points and second place after swimming a time of 2:07.59.

The team of Gerdel, Shaeffer, Slingerland and Blackman followed in third and earned two points with a time of 2:31.83.

The team of Lyons, Snell, Rivera and Trujillo took fifth with a time of 2:44.40.

Miller notes Snell “swam a great first 200 free.”

Gorman took fourth in the 100-yard backstroke with a time of 1:25.28 to earn two points. Cram followed in fifth to earn one point with a time of 1:30.73. Slingerland took sixth with a time of 1:42.01.

Shaeffer and River swam the event as an exhibition, with Shaeffer logging a time of 1:49.58 and Rivera swimming a time of 2:21.00.

■ See Swimming A11



Photo courtesy Heather Miller

Ruby Snell swims during Tuesday’s meet against Sargent. Coach Heather Miller highlights that Snell cut a minute from her 100-yard freestyle at the meet, and swam a “great” first 200-yard freestyle.

It Doesn't Get More Budget-Friendly Than Zero

- \$0 to Low-Cost Preventive Care
- \$0 to Low-Cost Mental Health
- \$0 to Low-Cost Primary Care

Support Colorado Nonprofits Partnering to Improve Healthcare for You

Enroll Now



Go Pirates!

Digital Advertising is Here!

Local company. Regional reach.

- SEARCH ENGINE MARKETING (SEM)**
Paid ads on search engines to get your website on the first page of Google/Bing. Our team researches the best converting keywords. We are Google Partners!
- FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM**
Hyper-direct way to reach your target audience. Create social buzz about your company — the new word of mouth.
- SEARCH ENGINE OPTIMIZATION (SEO)**
Improves your website’s visibility on search engines organically. The goal is to put your site on the first page of a Google search. Pairs well with SEM.
- WEB ADVERTISING ON PAGOSASUN.COM**
Get your ad in front of local customers with a digital ad on our local website.
- SPONSORED CONTENT**
Position yourself as an expert in your field with sponsored content. Ask us how!

- GEO FENCING**
Pinpoint precision targeting — Using GPS technology, you can reach people when they are in places of interest. Target competitors, events, businesses, and other locations.
- TARGETED DISPLAY**
Place your message in front of potential customers where they spend time online, utilizing targeting segments such as demographic info, website category, browsing behavior and search habits.
- EMAIL MARKETING**
Your database or our database. Email is one of the oldest digital tactics and also one of the most effective.
- WEBSITE**
Custom-built wordpress sites at a fraction of the cost of most providers. SEO friendly, ADA compliant, hosted, secured, mobile optimized and e-commerce availability.

Contact Shari today to dive into the world of advertising with your trusted advertising representative, who has been with The Pagosa Springs SUN for over 39 years!

Call today: (970) 264-2100, ext. 29, or email: shari@pagosasun.com



The Pagosa Springs **SUN**
an O'Rourke Media Group company

WRESTLING

Pirates set to host Rocky Mountain Duals, Invitational

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

High school wrestling will make its return to Pagosa Country this week with the Pagosa Springs High School Pirate wrestling team hosting the Rocky Mountain Duals and Rocky Mountain Invitational tournament Friday, Jan. 10, and Saturday, Jan. 11, at Pagosa Springs High School.

This will be the first action of 2025 for the Pirates after coming off of a two-week break over the holidays.

Coach Dan Janowsky explained that Colton Lucero was originally scheduled to compete in the Doc

Buchanan tournament held on Jan. 3 and 4 in Clovis, Calif., but withdrew from the competition due to an injury.

"We withdrew him," Janowsky said, explaining that Lucero is in the process of rehabbing an injury and is getting close to being able to return to action, "but we didn't want to rush that at a big event like that."

On Friday, Jan. 10, the Pirates will host the Rocky Mountain Duals, which are slated to begin at 6 p.m. in the Pagosa Springs High School gymnasium.

Friday's duals will feature matchups between the Pirates, Rocky Ford

and Durango.

On Saturday, the Rocky Mountain Invitational will feature 19 schools from three different states including Colorado, New Mexico and Utah.

"It's a tradition around here," Janowsky said of the tournament.

He added the Pirates' wrestling program dates back to the 1970s.

"We have a good tradition of wrestling in this school," Janowsky said, "and we're proud to carry that forward."

Janowsky added that he is looking forward to the tournament, noting, "we don't get enough" competitions in Pagosa Country.

He also mentioned the Pirates worked hard over the break, taking advantage of the five practice days allowed over the winter break.

"I thought we got a lot better on our skills," Janowsky said. "I feel like we've had some really productive times since we got back to work."

Janowsky noted that the Pirates currently have three state qualifiers in their lineup: Lucero, Anthony Manzanera and Antonio Quezada.

He indicated that Lucero is still questionable for this weekend's competitions, but that they are hoping for a "green light" for Lucero to be able to compete on Saturday.



More Than Just Signs!

- DECALS & WINDOW GRAPHICS
- VEHICLE GRAPHICS & WRAPS
- STORE FRONTS
- PROMOTIONAL PRODUCTS
- APPAREL PRINTING
- NEON & ELECTRIC SIGN REPAIR
- MEMORIAL STONES

LOCATED AT 57 MAJESTIC DR., PAGOSA SPRINGS, CO

Need \$100? Need \$5,000?
Come see us now!

\$ CASH LOANS \$

Short-term loans based on collateral only, we take collateral on the following:

Cars • Trucks • Trailers • ATVs • Motorcycles
Guns • Gold • Jewelry • Silver & More

★ Got Gold? Get Cash! ★

We buy gold, silver, guns, ammo and more.

Turn your old, broken jewelry into CASH TODAY

San Juan Trading Post

635 San Juan St. (Hwy 160) • (970) 731-PAWN (7296)

Lady Pirates to travel to New Mexico for tournament

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirate wrestling team is heading to Kirtland, N.M., this weekend to compete in the Lady Bronco Invitational tournament being held at Kirtland High School on Saturday, Jan. 11.

Matches are slated to begin at noon.

This is the first action for the Lady Pirates in 2025, with their most recent action being the Warrior Classic tournament held in Grand Junction on Dec. 21, 2024, where the team placed 10th out of a total of 31 teams.

Coach Dan Janowsky explains in

a statement to The SUN, "We were hoping to have a home meet scheduled for the girls but we're unable to find an opponent willing to travel here."

Janowsky explained that the Lady Pirates instead chose to travel to Kirtland, N.M., for the Lady Bronco Invitational.

"It's a long day for them but they are getting better and better and they feel it and accepted the challenge in order to keep making progress," Janowsky writes.

The tournament will feature 11 teams competing from three states: Colorado, New Mexico and Utah.

clayton@pagosasun.com

BASKETBALL

Pirates go 0-2 versus top schools at Holy Family Invite

By Garrett Fevinger
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate basketball team suffered consecutive losses Jan. 3 and 4 at the Holy Family Invite in Broomfield, falling in nonconference games to opponents coach Wes Lewis called "two really good teams."

Against the Holy Family Tigers on Jan. 3, the Pirates remained in contention throughout the first and second quarters, outscoring the Tigers in the second and trailing by 11 at the half.

"We were feeling pretty good

about things at halftime," Lewis said. But a 30-point third quarter for the Tigers left too much ground for the Pirates to regain. By the start of the fourth, the hosts led by 28 points.

"We had some turnovers," Lewis recalled. "They were capitalizing on our mistakes and they got really hot from the 3-point line. We didn't shoot very well against Holy Family."

The Tigers — ranked seventh among other 4A teams, according to the Colorado High School Activities Association (CHSAA) — defeated the Pirates 82-42.

The margins were slimmer against undefeated Peak to Peak Charter

School on Saturday, with Lewis praising the Pirates' tenacity and fighting spirit throughout the 45-33 loss.

"I thought the kids fought and they battled," Lewis said. "We had a big challenge to them about competing. And I think [they] did. Peak to Peak is a good team."

The Pumas are currently ranked first in 4A, according to CHSAA, while the Pirates are the No. 40 team.

"We kept it respectable," Lewis said. "But, you know, at the end of the day, we've got to make our easy shots, we've got to limit turnovers, we've got to play better defense."

Stats from the tournament were

not available as of press time Wednesday.

With their Jan. 7 home game versus Sanford rescheduled for Feb. 21, the 1-6 Pirates look to a planned Friday trip to Salida for an opportunity to re-energize the season.

"We just got to keep getting better everyday and hope for improvement toward the end of the season," Lewis said.

The 3A Spartans are 4-2 on the season. Tip-off is scheduled for 7 p.m. Friday in Salida.

The Pirates are next scheduled to play at home Jan. 14 versus the Durango Demons. That game is slated for a 7 p.m. start at Pagosa Springs High School.

The Demons are 7-2 on the season.

garrett@pagosasun.com

Lady Pirates split games at Holy Family Invite

By Garrett Fevinger
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirate basketball squad overcame an early defeat to go 1-1 at the Holy Family Invite last week in Broomfield, extending their overall record to 5-2 at the tournament.

The Lady Pirates encountered rough waters early in Broomfield against the Holy Family hosts, falling 53-27 on Jan. 3.

Amber Snarr led the Lady Pirates in scoring against the Tigers, totaling seven points for the night. Ximena Garcia, Elizabeth Currier, Kylie Ketchum and Adelyn Hittle each added four.

Karsyn Shahan brought down eight rebounds for the night — seven defensive and one offensive — while Ketchum added four.

Currier led the team in steals with three, and Garcia led with two assists. Holy Family held a slight statistical

edge heading into the contest, according to MaxPreps, but 32 turnovers committed by the Lady Pirates complicated chances of an upset.

On Jan. 4 against Kent Denver, it was the Lady Pirates who entered the game with a MaxPreps stat advantage, with wide leads in average points per game, rebounds, assists and steals.

The Lady Pirates used those averages to run up a comfortable lead in the game's first half, outscoring the Sun Devils 33-15.

But as the Pagosa offense cooled, Kent Denver staged a late comeback and outscored the Lady Pirates 27-17 in the game's second half.

That effort wasn't enough to erase Pagosa's early lead, though, as the Lady Pirates hung on for a 50-42 victory.

Currier and Shahan led the Lady Pirate offense against the Sun Devils, scoring 16 and 15 points, respectively. Snarr and Shahan led in rebounds,

with six each, followed by Garcia, who brought down five.

Ketchum contributed three steals to the team's total of 10.

Improving from one night before, the Lady Pirates limited their turnovers to 12 against the Sun Devils.

Coach Sarah Osborn could not be reached for comment as of press time Wednesday.

Looking ahead, the Lady Pirates — ranked ninth in the standings compiled by the Colorado High School Activities Association — are next scheduled to face the Salida Spartans at 5:30 p.m. Friday in Salida.

The 3A Spartans sit at 4-2 for the season.

The Lady Pirates are next scheduled to play at home on Jan. 14 versus the Durango Demons, with tip-off scheduled for 5:30 p.m. at Pagosa Springs High School.

The Demons are 7-2 on the season.

garrett@pagosasun.com

Swimming

Continued from A10

Blackman took third in the 100-yard breaststroke with a time of 1:36.25, scoring three points for the team. Hedgecock swam a time of 1:38.29 to take fifth and earn one point. Gantt followed in sixth with a time of 1:39.29. Trujillo swam the event as an exhibition, logging a time of 2:04.48.

The final event was the 400-yard freestyle relay. The Lady Pirates' team

of Fricke, Snell, Lyons and Slingerland took fourth and garnered two points with a time of 6:01.54.

Beyond Lyons and Snell, Miller also highlights a number of other performances on the day, including Shaeffer in the 50 free, Gerdel in the 100 free and Gorman in the 100 backstroke.

The Lady Pirates will be back in action on Friday, Jan. 10, in Montrose,

with action set to begin at 5 p.m.

"I am looking at this meet as an opportunity to race," Miller notes. "We are not doing any special meet preparation for the meet but swimming through the meet, so no pre meet rest or work specific for the meet. If we show up and race with best efforts that will make the meet successful. Any best times are a bonus at this meet."

randi@pagosasun.com



DEFENDING YOUR RIGHTS FOR OVER 18 YEARS

- ◆ Police Misconduct
- ◆ Civil Rights Violations
- ◆ Wrongful Death
- ◆ Disability Violations
- ◆ Excessive Force
- ◆ Unlawful Seizure and Sale of Property

Contact for a FREE CONSULTATION

970-549-2225
DANIELSHAFFERLAW.COM

DANIEL SHAFFER LAW

Reputation. Respect. Results

PAGOSA SPRINGS PIRATES

Good luck and play hard.

Outdoors

Local Audubon meeting to feature presentation on birding in Ecuador

By Jean Zirnhelt
Weminuche Audubon Society

The evening meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 15, of our Audubon group will feature a presentation by Charlie Tyrrell on a birding trip enjoyed by him and his wife to the Mindo Cloud Forest in Ecuador.

We invite you to join us when we trade our bare January trees for a photographic journey to this green and colorful high-elevation rainforest.

This area of the Andean Forests is often shrouded in low-lying mist and clouds that provide permanent moisture to the landscape. It is recognized globally as an important biodiversity hot spot. The Mindo Cloud Forest supports more than 550 different bird species, many of them exotic both in color and behavior.

The Mindo Cloudforest Foundation is among those conservation organizations that believe "tourism focused on birdwatching is vital in fostering conservation and sustainable economic growth for local communities".

It makes preserving life-sustaining habitat economically attractive.

Tyrrell is a retired engineer with a passion for photographing wildlife and landscapes who settled full time in Pagosa Springs in 2022. He calls himself an amateur, but his talent is evident in his amazing photographs.

The public is invited to join us on the Jan. 15 to escape the January doldrums. We meet at the Community United Methodist Church on Lewis Street. Enter through the side



A sword-billed hummingbird is seen in the Mindo Cloud Forest in Ecuador.

Photo courtesy Charlie Tyrrell

door closest to the parking lot or let us know to open the main doors for handicap entry.

Enjoy refreshments with us starting at 6 p.m. prior to a short busi-

ness meeting at 6:30 preceding the presentation.

In appreciation for our meeting space, contributions of nonperishable food for the church food bank

are collected at our meetings.

If you are unable to join us in person, a link to join on Zoom will be posted on our website, www.weminuchaudubon.org.

Protected areas provide habitat for threatened lynx, but wildfire poses risks

Rocky Mountain Research Station

Canada lynx are specialized hunters, able to travel in deep snow and spot prey in the darkness from 250 feet away. Keen hearing and vision make them excellent trackers, but what do we learn by turning the tables and tracking them?

Scientists are using GPS data and advanced modeling to refine maps and identify important habitat characteristics, particularly in the forests of western Colorado, southern Wyoming and northern New Mexico, the southernmost extent of its range.

New research and updated maps show that more than half of lynx habitat in the southern Rocky Mountains overlaps protected areas like wilderness and national parks. The maps also show that lynx habitat is sparse, patchy and poorly connected, existing only in narrow bands due to Colorado's complex mountainous terrain.

These maps can identify corridors where habitat loss affects animal movement, which is important for healthy populations. Updated maps help managers focus conservation efforts and pinpoint places to promote new habitat, especially given the frequency of human development, fire and forest insect outbreaks near the edges of lynx range.

Lynx in the western U.S. prefer high elevation spruce-fir forests with tree branches hanging close to the snow or ground surface, providing dense horizontal cover. This forest structure supports the cat's favorite prey, snowshoe hares, which can make up 90 percent of their diet in winter.

Lynx were reintroduced to the southern Rockies over two decades ago, after populations had fallen below a self-sustaining level. Several generations of females and kittens have successfully established here, allowing these populations to bounce back.

Researchers used GPS collars to track lynx within the study area, focused on the southern extent of its range. They also considered more than 40 habitat or environmental characteristics, such as the amount of precipitation as snow versus rain, the

month with the coldest temperature, road density, vegetation and slope position.

Combining GPS and habitat data and using state-of-the-art statistical tools and modeling methods, these scientists identified which characteristics best predicted where lynx were found and used this information to map "likely" lynx habitat where cats have a high probability of living, breeding and successfully raising young.

The researchers found that lynx tend to avoid fire-impacted areas until the understory has regrown — a process that takes upward of 50 years in subalpine forests in the southern Rockies, where fires tend to burn less frequently than lower-elevation forests and are often stand-replacing.

Then they took this information one step further, comparing "likely" habitat with disturbances like insect outbreaks, wildfire, timber harvest, or human-footprint impacts such as urbanization or ski resorts.

The scientists found that around one-third of likely habitat overlapped with disturbance, including forest insect outbreaks (31 percent), wildfire (5 percent), and forest management activities like tree harvest and prescribed burning (3 percent). Despite the greater overlap of lynx habitat with insect outbreaks, the scientists are more concerned by the impacts of severe wildfires.

"We know that lynx continue to occupy areas after insects kill the overstory trees during spruce-beetle outbreaks. Forests impacted by

spruce beetles still have enough young conifer trees in the understory to support hares," said Dr. John Squires, the study's principal investigator and a Rocky Mountain Research Station research wildlife biologist. "Also, some tree species like subalpine fir often survive spruce beetle attacks. That means that forest insects represent a more benign threat to lynx compared to broad-scale, high-severity wildfire."

