PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147

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Rep. Jeff Hurd meets with protesters, commissioners









SUN photos/Clayton Chaney

By Clayton Chaney Staff Writer

On Tuesday, April 22, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) held a special meeting with Rep. Jeff Hurd at the county's administration building, with only one matter on the posted agenda as a new business item, "Discussions With Congressman Hurd."

That meeting was met with discord in the days leading up

During a work session held by the BoCC earlier that day, Commissioner John Ranson acknowledged a Facebook post from a community group, Equality Pagosa, that encouraged anyone interested in being in Pagosa Springs to show up for the meeting dressed in all black for a silent protest.

During the work session after Ranson read the Facebook post, he stated, "and I can't tell you how irritated I am," expressing concerns that the post was inviting people from outside the Archuleta County community to show up and protest during Hurd's visit with the BoCC.

The county noticed the meeting with Hurd on Friday, April 18, at 12:02 p.m., with the county closing its offices at noon that day for Good Friday. The Facebook post describes the county's action of noticing the meeting and closing offices as sneaky."

Ranson addressed two members of the audience, Candace Iones and Lee Stopher, asking them to "do what you can" as leaders in the community to address the post, while stating that his wife moved to Pagosa Springs in the 1980s and is now "afraid to come to town today for the meeting."

Ranson also stated, "You guys have every right to protest and do whatever you want."

Ranson then referenced an April 14 letter that Hurd and other congress members have signed addressed to the speaker of House of Representatives and other leaders that expresses concerns over recent cuts to Medicaid programs.

That letter states, "As Members of Congress who helped to deliver a Republican Majority, many of us representing districts with high rates of constituents who depend on Medicaid, we would like to reiterate our strong support for this program that ensures our constituents have reliable healthcare. Balancing the federal budget must not come at the expense of those who depend on these benefits for their health and economic security."

Ranson went on to comment, "This is disgusting," referring to the Facebook post.

He added that Hurd has been away from his wife and children for months doing his job.

Jones explained that she was planning on attending the meeting with Hurd, and that she had nothing to do with the Facebook post that Ranson was referencing, though she expressed that people should attend the meeting.

Jones acknowledged Ranson's statement about Hurd being away from his family, stating ■ See Hurd A8

Pagosa Peak Open School teacher wins national lifelong learning award

By Emily Murphy Pagosa Peak Open School

The room buzzes with excitement and conversation as small groups of middle-schoolers engage in their latest work during Pagosa Peak Open School's (PPOS's) Project-based Learning Advisor Rue Graham's project block.

"Projects here are cool," fifthgrader Tenzin said. "Right now we're working together on creating wildfire safety brochures as a part of our 'Mission to Mars' project. In this project we're learning about different environments and survival techniques on earth and in space. Our brochures will be shared around town for visitors to learn more about being safe in our area."

This is Graham's fifth year at PPOS, where she not only creates and implements projects for students in grades 5-8, but also works with staff in grades K-4 on project design and implementation.

Graham was recently awarded the John Larmer Lifelong Learning Award



Rue Graham

from PBL Works, the organization that sets the standard for projectbased learning across the nation. The award recognizes up to three educators nationwide who have shown to majorly impact students with their high-quality project work.

Receiving the John Larmer Lifelong Learning Award is such an honor," she said. "It feels like a celebration ■ See Award A8

Preferred candidate for county attorney position withdraws

By Clayton Chaney Staff Writer

On Tuesday, April 22, County Manager Jack Harper confirmed in an interview with The SUN that the county's preferred candidate for the county attorney position, Martha Whitmore, had withdrawn from consideration.

Harper explained the position has been reposted with the same salary range as before of \$131,881 to \$185,693.

The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners unanimously approved Whitmore as the preferred candidate during a regular BoCC meeting held on April 15.

Commissioner Veronica Medina explained in a later interview that the county was notified on Friday, April 18, that Whitmore would not be accepting the position due to "some personal things."

Medina explained that "we need to fill that position," while indicating the other candidate who was previously interviewed for the position, Cathleen Giovani, would not be able to start for at least a month and half.

She noted the county is still actively searching for candidates for the attorney position.

clayton@pagosasun.com

County, town approve housing needs assessment

By Clayton Chaney and Derek Kutzer Staff Writers

The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) and Pagosa Springs Town Council recently each approved the adoption of the 2025 Archuleta County regional housing needs assessment (HNA).

The assessment is a collaborative effort between the county, Town of Pagosa Springs and Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation (PSCDC), who worked with two firms, ECOnorthwest and Western Spaces.

The BoCC and town council were briefed on the matter during a joint work session held by the two entities on Monday, April 14.

Pagosa Springs Development Di-

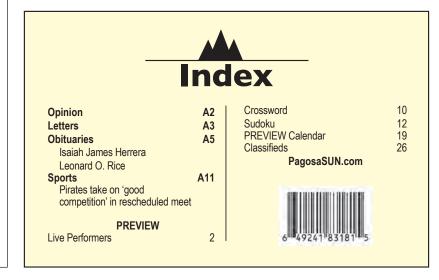
rector James Dickhoff explained the assessment is "not a short document," being more than 100 pages long, and that an executive summary of the assessment was provided for the BoCC and council.

He also explained that Archuleta County Development Director Pamela Flowers has applied for a second More Housing Now grant, which would help fund the next step of having an action plan developed, "which is required by the state now."

Western Spaces founder Sarah McClain provided the council members and commissioners with results of the HNA.

McClain noted the HNA being a collaborative effort helps "develop your housing story" by understanding what is going on in the commu-

■ See Assessment A10



Opinion



The Pagosa Springs

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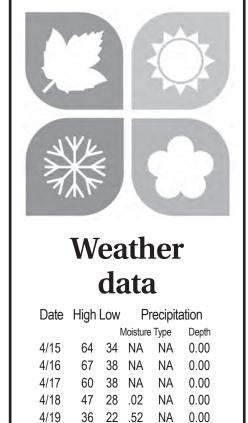
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Our View

Shining a light on transparency

We love highlighting government transparency, and there have been a few situations in particular over the last week we'd like to call attention to.

On April 17, we were pleased to see Gov. Jared Polis veto SB25-077, which proposed modifications to the Colorado Open Records Act (CORA).

We've been watching the act since it was introduced in January because it looked to make several changes to the state law, including some that could be harmful to Coloradans seeking information.

One set of provisions in particular was concerning to us, with those proposed changes aiming to create different timelines for governmental entities to respond to CORA requests based on who made the request — three working days for requests from a mass medium or a newsperson and five working days for others, as well as 30 days if the request is made for the direct solicitation of business for pecuniary gain.

While we appreciate that the bill would have left the three-day turnaround for public records requested by media, that's also one area where the bill became prob-

First, while we as media report on what goes on in our community largely because it's impossible to be everywhere all of the time and being timely is key to keeping a community informed, we are not special. We are also citizens. All citizens should be able to have timely access to records without feeling like there's a tiered system.

It also put keepers of records in what

could be an incredibly awkward and problematic position of determining who is legitimate media and who should receive records according to each timeline.

"Transparency in government is essential to a healthy democracy," Polis wrote to the Colorado General Assembly in vetoing the bill before addressing his concerns.

Polis suggests in the letter, "The bill leaves the custodian with far too much power to define who is and is not a member of the media, and what is and isn't news. For instance, a public official may deem a request from a media outlet focusing specifically on climate change as not meeting the statutory definitions of 'newsperson' [sic] or 'mass medium' given the perspective of some elected officials that climate change is categorically not news."

Polis also addresses the differing timelines that were proposed, writing, "Essentially, under this bill, speed to access public information is determined by who you are. A newsperson, a member of the public, and a person seeking financial gain may all request the same information and, under this bill, get access to that information on different timelines. To

ensure fairness and confidence in public transparency, all legitimate requests for public transparency under CORA should be treated equally under the law, without preference for some requestors over others."

On Tuesday, we were disappointed to hear that members of the Upper San Juan Health Service District, which operates Pagosa Springs Medical Center, admitted to

violating board policy, but we were pleased with the transparent and sincere manner in which the violation was acknowledged publicly in a board meeting.

Board chair Kate Alfred opened her report to the board by acknowledging that she, as has been done many times over the last 12 years, spoke with CEO Dr. Rhonda Webb after Webb's annual evaluation, but before board discussion on the matter.

That, she explained, was intended to help ease anxiety and avoid any surprises, clarifying the evaluation was already finished.

She also noted she later learned it is a violation of board policy.

Ann Bruzzese, PSMC's chief administrative officer and in-house legal counsel, also took blame, with Alfred adding that the board has the policy and she should have remembered it.

"It won't be done that way again in the future," Alfred told the board.

We also appreciated the transparency of Rep. Jeff Hurd during his visit to Pagosa Springs Tuesday. After hearing that people may be present to protest the current administration's actions upon his arrival, Hurd didn't skip the visit or find a way to sneak in a back door.

Instead, he took the time to greet each of the protesters outside and speak to them about their concerns, then having a respectful meeting with the commissioners.

We hope transparency and respect will continue and help to lessen divides.

Randi Pierce

LOOKING BACK



From the April 4, 1968, Pagosa SUN — HEAD START — Children in the Head Start classes under the supervision of Mrs. Theressa Diestelkamp, visited the SUN last week where they were taken on a tour of the plant, its facilities, and watched the machinery operate. The children above are watching the linotype, operated by Harold Clevenger, as it set type. The children were more fascinated by this machine than any other in the plant.

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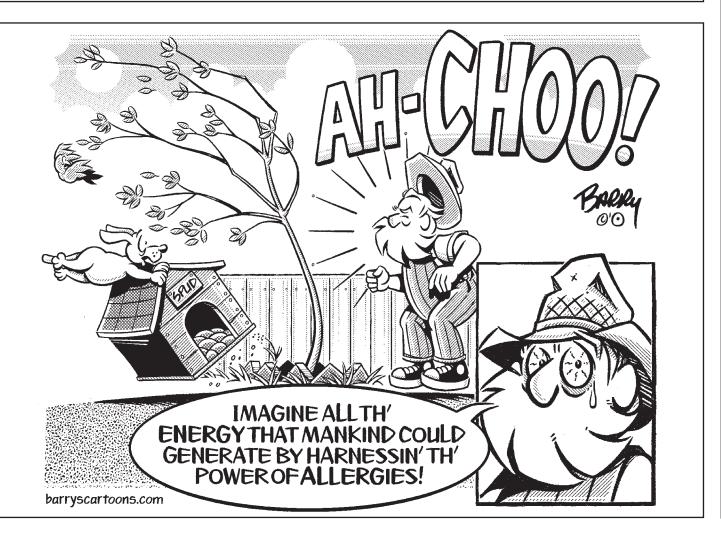
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LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

100 years ago Taken from SUN files of

April 24, 1925

Hon. and Mrs. Chas. A. Day returned home Tuesday from Denver, where they have been since the fore part of January, the former being in attendance at the general assembly as representative of the counties of Archuleta, Hinsdale and Mineral Counties. Needless to say, he is glad that the misery is over.

The Women's Civic Club is progressing fine with the repair work at the town hall preparatory to establishing a rest room and information bureau. The rooms to be used have been cleaned and water is being installed in one room. Paper has been bought and is ready to put on. All lumber and materials for the new big porch on the front have been donated and will be on the ground ready for the three big days, April 30, May 1 and 2. That will be next Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Your help is needed and very much desired. Come out and help us, at least for a few hours. A hot lunch will be furnished all workers free at the noon hour.

75 years ago Taken from SUN files of

Several local people are featured very prominently in the May issue of the Red Ryder Comics magazine. Along with Mr. Fred Harman, author and artist of the magazine, are shown Little Beaver, Pat Dutton, Billy Lynn, Don Bennett, Charles Pargin and Mr. Bennett's son. Also shown in the photos are scenes in the West Fork area near Born's Lake and a large elk killed there during the past hunting season. This is indeed fine publicity for the area and is of the type that could not be bought for any amount of money. Thru the efforts and ability of Mr. Harman, the San Juan Basin generally and Archuleta County especially receive much of this type of publicity. Mr. Harman's strip in the daily papers and his comic magazine each have one of the largest reader following of any comic published today.

Work has started again on the leveling and grading at the new rodeo grounds. R.T. Harras, president of the rodeo group reports that the grounds will be ready for the big Red Ryder Round-Up this 4th of July. The construction of the half mile track is nearly complete and will give Archuleta County one of the finest tracks in the country.

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of

April 24, 1975

Wolf Creek Pass isn't through with the season just yet. This past week five inches fell at the weather station there, making the winter snowfall total 746 inches. The snow fell Thursday night and Friday.

It is warming up on Wolf Creek, though, and the snow is settling at a rapid rate. Snow depth last week at the marker went down from 10 feet to 9-1/2 feet as of Saturday. It has settled some more since that time. The temperature has been going up to 40 degrees during the days.

The Upper San Juan Regional Planning **Commission** wrestled with a proposal to recommend a building code for the county Monday night and then rejected it. After nearly two hours of discussion the commission decided not to recommend the code but did not close the door on future consideration of such a code.

Archuleta County Building Contractors Assn. had asked the Board of County Commissioners to consider adopting the code. Under state law, before the County Commissioners can take such a step the code must be recommended by the Planning Commission.

25 years ago Taken from SUN files of

April 20, 2000

The first steps toward forming a road maintenance district were taken by the Loma Linda Homeowners Association. Tuesday, representatives of the association presented a proposed Loma Linda Metropolitan District service plan to the commissioners.

Following review of the proposal by the county commissioners, a public hearing will be held May 30 at 1:30 p.m. in the commissioners meeting room to sample public response to the proposal. The Loma Linda group was represented by attorney Bud Smith of Bayfield.

"A special district has to have two functions," said Smith. "The functions proposed for this district are road maintenance and parks and recreation."

Fueling the desire to form a special district at this time is the concern by some Loma Linda residents that if road maintenance is not accomplished soon, the roads will deteriorate to such an extent that serious, expensive maintenance will be required.



Letters to the Editor are printed as received and are not edited for grammar or punctuation, but

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

may have been edited for content

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

Pope Francis

Dear Editor:

A lot was made of Pope Francis's liberalism. Many Catholics considering themselves orthodox, from Mt. Athos in Greece to Mount Taylor in New Mexico, from the lands of Weminuche to those of Mapuche, saw this Pope, who was the first in history to use the name Francis for himself (Jorge Mario Bergoglio, originally), as a liberalizer of the Vatican. A dangerous fool misplaced as delegator, representative and steward of the awesomeness of God's law. Marjorie Taylor Green even referred to him as evil before 24 hours had passed after his death Monday.

A more honest understanding of Francis brings us to a realization of just how conservative Francis was, actually. Chiefly emulating the 13th Century Italian saint of Assisi, Francis held the truth of kindness and the example of love highest. Emphasis was on the infiniteness of God's purity that never looks away no matter how hard we try to do just that. Facing judgment for his stoicism and adamant reduplication of Christ's example as the one law and the only law, he "stunned us out of our complacency", Obama wrote on Monday. Francis undertook, as his first act upon being named the 266th Pope, a ceremonial mass washing on the outskirts of Rome of the feet of hundreds of prisoners, telling them, "any of us" can fall into sin. Some burst into tears as he knelt down without eye contact and washed and then gently dried. He did this once a year, most recently washing the feet of 12 women on March 28, 2024 at a prison in Rome. Because this is what we have to count on. Pope Francis wanted to demonstrate the example of humility, the extraordinary power of God in His infinite forgiveness, not just talk about it.

Incredibly, meeting the Vice President of the United States J.D. Vance in the Vatican was among the last things Francis did. I am thinking that the Pope welcomed Vance very much in the same spirit that he received those hundreds of prisoners. These were the two events that bookended his papacy. Emboldened against climate action, Vance sat and spoke for a few minutes with the Pope who had written the Encyclical Letter on Care for Our Common Home, Pope Francis's urgent call made in 2015 for the peoples and leaders of the world to address the climate crisis. This emissary from the benighted Trump Administration with plans to enact radical despoliation of what is left in North America of pure places. setting the tone and example for the rest of the world... also planning to ravage families of immigrants... with the priority of bolstering a repugnant child-oligarch's legitimacy elevated above all other concerns (think -Gaza, Ukraine), during perhaps the most crucial years in the history of our species... Pope Francis smiled with a weary face and a large and heavy cross around his neck on a rope and a day to live and gave Vance chocolates to pass along to his three children for Easter.

Jonathan Dobson

Support for Holly Metzler

Dear Editor:

Vote for Holly! I strongly recommend that Holly Metzler continue as a Director on the La Plata Electric Association board. Soon after completing a Masters in Environmental Policy, Holly was elected to the LPEA Board in 2019. Holly quickly learned to navigate sound decision-making around LPEA's relationship with Tri-State Generation and Transmission. She keeps an open mind and listens to all voices. She's always kept us, the electricity consumers, in the forefront of her positions. She advocates consistently for appropriate scientific environmental policy, with an eye on a sustainable future.

LPEA's transition away from Tri-State will not result in higher costs to the public or jeopardize our supply of electricity. Do your own research. Visit https://lpea.coop/lpea-factchecker. A vote for Holly means that District One will continue to be wellrepresented by someone who puts

Letters

sound judgement ahead of political positioning. Vote for a responsible, clean energy future, for today and for future generations. Vote for Holly! Sally High

America

Dear Editor:

America, but the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

America, everything that can be burnt shall be burnt. America, everything that can be shaken, will be shaken. America, everything that is hidden will be revealed. America, everything that has been concealed, shall be exposed. America, there will be no place for sin and lawlessness to hide any longer. There will be no place to hide stolen treasures or ill begotten gain. America, the veneer of your righteousness will no longer be able to cover your impoverished soul. Yes, America, you are bankrupt and the whole world will soon know it. The whole world will point its finger at you. Your place of power and prestige in the world will vanish overnight. America, the courts of heaven are in session to judge you and will find you lacking. America, you will have no crowns to cast at the feet of your

America, you have tossed aside the most powerful weapon, God's love, God's sacrificial love, and exchanged it for weapons of mass destruction. It is fear, it is anger, it is pride that created them, not love. Where there is no love, there are many man-made weapons many man-made laws and many judges. You have rebelled against my laws and tossed out the Ten Commandments. You have made your own laws to legitimize your perverted sin nature. Your judges have sold their souls for a pot of porridge. Your politicians have used their positions of power to enslave the masses. They have robbed them blind. They have taxed them to death. You are no longer a free nation and don't even know it. You are shackled by sin and a Jezebel spirit and don't even know it.

