



PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147

www.PagosaSUN.com

VOLUME 117 — NO. 17, THURSDAY, JANUARY 23, 2025

Hunt sentenced to 18 years for 2021 homicide

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The defendant in the 2021 death of Michael Kroll was sentenced to 18 years in prison on Tuesday, Jan. 21.

In handing down the sentence to Glenn Canyon Lee Hunt, 62, 6th Judicial District Chief Judge Jeffrey Wilson suggested the plea and sentence are a good outcome in the case.



Glenn Hunt

Hunt entered a guilty plea to murder in the second degree on Jan. 6, with that plea stipulating to a sentence of 18 years.

According to a press release previously issued by the Pagosa Springs Police Department (PSPD), Kroll was reported missing from the Pagosa Springs area on Oct. 19, 2021, and his remains were later located in a remote area of La Plata County on Sept. 25, 2022.

Hunt, formerly of Archuleta County, was identified through a joint investigation by the Pagosa Springs Police Department and the Colorado Bureau of Investigation, the press release notes.

The 11-page arrest warrant affidavit in the case alleges that Hunt and Kroll had met on Oct. 16, 2021, at a "hippie dip" along the river in Pagosa Springs, with Hunt being the last person Kroll was seen with prior to his disappearance.

It notes that Kroll was reported

missing on Oct. 19, 2021, after failing to show up for work. His cellphone was found by a construction worker in the middle of the highway near U.S. 160 and Colo. 151 on Oct. 18, 2021 — the same day his dog was dropped off at a Bayfield gas station by a man later identified as Hunt.

The affidavit further alleges data associated with Hunt's cellphone placed him in Bayfield on Oct. 18, 2021, as well as in the area of Middle Mountain in La Plata County — the area Kroll's remains were found nearly a year later.

It further notes DNA analysis of blood found in the camper Kroll was living in "showed strong support that it was a mixture of blood from both Michael Kroll and Glen Hunt."

Hunt was arrested in August of 2023 in Kit Carson County.

Prior to the sentence, the court heard several statements.

Family members and friends of Kroll described him to the court as a friend, brother, son, father, protector, and a bright and shining light.

A friend of Kroll expressed she was leery when Kroll was traveling, but that he believed if he put good in the world, he would be OK.

She expressed hope that when Hunt dies he will be forgotten.

"I refuse to remember him," she told the court of Hunt, adding Kroll will always be remembered and loved.

Kroll's ex-wife and the mother of his children told the court Kroll was a bright and shining light, and Hunt's darkness would not prevail over that light.

Kroll's sister told the court Hunt

■ See Hunt A8



Photo courtesy Archuleta County Sheriff's Office

The River Bottom Fire is pictured on Jan. 11. The fire was one of two grass fires this month, with local officials calling for safe and responsible burning to avoid additional fires.

'In the fire season right now': Commissioners hear about fire management, danger

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

Archuleta County Sheriff Mike Le Roux gave a presentation to the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) during a work session held on Tuesday, Jan. 21, addressing

how fires are responded to within the county. Conversation also touched on recent fires and the fire danger in the area.

The presentation came after Commissioner John Ranson requested to hear about emergency management plans with the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office (ACSO), with Ranson

mentioning destruction being caused by wildfires currently happening in California and wanting to know how the county would respond to a similar crisis.

During the Jan. 21 work session, Le Roux began by explaining what the ACSO is respon-

■ See Fire 11

Medina named BoCC chair

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

Commissioner Veronica Medina will serve as chair of the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) for the second consecutive year after being unanimously nominated for the position during the board's meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 22.

■ See Chair A16



SUN photos/Randi Pierce

Despite Mother Nature's lack of cooperation, last weekend's WinterFest festivities featured two long-running events with the Penguin Plunge on Saturday afternoon in the 32-degree San Juan River and a hot air balloon ascension on Sunday morning.

School district weighing response to possible deportations

By Garrett Fevinger
Staff Writer

Archuleta School District (ASD) is joining others from around the state and nation in preparing for new federal immigration policies.

Addressing board members on Jan. 14, ASD Superintendent Rick Holt cited requests from community members and staff that the school district prepare for the "unlikely event that there are deportations of undocumented students and families."

"We've begun to prepare for what that might look like," Holt said.

The preparations came in response to campaign pledges made by Donald Trump who vowed to deport millions of undocumented

immigrants living in the U.S. and who since taking office Monday has taken actions relating to immigration and ending birthright citizenship.

Colorado Education Commissioner Susana Córdova, anticipating those efforts, outlined guidance and recommendations for school districts in a December 2024 letter to superintendents, writing, "Under longstanding federal guidance... schools are protected spaces where federal immigration authorities should not conduct immigration activities."

In the letter, she points out a 1982 U.S. Supreme Court decision affirming that schools cannot deny enrollment to students on the basis of their immigration status.

■ See Deportations A8

Water conservancy talks continued litigation, legal spending

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

The San Juan Water Conservancy District (SJWCD) Board of Directors discussed legal expenses and expressed its resolve to continue litigation with the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) over the sale of Running Iron Ranch at its Jan. 20 meeting.

The litigation concerns PAWSD's ability to sell the ranch — the proposed site for a reservoir — without the consent of the SJWCD, who has repeatedly expressed opposition to the sale.

The districts are co-owners of the property, and PAWSD is responsible

for making payments on loans for the parcel under the terms of a 2015 agreement between PAWSD, the SJWCD and the Colorado Water Conservation Board, who provided the loans used to purchase the property.

Following an executive session, SJWCD president Candace Jones outlined the history of PAWSD's efforts to sell the ranch and the litigation.

"We are obligated to follow the process of litigation," she said. "We don't have the opportunity to turn the other cheek and just keep talking. Litigation has a schedule. ... And, so, it's kind of like getting sucker punched, the public getting sucker punched, but we have to fight back ... in the

■ See Conservancy A8

Index

Opinion	A2
Letters	A3
Obituaries	A3
Cyrilla Lucero	
Candelaria 'Lala' Helen Willingham	
Education	A7
Charter school engages community in restorative practices	
Business	A9
Registration open for alcohol awareness training classes	
Sports	A12
After 'rough streak,' Pirates go 1-1 in conference debuts	
Public Notices	A14
PREVIEW	
PREVIEW Calendar	8
Live Performers	2
Crossword	16
Classifieds	24



Goals & Accomplishments

SUN staff asked representatives of publicly funded agencies in Archuleta County to individually answer a trio of questions relating to the goals and accomplishments of themselves and their agencies at the turn of the year. Their answers will be printed in The SUN over the coming weeks. Answers are printed as received and are not edited.

Town of Pagosa Springs

Shari Pierce, Mayor



What are your three biggest accomplishments of 2024?

The town council, boards, commissions and staff worked hard in 2024 for our community.

First accomplishment: Your town council, acting as the board of directors for the Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District, continued working with staff to improve and maintain the current sanitation collection and pump conveyance systems. Staff is

working to repair the worst of the identified weaknesses in the system. We have contracted with a financial advisor to assist in developing a plan and identifying opportunities for financing needed repairs to the system. The district is also pursuing grant opportunities and guidance from the Department of Local Affairs.

Second accomplishment: The council has continued to work on retaining and hiring quality staff, recognizing the savings to the town of not having a lot of turnover and retraining of staff. In our new budget, we were able to provide a cost of living increase. We also look for ways that we can better staff's work atmosphere and quality of life while still maintaining our high quality of service to the community.

Third accomplishment: We have a council who works together to find what we believe are the best solutions for preserving the health, safety and welfare of the community, looking to the future while remembering our past and those who built our community. We have council members who respect each other and can discuss and acknowledge varying opinions and conduct the community's business with decorum.

What are your three top goals for 2025?

By the town's home rule charter, I am one member of a seven-member council. We work together to create goals for the council to work on, thus the goals presented here are those of the collective

council. These goals were set by your town council at an annual retreat in 2023 where we discussed and strategized what would be the most important actions for your community. In 2024, the council reviewed the 12 agreed-upon goals, progress on those goals, and agreed these goals are still applicable. These are the top three of 12 goals, which were agreed upon by the council.

1) Develop a long-term strategy to provide essential sanitation collection and treatment services that are financially viable, future-oriented, and maximize the existing assets and partnerships in a community of our size with limited resources.

2) Ensure adequate staffing levels and appropriate employee benefit packages to carry out core services and desired programs for the community.

3) Support private sector and community organizations' efforts to provide housing of all types to ensure housing choices for residents.

We are working to plan a higher-level retreat in 2025 to review these goals in relation to where our community is today and the issues we are now facing. We also will step up our planning to include more in-depth strategy discussions toward meeting our goals and serving the citizens and businesses of our community.

What is your action plan to meet your goals?

1) Most importantly, we need to keep our goals in mind as we are making decisions. The council has had periodic check-ins where we discuss progress toward each of the goals and make sure we are in agreement on next steps toward accomplishing our goals.

2) In 2024, our town manager brought to council the suggestion of hiring a financial advisor to assist us with finding solutions for financing needed to address our most important needs. The council did approve of this step and is currently working with that advisor to obtain revenue bonds to address the most critical of the repairs needed on our sanitation system, which is the council's top goal. This is just the first step in what we will need to do to move community projects forward.

3) Your council and staff will continue to look for opportunities to use partnerships and advisors to assist us in advancing in making the best decisions for our town while moving forward with all of our goals. As indicated, we will also work to develop more in-depth strategies for attaining our goals.

David Harris, Town Manager



What are your three biggest accomplishments of 2024?

In 2024, Pagosa Springs achieved significant milestones that reflect Town Council and staff's commitment to addressing key community needs and planning for a sustainable future. Our biggest accomplishments were:

- Strengthened the Town's Financial Stability: We hired a financial advisor to help the Town manage the challenges of funding large capital projects, including sewer system improvements, workforce housing, road and storm drainage, and facilities. We also updated the Town's financial policies. Highlights include establishing cash reserves at a minimum 25% or 3 months, rotation of the lead auditor every 5 years to ensure a fresh set of eyes are reviewing the books and updating bidding guidelines and purchasing authority levels.

- Advanced Workforce Housing Solutions: We took meaningful steps to address the housing challenges impacting our local workforce. We hired a shared Housing Coordinator with Archuleta County to streamline efforts to secure grants and help implement housing programs; this is a two-year grant funded position housed at the Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation (PSCDC). The Town successfully obtained significant state and federal housing grants totaling over \$2 million, and financially supported the PSCDC with an affordable housing project that will provide stability and opportunities for local workers and their families.

- Enhanced Sanitation District Infrastructure: The Town successfully initiated the sale of \$4.8 million in revenue bonds to finance urgent sewer line repairs. Work will continue in 2025 to identify additional funding avenues to cover additional significant sewer system repairs and other capital project needs. We completed a rate analysis for the Pagosa Springs Sanitation and General Improvement District (PSSGID) and approved a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Pagosa Area Water & Sanitation District (PAWSD) to explore the future

operation and maintenance of the two wastewater systems.

What are your three top goals for 2025?

My goals as the Town Manager align with the goals and priorities of the Town Council. They are:

- Continued Focus on Sanitation District: The Town is developing a long-term plan to provide essential sanitation collection and regional treatment that are financially viable and future-oriented and that maximize the existing assets and partnerships available. More than likely, the plan will come before voters to authorize funding, the details of which are still being worked on.

- Recruit and Retrain a Quality Workforce: In 2025, we are taking steps to ensure wages keep pace with inflation with cost-of-living adjustments and ensuring parity between the two staff retirement systems.

- Workforce Housing Solutions with Partners: We are working with key partners including Archuleta County, PSCDC, and private developers, to pursue grants and to find solutions to our workforce housing needs. Recently, the Town partnered with a developer to obtain a \$2 million grant for workforce housing, a 96-unit apartment complex near the hospital which will address area median incomes (AMI) of 60% to 140%. This is in addition to another workforce housing project presently under construction, the 50-unit Timberline apartment complex serving 30% to 80% AMI across the street from Walmart.

What is your action plan to meet your goals?

Our plan is rooted in collaboration, forward thinking, and strong community partnerships. We are fortunate to have a great team, including a dedicated Town Council, outstanding department heads, skilled staff, engaged Board and Commission members, and community partners who share a commitment to building a thriving, connected community that supports and respects our cultural and economic differences.

Other highlights include:

- We will continue to work collaboratively with community partners to mitigate the effects of the Colorado Department of Transportation's (CDOT) construction project throughout downtown.

- We recognize that tourism is an important facet and revenue generator in our community. We are dedicated to working with our tourism partners to ensure a healthy balance between resident needs, local business support, and embracing visitors who help make Pagosa Springs such a special place.



More Than Just Signs!

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

970.731.3327

LOCATED AT 57 MAJESTIC DR. PAGOSA SPRINGS, CO



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

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 MUSIC

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



Friday,
January 24th
Jackson Mountain Ramblers

Saturday,
January 25th
Maxwell Miller

Tuesday,
January 28th
Rock N' Rebels

Join us for
Wine Down Wednesday
on January 29th!
(50% off select wines)



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

**Your source for community news:
The Pagosa Springs SUN**

{N}POWER[®] PRICING ONLY!



good4u
MEAL DEALS



HEARTY CHILI

FEED UP TO 4 PEOPLE FOR UNDER \$15*

Valid Through March 31, 2025

*Price excludes tax. Terms and conditions apply. See store for details.

UNDER \$4.00 PER SERVING



Scan the QR code to **download our app** or visit NaturalGrocers.com/join to join {N}power and start saving!

Education

Charter school engages community in restorative practices

By Emily Murphy
Pagosa Peak Open School

Picture this playground scene: A student kicks a ball to a friend and another student intercepts the ball, running away with it. Soon there are tears, followed by chasing and yelling. What happens next?

This is dependent on what type of school the students attend. Is it a traditional model, or do they attend a restorative practices school?

"In a restorative practices school these kids would meet up with a mediator who facilitates problem solving," Pagosa Peak Open School (PPOS) sixth-grader Quinn said. "We focus on repairing the harm that's been done to the person and their relationship instead of giving them a punishment."

On Jan. 16, students at PPOS celebrated restorative practices with a showcase night, during which the community was invited to learn more about how restorative practices shows up in the school, and what it looks like. Students did a demonstration of a mediation, Randy Compton from Restorative Solutions spoke about the history and importance of restorative practices, and community members shared snacks while reviewing student work.

Displays of "talking pieces," case studies and reflection showed what restorative practices means to the students.

Additionally, Compton worked with the school's Restorative Practices Student Board on its role in the school.

"After the training I felt more confident and prepared to mediate conflict. We got a chance to practice and ask questions, and he shared books with lots of information in them," Quinn



Photo courtesy Pagosa Peak Open School
Pagosa Peak Open School students share their talking pieces and writing with the community during the school's Restorative Practice Showcase on Jan. 16.

said. "I joined the board because I knew I would get to help bring people together and help friendships happen in our school. Now I feel more comfortable in my role doing those things."

While students on the board participate in conflict resolution, restorative practices includes practices that build and sustain a community, said PPOS Restorative Practices Coordinator

Sarah Troxell.

"I see restorative practices in action throughout the school — in opening and closing circles; in communications between students, advisors and parents; in the tools we use to manage conflict; and in the rituals we've established to foster community," Troxell said. "The impact on student life is significant. Students become more aware

of their emotional states and how those states influence the broader community. They learn to articulate what they need to thrive and succeed at school."

Compton emphasized the positive outcomes of restorative practices in schools.

"When restorative practices are implemented well — and it takes time and diligence to do it well — we have seen tremendous benefits in a number of ways," he said. "Students are more engaged and test scores improve. There is an increase in empathy, resilience and lifelong conflict resolution skills, something that will serve them far into the future in their relationships and careers."

PPOS is in its fifth year of implementation of restorative practices, and has not only seen a drop in office referrals and suspensions, but also an increase in test scores and student engagement.

"Restorative practices is an integral part of the culture and community at PPOS," PPOS Middle School Advisor Rue Graham said. "It heavily relies on cultivating positive relationships with students as a proactive approach for classroom management and community engagement. There have been many instances when a problem has arisen that is easily solved with a conversation and agreement to focus on relationship repair rather than imposing punitive consequences for negative behavior."

Pawlished
Pet Salon & Boutique

We've expanded!
Now accepting
new clients.

By appointment only
Tues-Sat 9:30-5:00
970-585-WAGS (9247)

444 Lewis Street, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
pawlishedpetsalon.com
pawlishedpetsalonandboutique@gmail.com

The Archuleta School District invites you to join the first Planning Advisory Team Meeting for a valuable community engagement opportunity. Share your thoughts and help shape the future of our community.