The researchers found that lynx tend to avoid fire-impacted areas until the understory has regrown — a process that takes upward of 50 years in subalpine forests in the southern Rockies, where fires tend to burn less frequently than lower-elevation forests and are often stand-replacing.

"Although fire disturbance from 1990-2022 overlapped only 5 percent of likely lynx habitat in this area, we believe that frequent, high-severity fire is the main risk to lynx in high-elevation forests moving forward," continued Squires.

"We were surprised at how little lynx habitat overlapped areas of managed forest and human development," said Dr. Lucretia Olson, study co-author and a Rocky Mountain Research Station ecologist. "While forest management mainly causes temporary habitat changes, activities like urbanization and developing or expanding ski areas often lead to permanent losses. We hope our work will reach managers who make complex decisions about land uses."

Squires stressed the value of partnerships for conducting this research: "Close collaboration across state and federal agencies in terms of data sharing, logistical support and added expertise made this research possible."

Authors of this research include Squires and Olson of the Forest Service Rocky Mountain Research Station, Jacob Ivan of Colorado Parks



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.

SIMON
ROOFING & REPAIR

www.simonroofingandrepair.com

719-726-5451

COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL

TPO - EPDM - Exposed Fastener Metal
Standing Seam Metal - Shingles - Tile
Stone-Coated Steel - BRAVA Tile

SPECIALIZING IN LEAK REPAIRS!

Veterans Crisis Line

free, confidential support to veterans in crisis, as well as their family and friends 24/7/365.

(800) 273-8255

or text 838255

Sell it

in the classifieds

Cars • Bikes • Houses • Land • Saddles • Hay • Goats
Horses • Boats • Tools • Furniture • You name it!

The Pagosa Springs SUN

To place your classified ad, call
(970) 264-2100



Advertise your business in the guide visitors use.

Pagosa Springs Official Visitor Guide™

Advertising Deadline: February 21, 2025

30,000 copies of the award-winning Pagosa Springs Official Visitor Guide™ will be printed and distributed at Walmart, The Springs Resort, Wyndham, Pagosa Springs Area Visitor Center, many other area establishments, and welcome centers throughout Colorado.

The guide will be mailed in one edition of The Pagosa Springs SUN to subscribers. A digitally enhanced version of the guide will be online at PagosaSUN.com and ExplorePagosa.com. The Pagosa Area Tourism Board will provide a link to this guide on visitpagosasprings.com.

To ensure that your business is represented in Pagosa Springs' largest and most comprehensive visitor guide, call or email Shari today.
shari@pagosasun.com or (970) 264-2100

The Pagosa Springs SUN
457 Lewis Street • (970) 264-2100
www.PagosaSUN.com

Rotary scholarship applications now open for high school seniors

By Meg Wempe
Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs

Attention, high school seniors: If you need help funding your education, the Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs offers scholarships that could help make your educational dreams a reality.

Each year, Rotary awards scholarships to deserving students, with funding to all winners typically exceeding \$20,000 annually. Since the program's inception, we've awarded an impressive \$564,125 to 201 graduates — and we're excited to continue this tradition in 2025.

These scholarships are not limited to Pagosa Springs High School students. They are available to seniors from GOAL Academy, San Juan Mountain School, home-schooled students and those who have earned or plan to earn their GED by spring.

Whether you're heading to a four-year college, a university or a vocational school, there's a scholarship opportunity for you. Separate applications are available for students pursuing traditional college paths and those focusing on vocational education.

Applications have been distributed to Pagosa Springs High School, San Juan Mountain School and GOAL Academy. For students not attending these schools, applications can be emailed upon request.

The submission deadline is 4 p.m. on March 17, so start now on your

application.

Scholarship recipients are selected based on a range of criteria, including financial need, academic achievements, extracurricular involvement, personal interviews, letters of recommendation, a personal essay and the quality of their resume.

The Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs, established in 1979, now boasts 83 dedicated members. Our scholarships are funded through generous contributions from businesses, individual sponsors and community fundraising events, including our flagship fundraiser, the annual

Jewels and Jeans Barn Dance held in October.

Applications can be picked up at Pagosa Springs High School, San Juan Mountain School and GOAL Academy, or requested via email at megwempe@hotmail.com. Completed applications can be submitted to your school or emailed to the same address with the subject line "Rotary Scholarship" to ensure proper handling.

We're eager to review your applications and help support your educational journey. Don't miss this opportunity — apply today.

MARCH FOR

equality

SAT., JAN. 18, 2025
11AM - 1PM
START/END @ TOWN PARK

LET YOUR VOICE
BE HEARD!

- A PEACEFUL MARCH THROUGH DOWNTOWN PAGOSA
- FAMILY FRIENDLY. ALL ARE WELCOME!
- CARRY SIGNS THAT LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD
- STAY FOR WINTERFEST ACTIVITIES AFTERWARD

MEANS EVERYONE

AD SPONSORED BY PAGOSA UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

Your
source for
community
news.

The Pagosa Springs SUN
970-264-2100

PAGOSA SPRINGS Medical Center

First Class Care *Close to Home*

MAKO ROBOTIC-ASSISTED JOINT
REPLACEMENT NOW AVAILABLE AT PSMC!



Jeremiah Steed, MD
Orthopedic Surgery

When you've had enough of living with knee or hip pain, the PSMC Orthopedic & Sports Medicine specialist team, Dr. Bill Webb and Dr. Jeremiah Steed, are ready to help.

PSMC's Dr. Jeremiah Steed is a fellowship trained Orthopedic Surgeon and is certified in Mako™ robotic-assisted joint replacement surgeries.

Designed for partial knee, total knee and total hip replacements, the Mako system is a tool that enables Dr. Steed to customize a surgery based on a patient's unique anatomy, so the surgery is predictable, accurate and may result in faster recovery.

For more information or to schedule a
consultation, please call 970-731-3700.

PAGOSA SPRINGS
Medical Center
pagosaspringsmedicalcenter.org
95 South Pagosa Blvd |

Let's Celebrate! New Provider and Expanded Hours



Dr. Robert Melton, AuD



Dr. Jen Hurst, AuD

Meet Dr. Melton
Jan 9, 2025 4-6pm
2343a Eagle Dr

- Now open Monday to Friday 9-5
- VA, Medicare, Medicaid accepted
- All insurance accepted

HURST
HEARING

hear well, live well

Pagosa • 970 444-2314 • hursthearing.com

stryker

Don't let hip or knee pain



Find a doctor who uses Mako, visit
MakoPagosaSprings.com



Scan.
Plan.
Mako
Can.

All surgery carries risk. Talk to your doctor to see if joint replacement is right for you.
JR-MKOSYM-GRAP-681675
Copyright © 2023 Stryker

preview

ARTS & LIFE

‘A Walk in the Woods’

Jan. 16-26 • Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts



Photo courtesy Thingamajig Theatre Company

January 9, 2025

Thingamajig Theatre Company to present 'A Walk in the Woods'

By Carter Meritt
Thingamajig Theatre Company

Thingamajig Theatre Company continues its 2024-2025 Winter Season with "A Walk in the Woods" by Lee Blessing, following December's encore production of "All Is Calm: The Christmas Truce of 1914."

The play will open Thursday, Jan. 16, and run through Jan. 26 at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, with performances beginning at 7 p.m. and select 3 p.m. shows.

First performed in 1988 at Yale Repertory Theatre and later on Broadway, "A Walk in the Woods" garnered critical acclaim, earning a Pulitzer Prize nomination for Drama and a Tony Award nomination for Best Play.

Set against the backdrop of the Cold War, the play depicts an unofficial meeting between two arms negotiators — one American, one Soviet — in a forest outside Geneva. Through their conversations, it offers an insightful and often humorous examination of diplomacy, human connection and the challenges of bridging ideological divides.

Blessing balances the weight of the subject matter with honesty and wit, allowing audiences to engage with the material in both reflective and accessible ways.

This production holds special significance for Thingamajig Theatre.



Photo courtesy
Thingamajig Theatre Company

Tim Moore

Tim Moore, portraying Soviet negotiator Andrey, takes on his first starring role since his cancer diagnosis in 2017.

Working alongside Scott Morehead, whose engaging performance as John provides a thought-provoking foil to Moore's seasoned portrayal, and under the direction of Dennis Elkins, the cast brings a compelling depth to Blessing's script that will delight audiences.

The creative team, including MacKenzie Lowe (lighting design), JD Madsen (projection and scenic design), and Nanette Cheffers (costume design), has crafted an immersive production that enhances the intimate and introspective nature of the play.



Photo courtesy
Thingamajig Theatre Company

Scott Morehead

"A Walk in the Woods" is a thoughtful, timely exploration of the personal and political, told with warmth, humor and clarity. This second offering of the season exemplifies Thingamajig's commitment to presenting works that provoke thought and inspire dialogue long after the show's conclusion.

Tickets are available through the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts' website, pagosacenter.org, or box office, (970) 731-SHOW.

Cuts • Colors • Curls
HEADLINES BY CARMEN
(970) 264-2548
358 S. 10TH

Every
Thursday
7:30-11:30 p.m.

Karaoke

PAGOSA BAR
460 Pagosa Street

eat drink gather

City Hall CAFE & GRILLE

TRY SOME OF OUR DELICIOUS

Prime Steaks
Seafood • Pastas • Subs
Wraps & Salads
Full Bar & Extensive Wine List
Homemade Key Lime Pie

Eat In or Take Out
Open Tue-Sat
11 am-9 pm

Call Today to Reserve
Our Private Gondola
970.398.2409

2151 Eagle Drive | cityhallcafe.co | 970.398.2409

Live Performers

Thursday
The Pagosa Bar: Karaoke, 7:30 p.m.

Friday
The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Bob Hemenger, 5 p.m.

Saturday
The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Maxwell Miller, 5 p.m.

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

The PREVIEW is a publication of
The Pagosa Springs SUN

©Copyright 2025
O'Rourke Media Group — Pagosa Springs, LLC
ISSN 2835-3994 (Print) • ISSN 2835-4001 (Online)



Owner, CEO
Jim O'Rourke, jorouke@orourkemediagroup.com

Publisher, Advertising, Circulation
Shari Pierce, shari@pagosasun.com

Editor
Randi Pierce, editor@pagosasun.com

Reporters
Josh Pike, josh@pagosasun.com
Derek Kutzer, derek@pagosasun.com
Clayton Chaney, clayton@pagosasun.com
Garrett Fevinger, garrett@pagosasun.com

Classified Advertising/Front Office
Cristin Flanagan, classads@pagosasun.com

Head Pressroom Robert Penton
Assistant Press Operator Matt McKinnon
Mailroom William Thomas

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Annual In County - \$35
Annual Out of County - \$45
Monthly - \$10
Digital subscriptions available at PagosaSun.com

ADVERTISING DEADLINES
Display - Noon Monday
Classified - Tuesday 10 a.m.
Legal - Friday 4 p.m. • Deadlines are moved up for holiday weeks. Please check for an ad in the paper for specific dates and times.

(970) 264-2100
PagosaSUN.com
Physical: 457 Lewis Street
Mailing: PO Box 9, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

Open Enrollment for Health Insurance

Open November 1, 2024 to January 15, 2025

Come to our office at 502 S. 8th Street or call 970-264-2409 to make an appointment.

Visit connectforhealthco.com to learn more.



ARCHULETA COUNTY
Public Health
DEPARTMENT



San Juan Stargazers January program to include member-participation activity, lesson on solar system organization

By Joan Mieritz
San Juan Stargazers

The January monthly meeting of the San Juan Stargazers will be on Thursday, Jan. 9.

We will meet at the regular time of 6 p.m. for our social hour and final Christmas cookie feast or whatever you bring to share. The program will begin at 7 p.m.

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.

Club activities

In January, February and March, we will be doing something new at our monthly meetings.

In January we will be using Astronomy Magazine. Many people started preparing at the December meeting, but if you didn't, you can still "throw something together" during the 6 p.m. social time. Let Joan know you need help and she will amaze you with how well you can do.

There also will be a video lesson on how the planets in our solar system are organized. The James Webb will be providing information on how other solar systems are organized. We

don't know if there is a universal order or if there is a variety of patterns. This will be another mystery solved by the James Webb.

About the Stargazers

If you would like to join the San Juan Stargazers, you will also receive Reflector Magazine, which is the publication of the National Astronomical League of which you automatically become a member. To join both groups and get an

excellent astronomy magazine, annual membership is only \$25 per family.

You can join the club at any of our events or you can join using PayPal on our website, sanjuanstargazers.org.

Check out our continuously changing website with new information and spectacular photos. We can be your connection to our extraordinary universe.

WINTER SALE

January 9-23



40% off
Store-wide
including Sale Items

*Exclusions apply

Women, Men, Kids Apparel,
Gifts and More!

190 Talisman Drive C-1 (Behind City Market)

Give the gift of blood at Jan. 22 drive

By David Hamilton
Special to The PREVIEW

As part of the Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service, thousands of people are gathering and completing community service projects honoring King's legacy.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service was established to honor the life and legacy of King, and encourage all Americans to volunteer to improve their communities.

What better way to honor King's legacy than by donating your gift of blood at our next local blood drive.

There is always a need, and sometimes a critical one, for blood donors in Southwest Colorado.

Join other caring and generous friends and neighbors in celebration of King's legacy at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1879 Majestic Drive, on Wednesday, Jan. 22, from 3 to 7 p.m.

Please contact local volunteer David Hamilton by call or text at (970) 799-4056 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

Potential volunteers may also go directly to Vitalant or call (877) 25-VITAL.

Month-long SAVINGS

ACE REWARDS EXCLUSIVE SAVE \$2 INSTANTLY
1" Filtrete® 1500 Allergen Air Filter**
Assorted sizes available. Limit 4 each.

ACE REWARDS EXCLUSIVE SAVE \$1 INSTANTLY
1" Filtrete® 1000 Allergen Defense Air Filter**
Assorted sizes available. Limit 4 each.

25% OFF
Select Culligan®, ZeroWater®, PUR®, Frigidaire® and TST Water & Refrigerator Filtration Products**

YOUR CHOICE
~~\$26.99~~ - \$4 ACE REWARDS EXCLUSIVE*
\$22.99 each
Ace® 32 Gal. Trash Can
Assorted colors. Made by Rubbermaid®. 7131451, 71162, 71102. Limit 6 each at this price.

BUY MORE SAVE MORE

\$36.99
O-Cedar® EasyWring® Microfiber Spin Mop & Bucket System
1574185

BUY THIS GET THIS FREE

\$9.99 EasyWring® Mop Refill
1576685

YOUR CHOICE
~~\$15.99~~ - \$3 ACE REWARDS EXCLUSIVE*
\$12.99 each
Ace® Trash Bags
Assorted styles. 6297956, 6186753, 6208805, 6041061. Limit 3 each at this price.

BUY MORE SAVE MORE

Select Cleaning Products & Paper Products**

SAVE \$5 OR \$10
When You Spend \$25 OR \$45 or more
on Select Cleaning Products & Paper Products**

Valid at acehardware.com, in the Ace mobile app, or at participating Ace Hardware stores 12/26/2024 - 01/31/2025. Not valid on prior purchases or on items that are part of an Ace Rewards Exclusive Savings offer during this Buy More & Save promotion period. Discount will be allocated across all qualifying items. If merchandise is returned, customer will receive discounted price paid. Qualifying minimum purchase amount must be spent in a single transaction and is calculated minus discounts/coupons, rewards redemptions and taxes.

BUY MORE SAVE MORE

Select Cleaning Products**

SAVE \$5 OR \$12
When You Spend \$20 OR \$40 or more
on Select Cleaning Products**

Valid at acehardware.com, in the Ace mobile app, or at participating Ace Hardware stores 12/26/2024 - 01/31/2025. Not valid on prior purchases or on items that are part of an Ace Rewards Exclusive Savings offer during this Buy More & Save promotion period. Discount will be allocated across all qualifying items. If merchandise is returned, customer will receive discounted price paid. Qualifying minimum purchase amount must be spent in a single transaction and is calculated minus discounts/coupons, rewards redemptions and taxes.

SALE \$22.99
Ace® Handheld Spreader
7030137
Ace® Ice Melter, 40 Lb., 72779...17.99.

SALE \$79.99
Perfect Aire® Oil-Filled Electric Heater
4010209

STAY READY AND PREPARED FOR THE SEASON

Prices are as marked. All sales final on discounted items, cash and carry, no returns on sale items, discounts do not apply to sale items, sale prices may not be combined with other discounts. Delivery and set up or installation not included. Some other exclusions may apply. Limited to stock on hand.

ACE
Hardware

See our ads on TerrysACE.com
Shop www.acehardware.com for free in store pickup

525 Navajo Trail Drive • 731-4022
Mon-Fri 7:30-6 • Sat 8-5 • Sun 9-4

National Stalking Awareness Month: Understanding stalking and supporting victims of domestic violence

By Jennifer Sutherland
Rise Above Violence

January 2025 is National Stalking Awareness Month.

It is time to bring awareness to the stalking victims in Archuleta County who are affected by the chilling realities of domestic violence.

Stalking is a serious issue that often goes hand in hand with intimate partner violence, impacting victims' lives, mental health and safety.

Stalking is defined as a pattern of behavior directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to feel fear or emotional distress.