America, there is only one Super Power and you are not it. Look in the mirror. Do you see what I see? If you examine your own heart and judge it, I will not have to be your judge.

Peter D. Laue

Support for Holly Metzler

Dear Editor:

Ballots for the LPEA board election will be going out this week. You can also vote online. This letter is in support of Holly Metzler for the District 1 Archuleta County seat.

In short, why would we change the players on the LPEA board when our team is winning? LPEA is a well-run organization. Under Holly's leadership LPEA exceeded financial health targets including operating margins, cash reserves, and debt to equity

Holly Metzler does a great job of

Letters

The SUN welcomes letters from readers.

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

All letters must:

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

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

Letters quoting other people must contain proper attribution.

There is no guarantee letters will be

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

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

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

putting Pagosa first. Pagosa Springs businesses and homeowners are uniquely positioned to benefit from the exit from Tri-State with 300 days of sunshine. Committing to sustainable energy going forward is vital for our local economy, and our health.

Holly advocates for reliability and affordability above all else. LPEA is committed to infrastructure protecting Archuleta County thanks to Holly. This includes line redundancy to the outside world and work towards a new transformer west of town.

Changing the District 1 board member at this time will only bring uncertainty. The adage, "Why change horses in midstream?" really applies to this election. Join me in voting for Holly Metzler for LPEA District 1 board member.

Brooks Lindner

CRIA volunteer

Dear Editor:

Your recent editorial, "Giving back to the community", prompted me to reflect on my personal experience volunteering for Chimney Rock Interpretive Association (CRIA). This summer will mark my thirteenth year volunteering, which includes two terms as a member of the Board of Trustees and six years as a member of the gift shop management staff, in addition to other CRIA committees and programs. Volunteering gives me the personal satisfaction of staying active and engaged, as well as helping others and my community, with the added benefit of making new friends.

CRIA works in partnership with the USFS and at this critical time, we at CRIA are trying to increase our volunteer membership to help support the FS with Chimney Rock operations. Currently, plaza hosts and roving interpreters are especially needed. If you enjoy engaging with people from all over the USA as well as other countries, then roving Interpreter or plaza host may be the ideal place for you. Hosts welcome visitors to the site, explain about available tours, and briefly describe the culture and people who inhabited the site besides answering general questions. CRIA can provide the background information and/or a mentor to help you with these positions.

Offering a wide variety of volunteer opportunities, CRIA is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to provide education and out-reach

■ See Letters A4

U.S. 160 reconstruction information

Week of April 28-May 2

Work activity

• Work continues on utility exploration. The team is focused on the water line. There is a high possibility for unexpected challenges when it comes to utilities, so the team works methodically through the process of identifying current utilities to prepare for construction of the new lines.

- Crews continue to excavate the subgrade (base layer below the asphalt). There is a possibility the team will be performing night work at the intersections of 5th and 7th streets. The community and businesses will be notified if night work is needed.
- Flaggers continue to witness motorists running through the red light at the intersection of Hot Springs Boulevard and U.S. 160 (San Juan Street) where children are crossing from Pagosa Springs Middle School. Please slow down through the work

• The 2nd and 4th street intersections on the north side of U.S. 160 will remain closed until utility and drainage work is complete.

- Pedestrian crosswalks will be open at 1st, 3rd and 4th streets. Mid-block crossings between 4th and 5th will be closed, but the crosswalk at 5th Street will remain open.
- Mountain Express Transit shared about bus stops: The River Center stop #18 has moved to 1st Street and U.S. 160 in front of the museum. Bus stop #19. 2nd Street and U.S. 160, has moved to 2nd Street and Lewis Street.

Upcoming work

- · Removal of existing sidewalk, and curb and gutter on the north side.
- Access to local businesses will be maintained throughout this operation and businesses will be notified of work taking place around their location.

Please be alert when you are traveling through the new traffic configuration or visiting the downtown businesses as heavy equipment will be frequently moving throughout the project limits.

Important safety reminder about

For the safety of the traveling public, unauthorized drone flights are prohibited over state highway property. Operating a drone over a highway right of way requires a Colorado Department of Transportation permit. Additionally, the Federal Aviation Administration has strict regulations for pilots operating drones over people and moving vehicles: www.faa.gov/uas/commercial_operators/operations_over_people.

Safety tips for pedestrians

• Watch where you are going. Do not enter the work zone or climb over work zone safety barriers. Construction work may be fascinating, but always prioritize navigating the work zone as safely as you can.

• Pay attention to posted signs in the project area and follow all workers' instructions. Cross streets at open crosswalks or intersections; walk on sidewalks whenever they are available.

- Be alert for moving construction vehicles and other unexpected hazards, which often move suddenly and quickly. Stay off your phone when crossing the street or walking near the work zone.
- Look out for traffic before crossing the street make eye contact with drivers so you know they see you.

Safety tips for drivers

• Look out for pedestrians and bicyclists everywhere, at all times, and especially in areas near schools, parks, shopping areas and transit stops.

• Slow down as you approach the work zone. Give workers extra room and be prepared to stop.

• Stop before a crosswalk, not in it.

- Obey all traffic signals. All light signals are operational and must be obeyed.
- Put your cellphone down. Never drive distracted or impaired.

Traffic impacts

- Motorists could expect up to 15-minute delays at various times through the work zone as equipment may need to be moved.
- There will be two-way traffic flowing in the eastbound lanes of U.S. 160 through the first season of operations.
- A 10-foot width restriction will remain in place 24/7 through Dec. 1.
- During inclement weather, project engineers will assess the roadway and work location to make determinations on work continuing depending on safety concerns for workers and commuters.
- Working hours are Monday through Saturday, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., and subject to change.

Stay informed and connect with the project

- Call the project information line: (970) 335-9230.
- Email the project team: Pagosa160reconstruction@gmail.com.
- Visit the project website: www.codot.gov/projects/us160pagosasprings.
- Subscribe to project updates: subscription.

Information provided by Colorado Department of Transportation





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Letters

■ Continued from A3

to the community. If history is your thing, you may want to become a tour guide and, with the help of a mentor, learn about the ancient Puebloan culture that inhabited the area. Do you have retail experience? Then we can surely use your talents in the gift shop. Are you an astronomy buff? If so, the Night Sky or Full Moon Programs will open new vistas for you. Maybe geology is your obsession, in which case, volunteering for the geology tours may be the right niche for you. Perhaps you are a retired teacher or you just enjoy interacting with children.

Well, you can do that through our Kids' Week and Kids' Workshop Programs. If you are a high school senior and need a community service activity for scouts or other organizations, CRIA has a place for you. Whatever your interest, CRIA would appreciate your participation.

If you are interested in volunteering, CRIA is hosting a Volunteer Orientation on Friday, May 2, 2025 from 9:30am to 3pm at the Community United Methodist Church on Lewis Street. Lunch and beverages will be provided. On Friday, May 3 from 9am to noon, we will be up at Chimney Rock National Monument to give volunteers a brief tour and answer any further questions.

Please call Kelly, CRIA office manager, at (970)731-7133 to make a reservation for the orientation program. Joanne Lucariello

The golden rule

Dear Editor:

I have never written a letter to the editor, even though I regularly read the letters in the local newspaper. I am a scientist by education, which means I have been involved in numerous scientific papers. Even so, I've never felt compelled to write a letter. Many of the letters I have read are political, and this one is not different. It is, however, also educational.

While I have served in several elected offices in my professional organization, a few years ago I was elected to the local property owner's association. I participated because I wanted to learn how the association worked and to meet other owners. I have acted in my elected offices by employing the golden rule: "do unto others as you would have them do unto you." This is from the bible (Luke 6:31 and Matthew 7:12), and it has served me well.

Unfortunately, there is another golden rule: "Whoever has the gold makes the rules." This is from the satirical cartoon "Wizard of Id", which began in 1964. Unfortunately, it is prevalent in many political situations. To get the gold, it is often taken to be mutually exclusive to the biblical rule. However, this need not be the case.

You may have gold, and you may rule others, but you don't need to ignore the biblical rule. But one often needs to abandon the original traits that led to success. This is easy to say, but hard to do. However, it can be done if you want. You must remember that there are two golden rules, one biblical and the one satirical. They need not be mutually exclusive but usually are. It takes effort to make both rules work together.

Let's face it, life is often not fair. There are often things which happen to you that you can't or don't control, like an accident as an example. The problem is you can't get even or retaliate. This can be frustrating, but "crap happens" even if you follow the biblical golden rule. I hope our leaders and you pick the biblical rule, rather than the satirical one. At least think about this when you read the letters and run your life accordingly. Joe Margraf

Brinksmanship

Dear Editor:

After World War II, America enjoyed a well-earned peace—but only briefly. Even before the war ended, we were preparing for the next confrontation, this time with our soon-

to-be former allies: the Soviets. Thus began the Cold War—a period many of us remember vividly. The threat of nuclear war and the fear of a Communist world loomed constantly over our heads.

It was during this era that a highstakes strategy emerged, known as brinksmanship. This approach involved pushing situations to the very edge of disaster in order to force the other side to back down. It required convincing opponents that threats would be carried out, leaving them no room to maneuver. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles famously described it as "the ability to get to the verge without getting into the war."

But brinksmanship came with a price. The Cuban Missile Crisisand other close brushes with catastrophe-made the dangers of this strategy clear. Human error, unintended consequences, and reputational damage proved too costly. In response, the U.S. evolved. We embraced détente, engaged in multilateral diplomacy, and signed arms-reduction treaties. Nixon went to China. Reagan negotiated the INF Treaty (limiting nuclear weapons with the Soviet Union, designed to be indefinite and cancelled by President Trump in 2019). George H.W. Bush built an international coalition to liberate Kuwait. For sixty years, this cooperative approach kept America strong, stable, and respected.

Today, we are witnessing a regres-

The United States has drifted back toward unilateralism, favoring confrontation over collaboration. President Trump's "Art of the Deal" style—born from his background in business—mirrors the outdated brinksmanship of the Cold War. It has been praised by some as a nononsense approach to leadership. But history-and results-tell a different story.

Trump's approach has failed nearly as often as it has succeeded. The key difference is that in the business world, he could walk away from failure, often filing for bankruptcy and leaving others—investors, small businesses, employees—holding the bag. Now, the stakes are infinitely higher. He can no longer just bankrupt a casino. He can only bankrupt the future of a nation.

This tactic of threatening collapse to extract better terms has made its way into the public sphere. But now the negotiations aren't about real estate or licensing deals—they're about our constitutional rights, the rule of law, and the lives of everyday Americans.

ing chip. The lives of our children are not bargaining chips. And the health of our veterans must never be reduced to one.

Great leaders study history. They learn from it. They build on it. America has shown what's possible when leadership is grounded in wisdom, not ego-and what's at stake when it isn't.

Ed Matlack

Water bill

Dear Editor:

Well it's been a month since the last water bill, that I payed for, at the bank, in cash....and since then I have received yet another bill...this time, with the same surcharge, and a late fee, due to my refusal to include the prior month's surcharge, and yet another surcharge for the 'unaffordable' housing project, water payments added to it. When I was getting ready to leave, I asked the teller, just out of curiosity, "Hey, l've got to ask you something..have a lot of people asked about the same thing?" "Yes" was his reply,"..." and have also refused to pay it."....

When I heard that, I felt that my prior letter to the editor, may have had an impact, or not, and that people were re-acting in similar fashion. Now, last week I noticed that in The Pagosa Sun had an article about

PAWSD is having an election, for their 'Board of Directors' under the title "PAWSD ELECTION FEATURES FIVE CANDIDATES, THREE OPEN SEATS"...using 'mail ballots' let's do a little homework, and find the candidates who will NOT support the socalled MANDATORY SURCHARGE (tax)...and vote them in. I talked to Bill Hudson, who is on the Board, and he stated that he was for it....(he needs to be voted out, in next election). l can't speak for the other candidates, being as I didn't speak to them... but their names are, Alex Boehmer, Gene Tautges, Bruce Jones Jr., Carl Young, Christa Chagra. Perhaps, someone can post in a 'Letter To The Editor' your findings...being as according to the terms of the paper, I would be past my limit, on how many letters could submit, within a month..... but you can find it in the April 3 edition of the Pagosa Sun, letters to the editor, under the title 'Water Bill'....the key quote from that article is this...." Below the bill is a volunteer spot for the 'Pagosa Outreach Community'.... and a spot for you to volunteer how much money you'd like to donate.... no problem with that, but the other one is 'MANDATORY'...and included as part of the bill. ...WRONG!! ...and considering all the news, in regards to unexplained 'taxes' that we are being charged, and to where it's going, I thought that this letter would be appropriate, as to call everyone's attention to this flagrant, unilat-

Get my point..?? Daniel Norton

eral decision by a public company

to transfer received money for one

thing and transfer it to something

else, without even telling the people

paying for it..!! and let's not 'assume'

that these 'officials' of the 'board of

LPEA's future

directors' are honest people."

Dear Editor:

Mark Pearson's recent letter paints a feel-good picture of LPEA's future but glosses over the serious risks now facing our cooperative.

Yes, LPEA is leaving Tri-State. But at what cost? Members are now on the hook for a \$215 million exit payment-already executed, with no clear repayment plan and no vote from members. And despite claims of "local reinvestment," LPEA has no shovel-ready generation projects to support this vision. Iron Horse Geothermal remains in early study

Sunnyside Solar covers barely 1% of meters. And Dolores Canyon Solar? That's a Tri-State project, not LPEA's.

LPEA's much-touted "lower-cost" The Constitution is not a bargain- replacement power is a short-term deal with an unnamed provider reportedly Mercuria, a Swiss-based commodities trader with no local generation and no long-term contract disclosed. Betting our future on market traders isn't independence-it's speculation.

Pearson also suggests Tri-State is forcing 40-year deals. False. Tri-State's updated options allow more flexibility than ever—including 50% self-supply and shorter contract terms—all governed by a memberelected board.

Let's be honest: most rural co-ops haven't left Tri-State because they value cost stability, not volatile power markets. The "freedom" LPEA is selling is really just more risk, more debt, and fewer answers.

LPEA sold Fastrack communications and will not disclose the exact price, we know it is millions. Why would LPEA agree to or ask for a non disclosure agreement on a sale worth millions and hide this from the members/owners of the coop? Selling assets and a rate increase but no explainable reason.

We deserve real transparency, local control, and reliable energy—not political spin and broken promises. Vote this May for leadership that will restore member trust and protect our cooperative future. Dale Ruggles,

Bayfield, Colo.

Re: accusations of bias

Dear Editor:

Once again, I agree with my fellow writer of liberal persuasion, in that this paper is not biased in publishing letters "no matter how poorly written or dumb".

In answer to why there have been no letters defending "what's going on in Crazy Town USA", perhaps sane and coherent folks feel no need. The left's own leaderless lack of messaging is doing quite well in that respect. The conservative's unspoken battle plan to refute the left is simply "Let them speak". Incoherent statements like "billionaires who want to increase efficiency by instantaneously eliminating programs supporting ordinary Americans, impoverished nations and the environment" are simply untrue. Elon Musk, assuming that is whom is being referenced, has no such power. Pointing out waste, fraud, and abuse in government should be the job of our elected officials, but was just the opposite under Democrat rule. What other nation taxes its population into unsustainable debt just to give away under a hoax like USAID. The huge, unauthorized outflows of funds from our treasury at the end of the Biden administration were probably not signed for by Joe, but by an aid with an autopen, they are that audacious. Follow the money and see where it actually ends up.

Alleging "voter suppression" because of the SAVE ACT is a joke. Our right to vote is one our most sacred, and allowing ballots to be cast by dead people or illegal citizens is ridiculous. Who legally qualified to vote does not possess some sort of identification? How can eliminating tax on social security be considered a tax cut for the wealthy?

Signalgate? Who can forget Hillary defying court orders by destroying thousands of emails, texts, notes, and other correspondence along with cell phones and computers. Oh yeah, then there is Russia gate? And these most likely pale in comparison to what we don't know.

Tariffgate? The world is beating a path to Trump's door eager to make a fair-trade/tariff deal following de-■ See Letters A5



You are invited to Stop & Pray Thursday, May 1 9am-6pm

We will have the church open and prayer stations set up to guide you through a personal time of prayer for our nation.

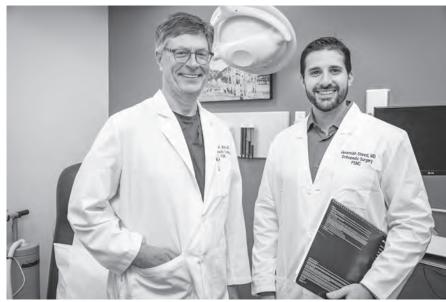
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Aspire Medical Services and Education Executive Director Nicole Cotts, center, poses with Michele Turkey, left, and Denise Fisk and diapers donated to the nonprofit center. At the most recent Archuleta County Republican Women (ACRW) meeting, Cotts (center) presented what is new and changing at Aspire. The group reported that listening to Cotts passion and enthusiasm for her life-long calling was inspirational. Aspire's mission is to empower individuals and families to thrive physically, emotionally and socially by providing medical services and education in a safe and supportive environment. Aspire has impacted more than 260 clients with more than 1,500 appointments. Nine hundred classes were taken and 65 babies were born through its prenatal care program.