Date: Monday, January 27, 2025
Time: 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM
Location: Middle School Library

Your voice matters — be part of the conversation!

Your local news source.

School board to weigh cellphone policy as teachers speak up

By Garrett Fevinger
Staff Writer

The Archuleta School District Board of Education indicated it would further consider a district-wide cellphone policy after hearing reports from teachers and students that personal phone use during class time is distracting, unsafe and damaging to relationships.

At the top of their meeting on Jan. 14, board members listened as educators shared experiences and perspectives from around the district, where policies concerning cellphone use differ from school to school and, sometimes, classroom to classroom.

"Why should we acquiesce to the pull of a distraction that, in my opinion, is keeping us all from realizing our students' true potential?" asked Darcy DeGuise, an English teacher at Pagosa Springs High School (PSHS).

About one-third of Colorado's largest school districts have adopted stricter cellphone policies in the last two years, according to an August 2024 Chalkbeat survey, with Boulder Valley the latest to do so.

But in many districts and schools, teachers are responsible for establishing and enforcing their own rules around student cellphone use during instruction time. That remains the approach at PSHS.

"The high school has the most flexibility," said Superintendent Rick Holt during a November 2024 discussion about the same issue. "It's simply saying, teachers, you know your content, you know what you're teaching, you can figure out how much is enough."

But according to Carrie Steadman, the gifted and talented coordinator for the district and a teacher at Pagosa

Springs Middle School (PSMS), that approach involves "teachers encountering personal property of students and having that potentially go awry," she said during the Jan. 14 meeting.

She added, "That can be damaging to relationships with students."

Cellphone use is prohibited during the school day at PSMS, where teachers reported observing students who are less distracted and more engaged with learning — and one another — during class time.

"Students interact with each other directly, fostering social skills and building stronger relationships," said fifth-grade teacher Amy Owen. "Overall, the middle school's well-implemented no cellphone policy has created a more conducive learning environment for many students, and it's very helpful as a teacher."

Thomas Davenport, a math teacher at PSMS, agreed and tied the school's cellphone policy to higher academic performance.

"I think it's really made an academic difference on our campus," he said. "We outmatched a lot of our regional peers last year, and I really feel that has something to do with a more distraction-free learning environment."

In addition to those distractions, also alarming for educators like Alissa Shirk, a special education teacher at PSHS, are the risks of unfiltered adult making its way to minors on school grounds.

"I walked into advisory and I saw a student on an explicit website," Shirk said. "I've seen a lot of examples of egregious use of cellphones, and [students] are not paying their bills or looking at self-help articles like we do ... they're getting caught up in video

games, texting people they might not even know, and it is a big concern."

According to board members Amanda Schick and Butch Mackey, some students are concerned, too.

Describing a recent roundtable discussion with high schoolers at PSHS that covered a range of topics, Mackey recalled, "The students brought up the issue of cellphone usage. We didn't bring it up. And they were uniformly in support of not having the phones available to them in class."

Those students, Mackey reported, echoed many of the complaints noted by their teachers: that cellphone use in classrooms was distracting and enforcement is inconsistent.

"One of the concerns that they mentioned at the high school level is that a lot of the guidelines shall we say were teacher-specific, so it varied from class to class. They didn't like that at all," Mackey said.

Considering those remarks as well as ones made by the teachers present for the Jan. 14 meeting, board president Bob Lynch noted a "nexus" of feedback around the issue, with fellow board members signaling openness to holding further discussions.

"We need to have a conversation [about] what are we doing with the information that we are receiving, from multiple points," said Schick. "What we are hearing from the staff, what we're hearing from students and families."

Mackey indicated he is reaching the point where he would be in support "of what's been presented by the staff here and the students as well."

Mackey earlier noted, "That's something we probably need to continue to make some plans to address, probably sooner rather than later."

Meetings planned for school district's Master Plan Advisory Committee

By Lisa Scott
Archuleta School District Master Plan Advisory Committee

In the fall, Archuleta School District (ASD) Superintendent Rick Holt and Josh Sanchez, director of operations, spoke at five community engagement meetings about the condition of the school buildings and shared information and data from RTA Architects, based in Colorado Springs, who performed a detailed assessment of each building.

This information informs the district's master plan and use of money in the general fund for maintenance and capital improvements on build-

ings that are over a half century old.

The school district is at a fork in the road: utilize funds to maintain the current state of the schools or focus on how to pursue additional financial resources to improve the quality of the school buildings.

A broad spectrum of community members will convene to create the Master Plan Advisory Committee (MPAC) and will meet with representatives of RTA Architects, who will guide the committee through a process to understand the landscape of options for our school buildings.

With the goal of creating an optimal learning environment for students, this information will be pre-

sented to the ASD Board of Education for further decisions about the direction.

The first meeting of MPAC will be Monday, Jan. 27, 5:30 to 7 p.m. in the middle school library. Additional meetings are planned for Feb. 24, March 17 and April 2.

Keeping the community informed and engaged in the process is of utmost importance and will be done with additional community meetings and ongoing communication and information on the website.

For additional information, contact Lisa Scott, MPAC chair, at (970) 749-4268 or lisascott5680@icloud.com.

PLPOA Gymnasium and Recreation Facility Know the Facts

These statements are generated from the 2023 Strategic Plan and the Revised Recreation Master Plan Nov. 14, 2024. These documents are available at PLPOA.com.

1. PLPOA Strategic Plan, June 8, 2023: No mention of Recreation Master Plan with New Gym, Multipurpose Athletic Field, Parking Lot, Hot Tub and Lap Pool.
2. Updated Nov. 14, 2024 Recreation Master Plan developed by the Board of Directors and General Manager with a total cost of \$5,377,009.00 to be constructed over the next 5 years to implement.
3. Phase I, 2024: New 52-space parking lot, \$300,500.00. Parking lot has been installed before being approved by a vote of PLPOA members.
4. Phase II, 2025: New Gymnasium, \$2,000,000.00. No bleachers or restrooms.
5. Phase III, 2027: Construct Multi-purpose Athletic Field and Restrooms, \$1,200,000.00.
6. Phase IV, 2028: Install new outdoor hot tub, \$80,000.00.
7. Phase V, 2030: Construct Lap Pool, \$1,796,509.00.
8. Total Investment over next 5 years \$5,377,009.00, with no additional overhead, operational, or unknown expenses figured in the budget.
9. The Board of Directors has also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Archuleta County. In return for financial support and assistance in applying for state grants, the new Recreational Complex will be made available to non-PLPOA youth, clubs and organizations.
10. This should be a project for Archuleta County in order to service the full community, not the PLPOA.

DO YOU WANT TO BECOME THE RECREATION DISTRICT FOR THE COUNTY AT OUR EXPENSE? **NO.**

website: plpoa.info

Call PLPOA, 970-731-5635, and make sure they have your email for communications and voting information.

Paid for by Concerned Citizens

WinterFest



SUN photos/Randi Pierce, Clayton Chaney and Garrett Fevinger

A general lack of snow in the area didn't stop most of last weekend's WinterFest events, with locals and visitors alike able to get out to enjoy skijoring, hot air balloons, the Barkus Parade, Penguin Plunge, bonfire and more.



Fire

■ Continued from front
sible for under state statutes.

"Basically, in a nutshell, what those refer to is the sheriff's responsibility for suppression of wildland fires, but also the conduit to the state to leverage resources in the event we have a significant event," Le Roux said, explaining that the sheriff's office acts mostly as a coordination piece.

He noted that the majority of counties' unincorporated lands in the state are covered by a fire protection district.

"Here in Archuleta, we're unlucky enough that we're not," Le Roux said, explaining that the rest of the unincorporated lands within the county "falls on the sheriff's office from an initial attack wildland response point of view."

He added, "We in addition run a wildland fire initial attack crew with a fire apparatus that we house under the Division of Emergency Operations, falling under the sheriff's office."

Archuleta County is served by three fire protection districts: the Pagosa Fire Protection District (PFPD), Los Pinos Fire Protection District and Upper Pine River Fire Protection District, with the PFPD covering the most land of the three, Le Roux noted.

He indicated that Los Pinos covers areas near Arboles, while the Upper Pine covers a stretch along U.S. 160 near Yellow Jacket pass, leaving about 220 square miles of wildland district exclusively for the sheriff's office to cover.

For the remaining land left to the ACSO, it runs two type six engines and a type four engine, Le Roux indicated, mentioning one is a county-owned asset and the other two units are leased "at a competitive rate" from the state at \$200 a year.

Between those three units, "we have the ability to carry 1,500 gallons of water," Le Roux said.

He also mentioned that the ACSO is responsible for parts of Mineral and Hinsdale counties with private inholdings, noting there are other fire response agencies such as the U.S. Forest Service, the Southern Ute Indian Tribe and the Bureau of Land Management.

Le Roux referred to a map of fire protection in Archuleta County as a "pretty crazy patchwork of jurisdictional complexities."

He went on to explain that the ACSO is under a five-year operating agreement plan that has a total of 14 signatories, including neighboring counties and fire resource agencies, that addresses how fires are responded to in our area.

He explained there is a "mandatory mutual aid component" that lies between the agencies.

"We've always had excellent working relationships with all of our partners, so the document until now has never really been tested," Le Roux said. "Everybody responds to everybody's fire all of the time with whatever resources they can because we realize where we are. We're at the end of nowhere, which is why we live here and why we love it, but getting resources from further afield tends to have issues and there's time constraints getting it."

He went on to explain that the agreement set up a program in which the ACSO can front-load state assets within the first 24 hours of an event that is free to the county.

"Every big fire starts as a small fire, and every big cost always started as a small cost," Le Roux said.

Le Roux spoke about the Chris Mountain and Coal Mountain fires that occurred in Archuleta County in 2023, and how there were certain areas in the county as a top concern such as high density living next to the national forest.

"It's not the last time we're gonna have fires up there," Le Roux added.

He explained that, after those fires, the Forest Service mapped those entire areas showing what values may be at risk in the event of another fire.

"There's lots of forested area on the backside of County Road 700, north of County Road 500 that has the potential to do some damage," Le Roux said.

Le Roux explained that the ACSO purchased a subscription for a software known as Zonehaven that can predict what a fire has the potential



Photo courtesy Archuleta County Sheriff's Office

The site of the Jan. 16 Chimney Rock Fire is pictured following the incident. The fire was contained at about four acres the same day it began.

to do without any suppression by incorporating factors like weather.

He also mentioned the software can provide an estimate as to how many people, homes or vehicles may be in an area that can potentially be affected from a fire event.

Le Roux also explained the ACSO is responsible for evacuation orders, noting that the goal is to get the notification out as soon as possible, but just because smoke may be visible that doesn't necessarily mean evacuations are needed, using the Coal Mountain fire as an example in that the fire was far enough back in the forest that it wasn't going to affect the county.

Archuleta County uses an emergency notification system called Nixle that citizens can sign up for to receive notifications, Le Roux explained.

He went on to explain that the ACSO is not responsible for evacuating animals from ranches, "but I'm an animal guy," explaining that the emergency response crews will "do what we can."

He noted there are limited resources for that.

Le Roux encouraged the public to make a plan in case of such an event, specifically noting that it can be beneficial to practice trailering horses beforehand.

"All of that stuff ahead of time certainly helps first responders," he said.

Fire season

Emergency Operations Deputy Director Roy Vega was also in attendance with Le Roux during the work session and added that conversations are happening in preparation for "upcoming fire season, but we're in the fire season right now."

Vega cautioned that grass can still catch fire in extreme cold temperatures, like Archuleta County has been experiencing recently.

Le Roux explained that there have been two wildland fires in Archuleta County this month, one occurring on Jan. 11 and one on Jan. 16, each burning approximately two to four acres.

He noted that one of the fires was "started by juveniles erroneously," and the other likely from unsafe burning practices.

He explained that the ACSO had issues with the fire truck's water lines freezing during one of those events.

"No one expects to fight fire in 2 below," he said, explaining that the lack of snow on the ground makes wildland fires a real concern this time of year.

"We're much the same as we were in 2017, in the winter. In fact, I think we're probably worse off than we were," he added.

Le Roux indicated that he foresees this summer being similar to 2018, when the entire forest was shut down for a Stage 3 fire ban.

He also spoke about the fire mitigation work within the county, noting there's "been a lot of positive mitigation projects around the county."

He went on to say that fire responsibility starts with homeowners and responsible burning practices, "and what we have is a lot of people that don't burn responsibly."

He explained that the county has an ordinance mandating that everyone needs a burn permit in order to burn on property.

Burn permits are available from the PFPD for \$10.

Le Roux added that, when done correctly, burning as a form of mitigation "is not a bad option."

He then predicted that "we will almost certainly go into a Stage 1 fire ban shortly," and will likely follow with a Stage 2 fire ban.

Commissioner Veronica Medina asked about a U.S. Forest Service program known as Virtual Incident Procurement that allows community members to offer support in such events.

Le Roux indicated that the program allows community members to provide fire suppression equipment to first responders.

"I think the biggest assistance that we can have as a county is for people to be responsible with their actions moving forward," he added.

LPEA

During the same work session, the BoCC met with La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) CEO Chris Hansen, who started with LPEA in November 2024.

Hansen also spoke about what LPEA is doing in terms of fire resistance and mitigation work.

"Fire is top of mind for everyone ... also top of mind for us," Hansen said, "We are really actively looking at how we can strengthen our fire

mitigation capabilities as your local utility."

He mentioned that LPEA's first line of defense is around vegetation management, noting that it "drastically lowers" the chances of a fire starting due to electrical equipment.

He also mentioned LPEA is "using a number of tools" to do that, including satellite imagery, image processing software and drone inspection on a frequent basis.

Hansen indicated that LPEA is also looking into policies around deactivation of lines during high wind and storm events, noting there's "pros and cons of that."

"So, those are a few of the things top of mind for us as we refresh and increase our wildfire mitigation capability," he said.

clayton@pagosasun.com

Clip 'n Save 10% ✂️
•Off of 750 ml and 175 ml bottles•
WINES & LIQUORS
Non-Sale Items Only • Coupon not valid for beer purchases
264-2749
Next to River Center - Hwy. 160
East Pagosa Springs
Mon.-Sat. Open 9 a.m. - Midnight
Sun. Open 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.
\$ SILVER DOLLAR LIQUORS

988 Lifeline
Whether you're facing mental health struggles, emotional distress, alcohol or drug use concerns, or just need someone to talk to, our caring counselors are here for you.
You are not alone. Text 988 for help.

YOU COULD
MAKE A CHANGE
FOR THE
BETTER.
OR JUST
CHANGE TO THE BEST.

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.

BANK OF THE SAN JUANS
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 970.264.1

Member FDIC
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY LENDER

Half Page Ad Buy One, Get One FREE!

For the month of **February only**, purchase a 1/2 page ad in **The Pagosa Springs SUN** or **PREVIEW**, get the **second week FREE!**

Requirements: A minimum of 2 half-page ads must run in February 6 through 27, 2025 editions. Must be the same ad for both insertions, runs do not need to be consecutive. Business' main office must be located in Archuleta County. Offer not available for color ads. Limited to the first 10 advertisers.

Your source for community news.
The Pagosa Springs SUN
970-264-2100

The Pagosa Springs SUN
Publishing Visitor Guides in Pagosa Springs for over 30 years
Publishing the Official Newspaper of Archuleta County since 1909

It's the Best Deal of the Year. What Are You Waiting For?
Call your friendly, knowledgeable and experienced advertising representatives to reserve your advertising space today.
970.264.2100

Sports

BASKETBALL

After 'rough streak,' Pirates go 1-1 in conference debuts

By Garrett Fevinger
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School boys' basketball team rebounded from a challenging stretch of the 2024-2025 season to snap an eight-game losing streak and go 1-1 while on the road last weekend against teams in Monte Vista and Ignacio.

The games represented the Pirates' first conference matchups of the season and came on the heels of what coach Wes Lewis called a "rough streak" of the team's schedule.

With the results, the Pirates stand at 2-9 overall and 1-1 in 3A/4A Intermountain League play.

Facing a strong opposing offense Jan. 17 in Monte Vista, Pagosa found itself down 17-25 at halftime and trailing by 14 heading into the game's final eight minutes.

The hosts would go on to add 12 points in the fourth to close out the Pirates 51-36.

"We struggled a little bit offensively scoring the ball," Lewis reported. "We had some easy ones we didn't convert on that we needed to do those two things to continue to help our chances," he said.