Most stalkers target people they know, and the majority of stalkers are intimate partners or acquaintances who know about the victim's vulnerabilities and fears.

Individual incidents in the pattern may or may not be criminal acts. Some common stalking tactics include unwanted calls/texts/emails/messages, showing up uninvited, spreading rumors, and following and watching or waiting for the victim. Even leaving gifts can be a tactic.

According to the National Intimate Partner and sexual violence survey (NISVS):

- Approximately 76 percent of women and 85 percent of men stalked were stalked by someone they knew.

- One in six women and one in 17 men have experienced stalking victimization at some point in their life.

These statistics reveal that stalking is not just a random occurrence. It is often a manifestation of possessiveness and control in abusive relationships.

Survivors often suffer anxiety, social dysfunction and severe depression as a result of their victimization, and many lose time from work and/or have to relocate. Stalking can impact every aspect of a survivor's life.

The majority of victims tell friends or family about their situation first, and how we respond influences if they seek further help. We all have a role to play in identifying stalking, intervening when necessary, and supporting victims and survivors.

What can you do if you are being stalked? If you find yourself being

stalked, it's essential to take action. Here's a step-by-step approach:

1. Trust your instinct: If you are feeling unsafe or uncomfortable, trust your feelings. Your safety is a priority.

2. Limit contact: Do not engage with the stalker. Responding could potentially escalate the situation.

3. Inform authorities: Report any stalking incidents to the police. Remember to keep documentation.

4. Seek support: Reach out to friends and family members. Rise Above Violence will help you safety plan. It is available 24/7 with a hotline that will connect you with a trained advocate.

Together, we must raise awareness, provide support and foster environments where victims feel safe and valued. If you or someone you know is being stalked, remember you are not alone, and help is available. Reach out, document your experiences and create a safety plan to protect yourself.

Follow Rise Above Violence this month on social media for weekly awareness on stalking.

New year, new office space for Healthy Archuleta

Healthy Archuleta

We hope that everyone in Archuleta County is off to a fabulous 2025 with new beginnings and blessings.

Our team at Healthy Archuleta would like to let everyone know that our offices have moved to a new uptown location. We moved from our old downtown office space on the second floor of the Community United Methodist Church to a new

office space located above RG Bank.

With this big move, we still plan to keep serving Archuleta County residents in having equitable access to food and health resources within the county.

We are grateful for the support we've received from those we've met over the last year and hope to keep building on more support over the next year, especially with our upcoming efforts on equitable mental/

behavioral health services for our Spanish-speaking community, health access and utilization for those who are underinsured or uninsured, and equitable food access for underserved Archuleta County residents.

We wish everyone a happy and healthy start to the new year.

For more information on Healthy Archuleta, please visit our website at www.foodcoalition4archuleta.org or email us at fsfearchuleta@gmail.com.

End of Life Education group announces first meeting of 2025

By Joan Mieritz
End of Life Education

On Thursday, Jan. 16, at 1 p.m. at the Community United Methodist Church on Lewis Street, the End of Life Education group will begin meeting again after a brief holiday break.

There is so much to learn about this topic. Most people plan and prepare for everything they do in life. Since few people know when they will die, death is something we seldom prepare for and certainly we don't want to even think about.

But, like all the things that we prepare for which usually turn out pretty well, perhaps this taboo and unpleasant subject might turn out better if we face it, acknowledge it and prepare for it. Such a change in attitude certainly can't hurt anything. Many cultures may be living life better with a different attitude. It is not

like not thinking about death keeps it from happening. It is the only certainty in life.

This End of Life Education group wants to try something new, different and, perhaps, better. The group has met about 11 times. We have learned so much, but we have not had time for many discussions.

During this second group of meetings, beginning Jan. 16, we will have more discussions and sharing of feelings and ideas. I will be honest with you that I am not presenting a program that I am an expert on. I don't think there are many death experts. Like with life, we are all muddling through. This is an experiment.

We are going to have a change in program format with showing one of many, many available films. I hope you will make suggestions. Then the film will be followed by a group discussion. We may break up into

smaller groups. This is all evolving and anyone with input is welcome to share it. We want to have more group participation.

I hope you will join us.

Your source for community news.

The Pagosa Springs SUN
970-264-2100

LIVE MUSIC

at The Springs Resort =
5-7 pm in the Lodge Atrium



Friday, January 10th
Bob Hemenger

Saturday, January 11th
Maxwell Miller

Tuesday, January 14th
Jason Rose

Friday, January 17th
Bob Hemenger

Join us for
Wine Down Wednesday
on January 15th!
(50% off select wines)

323 Hot Springs Blvd.
800-225-0934
pagosahotsprings.com



About SAN JUAN EATERY

Hello! I'm Amanda, the Owner and Operator of San Juan Eatery. I've been part of the restaurant industry in Pagosa Springs for over 10 years. Recently, my team and I decided to embark on an exciting new adventure by creating San Juan Eatery — a place that blends my love for food with my passion for animals.

For those who don't know me yet, I'm a big animal lover. My husband, Eddie, our son, Nick, and I live on a small ranch filled with dogs, horses, cats, goats, and chickens. I have a deep passion for rescue work, and we actively foster animals through LASSO Horse Rescue and Rugby's Rescue, a local nonprofit dog rescue organization.

You might notice that some of our menu items have playful names — these are inspired by our own rescued animals at home. Since

we can't bring our furry family to work, we thought naming menu items after them would be a wonderful way to celebrate them and share their stories with you.

At San Juan Eatery, we're committed to giving back. That is why we donate 1% of our sales each month to a local rescue or animal nonprofit. Be sure to follow us on Facebook, where we feature our chosen organization of the month.

We hope you enjoy your dining experience with us. If there's ever anything we can do to improve, please don't hesitate to let us know — whether in person or by email.

With love and gratitude,
Amanda Tobin

Bring in this ad for a
20% Discount
on one entree

Dine in only, limit one per table
Expires February 9, 2025



Open Daily 11:00 A.M.-8:00 P.M.
438 C Pagosa Street • 970-264-0608
SanJuanEatery@gmail.com
SanJuanEatery.com
FIND US AND OUR STORE ON INSTAGRAM, FACEBOOK AND ONLINE

Library director looks ahead to 2025

By Carole Howard
PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

Barb Brattin arrived in Pagosa to take up her new job as your library's director on Sept. 3, 2024, bringing with her an impressive record of educational and practical experience.

She has a BA in history from the University of Akron and a masters of library science from Kent State University, both in Ohio. For the previous 10 years, Brattin had been director of the Kenosha Public Library, named Wisconsin Library of the Year in 2020. From 2005-2013, she was director of the Telluride library, where she was named Colorado Librarian of the Year in 2007.

As 2025 begins, we thought it a good time to chat with Brattin about her experiences here so far and her priorities for the future.

"I've worked in several libraries,

Library News

but never one so obviously appreciated by the community," she said. "It's also great to see how much the staff genuinely want to help everyone and how much they love their work. Another plus is the many contributions of the board, the foundation and the Friends of the Library. And I'm greatly impressed by the sophistication of our readers, based on the books they request.

"I especially like working in a smaller library, with less time sitting at a desk dealing with administrative paperwork and more opportunities to interact with people."

As for 2025, Brattin has three priorities.

One is upgrading the library's technology to better serve our patrons with faster computers and a more sophisticated network. Another is building our collection, especially adult and children's nonfiction.

"We need more books helping kids with academic and homework requirements," Brattin said. "An important example is supporting STEM (science, technology, engineering and math)."

As for adults, she has studied the books we most borrow from other libraries to meet their requests.

"Science, nature, travel, yoga, religion, the classics — these all are subjects we need more of here," she said.

Brattin's third major priority is continuing to raise money for the campaign to upgrade and expand your library.

"We've raised just over 50 percent of our \$5 million goal, all from private donors and grants — with no increase in taxes," she said. "Right now I'd like to get to 60 percent to be eligible for a Coors grant."

On a personal level, Brattin is

■ See Library on next page

Planetary parade viewing events set for Jan. 24 and 25

By Dena Laterza
Pagosa Sidewalk Astronomers

View the planetary parade at Yamaguchi Park Jan. 24 and 25.

Join the Pagosa Sidewalk Astronomers for this special celestial event when six planets will be visible

across the night sky (five with the naked eye).

Meet near the pickleball courts.

There will be a short educational presentation from 7 to 7:30 p.m.

Dress warmly and please, dim your headlights ASAP.

Recycle your Christmas trees

By Mary Jo Coulehan
Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce

With the holidays coming to a close, what to do with those beautifully decorated Christmas trees and pine boughs? Recycle them.

Please bring your real trees — absent of ornaments and other decoratives — and pine boughs to the Archuleta County Fairgrounds where they will be used as fuel for the upcoming WinterFest Bonfire that will be held on Jan. 17.

There already is a pile of trees and

signage indicating where to drop off your trees. Please do not drop off fake or "manufactured" trees or any other materials. The drop off is close to the U.S. 84 entrance, so access, drop-off and exiting the Fairground should be very simple, even in the snow, as the access area will be plowed.

We hope that we will collect a large number of real trees this year to make the WinterFest Bonfire even bigger than last year.

This is the only location in the community accepting trees to be recycled. Questions can be directed to the Chamber at (970) 264-2360.

WE ARE OPEN FOR LUNCH AND DINNER
FAMILY-OWNED RESTAURANT AND BAR OFFERING POLISH AMERICAN CUISINE

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 970.582.2011



CONSTITUTION ALIVE!



Join our local Constitution Host and others from Pagosa Springs as we watch, study, and discuss this powerful video series with Rick Green and David Barton.

- ★ Know your Rights!
- ★ Gain more Constitutional Knowledge than 99% of Americans!
- ★ Learn Tangible Action Steps for Preserving Liberty!
- ★ Entertaining! Inspiring! Educational!
- ★ Learn the Biblical, Historical, and Constitutional Foundation of Freedom!

Grace in Pagosa
1044 Park Ave
Pagosa Springs



Monday evenings for 10 weeks beginning Jan 20 from 6:00-8:00pm at Grace in Pagosa. Scan the QR Code for more info. Course and digital workbook are FREE. A spiral-bound workbook is available for \$20. Refreshments will be provided.

SQUARE TOP BAR-B-QUE

Authentic Texas BBQ

Winter Hours:
Thursday-Sunday
11 am-6 pm

Located @ the Golf Clubhouse
1 Pines Club Place
(970) 398-5267
SquareTopBBQ.com

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

Clip 'n Save 10% OFF Wines & Liquors
OFF 750ML & 1.75L BOTTLES NON-SALE ITEMS ONLY. NO BEER.

Beer of the Month
Montucky 24 pack
\$250 OFF
offer ends 01/31/25

Spirit of the Month
Captain Morgan 1.75L
\$350 OFF
offer ends 01/31/25

Wine of the Month
14 Hands Wines 750 ml
\$899
offer ends 01/31/25

SILVER DOLLAR LIQUORS

970-264-2749
M-SAT 9AM TO MIDNIGHT
SUNDAY 9AM TO 10 PM
Next to River Center - Hwy. 160 - East Pagosa Springs

Library

■ continued from previous page

greatly enjoying the Pagosa lifestyle and people. She has purchased a house in the Chris Mountain area and expanded her animal family, adding Vic, a rez dog adopted from a Navajo Humane Society in Arizona, as a companion for dog Gigi and cat Garfield.

"I feel I belong here," she said with a smile.

New Just Friends Book Club to meet Monday

The inaugural meeting of the Just Friends Book Club will take place Monday, Jan. 13, at noon at the library. The Friends of the Library group will discuss "Lost Birds" by Anne Hillerman and choose books to read the rest of the year. Copies are available at the library. Please feel free to bring a brown bag lunch for yourself.

If you have questions, email DonnaMoshier@icloud.com, president of the Friends of the Library.

Healthy friendships advice tomorrow

Teens and tweens are invited to tomorrow, Friday, Jan. 10, from 2 to 3 p.m., for a discussion with Rise Above Violence about making your friendships even more awesome.

Teen/tween takeover tomorrow

We are setting aside the large meeting room and some of the computers for tweens and teens to use and spend time with friends Friday, Jan. 10, from 2 to 4 p.m.

Chess Club Saturday

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

Writing workshop Saturday

A new free writing workshop Saturday, Jan. 11, from 10 a.m. to noon will teach you how to launch your project by developing compelling characters, creating a story arc,

structuring your plot, managing your project and time, and preparing a professional manuscript.

Adult knitting Saturday

Join new and experienced knitters Saturday, Jan. 11, for our free Knitters Circle from 1 to 3 p.m. It is aimed at anyone over the age of 18 who would like to knit together or get some help if you are stuck on your project.

Knitting and crochet lessons

Learn to knit or crochet on Monday, Jan. 13, at our free gathering from 2 to 3:15 p.m. for ages 8 and up. Supplies will be provided.

Shakespeare read-aloud

Shakespeare fans of all ages are invited to join in reading aloud "The Comedy of Errors" beginning Monday, Jan. 13, and continuing through Feb. 24 from 3:30 to 5 p.m. at the free Shakespeare Read Aloud Club. This is an all-ages program. Call Jenny at (240) 426-7887 for more information.

High school math tutoring

Free high school math tutoring for ages 14 and up takes place Mondays from 4 to 5:30 p.m. for free tutoring. Registration is required.

Ruby's Book Club next Tuesday

Ruby's Book Club will meet from 2 to 3 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 14, to discuss "Reading Lolita in Tehran" by Azar Nafisi. Copies are available at your library. This book club is held the second Tuesday of each month, alternating between fiction and nonfiction titles. Anyone is welcome to attend.

Dungeons and Dragons

Next Tuesday, Jan. 14, from 4 to 5:30 p.m., join our Dungeons and Dragons game free for teens and young adults. Preregistration is required because space is limited. Contact Josie@pagosalibrary.org to join.

Therapy dog visit

Next Wednesday, Jan. 15, from 11 to 11:45 a.m., all ages are invited to a free visit with a certified therapy

dog. The visits will be limited to 10-15 minutes — just the right amount of time to pet the dog, read to the dog or just say "Hi."

Legal clinics resume

This month's free legal clinic is by appointment Wednesday, Jan. 15, from 2 to 3:40 p.m.

Come to the library to meet privately via Zoom with our volunteer attorney. To schedule an appointment, phone (970) 264-2209.

When you call, let us know if you need a translator. Registration opens the first of the month and is required as space is limited.

Online author talks

Our highly popular free online author talks with New York Times bestselling authors will continue next Wednesday, Jan. 15, at 5 p.m. when TJ Klune will discuss "The Magic of Found Family in Conversation."

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

Tween Knowledge Bowl

Our free middle school Knowledge Bowl will take place next Thursday, Jan. 16, from 4 to 5 p.m. Tween participants form teams of up to six people to compete against each other by answering questions that cover a range of topics from math to spelling to pop culture.

Family storytimes

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

Elementary tutoring sessions

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.

Writers Guild

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

■ See Library on next page

We thank you,
our valued customers,
for your continued
patronage.

We look forward
to serving you in 2025.

All of us at

The Tile &
Carpet Store

M-F 8-4:30 • (970) 731-5282 • 204 Bastille Dr.
(N. Pagosa Blvd, Left at Bastille Dr.)



OPEN ENROLLMENT

Now accepting students for 2025-26

Intentionally small
K-8

Free to all

Embraces Restorative Practices
Dedicated to Project-based Learning

Tuition-free
public
charter



Enroll online and learn more at

www.pagosapeakopenschool.org

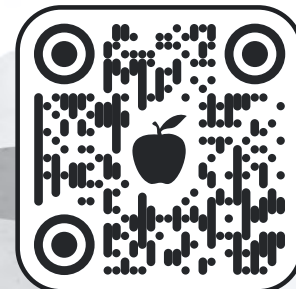


NATURAL GROCERS®

SELECT **FREE-RANGE**
EGGS \$3.99
PER DOZEN LIMIT 4

Terms and conditions apply.
See store for details.

Sign up by scanning
the QR code to
download our NEW
mobile app today!



**IN-POWER®
PRICING ONLY!**



Library

■ continued from previous page

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 beginners, 5 to 6 p.m. for intermediate and 6 to 7 p.m. for advanced students. Please help us share the word about these classes.

Tech Time

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

No appointment is needed for these drop-in sessions, but please bring your device's charger and passwords with you.

Pagosa Adult Learning Services (PALS)

Join Mark or Sally for free PALS sessions Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 to 8 p.m. to help with high school equivalency, GED, college prep, financial aid, tutoring and more. No appointment is necessary.

Activities calendars

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

Downloadable books

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

Nonfiction books on CD

"Out of the Darkness" by sports biographer Ian O'Connor explores the life of NFL MVP Aaron Rodgers. "Be Ready When the Luck Happens" by Ina Garten is a memoir of the Barefoot Contessa TV host and cookbooks author. "The TMJ Handbook" by Ca-tor Shachoy is a therapeutic guide to relieving jaw tension and pain with

yoga and mindfulness. "A Future We Can Love" by Susan Bauer-Wu is inspired by conversations between the Dalai Lama and Greta Thunberg. "Rocks and Minerals of North America" is a National Geographic pocket guide. "By Your Side" by David Richo provides tools to find soulful allies and become one to others.