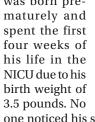
Obituaries

Isaiah James Herrera

Isaiah James Herrera, 20, of Farmington, N.M., passed away on April 7, 2025. He was born on May 11, 2004, in

El Paso, Texas, to Sarah Combs and Wesley Herrera

Isaiah (Zai) was born prematurely and spent the first four weeks of his life in the NICU due to his birth weight of



one noticed his smaller stature after seeing him pitch a strike or hit a home run while playing for the White Soxs baseball. He would walk onto the field with the intentions of giving it his all. Isaiah was voted MVP his second year of playing.

He carried himself the same in life, at times a man of few words, yet his presence always felt unbeknownst to most. Isaiah was a great conversationalist and very knowledgeable of history and space. He is known as Uncle Zai to his nephews, Jaxon Herrera, 5, and Daniel Herrera, 3. His often intense and serious demeanor would melt away with kids. Isaiah's love radiated to the kids in his life and, in turn, kids often gravitated

Isaiah fills many rolls and will be deeply missed. We hope to have the same courage you carried, for men twice your size could never possess even half your strength. We'll try to hold our heads high as we carry on with your memories. Grandson, nephew, uncle, cousin, brother and son; the loss felt from your absence is defeating. We try to find comfort that you're at peace, with God now.

Isaiah is preceded in death by his grandpa, Larry Parnell.

He is survived by his parents, Sarah Combs and Wesley Herrera; brother Antonio Herrera; stepbrothers Christopher and Zac Combs; stepfather Michael Combs; grandparents Richard and Ann Sutherland, of Pagosa Springs, Colo.; and Jose and Martha Herrera, of El Paso, Texas.

A viewing was held on Thursday, April 17, 2025, at Farmington Funeral Home, and a and celebration of life was held at Tony's and Anna's. Burial followed at Memory Gardens Cemetery.

Pallbearers: Damien Garcia, Antonio Herrera, Wesley Herrera, Anna Wegner, Christopher Combs, and Ishmael Herrera.

Leonard O. Rice

Leonard O. Rice, 92, a retired Minot, N.D., businessman, died peacefully at his home in Pagosa Springs,

Colo., the evening of March 18, 2025, a short five months after his wife, Marian, had passed.

A memorial service is planned at the Pagosa Bible Church on

Sunday, April 27, at 11:15 a.m. following the regular Sunday church

A second service honoring both Marian and Leonard Rice will be held at First Lutheran Church in Minot, N.D., on June 20 at 11 a.m., followed by a reception at the church and a grave side service at Sunset Memorial Gardens at 2:30 p.m.

Leonard Olia Rice was born March 4, 1933, on the family farm east of Mohall, N.D., to (Peder) Milton and Bertina (Ostlund) Rice. Leonard grew up working on the farm, competing in sports and participating in the regional 4-H club while attending school in Mohall.

He graduated from Mohall High School in 1952 and continued farming while attending a year at North Dakota State School of Forestry in Bottineau and participating in the National Guard.

Early in 1954, Leonard met the love of his life, Marian Joyce Handeland, at a Lansford, N.D., spring dance. The two were married on Nov. 21, 1954. Leonard continued to

farm, but also began looking for other avenues to support his family. In 1956, Leonard and Marian made the decision to move to Minot, where he began working for Standard Oil as a local salesman. The following year he became a Standard Oil dealer, opening Rice's Standard Service Station. Standard Oil recognized his continuous high ratings for cleanliness and customer service, naming him as grand champion regional dealer just five months after starting.

Leonard was well-known for his strong work ethic, which served him throughout his life. He expanded his service station business by establishing Rice Oil Co., a distributor of fuel, gas, oil and tires for local farms and businesses, and operating several gas stations in town and eventually throughout the state.

In 1970, he was elected to the North Dakota House of Representatives, serving two consecutive terms where he worked on the Education, Finance, Taxation and Veterans Affairs committees.

In 1986, Leonard and Marian bought a winter home in Scottsdale Ariz., traveling between North Dakota and Arizona annually. In 1995, while vacationing in Pagosa Springs, Colo., they fell in love with the area and surrounding mountains. They purchased ranch land and built a home with majestic views of the Continental Divide. Leonard and Marian were active members of Pagosa Bible Church and kept busy with horse and cattle ranching. They loved their final years in Colorado that took them back to experiences they had growing up on family farms, at peace with nature and a smaller community life.

Leonard is survived by his children, Cindee Rice, Susan Schneider (Steve), Jon T. Rice (Sherry) and Deborah Rice; sisters Carol LeTourneau, Betty Petterson (Gary) and Linda Girard; 12 grandchildren; 21 greatgrandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Milton and Bertina; brothers Bennie, Paul and Edward Rice; and sisters Alice Olson, Julia Bennett, Myrtle Miller and Elaine Rice.





cades of politicians allowing us to be cheated. In years past Democrat icons Clinton, Obama and Pelosi all bemoaned the trade imbalance and championed the very tariffs that Trump is now implementing (look it up). Watch what they do not what they say. President Trump keeps his word and it drives the left crazy. Again, follow the money.

The left has chosen to fight and die on hills that continue to lose approval among their constituents. Dismissing victims while aggrandizing criminals. Supporting men in women's sports. Supporting enemies that hate us and our greatest world ally, Israel. The approval rates on these stances, and leadership, are all well below 50% and dropping.

It is no wonder the conversion to conservatism rate is currently so dramatic. Hollywood actors and producers, podcasters, musicians, even mainstream media are realizing that MAGA logic and common-sense

"Trump" blind allegiance.

So, by all means liberals - SPEAK! And BTW, fascism can be defined as being forced to take a vaccine against one's will.

Tom Springer

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Pints, Pools, and Paddles 2025

A Community Celebration of Craft Beer, Hot Springs, and the San Juan River

The Springs Resort

The Springs Resort is excited to host the 10th Annual Pints, Pools, and Paddles Craft Brew Fest, happening May 9 through 10. This event isn't just a beer festival. It's a spring tradition that brings our community together to celebrate what makes Pagosa special:mineral-rich waters, craft brews, whitewater adventure, and the spirit of gathering in a place we all love.

Friday, May 9: Start with **Flavor and Fun**

Kick off the weekend with a Beer, Chocolate, and Cheese tasting session, hosted by Pagosa's own Riff Raff Brewing Company. Each session offers an intimate setting where just 30 participants gather to discover the art of pairing craft beer with rich chocolates and carefully selected cheeses.

This experience isn't just delicious; it's educational and fun. You'll learn how the flavors of a well-crafted brew can complement or contrast with sweet and savory notes, deepening your appreciation for both. Whether you're a seasoned beer enthusiast or just curious to learn more, this event is designed for you.

These sessions always sell out quickly, so be sure to secure your spot early. Two sessions are available, at 3 p.m. and 5:30 p.m., for \$50 per person. Don't miss

the chance to kick off Pints, Pools, and Paddles in the most flavorful

Saturday, May 10: A Day for the Community

Saturday is the heart of the festival and a perfect chance to gather with friends and family.

Combo tickets for all-day soaking and beer tasting are \$99, or you can join the tasting-only event for \$49. Local residents within a 60-mile radius can enjoy a \$39 tasting ticket and add a soaking pass for just \$27 with a

valid ID. Spend the day relaxing in the geothermal pools while watching the exciting Pagosa Paddle Whitewater Races on the San Juan River, just steps from the resort. These races, featuring raft teams, kavakers, and stand-up paddleboarders, are a cherished local tradition. The day wraps up with a lively downriver parade full of costumes and good cheer.

From 3 to 6 p.m., sample craft beers from 28 breweries across Colorado, New Mexico, and beyond. Connect with fellow beer lovers and help crown the winner of the Favorite Brewery Award. Past champions Big Beaver Brewing from Loveland and La Cumbre Brewing from Albuquerque may return to defend their titles, but new contenders could take the top spot.

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More Than a Festival. A **Celebration of Community** and Water.

Pints, Pools, and Paddles is more than craft beer and soaking. It's a celebration of our river, our town, and the people who care for both. Proceeds from this event support Friends of the Upper San Juan River, a local nonprofit dedicated to protecting the San Juan River and community parks through education, recreation, and environmental stewardship.

Their work includes hosting community races and whitewater competitions that raise funds for vital projects, like securing public river access south of town and allowing boaters to continue enjoying the beautiful Mesa Canyon

The Springs Resort is proud to contribute the proceeds from this event to help continue their efforts. When you join us, you're not just having fun — you're giving back to the heart of Pagosa

Whether you've lived here for years or are visiting for the first time, this festival is a chance to soak, sip, cheer, and connect with the community. Tickets sell quickly and prices increase as the event approaches. Don't wait to reserve your spot.

Visit pagosahotsprings.com for tickets and full event details.

Local reporting that matters.



Photo courtesy Colorado Department of Transportation

suggested the CDOT team could

potentially work with the Main Street

Advisory Board to develop some sort

of "point system" for using crosswalks

for visitors during their stay that

could be rewarded with some kind

it makes people look for it," he said.

clayton@pagosasun.com

"These kinds of things work, and

Construction crews work on the excavation of the roadway base layer to reach the water lines as part of the ongoing U.S. 160 reconstruction project. Pedestrians entering the work zone continues to be an issue, with the project team warning that the trenches are deep and it is unsafe for pedestrians.

CDOT addresses pedestrian safety concerns in construction zone

By Clayton Chaney Staff Writer

On April 14, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners and Pagosa Springs Town Council heard an update from the Colorado Department of Transportation's (CDOT's) public information team in regard to current status of the U.S. 160 reconstruction project with pedestrian safety being a top concern as of late.

Public Information Manager Meredith Greene explained that the first section of utility work is about to begin between 1st and 3rd streets, and that additional flags and banners for business are on the way.

"I think right now the biggest thing we're grappling with is just managing pedestrian pathways and ensuring that folks are being safe," Greene said.

She explained that recently it's been a challenge with individuals "who are walking through our active construction site and jumping over concrete barriers, and taking their pets with them in some instances."

She explained that CDOT's message to the public is to look for the clearly marked crosswalks located at 1st Street, 3rd Street and Hot Springs Boulevard, emphasizing the importance of pedestrian safety.

"I just want people to be safe," she added, noting that a school resource officer is helping kids cross the highway after being let out from Pagosa Springs Middle School.

"The kids are being safe," she said, while noting that crews are still witnessing vehicles running red lights at the intersection of U.S. 160 and Hot Springs Boulevard.

She explained that, the previous week, crews spent time moving and aligning those signals to be in line with the lanes

Council member Brooks Lindner asked why the entire north side of U.S. 160 is being blocked off, rather than having crews work on one block at a time.

Greene explained that since the north side is the "busier side," CDOT wanted to "tackle that first."

Greene was also joined by Tracey Trulove, another public information manager on the project, who explained that the thought behind having the entire side blocked off is for pedestrian safety, noting that taking down, moving and putting up barriers every week may cause safety concerns.

Trulove also indicated that CDOT typically works under that system when blocking off roads.

on Rosita Street were blocked off —fencing panels, 'cause it's just not a when there is no work actively taking place in that area.

"The extent of our construction actually goes to Harman Park [Drive]," Greene stated.

She explained that a lot of the utility work in that area is related to the

"I think right now the biggest thing we're grappling with is just managing pedestrian pathways and ensuring that folks are being safe."

Public Information Manager Meredith Greene

downtown area and, "we're trying to rip that big part of the Band-Aid off first."

Medina acknowledged that she understood the "misconception, I guess you could say," but still questioned why the entrance was blocked off by Rosita Street.

Greene indicated that she would get a "better answer" after consulting with the construction team, but explained that "we started to tear up some sidewalk in that area" and there was a water leak near the San Juan Mercantile, causing water to flow onto the asphalt, "so we needed to go ahead and close off all of that for utilities."

Pagosa Springs Mayor Shari Pierce asked how pedestrian safety has been addressed in other projects when areas are blocked off and people still are going over barriers.

Trulove indicated that there is orange pedestrian fencing up now, but other projects have used much taller chain-link blocks, describing that as an "eyesore."

She also explained that the information team meets weekly with the community's emergency management team.

"I'll be honest, it comes down to letting folks that's just not gonna be tolerated because of the safety aspect," Trulove said.

She added that people going over barriers are also putting the crew's safety at risk when doing so.

"They're gonna start having really heavy excavation equipment come through that work zone," she said, adding, "I think our team would really

Commissioner Veronica Medina asked why the entrance to businesses like to avoid going to that chain-link More Than Just Signs! DECALS & WINDOW GRAPHICS VEHICLE GRAPHICS & WRAPS STORE FRONTS PROMOTIONAL PRODUCTS APPAREL PRINTING

Commissioner Warren Brown

of award.

great look." Pagosa Springs Police Department (PSPD) Chief Bill Rockensock explained that the possibility of having those chain-link panels put up was discussed at a safety meeting, while noting, "It's so random that we have people coming across there."

He explained that the PSPD does not have the manpower to have officers stationed downtown at all times to catch whoever goes over these barriers, adding that the PSPD has put out education on its Facebook page to "hopefully" help out.

"To be honest with you, the only way to keep people completely out of there is to put up fencing, otherwise you're just gonna have random people doing whatever they want to at any given time," Rockensock said, adding there is not an exact answer, "but the fencing would help even though it's an eyesore."

Pierce explained that she is concerned for the busy summer season with pedestrian safety, given it is currently a slower season and it is a problem now.

Rockensock explained that the chain-link panels may be put up in certain areas as a "trial run," while noting that "when it gets busy, it's gonna get worse." "I appreciate you guys looking at

it, 'cause I'm really concerned," Pierce added. Greene mentioned that the CDOT

information team is planning to meet with the schools to remind kids to be safe this summer. "It seems to be the adult people

that are having the biggest challenge," she said. "It's the grown adults that we're having challenges with."

Council member Madeline Bergon urged everyone in the community to "please make good decisions and set good examples."

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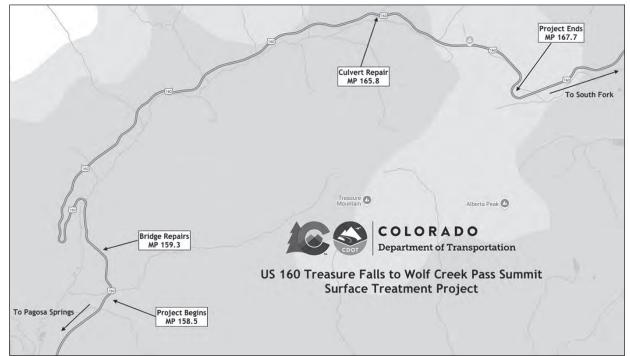
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U.S. 160: Surface treatment project to begin April 30 on west side of Wolf Creek Pass

Colorado Department of Transportation

The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) and contracting partner Elam Construction will begin a surface treatment project on April 29 along U.S. 160 east of Pagosa Springs, from Treasure Falls to the Wolf Creek Pass summit.

The project has an anticipated completion date at the end of October.

Motorists are reminded of an additional highway improvement project taking place 20 miles west on U.S. 160 in downtown Pagosa Springs. More information on that project is available at www.codot.gov/projects/ us160pagosasprings.

The Wolf Creek Pass project will improve approximately 9 miles of U.S. 160 from mile point 158.5, Treasure Falls, to mile point 167.7, at the pass

Work will include asphalt paving and overlay, rumble strip installation, striping, guardrail, and road sign replacement. Additional work will include rail replacement and deck repairs at the bridge located at mile point 159.3, just east of Treasure Falls, and a culvert inlet repair at mile point

165.8, just west of the pass summit. "U.S. 160 is the major east-west route for local commuters, tourist traffic and freight across southern Colorado. The major highway, which includes Wolf Creek Pass, provides access from I-25 in Walsenburg, through the San Luis Valley, all the way to the Four Corners," said CDOT Regional Transportation

Director Julie Constan. "Wolf Creek Pass way traffic; however, motorists will is known for its natural beauty and wilderness, but it can also be a treacherous stretch of road that requires planning and attention to safety. Motorists are urged to use extreme caution due to the steep downhill grades and hairpin curves that can be challenging, especially for commercial big rigs.

Project benefits

The new asphalt will add years of life to this stretch of highway, which saw its last significant paving 20 years ago. The resurfacing will provide a smoother road and will add durability by increasing the resistance of ruts and road damage.

Other benefits of the project include installation of new guardrail that will be 31 inches high, designed to meet new safety standard requirements. The higher railing will help veering vehicles remain on the road more effectively, making the highway safer for the traveling public. The former standard height of guardrail was 27 inches.

The inlet repair is a continuation of a previous temporary repair completed when a sinkhole formed, causing damage to the existing culvert. Improvement of the culvert will accommodate higher accumulations of rainfall and lower the risks associated with flooding.

Travel impacts

Daytime work hours are Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Traffic impacts will include:

- A speed reduction to 40 mph. • The project will maintain two-

encounter single-lane closures and

• A 12- foot width restriction is in place for the West Wolf Creek Pass project. Important note: There is a 10-foot width restriction through the downtown Pagosa Springs project work zone. Plan ahead.

Project contact information

For additional information, contact the project team:

Project website: www.codot.gov/ projects/us160westwolfcreekpassresurfacing.

• Project information hotline: (970) 456-1481.

Project email: resurfacingproject@gmail.com.

· Commercial vehicle information: https://bit.ly/4lQAhs7.

Know before you go

Travelers are urged to "know before you go." Gather information about weather forecasts, anticipated travel impacts and current road conditions before to hitting the road. CDOT resources include:

• Road conditions and travel information: COtrip.org.