But with a message from their coach to "stay as positive as possible," the Pirates rebounded one day later in Ignacio, where the team battled for its first conference victory of the season by defeating the Bobcats 46-40.

"It was kind of a back-and-forth game. I don't think either team ever led by more than 10 points," Lewis recalled, adding, "Our turnover count was pretty favorable, and I thought we rebounded the basketball a lot better."

For the Pirates, the win came as a welcomed "sigh of relief," according to Lewis.

"It's been a while since we've had

a win and it sure felt like it was good for morale," he said.

Stats for the games were not available as of press time Wednesday, though Lewis praised Seth Zeigler's rebounding efforts in Ignacio.

The Pirates sail into deeper conference waters this weekend as hosts to squads from Alamosa on Jan. 24 and Montezuma-Cortez on Jan. 25.

In preparing for those contests, Lewis explained he reminded the team what it did well to earn the win in Ignacio.

"It's been a while since we've had a win and it sure felt like it was good for morale."

Coach Wes Lewis

"We gave ourselves a chance to win because we did two things really well, as far as taking care of the basketball and rebounding the basketball, and [I] tried to just make it a point of emphasis to continue to do those two things to continue to help our chances," he said.

Against Alamosa, 2-10 overall and 0-2 in 3A/4A Intermountain League play, tipoff is scheduled for 7 p.m. Friday.

Montezuma-Cortez stands at 9-4 overall and 1-1 in league play. That game is scheduled for 2 p.m. Saturday.

Both games are set to take place at Pagosa Springs High School.

Then, on Tuesday, Jan. 28, the Pirates will take a break from league action to take on the 2A Del Norte Tigers in Del Norte at 7 p.m.

The Tigers are 3-6 on the season.



Photo courtesy Pagosa Springs High School

Creede Dozier lofts toward the basket during play against the Ignacio Bobcats on Jan. 18 in Ignacio. The Pirates went on to defeat the Bobcats 46-40 to claim their first conference win of the season.

Ski area's 85th Winter Bonus Fun Race results announced

Wolf Creek Ski Area

On Jan. 12, Wolf Creek Ski Area welcomed an eager crowd of 60 racers for the third fun race of the season. With a few clouds in the sky and a perfectly groomed course, the event provided an electrifying atmosphere for skiers of all ages and skill levels to showcase their talents.

The fastest time of the day was recorded by Dan Hultgren, of Pagosa Springs, who dominated the Men's 36-40 category with an incredible time of 26.08 seconds. This stellar performance set the tone for a day filled with remarkable racing efforts.

Among the women, Lauren Cummings, from Concan, Texas, made an impressive debut as a first-time racer, taking gold in the Women's 21-25

category with a time of 35.68 seconds.


Other standout performances included Lindsay Braun, of Pagosa Springs, in the Girls' 6-8 division, who clocked in at 34.41 seconds to secure the gold medal, and Bralee Inman, from Durango, who took first place in the Women's 26-30 group with a time of 28.47 seconds.

On the men's side, the Boys' 12-14 division saw fierce competition, with Rylan Soden, of Pagosa Springs clinching gold with a time of 29.16 seconds. Garrett Dempsey, from Mississippi, earned gold in the Men's 26-30 group with a strong performance, finishing in 29.23 seconds. The Men's 41-50 category also featured a thrilling contest, with Casey Bristow narrowly beating Scott Burkett to take gold with a time of 29.30 seconds, just

0.07 seconds ahead of Burkett.

Wolf Creek Ski Area's Fun Race Series continues to deliver excitement, and the season's next events are just around the corner. Join us for the Groundhog Day Race on Feb. 2. The 85th Anniversary Fun Race will take place on Feb. 9, with the Presidents' Day Race closing out the month on Feb. 16.

Fun Races are open to participants of all ages and abilities, with 14 age brackets ranging from 3 to 70 and up. Registration is free with a lift ticket and takes place at Raven's Nest from 9:30 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. on race days. Additional sign-ups are available at the top of the course until 12:30 p.m. Awards for each race will be held at 3 p.m. on the Sundeck, with medals awarded to the top finishers in each category.



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.

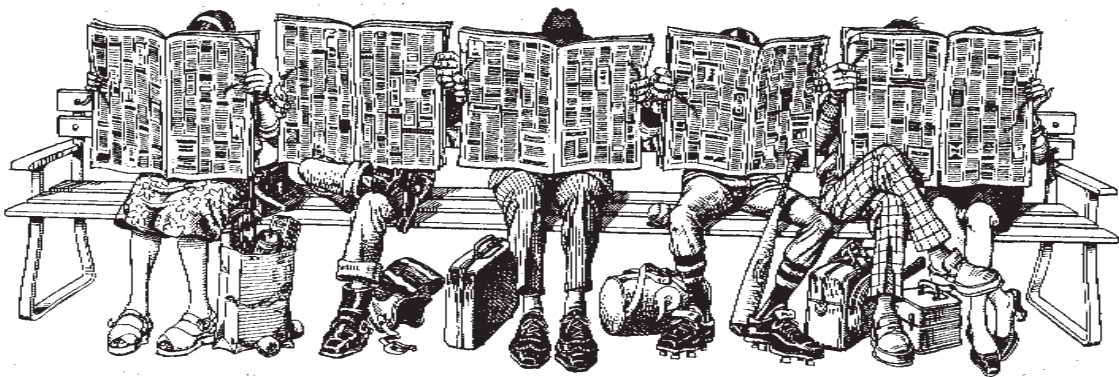
The guide will be mailed in one edition of The Pagosa Springs SUN to subscribers. A digitally enhanced version of the guide will be online at PagosaSUN.com and ExplorePagosa.com. The Pagosa Area Tourism Board will provide a link to this guide on visitpagosasprings.com.

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

Thursday wouldn't be Thursday without ...



The Pagosa Springs SUN

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Mastercard Visa Check enclosed
Account number _____
Expiration date _____ CVV _____
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

preview

ARTS & LIFE

Late Night at the Library

4:30 to 7:30 p.m. • Saturday, Jan. 25 • Sisson Library



Photo courtesy Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library Friends and Foundation

Late Night at the Library set for Jan. 25

By Leslie Cole

Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library Friends and Foundation

Enjoy an evening of craft making with friends, and delicious food and drink, at the next Late Night at the

Library on Saturday, Jan. 25, from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.

At this fundraiser for the Mountains of Opportunity Building Campaign to expand and renovate the library, guests can make Valentine's Day cards and crafts, and learn or

practice the art of origami.

Dinner and drinks are included for this 21-and-older evening.

Space is limited; purchase advance tickets, \$50, at Ruby Sisson Memorial Library (cash or check) or at pagosalibrary.org.

Healthy Archuleta to host Growers and Producers Forum

Healthy Archuleta

Healthy Archuleta's Growers and Producers Forum meets monthly now that the holidays are over, bring-

ing interesting topics for discussion and learning.

This month, the forum will meet on Thursday, Jan. 30, from 4 to 5 p.m. at the library.

The topic deals with an important local resource, geothermal heat, and will be discussed from different points of view.

Kirsten Skeehean will bring to light past efforts here in Archuleta County to locate new sources and harvest the heat for commercial purposes.

Courtney King will share some impressions and photos of Iceland's

use of geothermal heat to supply the country with greenhouse produce.

Next month, Chris Frederics will contrast his experience growing produce in a geothermally heated dome, the Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership's Education Dome in Centennial Park, with growing outside on his own farm.

This is a great opportunity for our local growers and producers to network and learn from one another.

To learn more about Healthy Archuleta, please visit www.foodcoalition4archuleta.org.

WHIPS luncheon set for Jan. 28

By Nancy Ford

Women Helping in Pagosa Springs

WHIPS, Women Helping in Pagosa Springs, will have their monthly luncheon Tuesday, Jan. 28, at 11:30 a.m. at Ramon's Mexican Restaurant.

The cost is \$20. We must have you RSVP to (970) 946-1895 by Sunday, Jan. 26.

All women are welcome.

Subscribe to The SUN at PagosaSUN.com

Live Performers

Thursday

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

Friday

The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Jackson Mountain Ramblers, 5 p.m.

Saturday

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

Tuesday

The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Rock N' Rebels, 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



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

PAGOSA BAR
460 Pagosa Street



eat drink gather

City Hall CAFE & GRILLE

TRY SOME OF OUR DELICIOUS



Prime Steaks
Seafood • Pastas • Subs
Wraps & Salads

Eat In or Take Out

Open Tue-Sat
11 am-9 pm

Full Bar & Extensive Wine List
Homemade Key Lime Pie

Call Today to Reserve
Our Private Gondola
970.398.2409

 2151 Eagle Drive | cityhallcafe.co | 970.398.2409



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

Shop the SUN classifieds.

Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership provides update

By Laura Hamilton
Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership

The Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership (GGP) is thriving as we enter 2025, with exciting developments and community initiatives on the horizon.

In 2024, we welcomed five new members to our board of directors. Joining Pauline Benetti, Keith Bruno, Sally High, Chad Hodges, Andrew Mylroie, Cameron Parker, Jenelle Syverson and Robin Young are Chris Frederics, Christina Knoell, Sherry Murphy, Tarrie Parker and Laura Hamilton.

Our mission is to educate the community in sustainable agricultural practices. Producing food year-round using local renewable energy remains at the forefront of our efforts.

Dome updates and soil rejuvenation

The Education Dome, which has been closed for soil restoration and facility maintenance, just welcomed its first two classes of students in January.

Behind the scenes, our team of volunteers has been hard at work improving soil structure, replenishing nutrients and enhancing microbial activity to ensure optimal growing conditions for our plants. The new students will be learning about all things growing and have already brought so much excitement to the newly revitalized space.

In our commitment to maintaining all our facilities, we will soon begin the soil restoration and repair process in the Community Dome. This temporary closure is a necessary step to ensure the continued success of our community gardening initiatives, and it is essential for maintaining the long-term health and productivity of our greenhouses.

Community engagement and fundraising

The GGP board is holding a summit this month to realign our organization with our core mission and purpose. We're excited to plan a series of engaging events for the coming year that will bring our community together and showcase the incredible potential of geothermal greenhouse gardening.

As we undertake these important maintenance and improvement projects, we're reaching out to our supportive community for assistance. The costs associated with dome repairs and soil rejuvenation are significant, and your contributions can make a real difference. Every donation, no matter the size, helps us continue our work in sustainable agriculture education and community engagement.

Looking ahead

The GGP is more committed than ever to serving our diverse community. We're excited about the possibilities that 2025 holds and are grateful for the continued support and enthusiasm of Pagosa Springs' residents.

We invite you to stay tuned for announcements about upcoming events, volunteer opportunities and ways to get involved with the GGP.

Please check out our Facebook at

Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership or Instagram at [pagosaspringsggp](https://www.instagram.com/pagosaspringsggp) for the latest information and links to our donation pages.

Together, we can continue to grow food and community connection with local energy, making Pagosa Springs a model for sustainable living. Your support and involvement are crucial to our success. We look forward to seeing you at the greenhouses soon and sharing in the bounty of our collective efforts.

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/0089acc4-0a1d-4518-bf70-7c14f2bd18be/findTime>

Or call: (970) 731 1162



SALE \$22.99

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



STAY READY AND PREPARED FOR THE SEASON

Stay Warm & Prepared



ACE REWARDS EXCLUSIVE! **SAVE \$1 INSTANTLY**

PEAK® Windshield Wash, 1 Gal. 8050281, 8050272. Limit 4 each.



\$8.99

Rocky Mountain Pellet Company
40# Wood Pellet Fuel
4318960



ACE REWARDS EXCLUSIVE! **SAVE \$3 INSTANTLY**

Pine Mountain® 3 Hr. Fire Log or Crackle Fire Log 6/Pk.; or 4 Hr. Java Log Fire Log 4/Pk.**
4367918, 4335550, 4531638
NO LIMIT.



ACE The helpful place.

SALE \$79.99

Perfect Aire® Oil-Filled Electric Heater
4010209



\$6.59

Quikrete
50# Premium Play Sand
58173



\$8.99

Quikrete
60# Tube Sand
5095021



\$749.00

EGO® POWER+ 56V 21" Single-Stage Snow Thrower
7024673
21" Single-Stage Snow Thrower with Two 7.5 Ah Batteries & Charger, 7009696...\$849.00.



\$999.00

EGO® POWER+ 56V 21" Single-Stage Auger-Propelled Snow Thrower
7012132



\$1,499.00

EGO® POWER+ 56V 24" Self-Propelled Two-Stage Snow Thrower
7008474



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.



See our ads on [TerrysACE.com](https://www.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

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

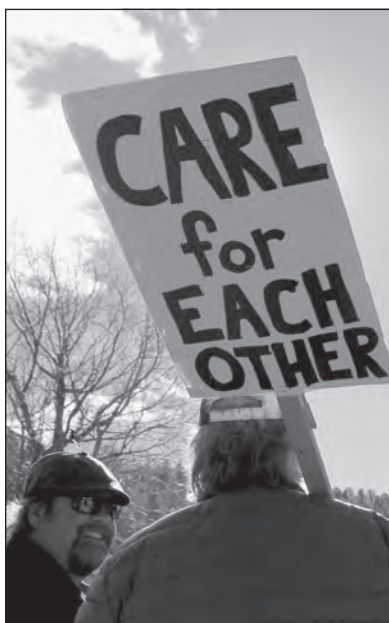
Ask us about
30% OFF
battery powered snow blowers
WOW!

PAGOSA SCENE . . .



MARCH FOR EQUALITY

PREVIEW photos/Garrett Fevinger
 Scene ... gathering for the March for Equality on Jan. 18 through downtown Pagosa Springs. Community members waved flags and carried homemade signs with messages lifting up American ideals such as freedom, liberty and neighborly love.



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

LIVE MUSIC
 DANCING
 OPEN MIC
 KARAOKE

We've expanded!
 Now accepting new clients.

Pawlished
 Pet Salon & Boutique

By appointment only
 Tues-Sat 9:30-5:00
 970-585-WAGS (9247)

444 Lewis Street, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
 pawlishedpetsalon.com
 pawlishedpetsalonandboutique@gmail.com

Men, do yourself a favor and ...

let Rosie help you choose your wife's bamboo pajamas at PJ'S for Valentine's Day ...

... and you can also talk fishing with PJ.

A great date night idea!

Bugs & Brews
 Fly Tying Class

February 17
 To register

March 17
 To register

Local Discount **Free Gift Wrapping**

262 PAGOSA ST. UNIT 103 (970) 946-6415 PJSFINEBAMBOO.COM

Toys available for checkout for toddler fun and learning

By Carole Howard
PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

If your toddlers are bored with their toys and want something different to play with, here's good news: We have developed a collection of toys for children aged 3-6 that are available for free checkout — and they're geared to learning as well as fun.

Examples include multicolored magnetized blocks and tiles in a variety of shapes like squares, triangles and pie shapes that toddlers can use to build whatever their creativity and interests desire. Other toys are gears, a loom kit and a flower garden building set — and more are on the way.

While the kids play, parents and caregivers can take advantage of guides to help make the toys tools to develop skills including spatial thinking, color perception, fine motor skills and hand/eye coordination.

All sets can be checked out for three weeks. We hope you enjoy this latest addition to our children's services designed to support your child's earliest development.

Save the date for Friends book sale

Please mark your calendar for next Saturday, Feb. 8, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. when the Friends of the Library will host a popup book sale in the large meeting room of your library. Also, please see the new donations guidelines below if you are intending to donate books to the Friends.

Live and online author talks

Today, Thursday, Jan. 23, from 1 to 2 p.m., we will host local author Patty Latham at a free session where she will discuss her three popular published books, all set in Pagosa, that feature veterinarian Josie Tate.

Preceding that live talk is a free online author talk at noon in our New York Times bestselling authors series showcasing Amanda Montell, author of "The Age of Magical Overthinking: Notes on Modern Irrationality." For details and to register, go to <https://library.org/pagosalibrary/upcoming>.

Potholder party tomorrow

Join us Friday, Jan. 24, from 2 to 3:30 p.m., when all ages are invited to make those potholders you made as a kid and create new ones. All materials are supplied at this free event.

Adult knitting Saturday

Join new and experienced knitters Saturday, Jan. 25, 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.

Shakespeare read-aloud

Library News

Shakespeare fans of all ages are invited to join in reading aloud "The Comedy of Errors" that began Monday, Jan. 13, and will run 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. Registration is required.

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.