Mysteries, suspense and thrillers

"All the Colors of the Dark" by Chris Whitaker features the daughter of a wealthy family and an unlikely local hero who saves her. "Our Little Secret" by Lisa Jackson follows a couple after the woman is trying to end their brief affair. "Like Mother, Like Mother" by Susan Rieger is a multigenerational family saga shaped by past secrets.

Other novels

"Lady Macbeth" by Ava Reid is a reimagining of Shakespeare's most famous villainess. "North Woods" by Daniel Mason is set in a New England house with its inhabitants across the centuries. "Becoming Madam Secretary" by Stephanie Dray features Franklin Delano Roosevelt's most-trusted lieutenant. "Night Watch" by Jayne Anne Phillips tells of a mother and daughter seeking refuge after the Civil War.

DVDs

"The Doris Day and Rock Hudson Comedy Collection" contains three comedies. "Cool Runnings" is a Walt Disney comedy inspired by the true story of Jamaica's first Olympic bobsled team. "White Bird: A Wonder Story" tells of a young man transformed by the heroic life of his grandmother. "The Nightmare Before Christmas" is a Disney Tim Burton musical fantasy. "I Heard the Bells" is the true story of the beloved Christmas carol.

Material donations

Thanks to our anonymous donors for their donations of books.

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 pub-

lished 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

"We don't stop playing because we grow old; we grow old because we stop playing" — George Bernard Shaw (1856-1950), Irish playwright, critic, political activist and winner of the Nobel Prize in literature.

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>.

A1 Taxi Service

970-585-4903

8am-8pm Sunday-Thursday
8am-10pm Friday and Saturday
or by appointment!

Reliability Matters!

Fully licensed and insured!
Smoke-free vehicles!
Local discount system- just ask!

Courtesy Counts!



PUC 16400, MCT 0021, DOT 2842985

SLEDZ ON REZ

RESERVOIR HILL DOWNTOWN

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18TH
ON-SITE REGISTRATION & CHECK IN 1-2 PM
RACE BEGINS AT 2:30PM

BRING YOUR DECORATED HOMEMADE OR MODIFIED SLEDS AND TAKE ON THE CHALLENGE OF RIDING THEM DOWN RESERVOIR HILL!

GET READY FOR A DAY OF FUN AND CREATIVITY, COSTUMES ENCOURAGED!

**PRIZES: BEST OF SHOW, BEST TEAM AND MORE!
JUDGING CATEGORIES: BEST DECORATED, MOST UNIQUE, JUDGES' CHOICE AND MORE!**

RULES: SLEDS MUST BE MADE FROM PLASTIC SLEDS, INFLATABLES, CARDBOARD, AND DUCT TAPE. UNSAFE SLEDS MAY BE DISQUALIFIED.

LOTS of Prizes +

FREE Green Chili +

FREE Hot Drinks +

Donations welcomed

SCAN QR CODE TO REGISTER!

NOTE: HELMET STRONGLY RECOMMENDED!

BENEFITS PSHS CTE STUDENTS!

Veterans Crisis Line

free, confidential support to veterans in crisis, as well as their family and friends 24/7/365.

(800) 273-8255
or text 838255

Launch Your New Writing Project in 2025 workshop set

By Sarah Riehm
PREVIEW Columnist

Do you have a fascinating idea for a story? Have you always dreamed of writing a screenplay, a stage play or a novel, but you don't know where to start or how to execute it? Do you have a work in progress but need to know how to finish it and bring it to market?

On Saturday, Jan. 11, from 10 a.m. until noon, local author Sarah Lawrence will present a seminar on how to bring your story to life. The free workshop is part of the Adult Education Program of the Ruby Sisson Library. All ages and experience levels are welcome.

The workshop is geared to those who want to write a full-length story told as a screenplay, stage play or novel.

Bring your wonderful idea or work in progress as we will have a number of hands-on activities to help you

make your dream a reality. We will cover the basic story idea, story visioning, character development, plot structure, format, time management and marketing. You will leave with valuable handouts, a treasure trove of professional resources and the inspiration you need to finish your project in 2025.

Note: Although this workshop might be interesting to all writers, it is probably not suited to essayists, memoirists, poets, short story or nonfiction writers.

"Whenever I'm at a party," said Lawrence, "people come up to me and, after I reveal my occupation, respond with, 'Oh, you must write a screenplay about my life.' Or, 'I would be a fabulous novelist, but I don't have the time.' Or 'I have a great idea, but need to wait for inspiration to strike.' The best person to write your great story is you. Only you have the passion and knowledge it takes to finish a full-length project. All the suc-

cessful working writers I know don't wait for inspiration to strike them on the head. They set aside time to write and approach their writing as a sacred discipline. If you spent just an hour a day six days a week, you could easily finish that novel in a year, or write four screenplays or stage plays."

Lawrence has written four published nonfiction books and numerous magazine articles, sold a novel, and has had plays produced from the Kennedy Center to off-Broadway to theaters across the South. She currently has two award-winning screenplays circulating in Hollywood. Her screenplay "Peace So Sweet" is ranked among the top 1 percent of all new Hollywood scripts. Lawrence's most recent project, the musical "Yellow Rose," is in development for a Broadway production under contract.

She holds an MFA in writing for stage and screen (2016) from the New Hampshire Institute and an MBA from the University of Texas.

Unitarian Universalists announce new schedule

By De Anna Hoyle
Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Building community is a cornerstone for many institutions, and religious institutions are no exception to this.

As a Unitarian Universalist (UU) congregation, the Pagosa UU Fellowship is embracing this to mean "Make Friends," as part of our motto.

We do this by coming together with intention and finding ways to connect. We listen, we learn and take actions that help us live our values, centered in love, to make a positive impact in our world.

On Sunday, Jan. 12, we will continue to gather at a new time, 10:30 a.m., for our small group, Going Deeper Sharing Circle. We set aside time to practice deep listening and sharing with one another. We use a variety of materials — music and song, poems, readings and reflection — toward a mindful practice of deepening our relationship with ourselves and others.

This week our focus will be on

spiritual practices, such as meditation and prayer.

In the Going Deeper Circle we explore themes of recent offerings and leave space for reflection and for whatever else is on our hearts.

Last week our Sunday service was offered by our resident meditation leader, Dan Dempster, who led a short practice of Tonglen meditation as social justice. We will reflect on this practice and deepen our understanding of it.

New Sunday morning schedule

As we move into the new year, the leadership of the fellowship is hoping to streamline its programming with Sunday morning offerings the first through fourth Sunday beginning at 10:30 a.m. Fifth Sundays are set aside for rest, as a practice of self-care, and may be scheduled with special programming in the year ahead.

The first and third Sundays are our regular Sunday service offering a variety of worship elements, speakers and guest ministers.

Second Sundays are the Going Deeper Sharing Circle, with the fourth being Action Sunday, where we will gather to do simple acts to support our community.

In addition to the UU services, Dempster will be offering a weekly meditation practice on Sundays beginning at 9 a.m.

The meditation schedule will be as follows:

Meditation and Dharma talk: 9 to 10:15 a.m. the second and fourth Sundays.

Shortened meditation practice: 9 to 9:40 a.m. the first and third Sundays.

Come make friends in this week's loosely facilitated group of sharing. Light refreshments will be offered at the Pagosa UU Fellowship, located at Unit B-15 of the Greenbriar Plaza 301 N. Pagosa Blvd., on the north side facing the Pagosa Peak.

Visit our website, www.pagosauu.org, where you will find a link to our current newsletter and more about UU.

We look forward to meeting you on this journey.

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

Jan. 13, 6 p.m.: Full moon Wolf Moon drumming circle.

Jan. 14, 2025, 5:30 p.m.: Illuminations presentations: "Renew and Refresh and Re-boot Your Body, Mind and Spirit with healthy discoveries you will love" with Shayla Azriel, health scientist and educator, and lymphatic system therapist/teacher. A love donation will be accepted.

Jan. 15, 2025, 1 p.m.: "Removing Heavy Metals, Chemicals, and Health and wellness presentation" with Azriel.

About us

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

The vision of SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center is to empower each participating member to become their "best self." Our mission is to create a world that works for every-

one through self empowerment and awareness of the creator's divinity.

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

SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center events are held at 3505 W. U.S. 160, on the second floor of the Pagosa Lodge (elevator available). Obtain information by joining us; emailing pagosacommunitynewthought@gmail.com; mailing P.O. Box 1052, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147; or calling (970) 510-0309.

Shop the SUN classifieds.

KEYAH GRANDE
Beyond the Gates

GRAND Opening

Reservation Only Restaurant

Open for Dinner Fridays & Saturdays Starting, January 31st, 2025
Sunday Brunch 10:00 AM 2:00 PM

RESERVE ONLINE:
<https://tables.toasttab.com/restaurants/0089acc4-0af4-4518-bf70-7c14f2bd18be/findTime>

Or call: (970) 731-1162

FOR SALE BY OWNER

Under Contract
Back up offers welcomed

\$705,000

SOLD

THANK YOU PAGOSA SPRINGS SUN

• 3% Broker Co-Op Encouraged

Text/ Call Greg 970.946.8200

Pagosa Smiles
Dentistry and FASTBRACES®

Merry Christmas

PAGOSA SMILES
(970) 731-3627

★★★★★

WE CAME IN FOR A CONSULTATION ON FASTBRACES FOR OUR DAUGHTER. DR. RUTHERFORD AND HIS STAFF WERE EXTREMELY PROFESSIONAL AND KNOWLEDGEABLE. THANKS TO THEM OUR DAUGHTER HAS AN EVEN MORE BEAUTIFUL SMILE THAN BEFORE. YOU CAN'T GO WRONG WITH PAGOSA SMILES.

ROBERT M. 11/24

\$99
LIMITED EXAM AND X-RAY
CALL NOW TO BOOK AN APPOINTMENT
OFFER NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER
OFFER EXPIRES JAN 31ST 2025

970-731-3627
PAGOSASMILES.COM
No Insurance? CASH Discounts!

SAVE \$500
ON FASTBRACES®
SPECIAL NOT VALID WITH OTHER OFFERS
OFFER EXPIRES JAN 31ST 2025

SERVING THE PAGOSA AREA FOR OVER 30 YEARS!

George Washington Carver: human being extraordinaire

By Joyce Holdread
PREVIEW Columnist

“Love anything enough and it will reveal its secrets to you.” So said George Washington Carver, one of the world’s greatest of scientists, yet most modest of men.

Glenn Clark, who authored a small biography on the life of this noble man, writes about the Oracle of Delphi responding to the inquiry, “Who is the world’s wisest man?”

“Socrates,” answered the Oracle, “as he knows that he knows nothing.”

This encapsulates the stance of George Washington Carver. Literally, he never knew his parents; he didn’t know what name they had given him; he didn’t know when he was born. But, most importantly, he made no claim that the wondrous discoveries he offered the world came from his own genius, but only that they came from “Mr. Creator,” his affectionate name for God.

During the Civil War, sometimes southern raiders would break into and plunder the plantations of their countrymen and carry off the slaves. When this happened to Moses Carver, a plantation owner, he immediately gathered a rescue party, pursued the rogues and overtook them. However, one of the captive slave women, who had recently borne a child, disappeared and was never seen again.

As a God-fearing man, Moses Carver raised the baby and his brother among his own family. As the baby grew and developed, the Carvers decided to name the little boy something that reflected his unfolding character. Even as a small child, he had one remarkable trait: unflinching honesty. Thus, they called him George Washington after another famous youngster who couldn’t tell a lie.

During his boyhood, George was a sickly child stemming from a severe bout with whooping cough he suffered as a baby, shortly after being

A Matter of Faith

rescued by Carver. Therefore, he was assigned only light household chores and afforded leisure and opportunities to wander and investigate the animals and insects in the forest, and to gain personal knowledge of the plants and flowers. Someone discovered George had even established a small botanical garden in the woods where he cultivated all kinds of curious plants and exercised such skill in the care of them that he became known as the “plant doctor.” Today, we would call him the “Plant Whisperer.”

As a growing boy, he didn’t have much formal education, but instead passed hours, days, weeks in the woods providing keen observation, intricate caring, constant watchfulness to the life forms all around him. But, one day, he happened upon an old speller and taught himself to read, which opened up for him the world of books.

He then read prodigiously whatever he could get his hands on. He also loved music and taught himself to play the piano. And even as a lad, he loved to paint the beautiful flowers and plants he encountered in the forest on his walks and talks with Mr. Creator.

Through his trust in God and his obvious giftedness, he eventually gained a university education. However, it was first his question posed

to Mr. Creator, “Please ... will you tell me why the peanut was made?” and his loving response of pouring out earnest care and attention upon this common legume, that opened out 300 new uses — “face powder, printer’s ink, butter, shampoo, ... vinegar, dandruff cure, instant coffee, dyes, ... soaps, salads, wood stains,” etc. Later, he lovingly called forth 150 new uses for the simple sweet potato.

With these initiatives, he greatly helped to save the agriculture of the entire South that was wholly dependent on cotton, which was depleting the soil and worsening the poverty of share croppers.

His whole life gave witness to the truth that deep, integral knowledge proceeds from love. Love invites the door to open, loosens the tangled knots of constricting conflict, liberates myopic focus and weaves together the disparate threads of unseen possibilities. This kind of love — his watching, waiting, wooing — can set free the secrets of fawns or flowers, peanuts or porpoises, sheep or soils, or you and I.

This column may include both fiction and nonfiction, and views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN. Submissions can be sent to editor@pagosasun.com.

Community news.
The Pagosa Springs SUN
970-264-2100



Bill & Susan Schwab,
Owners & Operators Since 2003

Drive Safe This Holiday Season

10% OFF
Winterization Service or Full Service Oil Change

This Holiday Season make sure your family is safe.

There is no better time to have your vehicle winterized, put on all-season or studded snow tires, and equip it with Winter Wiper Blades to ensure easy start-ups and safer driving on the snowy, icy roads.

Bring in or mention this ad for this limited time offer. Shop supplies and tax not included. May not be combined with any other offer. See the pros at Piedra Automotive for details. Offer ends 1/15/2025

Piedra Automotive
(970)731-3335
505 Piedra Rd.
Open 7-6 Mon. - Thur.

24 Hour TOWING & EMERGENCY ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE

Happy Holidays
from
Rocky Mountain
PHYSICAL THERAPY & SPORTS INJURY CENTER
(previously next to the hospital, now behind Boss Hogg’s Restaurant)

Pagosa’s 1st choice for their PHYSICAL THERAPY needs for over 20 years

2 convenient locations to serve you

| | |
|---|--|
| 117 Navajo Trail Drive Ste T Mark Zeigler, PT, MS, CIDN Kim Dennis, PTA (970) 731-3303 | 511 San Juan Street Ste C Bill O Connell, PT, OCS Jeff Westmoreland, PTA (970) 264-3303 |
|---|--|

According to the Patient’s Bill of Rights - Patients have the right to a CHOICE of healthcare providers that is sufficient to ensure access to appropriate high-quality healthcare.

We here at Rocky Mountain Physical Therapy would love to be YOUR choice to fulfill ALL your physical therapy needs.

HAVE MEDICAID?

You may qualify for FREE transportation.

Call WJP/A1 Taxi to get yourself set up.
970-731-4081

Non-emergency medical transportation to anywhere in Colorado and border state approved cities for Medicaid insured rides to and from Medicaid providers
Pre-approval and 24-hour notice required.

Also Durango Airport Shuttle • Taxi Service • Weddings Charter Service • Private Parties

WJ pagosa

Wilderness Journeys Pagosa, Inc
Call 970-731-4081 for scheduling
PUC # 16400, DOT# 2842985, MCT# 0021

The broken hallelujah

By Betty Slade
PREVIEW Columnist

Hello, 2025. Take a deep breath. The sun came up just like the Lord promised it would. Start this year with a clean slate. Leave behind all the trouble that consumed you in 2024. It's time to sing a new song in 2025.

I count on God's heart of grace toward us. Jeremiah speaks of God's faithfulness. "Through the Lord's mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness" — Lamentations 3:22,23 (NJKV).

I've walked out of tune in the past. My heart was not right before God even though He was holding my hand. I repented and confessed my wrong. Call it a mistake, a sin or transgression, it doesn't matter; I was out of step and I knew it. Life was miserable. It's brutal and hard to live that way. I couldn't run fast enough back to God. By God's grace, He put the music back in my heart. He lifted me to a new song and created praise on my lips.

In a classic song, "Hallelujah," written by Leonard Cohen, Cohen wrote about the rise and fall of beloved David the Psalmist. He was known as a man after God's own heart. Yet, he sinned.

Cohen uses the musical term of the broken chord to describe David, in which the notes that compose a chord are sounded individually in a progressive rising or descending order.

Multiple psalms that David wrote could be characterized as broken chords or broken hallelujahs.

His psalms start by asking for help. He's in hot water, some by his own making, some being pursued by his greatest enemy, Saul, or by doubting himself. His problem builds, he even complains, but at the end of the psalm, his heart swells in praise for God. He knows from where his answer comes. He confesses God's faithfulness. He bends his knees. God rises and lifts him up. "The minor falls, the major lifts."