• Download the COtrip Planner

app: bit.ly/COtripapp. • Sign up for project or travel

alerts: bit.ly/COnewsalerts.

 See scheduled construction lane closures: bit.ly/laneclosures.

• Connect with @ColoradoDOT on social media.

Water conservancy district board hears update on lawsuits

Staff Writer

The San Juan Water Conservancy District (SJWCD) Board of Directors heard an update on the litigation the district is involved in, including its lawsuit with the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD), at

its April 14 meeting. SJWCD legal counsel Jeffrey Kane opened the update by explaining that the deadline for initial disclosures in its litigation with PAWSD over the sale of the Running Iron Ranch has passed.

Initial disclosures are a step in the discovery process in civil lawsuits where parties voluntarily disclose information without waiting for requests from the other party.

Kane stated that the SJWCD and PAWSD exchanged documents and lists of potential witnesses.

He explained that he had briefly examined the information provided by PAWSD, which included some board meeting minutes prior to 2011 that provided further context on how PAWSD, the SJWCD and the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) reached the three-way agreement for managing the property in 2015.

He noted that the parties largely agree on the case management order for the lawsuit, which governs the discovery process and other issues, but that one issue that PAWSD's counsel raised is that the SJWCD did not provide a quantification of the damages it claims PAWSD inflicted in its attempts to sell the ranch in its filings in the case.

He stated that these impacts are difficult to quantify, but that intends to disclose the board's decisions to reallocate funds from project planning to legal expenses.

However, he noted that these issues are highly speculative and that it is typical for such damages to not be quantified at this stage in litigation.

"PAWSD is signaling ... that they look a little skeptically at the claimed damages and are going to hold our feet to fire there at some point, and we'll be prepared to justify them at that time," Kane said.

He added that a breach-of-contract claim, such as the SJWCD has made, would be justified by nominal dam-

Kane explained that the CWCB has not responded to the appraisal of Running Iron Ranch completed by PAWSD and that a response was due by April 17.

Kane then updated the district on its five sets of water rights cases.

He explained that the Treasure Pass Ditch case, which involves the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) attempting to expand diversion of water through a ditch on Wolf Creek Pass, is progressing, with the BLM potentially agreeing to subordinate this diversion to the SJWCD's reservoir project and the Southwestern Water Conservation District negotiating a "fairly restrictive" set of conditions concerning historical use of water, which would limit the amount diverted.

The board then discussed the details of the BLM subordinating this right to the SJWCD's water rights for the reservoir, with Kane explaining that this agreement would obligate the BLM to not divert water to maintain water levels in the San Juan River and allow the district to divert water for its reservoir.

"I would characterize it as about as good as we could have expected through negotiation in a water rights case, and I think it shows BLM acting in good faith as well," Kane said.

Kane then discussed the district's case opposing water right changes in the Piedra Pass Ditch, located in the Weminuche Wilderness.

He explained that the ditch is owned by Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) and that CPW proposes to divert water from the Piedra River to the San Luis Valley.

He stated that he has received revised proposed decrees for these water rights and that CPW characterized the revisions as limiting its water use to historic levels, although he had not examined them in detail.

Kane indicated that he would submit comments on these cases, but that the case is a significant way from

He then discussed the district's case involving Hidden Valley Ranch, which had filed for diligence for its current reservoir and to make their right absolute for a portion of the

evaporation that occurs when the reservoir is full.

> Kane noted that the Colorado Division of Water Resources engineer recommended approving the request, but that there are several opposers in the case and that Hidden Valley is working on drafting a proposed

> He then discussed a case involving a pond at Bootjack Ranch, explaining that the ranch is making progress on meeting the SJWCD's and CWCB's concerns, but that there are still questions outstanding.

> He concluded this discussion by updating the board on the status of its recent lawsuit filed against River Ridge LLC, which is attempting to create an irrigation water right that the SJWCD has raised concerns about being excessively large for the area irrigated, among other issues.

> Kane stated that this case is in its "infancy" and that he had little further information on the case.

> In response to a question from SJWCD board member Joe Tedder, Kane stated that he had confirmed with River Ridge's lawyer that the amount of water requested in the application was not a typo, as the board had contemplated, and that she was unwilling to reconsider the size of the right.

> Kane closed the discussion by noting he recently received a link to the CWCB's archive of the loan documents for the district's reservoir project, which included a 2007 appraisal of Running Iron Ranch that valued the ranch at more than \$10 million and opinion letters from attorneys stating that PAWSD is solvent and that issuing loans for the property was safe to do.

He added that these documents all support the SJWCD's understanding of the 2015 Running Iron Ranch agreement and its meaning.

During a brief discussion on if the board should enter an executive session to discuss the litigation, Kane commented, "Sometimes the best solution to a legal dispute is political. PAWSD elections are coming up."

"Yes they are, soon. The ballots should be going out soon, as I understand it," Jones said.

josh@pagosasun.com

Map courtesy Colorado Department of Transportation

A map shows the U.S. 160 west Wolf Creek Pass work zone area,

from mile point 158.5 to mile point

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Hurd

■ Continued from front

that she appreciates that, "but his job is to represent the entire district."

"Which he's doing," Ranson inter-

"Which he has not been here to hold a town hall," Jones replied.

Jones mentioned the meeting was to be held in the commissioners' room at the county administration office, noting it is a "small space," claiming the county could've planned to hold the meeting in a larger setting with room for a bigger audience and to have Hurd take questions from the public.

Jones also mentioned that Hurd ran for his position "to represent the entire district."

Hurd is the congressional representative for the 3rd District of Colorado, which encompasses 27 counties, primarily on the Western Slope.

"No," Ranson commented during Jones' statement about Hurd's job.

Jones replied, "No? That's not his job to listen to his constituents?"

"You can make excuses any way you want. He's making the effort ... he's been to [Washington, D.C.] for three months battling for us," Ranson said.

Jones explained that she wanted to hear Hurd speak on topics of concern, also expressing she wants a civil interaction.

"I want to hear what he has to say and I want it to be civil," Jones said, also mentioning that because Hurd represents the entire 3rd District, other people from surrounding communities may want to attend the meeting.

Jones explained that there are people in the community who are "anxious" and "concerned" over actions taken by the current presidential administration.

'Yes, and I am, too. This is not our community," Ranson said, with Jones asking for clarification on his state-

"This is not how Pagosa Springs has been since I moved here in 1996," Ranson said, mentioning this all started happening since the most recent presidential election.

In the past eight presidential elections, from 1996 to 2024, the majority of Archuleta County voters have voted for Republican presidential candidates, according to Dave Leip's Atlas of U.S. Presidential Elections.

Ranson continued to express concerns about the protest organizers calling for people from other communities, while Jones insisted that anyone from the district may want to

attend the meeting. Ranson then claimed that he would be speaking with another community member about the issue, encouraging Jones to "step up as a leader" and "act like Archuleta County people."

Jones questioned how standing and being silent at the meeting would not be civil.

"How is it not civil when my wife is afraid to come to downtown Pagosa?" Ranson replied.

Jones questioned why Ranson's wife is afraid, with Ranson interjecting, stating, "You're not gonna stand up. You've answered. I'm done, but I'm gonna make sure they know it this afternoon. I'm tired of it."

Ranson went on to explain that public comment is usually not included in work sessions (the Facebook post indicated public comment would not be taken at the work session), suggesting that Jones and Stopher attend BoCC work sessions and meetings frequently, adding, "You know how work sessions work."

The BoCC gathering with Hurd

was noticed as a special meeting. Ranson also mentioned that a county employee stayed late after work on Friday to notice the meeting.

award. "We created these awards

programs to recognize these indi-

viduals, as well as the schools and

"This wasn't sneaky," he said, adding that Jones could "straighten that out," referencing the Facebook post. Jones indicated that she did not

make the Facebook post. "Please don't tell me that," Ranson replied, suggesting Jones could re-

spond to the post. Jones indicated that a town hallstyle meeting could have been an op-

tion and thanked the commissioners for having him come here. She added, "Look at what has happened in the country the last 100 days," reiterating that people are

concerned. "That's your opinion and it's in the nation. We don't bring it here," Ran-

Stopher specifically mentioned cuts to the U.S. Forest Service resulting in a loss of staff in and around Archuleta County.

"Take it somewhere else," Ranson replied, explaining that topics such as Medicaid and the hospital "and the things that are important for this community" would be discussed at the meeting.

"Take your national political stuff somewhere else," he added.

Commissioner Veronica Medina explained that the county received the notice from Hurd's representative, adding that the congressman would not have much time as he was planning other stops in Bayfield and Durango that day.

She added that the purpose of the meeting was for the commissioners to be able to talk Hurd about things that are happening in D.C.

Medina also mentioned that her understanding of Hurd's trip was to have "quick meetings to update the commissioners," and that Hurd is planning to hold town hall-style meetings at a later date.

She noted that the county received a "short notice for us even," as Commissioner Warren Brown was only able to attend the meeting online.

Medina went on to explain that, according to Hurd's staff, he understands that "the constituents in his district are upset with things that are happening."

She then mentioned that she has been able to speak with Hurd in regard to wildfire adaptive grants, indicating Hurd has helped get funds unfrozen for programs "which directly affected us here in Archuleta County."

She added, "There are local issues he is working on on our behalf."

Medina also mentioned that it is important to work together to support our current leadership and that she would prefer to "respectfully

Stopher acknowledged Ranson's concerns about his wife being "scared" to come to town, saying, "that same fear is on the other side too," noting she deals with the same

"You can't do anything about that. We can here," Ranson said.

Attending virtually, Brown offered comments recalling a visit from Sen. John Hickenlooper a couple of years ago, explaining although there were political disagreements, "yet the senator was treated with complete respect from everybody."

Brown added that whether constituents can agree or not, it is important to support the current leadership, noting that the commissioners make a "diligent effort to serve all constituents of the county regardless of political affiliation."

"I appreciate the comments today from every angle," Brown said.

Special meeting

When Hurd arrived at the special meeting, he was greeted by a group of protesters displaying signs that expressed concerns over public lands and other measures taken by the Trump administration.

Before entering the meeting, Hurd engaged with each protester, asking what the major concerns were while offering explanations to some of those concerns.

Hurd explained that he has introduced legislation that would limit the president's ability to impose tariffs.

More protesters and community members filled the commission's room, with other elected county officials as well as members of the Pagosa Springs Town Council.

"Whether or not you agree with or vote for me, I represent you and it's an honor to have you here," Hurd said.

Hurd explained that he is a Colorado native, having grown up in Grand Junction, with a professional background as an energy lawyer focusing on rural electric co-ops similar to La Plata Electric Association.

He mentioned that through that work he saw challenges and opportunities across rural Colorado, "and that was my fundamental reason for running, was to create economic opportunities" to help families stay and thrive living in southern Colorado.

Hurd noted that when he started his professional career he did not intend to become a politician, describing himself as an "accidental politician.

Hurd then explained that he is on three committees in the House of Representatives: natural resources, transportation infrastructure, and science space and technology.

He also mentioned that he is the chairman of the Indian and Insular Affairs Subcommittee, which has jurisdiction over issues in Indian nations

Hurd noted that one of the "top" things he wanted to work with the commissioners on is identifying highpriority transportation projects in the county in order to make requests in the federal budget for those projects.

He also spoke about concerns relating to the national forest, mentioning the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) and his support of that initiative.

He added he believes the U.S. Forest Service may not be the ideal place to make budget cuts.

"I do think that fundamentally the project of government efficiency and DOGE is a good project, making government more efficient, we just need to make it in the right spots," Hurd said, adding that, "on the ground in the Forest Service is probably not the place to be cutting."

He explained that his understanding is that wildland firefighters have not been cut, but that their support staff has.

Hurd indicated that he is working on a piece of bipartisan legislation that would see to it that employees who have been terminated "do not lose their place in line" if they come back, describing the initiative as a "common sense, good public policy" to incentivize folks who "we need to come back."

He noted that he has had success in other parts of the district in getting workers rehired.

Hurd also mentioned that he is concerned about the upcoming fire season with a low snowpack in the

He explained that one of his first speeches in the House of Representatives was on the Fix Our Forest Act, mentioning that it is important to reduce fuel loads in the national forest

Hurd also noted that he is supporting a piece of legislation that would permanently relocate the Bureau of Land Management headquarters to western Colorado with the thought that those making the policies should live in the region it's

affected most.

He then addressed his stance on the president imposing tariffs, explaining that he has helped introduce legislation that would limit the president's ability to do so.

"I do believe that Congress has done a terrible job of farming out its powers to the executive branch and we need to bring those back in," he said, noting that he believes Congress should have a say in tariff authority.

Hurd added that whether or not constituents voted for him, "I owe it to you to listen to you."

Ranson commented that he is appreciative of Hurd's efforts in "working across the aisle," adding that Hurd is one of the few he has seen trying to work with both parties.

"I appreciate that as a taxpayer," Ranson added.

Brown commented on the fire concerns, stating, "As you can see from our community, we are a ticking

Brown explained that a catastrophic wildfire event would have significant economic effects to the entire area, as well as causing problems with water supply.

"So, I appreciate what you're doing there," he said.

Brown also mentioned that he is concerned about issues relating to medical services available to veter-

Hurd described the issues around care and pharmaceutical needs for veterans as a "critical priority," inviting anyone who knows someone struggling with those matters to reach out to his team.

"What matters is what we do," he said, explaining that he can say all these things, but that his actions are more important and that he hopes that is what his constituents hold him accountable for.

"There is so much that I love about this district," Hurd said, noting that Pagosa Springs and Archuleta County are a "core" part of that.

"I hope to be down here many times,"he added. "This is not the only time I'll be visiting here."

Hurd also urged constituents who may disagree with him on the majority of items to express when he is doing something they do agree with, as it helps in getting bipartisan legislation approved.

Following the meeting, Hurd explained in an interview that he was informed by the commissioners that there was a group of constituents in Archuleta County who would disagree with him, but that they would be polite, "and that is what I found."

Hurd commented that he was impressed with the thoughtfulness of the people he spoke with, even though "almost all" of them disagreed with him, adding they did so in a thoughtful way.

Hurd described the occasion as "an example of a good kind of inter-

He also mentioned that he has great memories of Pagosa Springs and Archuleta County, and that he now feels he has a "special responsibility" being the district's repre-

He noted that his visit encouraged him to be open-minded and to listen to constituents while still being able to "stand up for my principals."

In a later interview with Ranson, he explained that he felt Hurd handled the meeting well, along with addressing the protesters.

"The people were calm," Ranson said, mentioning that he was appreciative of Hurd's efforts and saying Hurd "didn't sound like a politician" and presented the commissioners with important information.

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Pagosa Peak Open School. Every day, it with students." I get to learn alongside students and PPOS students explore broad, colleagues who are curious, creative, inquiry-based questions through and brave enough to tackle real-world real-world experiences in field work, challenges through project-based a variety of reading opportunities, and learning. This award is a reminder that interviews with experts. They then when we trust kids, center their voices produce an end product that answers and stay open to learning ourselves, their initial question, positively imamazing things can happen. I'm so pacts their community and/or comgrateful to be part of this journey." municates their new learning with an Through a project-based learning authentic audience for their content.

model, students dive deep into histo-"Rue is really well-planned and ry, civics, physics, chemistry, ethics, finds great ways to tie tasks and asbiology and other content standards signments to standards while makwithout leaning on textbooks. ing learning fun," said Graham's "Project-based learning is transcolleague, middle school English forming classrooms, schools and Language Arts teacher Alison Beach. districts across the country thanks "The projects are engaging and multito the commitment and dedication faceted. For example with her current of passionate educators and adminproject about space, students are also istrators," said PBLWorks CEO Bob exposed to content about our envi-Lenz in a press release about the ronment and community. It shows

> projects are complex and fun." Students agree with Beach.

up seamlessly and works well: The

"We get a lot of choice in our projects. For example, we can choose our groups for work or work independently. And there's a lot of sharing what we learned at the end," said

> sixth-grader Finlay. "The projects here are awesome and Mrs. Rue is wise. She knows how to get us to learn right from her. She's not a teacher that just puts us on computers," said fifth-grader Jay White. "She expects us to learn from people and places. During our American Revolution project we had experts like the Sons of the Revolution come in and show us the tools they used

> Beyond her skills in curating projects, she is also a favorite among her "Mrs. Rue helps me when I need

and where they battled."

it and is so kind," said sixth-grader Skyla. "You can tell she actually likes being with her students and the class just loves her. "

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response to the questions asked dur-

ing and before the meeting as a sepa-

Jones asked Eckrich if the next step

would be to contract an engineering

firm to do a 30 percent design and

any additional work, such as further

Eckrich responded affirmatively.

"Well, we have a next step," Jones

Cooper noted that Eckrich stated

He added that the board might

Following Eckrich's departure from

said. "That's what we were looking

that he could recommend some en-

reach out to Eckrich later to obtain

the meeting, the board members

expressed their satisfaction with the

report and that this report answered

many of the questions about the res-

ervoir that board members had.

josh@pagosasun.com

gineering firms for this work.

those recommendations.

surveys and an inundation study.

rate communication to the board.

The view from Exhibition Ridge looking north at Wolf Creek Ski Area shows off fresh snow on Sunday, April 20. The ski area officially closed for the season on April 6, but a storm that dropped more than a foot of snow on Wolf Creek Pass late last week prompted many skiers and snowboarders to hike and "earn their turns" over the weekend. According to the ski area, nonmotorized traffic is permitted using Kelly Boyce trail.

Water conservancy district board hears reservoir geotechnical report

By Josh Pike Staff Writer

At its April 14 meeting, the San Juan Water Conservancy District (SJWCD) Board of Directors heard a draft of a Preliminary Geotechnical and Geologic Hazards Report from Yeh and Associates for the district's reservoir project, located at Running Iron Ranch.