Online author talk

Our highly popular free online author talks continue next Tuesday, Jan. 28, at 11 a.m. when Seth Fishman will discuss "An Inside Look at Working with a Literary Agent." For details and to register, go to <https://library.org/pagosalibrary/upcoming>.

Dungeons and Dragons

Next Tuesday, Jan. 28, 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.

Elementary tutoring sessions

Children ages 6 to 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 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 'For Dummies' books

We have five new "For Dummies" guides covering artificial intelligence, probability, statistics, trigonometry and iPhone for seniors.

Other nonfiction

"The Cancer Journey" by Dr. Chadi Nabhan is a Johns Hopkins
■ See Library on next page

LIVE MUSIC

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



Friday,
January 24th
Jackson Mountain Ramblers

Saturday,
January 25th
Maxwell Miller

Tuesday,
January 28th
Rock N' Rebels

Join us for
Wine Down Wednesday
on January 29th!
(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



Order of the Eastern Star

Peace and Harmony Chapter 158
no Masonic affiliation required

Meets second Wednesday 7 p.m.
227 Lewis Street • Masonic Lodge

For more info, call (970) 946-8201 or (505) 927-9182

Library

■ continued from previous page

Press book dealing with diagnosis, treatment, recovery and prevention. "Essential Wilderness Navigation" is a guide to finding your way with or without a map, compass or GPS. "Preserving with a Purpose" by Sarah Thrush is a canning and preserving book with 125 recipes. "Instant Pot, Air Fryer and Slow Cooker Cookbook" is a Taste of Home book with more than 130 recipes. "Watercolor in Nature" by Rosalie Haizlett teaches how to paint woodland wildlife and botanicals with 20 beginner-friendly projects. "Knitting Design" by Sharon Turner shows how to fashion your own knits from a master pattern. "Knitting Socks" by Ann Budd contains 16 patterns. "More Last-Minute Knitted Gifts" by Joelle Hoverson has 30 ideas for elegant gifts for all levels of knitters.

Large print westerns

"Some Die Young" by William W. and J.A. Johnstone is book two in the Man from Waco series. "Riders of the Skull" by John D. Nesbitt is a murder mystery. "On the Royle Range," also by William W. and J.A. Johnstone, is book three in the Forever Texas series.

Other large print

"The Serviceberry" by Indigenous scientist Robin Wall Kimmerer considers how our economy is rooted in scarcity, competition and the hoarding of resources. "Close to Death" by Anthony Horowitz is a Hawthorne and Horowitz mystery. "We Three Queens" by Rhys Bowen is a Royal Spyness mystery. "The Baxters Devotional" by Karen Kingsbury offers 30 timeless truths from the author's popular fictional family.

Books on CD

"An Honored Vow" by Melissa Blair is the final book in the Halfling Saga romantasy series. "How To Sleep at Night" by Elizabeth Harris revolves around a family after a member decides to run for Congress as a Republican. "Immortal" by Sue Lynn Tan is a romantic fantasy about a young ruler fighting to protect her kingdom.

Mysteries, suspense and thrillers

"Triangle" by Danielle Steel features an art gallery owner in Paris. "The Mistletoe Mystery" by Nita Prose is a Molly Gray mystery involving a Secret Santa gift exchange. "Bellevue" by Robin Cook is a medical thriller. "Golden Hour" by Brett Battles features Stuart Woods' characters Teddy Fay and Stone Barrington.

Other novels

"Lazarus Man" by Richard Price follows the lives of residents after their tenement collapses in East Harlem. "The Book Swap" by Tessa Bickers tells of a pen pal relationship written in the margins of books. "Lula Dean's Little Library of Banned Books" by Kirsten Miller reveals the clever way a busybody censor of books is foiled. "The Husbands" by Holly Gramazio is a humorous look at swapping husbands. "The Mystery of Time" by Kaliane Bradley features a civil servant working on a top secret project. "Trial by Fire" by Danielle Steel focuses on a Parisian woman trapped in a Napa Valley wildfire. "First Lie Wins" by Ashley Elston highlights a nice Southern girl with a perfect life who doesn't exist.

New donations guidelines

Please note these new donation guidelines established by the Friends of the Library for their book sales that help supplement the library collections and fund other requests that benefit your library.

When we are open, high-quality used book donations are gratefully accepted at the front desk — not down the outside returns slot at the library or the drop box at City Market, please.

Books on time-sensitive topics that can quickly become out of date are wanted only if they have been published within the last five years. These subjects include politics/current events, health and medicine, sports/exercise, business, technology, science, education and travel guides. Not accepted are reference materials, textbooks and nonprint material like CDs, DVDs, Blu-ray,

VHS or cassette tapes because they do not sell at Friends of the Library sales.

No more than two boxes at a time because of space constraints and ensure all books in excellent condition, please.

This week we want to thank our many anonymous donors for their generous donations, especially those who responded to the 2025 goal of Barb Brattin, our library di-

■ See Library on next page



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

**NEXT GEN
 EXCAVATION**

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



PSMC Expert Pulmonary Critical Care

Offering diagnosis and treatment for a variety of lung conditions including asthma, COPD, emphysema, lung cancer, sleep apnea and more. Dr. Holcomb is accepting new patients.

PAGOSA SPRINGS
 Medical Center

First-Class Care Close To Home

970.731.3700 | 95 S. Pagosa Blvd | pagosaspringsmedicalcenter.org



HERE FOR YOUR HEARING, ALL WEEK, EVERY WEEK



- hearing evaluation
- tinnitus treatment
- ear cleaning
- hearing aids
- hearing protection
- repair

HURST HEARING 

hear well, live well

Pagosa • 970 444-2314 • hursthearing.com
 Dr. Hurst and Dr. Melton, 2343A Eagle Drive



Photo courtesy Friends of the Library
Ken Morrison, a lifetime member of the Friends of the Library since 1984, is pictured here with **Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library Director Barb Brattin**. Morrison won a copy of "Lost Birds" by Anne Hillerman. The book was a timely donation, as it was also the first book read by the new Just Friends Book Club. The club, open to all Friends members, met for the first time on Jan. 13. Many had purchased copies of the book when the author visited Pagosa Springs last fall. To join the Friends of the Library, visit PagosaLibrary.org or email Donna Mosher at donnamosher@icloud.com.

H&R BLOCK
 is happy to announce that
JoAnn Howell
 has joined our office!
 Call or visit her at
 (970) 731-1080 • 100 Country Center Drive, Ste H

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

Library

■ continued from previous page
 rector, to improve and expand our nonfiction collection. Please see the Jan. 9 "Library News" column for more details.

Quotable quote

"Trust is like the air we breathe — when it's present, nobody really notices; when it's absent, everybody notices." — Warren Buffett, American investor and philanthropist who is chairman and CEO of Berkshire Hathaway and one of the best known

investors in the world.
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>.

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.

- ★ 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.

Community news.

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. 25, 10 a.m.: Veterans "Thank-you For Your Service Day." Veterans are welcome to receive a free day of massages, reflexology, Reiki and healing sessions, foot baths, pedicures and more from local therapists and healers at the SpiritFire Center for Inspirational Living. Sign up now for your free sessions by contacting (970) 510-0309.

Jan. 27: New moon drumming

circle with Shayla Azriel. A love donation will be accepted.

Jan. 28, 5:30 p.m.: Illuminations presentation: "Happy Face Hands and Feet" with Kathy Forrest, Tibetan reflexologist and counselor. Join in for a fun evening while getting a foot soak at the same time. A love donation will be accepted.

About us

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

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

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

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

Pagosa Bible Church to host The Alpha Course

By Regan Powell
Pagosa Bible Church

The Alpha Course is coming to Pagosa Springs beginning Jan. 27 with the chance to explore the meaning of life.

C.S. Lewis said, "Christianity, if false, is of no importance, and if true, is of infinite importance. The only thing it cannot be is moderately important."

If it is of "infinite" importance, then perhaps it is time to hear the evidence for the birth, death and

resurrection of Jesus.

Alpha is a series of video talks with discussion breaks about questions of life, such as: What's the purpose of life? How can I have faith? How can a book written over 2,000 years ago have any relevance to my life today?

Why did Jesus die? What is the evidence for the resurrection? How and why do I pray? How does God guide us? Who is the Holy Spirit and what does He do? Does God heal today?

You are invited to join the conversation around life, faith and meaning.

If you're looking for a judgment-free space to ask hard questions, share your own opinion or not say anything at all, there's a place for you. Everyone is welcome, no matter your background or beliefs.

The Alpha Course is hosted by Pagosa Bible Church. Each evening will include dessert and coffee. Child care will be provided.

The course will start on Monday, Jan. 27, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. and run weekly through April 7.

Register at www.pagosabiblechurch.org under the Alpha banner.

Preview Calendar

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

Thursday, Jan. 23

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.

Online Author Talk: Amanda Montell. Noon, virtual. "Notes on Modern Irrationality" with bestselling author Amanda Montell. For details and to register, go to <https://library.org/pagosalibrary/upcoming>.

Author Talk: Patty Latham. 1-2 p.m., Sisson Library. Local author Patty Latham will discuss her Napa Valley Vets and Josie Tate trilogy.

Art Class. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center. Make simple printed cards for

seniors for Valentine's Day. All supplies will be provided.

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

■ See Calendar on next page

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

Ruts Driving You Nuts?

Save money on gas and maximize your tire life with a high-definition digital wheel alignment using the latest technology from HawkEye™ and Pagosa Springs' most qualified technicians.

10% OFF

Vehicle Alignment

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 friendly Pros at Piedra Automotive for details.

Offer ends 2/28/25

10% OFF

Full Service Oil & Filter Change

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 friendly Pros at Piedra Automotive for details.

Offer ends 2/28/25

Piedra Automotive

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

24 Hour TOWING & EMERGENCY ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE

{N}POWER® PRICING ONLY!

NATURAL GROCERS
good4u
MEAL DEALS™

HEARTY CHILI
FEED UP TO 4 PEOPLE
FOR UNDER \$15*

Valid Through March 31, 2025

*Price excludes tax. Terms and conditions apply. See store for details.

UNDER \$4.00 PER SERVING



Scan the QR code to download our app or visit NaturalGrocers.com/join to join {N}power and start saving!

Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page 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.

Creation Care Pagosa. 5:30 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. The meeting will be a potluck. Bring a dish to share. The meeting will be devoted to setting specific goals and actions for the years.

'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. 24

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

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

Potholder Party. 2-3:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Remember those potholders you made as a kid? Re-create a memory and make a new one.

Pagosa Springs Varsity Girls' Basketball. 5:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Pagosa Springs vs. Alamosa.

Pagosa Springs Varsity Boys' Basketball. 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Pagosa Springs vs. Alamosa.

Planetary Parade Viewing. 7 p.m., Yamaguchi Park. Join the Pagosa Sidewalk Astronomers for a 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 dim headlights as soon as possible.

'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. 25

Pagosa Springs Varsity Girls' Basketball. 12:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Pagosa Springs vs. Montezuma-Cortez.

Knitters Circle. 1-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Join new or experienced knitters to get help with your project, or sit and knit.

Pagosa Springs Varsity Boys' Basketball. 2 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Pagosa Springs vs. Montezuma-Cortez.

Late Night at the Library. 4:30-7:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Make Valentine's Day cards and crafts, and learn the art of origami. Dinner and drinks are included. For those 21 and older. A fundraiser for the Mountains of Opportunity building campaign to expand and renovate the library. Tickets are available at the library or pagosalibrary.org.

Planetary Parade Viewing. 7 p.m., Yamaguchi Park. Join the Pagosa Sidewalk Astronomers for a 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 dim headlights as soon as possible.

Sunday, Jan. 26

'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. 27

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

Women's Fellowship. 9 a.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms.

Brain Fitness and Mobility. 10-10:45 a.m., Senior Center. For anyone 21 and older.

Senior Conversations. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

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.

The Alpha Course. 6:30-8:30 p.m., Pagosa Bible Church. A series of video talks with discussion breaks about questions of life. Dessert, coffee and child care will be provided. Register at pagosabiblechurch.org.

■ See Calendar on next page

PLPOA Gymnasium and Recreation Facility Know the Facts

These statements are generated from the 2023 Strategic Plan and the Revised Recreation Master Plan Nov. 14, 2024. These documents are available at PLPOA.com.

1. PLPOA Strategic Plan, June 8, 2023: No mention of Recreation Master Plan with New Gym, Multipurpose Athletic Field, Parking Lot, Hot Tub and Lap Pool.
2. Updated Nov. 14, 2024 Recreation Master Plan developed by the Board of Directors and General Manager with a total cost of \$5,377,009.00 to be constructed over the next 5 years to implement.
3. Phase I, 2024: New 52-space parking lot, \$300,500.00. Parking lot has been installed before being approved by a vote of PLPOA members.
4. Phase II, 2025: New Gymnasium, \$2,000,000.00. No bleachers or restrooms.
5. Phase III, 2027: Construct Multi-purpose Athletic Field and Restrooms, \$1,200,000.00.
6. Phase IV, 2028: Install new outdoor hot tub, \$80,000.00.
7. Phase V, 2030: Construct Lap Pool, \$1,796,509.00.
8. Total Investment over next 5 years \$5,377,009.00, with no additional overhead, operational, or unknown expenses figured in the budget.
9. The Board of Directors has also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Archuleta County. In return for financial support and assistance in applying for state grants, the new Recreational Complex will be made available to non-PLPOA youth, clubs and organizations.
10. This should be a project for Archuleta County in order to service the full community, not the PLPOA.

DO YOU WANT TO BECOME THE RECREATION DISTRICT FOR THE COUNTY AT OUR EXPENSE? **NO.**

website: plpoa.info

Call PLPOA, 970-731-5635, and make sure they have your email for communications and voting information.

Paid for by Concerned Citizens

Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

Tuesday, Jan. 28

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.

Online Author Talk: Seth Fishman. 11 a.m., virtual. "An Inside Look at Working with a Literary Agent" with Seth Fishman. For details and to register, go to <https://libraryc.org/pagosalibrary/upcoming>.

WHIPS (Women Helping in Pagosa Springs). 11:30 a.m., Ramon's Mexican Restaurant. The cost is \$20. All women are welcome. An RSVP to (970) 946-1895 by Jan. 26 is required.

Bridge. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

Hand and Foot Card Game. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center. No experience is necessary, so come willing to learn.

Mahjong. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

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.

Pagosa Springs Varsity Boys' Wrestling. 5 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Pagosa Springs vs. Cortez.

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

Men's Fellowship. 6 p.m., Pope John

Paul II Catholic Church classrooms.

Wednesday, Jan. 29

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

Introduction to Pickleball. 8:30-11 a.m., Ross Aragon Community Center. Register on the Pagosa Springs Parks and Recreation page at <https://secure.rec1.com/CO/pagosa-springs-co/catalog>.

Kids Kare. 9:30-11:30 a.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park 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.

Bridge. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

Mindful Drawing. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

Elementary Tutoring. 3:30-4:30 p.m., Sisson Library. After-school tutoring in reading and math for grades 1-3. Registration required. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information or to sign up.

Thursday, Jan. 30

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. Mem-

bers will provide support, resources and guidance for each other.

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.

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

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

Friday, Jan. 31

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

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

■ See Calendar on next page



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

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.)



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**

Mountain Men



Disaster Mitigation

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

Tickets available for Valentine's Day soirée

By **Rose Chavez**
PREVIEW Columnist

Join us for the first Pagosa Springs Valentine's Day Soirée Fine Food and Wine Pairing on Feb. 14 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Ross Aragon Community Center, 451 Hot Springs Blvd.

Enjoy a selection of exceptional curated wines, savory appetizers and delicious chocolates, all crafted by local artisans. Live music from the gifted Gus Palma will enhance the evening's ambiance.

The soirée will also feature a silent auction with unique items and fantastic door prizes. This event invites everyone — singles, couples, and groups — to enjoy an unforgettable evening while supporting Archuleta Seniors Inc. (ASI).

Tickets are limited, so don't miss out. Purchase tickets at <https://givebutter.com/ValentinesWinePairingSoiree>, call (970) 264-2167 or visit our office.

Why fundraise?

Poverty rates for individuals aged 65 and older in Archuleta County have risen from 5.2 percent to 9.0 percent, impacting approximately 1,300 individuals.

The soirée is crucial for raising funds to support essential health and social services for vulnerable older adults and family caregivers in our community.

Poverty in rural America presents barriers to vital resources for all age groups, but older adults are especially vulnerable, including experiencing barriers to: health care, healthy food and affordable housing, among other critical supports.