David's famous sin is still read 3,000 years later, and God's mercies are still being seen through the eye of the reader. David fell when he saw Bathsheba bathing on the rooftop and took her as his own. At first, he covered his lust, not repenting nor confessing to God. This led to another sin, a bigger sin — murder. Having her husband killed, he took his problem into his own hands. He finally came to himself. He begged for God's forgiveness.

Being the greatest leader of the nation of Israel, God forgave him but, because of his position in Israel, his sin became larger and his circle of confession became greater. He sinned against the people he ruled in his kingdom.

Cohen wrote the song over a five-year period of time and finished writing it in 1983, releasing it in 1984.

Artist's Lane

Today, it has been covered by more than 300 artists in multiple languages.

It's interesting that God led Cohen to write this song at 50 years old. Cohen described it as "rather joyous and said that it came from a desire to affirm my faith in life, not in some formal religious way, but with enthusiasm, with emotion."

In his own words, Cohen conveys that hallelujah is to have many meanings and purposes.

"The song can be used in times of relief, grieving, celebration, or remorse," he said.

It could show the struggle of faith inflicted upon the Jewish people. The song also tells of David's love story — love found, love lost and the aftermath of those events.

The word hallelujah means "Praise Yah, God." The song always stirs my heart and lifts my spirit into the heavens. Taking time to listen to the lyrics and ponder the words, for me this song is about my own soul who has praised God when I've fallen and when He has lifted me up out of the miry clay. His compassions are new every morning.

David played a secret chord. The "secret chord" is a mysterious reference often attributed to David. It could be a literal musical note or a metaphor for deeper spiritual harmony.

For me, the secret chord is how

the music has been altered by my sin, even stopped. But God covers my sin when I repent and confess. It's a secret place in my heart from where I cry at night when only God hears. He wipes my tears. My sin will draw the broken hallelujah from my lips, and a blaze of light in my words will cause me to know that He has satisfied my sin by His Holy Spirit and grace.

Final brushstroke: The lyrics God penned upon Cohen's heart 40 years ago were words about David's fall and rise. The lyrics say, "There's a blaze of light in every word ... The holy or the broken Hallelujah ... I'll stand before the Lord of Song, With nothing on my tongue but Hallelujah."

Readers' comments

Send your comment to bettyslade.author@gmail.com.

"Dear Betty,

"I just finished reading your piece in today's Preview. Your writing has inspired me once again.

"That piece exemplifies why a Christian writer should write. It is food for thought for people who have not yet been convicted to the point of making a change in their mind and direction in this life. I often feel insignificant in the ocean of media and convince myself there isn't any point in adding yet another little wave. I get it ... lots of little waves can amount to a tsunami especially when what is underneath it all is the one who created and can move Heaven and Earth.

"Thank you again, Paige Wiersma."

Views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN.



BJ Jones and Lars Schneider, owners, have spent a combined total of over 45 years in Pagosa Springs.

As long-time locals, we operate with small-town hospitality without the "Pagosa-time mentality." Your time is as valuable as ours, so we operate with punctuality.

Mountain Men Disaster Mitigation is here to service you and your family through providing quality in our work, and being timely and efficient.

Don't forget to check your crawl spaces for standing water. Water mixed with the normal environments produced in a crawlspace is the perfect breeding ground for microbial growth. We also offer sump pump system installations and repairs as well as moisture barriers. Call today for a free evaluation!

Pipes froze and flooded your home?

Call us for 24/7 Emergency Response

Call 970-946-0238 or 970-749-9028

DISASTER RESTORATION
FLOOD MITIGATION
CRAWLSPACE INSPECTIONS/WORK

Fire Restoration
Water Extraction

Mold Remediation
Structural Drying

Smoke and Odor Removal

Lars Schneider
970-946-0238

BJ Jones
970-749-9028

MountainMenDM.com • mail@mountainmendm.com

NATIONALLY LICENSED  **INSURED**  **LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED**



FULL REMODELS | TRIM | CABINETS
CLOSETS | KITCHENS | ENTRYWAYS
GENERAL CONTRACTING

32 years experience, insured, references available upon request

FREE QUOTES, SENIOR DISCOUNT

(970) 209-8960

INTEGRATREE.COM

Shop for Your Rental Equipment Needs at our New Location! 391 Bastille Drive

NEW, one-stop shop for your rental & tool needs!

Shop our Makita tool selection

Makita

See our full line of equipment on pinevalleyrental.com



Log Splitters
Wood Chippers
Sewer Snakes
Skid Steers
Excavators and much more!

391 Bastille Drive • (970) 731-4410

Varied ways to cook with rice

By Jeff Alan
PREVIEW Columnist

If you really love rice like I do, your theme song could be “Rice Is Nice” from the ‘60s band The Lemon Pipers. When it comes to eating white or brown rice, just having it plain can be boring. There are many things that you can put on it or have with it.

I have autism and love to eat rice. In fact, I have a routine where I eat rice for both lunch and dinner.

I have tried many things on it and with it. Some of the things I have tried may seem strange.

My two favorite beef dishes to have with rice are meatballs and gravy, and meatloaf, with my favorite being meatballs and gravy over rice.

To make the meatballs, you mix ground beef with onion soup mix. You roll the meatballs and place them on a baking sheet. Then you preheat the oven to 400 degrees and bake the meatballs 25-30 minutes. After the meatballs have been baked in the oven, they are then put in gravy, which is made using beef broth and beef consommé. If you want the gravy to be thick, you can add flour or corn starch to thicken it.

Meatloaf is my second favorite beef to eat with rice. To make the meatloaf, you mix ground beef with onion soup mix. You put the meat in a baking pan, like a bread pan. Then you preheat the oven to 400 degrees and bake the meatloaf for 40 minutes. After the meatloaf has been baked in the oven, you can cut slices and put ketchup on it, then eat it with rice. You can also put barbecue sauce on slices of meatloaf and eat it with rice.

Chicken is my favorite poultry to have with rice. My favorite type of chicken to have with rice is barbecue chicken. If you use frozen chicken, you can pour barbecue sauce over the chicken. You will then preheat the oven to 350 degrees and bake the chicken 30-45 minutes. If you use chicken that is not frozen, you can pour barbecue sauce over the chicken. You will then preheat the oven to 350 degrees and bake the chicken 20-30 minutes.

Even though turkey is not my favorite poultry, you can bake or roast a turkey in the oven. After the turkey has been baked or roasted in the oven, you can cut slices and put barbecue sauce over it, then eat it with rice.

Now that I have talked about my favorite beef and poultry that I like to have with rice, it is time to talk about other types of food that I like to have with rice, some of which may seem strange. You can also try some of these if you want.

One of my favorite fast foods that I used to enjoy eating were chili dogs. I decided to cut hot dogs and cook them with my rice. Then I added chili to the hot dogs and rice, which turned out to be tasty.

This is how I eat chili dogs now.

The first time I really tried seafood

The Writers' Circle

My favorite way to eat rice, though, is to put butter and cheese on it.

was when I was staying with my sister and her husband. I found smoked salmon in their fridge. As you might guess, I mixed it with my rice and I liked it. Another type of seafood that I have found to be tasty with rice is tilapia. The first time I tried tilapia was when I started eating fish tacos in Mexico.

I'm not much of a soup eater. Of all the soups I have tried, my favorite would have to be clam chowder. The first time I tried clam chowder was at a buffet in Las Vegas. After my first bowl of clam chowder, I decided that I needed to try it over rice. The result was that clam chowder over rice is tasty.

Before this discovery I had never put soup over rice.

Having pasta sauce over spaghetti or any other type of noodle became boring for me. I wanted to put pasta sauce over something different. I'm sure you know what I did by now. I made rice and put pasta sauce over my rice. It turns out that rice is a good substitute for pasta. Another thing I have found to be good over rice is pasta Alfredo with Parmesan cheese.

Mexican food is my favorite. I love to eat taco rice, which is easy to make. I will cook ground beef, then add taco seasoning to the ground beef. After the taco meat is cooked, I mix it in with the rice. I will also put sour cream on top of my taco rice. Spanish rice is my favorite. To make my own version of Spanish rice, I mix salsa with rice.

My favorite way to eat rice, though, is to put butter and cheese on it. There are three types of cheese that I like to use. My favorite is to put Parmesan cheese on my buttered rice. The second way is to use either smoked cheddar or smoked Gouda on my buttered rice. Another type of cheese I like to put on my buttered rice is the cheddar cheese powder that you use to make macaroni and cheese.

As you can see, when it comes to eating rice, I have many options of having things on or with my rice. Even though the things I put on my rice may seem strange, I like every-

thing I have tried. You can try some of the things I have tried. You can also come up with your own creation — the choice is yours.

This column may include both fiction and nonfiction, and views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN. Submissions can be sent to editor@pagosasun.com.



Need **MARY KAY?**
I'M YOUR GIRL!

Darcie Sutherland
Mary Kay Consultant
(carrying inventory)
www.marykay.com/DSutherland20 • (970) 529-0464



New Office Location: 9 Solomon Dr, Unit 1

Open Mon-Fri
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

*We'd love to be your propane supplier!
Come, see us today.*

Local. Knowledgeable.

Dependable & Reliable

Independently Owned and Operated

Best in Customer Service

Proven Safety Record

Over 150 Years Combined Experience



Arrowhead Propane, Inc.

970-582-3225

arrowheadpropaneco.com

*We built our business on Excellence & Customer Service
Give us a call and experience the difference.*

Bird of the Week



Photo courtesy Byron Greco

This week's Bird of the Week, compliments of the Weminuche Audubon Society and Audubon Rockies, is the northern Steller's jay.

Several of our most numerous year-round birds are members of the Corvidae family. We find them in our yards, in parks, in mountain forests and in parking lots. Included in this family are crows, ravens, magpies and jays. As a group, Corvids are known to be intelligent, curious and adaptable — traits that have led to their abundance and success.

Of these, the Steller's jay is one of only two species of North American jays with crests. Until recent years, when the more eastern blue jay started to expand its range westward, it was the only crested jay living west of the Rocky Mountains.

The Steller's black head with a triangular crest sits atop a luminous blue- colored body. Outside of direct sunlight, the blue color fades, allowing the jay to blend into the shaded tree canopy where it spends much of its time. There are many regional variations in plumage, and these jays that we see here have white streaks above their eyes and on their crests.

These highly vocal birds are identified by their harsh, distinctive calls. They are masters at imitating the sounds of other birds and animals, and are particularly adept at sounding like a red-tailed hawk. This call may scare other birds away from a guarded food source. On long legs, they characteristically climb a tree by hopping from branch to branch as if ascending a staircase.

Omnivorous Steller's jays are not fussy eaters. They eat seeds, nuts, berries, fruits and invertebrates. One of their less-endearing habits is dining on the eggs and nestlings of other birds. They may show up at picnic spots looking for dropped scraps and readily come to bird feeders for seeds, nuts and suet. In fall, they will scoop up quantities of sunflower seeds from feeders and carry them away in their mouths and throats to be cached for the winter.

Steller's jays are monogamous birds that form long-term bonds, and pairs stay together all year. Juveniles may stay with their parents through fall and into winter until they look for mates and start their own families as early as March.

For information on events, visit www.weminucheaudubon.org and www.facebook.com/weminucheaudubon/.



YOU MADE
THE RIGHT
CHOICE.

The Pagosa Springs SUN
264-2100

WINDOW COVERINGS

Always deep discounts

Cathy Justus W.F.C.P.

Window Fashions Certified Professional

FREE CORDLESS OPTION on select Graber products
FREE installation with purchase

blinds • shades • verticals • draperies • valances
bedspreads • bed skirts • pillows • cushions • & more

Helping Pagosans and beyond to make
their house a home since 1986.

264-4462



Advertise
your business
in the guide
visitors use.

Pagosa Springs Official Visitor Guide™

Advertising Deadline:
February 21, 2025

30,000 copies of the award-winning Pagosa Springs Official Visitor Guide™ will be printed and distributed at Walmart, The Springs Resort, Wyndham, Pagosa Springs Area Visitor Center, many other area establishments, and welcome centers throughout Colorado.

The guide will be mailed in one edition of The Pagosa Springs SUN to subscribers.

A digitally enhanced version of the guide will be online at PagosaSUN.com and ExplorePagosa.com. The Pagosa Area Tourism Board will provide a link to this guide on visitpagosasprings.com.

To ensure that your business is represented in Pagosa Springs' largest and most comprehensive visitor guide, call or email Shari today.
(970) 264-2100 or shari@pagosasun.com

The Pagosa Springs SUN

457 Lewis Street • (970) 264-2100
www.PagosaSUN.com



Photo courtesy Tim Lydon
The northern lights are pictured in Alaska.

Savoring the darkness in Alaska

By Tim Lydon
PREVIEW Columnist

**Opinion:
Writers on
the Range**

In my part of Alaska, not far from Anchorage, winter solstice is always a dark day, but not because of the lack of light. Instead, I lament the impending loss of winter's long nights, with all their calm and beauty.

This makes me a contrarian amid all the hoopla over returning light. Yet, as we freefall into a climate-changed world, it seems more people are giving darkness and its benefits a fresh look.

We begin feeling the loss of darkness only a few weeks after solstice. By February, the low-angle lighting that has graced our lives since November is gone, chased off by a sun that arcs higher each day. Some years, if the weather is too clear, it ends even earlier.

I'm no curmudgeon, and I think sunshine has its place. In summer, I like to grow a few potatoes, and I appreciate birdsongs and the general flowering of things. Still, the dark of winter just makes me happy.

I'm cheeriest on nights like tonight, when my walk home from work is brightened only by streetlamps and lighted windows reflecting on snow.

Unseen flurries melt against my face as I pass our snow-quieted ballfields, where an owl gives a lone cheer from her bleacher seats high in a cottonwood. Sometimes I hear coyotes in the woods beyond. They remind me that lynx, hares, moose and others remain busily active in the dark.

On clear nights, my little eyes can see over 2 million light-years to the Andromeda Galaxy, or even nearer neighbors like Betelgeuse, the Pleiades and our local bear, Ursa Major, overhead. Sometimes there's the aurora, too, flowing and even lancing across the sky, backlighting snowy peaks and the ghoulish crowns of ancient hemlocks.

Even by day the darkness seems

comfortingly near, as my shadow attests. While in summer it covers close, hiding from the sun, in winter it freely wanders the snowy hills with me, stretching far ahead like a comically slender space alien as we cross fields of diamonds. Beyond, low-angle light tints the mountains pink and purple.

My town is full of walkers. In the dark, we don headlamps and reflective vests, while our dogs sport lighted collars. We look festive, like our homes at this time of year. And while I'm all for safety, I cut my light when there are no cars. My pupils swell to drink in the night's ambient light. Snow illuminates the world, and trees become silhouettes among the stars.

The beauty of all this captivates me, but darkness offers more than aesthetics. With sleep hygiene back in fashion, we know dark nights promote healthy sleep, the deep kind that recharges our bodies and reboots our minds.

In these hot times, the coolness of the dark is also gaining value. In the north, winter's long nights help protect our snow, which insulates glaciers, permafrost and sea ice. Each is an essential component of our local landscapes, but they are globally important, too, for maintaining sea levels, storing carbon and moderating weather.

It's true in the temperate zones, too, where winter's reprieve from the sun helps the Colorado and Columbia rivers and all their tributaries maintain the cool temperatures that native fish need throughout the year.

■ See Writers on next page

Airport Shuttle & Taxi Service

PUC 55878 Food & Grocery Delivery • Doctor's Visits
Serving Durango to South Fork and metro Pagosa

The
friendly
service

PAGOSA CAB

Call today to schedule! (970) 398-0123

Why
pay
more?

PAGOSA SPRINGS Medical Center

First Class Care *Close to Home*

MAKO ROBOTIC-ASSISTED JOINT
REPLACEMENT NOW AVAILABLE AT PSMC!

Jeremiah Steed, MD
Orthopedic Surgery



When you've had enough of living with knee or hip pain, the PSMC Orthopedic & Sports Medicine specialist team, Dr. Bill Webb and Dr. Jeremiah Steed, are ready to help.

PSMC's Dr. Jeremiah Steed is a fellowship trained Orthopedic Surgeon and is certified in Mako™ robotic-assisted joint replacement surgeries.

Designed for partial knee, total knee and total hip replacements, the Mako system is a tool that enables Dr. Steed to customize a surgery based on a patient's unique anatomy, so the surgery is predictable, accurate and may result in faster recovery.

For more information or to schedule a
consultation, please call 970-731-3700.

Preview Calendar

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

Thursday, Jan. 9

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.

Seminar: Interactive Workshop with Chris Mott. 12:30-2 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Making 2025 your best year ever starts with your mindset.

T'ai Chi Chih. 2-3 p.m., 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.

San Juan Stargazers. 7 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. The social hour will

begin at 6 p.m., followed by the program at 7 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 10

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

■ See Calendar on next page

HUD Publisher's Notice



**EQUAL HOUSING
OPPORTUNITY**

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

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

Writers

■ continued from previous page

In summer, every minute of darkness helps preserve that coolness, slowing the evapotranspiration that increasingly taxes lakes, rivers and wetlands. It even helps desert soils and plants like the saguaro, which wisely opts to flower and transpire only at night. Wildland fires often abate in darkness, too.