SJWCD Board Member Randy Cooper introduced the report, explaining that it had been provided to board members and questions were forwarded to Yeh and Associates Senior Project Manager Gresh Eckrich.

Eckrich stated that the firm's evaluation of the reservoir site was based on existing information provided by the SJWCD.

The report explains that the subsurface at the site likely consists of a mix of fine silt and clay deposits, and weathered shale overlaying bedrock sandstone and shale.

It states that previous studies found groundwater between 13 and 30 feet from the surface and that, since a dam embankment would be based on the bedrock, measures to pump away groundwater will likely be a necessary part of construction.

Among the geologic hazards that the project will have to address, according to the report, are ground motion associated with dam installation, earthquakes, soil erosion and expansion of soils like clay when wet.

The report adds that further evaluations for landslides and debris flows should be performed.

It indicates that further analysis of water seepage and slope stability are needed to design the reservoir and its seepage controls.

Further geotechnical site exploration is needed for the reservoir's design, the report indicates, including further mapping, subsurface exploration, and sampling of soil and bedrock at the site.

At the request of SJWCD president Candace Jones, Eckrich began answering board member questions, beginning with a question about if the report provides recommendations on site work for a design-level study.

Eckrich explained that it does provide recommendations on subsurface exploration, although he stated that these recommendations should be revisited once the design is "further along."

He stated that he recommended to Jones in a discussion that the district involve a civil design firm to start a preliminary design for the reservoir to help the district focus on key areas for further geotechnical analysis.

Jones asked if Eckrich was recommending that the next steps should be focused on design, not further geotechnical work.

She noted that a key goal of the report was to build a roadmap for future work for the district.

Eckrich confirmed this, stating that design work is needed to maximize the value of the geotechnical

He then answered a question about the expected cost and timeline for design-level geotechnical work, explaining that this would be somewhat dependent on the design of the reservoir, but that he could provide a rough estimate.

Following a discussion of how cost estimates are done for a preliminary "30 percent" design, SJWCD board member Joe Tedder asked if this level of design would allow the district to create an estimate of the total cost of the reservoir that could be presented to financial partners.

Eckrich replied that he believed the district could reach an estimate of the cost at that level of design.

SJWCD board member Charles Riehm asked if he was correct in understanding that the report does not uncover any "outstanding gotcha" that would indicate building a reservoir at the ranch is unfeasible.

Eckrich stated that is correct and the report did not find any fatal flaw at the site.

The group then discussed the risk of dam failure and how large the reservoir could be and not pose a risk to Pagosa Springs if the dam failed, with Jones concluding by stating that answers to this question were not available at present, but that it would have to be considered further.

Eckrich added that inundation studies are often done concurrently with the 30 percent design of a dam to help assess these risks and that the study could be done by the same firm doing the design.

He explained that, from his perspective as a geotechnical engineer, a reservoir size smaller than the 11,000 acre-feet proposed for the reservoir would not avoid any geotechnical issues present in the larger reservoir.

In response to a request to rate the suitability of the site for building a reservoir, Eckrich replied that the report did not find significant flaws and that he would not recommend relocating the reservoir with the information available.

Eckrich stated that the "biggest geotechnical challenge" for the reservoir would be having shale as the foundation for the reservoir.

He indicated that this would not be "insurmountable," but that further investigation would be needed to assess what issues might arise and what engineering solutions would be needed.

Eckrich then discussed potential studies on wetlands in the area and leakage from the Park Ditch, which runs through the property.

He stated that a question had referenced a previous wetland study, but that he had not seen that study.

SJWCD board member Rod Proffitt, who asked the question, explained that the district had, at some point, commissioned a wetland study that indicated that the source of water for the wetlands it identified was from the Park Ditch.

In response to a question from Cooper, Proffitt stated that the water came from seepage from the ditch.

Following further discussion of the wetland study and the conclusions of its unknown author, Eckrich moved on to the final question concerning using material from the site to build the dam.

He stated that soil from the site could likely be used to construct the embankment, particularly the core of the dam.

He added that further geophysics studies might help identify further sources of soil for the site.

He also noted that it was encouraging that a sand and gravel quarry was able to operate near the site.

Jones asked Eckrich if any additional survey work needed for a 30 percent design could be done in parallel with the design work.

Eckrich confirmed this, adding that the work could likely be done by the same firm doing the design.

Jones then asked Eckrich if he needed any further input to finalize

He replied that he did not.

At the request of the board, Eckrich also agreed to provide a written



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Williams asked if "there was any

downside" to approving the docu-

ment at the meeting, with Dickhoff

responding that the data in the report

"is the data. It's not going to change if

He replied, "I don't think there's a

The data, he explained, is impor-

Council member Brooks Lindner

Dickhoff added that the document

tant to make both the town and county

meet new requirements for state hous-

suggested, "We as a council can really

leverage this document with develop-

ers coming in ... and we can target

would also help the town "petition the

state to allow us to use higher AMIs,"

suggesting that the assessment shows

a significant need in the community

for housing — both rental and owner-

ship models - for those in the higher

He said that Proposition 123 fund-

ing from the state limits the town to

60 percent AMI or below when it ap-

plies for grants for "rental projects ...

and 100 percent AMI for ownership

projects," and that the new assess-

ment would justify the town raising

scribed as "the missing middle," with

percent of the assessment's respon-

dents in the 80 to 160 percent AMI

range (earning \$52,800 to \$105,600

expressed that he was excited to

approve the document, saying, "We

have a need [for housing] and the

need continues to grow. However,

we also have a disparity ... the wage

to survive in this town is going up and

what people are making is not, and

more and more people cannot live

here. It doesn't matter if they have

family here or have been here forever

or whatever, that chasm is growing ...

and that door is closing for so many

people, and what does that say about

the diversity of our community?"

ron@pagosapremierproperties.com

He added, "It hurts my heart that

that gap continues to grow."

Council member Mat deGraaf

This housing need has been de-

its caps to higher AMIs.

per year for an individual).

the council has questions" about it.

downside."

ing grant funding.

certain AMIs."

AMI ranges.

Despite the weather postponing the larger Earth Day celebration, locals gathered on Saturday afternoon, April 19, to rally for the environment and protest actions by the current presidential administration.

Assessment

■ Continued from front

nity in terms of household size and makeup.

She noted the HNA also looks at economic trends in the community to see where people are moving in relation to jobs.

It is "one of the few times you get to really get a full inventory of your built housing units," McClain added, noting the HNA looks at all housing units, occupied or not.

Other considerations in the HNA include market trends, available resources in the community and housing problems such as residents who are being cost-burdened by their housing payments.

McClain explained that SB24-174 $\,$ now requires a community the size of Archuleta County to perform a HNA, and that the study taking place in Archuleta County is one of the first happening in the state, noting the community is "sort of leading the way."

She explained that the biggest purpose for doing an HNA is to "access funding" while planning for change and future needs of the community in order to "serve the full spectrum of housing and how that can really benefit your community."

She explained the assessment included more than 600 resident responses to a survey, along with 96 employer responses and stakeholder engagement.

She noted that through those responses what was discovered is that the "region is at a crossroads" with balancing local identity with tourism, in-migration and investment pressures

She noted those were trends expedited by the COVID-19 pandemic, but those trends were already being seen.

"Rising housing costs are really reshaping who can live here," McClain added, explaining that "affordability is slipping for year-round residents."

She also mentioned that the local workforce is "feeling the squeeze," according to both employer and employee responses, even at the middle income levels.

She went on to explain that funding available for housing projects is tied to area median income (AMI) levels, and that the 100 percent AMI level for a two-income household in Archuleta County was \$75,400 in 2024. That translates to an affordable rent price of \$1,890 and a purchase price of \$238,200

According to data presented by McClain, 21 percent of Archuleta County residents are in the 51 to 80 percent AMI range, 9 percent are in the 100 to 120 percent range, 11 percent are in the 81 to 100 percent range and 15 percent are in the 120 to 160 percent range, with others falling below and above those ranges.

The data also showed that 56 percent of renters are cost-burdened, meaning they are paying more than 30 percent of their household income on housing, and 37 percent of owners are cost-burdened.

In regard to the AMI range above 100 percent, McClain stated, "There is still need for subsidy in that range, but less so" as individuals in that range are starting to get into market rates.

McClain presented a quote from the survey response with a resident claiming they are prequalified for a \$500,000 mortgage with a strong down payment and can "barely find anything livable at that price."

According to McClain's presentation, the median home sale price in Archuleta County in 2020 was \$354,000, which increased by 56 percent to \$553,500 in 2025.

She explained that the total income needed to purchase a home in 2025 in the county is \$150,800, or 200 percent of AMI levels, which translates to an

average of 2.9 full-time wages needed. McClain presented another quote

from the resident survey that stated, "If my rent was actually affordable I could get ahead and save for a down payment. But every time we build savings, we have to dip into them again just to get by."

She then presented data indicating that average rent for a two-bedroom unit in the county is listed at \$3,150 per month, which translates to needing an income of 167 percent of the AMI.

She noted that 2.4 average wages are needed in order for residents to be able to rent two- and three-bedroom units in the community.

McClain also highlighted some "positive trends" in the community, noting there are already 173 affordable housing units developed, with local employers actively engaging in providing housing support.

She mentioned some "concerning trends" being that home prices "are out of reach for most locals" and require "a fairly high income."

She also noted that entry-level homes under \$400,000 are "nearly gone" as new development trends are targeting higher price points.

Rental vacancy is "critically low" at .5 percent, she explained, noting 5 percent as a "healthy benchmark" in that category.

McClain mentioned that employers are concerned about housing availability as it is affecting their ability to run successful businesses.

She referenced one response that indicated a business owner sold their business because retaining employees due to housing issues was "too taxing."

McClain then indicated that the community needs a total of 362 units to "catch up to where you're at now."

While forecasting the community's future needs with consideration of employees retiring and keeping up with job growth in the community, "the total keep up is 954 units" over a 10-year period, McClain explained.

She then went on to explain that the HNA will help the community receive a rural resort designation, which would allow affordable housing projects to receive funding for higher AMI levels.

She also noted that developers can use the HNA extensively to help guide where the needs are in the commu-

Council member Gary Williams commented that he has worked with Habitat for Humanity and that the PSCDC's current housing projects are resulting in home prices ranging from \$328,000 to \$400,000.

"You can't build a house for less than \$300 a square foot," he added, noting the PSCDC has had land donated and fees subsidized.

Williams also commented on the rural resort designation, noting it raises the AMI considerably, "but it doesn't seem like it really helps us with the housing problem."

McClain explained that the designation helps obtain funding to go toward housing projects aimed at higher AMI levels.

"So we can build more expensive houses," Williams said.

Pagosa Springs Mayor Shari Pierce

explained the HNA was on the agenda for town council to approve on April 15, inquiring when it needed to be approved in order to prevent any delays in getting grant funding or receiving the rural resort designation.

Pierce indicated she would not be ready to vote on the matter as the council had only recently received the HNA and she needed more time to go through the data.

Dickhoff explained that the "sooner the better" so the community could petition for higher AMIs, but noted that a decision by the May 6 meeting would not significantly impact the process.

Pierce commented that she was appreciative of the work and information being provided, "but I don't approve our budgets based on the summaries that are provided to us. I like to look at the data, so I need more time."

Council member Matt DeGuise commented that the PSCDC's and Habitat for Humanity's work is "great," but that based on the HNA results, "diversifying the types of housing we're building is key based on what this report is showing us," adding that the community will for those types of projects is not always there.

"Something has to give in order for us to get housing," council member Madeline Bergon stated.

PSCDC Executive Director Emily Lashbrooke provided more information on the significance of the rural resort designation, explaining that "we can go after bigger grant money" with that designation.

Instead of being capped at \$60,000 per household, projects could go up to \$75,000 per household with funding received from Proposition 123, "and actually achieve building that affordable product. That's the benefit of the rural resort designation."

Commissioner Veronica Medina also expressed concern over feeling comfortable enough to make a decision on the matter on April 15, noting she was "not prepared" to make a decision.

BoCC approval

At a regular meeting on April 15, the BoCC unanimously approved adopting the HNA.

Before voting on the matter, Commissioner Warren Brown stated,"it's important that we are able to bring a decision forward today and open another pathway to keep going and to not delay any potential funding that we might receive."

McClain explained that adopting the HNA does not require the community to build any units, "but it does enable you to go to the next step, which would be the strategy and action plan."

Town council approval

The town council approved the adoption of the assessment at its April 15 meeting, with Pierce opposing the adoption of the assessment at that

Pierce reiterated that she did not feel comfortable approving a document that she had not yet fully taken

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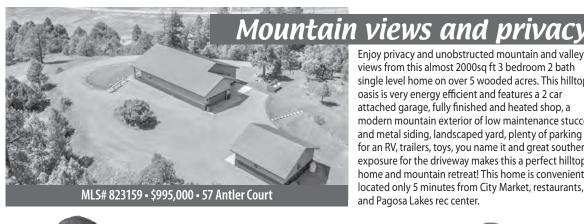
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Sports



TRACK



Photo courtesy Jessica Carr

Connor Thomas runs a time of two minutes, 17.66 seconds in the 800-meter run at the Ron Keller Invitational in Durango on Monday, April 21, placing him ninth in the event.



Photo courtesy Jessica Carr

ference in track and field," O'Donnell

explains. "We plan on trying to enter

our best athletes in as many events as

they can handle. I know that we will

Action is set to begin at 9 a.m.

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be very competitive."

Honestye Sweet runs en route to a ninth-place finish in the 1,600 meter run at the Ron Keller Invitational in Durango on Monday, April 21.

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Pirates take on 'good competition' in rescheduled meet

By Randi Pierce Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School (PSHS) track and field team took part in the 15-team Ron Keller Invitational Monday in Durango after the event was rescheduled from Saturday due to inclement weather.

"Yesterday was really windy, but at least it wasn't snowing. It was a good meet with some good competition, coach Connie O'Donnell wrote in a Tuesday email to The SUN. "We were missing about 11 athletes because of FBLA in Denver."

The coach also notes the team ran more relays at the meet, "but seemed to struggle with handoffs. I'm not sure if that was because of the wind or if we were just off that day."

Six Lady Pirates took part in the 100-meter dash, with Rylie Carr taking fifth overall with a time of 13.67 seconds. Molly Washburn finished 14th in 14.45 seconds. Marlowe Hedgecock followed in 16th in 14.50 seconds. Nevaeh Evans finished 30th in 15.31 seconds. Darria Fiorenza followed in 31st in 15.42 seconds. Italia Pereyra finished 48th with a time of 18.20 seconds.

The same number raced in the 200-meter dash, with Sienna Rose being the top Lady Pirate finished. Rose took fourth overall with a time of 27.92 seconds. Carr finished seventh in 28.01 seconds. Washburn took 18th with a time of 30.01. Amber Snarr finished 26th with a time of 30.60 seconds. Fiorenza finished 42nd with a time of 32.80 seconds and Pereyra took 55th with a time of 39.59 seconds.

Rose took the top spot in the 400-meter dash with a time of 1 minute, 0.95 seconds.

"Sienna Rose took 3 seconds off of her season 400 time and I think it was because she had competition and was really being pushed down the home stretch," O'Donnell highlights.

With a time of 3:05.53, Madisen Stretton finished 13th in the 800-meter run, with Honestye Sweet following in 14th with a time of 3:09.79.

Sweet took ninth in the 1,600-meter run with a time of 6:52.21.

Stretton notched eighth in the 3,200-meter run with a time of 14:25.29.

Eden Conner took 11th in the 100-meter hurdles with a time of 20.87 seconds and eighth in the 300-meter hurdles in 59.59 seconds.

The 4x100-meter relay team of

Rose, Washburn, Lexi Campbell and Carr finished second with a time of 52.56 seconds.

The same crew of Lady Pirates took second in the 4x200-meter relay with a time of 1:51.68.

Hedgecock finished 11th in the long jump with a distance of 13 feet,

Campbell notched a second-place finish in the triple jump with a distance of 31-11.25. Stretton followed in

sixth with a distance of 27-5.25.

Malorie Morton finished fourth in the discus with a throw of 99-6, with Liana Vega following in sixth with a distance of 89-1.

Morton finished third in the shot put with a distance of 28-2.75, with Vega taking seventh with a throw of 26-0.5

On the boys' side, six Pirates competed in the 100, with Colton Lucero taking first with a time of 11.24 seconds. Tommy Nigro finished 11th in 12.22 seconds. Alex Pacheco finished 23rd with a time of 12.61 seconds. Jeremiah Dean finished 31st in 12.89 seconds. Cash O'Neal followed in 34th with a time of 12.97 seconds. Trevor Faber finished 43rd in 13.17 seconds.

Jonathan Baker took ninth in the 200 with a time of 24.57 seconds, with Dean finishing 18th in 25.19 seconds.

Faber finished 17th in the 400 with a time of 59.33 seconds, and Jacob Castaneda following in 20th in 59.62 seconds.

With a time of 2:17.66, Connor Thomas finished ninth in the 800. Weston Sweet finished 27th with a time of 2:33.00. Eli Nehring followed in 28th with a time of 2:33.27.

Weston Sweet took 15th in the 1,600 with a time of 5:34.14.

Thomas took second in the 3,200 with a run that also landed him at No. 8 on PSHS's top-10 list for the event, according to O'Donnell. Thomas ran a time of 11:19.98.

Nehring finished seventh with a time of 12:11.20.

Three Pirates raced in the 110-meter hurdles, with Jones finishing seventh with a time of 18.14 seconds, Tristan Frame finishing 10th in 20.30 seconds, and Xavior Haynie took 12th with a time of 20.43 seconds.