ASI operates independently as a nonprofit, relying on public and private funding, donations and more than 70 community volunteers. Unfortunately, funding sources have been unstable, making your support vital for our efforts to serve the community effectively.

Impact of ASI

Since 2023, more than 1,000 unduplicated older adults and care-

Senior News

givers in Archuleta County have benefited annually from our signature nutrition program, which offers nutritious meals served in a welcoming environment.

In 2024 alone, we provided approximately 35,000 meals, including deliveries to homebound older adults, a convenient grab-n-go service and dine-in/socialize options.

Annually, we also serve more than 600 unduplicated older adults and caregivers via facilitating quality referrals to local organizations/agencies, providing social connection and support through various activities, including community clinics, fun games, educational classes, discussion groups, and creative and empowering community events.

Volunteers needed to make valentine cards

The next free art class at the Pagosa Senior Center will be Thursday, Jan. 23, at 1:15 p.m.

Put some heart into your art. Join us in making simple printed cards for Valentine's Day for our homebound adults on Meals on Wheels and congregate meal participants. This is a perfect opportunity for those looking to serve their community, volunteer and have some whimsical fun.

No art skills are required, just willingness to have a good time. All supplies will be provided, and there is no cost or registration required. Just show up and get ready to paint.


The instructor for this class is the talented and warm Becky Crowe, a former art teacher and volunteer extraordinaire. She is also a printmaker, has had her artwork published and creates greeting cards for all types of occasions.

For more information, please contact ASI at (970) 264-2167.

Scrapbooking and crafters club

The Pagosa Springs Scrapbooking 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

■ See Senior on next page



Trinity Anglican Church

*At a marriage feast the wine runs out.
Jesus' mother tells him.
He points to six empty 20-gallon jugs.
They fill them with water.
When poured, it is fine wine.
What happened? Come Sunday, 10am.*

246 Harman Park Dr.
trinityanglicanchurch.org



WINTER BLOWOUT SALE

15% OFF

firearms

20% OFF

optics

Check out our other in-store specials!

20% OFF

ammo



Wayne's WILD WEST GUNS
aka. PAGOSA GUNS

56 Talisman Dr Unit 8K • (970)731-4869

Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

Porter at ceflittlekids@gmail.com.

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

Friday Flix. 2-3:30 p.m., Sisson Library. For all ages. Join for a family-friendly film and snacks.

Saturday, Feb. 1

Pagosa Springs Varsity Boys' Wrestling: Crossover Duals. 10 a.m., Pagosa Springs High School.

LEGO Play. 11 a.m.-noon, Sisson Library. For ages 6-11. Bring your

own LEGOs or use the library's to free build.

Pagosa Springs Varsity Girls' Basketball. 2:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Pagosa Springs vs. Centauri.

Pagosa Springs Varsity Boys' Basketball. 4 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Pagosa Springs vs. Centauri.

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.



Photo courtesy Archuleta Seniors Inc.
The free art class at the Pagosa Senior Center at 1:15 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 23, will include making printed cards for Valentine's Day for homebound adults on Meals on Wheels and congregate meal participants. No art skills are required, just willingness to have a good time. All supplies will be provided, and there is no cost or registration required.

**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.

Senior

■ continued from previous page

the dining hall in the 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. Those 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.

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 effortlessness 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

Join us Mondays through March 3 from 10 to 10:45 a.m. at the 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 all 21 physical skills needed for life-long optimal health functioning.

Emotional Freedom Technique sessions

Join us at the Senior Center the second Wednesday of each month, to participate in the popular, ongoing "Tapping" class (also known as EFT, or Emotional Freedom Technique) from 10 to 11 a.m. that is free and open to all ages and walks of life.

The next session is Feb. 12.

The first half of the class is learning or reviewing the technique, and the second half of the hour is practicing the technique and answering questions.

This is a supportive, fun and informative class taught by Judith Newman, LPC, who has been in private practice for 23 years.

EFT is an evidence-based, self-regulating technique using acupuncture trigger points as well as elements from other therapeutic practices. Extensive research shows EFT to be effective in lowering both psychological and physical symptoms of anxiety, depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, insomnia, stress and more.

This technique is easy to learn and then use any time you want to lower your anxiety, gain clarity about emotional challenges and increase your ability to work with difficult transitions in your life.

Join the class and improve your well-being; meet new people in the

■ See Senior on next page

SUDOKU

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

Level: Beginner

Fun By The Numbers

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

Here's How It Works:

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

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

ANSWER:

Senior

■ **continued from previous page** community; support yourself and others while learning a powerful, helpful tool; find new ways to deal with insomnia, stress and change.

For more information or questions, please contact Newman at (505) 577-0194 or ASI at (970) 264-2167.

Meals on Wheels volunteers needed

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

We serve thousands of nutritious meals annually in Archuleta County, and volunteers deliver Meals on Wheels and friendly visits/wellness checks to homebound older adults.

We depend on more than 55 volunteers annually to help us serve and deliver meals and provide other wrap-around services.

The cost of each meal is \$10.50, but we only ask for a suggested donation of \$6 per meal. Meal recipients are asked to contribute what they can afford, and no one is ever turned down.

Meals are delivered Monday through Friday. Participants must be at home to receive meals. Meals will not be left.

Meals on Wheels volunteers receive background checks and training prior to delivery. Typically a volunteer shift is one day a week from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. depending on the size of the route. Staff works closely with volunteers to allow for periodic breaks.

If you are interested in volunteering, please stop by the ASI office at 451 Hot Springs Blvd. to pick up an application. Questions? Please call ASI at (970) 264-2167.

Healthy aging and yoga therapy classes

The Healthy Aging Yoga Series continues to be offered in person at the Senior Center on Mondays from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

It is structured by therapeutic yoga tools and techniques with chair movement, standing stretches, gentle postures, breathing practices and reflective meditative moments.

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

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

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

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

Stretching and mobility class

Community members are invited to attend free weekly classes every Tuesday this fall and winter from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. at the Senior Center.

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

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

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

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

Bingo

The Senior Center continues to host free community bingo games twice a month on Friday afternoons from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

The dates to kick off 2025 are Jan. 31, Feb. 14 and 28, and March 7 and 21.

Bring yourself and a friend for an hour of joyful fellowship. We will provide prizes from local businesses for all winners, and snacks will also be provided.

No RSVP is required. Help us create an intergenerational community.

All ages are welcome, but we ask those 18 and younger to come with an adult chaperone. Seats are first come, first served.

For more information, contact us at (970) 264-2167.

Senior Conversations

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

Salmansohn brings to our conversations a variety of topics designed to stimulate discussions within a safe and comfortable environment as we explore our well-being and shared experiences.

This is a unique opportunity to connect with others living within the Archuleta community for friendship and togetherness.

Snacks will be provided.

Afterward, hosted by Robin Williams, is a get-together created for those who wish to continue the conversation. This opportunity is typically from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m., following Senior Conversations.

The group occasionally reconvenes as an informal gathering at various local restaurants.

Share lunch Monday through Friday

Open to all. 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.

■ **See Senior 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

HOW EXERCISE LOWERS YOUR BLOOD PRESSURE

Exercise has proven to be a great stress reliever and blood circulator. Therefore, it isn't hard to believe that it even benefits blood pressure.

Examine the evidence in today's excerpt. Flexibility and strengthening exercises such as lifting weights are an important part of an overall fitness plan, but it takes aerobic activity to control high blood pressure. And you don't need to spend hours in the gym every day to benefit. Simply adding moderate physical activities to your daily routine will help.



Any physical activity that increases your heart and breathing rates is considered aerobic exercise, including:

- Household chores, such as mowing the lawn, raking leaves or scrubbing the floor
- Active sports, such as basketball or tennis
- Walking
- Bicycling
- Climbing stairs
- Jogging
- Swimming

The American Heart Association recommends you get at least 150 minutes of moderate exercise, 75 minutes of vigorous exercise or a combination of both each week.

Aim for at least 30 minutes of aerobic activity most days of the week. If you can't set aside that much time at once, remember that shorter bursts of activity count, too. You can break up your workout into three 10-minute sessions of aerobic exercise and get the same benefit as one 30-minute session.

Source: Exercise: "A drug-free approach to lowering high blood pressure." <http://www.mayoclinic.org>

Bonus Tip: Visit <http://www.AmazingFacts.org> for spiritual refreshment every week!

"And make straight paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way; but let it rather be healed." Hebrews 12:13

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

Senior

■ continued from previous page

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. 23 — Beef pot roast with root vegetables, dinner roll, garden salad, cottage cheese, fruit and milk.

Friday, Jan. 24 — New England clam chowder with oyster crackers, broccoli, garden salad fruit, chocolate cake and milk.

Monday, Jan. 27 — Singapore coffee ribs (pork), squash casserole, garden salad, fruit, orange blossom muffin and milk.

Tuesday, Jan. 28 — Beef Marsala with mushroom sauce, scalloped potatoes, dinner roll, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Wednesday, Jan. 29 — Teriyaki chicken with quinoa rice pilaf, sauteed greens, garden salad, fruit, peach pie and milk.

Thursday, Jan. 30 — Cod and shrimp Veracruz, roasted asparagus, garden salad, vanilla yogurt, fruit and milk.

Friday, Jan. 31 — Chicken and dumplings, roasted cauliflower, garden salad, fruit, cranberry nut muffin 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.

Mahjong

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

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

Medicare call by appointment

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

Mindful drawing

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

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

Bridge

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

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

Hand and foot card game

Whether you are new to hand and foot or interested in learning, please join us most Tuesdays at 1:15 at the Senior Center.

This card game involves four rounds of playing until the final round is reached — some two to three hours later. Plan to stay and meet some new friends or catch up with those you have missed over the last couple of years.

No experience is necessary, so come willing to learn.

Board vacancies

The ASI Board of Directors has multiple vacant positions open. The terms are three years with an option to renew for an additional term.

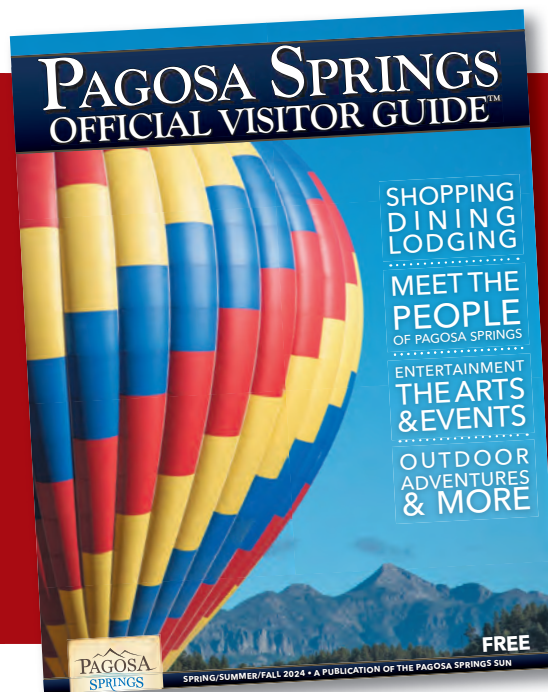
Potential candidates should be at least 21 years of age or older and must have a passion for adult and aging services.



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



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

Bird of the Week



Photo courtesy Charles Martinez

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

This is another bird of the far north that travels to regions like ours to spend the winter. In summer it breeds throughout Alaska and the far northern reaches of Canada, but migrates to western Canada and the northern United States for winter. We are at the southern edge of its winter range.

During migration and in winter, northern shrikes are found in partially open habitats with brushy cover. In all seasons they avoid completely open and densely forested areas.

Northern shrikes are colored gray, have a thick neck, rounded head and thick, hooked bill. They have black feathers in the wings and tail and a black mask that narrows where it meets the bill. They are very similar in appearance to the loggerhead shrike, whose mask is thicker and usually extends over the bill, and whose white undersides lack the barring of the northern's.

This medium-sized songbird is strictly a carnivore and a ferocious hunter. In summer it primarily feeds on insects, with the addition of some small birds and mammals. In winter when insects are scarce, birds and rodents become the main sources of food. Small birds are most commonly taken, but the shrike will also hunt birds larger than itself like robins, jays and doves.

Shrikes lack the talons of larger birds of prey and instead use strong feet to hold their captures down while delivering a killing bite that severs the spinal cord. They are known to kill more prey than they can eat at once, but save the excess for later by hanging it on thorns, barbed wire or notches in trees. This hanging of carcasses from hooks like meat in cold storage has earned them the nickname of "butcher birds."

Even in winter northern shrikes are territorial and aggressive against other bird species. Their hunting territory may be more than 360 acres in size. They are most easily spotted when they occupy a prominent perch to scan for prey. Take a second look at that bird sitting on the wire and you might just find this one.

For information on events, visit www.weminucheadubon.org and www.facebook.com/weminucheadubon/.



Shop
Pagosa
Springs
first.

Your source
for community
news.

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



\$299* per month
LOOK WHAT'S NEW IN 2025!

Website Development

Designed in WordPress and includes:

- ✓ Call Tracking
- ✓ Form Tracking
- ✓ Mobile Optimized
- ✓ Hosting
- ✓ Unlimited Edits
- ✓ ADA Compliant

Search Engine Optimization (SEO)

- ✓ 5 SEO Keywords

Online Display

- ✓ 10K Impressions per month

+\$200

Generate *even more* leads with
Search Engine Marketing (SEM)!

**Just \$499 a month
TOTAL!**

Startup fee \$250 (one time)

*12-month commitment. \$1,000 fee if transferred within one year.



O'ROURKE
MEDIA GROUP

www.orourkemediagroup.com

Contact Caleb Anderson:

Call 561.727.9376

E-mail canderson@orourkemediagroup.com

LPEA announces new battery program, enhanced EV incentives, expanded rebates, webinar

La Plata Electric Association

As National Cut Energy Costs Day shines a spotlight on saving money through energy efficiency, La Plata Electric Association Inc. (LPEA) is proud to introduce its “Resolve to Electrify” campaign.

This 2025 initiative includes new and updated programs designed to help members reduce energy costs; improve home comfort; and contribute to a cleaner, more sustainable future.

“Resolve to Electrify is more than a campaign — it’s a call to action to join LPEA in shaping a brighter energy future,” said Chris Hansen, CEO of LPEA. “Every step we take together — whether it’s installing a battery system, transitioning to electric vehicles or upgrading to energy-efficient appliances — helps us modernize the grid. When we come together as a community, our collective efforts can make a profound impact, not just on our homes, but on the future.”

The “Resolve to Electrify” campaign is grounded in the principle of beneficial electrification (BE) — ensuring the transition to electric technologies delivers net positive outcomes for both individuals and communities.

From lowering utility bills to improving air quality and reducing greenhouse gas emissions, LPEA’s 2025 initiatives, including the launch of the Community Power battery storage initiative, are designed to deliver practical solutions and bring meaningful benefits to members.

Battery Storage Rebate Program

The cooperative announced its first Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) rebate program enabling members to invest in home energy storage.

Members can receive up to \$2,000 in rebates for home battery systems, with an additional bonus rebate of up to \$1,000 for systems in interconnection limited zones.

By storing excess energy from off-peak hours (when it’s cheaper and cleaner) for use during peak demand, members save money and help reduce grid stress. These systems also support demand response, helping optimize energy use during peak times and reduce overall energy costs for the cooperative.

To learn more, visit <https://lpea.coop/battery-energy-storage-systems>.

Electric vehicle (EV) rebates increased

LPEA’s EV program is central to

the cooperative’s commitment to BE, empowering members to reduce their carbon footprint while strengthening the grid.

The program now offers up to \$500 in rebates for Level 2 home chargers of a member’s choice, a significant increase from the previous \$125. With more flexibility than ever, members can build their home charging infrastructure on their own timeline — installing a charger before purchasing an EV to ensure convenient charging from the first day of ownership.

Through LPEA’s time-of-use rate program, members can reduce costs by shifting electricity use to lower-rate periods, making EV charging a simple and effective way to save money while reducing strain on the grid.

LPEA’s EV program isn’t just about driving electric vehicles — it’s about driving a sustainable energy future for all. To learn more, visit <https://lpea.coop/electric-vehicles>.

Expanded all-electric rebates, now for remodels

LPEA is expanding its rebates for members transitioning to all-electric heating and cooling, water heating, and appliances. Residential members building new all-electric homes or completing a fully electric remodel conversion can receive a \$500 bonus rebate.

LPEA members are eligible for this bonus on top of the other rebates available for each specific equipment type. Eligible upgrades include heat pumps, electric heat pump water heaters, induction cooktops, smart thermostats and more — each helping reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promoting energy efficiency.