Darkness also increasingly shelters workers from heat, the top weather-related killer of Americans. Especially in agriculture, the extreme heat now plaguing the Southwest and Pacific Northwest increasingly forces agricultural workers to clock in before dawn or during evenings.

But in an insidious twist, climate

change is warming nights faster than days, contributing to longer autumns, shorter winters and less relief from heat stress for people, plants and animals. In a recent example in Arizona, once-sturdy saguaros dropped limbs or toppled over after experiencing record-high nighttime temperatures.

All this points to a rising need for the cool and calm of night, and the many benefits brought by darkness, dormancy and cold.

Tim Lydon is a contributor to Writers on the Range, writersontherange.org, an independent nonprofit dedicated to spurring lively conversation about the West. He lives in Girdwood, Alaska. Views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN.

SUDOKU

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

Level: Advanced

Fun By The Numbers

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

Here's How It Works:

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

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

ANSWER:

SIMON ROOFING & REPAIR

www.simonroofingandrepair.com

719-726-5451

COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL

TPO - EPDM - Exposed Fastener Metal
Standing Seam Metal - Shingles - Tile
Stone-Coated Steel - BRAVA Tile

SPECIALIZING IN LEAK REPAIRS!

Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page**

with songs, stories, object lessons, games and more. For more information, email Frank and Connie Porter at ceflitttlekids@gmail.com.

Healthy Friendships with Rise Above Violence. 2-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Are you ready to make your friendships even more awesome? Join for a chat about staying true to ourselves while building and being a great friend.

Tween/Teen Takeover. 2-4 p.m., Sisson Library. The large meeting room and some of the computers will be set aside for tweens/teens to use and spend time with friends.

Pagosa Springs Varsity Boys' Wrestling: Rocky Mountain Duals. 6 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School.

Saturday, Jan. 11

Pagosa Springs Varsity Boys' Wrestling: Rocky Mountain Invite. 9 a.m., Pagosa Springs High School.

Chess Club. 9:30-11:30 a.m., Sisson Library. Learn how to play chess with quick lessons and game time or practice your skills. All ages and abilities are welcome.

Launch Your Writing Project Workshop. 10 a.m.-noon, Sisson Library. This workshop teaches you how to develop compelling characters, create a story arc, structure your plot, manage your project and your time, and prepare a professional manuscript.

Pagosa Springs Scrapbook and Crafters Club. 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Senior Center dining room. Bring your creative and scrapbooking projects and share time with other crafters. Bring a dish to share for the potluck lunch.

Knitters Circle. 1-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Join new or experienced knitters to get help with your project, or sit and knit.

Monday, Jan. 13

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

Women's Fellowship. 9 a.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms.

Line Dancing. 9:30-11:30 a.m., PLPOA Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Beginners meet at 9:30 a.m. and the advance group meets at 10:15 a.m. If you haven't attended before, please call Beverly at (970) 264-2064 for more information.

Brain Fitness and Mobility. 10-10:45 a.m., Senior Center. For anyone 21 and older.

Archuleta County Democratic Club. 11:30 a.m., Coyote Moon. The speaker will be Ashley Wilson of the Archuleta County Public Health Department.

Just Friends Book Club. Noon, Sisson Library. Friends of the Library members are invited to discuss "Lost Birds" by Anne Hillerman and choose books to read the rest of the year. Copies are available at the

library. Please feel free to bring a lunch. For more information, email DonnaMosher@icloud.com.

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.

Shakespeare Read Aloud Club. 3:30-5 p.m., Sisson Library. Join in reading "The Comedy of Errors" aloud together. For more information, call Jenny at (240) 426-7887.

High School Math Tutoring. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. Math tutors are available for ages 14 and up. Registration is required.

Deepening the Faith Classes. 6-8 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms.

Tuesday, Jan. 14

Stretching and Mobility Class. 9:30-10:30 a.m., Senior Center. A stretching and mobility class for those age 55 and up.

Pagosa Springs Stitchers. 10 a.m.-noon, Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Bring your current stitching project and a snack/drink if you wish, and enjoy the fellowship of other stitchers. All are welcome.

Veterans for Veterans of Archuleta County. 10 a.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. Veterans and family members are invited to share experiences with vets of all ages. Find out about the latest in vets benefits, vets news and community-focused events. Contact (970) 880-8387 for more details.

Tech Time. 10 a.m.- noon, Sisson Library. Basic questions related to computers, smartphones, tablets, etc. Bring your device charger. We provide assistance with accessing any of the library's online resources. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

Bridge. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

Hand and Foot Card Game. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center. No experience is necessary, so come willing to learn.

Mahjong. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

Ruby's Book Club. 2-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Join to discuss "Reading Lolita in Tehran" by Azar Nafisi. Pick up a copy at the library.

Dungeons and Dragons. 4-5:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Join the adventure. Preregistration is required because space is limited. Contact Josie@pagosalibrary.org to join.

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

from 4-5 p.m., intermediate students from 5-6 p.m. and advanced students from 6-7 p.m.

PALS Adult Education. 5:30-8 p.m., Sisson Library. Pagosa Adult Learning Services, or PALS, can

■ **See Calendar on next page**

JIM GARRETT

◆ ATTORNEY ◆

Protecting your interests

LITIGATION, CRIMINAL DEFENSE
BUSINESS, REAL ESTATE, WILLS

New location: Downtown, above the theatre

422 PAGOSA ST., NO. 5

970-880-0468 • 412-508-1060

P.O. BOX 3265, PAGOSA SPRINGS • jyg44law@gmail.com



HEALTHY SELF

WANT TO SLEEP BETTER? EXERCISE LIKE THIS

"Exercise has proven to be one of the best 'sleep tonics' a person can have.

If insomnia is having its way with you, perhaps today's excerpt can help.

Investigators studied 23 sedentary adults, mostly women aged 55 years and older, who had a hard time falling asleep or staying asleep and also reported impaired daytime functioning.

The participants were randomly placed in one of two groups. One group exercised for two 20-minute sessions four times a week and the other did a 30-40 minute workout four times a week.

This went on in both groups for 16 weeks, with participants exercising to 75% of their maximum heart rate on at least two activities, such as riding a stationary bicycle, walking, or exercising on a treadmill.

In a control group, participants didn't exert themselves physically but only mentally, taking part in recreational or educational activities, such as attending a cooking class or listening to a museum lecture. This group met for about 45 minutes, three to five times a weeks, also for 16 weeks.

Researchers say the participants who exercised reported that their sleep quality improved, raising their diagnosis from poor to good sleeper. They also reported fewer depressive symptoms, more vitality, and less sleepiness in the daytime.

Lead author Kathryn Reid, PhD, of the Department of Neurobiology and Physiology at Northwestern University, says drug-free treatment is best for insomnia because it eliminates the potential of sleep medications interacting with other drugs a person might be taking.

Source: "Exercise Helps You Sleep." By Bill Hendrick. <http://www.webmd.com/>

Bonus Tip: Visit <http://www.AmazingFacts.org> for spiritual refreshment every week!

"Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might..." Ecclesiastes 9:10

A public service from your Adventist friends & neighbors at Pagosa Springs Seventh Day Adventist Church.

Disclaimer: This and all our Nature's Remedies are for health information purposes only. The Seventh Day Adventist Church is not responsible for results.



Seventh-day Adventist® Church

A PROTESTANT DENOMINATION

40 Oren Road • 970-731-1005

Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

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.

Pagosa Springs Varsity Girls' Basketball. 5:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Pagosa Springs vs. Durango.

Pagosa Springs Varsity Boys' Basketball. 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Pagosa Springs vs. Durango.

Wednesday, Jan. 15

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.

Therapy Dog Visit. 11-11:45 a.m., Sisson Library. Stop by and visit with a certified therapy dog.

Bridge. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

Mindful Drawing. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

Legal Clinic. 2-3:40 p.m., Sisson Library. Meet with a volunteer civil attorney via Zoom at the library. Registration is required and opens on the first of each month. Call the library at (970) 264-2209 to register. Space is limited.

Elementary Tutoring. 3:30-4:30 p.m., Sisson Library. After-school tutoring in reading and math for grades 1-3. Registration required. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information or to sign up.

Virtual Author Talk: TJ Klune. 5 p.m., virtual. "The Magic of Found Family" with TJ Klune. For details and to register, go to <https://libraryc.org/pagosalibrary/upcoming>.

Pagosa Springs High School Booster Club. 5:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs

High School.

Thursday, Jan. 16

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.

End of Life Education. 1 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Join for a film and discussion on the topic of preparing for death.

T'ai Chi Chih. 2-3 p.m., 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.

Knowledge Bowl. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. Test your trivia skills in a wide range of subjects.

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.

'A Walk in the Woods.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. For tickets and show information, see pagosacenter.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Friday, Jan. 17

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

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.

Steam Engines. 2-3:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Science fun for ages 6-10.

WinterFest: Bonfire. 5-8 p.m., Archuleta County Fairgrounds, 344 W. U.S. 84.

'A Walk in the Woods.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. For tickets and show information, see pagosacenter.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Saturday, Jan. 18

WinterFest: Mass Hot Air Balloon Ascension. 8 a.m., west side of Pagosa Springs. See the balloons fill the winter sky in the Pagosa

■ See Calendar on next page

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Dutch bob feature
- 6 Get-rich-quick offer, usually
- 10 Uno y dos
- 14 Watchful
- 15 Pop choice
- 16 Island dance
- 17 Photovoltaic devices
- 19 Viva voce
- 20 Studio time
- 21 Hyundai model
- 23 With arms and legs out-stretched
- 26 Like some glances
- 29 Burst of wind
- 30 Fine and dandy (var.)
- 32 Puts into piles
- 37 Prayer ending
- 38 Demolish
- 40 Betting group
- 41 Gives in
- 43 Summer Olympics sport
- 45 "This ___ hurt a bit"
- 47 Kind of cut or skirt
- 48 Type of jobs
- 53 Bring to a boil?
- 54 Sno Ball maker
- 58 Fix, as text
- 59 Call attention to
- 62 Garage service
- 63 Slangy denial
- 64 Occur as a result
- 65 Fortune teller
- 66 Liquid lunch, perhaps
- 67 Orchestra section

DOWN

- 1 Quartet member
- 2 Skin soother
- 3 "I Remember Mama" role
- 4 Prairie
- 5 Old Glory features
- 6 Screenplay part
- 7 Army rank (Abbr.)
- 8 Part of "snafu"
- 9 Common people, with "the"
- 10 Beach sandal
- 11 Like farm country
- 12 Thrill to death
- 13 Waldorf, for one
- 18 Trumpet's kin
- 22 Cheerios grain
- 24 Disturb
- 25 Gold coin of old
- 26 Strike breaker
- 27 Hefty book
- 28 Store sign
- 31 Dots on a map
- 33 Favorable, as a time

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | |
| 14 | | | | | | 15 | | | | | 16 | | | | |
| 17 | | | | | | 18 | | | | | 19 | | | | |
| 20 | | | | | | | | | 21 | 22 | | | | | |
| | | | | 23 | | | 24 | 25 | | | | | | | |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | | | | | 29 | | | | | | | | |
| 30 | | | | | | | 31 | | | | 32 | 33 | 34 | 35 | 36 |
| 37 | | | | | | 38 | | | | 39 | | 40 | | | |
| 41 | | | | | 42 | | 43 | | | | 44 | | | | |
| | | | | | 45 | 46 | | | | 47 | | | | | |
| 48 | 49 | 50 | 51 | | | | | | 52 | | | | | | |
| 53 | | | | | | | | | 54 | | | | 55 | 56 | 57 |
| 58 | | | | | | | 59 | 60 | 61 | | | | | | |
| 62 | | | | | | | 63 | | | | | 64 | | | |
| 65 | | | | | | | 66 | | | | | | 67 | | |

Copyright 2025 by The Puzzle Syndicate

- 34 Medieval crucifix
- 35 Kind of bridge
- 36 ___ gin fizz
- 39 100th of a drachma
- 42 Big drink
- 44 Sunrise greeter
- 46 "___ Eleven" (Clooney film)
- 48 Fruit skins
- 49 Not warranted
- 50 Payola, e.g.
- 51 Down the road
- 52 Aviary sound
- 55 Alleviate
- 56 Style of poker
- 57 Spots
- 60 Murmur
- 61 PC "brain"

Answers to Previous Crossword:

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | L | F | A | | S | O | A | P | | | S | P | A | M | | | |
| L | E | A | P | | | U | R | G | E | | F | A | R | C | E | | |
| L | A | V | A | | | P | I | E | D | | I | N | E | R | T | | |
| O | V | E | R | S | E | E | | I | C | E | D | T | E | A | | | |
| W | E | S | T | E | R | N | | G | O | R | S | E | | | | | |
| | | | | | M | A | S | T | E | R | L | Y | | N | B | A | |
| A | S | S | E | R | T | | | L | E | O | | I | D | E | A | | |
| J | O | H | N | | | I | D | L | E | R | | N | E | A | R | | |
| A | L | O | T | | | T | E | E | | S | E | N | D | U | P | | |
| R | O | W | | | P | I | N | N | A | C | L | E | | | | | |
| | | | | | T | A | R | O | T | | C | H | A | R | G | E | R |
| M | A | R | T | I | N | I | | | C | E | N | T | I | M | E | | |
| A | X | I | O | M | | | | S | T | E | M | | | U | V | E | A |
| D | I | A | N | E | | | | T | O | N | E | | | B | E | N | D |
| E | L | L | E | | | | | S | E | T | S | | | E | N | D | S |

Subscribe to The SUN

PagosaSUN.com

Preview Calendar

continued from previous page

Lakes area. Parking on U.S. 160 to view the balloons is not permitted. Weather dependent.

WinterFest: BB Gun Biathlon. 9:15 a.m., Yamaguchi Park. A unique, fun freestyle ski event in which participants can either classic or skate ski while target shooting with Red Ryder BB guns provided by the Pagosa Nordic Club. There will be prizes for the top finishers and best costumes. Bib pickup will open for all races — 16K, 4K and KidK — at 9:15 a.m. The race fee is \$5 for Pagosa Nordic Club members and \$15 for non-members.

WinterFest: Skijoring. 10 a.m., Red Ryder Roundup Rodeo Grounds. Fast-paced, skillful riding of horses with riders and skiers over obstacles. Tickets begin at \$10 and can be purchased at <https://www.skisandsaddles.com/>.

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.

WinterFest: Barkus Parade. 11 a.m., Town Park. A costumed menagerie of pets will parade around the downtown area. Registration begins at 10:30 a.m.

March for Equality. 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Town Park.

Pokémon Club. 12:30-2:30 p.m., Sisson Library. For ages 6-11. Bring your cards to battle against others who love Pokemon too. No experience is required.

WinterFest: Penguin Plunge. 1 p.m., San Juan River. Support your favorite nonprofits as representatives plunge into the San Juan River. Enjoy the view from the Riverwalk across from the Visitor Center.

WinterFest: Sledz on Rez. 2:30 p.m., Reservoir Hill. Bring a decorated homemade or modified sled and take on the challenge of racing them down Reservoir Hill. Registration will be from 1-2 p.m., with racing beginning at 2 p.m. Prizes will be awarded. For more information or to register in advance, visit BuildPagosa.org.

'A Walk in the Woods.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. For tickets and show information, see pagosacenter.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Sunday, Jan. 19

WinterFest: Mass Hot Air Balloon Ascension. 8 a.m., west side of Pagosa Springs. See the balloons fill the winter sky in the Pagosa Lakes area. Parking on U.S. 160 to view the balloons is not permitted. Weather dependent.

WinterFest: Learn to Cross-Country Ski Clinic. 9:45 a.m, Cloman Park. An introductory clinic for adults at beginning and intermediate levels. Weather dependent.

WinterFest: Skijoring. 10 a.m., Red Ryder Roundup Rodeo Grounds. Fast-paced, skillful riding of horses with riders and skiers over obstacles. Tickets begin at \$10 and can be purchased at <https://www.skisandsaddles.com/>.

'A Walk in the Woods.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. For tickets and show information, see pagosacenter.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Monday, Jan. 20

Women's Fellowship. 9 a.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms.

Deepening the Faith Classes. 6-8 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms.

Tuesday, Jan. 21

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.