Four Pirates competed in the 300 hurdles. Jones finished ninth in 45.71 seconds. Jaxten Schiel followed in 10th in 46.28 seconds. Frame took 15th in 49.92 seconds. Haynie finished 17th with a time of 50.26 seconds.

The 4x100 relay team of Lucero, Nigro, Pacheco and Creede Dozier finished second with a time of 44.08 seconds

The 4x200 relay team — Castaneda, Nigro, Pacheco and Baker — took third with a time of 1:39.43.

Jones garnered second in the high

jump with a height of 5-11. Dozier followed in third with a height of 5-9. Koen Pitcher finished 11th with a height of 5-1.

Lucero took fourth in the long jump

with a distance of 19-2.25, and Schiel followed in fifth with a jump of 18-10.75. Haynie finished eighth with a distance of 18-1. Dean followed in 10th with a jump of 17-7.25.

Dozier was the top finisher in the triple jump with a distance of 42-6.25.

"Creede Dozier added some inches to his triple jump," O'Donnell wrote. "We know that he has more distance in him and he will get there in the next few weeks."

Jones followed in third in the triple jump with a result of 37-6. Schiel took fourth with a distance of 36-11.75 Castaneda finished seventh with a distance of 35-1.75. Vincent Fish took 10th with a distance of 33-9. Pitcher finished 15th with a result of 32-0.25.

Five Pirates competed in discus, with Aidan Vega finishing eighth with a throw of 105-1, Lincoln Butler taking 14th with a distance of 79-10, Davian Coss finishing in 19th with a throw of 65-6, Jesus Serratos finishing 22nd with a throw of 59-6 and James Beaudry finishing 25th with a throw of 55-11.

Emile Schneider finished eighth in the shot put with a throw of 35-1.25. Aidan Vega followed in ninth with a distance of 32-5. Butler followed in 10th with a distance of 31-10. Coss finished 17th with a throw of 30-0.5.

This week, the team will be back in action in Bayfield for the Pine River Invitational, which will also serve as the Intermountain League (IML) meet.

"Winning your event at the IML meet is the only way to earn all-con-



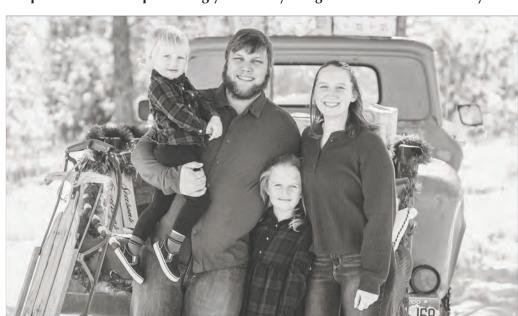
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BASEBALL

Pirates looking to right ship in trio of home games

By Randi Pierce Staff Writer

After Mother Nature again postponed play for the Pagosa Springs High School Pirate baseball team in Cortez on Saturday, the teams faced off Monday afternoon.

Unfortunately for the Pirates, they returned home with two league losses to the Panthers.

The Pirates, who now own a 7-6 record and are 0-4 in league play, are now looking ahead to a string of home games and the bigger picture as the season nears its end.

"We're fightin' for an opportunity to make it to the playoffs because this team is a better team than what we had last year that made it to the playoffs. And we had some ballplayers, obviously, that were very good, but we are sound throughout the lineup ... capability-wise," coach Ben Garcia said. "We have tons of capability, but we're not playing as a team for seven innings.

The Pirates scored first in the first half of the afternoon's doubleheader. bringing around three runs in the top of the third.

The Panthers tied the game 3-3 in the bottom of the inning, and the game remained tied until the Pirates picked up two runs in the fifth.

Pagosa brought around another run in the top of the seventh, leading 6-3 heading into the game's final half inning.

The Panthers, however, capitalized in the half inning, scoring four

The Panthers, the coach relayed, knocked a couple of hits and the Pirates then made mistakes that allowed for the bases to be loaded and the Panthers to pull ahead.

"Again, we played well for ... six innings and then the seventh inning we again had some problems," Garcia said, adding, "I wish I could put my finger on what it ... is. ... It's just not one situation. We're our own worst enemy when it comes to tryin' to close out games."

Pagosa outhit the Panthers 10-5 in the game.

Taylor Wells went 3-for-4 in the game with a double and three runs scored. He also reached on an error.

Zach Pouyer and Cooper Ralston each had two hits. Pouver also picked up three RBIs and scored a run. Ralston also reached after being hit

by a pitch and logged two RBIs. Sebastian Gonzalez, Kaeden Iguchi and Kyler Henderson each had

Charles Washburn picked up an RBI in the game fielder's choice.

Chris Young-Martinez, who reached on an error, scored a run.

Garcia also highlighted Pouyer's play defensively in the game, noting he played "an absolutely great game," running down balls and throwing people out at the plate.

Ralston, Wells and Martinez combined to allow seven runs (one earned) on five hits, two walks and four hit batters while striking out

Ralston, the coach noted, threw five good innings of "really good ball," with Wells then coming in and getting the Pirates out of the sixth without any problems.

The Pirates committed nine errors in the game, with Garcia noting another play could have been classified as an error.

"You can't win ballgames with 10 errors," Garcia said, especially with hitting batters.

The Panthers committed two er-

The Pirates fell 15-5 in the day's second game, though Garcia indicated the team didn't carry over the issues from the earlier loss initially.

Pagosa brought around two runs in the top of the first before the Panthers countered with four in the bottom of the inning and another in

"We have a chance to take care of business, but we're going to have to play individually the best ball," the coach said, adding the team needs to execute routine plays.

"Cortez is a good team; we can't take them lightly, for sure," Garcia said of the Panthers.

The Pirates scored another run in the top of the third to cut the Panthers' lead to 5-3.

The Pirates' momentum was high when they were back in the game, Garcia noted, with opportunities to score runs.

The Panthers, however, scored eight in the fourth.

The Pirates, according to the coach, allowed some walks and had some errors.

"Again, they're crucial errors because they ... prolong the inning," Garcia said, adding missed pop flies in the outfield allowed the Panther's to keep running.

Each team scored two in the fifth to make the final score 15-5 in favor of the home team.

"We're out of sync. And some of it is youth, but a lot of it is just not thinking a play ahead," Garcia said.

Pagosa's five runs came on six hits. Wells and Young-Martinez each had two hits and two runs scored, with Wells also stealing a base.

Gonzalez and Henderson each logged one hit, with Henderson's coming in the form of a home run. He tallied two RBIs and a run scored, as well as drawing two walks.

Pouyer, who was hit by a pitch and reached on a fielder's choice, had

Ralston also picked up an RBI. Ry Richie reached on a walk.

Young-Martinez and Wells took the mound in the game, combining to allow 15 runs, five of which were earned, on 10 hits, four walks and two hit batters while striking out

The Pirates committed five errors, with the Panthers logging one.

"We as a team deserve better," Garcia said. "We're just not clicking from the standpoint of nine players. We've always got somewhere where we're just not taking care of business, and it seems to kind of escalate from there and hurts us."

The Pirates will host a trio of games this week and will be looking to right the ship over the course of the final seven games of the regular season and go back to playing well as it has against other good teams

"We have a chance to take care of business, but we're going to have to play individually the best ball," the coach said, adding the team needs to execute routine plays. "We really just need to play a full game."

At 1 p.m. on Friday, the Pirates will host the Cedaredge Bruins, who sit as the No. 8 team in Colorado 2A baseball and are 12-1 on the season.

"Cedaredge is a team that could get us back into the rankings of where we need to be," Garcia said.

The next day beginning at 11 a.m., the Pirates will welcome the Centauri Falcons to town for a league double-

The Falcons are 1-1 in league play and 5-10 overall this season.

"Centauri is a very good team in our league that's been playing well,

so we need to finish strong," the coach added.

Centauri sits as the No. 32 team in Colorado 3A baseball, while the Pirates are the No. 29 team.

Garcia added he's also looking forward to playing at home in front of family and friends, playing in good weather and turning things around. randi@pagosasun.com

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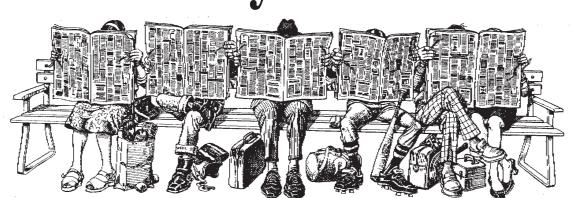


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Soccer



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Mean Moose in Alamosa at 4 p.m.

Gian explained that he wants to

The Lady Pirates will then travel to

Gian mentioned it "would be

see the Lady Pirates start strong and

come out aggressive against an "ex-

Bayfield on Tuesday, April 29, with

tremely quality team."

kickoff scheduled for 4 p.m.

Terriana Cage clears the ball near midfield in the Lady Pirates' win against the Ignacio Bobcats at Golden Peaks Stadium on Tuesday.

Lady Pirates move to 4-4 on season

By Clayton Chaney Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirate soccer team now boasts an overall record of 4-4, including a league mark of 1-3, after splitting another pair of games over the last week and weekend.

The Lady Pirates were originally scheduled to take on the Lake County Panthers in Leadville on Friday, April 18, but coach Trevor Gian explained that match was canceled and is not likely to be rescheduled.

On Saturday, April 19, the Lady Pirates traveled to Cortez, falling to the Montezuma-Cortez Panthers 3-0 for a second time this season.

Gian explained that although the score may not reflect it, the Lady Pirates "played with Cortez quite well."

When comparing their first matchup of the season, Gian noted, "it was great" and that he was pleased with the Lady Pirates' effort on the

"The heart and the effort we showed in there was amazing," he

Gian explained that the Lady Pirates gave up goals that could've been potentially avoided by applying more pressure and not allowing Montezuma-Cortez to fire off uncon-

"I know the score doesn't indicate the second half." . how well we played in there; I think we could've cleaned that up," he added.

He mentioned the Lady Pirates did $well\,in\,being\,more\,aggressive\,getting$ to the ball first, and displayed some quality combination play.

"Really great performance all around from everybody," he said. "Great look all the way around."

Gian also highlighted Lady Pirate goalkeeper Kiera Davis' performance on the day, noting she finished the game strong with a quality second

He also noted the Lady Pirates fought 'til the end and had "really great" moments in all areas of the

He added that if the Lady Pirates face off against Montezuma-Cortez again this season, he feels confident that "we could definitely be in it."

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

On Tuesday, April 22, the Lady Pirates hosted the Ignacio Bobcats, also for a second matchup this season. The Lady Pirates prevailed again, winning the match 10-0.

"It was a good day for our side," Gian said, explaining the Lady Pirates started "a little flat" but were able to get things going toward the end of the

Gian noted that Tatiana Monterroso bagged four goals on the day, with Elizabeth Currier recording a hat trick with three goals on the day.

He noted that Isabel Forester, Caroline Simone and Ellie Vining each had one goal on the day.

He also highlighted Bella Jackson's performance, noting she recorded two assists.

Gian mentioned that Jackson is showing a lot of that good work ethic," along with displaying the "right attitude" on the field.

Simone bagged her first goal of the

"That was cool to see," Gian said. He explained the Lady Pirates were without two of their usual captains at the game, which allowed for some other players to step into other roles, he said, adding, "Ellie's been stepping into a great role, and to see her get a goal was nice."

The Lady Pirates put away six goals in the first half and another four in the first 15 minutes of the second half to go up 10-0, triggering the league's mercy rule.

The Lady Pirates currently sit in third place of the Intermountain League as they prepare for another round of matches against league opponents Alamosa and Bayfield.

The Lady Pirates are on the road



Tuesday, April 22. Monterroso scored four goals to help the Lady Pirates win 10-0.

Tatiana Monterroso battles with an Ignacio Bobcat to gain control of the ball during the teams' matchup on

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great" to get another win over Bay-204 Bastille Dr. (N. Pagosa Blvd, Left at Bastille Dr.) field this season. clayton@pagosasun.com

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CDOT to hold telephone town halls on statewide transportation plan

Colorado Department of Transportation

The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) is taking a fresh look at Colorado's transportation investment priorities and building a plan that helps deliver those priorities for the next 10 years.

But none of that will be done without the thorough input of Coloradans, something that happens through dozens of outreach events around the state, allowing thousands of people to share their views on what CDOT's priorities should be. This is why the end result is called Your Transportation Plan.

As part of the Your Transportation Plan effort, CDOT will be hosting telephone town halls across the state in the districts of the members of the Colorado Transportation Commission, who are appointed by the governor and confirmed by the Colorado Senate.

The telephone town halls, which will allow Coloradans to join by telephone or online to share their input, are starting next week.

Please note that all telephone town halls will begin at 6:30 p.m. and end at 7:30 p.m.

Here is the schedule:

• April 29: El Paso, Fremont, Park

and Teller counties.

- May 1: Baca, Bent, Crowley, Custer, Huerfano, Kiowa, Las Animas, Otero, Prowers and Pueblo counties.
- May 6: Larimer, Weld and Morgan counties.
- May 12: Clear Creek, Gilpin, Grand, Jackson, Moffat, Routt and Rio Blanco counties
- May 21: Jefferson, Adams, Boulder and Broomfield counties.
- May 29: Cheyenne, Elbert, Kit Carson, Lincoln, Logan, Phillips, Sedgwick, Washington and Yuma
 - June 3: Chaffee, Delta, Eagle,

Garfield, Gunnison, Lake, Mesa, Montrose, Ouray, Pitkin and Summit

- June 5: Alamosa, Archuleta, Conejos, Costilla, Dolores, Hinsdale, La Plata, Mineral, Montezuma, Rio Grande, Saguache, San Miguel and San Juan counties.
- June at a date to be determined: Denver, Arapahoe and Douglas

To participate in the town hall in your area, please sign up at https:// www.codot.gov/programs/yourtransportationpriorities/telephonetown-hall-signup.

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The Blotter

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

Archuleta County Sheriff's Office April 14 — Burning without a permit, Sunset Trail.

April 15 — Violation of a protection order-criminal, Bonanza Avenue/Harman Park Drive.

April 15 — Menacing-misdemeanor, obstructing governmental operations, attempt to influence public servant, Harman Park Drive. April 15 — Reckless endangerment,

child abuse, Prospect Boulevard. April 16 — Possession of a controlled substance-Schedule III, IV or

V, drug paraphernalia-possess, North Pagosa Boulevard. April 16 — Warrant arrest, North

Pagosa Boulevard. April 16 — Warrant arrest, North

Pagosa Boulevard. April 16 — Reckless endangerment, fourth-degree arson-endangering life, County Road 982/Willard

April 16 — Information only, Echo

April 16 — Second-degree assault on a police officer or fireman minor

injury, Harman Park Drive. April 16 — Throwing missiles at vehicles, reckless driving, eluding a

police officer, U.S. 160. April 17 — Menacing-misdemeanor, criminal mischief \$1,000 to \$2,000 public, obstructing governmental operations, false reporting-

fire alarm, no location listed. April 17 — Lost/found property,

Parelli Institute Drive. April 17 — Warrant arrest, Park

April 17 — Registration-fictitious plate, failed to display valid registration, no insurance-owner, Vista

April 18 — Crimes against at-risk adult/elderly>70-criminal exploitation, information only, Monte Vista

April 18 — Trespass warning, Navajo Trail Drive. April 18 — Criminal mischief \$300

to \$1,000 private, domestic violence, obstructing peace officer/police animal/fireman, intimidating a witness or victim, Shooting Star Drive.

Pagosa Springs Police Depart-

April 14 — Theft-\$300 to \$750 shoplifting, Hill Crest Drive/U.S. 84. April 14 — Second-degree burglary-no force entry-residence, theft-\$300 to \$1,000, North 3rd Street.

April 14 — Careless driving, Back Swing Court. April 14 — Violation of protection

order-criminal, Hot Springs Boule-

April 14 — Trespass warning, Pagosa Street. April 15 — Driving under re-

straint-alcohol/drug related, no insurance-owner, South 6th Street. April 16 - Theft/intends to deprive person, South 5th Street.

April 18 — Threats, Cornerstone

April 18 — Issuance of bad check, South 7th Street.

Your source for community news:

The **Pagosa Springs**

April 18 — Shoplifting/departs or attempts to depart without payment, shoplifting/alters or exchanges labels, Aspen Village Drive.

April 19 — Shoplifting/departs or attempts to depart without payment,

Aspen Village Drive. April 20 - Missing person, Majes-

Pagosa Springs Municipal Court: Judge Anthony D. Edwards

No report. **Archuleta County Court: Judge** Justin P. Fay

April 2 — James N. Paniagua, driving under the influence-with prior, 365 days jail suspended imposition, 90 hours community service, 40 days electronic surveillance, two years probation, fines and costs — \$2.520.50.

April 2 — Eduardo Nieto, careless riving, 10 days jail suspended imposition, fines and costs - \$335.

April 9 — Eduardo Rocha Medina, driver's license-driving without, registration-unregistered vehicle, fines and costs - \$172.50.

April 10 - Elijah E J Guthrie, violation p/o-criminal, 90 days jail, fines and costs — \$247.50.

April 10 - Elijah EJ Guthrie, speeding 25-39 over limit, driving under restraint, 10 days jail, fines and costs — \$301.50.

April 10 — Sophia Rai Kusumoto-Puryear, improper mountain driving, fines and costs - \$149.50.

April 10 — Kaleb Gerber, assault 3-know/reckless cause injury, 12 months probation, fines and costs -\$844.50.

April 11 — Molly Burkesmith, speeding 5-9 over, fines and costs

April 11 — Carrie Walker, speeding 5-9 over, fines and costs — \$125.

April 11 — Payton Cordova, speeding 5-9 over limit, fines and costs — \$127.50.

April 11 — Dominic R. Montano, speeding 5-9 over limit, fines and costs — \$127.50.

April 11 — Isidoro Philip Martinez, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs

April 11 — Marcus A. Rivas, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs - \$198.50.