This all-electric rebate helps make the transition to electrification both financially accessible and environmentally impactful, strengthening the cooperative’s long-term goals for a cleaner and more sustainable future.

To learn more, visit <https://lpea.coop/all-electric-residential-new-construction-or-remodel-bonus>.

“Resolve to Electrify”

To further engage with the new program offerings, LPEA is hosting a special webinar on Wednesday, Jan. 29, at 1 p.m., where members can learn more about the initiatives within the “Resolve to Electrify” campaign.

The webinar will cover the new rebate programs, energy storage options, and enhanced EV incentives, with opportunities for Q-and-A and

■ See LPEA on next page

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

- ACROSS**
- 1 Up to it
 - 5 Mover's challenge
 - 10 Task for Perry Mason
 - 14 USPS concern
 - 15 Key
 - 16 Enthusiastic
 - 17 Facts, briefly
 - 18 Sparkling
 - 20 Kind of diver
 - 22 Geriatrics focus
 - 23 Dieter's no-no
 - 26 Like notebook paper
 - 27 Triumphant cry
 - 29 Male hormone
 - 31 Rock Hudson flick, "___ Come Back"
 - 33 Willing to go along

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

- 37 Haiku, e.g.
- 38 Long suit
- 40 Molten rock
- 41 Toothed wheel
- 43 Up and about
- 44 Producing tears
- 47 Bit of advice
- 48 Use an SOS pad
- 51 College life
- 53 Carl Sagan series
- 55 "Thinking Out Loud" singer Ed
- 58 Pick up speed
- 61 Jazz singer Simone
- 62 Pained sound
- 63 Zealous
- 64 Places for props
- 65 Component
- 66 Bodega, for one
- 67 Qatar's continent
- 4 Wed secretly
- 5 Urban bird
- 6 Cuba, e.g.
- 7 Rope-a-dope boxer
- 8 Surfing site
- 9 Palindromic emperor
- 10 Busch Stadium team
- 11 Flu variety
- 12 Barely burn
- 13 Sharp-___
- 19 Corby of "The Waltons"
- 21 Capone trademark
- 24 Severe
- 25 1959 film, "___ Like it Hot"
- 27 Mont Blanc's range
- 28 Kind of skirt
- 30 "Scram!"
- 32 Compensation
- 34 AA and AAA
- 35 57, to Caesar
- 36 Tombstone lawman
- 38 Dog registry org.
- 39 Red Cross supply
- 42 Actress Channing
- 43 On the calm side
- 45 Tony, to Jeannie
- 46 Cleave
- 48 Rascal
- 49 Winter drink
- 50 Acting award
- 52 Brainy bunch
- 54 Matches, as a wager
- 56 Pro's opposite
- 57 "Hidden Figures" org.
- 59 Squeal (on)
- 60 Long ___

Answers to Previous Crossword:

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

Subscribe to The SUN PagosaSUN.com

How to make the most of your local library

Special to The PREVIEW

Local libraries are invaluable resources for residents, including students and their families.

The value of libraries has been recognized for far longer than many may realize. The Franklin Public Library, opened in 1778 in Franklin, Mass., is considered the first lending library in the United States. Since then, libraries have become integral components of communities across the nation and even the globe.

It's easy to overlook a local library, but residents who resolve to make the most of these venerable institutions can do so in the following ways:

- Get or renew your library card. The first step to making the most of a local library is to sign up for or renew your library card. Each member of the family, including children, can get their own card, which affords access to books on site and often additional texts and offerings the library can request from other branches.

- Acquaint yourself with all the offerings at your local library. Books may be the first thing people think

of when pondering local libraries, and modern branches still maintain extensive catalogs of books spanning the genres. But libraries also offer more than books. Film fans may be surprised to learn libraries typically have extensive catalogs of films that can be borrowed on DVD, and some even allow movies to be streamed through library-affiliated streaming services. Libraries also offer services to adults, including seniors, and children that can range from tax preparation tips to passport application assistance to craft projects for youngsters.

- Utilize the research capabilities of local libraries. Card members have access to a wealth of resources at their local libraries, and that includes research databases that might require paid subscriptions if users try to access them on their own. These databases can help individuals grow their knowledge about the world they live in and prove invaluable to students young and old who are conducting research for school projects.

- Grow your social network. Not

all social networks are grown online. Community-based events and programs sponsored by and hosted at local libraries can be great places to meet neighbors with similar interests.

Local libraries are more than just places to borrow a book. Residents can utilize an array of services to make the most of their local libraries.



Need **MARY KAY?**
I'M YOUR GIRL!

Darcie Sutherland
Mary Kay Consultant
(carrying inventory)
www.marykay.com/DSutherland20 • (970) 529-0464

LPEA

■ continued from previous page

additional guidance from LPEA experts.

To register, visit <https://lpea.coop/events/lpea-resolve-electrify-webinar>.

Additionally, LPEA will host two in-person events:

- Pagosa Springs: Feb. 5 from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library.

- Durango: Feb. 20 from 1 to 4 p.m. in LPEA's BE Lobby.

National Cut Energy Costs Day highlights practical ways to reduce energy consumption and lower utility bills. In addition to rebates, LPEA offers energy efficiency audit rebates for both residential and commercial members. By securing a professional audit and completing at least one recommended upgrade, members can receive up to \$250 for residential properties to help reduce energy costs and improve efficiency.

"This is a true example of community power in action," added Hansen.

"As a cooperative, we're all in this together. By working collectively, we can reduce energy costs and accelerate the adoption of innovative energy technologies. Every member's participation strengthens our community and moves us closer to a sustainable, resilient energy future."

LPEA encourages members to explore the "Resolve to Electrify" programs to take actionable steps toward energy efficiency and sustainability by visiting lpea.coop.

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.



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.*

**Thank you
for supporting
our advertisers!**

NEAT AND TIDY WORD SEARCH



P A C K R A T Z S A A N O I T A N O D V
 Y M M S B B D G P A Q N U A T L L K F G
 P P A E E I G V E R T I C A L S P A C E T
 Z Y D I T L C I Q G N I Y D I T S E N T O
 Q T R E N S B T D G N I C N E U Q E S O B
 R C P G P T Y I Q Z U S T E S O L C B B
 C E O R G U E S T S Z E A B B I D S S B
 B G P M O N R N A C Y C G F P B U R B R
 R R R U M C I G A B E C O A E I E K M K
 T O U E R O R Z I N N L B T R U K O M D
 I U A L R P N A I N C C L G F A E N A A
 M P C A Q E O A S N G E G O E T G Z N C
 F I T B K R T S R T A V B O C V R Q A V
 A N I E I T P T E E I G C F T O S I G Q
 Z G V L V Y E R U R A N R Q I M L I E D
 E D I S G K R Z P L C L A O O U A I M N
 K C T E C K P Y V E C R L T N R I K E F
 E T Y S O R T I N G T E E S I I D L N V
 F I L I N G L O D I T N O B S O E O T C
 S R E N I A T N O C L P O U T L N A Y I

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

- ACTIVITY
- CLOSETS
- CLUTTER
- COLLECTIBLES
- COMMON AREA
- CONTAINERS
- DONATION
- FILING
- GARAGE
- GROUPING
- LABELS
- MAINTENANCE
- MANAGEMENT
- ORGANIZING
- PACKRAT
- PERFECTIONIST
- PROCRASTINATION
- PURGING
- REPURPOSE
- SEQUENCING
- SORTING
- SYSTEM
- TIDYING
- VERTICAL SPACE

Thank you for supporting our advertisers!

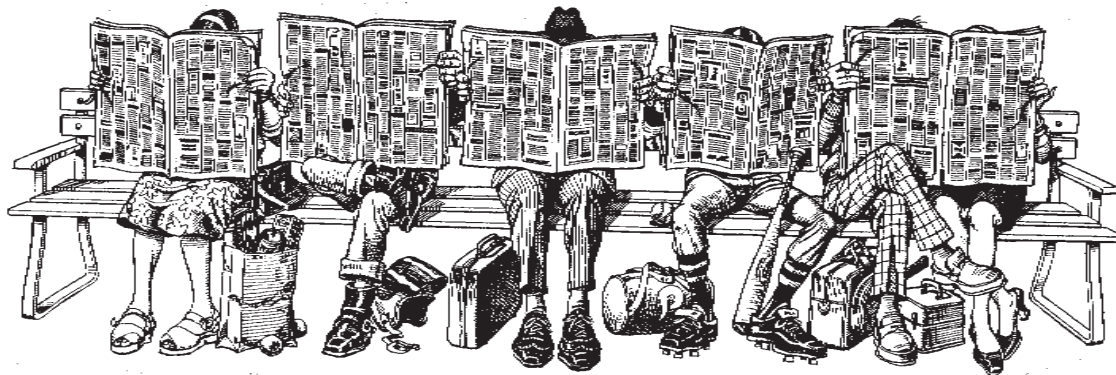
Advertising makes it possible for us to bring you the latest community news.

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

Plenty of food in the pantry

By Betty Slade
PREVIEW Columnist

"Don't open your Christmas card until I tell you what's on my mind." I passed out a card to each of the 12 members of the family. I wondered how they would react when they opened them.

The family sat quietly holding the cards.

"Your dad and I have an expiration date. We don't have many more years of shelf life left, but we have plenty of food in the pantry: knowledge, wisdom, understanding and how to live successfully in this life."

I had their attention. I unashamedly said, "Each of you are getting the same amount of money in your envelope. I'm asking you to take us to lunch and spend the afternoon with us. Your gift will be well spent."

I looked around the room, expecting their eyes to roll, a snide remark, and a lot of, "Oh, Mother. It's always about you." This is one of those moments when someone would say, "Throw mother from the train, a kiss, a kiss." Then the family would laugh and another would say, "I think it's time for Shady Pines."

Shocked and pleasantly surprised by their speechless reaction, I waited. Maybe it was the near-fatal accident when we all realized by God's goodness we are still here. Nothing was said. Maybe it was because they were holding their gift and didn't know the amount of money inside.

I continued, "You will regret it after it's too late if you don't spend time with us. We don't care where you take us. A couple of hours some afternoon where we can talk. Peanut butter and jelly sandwiches on a spread blanket by a stream, or a picnic table in the park, anything will be wonderful. It doesn't matter. You pick the spot and you make the plans. I'm not initiating this time."

Still holding the sealed envelopes, they waited.

I was building my case. "Your dad and I are quite interesting and we laugh easily. We can talk football with you. We know the latest stats with our favorite teams and players. We can talk current news, Bible or Jesus. I've read some interesting books and my Sweet Al keeps up with the People's Magazine each week. He knows who's marrying who, who is on their third divorce and who's in rehab."

I finished. "OK, you can open your envelopes. It's not much, just a little pocket money." I threw in an example. "Last year, one of the most important moments of my life, Creede wanted to spend the day with me. We had read the same book, 'Boys in the Boat.' He drove me to the movie in Durango and we compared our notes about the movie and the book. Creede and I speak on deep-hearted subjects. Afterward, he introduced me to a wonderful place where they serve the best pizza ever. I listened

Artist's Lane

to his ideas about his career and his walk with the Lord."

One year ago, in one of my articles in The Pagosa SUN, I wrote, "Will they cry for me after I'm gone?" "I want to be enjoyable to my children so they don't see my Sweet Al and me as a burden. I want them to know more about us, listen to our stories, glean from our faith in God and find us fun to be with. A strong relationship with each of my family members is what I want to leave behind. I believe it will give them an anchor to hold firm and know who they are and where they come from."

Spencer was the first to react. He brought out his podcast equipment and set it up. He cleared the room so we had total silence. "I want to interview you and Granddad." When we were all seated, he said, "Tell me how you first met. Granddad, tell me when you fell in love, and how did you know it was love? What are some of your favorite hunting stories?"

"Grandma, I heard you sold fake art and you were going to prison. Did you really sell fake art?"

"Yes, I did. And, no, I didn't go to prison. It's a long story."

After we finished, Spencer said, "Thank you. I wanted to preserve your voices for my nephew and niece."

My grandchildren are in their 20s and early 30s. They are all struggling to have careers, two are married, two are waiting for the right girl to come along. They are consumed by life itself. I was once in my 20s and I thought life would wait for me. My whole family has passed on and I only have bits and pieces of my history. I had no idea what my mother was thinking and she would probably be too embarrassed to speak on heart things. Who knows?

Final brushstroke: I'm looking forward to a few luncheon dates and get-to-know-you kind of talk this next year. It will be interesting to see who will step up and who has already forgotten my request.

Reader comments

"Stay True to Yourself. I love your article. So precious! And it's true we can still stay true to ourselves even with a little influx from time to time. Pagosa truly has been able to keep her charm through the ages. And we do change and grow as humans, thankfully. I like how your style gives way to grace and it reminds me of aging gracefully. And although we were never meant to suffer, grow old, and die when we know God's purpose for us as human beings we can still joyfully endure the influx til

He brings an end to the wickedness and ushers in the brightness. Thank you, Big Christian Love, Michelle H. Pagosa Springs"

Send your comment to bettyslade.author@gmail.com.

Views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN.

RENT A CAR

PAGOSA AUTO RENTS

- Local
- Nights and Weekends
- Delivery Available!



Visit pagosaautorents.com



(970) 585-9181

Make life sound extraordinary with Infinio.

PHONAK
life is on



Infuse every moment with exceptional sound quality and comfort from the first use with Audéo Infinio. Featuring technology that transcends the limits of hearing care like never before, Phonak Infinio helps you hear the world with ease and confidence. Embrace life's meaningful moments.

- Brand new ultra-responsive ERA chip brings a new level of digital signal processing for exceptional sound quality
- Better speech understanding and reduced listening effort, resulting in feeling less tired at the end of the day
- Swiss engineering
- Receiver in the ear



Feel empowered with hearing aids that connect to more Bluetooth® devices than any other hearing aids in the world.

- Allows for up to 8 Bluetooth® enabled devices to be paired while 2 can be simultaneously connected
- Shifts seamlessly between acoustic and streaming — adapts automatically ensuring not a word or beat slips by

Unsure if you need a hearing aid?

Call to schedule your FREE Hearing Aid test.

Take advantage of this money-saving offer

\$500 OFF MSRP

Advanced Technology Hearing Aids.

Coupon expires January 31, 2025

Ears 2 U Hearing Aid Center

Locally owned and operated for 19 years

190 Talisman Rd. Ste. C-3 • Pagosa Springs

Call 970-731-4554 to schedule your appointment
coloradohearingaid.com



Gennette Erickson
Owner,
Hearing Aid Specialist

Radon Risks in Archuleta County: 34 percent of homes exceed safe levels

By Daniel Pacheco
CU Cancer Center

Radon gas is the leading cause of lung cancer among nonsmokers, responsible for approximately 500 deaths each year in Colorado.

If you smoke, exposure to radon can further increase your risk for lung cancer. You can't see, smell, or taste it, but radon can harm your health.

Radon is a gas found in soil and moves into the air through cracks in home foundations and walls.

About half of the homes in Colorado have high radon levels, putting you and your family at risk of harm by radon gas. Testing your home is

easy with a simple do-it-yourself radon test kit.

From 2005-2023, 921 do-it-yourself radon test kits were used in Archuleta County. There are an estimated 6,133 homes in Archuleta County, so more homes should be tested for radon.

About 34 percent of homes tested for radon in Archuleta County have radon levels above the Environmental Protection Agency action level of 4 pCi/L, meaning those homes should take measures to reduce dangerous radon levels. Don't delay; order your free radon test today.

The CU Cancer Center Office of Community Outreach and Engage-

ment, with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE), are offering free radon test kits to Colorado residents.

These kits are available while supplies last. Visit <https://bit.ly/COERadon> to order a free test kit. If your home has elevated radon levels, the CDPHE has a low-income radon mitigation program for those who need assistance.

Visit www.ColoradoRadon.info to learn more about radon, find a radon mitigation professional or explore mitigation assistance options.

Man 2 Man Prostate Cancer Support Group to meet virtually Feb. 4

By Dion Hollenbeck
Man 2 Man Prostate Cancer Support Group of Durango

The Man 2 Man Prostate Cancer Support Group will meet at 7 p.m. on Feb. 4 via Zoom.

Our group consists of survivors of prostate cancer and men who have

been diagnosed with prostate issues, including BPH and cancer.

We discuss experiences with resources, diagnosis and treatments for the disease. Anyone is welcome.