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

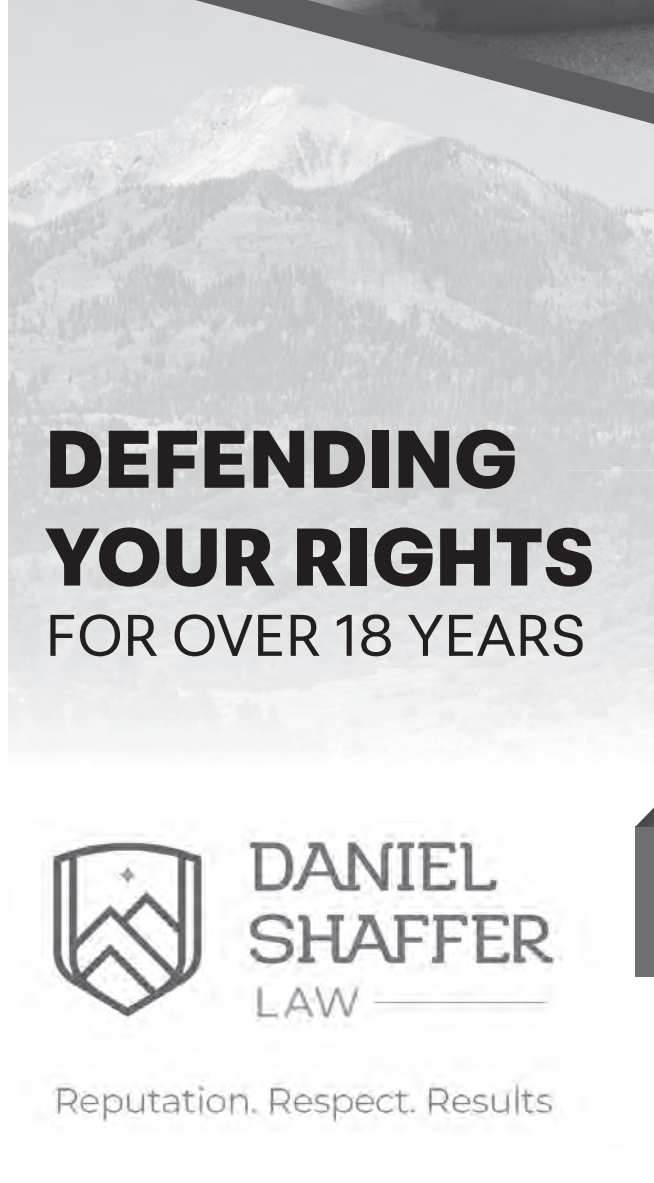
Paul II Catholic Church classrooms. *Submit your calendar items to editor@pagosasun.com; mail them to The Pagosa Springs SUN, P.O. Box 9, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147; or deliver them to The SUN office by noon Monday.*




More Than Just Signs!

- DECALS & WINDOW GRAPHICS
- VEHICLE GRAPHICS & WRAPS
- STORE FRONTS
- PROMOTIONAL PRODUCTS
- APPAREL PRINTING
- NEON & ELECTRIC SIGN REPAIR
- MEMORIAL STONES

LOCATED AT 57 MAJESTIC DR. PAGOSA SPRINGS, CO

DEFENDING YOUR RIGHTS FOR OVER 18 YEARS



DANIEL SHAFFER LAW

Reputation. Respect. Results

- ◆ **Police Misconduct**
- ◆ **Civil Rights Violations**
- ◆ **Wrongful Death**
- ◆ **Disability Violations**
- ◆ **Excessive Force**
- ◆ **Unlawful Seizure and Sale of Property**

Contact for a FREE CONSULTATION

970-549-2225

DANIELSHAFFERLAW.COM

DOG TRAINING WORD SEARCH



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

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

Veterans Crisis Line

free, confidential support to veterans in crisis,
as well as their family and friends 24/7/365.

(800) 273-8255 or text 838255

Sell it

in the classifieds

Cars • Bikes • Houses • Land • Saddles • Hay • Goats
Horses • Boats • Tools • Furniture • You name it!

The Pagosa Springs **SUN**
To place your classified ad, call
(970) 264-2100

WORDS

- ACQUIRE
- ADAPTATION
- AGGRESSION
- ALPHA
- ANXIETY
- AROUSAL
- BARKING
- BEHAVIOR
- BEHAVIORIST
- CLICKER
- COLLAR
- CONDITIONING
- DESENSITIZATION
- DISTRESS
- DOMINANCE
- ENVIRONMENT
- FEAR
- FOCUS
- INHIBITION
- LEAD
- MODIFICATION
- POSITIVE
- REINFORCEMENT
- TRAINER

Thank you for supporting our advertisers!

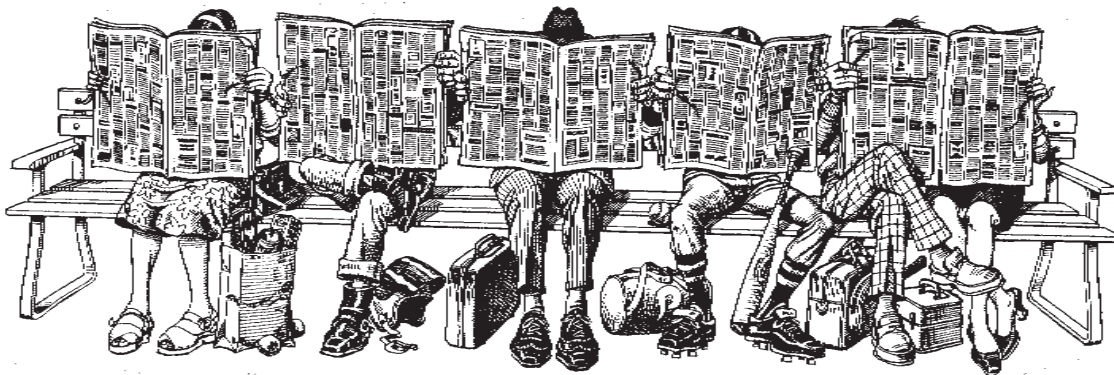
Advertising makes it possible for us to bring you the latest community news.

When you see an advertiser, please thank them!

The Pagosa Springs

SUN

Thursday wouldn't be Thursday without ...



The Pagosa Springs **SUN**

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Mastercard Visa Check enclosed
 Account number _____
 Expiration date _____ CV _____
 Signature _____

- In County \$35 yearly
includes digital access at PagosaSUN.com
- Out of county \$45 yearly
includes digital access at PagosaSUN.com

The Pagosa Springs Sun
PO Box 9
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

Pagosa Springs Scrapbooking and Crafters Club continues to meet monthly

By Rose Chavez
PREVIEW Columnist

The Pagosa Springs Scrapbooking and Crafters club continues to hold monthly meetings the second Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Ross Aragon Community Center, 451 Hot Springs Blvd., within the dining hall in the Pagosa Senior Center.

This creative tradition has been happening since 2005 and we invite all creative individuals to come and share ideas, connect with new and old friends, learn/share creative 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.

Help us create an intergenerational community. Ages 18 and older are welcome. For those youth age 17 and younger, we kindly request an adult chaperone accompany them.

If you would like to be added to the mailing list, please send your request to copenhavercreative@gmail.com and you will receive notification each month of the upcoming meeting, along with handy tips and tricks for scrapbooking and more.

New time for T'ai Chi Chih

The Senior Center offers T'ai Chi Chih with accredited instructor Patti Popovich each Thursday from 2 to 3 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 effortless are the guiding principles in this practice.

All classes will be free for older adults (age 55 and better) and will last approximately one hour.

No special clothing or equipment is required.

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

Brain fitness and mobility program to start Jan. 13

Join us, starting on Monday, Jan. 13, and running through March 3, from 10 to 10:45 a.m. at your Pagosa Senior Center for a free six-week new Ageless Grace exercise program, taught by Judy, a trained facilitator who will support and help you learn gentle movements to enhance brain health and mobility.

We will spend 30 minutes in a chair exercising and stimulating five areas of our brain functioning. Yes, it is possible to strengthen our neural connections even as we age.

Anyone age 21 and older is invited and encouraged to participate in this program.

It is a cutting-edge brain fitness program based on neuroplasticity that activates all five functions of the brain — strategic planning, memory/recall, analytical thinking, creativity and imagination, kinesthetic learning — and simultaneously addresses

Senior News

all 21 physical skills needed for life-long optimal health functioning.

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, Jan. 9 — Vegetarian lentil chili, sauteed zucchini, biscuit, garden salad, fruit, carrot cake and milk.

Friday, Jan. 10 — Sliced ham steak with cherry sauce, scalloped potatoes, garden salad, fruit, sunrise muffin and milk.

Monday, Jan. 13 — Baja fish tacos with cabbage slaw and Baja sauce, corn tortillas, refried beans, garden salad, fruit, blueberry muffin and milk.

Tuesday, Jan. 14 — Hawaiian beef and peppers, coconut rice, zucchini saute, garden salad, fruit, chocolate royal cookies, and milk.

Wednesday, Jan. 15 — Ciabatta bread, peas and pearl onions, garden salad, vanilla yogurt, fruit and milk.

Thursday, Jan. 16 — Greek spanakopita pie, cauliflower rice, garden salad, fruit, baklava and milk.

Friday, Jan. 17 — Pork tenderloin with blackberry glaze, baby baked potatoes, garden salad, fruit, Key lime pie and milk.

Grab-N-Go meals

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

Meals on Wheels

We deliver fresh Meals on Wheels five days a week (and provide frozen

Meals on Wheels for weekends) to homebound Archuleta County residents. Call or text us at (970) 264-2167.

Mobile food pantry service

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

Text reservations

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

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

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.

Board vacancies

The ASI Board of Directors has multiple vacant positions open. The terms are three years with an option to renew for an additional term.

Potential candidates should be at least 21 years of age or older and must have a passion for adult and aging services.

Support the Senior Center

Please support our ongoing operations and programming that provide critical services to some of the most vulnerable in Archuleta County.

You may mail your donation to P.O. BOX 3444, Pagosa Springs CO 81147, or please visit our website: <http://www.pseniors.org/> (donation button).

Donation checks can be written to: Archuleta Seniors Inc.



ROAD MAINTENANCE

Driveways • Ponds • Underground Utilities • Clean Up
Dozer Work • Land Leveling • Foundations

NEXT GEN EXCAVATION

20+ years local experience | Michael Preuit | Cell: (970) 946-7303 | Bonded & Insured

PAGOSA SPRINGS #1 DISPENSARY | **OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK**
270 E. PAGOSA ST.

WIDEST SELECTIONS | **KINDEST BUDTENDERS**

THE GREEN HOUSE

50% OFF SELECT CONCENTRATES & FLOWER STRAINS

WE ARE HIRING
PLEASE APPLY AT INDEED.COM

GH420.COM
SPECIALS, ONLINE ORDERING, & MORE!

(970) 264-2100

Classifieds

(970) 264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY

TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY

PERSONALS

SERVICES

SERVICES



Loving Dog Care by Leslie N.

Text pet info to: 469-667-4480
Look for info on: leslieslittles.com

- ❖ Boarding
- ❖ Daycare
- ❖ Drop ins

References and reviews available

FREE. CONFIDENTIAL. HELP. 24-hour domestic violence and sexual assault helpline. (970) 264-9075.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONCERNED ABOUT ANOTHER'S DRINKING? Pagosa Springs Al-anon Family Group meets Tuesdays 6-7p.m., Pagosa Bible Church. Questions? Call/ text (303)815-8569. www.al-anon.org.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS MEETING. Wednesdays, 5:30 at Pagosa Bible Church. Use side entrance. Call Bailey for details at (719)588-7572.

PAGOSA AA: M-W-F 5:30p.m. Mens' meeting Tuesday 5:30p.m. Saturday and Sunday 10a.m. Tuesday and Thursday at noon. 315 N. 2nd St., County Road 200 (.2 miles off 160). Zoom Sunday 10a.m. Zoom Thursday noon women only; ID 858 319 763, password 754 234. Call Kathi (970)946-1482 or Central Office (888)333-9649.

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).

SERVICES

REMODELING
NEW ADDITIONS
COMMERCIAL



CLEANING WITH ATTENTION TO DETAILS. Residential and commercial. Please call Julie (970)946-8229.

HANDYMAN SERVICE. Noah's Ark Enterprises. (970)901-5298.

HOME IMPROVEMENT: Drywall, Floors, Windows, Doors, Plumbing, Kitchens and Bathrooms, Siding, Decks, Snow Removal! (970)844-0554.

KRITTER GITTERS, SKUNK AND BAT Busters. We specialize in capturing and removing unwanted rodents and varmints. We don't trap pigs. 50 years experience, lifetime resident. Dan Snow (719)849-8873.

LESS DEBT = LESS STRESS! Who you gonna call? Don't go bankrupt! Free Consultation. www.TheDebtNavigator.com

LOCAL MOVING SERVICES. Reasonable and reliable. (970)946-2061.

MINT ROOFING Re-roofs, commercial and maintenance. Contact Mint Roofing at (970)426-5255.



Interior/Exterior Paint & Stain

Log Home Chinking
Free Estimates • Insured

William Wolfert
Owner

Call today!
(970) 903-2229

Miller's Construction

All your excavating needs!

- Roofing
- Pole barns
- Log homes
- New construction

Licensed and insured
Satisfaction guaranteed



Ammon Miller
19 years experience

970-903-4014

New Construction Remodeling • Houses
Garages • Barns • Decks
Licensed, insured & references
Plans drawn & submitted



Call Rick
(970) 946-1737

Blueprints

Have your plans drawn now.
Don't wait!
Be ready to start your house, barn, garage or deck on time.



Call Rick
946-1737

Cole Plumbing

24/7 Service
EMERGENCIES SAME DAY
in most cases
Boiler service & repair
Tankless water heater specialist



Adam 575-574-7284
Located in Pagosa Springs

FIREWOOD
Snow Removal



FIRE & ICE

Call Dan • (970) 582-0006

PAGOSA SPARKLES, LLC. Group of high standard cleaners, reliable, trustworthy and affordable. Window cleaning also available. Text/ call KIM. (970)946-6446.

PAGOSA SPRINGS STORAGE has all size units available. 24 hour access, gated, with security cameras. Call for specials. (970)731-0007 www.pagosaprinngsstorage.com.

PREMIUM PEAK CLEANING. Local. Reliable. Detailed. Call (970)902-3145.

PROFESSIONAL SNOW REMOVAL. - Residential and Commercial. Fully insured. Shovel and salt upon request. Call now for quote. (970)946-4450.

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE/ HOME CARE checks, providing snow removal, landscaping, handyman services. Call Eric (970)946-2061.

RICHARD DECLARK ELECTRICAL is available for all your electrical services from remodels to new construction. I have been in Pagosa for 15 years, no job too small or too large. (970)903-1456.

RIVERSTONE CARPET CLEANING. 25 cents/sq. ft. and \$3 per stair. No hidden charges. Owner/operator 20 years experience. Professional, trustworthy and punctual. 100% eco-friendly. Call Mike at (970)403-9222. Credit cards accepted with no fee. Hallsways and closets always free.

GREAT MESSAGE PRICES
All Messages include a Soak!



OVERLOOK
HOT SPRINGS
SPA
Downtown Pagosa 264-4040

THINK HAIR
THINK ELIZABETH
970-903-5152

ROOMMATE WANTED. \$600/ month. For details, call between noon and 6p.m. (970)903-5139.

NEW!

Place your classified ad online!

Go to: **PagosaSUN.com**

Shop Local

Place Your Classified Ad

All classified line ads appear on **PagosaSUN.com** Regular categories deadline: **Tues., 10 a.m.**

Too Late To Classify deadline: Tues., 3 p.m.

Holidays will have alternate deadlines.

(970) 264-2100

Classifieds

(970) 264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

SERVICES

Feel the warmth



Wood & Gas Burning Fireplaces & Stoves

Vermont Casting Majestic Hearth Isokern • FMI Enviro Pellet Stoves

Custom installation & finish work

Chase caps
Snow splitters

Pagosa Peak Custom Fireplaces

1065 W. Hwy. 160
Pagosa Springs, Colo

office and showroom:
(970) 264-2006
www.pagosafireplaces.com



PAGOSA SPRINGS STORAGE

ALL SIZE STORAGE UNITS AVAILABLE

Call for Winter Specials!

RENT TO OWN



Cargo Containers

RENT
RENT TO OWN
BUY

We deliver!

970-731-0007
PagosaSpringsStorage.com

CUSTOM HOMES



BWD
(970) 731-9700



Pagosa SPARKLES
cleaning company, llc.

Detail Oriented, Trustworthy & Reliable Cleaners
For All Your Housekeeping & Window Cleaning Needs
Find us on Google & Facebook

Text/call Kim (970) 946-6446

SERVICES



Remodeling Security Checks Snow Removal

High Meadows Properties, LLC
Call today (970) 403-2263

The Water Runner



Certified Bulk Potable Water Delivery
Cistern Deep Cleaning

You call, we haul!
Since 1999 Chadd Carnley, owner
(970) 731-5022

PAGOSA SECURE STORAGE

80 Bastille Dr. • 970-731-8599
Storage units & parking spots
Special rates available
pagosaspringsrealty.com

ROOF REPAIRS, LEAKS, RESCREWS, INSPECTIONS. 35+ years experience. Call Jeff at Blair Roofing. (970)903-6556.

SNOW PLOWING/ SHOVELING. Commercial and residential. Call now to schedule. Eric (970)946-2061.

TANKLESS/ON DEMAND WATER HEATERS. Largest inventory in the area, including replacement parts. Same day Installation and service in most cases. We are the only company that extends the parts & labor warranty from 1 year to 5 years. VAIL HOME SERVICES, (760)835-1041.

TRAVELING PUBLIC NOTARY Services. Call or Email Renea Harris (512)576-1795 or travelnotary81147@gmail.com. Small fee applies for service and travel.

TREE FELLING, TRIMMING, REMOVAL and lot cleaning! MTN Forestry specializes in hazardous and technical tree trimming and removals. Call anytime for a free quote! (970)403-6396.

WE HAUL. WE WILL haul off anything but your marijuana or your mother-in-law. No job too big or too small. We also move buildings. We don't haul pigs. Dan Snow (719)849-8873.