April 11 — Henry L. Espinosa,

driving too slowly/impeding traffic, fines and costs — \$85. April 11 — Nicolas Rivara Van

Camp, speeding 10-19 over limit, overtaking vehicle in crosswalk, fines and costs — \$270.50. April 11 — Kirlyn Connally, regis-

tration-unregistered vehicle, fines and costs — \$161.50. April 11 — Ian Murray, speeding 20-24 over limit, driving under re-

straint, fines and costs — \$430.50. April 11 — Lori Metzger, license plates-expired, fines and costs — \$155.50.

April 11 — Ronnie Martinez, speeding 20-24 over limit, fines and costs - \$314.50.

April 11 — Jacob Lind Maas, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs April 11 — Bruno Kunzle Savas-

tano, obedience to official traffic control device, fines and costs — \$170. April 11 — Kelly Weiss, speeding

10-19 over limit, fines and costs — April 11 — Stanley C. Wagner,

speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and

costs — \$233.50. April 11 — Daniel Vigil, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs

April 11 — Leandrew Velarde,

driver's license-driving without, speeding 20-24 over limit, fines and costs — \$360.50.

April 11 — Joshua V. Sorensen, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs -\$225

April 11 — Joshua Soniat du Fossat, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs — \$233.50.

April 11 — Dylan J. Salazar, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs \$233.50.

April 11 — Jesus Abraham Rodriguez-Salinas, speeding 20-24 over, fines and costs — \$290. April 11 — Richard R. Cargill,

speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs -\$225April 11 — Nicholas Byrum,

speeding 5-9 over limit, fines and costs — \$162.50. April 11 — James Blitz, seat belt not used, fines and costs — \$133.50.

April 11 — Christian N. Archuleta, unsafe backing, driver's licensedriving without, fines and costs — \$144.50.

April 11 — Isidoro Philip Martinez, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs -\$190

April 14 — Chloe Spencer, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs **—** \$198.50.

ing 5-9 over limit, fines and costs **—** \$127.50. 6th Judicial District Court: Judge

April 15 - Crystal Gilliam, speed-

Justin P. Fay April 10 — Elijah Ernest James

Guthrie, assault 3-know/reckless cause injury, 180 days jail, fines and costs — \$5,393.50. 6th Judicial District Court: Judge

Jeffrey R. Wilson April 7 — Brian Garcia, assault 3-know/reckless cause injury, 364 days jail, fines and costs — \$258.50.

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Published April 24, 2025 in The Pagosa Springs SUN. (262824)



District Court, Archuleta County, State of Colorado Court Address: 109 Harman Park Dr. P.O. Box 148 Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 Tel. 970.264.2400

Wyndham Vacation Resorts, Inc.

KIMBERLY J MCCORMICK, MARGEE L SCHROER,

Case No.: 2024CV30058
COMBINED NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE OF TIMESHARE INTEREST AND RIGHTS TO CURE AND REDEEM

Sheriff Sale 2025-01 This Notice of Public Judicial Foreclosure Sale is given pursuant to separate Mortgages recorded in the office of the County Clerk and Recorder for Archuleta County, Colorado, under the information provided in **Exhibit**

Under a Judgment and Decree of Foreclosure entered December 16, 2024, in the above entitled action, I am ordered to sell certain real property, improvements and personal property secured by the Declaration, including without limitation the real property described as follows: See Exhibit "A" attached hereto and made apart

KIMBERLY J MCCORMICK, MARGEE L SCHROER Evidence of Debt: Recorded mortgages in the office of the County Clerk and Recorder for Archuleta County, Colorado, being further identified in Exhibit "A" Current Holder of evidence of debt secured by the Declaration: Wyndham Vacation Resorts, Inc.

Obligations Secured: Underlying note for the purchase of the Timeshare Property identified in Exhibit "A". Agent: Christopher B. Conley, Reg. No. 51651, 700 South 21st Street, Ft. Smith, Arkansas 72901 Payments Due to: Wyndham Vacation Resorts, Inc. Debtor(s) & Amount Due: See attached Exhibit "A"

Amount of Judgment: See attached Exhibit "A" Type of Sale: Judicial Foreclosure Sale of Timeshare Interest being conducted pursuant to the power of sale granted by the Mortgage, the Colorado Property Code, NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE OF TIMESHARE

THEREFORE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that I will at 9:00 o'clock A.M., MST, on Monday, June 2, 2025, Sale Number: 2025-01, in the Office of the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office, 85 Harman Park Drive, Pagosa Springs, Colorado, 81147, sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property described above, and all interest of said Grantor and the heirs and assigns of said Grantor therein, the Lender may bid credited to the Debt up to the amount of the unpaid Debt secured by the Mortgage at the time of sale, for the purpose of paying the judgment amount entered herein, and will deliver to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law. First Publication: April 10, 2025

Last Publication: May 8, 2025 Name of Publication: The Pagosa Springs Sun

YOU MAY HAVE AN INTEREST IN THE REAL PROP-ERTY BEING FORECLOSED, OR HAVE CERTAIN RIGHTS OR SUFFER CERTAIN LIABILITIES PURSU-ANT TO COLORADO STATUTES AS A RESULT OF SAID FORECLOSURE. YOU MAY HAVE THE RIGHT TO REDEEM SAID REAL PROPERTY OR YOU MAY HAVE THE RIGHT TO CURE A DEFAULT UNDER THE DEED OF TRUST BEING FORECLOSED. A COPY OF THE STATUTES WHICH MAY AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS IS ATTACHED HERETO.

A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE PURSUANT TO \$38 38-104 C.R.S., SHALL BE FILED WITH THE OFFICER AT LEAST FIFTEEN (15) CALENDAR DAYS PRIOR TO THE FIRST SCHEDULED SALE DATE OR ANY DATE TO WHICH THE SALE IS CONTINUED.

IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO

CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED.
A NOTICE OF INTENT TO REDEEM FILED PURSUANT TO §38-38-302 C.R.S. SHALL BE FILED WITH THE SHERIFF NO LATER THAN EIGHT (8) BUSINESS DAYS AFTER THE SALE.

THE LIEN BEING FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A

IF YOU BELIEVE THAT A LENDER OR SERVICER HAS VIOLATED THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A SIN-GLE POINT OF CONTACT IN §38-38-103.1 OR THE PROHIBITION ON DUAL TRACKING IN §38-38-103.2.
YOU MAY FILE A COMPLAINT WITH THE COLO-BADO ATTORNEY GENERAL (1-800-222-4444) THE CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU (1-855-411-2372), OR BOTH, BUT THE FILING OF A COMPLAINT WILL NOT STOP THE FORECLOSURE

The name, address, and business telephone number of each of the attorneys representing the holder of the evidence of debt are as follows:

Christopher B. Conley, Reg. No. 51651, 700 South 21st Street, Ft. Smith, Arkansas 72901 INTENT TO CURE OR REDEEM, as provided by the

aforementioned laws, must be directed to or conducted at the Sheriff's Department for Archuleta County Sheriff's Office, 85 Harman Park Drive, Pagosa Springs,

THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED MAY BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

DATED at Archuleta County, Colorado, this 26th day of February, 2025.

By: Mike Le Roux, Sheriff Archuleta County, Colorado

Building Number: 9 and 10

Exhibit A Peregrine Townhouses Phase II Property Owners: KIMBERLY J MCCORMICK and MARGEE L SCHROER

Lot (Unit) Number: 7817 - 7820 UDI Points: 317,000 / 35,486,000 Peregrine Townhouses Phase III, as depicted on the Plat recorded in Reception Number 173555, subject to Declaration of Protective Covenants and Interval Own-

ership for Peregrine Townhouses recorded at Reception Number 173556, and any amendments and sup-plements thereto, all in the Office of the County Clerk and Recorder in and for Archuleta County, Colorado Together with a vested remainder over in fee simple absolute, as tenant in common with the other owners of all Unit Weeks in the described Units in Peregrine Townhouses in that percentage interest determined and established by said Declaration for the above described

Matter: Amount Principal Amount Due: \$4,022.66 Accrued Interest: \$1,722.90 Late Fees: \$85.00 Costs: \$570.50 Attorney's Fees: \$1000.00

Total: \$7,401.06 Published April 10, 17, 24, May 1 and 8, 2025 in The Pagosa Springs SUN. (261346)

FOR BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS HEARING ON MAY

VALARIE GROVES, has requested a GENERAL VARI-ANCE regarding SETBACK REQUIREMENTS, in Rio Blanco Valley Replat 1 Subdivision Lot: 1 Sec: 32 Twn: 34 Rng 1W, at 258 Rainbow Road, Pagosa Springs, CO (PL-VAR-25-036). The property is zoned AGRICUL-TURAL ESTATES (AE).

Comments regarding this case may be submitted to

Archuleta County Development Services-Planning Department, P.O. Box 1507, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147-1507, telephone: (970) 264-1390 or to oodell@ archuletacounty.org prior to the public hearing by the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners on May 20, 2025, at 1:30 p.m. in the County Commission ers Meeting Room, 398 Lewis Street, Pagosa Springs and via Zoom Link. Public comment will be taken at the meeting in person only.

Published April 24 and May 8, 2025 The Pagosa Springs SUN. (262696)

> Notice of a Special Meeting of the Pine River Irrigation District

Notice is hereby given that a **Special Meeting** has been called by the Board of Directors of THE PINE RIVER IRRIGATION DISTRICT on Saturday, May 3 2025, at 1:30 p.m., to be held at Oxford Grange 8018

State Highway 172, Ignacio CO 81137. Sign-in will begin at 1:00 p.m.

The purpose of this meeting is for members to vote on the purchase of a power plant business. No other business can be discussed or conducted at

Published April 10, 17, 24 and May 1, 2025 in The Pagosa Springs SUN. (261822)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Estate of Leigh Cote, Deceased

Case Number 2025 PR 2 All persons having claims against the above-named estate are required to present them to the personal representative or to the District Court of Archuleta, County, Colorado on or before August 10, 2025, or the claims may be forever barred

5441 Illini Way Boulder, CO 80303 Published April 10, 17, and 24, 2025 in The Pagosa

BEFORE THE COLORADO ENERGY AND CARBON

MANAGEMENT COMMISSION NOTICE AND APPLICATION FOR HEARING

DOCKET NO. 250400053 ALL INTERESTED PARTIES AND TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Pursuant to Rule 523.d, the Colorado Energy and Carbon Management Commission Staff has applied to the Commission for an Order Finding Violation against Beeman Oil & Gas Inc (Operator No. 7125), to adjudicate allegations in Notice of Alleged Violation ("NOAV") No. 403635579

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to: 1) the general jurisdiction of the Energy and Carbon Management Commission of the State of Colorado under § 34-60-105. C.R.S.: 2) specific powers granted pursuant to § 34-60-106, C.R.S.; 3) the Colorado Administrative Procedure Act at § 24-4-105, C.R.S.; and 4) the Commission's Series 500 Rules at 2 C.C.R. 404-1, that the nmission has scheduled this matter for hearing before a Colorado Energy and Carbon Management Commission Hearing Officer at the following date, time, and location (subject to change):

Date: July 24, 2025 me: 11:30 A.M. Mountain Time

Energy and Carbon Management Commission 1120 Lincoln Street, Suite 801

Denver CO 80203

The Notice and documents related to this matter car be found on our "Hearing eFiling System Documen Search" page here https://oitco.hylandcloud.com/DN-RCOGPublicAccess/index.html. Select "Search for Docket Related Documents" from the pull-down menu use the above "Docket Number", and select "Search".
Published April 24, 2025 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

BEFORE THE COLORADO ENERGY AND CARBON MANAGEMENT COMMISSION NOTICE AND APPLICATION FOR HEARING DOCKET NO. 250400054

TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES AND TO WHOM IT

Pursuant to Rule 523.d, the Colorado Energy and Carbon Management Commission Staff has applied to the Commission for an Order Finding Violation against BIG RUN PRODUCTION COMPANY (Operator No. 8455) ("NOAV") No. 403635580.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to: 1) the general jurisdiction of the Energy and Carbon Management Commission of the State of Colorado under § 34-60 105, C.R.S.; 2) specific powers granted pursuant to § 34-60-106, C.R.S.; 3) the Colorado Administrative Procedure Act at § 24-4-105, C.R.S.; and 4) the Commission's Series 500 Rules at 2 C.C.R. 404-1, that the Commission has scheduled this matter for hearing before a Colorado Energy and Carbon Management Commission Hearing Officer at the following date, time, and location (subject to change): Date: July 15, 2025

Time: 9:30 A.M. Mountain Time

Energy and Carbon Management Commission 1120 Lincoln Street, Suite 801

Denver, CO 80203 Deadline for Affected Persons to Petition: June 13.

The Notice and documents related to this matter can be found on our "Hearing eFiling System Document Search" page here https://oitco.hylandcloud.com/DN-RCOGPublicAccess/index.html. Select "Search for Docket Related Documents" from the pull-down menu, use the above "Docket Number", and select "Search". Published April 24, 2025 in The Pagosa Springs SUN.

Order Amending Order After Replevin

receipt, the Court to ensure proper service, modifies its order of March 31, 2025, and sets a new replevin nearing on June 18, 2025, at 11:00 AM. The plaintiff's counsel shall ensure that notice of this case and the show cause hearing is published in Archuleta County for a period of 5 weeks and also serves the defendant by certified mail, return receipt requested. Service by both methods shall be attempted at least 14 days prior to June 18, 2025, and the return receipt and affidavit shall filed with the Court prior to June 18, 2025. The plaintiff and his counsel may appear via Webex at the June 18, 2025, hearing. Issue Date: 4/1/2025

JEFFREY RAYMOND WILSON

Published April 10, 17, 24 and May 1, 8, 2025 in *The* Pagosa Springs SUN. (261707)

PUBLIC NOTICE Colorado law requires the county assessor to hear ob-

jections to real property classifications and valuations beginning May 2, 2025. Objections to the valuation or classification of real property must be postmarked, de livered, or presented in person to the county assessor's office no later than June 9, 2025.

Colorado law requires the county assessor to begin hearing objections to personal property valuations no later than June 16, 2025. Objections to personal property valuations must be postmarked, delivered, or presented in person to the county assessor's office no later

For additional information, contact the county assessor's office at 970-264-8310.
Published April 24, 2025 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

Legal advertising

Deadline: Friday 4 p.m.*

Bring your legal advertisement or public notice to our offices at 457 Lewis Street, or email to legal@pagosasun.com

dates and times.

*Deadlines are moved up for holiday weeks. Please check for an ad in the paper for specific

Public Notices

76011

4/2/2025 1 03 PM Eryn K Wintz CNTORDNC R\$0.00 D\$0.00 S\$0.00 MSBn@al County

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-2

MINERAL COUNTY

ORDINANCE REGULATING THE USE OF OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLES ON PUBLIC ROADS IN UNINCORPORATED MINERAL COUNTY, COLORADO

WHEREAS, pursuant to \$33-14.5-110, C.R.S., the Board of County Commissioners of Mineral County, Colorado ("Board") has the authority to regulate the operation of off-highway vehicles ("OHVs") on public lands, waters and property under its jurisdiction and on streets and highways within its boundaries; and

WHEREAS, on August 2, 2004, the Board adopted Ordinance No. 4, An Ordinance Adopting, by Reference, the Model Traffic Code for Colorado 2003 Edition... Section 2010 - Operation of Off-Highway Vehicles on County Roads Permitted, Except as Posted ("Ordinance No. 4"), allowing the lawful operation of OHVs on all County and County maintained roads located within Mineral

WHEREAS, Mineral County has since adopted Ordinance 2025-1, An Ordinance for the Regulation of Traffic by Mineral County, Colorado; Adopting by Reference the 2024 Edition of the Model Traffic Code... which served to repeal Ordinance No. 4 and all previous iterations thereof;

WHEREAS, this Ordinance serves to provide Mineral County's local rules for the regulation of OHVs in unincorporated Mineral County; and

WHEREAS, the adoption of this Ordinance is in the best interest of the health, safety and

welfare of Mineral County, Colorado. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY

COMMISSIONERS OF MINERAL COUNTY, COLORADO THAT THE FOLLOWING RULES AND REGULATIONS APPLY TO THE OPERATION OF OHVS IN UNINCORPORATED MINERAL COUNTY PURSUANT TO C.R.S. § 33-14.5-110;

1. The term "off-highway vehicle" (OHV") shall be defined as follows (see § 33-14.5-101(3), C.R.S.): any self-propelled vehicle which is designed to travel on wheels or tracks in contact with the ground, which is designed primarily for use off of the public highways, and which is generally and commonly used to transport persons for recreational purposes. "Off-highway vehicle" does not include the following: vehicles designed and used primarily for travel on, over, or in the water; snowmobiles; surplus military vehicles, as defined in C.R.S. § 42-6-102(20.5) that are owned or leased by a municipality, county, or fire protection district, as defined in C.R.S. § 32-1-103(7), for the purpose of assisting with firefighting efforts, including mitigating the risk of wildfires; golf cars; vehicles designed and used to carry

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disabled persons; vehicles designed and used specifically for agricultural, logging, or mining purposes; and vehicles registered pursuant to Article 3 of title 42, C.R.S.