For more information and a Zoom invite, please contact prostategroupdro@gmail.com.

Your source for community news and event information.

The Pagosa Springs SUN
264-2100

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



Wilderness Journeys Pagosa, Inc
Call 970-731-4081 for scheduling
PUC # 16400, DOT# 2842985, MCT# 0021

Safe2Tell Colorado

(877) 542-7233

Anonymously report anything that concerns or threatens you, your friends, your family or your community.

Half Page Ad

Buy One, Get One FREE!

For the month of **February only**, purchase a 1/2 page ad in The Pagosa Springs SUN or PREVIEW, get the **second week FREE!**

Requirements: A minimum of 2 half-page ads must run in February 6 through 27, 2025 editions. Must be the same ad for both insertions, runs do not need to be consecutive. Business' main office must be located in Archuleta County. Offer not available for color ads. Limited to the first 10 advertisers.

It's the Best Deal of the Year.
What Are You Waiting For?

Call your friendly, knowledgeable and experienced advertising representatives to reserve your advertising space today.

970.264.2100

The Pagosa Springs **SUN**

Publishing Visitor Guides in Pagosa Springs for over 30 years
Publishing the Official Newspaper of Archuleta County since 1909

A look at food insecurity

Special to The PREVIEW

Hunger is a feeling most people can relate to. At one point or another, just about everyone has felt a hunger pang so strong it can feel like it's been ages since they've eaten so much as a morsel of food. Hunger is not a part of daily life for many people, while for others it's an everyday occurrence marked by uncertainty about when and where a next meal may come from.

Food insecurity is a legitimate concern for millions of individuals across the globe. The accessibility and availability of food may make it seem as though individuals in developed countries like the United States are unlikely to go to bed hungry at night, but nothing could be further from the truth.

In fact, Feeding America notes that 47 million people in the United States, including children, experience food insecurity annually. Greater recognition of food insecurity may compel action that can ultimately ensure no one goes to bed hungry at night.

What is food insecurity?

Feeding America notes food insecurity occurs when people don't have enough to eat and don't know where their next meal will come from.

How common is food insecurity?

Feeding America reports food insecurity is a major problem in the United States, where the group notes 47 million people, including 14 million children, experience it each year.

Statistics Canada reports that just under 17 percent of Canadians were food insecure in 2022.

And the issue of food insecurity in North America is just part of the problem, as the World Health Organization notes that 2.33 billion people

globally faced moderate or severe food insecurity in 2023.

What causes food insecurity?

There's no single culprit behind food insecurity, though Statistics Canada notes that prices of food purchased from stores increased by 9.8 percent between 2021 and 2022.

Though it's important to avoid identifying inflation as the lone cause of food insecurity, that spike in prices undoubtedly had something to do with the 4 percent spike in Canadians who were food insecure in 2022 compared to 2021, when 12.9 percent of individuals living in Canada were food insecure.

Rising food prices undoubtedly contribute to food insecurity, but a report from Feeding America identifies additional variables that have made the issue a systemic problem and global concern:

- **Poverty and unemployment:** People who live in poverty cannot afford to buy food regularly, and many live in places where the accessibility of affordable, healthy food is lacking.
- **Lack of affordable housing:** Individuals who are paying exorbitant costs for housing may not have enough left over to pay for food, even if they are careful with their money and good at saving.
- **Chronic health conditions:** Individuals with long-term health problems may struggle to maintain a job that enables them to purchase food. In addition, medical bills associated with chronic health conditions can be expensive depending on where a person lives, leaving little money to buy food.
- **Racism and discrimination:** Feeding America notes that individuals who are members of marginalized communities, including LGBTQ individuals, people of color and those

with disabilities, are at greater risk of food insecurity due to systemic discrimination and poverty.

Food insecurity is a significant issue across the globe. More information about food insecurity and what can be done to combat it is available at feedingamerica.org.

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?



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

DEFENDING YOUR RIGHTS FOR OVER 18 YEARS



DANIEL SHAFFER
LAW

Reputation. Respect. Results

Contact for a **FREE CONSULTATION**

970-549-2225

DANIELSHAFFERLAW.COM

15% OFF **SPRING SALE**

Exterior Staining & Painting

All bids given during spring will include discount.

Highest Quality Products

Commercial and Residential Work • Fully Local

Spent over \$80,000 at our local

Sherwin Williams last year in products

BOOK NOW FOR 2025

Unsure? Ask us for a FREE estimate
We stained over 75 homes in 2024!

Ask to see some of the 600+ residential and commercial properties we've stained in the area.

Call us today
Adrian Cantu
970-880-2769

OnceATreePs@outlook.com

Once a Tree, LLC



It's cold — and dangerous — outside for those with Alzheimer's

Alzheimer's Association

Winter weather conditions — colder temperatures, snow, ice and early darkness — are potentially dangerous and even life-threatening for the 91,000 Coloradans with Alzheimer's or other dementias.

For their 177,000 unpaid family caregivers, the stress and challenges of keeping loved ones safe during this time can be overwhelming. By preparing in advance, caregivers can anticipate and avoid the risks posed by winter weather.

"People living with Alzheimer's and other dementia can be vulnerable during winter weather because their judgment may be impaired and they may be unable to communicate discomfort," said Jim Hammelev, executive director for the Alzheimer's Association of Colorado. "It's really important to take extra precautions with these individuals when there is severe winter weather, snow or ice, particularly if they are at risk for wandering."

To help anticipate the challenges posed by winter weather, the Al-

zheimer's Association offers these tips:

- Take advantage of the daylight. Winter months bring decreased sunlight and shorter days. Visual perception can be a challenge for those living with Alzheimer's or other dementias, and can cause increased confusion or disorientation in dark or shadowy environments both inside and out.

- Prevent wandering. Wandering is one of the most frequent and challenging problems that caregivers face and can be extremely dangerous in colder conditions. Shorter days during winter months can also increase the risk of "sundowning." Monitor closely for agitation or restlessness as day transitions into night. The Alzheimer's Association offers tips to combat sundowning: <https://www.alz.org/help-support/caregiving/stages-behaviors/sleep-issues-sundowning>.

- Bundle up. Help the person living with Alzheimer's dress warmly for winter weather conditions by wearing dry, loose-fitting layers and covering exposed skin.

- Buddy up. In an Alzheimer's

Association survey, a whopping 84 percent of caregivers said they would like more support in providing care for someone with Alzheimer's or another form of dementia, especially from their family. It can be hard for caregivers to find time to complete simple tasks outside of the home. Don't hesitate to ask others for help with errands, grocery shopping or snow/ice removal.

- Prevent slips. Balance and mobility can be a challenge for a person living with Alzheimer's or dementia. Assume all surfaces are slick. Assist the person by taking smaller steps and slowing down so they can match gait and speed to a safer level.

- Be prepared. Winter storms can be dangerous. Check weather conditions regularly and have emergency plans in place.

More safety tips can be found at www.alz.org. The Alzheimer's Association 24/7 Helpline also provides reliable information and support to all those who need assistance. Call the Helpline toll-free 24 hours per day at (800) 272-3900.



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

★★★★★
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

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!

The impact of reading on cognitive decline

Special to The PREVIEW

Aging and change go hand in hand. Although some may bemoan the gray hairs that start to arrive or stiffness in the knees that seems to sneak up on a person in middle age, such concerns are not necessarily enough to lose sleep over. However, many people 50 or older are nervous about the potential for cognitive issues like dementia as they grow older.

The Alzheimer's Association estimates that 6.7 million people have Alzheimer's disease in the United States.

Alzheimer's disease and other dementias can rob people of their memories, personalities and abilities to live satisfying, independent lives. While it may not be impossible to prevent all cognitive issues completely, there is reason to believe that reading could be an ally in cognitive care.

The American Academy of Neurology states that reading stimulates the brain and has been shown to slow down cognitive decline in old age. Reading also may help slow down memory loss.

The powers of reading were no-

ticed more than 10 years ago when a 2013 study from researchers at Emory University measured readers' MRI scans as they read books. They found the deeper readers went into a story, the more areas of their brains were activated. This activity remained elevated for several days after participants finished their books. The more a person reads, the stronger complex networks in the brain become.

Additional evidence that reading can help the brain was noted by researchers at the Texas A&M School of Public Health. A 2024 study suggests that older people with mild cognitive impairment who engage in high levels of activities like reading, hobbies and word games have better memory, working memory, attention and processing speed than those who do not take part in such endeavors.

Furthermore, a 2021 study published in Neurology found that high levels of cognitive activity, like reading and writing letters, can delay the onset of Alzheimer's disease by five years among those age 80 and over.

Reading can keep brains functioning optimally and potentially delay age-related cognitive decline.



COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

GREAT POTENTIAL

2 buildings and one parcel. The front of the building is a gallery and workshop. The back unit is an office set up which was a clinic in the past. There is also a Quonset hut on the back of the property. The gallery fronts Highway 160 and parking is on Eagle Dr and Trinity Ln. Included with the gallery are gallery lights, display fixtures, refrigerator and office furniture. There are 2 offices in the gallery, the back unit has a formal reception area with 2 larger offices, 2 smaller offices and 2 more small flexible rooms. Also, the roof was recently replaced.



Eagle Drive
\$590,000
MLS # 819518



Cloman Industrial Park
\$380,000
MLS # 819174



.68 acre, 1440 square foot commercial building. There is enough property to build another building or make a large wrap around parking lot. There is a 3000 BTU gas heater and a 40 gallon hot water heater. The doors and walls have a 90 minute fireproof rating. Walls are removable so the floor plan could be opened up. There is a kitchen sink, stove and dishwasher, half bath and the overhead door is 8' x 10'.



Mountain & Meadow
Real Estate
office: 970.264.6673
409 Lewis Street
P.O. Box 3850
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147



Shellie Hogue
REALTOR®, BROKER
C: 970.759.8109
ShellieCHogue@gmail.com
www.shelliehogue.com



Shop the SUN classifieds.

The moral code of the Lone Ranger

By Shanna Robb
PREVIEW Columnist

A Matter of Faith

"The Lone Ranger" was first aired by WXYZ radio station in Detroit, Mich., on Jan. 31, 1933.

Over the past 92 years, while opinions vary as to whether the leading character was based on a real person or not, the consensus is that the "good triumphing evil" theme is one of the key reasons the classic western is considered an enduring icon of American culture.

The main character and storyline have sparked a television series and left a trail of novels, toys, films and comic books. Considered one of the most popular children's television shows of all times, millions of children have tuned in to watch good overcome evil.

Born at the end of the baby boomer generation, I recall watching television reruns that unfolded Hol-

lywood's version of the Wild West and the enthusiastic, "Hi ho (or yo), Silver, away."

While learning more about the Lone Ranger, I stumbled across a moral code that caught my attention. The code was written by the creators of the popular series.

To my surprise, the closing statement of the code is "In my Creator, my country and fellow man."

As I unveiled the moral code of "The Lone Ranger," I discovered many Christian undertones. For instance, "God put the firewood there, but that every man must gather and light it himself" and "That all things

change but truth, and truth alone lives on forever."

Researching the story behind the story, I wondered if the writers were influenced by scripture found in the Bible. Were they aware of Romans 12:21 that states, "Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good" or John 14:6 that clarifies the truth?

In my research I could not find proof of what or who the writers of "The Lone Ranger" referenced. One can only hope that they aimed to create a hero and a storyline that was aligned with their own upbringing based on "religion, history, culture, or a mix of those sources."

As for our own story, unlike "The Lone Ranger," we are encouraged to shed our masks and be reassured by Isaiah 41:10 that we are not alone.

And when it comes to living according to a moral code, the good news is that it is clearly outlined in the Ten Commandments found in the best-selling book of all time, the Holy Bible.

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.

Unitarian Universalists to focus on acts of service Sunday

By De Anna Hoyle
Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

On Monday we honored the legacy of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. as a day of service. In 1994, the King Holiday and Service Act was signed into law, as then Congressman John Lewis and former Sen. Harris Wofford proposed the legislation to encourage Americans to find common causes to improve their communities.

As stated on the website of the National Museum of African American History and Culture, the MLK holiday is "a day on, not a day off."

Since then, many take the day to do acts of service toward building community.

The Pagosa Unitarian Universalist (UU) Fellowship is gathering the fourth Sunday of the month in its upcoming programming to do acts of service. We have committed to a Share-the-Plate, which will donate to causes in line with our values centered in love.

This Sunday, Jan. 26, we will be putting together care kits that we will offer to those who may be supported

by them.

The conversation we will introduce as we work on the care bags will include the idea of mutual aid. This focuses on understanding and acknowledging our shared humanity and to not make assumptions about others. We want to be in partnership with those affected, and the UU Fellowship is committed to lifelong learning as we confront the issues that affect the marginalized people in our community and the wider world.

Join us for Action Sunday as we make friends, grow our spirits and do good works.

Pagosa UU Fellowship in-person services are normally on the first and third Sundays of the month at 10:30 a.m. The second Sunday is the Going Deeper Sharing Circle, also at 10:30 a.m.

Find us in Unit B-15 of the Greenbriar Plaza, 301 N. Pagosa Blvd., on the north side facing Pagosa Peak.

We welcome diversity and invite everyone to share in our faith community.

Visit our website, www.pagosauu.org, to find our current newsletter.

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

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



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

PagosaSUN.com

PAGOSA SPRINGS #1 DISPENSARY **OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK 270 E. PAGOSA ST.**

WIDEST SELECTIONS  **KINDEST BUDTENDERS**

50% OFF** SELECT CONCENTRATES & FLOWER STRAINS

★ WE ARE HIRING
PLEASE APPLY AT [INDEED.COM](https://www.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.

REACH TOURISTS COMING TO PAGOSA SPRINGS with the Pagosa Springs Official Visitor Guide, summer edition. Promote your business to your customers in 30,000 copies of the guide. These will be distributed locally at The Springs Resort, Walmart, Wyndham, the visitor center and other area establishments, at welcome centers throughout Colorado and mailed to SUN subscribers. View the guide on pagosason.com, explorepagosa.com and visitpagosasprings.com. Deadline for advertising is February 21, 2025. Distribution of the guide will begin in late April. Call The Pagosa Springs SUN today for rates and information at (970)264-2100 or email shari@pagosason.com.

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

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.

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

GREAT MASSAGE PRICES
All Messages include a Soak!



OVERLOOK HOT SPRINGS SPA
Downtown Pagosa 264-4040

THINK HAIR
THINK ELIZABETH
970-903-5152

AMMA LEE SPIRITUAL LIFE COACH. Get unstuck. Call (970)779-0185.

Email **classads** @**pagosason.com** to submit your classified. **PagosaSUN.com**

REACH TOURISTS COMING TO PAGOSA SPRINGS with the Pagosa Springs Official Visitor Guide, summer edition. Promote your business to your customers in 30,000 copies of the guide. These will be distributed locally at The Springs Resort, Walmart, Wyndham, the visitor center and other area establishments, at welcome centers throughout Colorado and mailed to SUN subscribers. View the guide on pagosason.com, explorepagosa.com and visitpagosasprings.com. Deadline for advertising is February 21, 2025. Distribution of the guide will begin in late April. Call The Pagosa Springs SUN today for rates and information at (970)264-2100 or email shari@pagosason.com.

FIREWOOD
Snow Removal



FIRE & ICE
Call Dan • (970) 582-0006

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

REMODELING
NEW ADDITIONS
COMMERCIAL



BWD
(970) 731-9700

The Water Runner

Certified Bulk Potable Water Delivery
Cistern Deep Cleaning

You call, we haul!
Since 1999

(970) 731-5022
Chadd Carnley, owner

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.

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.pagosaspringsstorage.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.

REACH TOURISTS COMING TO PAGOSA SPRINGS with the Pagosa Springs Official Visitor Guide, summer edition. Promote your business to your customers in 30,000 copies of the guide. These will be distributed locally at The Springs Resort, Walmart, Wyndham, the visitor center and other area establishments, at welcome centers throughout Colorado and mailed to SUN subscribers. View the guide on pagosason.com, explorepagosa.com and visitpagosasprings.com. Deadline for advertising is February 21, 2025. Distribution of the guide will begin in late April. Call The Pagosa Springs SUN today for rates and information at (970)264-2100 or email shari@pagosason.com.

(970) 264-2100

Classifieds

(970) 264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

SERVICES



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

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

SERVICES

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.

TOO MUCH ON YOUR TO-DO LIST? I'm here to help. Marlene (719)850-3055.

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.