WEBSITE DESIGN, SOCIAL MEDIA AND DIGITAL AD EXPERT. Available to help grow your business. www.mgmpagosa.com Text: (928)246-1321.

WILKES FABRICATION. Welding. Custom Fabrication. Railing and Handrail. Trailer Repair and Modification. Precision, durability, and honest craftsmanship. Call today for a free quote! (512)659-6405.

HEALTH

HOT SPRINGS HEALERS. Sessions at hot springs! Introducing Quantum Reset. Also, cranial sacral, bodywork, massage. Serving Pagosa 27 years, Dr. Dean and Amanda, (970)844-0645, (970)903-5309.

HELP WANTED

ARCHULETA SENIORS INC. is accepting applications for a kitchen assistant. Join our positive professional team in a commercial kitchen dedicated to serving the older adults in our community. Hours are typically 7 am to 3 pm, part-time with weekends off, supporting a healthy work-life balance. Competitive pay, daily meal provided and health benefit stipend provided. Potential for advancement through in-house training. Call (970)264-2167 or stop by the Pagosa Senior Center at 451 Hot Springs Blvd. to pick up an application.

BUCKSKIN TOWING & REPAIR is looking for full-time office help. Mon -Fri 8-5. Administrative experience is preferred, and experience in the automotive industry is an added bonus! Must be able to multi-task and be able to work within several computer programs. Email resume to buckskin-ap@outlook.com or come in and apply.

GENERAL LABORER NEEDED Full time. Assorted Duties. Please send resume or work history to frontdesk@pagosalandcompany.com. Phone (970)264-5000.

LOOKING FOR PART-TIME maintenance help. 20 hours per week. Please email hickoryridge@pagosacreek.com.

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 week-ends. 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.

NORTH PAGOSA MARATHON is hiring a full-time cashier nights and weekends. Competitive wages. Please apply in person at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

OWNERS, THERE IS A LONG TERM RENTAL SHORTAGE IN PAGOSA SPRINGS. We have a waiting list for approved tenants. Need all types of rentals. Call us today for lowest commission and highest customer service. All you have to do is wait for your rent check to come in. We do the rest! Rocky Mountain Realty & Rentals (970)507-1192.

PAGOSA LIQUOR IS HIRING a full-time cashier. Please come and apply in person at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

HELP WANTED

ARCHULETA SCHOOL DISTRICT IS NOW HIRING!

We're looking for Outstanding Employees to join our team!



Archuleta School District
strives to achieve
"Success for Every Student —
Every Class — Every Day."

Currently accepting applications for the following positions:

Lead Mechanic

Full-time position with a starting salary of \$49,496-\$54,711 for a 250-day work schedule.

Custodian

Full-time position with a starting salary of \$41,279-\$45,941 for a 250-day work schedule.

Assistant Cook

Hourly position with a starting hourly pay of \$19.26 up to \$21.71 for 169 days.

Elementary School Mild to Moderate SPED Teacher

Two Full-time positions with a starting salary \$51,645-\$66,724 for 175 days paid over a 12-month period.

Middle School Instructional Aides

Full-time positions with a starting salary \$27,899-\$31,175 for 173 days paid over a 12-month period.

High School Significant Support Needs Aide

Full-time significant support needs paraprofessional position with a starting salary \$29,283-\$32,559 for 173 days paid over a 12-month period.

Benefits for all FULL-TIME positions include (but are not limited to) PERA State Retirement, Life Insurance, optional Health and Dental Insurance and paid Discretionary Days.

You belong on the Archuleta School District Team!



For more details and to apply for these positions click on "Job Postings" on the following web-site:
www.mypagosaschools.com
EOE



TERRY'S COLORADO HOME SUPPLY AND ACE HARDWARE IS SEEKING A MOTIVATED, DEPENDABLE, DETAIL ORIENTED INDIVIDUAL FOR SALES IN OUR FURNITURE DEPARTMENT.

Product or home design familiarity is a plus; proficient computer skills, exceptional communication, people and customer service skills are a must have.

Job requires working in a team atmosphere, high level of professionalism, and building long term

customers through a dynamic service repertoire. Starts at \$18/hr with benefits. Full time/40hr week. Applicants will need to be available for weekends and holidays. Apply in person at 525 Navajo Trail Drive.

(970) 264-2100

Classifieds

(970) 264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

FOR SALE

WANTED



Walmart Pagosa Springs Supercenter

In-person hiring event
Friday, Jan. 10 and Saturday, Jan. 11
Walk ins welcome from 10am-2pm

Year around guaranteed **FULL TIME** hours
 Starting at \$18.00/hour+

Start the application process at
www.walmart.com/careers

WANTED

1 full-time office person and 1 full-time Driver

Paid Vacation
 Simple IRA Match
 PTO and other perks.

Please apply within.

WJP/PRO

3505 W. Hwy. 160
 in the lobby of the Pagosa Lodge



CONTRACTOR SALES

Ponderosa Lumber is seeking a customer service oriented individual to assist contractors with purchasing building materials. Knowledge of building materials is necessary.

Responsibilities include:

- Providing excellent customer service
- Completing required paperwork
- Providing product information
- Data Entry

Please apply in person at

Ponderosa Lumber
 2435 Eagle Drive or call (970) 731-4111



Archuleta Housing has an immediate need for a Handy Person. 2-3 days a week. Please contact the office for details. Must have valid driver's license and submit to a background check.

Starting wage DOE.

office@archhouse@gmail.com
 970-398-1860

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

OWN YOUR OWN BUSINESS IN 2025! Four year-old profitable Side-by-Side rental business with extremely high reviews on Google. 1 to 8 Polaris Rzrs, LLC, website, reservation site, customer list, insured, bonded, licensed, maintenance and safety gear included. Better location than any of our competition. Operates May- Nov. Call or text Ryan (970)946-2409.

FOR SALE

27" HUSQVARNA SNOW THROWER. Used twice, includes two aluminum ramps. Paid \$1389.69. (970)946-1737.

DO YOU BURN FIREWOOD? Pine/ Aspen mix available. \$350 a cord or \$600 for a HUGE dump truck load! Contact Dan with FIRE&ICE at (970)582-0006.

DRY FIREWOOD- PINE. Pick up \$255 a cord. Delivery available. Call for prices. Bayfield. Gabe (970)403-2784.

FIREWOOD FOR SALE. Pine and aspen. Cut about 16" long, split. Delivered by longbed truckload. Call (970)946-4450.

FIREWOOD LOGS FOR SALE. \$50.00 per ton, must have trailer. Sawmill Scrap \$30 per self-load pickup truckload. Forest Health Timber Products sawmill located on Cloman Blvd.

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.

PLOW FOR POLARIS ATV- 48", heavy duty metal, \$75. Cart- Craftsman for ATV, 3ft x4ft, metal, \$50. Ramp- aluminum, 6ft x4ft, folds lengthwise, \$25. Big Green Egg best charcoal smoker/ grill with stand, pizza stone and accessories, \$350. Call/ msg/ text (512)695-2397.

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).

SNOW/ MULCH/ DIRT BUCKETS for 8ft Telehandler, 6ft Skid Steer and 5ft Gradeall. (970)946-3762.

TWO LOG HEADBOARDS for a twin sized bed. New, never used. \$50 each. Text if you'd like a picture. (970)946-3105.

LOST & FOUND

LOST: SENIOR TAN CHIHUAHUA in Alpha subdivision area and Pagosa Springs Elementary school. REWARD. (970)946-0980.

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.

WANTED

HOUSEKEEPER WANTED. Every 2 weeks, references required, serious inquires only. Text (940)447-6078.

WANTED: Vintage license plates. Cash paid based on age, rarity, condition, etc. Call or text Colin: (970)367-7594.

AUTOS

2016 TOYOTA TACOMA TRD off-road crew cab long bed. VIN: 3TMDZ5BN3GM009389. 89,000 miles. Silver sky metallic, 3.5L w/ 6 SP Auto/Std trans, LEER bed cap, all maintenance done, code free. Call (970)903-7186 for details, in Pagosa. \$25,000.

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

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. Tenants in compound include building trades, UPS, light manufacturing, and artists. Available January 1st. \$1,000. raswheeler@gmail.com.

2000 SQ. FT. SHOP/ WAREHOUSE 14x 14 overhead door. Restrooms and natural gas. Good parking. Call Doug (970)946-3762 or (970)731-4792.

4 OFFICE SPACES. Freshly remodeled, \$400-\$525. Well suited for spa services, 140-270 sq. ft. Beautiful spacious restrooms. (970)946-3232.

DOWNTOWN OFFICE SPACE in the Historic Metro Hotel. 239 SF, available Dec 2024. Call Jacque (970)946-7636.

DOWNTOWN OFFICE Upstairs with skylight. Month-to-month, \$325/ month including utilities, internet and shared kitchen. No smokers. No pets. (970)946-2728.

HIGH-VISIBILITY EAGLE DRIVE location with large signs facing 160. Nicely renovated with two offices, large flexible space, bathroom, plenty of parking. \$1,800/ month includes utilities. Call/ text (970)444-2124.

METROPOLITAN HOTEL. 450 SF prime location on Main St. Available January 1, 2025. Rent is \$1,150 per month. Call Jacque at (970)946-7636.

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.

PAGOSA THERAPEUTICS AND THE GREEN HOUSE are looking for friendly and enthusiastic people who are eager to share their knowledge and help customers navigate the wide world of cannabis. Must be 21 years of age. A Marijuana Enforcement Division badge is required to start work. Come join a growing company with opportunities for advancement and involvement in outreach events. Please email your resume to employment@jandjinc.net.

ROOF LABORER NEEDED with some construction experience. Will train. \$20-\$25/ hour to start. (970)749-0830.

RUBY SISSON LIBRARY seeks a PT 20 hwp Library Assistant. Bachelors degree preferred. Please send resume and cover letter to director@pagosalibrary.org.

SECRETARY/ FRONT DESK team member wanted. Willing to train. What we do matters! We make people's lives better through excellent customer service. We show up every day, work hard, and make a great living serving our patients. We are blessed to have weekends and holidays off! We work in a beautiful facility with great pay, 401K, & bonuses. Gain a sense of fulfillment by helping people! E-mail resume to office@pagosasmiles.com.

THE TOWN OF PAGOSA SPRINGS is seeking to hire an **Administrative Assistant** in the Public Works Division. The individual selected for this position will perform a variety of routine and complex clerical, record-keeping, and administrative functions to support the operation of the Public Works Department. This is a full-time position with benefits. For more information on the position and to apply, go to the Town's website at www.pagosaspings.co.gov and select Employment.

Email us at classads@pagosasun.com to submit your classified. PagosaSUN.com

(970) 264-2100

Classifieds

(970) 264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

"We owned a condominium in the Pagosa Springs area which was a rental property. For many years the firm provided property management services for us and we always found them to be very professional and responsive. If you are in need of a competent, professional property management firm or realtor, we would strongly recommend them." ~ Michael Gamba

www.RMREALTYANDRENTALS.COM

Rocky Mountain
REALTY & RENTALS
970.731.5515

Info@rmrealtyandrentals.com
117 Navajo Trail Dr. Ste E, Pagosa Springs

Largest Local Property Management Co.



150+ SW Colorado
Property Owners Served
19+ Years. Mortgage &
Real Estate Exp
FULL LT TENANT SCREENING
NATIONWIDE ADVERTISING
ON CALL 24 HR 7 DAYS



VACATION RENTALS

OWNERS, WE ARE BOOKED UP AND NEED MORE VACATION RENTAL PROPERTIES! Call us today for lowest commission and highest customer service. All you have to do is wait for your rent check to come in. We do the rest! Rocky Mountain Realty & Rentals (970)507-1192.

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

LONG TERM RENTALS AVAILABLE. Call Team Pagosa (970)731-8599, 117 Navajo Trail Dr., pagosaspringsrealty.com.

VERY NICE AND CLEAN DUPLEX UNIT 3 bedrooms, 2 bath, 1 car garage. Close to City Market. Available four months until May 1. Rent reduced to \$1,200 per month. (970)946-2768.

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

2 AND 3 BEDROOMS AVAILABLE Call (720)869-8877. Hickory Ridge Apartments.

3 BED/2 BATH San Juan River Village. Clean, pristine and ready for you. 3/2 in highly desirable San Juan River Village. 2 level master on first floor. 5 min to town, 20 min to Wolf Creek. Water views and beautiful mountain views, first last deposit. Local landlord with great tenant history. No pets, no smoking, lots of storage, including indoor and outdoor storage. \$2300/ month. 6- and 12-month options available. Text (970)582-0148 for application.

DOWNTOWN UNITS FOR RENT. New 3 bedroom, 2 bath unit. Granite countertops, all appliances and utilities included. Porch and patio. \$2000/ month. (318)347-6100.

COMMERCIAL

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.

PRIME BUSINESS LOCATION Large building and land. \$1,250,000. Motivated seller. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

HOMES FOR SALE

3 BED 2 BATH 2 car garage. 3.9 acres. 5 shares of water. Detached 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Great views. \$585,000. 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



MarcieLewis.com

3 BED 2 BATH with office and privacy fence. Irrigation. Ignacio. \$440,500. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

3 BEDROOM 2 BATH. Workshop. 20 acres. Great views of the La Plata. Ignacio. \$475,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

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.

LAND/ BUILDING SITES

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.

FANTASTIC VIEWS with electricity, concrete floor garage on 1 acre for \$195,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

LAND/ BUILDING SITES

MOUNTAIN VIEWS, MEADOWS. Unique high elevation and complete privacy. 5.6 acres bordering national forest, (970)769-3588 blancoretreat@gmail.com. \$450K.

VERY MOTIVATED SELLER. 4 acres. Great views, access to river. Electric near. \$175,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

Email us at classads@pagosasun.com to submit your classified. PagosaSUN.com



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.

NEW! Place your classified ad online!

Go to: PagosaSUN.com >> Shop Local >> Place Your Classified Ad

All classified line ads appear on PagosaSUN.com Regular categories deadline: Tues., 10 a.m. • Too Late To Classify deadline: Tues., 3 p.m. Holidays will have alternate deadlines.

Notable poverty statistics from around the world

Special to The PREVIEW

Poverty is a prevalent problem across the globe that might be affecting a neighbor, colleague, friend or relative.

Families live in poverty if they cannot afford the cost of a modest standard of living. Individuals living in poverty may have trouble putting food on the table, or they may be forced to skip other necessities, like going to the doctor.

Statistics related to poverty might prove surprising. Here's a look at some notable numbers across the globe:

- The U.S. Census Bureau says the official poverty rate in the United States fell to 11.1 percent in 2023. Despite that decline, 36.8 million people in the country were living in poverty in 2023.

- While the poverty rate decreased for many demographics in the U.S., the group characterized as Two or More Races population experienced a statistically significant increase (2.2 percent) in its official poverty rate between 2022 and 2023.

- Statistics Canada says the number of people living below the poverty line increased from 7.4 percent to 9.9 percent between 2021 and 2022. That was according to the Market Basket Measure (MBM), which considers a family at poverty level if it cannot

afford the cost of a specific basket of goods and services in their community after adjusting for family size. The MBM takes the cost of food, clothing, footwear, transportation, shelter and other expenses into consideration.

- According to the World Vision, 712 million people (around 9 percent of the world's population) live in extreme poverty. This is defined as surviving on less than \$2.15 per day. Forty-four percent of the world lives on less than \$6.85 per day.

- The U.S. federal government's official poverty threshold is about \$25,700 annual income for a family of four.

- The Supplemental Poverty Measure looks beyond Census data to determine poverty rate. It accounts for expenses such as the rising costs of health care. Seniors had a poverty rate of 9.7 percent in 2018. However, when using the Supplemental Poverty Measure, that rate rose to 14.1 percent.

- Global poverty numbers have

barely changed since 1990, with global poverty reduction having slowed to a near standstill, according to the World Bank Group. It is expected there will be no progress in the global poverty reduction rate between 2020 and 2030. The world is not on track to meet the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal of eliminating poverty in all forms by 2030.

RENT A CAR

PAGOSA AUTO RENTS

- Local
- Nights and Weekends
- Delivery Available!



Visit pagosaauto-rents.com



(970) 585-9181

Let's Celebrate! New Provider and Expanded Hours



Dr. Robert Melton, AuD



Dr. Jen Hurst, AuD

**Established
1909.**

The Pagosa Springs **SUN**
970-264-2100

MARCH FOR

equality

SAT., JAN. 18, 2025

11AM - 1PM

START/END @ TOWN PARK



**LET YOUR VOICE
BE HEARD!**

- A PEACEFUL MARCH THROUGH DOWNTOWN PAGOSA
- FAMILY FRIENDLY. ALL ARE WELCOME!
- CARRY SIGNS THAT LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD
- STAY FOR WINTERFEST ACTIVITIES AFTERWARD



AD SPONSORED BY PAGOSA UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

*Meet Dr. Melton
Jan 9, 2025 4-6pm
2343a Eagle Dr*

- Now open Monday to Friday 9-5
- VA, Medicare, Medicaid accepted
- All insurance accepted

**HURST
HEARING**

hear well, live well

Pagosa • 970 444-2314 • hursthearing.com