HELP WANTED

COLORADO DREAM HOMES is looking for painters and finish carpenters. Work year round! Paid time off 48 hours per year. Paid holidays and bonuses. Pay will be based on experience. Please bring resume to Colorado Dream Homes office 2283 Eagle Drive 8-5, or call (970)731-3071 for information. You can also submit a resume to coloradodreamhomesinc@gmail.com.

COME AND JOIN THE COLORADO DREAM HOMES TEAM! In business for over 30 years. We work year-round, very busy. Full Time 8a.m. -5p.m. (1) hour lunch. Monday thru Friday. Position available for purchasing decorating items for clients and tracking client expense budgets on Excel. Assistant to the lead decorator, in time this position will become the lead decorator. Client filing. Fill in answering phones. Must KNOW EXCEL! Paid time off 48 hours per year, paid holidays, bonuses. Starting pay \$20.50 per hour /Salary 40 hour week. 30 day review then raise eligible, based on knowledge. Must have good people skills, and will be working directly with owners. Happy working environment! Please call (970)731-3071 for information or drop by our office, 2283 Eagle Drive, or you can email resume at coloradodreamhomesinc@gmail.com. Position open immediately.

HELP WANTED

GROWING, LOCALLY OWNED home health team looking for caring, compassionate CNAs and Nursing Assistants (willing to train) to help individuals maintain independence at home. We provide complete care management based on individual needs and preferences. We offer competitive wages and certification assistance. Contact cathy@compassionate-care.solutions or (970)507-0051.

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.

New Construction Remodeling • Houses Garages • Barns • Decks

Licensed, insured & references
Plans drawn & submitted



Call Rick
(970) 946-1737



Remodeling Security Checks Snow Removal

High Meadows Properties, LLC
Call today (970) 403-2263

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.

DENTAL HYGIENIST, Dental Assistant, and Medical Assistant. Are you looking to work for a great team of health care professionals and make a difference in your local community? Axis Health System is seeking a Dental Hygienist, Dental Assistant, and a Medical Assistant to support the growth of our Pagosa Springs Integrated Healthcare location. Benefits include: all Paid Leave, Health, Dental, Vision, Life, Short Term Disability and 401k. Apply online at www.axishealthsystem.org and select "Join Our Team." Axis Health System is an equal opportunity employer, and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability status, protected veteran status or any other characteristic protected by law.

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.

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

CUSTOM HOMES



(970) 731-9700

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.

EMPLOYMENT: PLPOA DCS ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT A full-time position, including benefits, with the Department of Community Standards in the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association. Under the direction of the Department of Community Standards Manager, the Administrative Assistant is responsible for performing a variety of routine and complex clerical, record-keeping, and administrative functions to support the operation of the Department of Community Standards. Permitting, planning documents, construction knowledge, and bilingualism are a plus. Please submit a resume and reference letter(s) to the Administration office at 230 Port Avenue, attention DCS Manager, or email dcs.manager@plpoa.com; the application close date is February 15, 2025.

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.

REACH TOURISTS COMING TO PAGOSA SPRINGS with the Pagosa Springs Official Visitor Guide, summer edition. Promote your business to your customers in 30,000 copies of the guide. These will be distributed locally at The Springs Resort, Walmart, Wyndham, the visitor center and other area establishments, at welcome centers throughout Colorado and mailed to SUN subscribers. View the guide on pagosasun.com, explorepagosa.com and visitpagosasprings.com. Deadline for advertising is February 21, 2025. Distribution of the guide will begin in late April. Call The Pagosa Springs SUN today for rates and information at (970)264-2100 or email shari@pagosasun.com.

PAGOSA SECURE STORAGE

80 Bastille Dr. • 970-731-8599
Storage units & parking spots
Special rates available
pagosaspringsrealty.com



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

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.

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.

ROOF LABORER NEEDED with some construction experience. Will train. \$20-\$25/ hour to start. (970)749-0830.

Email us at
classads@pagosasun.com
to submit your classified.
PagosaSUN.com

RIVERSTONE CARPET CLEANING. 25 cents/sq. ft. and \$3 per stair. No hidden charges. Owner/operator 20 years experience. Professional, trustworthy and punctual. 100% eco-friendly. Call Mike at (970)403-9222. Credit cards accepted with no fee. Hallways and closets always free.

(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

BWD Construction is NOW HIRING!



Office Assistant:
Detail oriented,
tech savvy, must be
able to lift
incoming orders.



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.

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

THE TOWN OF PAGOSA SPRINGS is seeking to hire a **Building Code Official** in the Development Division. The individual selected for this position shall be responsible for coordinating building inspections and permit-related activities. Performs a variety of routine and complex technical, professional, and administrative work in plans review and analysis, inspection, and enforcement to determine compliance with all applicable building codes and ordinances as well as accepted standards relating to buildings within Town limits. This is a full-time position with benefits. For more information on the position and to apply, go to the Town's website at www.pagosasprings.co.gov and select Employment.

THE TOWN OF PAGOSA SPRINGS is seeking to hire an **Equipment Operator I** in the Public Works Division. The individual selected for this position will perform a variety of entry-level, skilled, and technical duties related to the construction, installation, maintenance, and repair of the Town's streets, sidewalks, alleys, and related infrastructure. This is a full-time position with benefits. For more information on the position and to apply, go to the Town's website at www.pagosasprings.co.gov and select Employment.

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.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

REACH TOURISTS COMING TO PAGOSA SPRINGS with the Pagosa Springs Official Visitor Guide, summer edition. Promote your business to your customers in 30,000 copies of the guide. These will be distributed locally at The Springs Resort, Walmart, Wyndham, the visitor center and other area establishments, at welcome centers throughout Colorado and mailed to SUN subscribers. View the guide on pagosasan.com, explorepagosa.com and visitpagosasprings.com. Deadline for advertising is February 21, 2025. Distribution of the guide will begin in late April. Call The Pagosa Springs SUN today for rates and information at (970)264-2100 or email shari@pagosasan.com.

SMALL CRANE BUSINESS FOR SALE. National Crane truck, business, client list, and all attachments come with business. Inquire at (970)903-2381.

FOR SALE

2 MATCHING LAZY BOY recliners, \$250, one only \$150. Taurus Judge with holster, ammo, \$450. Tikka 300 Short Mag, scope, slings, ammo, padded case, extra mags, \$1250. Instant Pot air fryer 8-quart, \$150. Call Bill (303)378-1185 in Pagosa.

ASPEN, DOUG FIR AND PINE Free delivery. (970)903-0731.

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.

GOLD FOR SALE. One ounce krugerrands for sale for \$60 over spot at San Juan Trading Post. By appointment only. Ask for Ryan (970)946-2409.

FOR SALE

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.

REACH TOURISTS COMING TO PAGOSA SPRINGS with the Pagosa Springs Official Visitor Guide, summer edition. Promote your business to your customers in 30,000 copies of the guide. These will be distributed locally at The Springs Resort, Walmart, Wyndham, the visitor center and other area establishments, at welcome centers throughout Colorado and mailed to SUN subscribers. View the guide on pagosasan.com, explorepagosa.com and visitpagosasprings.com. Deadline for advertising is February 21, 2025. Distribution of the guide will begin in late April. Call The Pagosa Springs SUN today for rates and information at (970)264-2100 or email shari@pagosasan.com.

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).

PETS

ADOPT FROM THE Humane Society. Stop by or call (970)731-4771. You'll be amazed at what we have to offer, www.PagosaHumane.org.

AKC FRENCH BULLDOG PUPPIES Blue/ Gray. Ready to go Mar. 21, health tested parents, chipped, wormed, shots, lifetime support. \$3,500. (719)640-6404. www.Dun-eViewFrenchies.com.

DOGGY DAY CARE 81147.COM. Open 365 days of the year! Full day and half day doggy day care and overnight boarding. Conveniently located just 1 mile from downtown Pagosa. Call (970)264-9111.

FOR POOCH SAKES GROOMING. Appointments available with Kelly (303)819-2015. Mobile appointments with Barb (970)903-1290.

PETS

LOVING DOG CARE BY LESLIE N. Text Pet Info to (469)667-4480. Boarding, day care, drop ins, house sitting. References and reviews available. Look for info on: leslieslittles.com.

AUTOS

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

ATTENTION TREASURE HUNTERS! Lost Contact Info. Recently, I lost most of the contact information from those who reached out about Estate Sales By Elizabeth, LLC (Dropped the phone and hadn't backed things up!). If you contacted me or joined our exclusive text list, please get in touch again to stay updated on upcoming sales and deals! I will keep a paper copy this time. Text (719)291-2318 to rejoin. I apologize for the inconvenience—your next great find is waiting! Happy hunting! Follow me on Facebook also: Estate Sales by Elizabeth, LLC.

BE SURE TO CHECK for more yard sales in the Too Late To Classify section.

COMMERCIAL FOR RENT

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.

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.

SMALL MOTEL AND RV PARK hiring part-time maintenance person. 20 hours per week. Pool and spa knowledge helpful but not required. Pay depending on experience. Call (970)731-5345 for more information.

Email us at
classads@pagosasan.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



COMMERCIAL FOR RENT

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

HOMES FOR SALE

LAND/ BUILDING SITES

LAND/ BUILDING SITES

DOWNTOWN OFFICE Upstairs with skylight. Month-to-month, \$325/ month including utilities, internet and shared kitchen. No smokers. No pets. (970)946-2728.

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.

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

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.

IF YOU'D LIKE TO SPEND some time in a two bedroom cabin, here is the spot. A month or more, new flooring, new appliances, heated with electric and wood stove that keeps it warm. \$1,500 per month. It all depends on how long you'd like to stay. Can be furnished or not. Please leave a message, (970)731-2010.

LONG TERM RENTALS AVAILABLE. Call Team Pagosa (970)731-8599, 117 Navajo Trail Dr., pagosaspringsrealty.com.

LONG-TERM RENTAL. Lake Pagosa/ mountain views, 2 bedrooms, 3rd bedroom/ office, 2 1/2 baths, 3 decks. \$2300/ month, some utilities included. No smoking, pets negotiable. Available March 1. (505)250-5362.

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.

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.

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.

REACH TOURISTS COMING TO PAGOSA SPRINGS with the Pagosa Springs Official Visitor Guide, summer edition. Promote your business to your customers in 30,000 copies of the guide. These will be distributed locally at The Springs Resort, Walmart, Wyndham, the visitor center and other area establishments, at welcome centers throughout Colorado and mailed to SUN subscribers. View the guide on pagosahun.com, explorepagosa.com and visitpagosasprings.com. Deadline for advertising is February 21, 2025. Distribution of the guide will begin in late April. Call The Pagosa Springs SUN today for rates and information at (970)264-2100 or email shari@pagosahun.com.

LAND/ BUILDING SITES

1.1 ACRE WITH RV GENERATOR and system tank, circular drive in, tall cool pines. NO HOA! \$75k. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

1.1 ACRE WITH TALL PINES on flat buildable land with drive in. NO HOA! \$70k. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

1.19 ACRES WITH VIEWS OF NAVAJO LAKE. All utilities nearby. \$99,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

1.48 ACRE LAND. Highway frontage. \$99,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

.28 ACRE LAND County Road 982 frontage \$55,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

3 FLAT BUILDABLE ACRES. Great mountain views, water cap and driveway in. Power to the property, fully fenced, corners marked. \$300k. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

.35 ACRE LAND County Road 982 frontage \$55,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

FANTASTIC VIEWS with electricity, concrete floor garage on 1 acre for \$195,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

MOUNTAIN VIEWS, MEADOWS. Unique high elevation and complete privacy. 5.6 acres bordering national forest, (970)769-3588 blancoretreat@gmail.com. \$450K.

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.

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.

Time to get real about plastic recycling

By Karen Mockler
PREVIEW Columnist

I'm a dedicated recycler. I fret when I see people throwing garbage in with soda cans and empty water bottles. I've even been known to rescue recyclables from the trash — at my house, for sure, but also in public places if I think nobody's looking.

Granted, the success of recycling plastic is abysmal — the U.S. rate is roughly 7 percent — but in theory it can be done. So, I was delighted when I learned that Tucson, Ariz., where I live, was starting a pilot program to deal with hard-to-recycle plastics.

These aren't the containers that we can recycle curbside, numbers 1, 2 and 5, or even the bags we can take to stores for recycling. Hard-to-recycle plastics are everything else: caps and lids, food packaging, straws, all those little pieces of plastic too small for machines to deal with and all those other numbers that curbside and stores don't take.

Tucson's pilot program would take all of it, and a company called ByFusion would use steam and compression to press it into blocks — ugly blocks, in my opinion, but useful for making benches, counters, even tiny houses.

The blocks would avoid tons of marine debris and carbon dioxide along the way. Count me in.

Within months, participation in the pilot program exceeded expectations.

ByFusion couldn't handle all the plastic that was coming in. The city began storing the excess plastic and brought a second company into the loop: Hefty, a plastic bag manufacturer.

Suddenly, the rules changed. The Hefty ReNew program was a collaboration between Reynolds Consumer Products, a manufacturer of various plastic products, and Dow Chemical Company. Now participants were asked to buy orange Hefty bags to collect their hard-to-recycle plastics. And what would Hefty do with all the plastic that ByFusion couldn't handle?

Hefty was doing different things with plastic waste in different cities — making plastic lumber in Omaha, burning it for cement kiln fuel and "advanced recycling" in Atlanta. But when I asked a city official about Tucson's plan, I got no response about the fate of our plastic waste.

Meanwhile, the more I learned about advanced recycling — aka pyrolysis — the less I liked it. Pyrolysis burns plastic to make fuel, and a 2023 report by two nonprofit environmental advocacy groups, Beyond Plastics and the International Pollutants Elimination Network, found that the pyrolysis process was "inefficient, energy-intensive and contributes to climate change."

Yet Kevin Greene of the nonprofit Sustainable Tucson said there's a good chance a portion of our plastic waste will end up at a pyrolysis plant under

Opinion: Writers on the Range

Meanwhile, many pro-recycling people are calling plastic recycling in all of its forms a "false solution" that mainly serves to relieve consumer guilt.

construction in Eloy, a small town halfway between Tucson and Phoenix.

Meanwhile, many pro-recycling people are calling plastic recycling in all of its forms a "false solution" that mainly serves to relieve consumer guilt. In September, the California attorney general followed environmental groups in suing ExxonMobil for its "campaign of deception" around plastic recycling — one that has led people to buy more single-use plastics.

ExxonMobil has since countersued. There's a growing realization that plastic is not so much a waste problem as it is a problem at its source. It creates health impacts in the low-income communities where the plastics are made, along with communities where those plastics are burned.

Until I learned more about pyrolysis, I, too, had felt relieved of guilt. So relieved, in fact, that in recent months I'd noticed myself making different, though small, consumer choices that left me using more plastic than before, each time thinking, "I can orange-bag this."

It turns out that I'm not alone. A 2016 behavioral economics study found that when consumers think their waste might be recycled, they worry less about the amount of trash they generate and produce more of it.

Ideally, we'd do it all: reduce the flow of virgin plastic and deal responsibly with the glut of plastic waste, including pervasive microplastics that we humans have already choked the planet with.

But we don't seem to have the mental bandwidth to do that. Like a growing number of folks, I've concluded that instead of recycling plastic, we need to focus on phasing out its use everywhere we can.

For now, I've got a boxful of orange Hefty bags under my sink —

yours if you want them.

Karen Mockler is a contributor to Writers on the Range, writersontherange.org, an independent non-profit dedicated to spurring lively conversation about Western issues. She is a writer in Tucson, Ariz. Views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN.

Clip 'n Save 10%

•Off of 750 ml and 175 ml bottles•

WINES & LIQUORS
Non-Sale Items Only • Coupon not valid for beer purchases

264-2749
Next to River Center - Hwy. 160
East Pagosa Springs
Mon.-Sat. Open 9 a.m. - Midnight
Sun. Open 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Having trouble with your current propane supplier?

SWITCH

to INTER-MOUNTAIN PROPANE & EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE!

**SPECIAL DISCOUNT
VOUCHER**

**INCLUDES: FREE TANK SWAP
& FREE SAFETY CHECK**

\$125 OFF

**on new customer switch overs
and new construction sets,
250 gallons or larger.**

*Offer good through April 1, 2025.
Some restrictions apply.*

★ ★ ★ ★ ★
**REFER A FRIEND
PROGRAM**

\$50 Credit

Ask for details, one referral per friend

*Offer good through April 1, 2025.
Some restrictions apply.*

★ ★ ★ ★ ★



(970) 264-1301

intermountainpropane.com