- 2. All public roads in unincorporated Mineral County subject to the jurisdiction of the Board of County Commissioners of Mineral County ("County Road(s)") shall be open to travel by OHVs and subject to this Ordinance. All OHVs must remain on said County Roads at all times and shall not travel cross-country on any other land areas that are not maintained as a County Road. Notwithstanding the foregoing, it is unlawful for a person to operate a motor vehicle or OHV on any federal public land, trail, or road unless the federal public land, trail, or road is signed or otherwise authorized for such use.
- 3. No OHV shall be operated at any time on Deep Creek Road (USFS Rd 550), Airport Road (County Rd 806), Deep Creek Rd Cut-off (County Rd 806B), Middle Creek Rd (USFS Rd 523) from Colorado State Highway 149 to the split of USFS Rd 523 and USFS Rd 528, unless the operator of the OHV has in his or her possession a valid motor vehicle driver's license and valid liability insurance for the vehicle. These licensure and insurance rules only apply to the aforementioned roads
- 4. Persons less than 10 years of age are prohibited from operating OHVs. OHV operators between the ages of 10 and 16 are permitted to operate OHVs on all County Roads, other than those roads referenced in Section 3 of this Ordinance above, but must be accompanied by and under the immediate supervision (within direct visual contact) of a person with a valid driver's license.
- 5. No OHV shall be operated at any time, unless the OHV is insured to the minimum level required by the State of Colorado for automobiles.
- Seat belt use is required if seat belts are incorporated in the OHV by the OHV manufacturer. In the event an OHV is manufactured to incorporate child car seats child car seats and restraints shall be used in accordance with Colorado state laws
- 7. Eye protection or a windshield is required of all OHV operators and passengers (CRS
- OHVs shall contain no more occupants than for which the OHV was designed and manufactured (CRS § 33-14.5-110 (b)(l)(G)).
- 9. A Person shall not drive or ride as a passenger in an OHV, unless:

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a. Each person under eighteen (18) years of age is wearing a DOT approved protective helmet of a type and design manufactured for use by operators of

- b. The protective helmet is secured properly on the person's head with a chin strap while the OHV is in motion.
- c. Infants and toddlers must be restrained in child restraint seats if the OHV is manufactured to incorporate child restraint seats. Child seats and restraints shall be used in accordance with Colorado state laws for motor vehicles.

10. OHV operators and passengers are subject to all traffic laws applicable to motor vehicles, including but not limited to, any state, federal, or county law applicable to motor vehicle operation. In the event of any conflict between said laws and this OHV Ordinance, the provisions of this OHV Ordinance shall control to the extent permitted under Colorado or Federal law.

- 11. This Ordinance shall be enforced by any law enforcement officer or peace officer, including the person designated by the Board as the OHV Enforcement Officer, if
- 12. The penalty assessment procedures provided by §§ 16-2-201 or 16-2.3-102, C.R.S., as are applicable, shall be followed for any violation of this Ordinance, including any additional fines or surcharges required thereunder, unless otherwise provided by Colorado law. The arresting officer may either: a) give the offender a penalty assessment notice and release him or her upon its terms; or b) if permissible under Colorado law, take him or her before a judge of the Mineral County Court.

The choice of procedures shall be based upon circumstances which reasonably persuade the officer that the alleged offender is likely or unlikely to comply with the term of the penalty assessment notice, as well as the circumstances that warranted the stop and penalty assessment, along with requisite underlying statutory authority to bring the offender before the Mineral County Court. The penalty assessment notice shall be a summons and complaint containing: a) identification of the alleged offender by name, address and social security number; b) specification of the offense with which the offender is charged; and c) the applicable fine that may be paid to the Mineral County Treasurer in person or by mail within twenty (20) days of the date of issuance of the penalty assessment or else appear to answer the charge before the Mineral County Court on the date of its next regular session.

Any person who chooses to acknowledge his or her guilt and is not otherwise required to appear in Mineral County Court may, within twenty (20) days of the date of issuance of the penalty assessment, pay the state or local fine as articulated

Ervn K Wintz CNTORDNC R\$0.00 D\$0.00 S\$0.00 M\$fin@nl County

below, including any court surcharges that may apply, to the Mineral County Treasurer, either in person or by mail, based on the following fine schedule and

- a. 5-9 miles per hour ("mph") over the speed limit shall warrant a fine of \$125; b. 6-19 mph over the speed limit shall warrant a fine of \$150;
- c. 20 or more mph over the speed limit shall warrant a summons to appear in Mineral County Court plus a careless or reckless driving charge at the discretion of the officer, if applicable. In the event a penalty assessment is issued for driving 20 mph or more over the speed limit, the offender shall be subject to a fine of not less than \$300 and not more than \$1,000 as determined by the County Court Judge
- d. Any and all infraction and fine rules that apply to OHVs and OHV operators and passengers as provided by C.R.S. § 33-14.5-101, et seq.; and
- e. All other violations of this Ordinance in which there is no specific statutory infraction or fine provided by C.R.S. § 33-14.5-101, et seq. or otherwise shall constitute civil infractions and shall be punishable by a fine of \$100.

Any uncontested payment that is provided to the Mineral County Treasurer shall be accompanied by a copy of the penalty assessment signed by the offender acknowledging his or her guilt. Payment of the fine shall relieve the person receiving the penalty assessment of any further obligation to appear in the Mineral County Court to answer the offense charged in the penalty assessment, unless otherwise provided by this Ordinance.

13. In addition to any other fine in which a convicted offender may be required to pay pursuant to this Ordinance, the following applies: pursuant to \$18-1.3-603, C.R.S., in the event a violation of this Ordinance causes damage to a County Road, county maintained road, or other property, the violator shall pay Mineral County or other victim restitution to fix the damage caused by the violation, as determined by the

INTRODUCED, READ AND ORDERED PUBLISHED IN FULL IN THE Mineral County Miner and Pagosa Springs Sun on the 5 day of March, 2025.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MINERAL COUNTY, COLORADO

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4/2/2025 1/03 PM Ervn K Wintz CNTORDNC R\$0.00 D\$0.00 S\$0.00 MS0r00al County

Eryn Wintz, County Clerk and Recorder SEAL ADOPTED ON SECOND READING AND ORDER PUBLISHED IN FULL IN THE Mineral

County Miner and Pagos Springs Sun on the 2 day of Apri

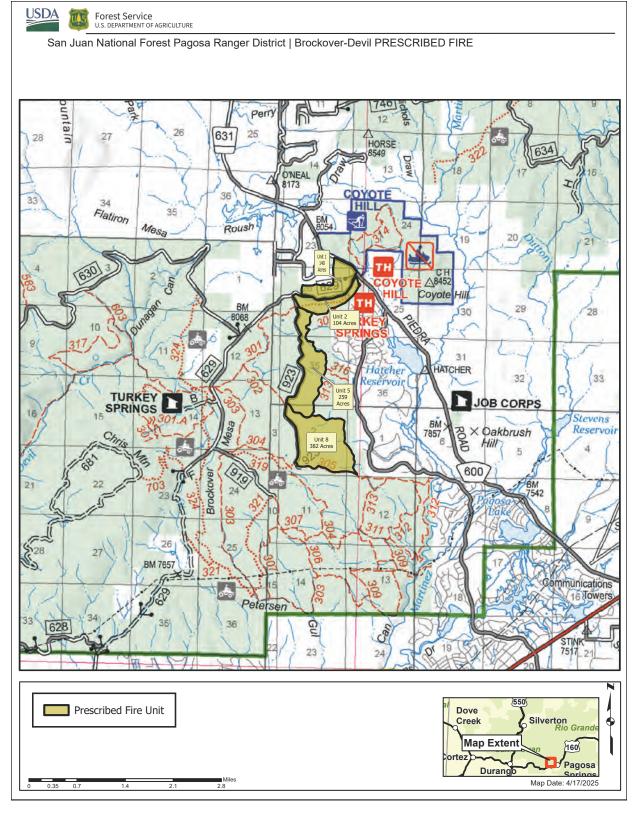
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MINERAL COUNTY, COLORADO

ATTEST:

Published April 24, 2025 in The Pagosa Springs SUN. (262721)

Ervn Wintz, County Clerk and Recorder SEAL

PUBLIC NOTICES: YOUR RIGHT TO KNOW



Prescribed burns planned for Pagosa Ranger District

San Juan National Forest

The San Juan National Forest's Pagosa Ranger District is planning to conduct a prescribed burn in the Turkey Springs area starting as early as April 30.

The 885-acre Brockover-Devil Prescribed Fire project is located 8 miles northwest of Pagosa Springs.

Project area specifics:

• Location: Turkey Springs area, approximately one-half mile from the Hatcher subdivision, immediately adjacent to National Forest Service roads (NFSRs) 629 (Lower Turkey Springs) and 923 (Newt Jack Road).

• Smoke impacts: During operations smoke may be visible from Pagosa Springs, the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association, County Road 600 between U.S. 160 and the Piedra River Trailhead, and U.S. 160 between Timberline Ridge and downtown Pagosa Springs.

Smoke monitoring will be conducted, and ignitions will be scheduled to minimize smoke impacts to communities.

Prescribed fire smoke may affect your health. More information can be found online: https://www.colorado. gov/pacific/cdphe/wood-smokeand-health.

• Why: The Pagosa Ranger District has implemented multiple vegetation treatments in the Brockover and Turkey Springs areas. This work reduces conditions, weather and approval hazardous fuels, such as pine litter, dried needle cast and brush.

Prescribed fire can reduce the risk of wildfire impacting communities and infrastructure under less-favorable conditions.

In addition, reducing surface fuels promotes new grass and forb growth, providing forage for many wildlife species.

· Closures: No official closures are in place, but there will be traffic control on NFSR 629 and 923 during operations. Forest users should avoid National Forest System trails 305, 313, 316 and portions of 301, 302 and 323 during burn operations.

Burning operations may take place over multiple days, but are always dependent upon multiple conditions, including personnel availability, fuel from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.

Prescribed burns may be changed or canceled last minute if burn conditions do not meet criteria outlined in advance.

Thanks

Realtor Education Day

Thank you to Archuleta County, notably Owen O'Dell & Ethan Proud, for organizing Realtor Education Day last week and to everyone who presented and helped with the event. Thank you to all our local Realtor members who attended in support as well. Looking forward to keeping this partnership going.

Pagosa Springs Area Association of Realtors

YOU MADE THE RIGHT CHOICE.

The Pagosa Springs SUN 970-264-2100



93 Broken Point Court • Pagosa Springs





The following meetings are subject to change.

Thursday, April 24

Archuleta County Planning Commission meeting. 6 p.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St. For more information, visit http://archuletacounty. org/agendacenter.

Tuesday, April 29

Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners meeting. 8:30

a.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St. View Zoom meeting at: https://zoom. us/j/91609048375?pwd=dlFFV0J 1cGVKa1NHWHFsa2taeGxtZz09. meeting ID: 916 0904 8375, passcode: 4141885. For more information, visit http://archuletacounty. org/agendacenter.

Wednesday, April 30

Archuleta County Hybrid Forest Health Council second quarter meeting. 9 a.m., Archuleta County

administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St. For more information, visit https:// collaborativeconservation.org/.

Public meeting information should be sent to editor@pagosasun.com with "Public Meeting" in the subject line. The deadline is noon Monday each week prior to publication for that week's issue.

Trustworthy.

The Pagosa Springs SUN 970-264-2100



PAGOSA SPRINGS REAL ESTATE & RELOCATION GUIDE



Space & Copy Deadline May 2

Overview

New this year is our Business and Service Directory! Ask about being included in this great special section of the publication. Other sections of the guide highlight Pagosa Springs' Business and Economy, Education, Health Care Resources, Real Estate and Construction, Leisure, Active Adults and Getting Settled, making it a useful tool for businesses and families looking to relocate to our beautiful part of Colorado.

Distribution

10,000 copies of the Relocation Guide will be printed for distribution by area businesses, on newsstands and in one edition of The Pagosa Springs SUN. Distribution will begin mid June.

A digital version will be online at **PagosaSUN.com**

Call to place your ad today! The Pagosa Springs SUN • 970-264-2100

DICIDEM EM

Building Business Excellence Conference

1 p.m. • April 29 • PLPOA Clubhouse



Chamber to host Building Business Excellence Conference April 29

Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce

You have a dream — you want to open a business. You had a dream, and you now have a business. Are you where you want to be? Do you want to grow your business? Do you want to sell your business? Do you need capital to start or grow your business? You're working hard; how do you work smarter, not harder?

These are all topics that will be covered at the Building Business Excellence Conference on Tuesday, April 29, at the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association Clubhouse.

Over the afternoon, guest speaker Dale Wilsher and other impactful presenters will challenge, guide and give suggestions on how you can have a more successful business and be a more successful leader at the helm of that dream or business. This conference was designed to be just a half day so that business leaders or dreamers could fit it into their busy schedules.

The day will kick off at 1 p.m. with the keynote speaker,

Wilsher is an executive coach and personal development expert who helps individuals and organizations turn their purpose into full potential. She is an author, a faculty member for the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Institute of Organizational Management and a multi-accredited professional certified coach.

Her dynamic style will engage audience members to dig deeper and find their values, untapped strengths and

Her keynote will be "Finding Success Through Your Purpose." She will focus on the why of what you do in order to be a better leader.

Wilsher uses engaging stories, humor and practical strategies. She will help you learn how to use your passion to find motivation and strategic direction, clarify your purpose, and how to tap your potential.

She will also lead one of the breakout sessions, "Cre-

ating the Confidence to Rise." Not everyone is a natural leader, but confidence can be developed to form a stronger leader. She will focus on boosting your confidence as a leader through your unique contribution, cognition and communication. She will explore strategies to overcome self-doubt, combat negative self-talk and reframe limiting beliefs. How does your body language affect your confidence? How can you learn self-affirmation techniques to enhance your performance?

Wilsher will also provide take-home tools for you to continue to work on what she has spoken on.

Two of the other break-out sessions will focus on financial aspects of the business.

First Southwest Bank Chief Development Officer Sherry Waner has seen just about every type of business plan and worked with just about every type of business owner. She will be accompanied by Rosy McDonough, who is the executive director for the First Southwest Community Fund. They will give you tips on business plans, what financial institutions look for when funding a business, and some financial lending options out there. Many businesses want to start out with a grant, but those grants are few and far between. But, what is out there and how do you go about getting funding to start or expand your business.

Terryl Peterson, owner of CFO Services, is a financial consultant and chief financial officer with 30 years of helping companies and individuals through their financial questions and quagmires. She will be speaking on how to value your time, services or business, whether it be retail, professional services, food services and nonprofit services. Peterson's goal is to provide business owners education and to encourage the use of financial information for business decision making. Her style is to take the fear out of finances and put it in simpler terms. This is why she is one of the most sought-after financial consultants in the region.

One more breakout that will occur is "How to Work $Smarter\,not\,Harder\,with\,Technology.''\,This\,is\,one\,hot\,topic$ these days. We hear a lot about using AI and social media

■ See Conference on next page



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 pawlished pets alonand bout ique@gmail.com















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



Friday, April 25th Jason Rose

Saturday, April 26th Maxwell Miller

Tuesday, April 29th **Dustin Burley**

> Join us for

Wine Down Wednesday on April 30th! (50% off select wines)

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

Live **Performers**

Thursday

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

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

Saturday

The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Maxwell Miller, 5

Tuesday

The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Dustin Burley, 5

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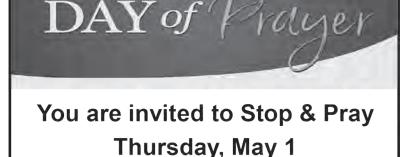
Annual In County - \$35 Annual Out of County - \$45 Digital subscriptions available at PagosaSun.com

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



9am-6pm We will have the church open and prayer stations set up to guide you through a personal time of prayer for our nation.

Come at any time and stay as long as you want.



209 Harman Park Drive 970-731-3120 www.pagosabiblechurch.org

April 30 Americana Project concert to feature Patrice Pike

By Bob Hemenger

Pagosa Springs High School

The Americana Project is proud to host an Austin sensation, singer-song-writer Patrice Pike, and her guitarist, Hunter Hendrickson, for a very special night of music in the Pagosa Springs High School auditorium at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, April 30.

It's hard to describe Pike's music as one particular genre. It's part rock, part R&B; some soul, jazz and Americana appear in the mix; and that's not to mention all the world influences. Though, for listeners of Pike's music, they would describe it not as a genre, but as an experience.

Music is meant to inspire, to evoke emotion, to create a shared experience of the human condition. Pike's music and well-crafted lyrics create their own melodic solution to how we can navigate a world full of heartbreak with hope. Even in her songs that don't shy away from hard topics such as poverty, gun control and different forms of tragedy, Pike's music is always about hope and finding the strength to continue.

Whether she's singing, playing the guitar or rocking out on percussion,

■ See Concert on next page



Conference.

■ continued from previous page scheduling tools. But some of these tools are scary. Ava Carter, owner of Design Breakfast, will help you try and take the scary out of using technology. There are a lot of products out there. How can AI help you and save time? Social media is often difficult to manage, especially if you're a one-man band. She will help show you a variety of tools that might make this process much easier and more effective. What about AI? There is lots of buzz about this technology. Find out how you can use it to generate ideas, write articles, create summaries, etc. You'd be sur-

life much easier.

Annie Sewell, owner of Right Molecule IV Hydration Lounge will also be in attendance to speak about online scheduling software. Could your business benefit from online scheduling instead of missing phone calls and potential appointments? This is really an exciting session, especially for people who may not be tech savvy and need a push to get started. It will also be interactive, with attendees sharing some of their success tools.

prised how this tool could make your

The caliber of speakers at this conference packed into this short period of time is a value that you won't get again soon.

The cost to attend is only \$35 for Chamber members and \$45 for nonmembers. This price includes all the educational content, as well as a networking reception at the end of the day and a beverage ticket.

In order to hit all of the breakout sessions, bring a couple of people from your business and take advantage of all the information that will be presented. The Chamber is able to keep these ticket prices so low thanks to the partners who are participating. They support the educational mission of the Chamber and everyone's desire to see successful businesses in our community.

Tickets may be purchased at the door, but advance tickets can be purchased at www.pagosachamber.com. Click on the graphic featuring Wilsher. Should you have questions, contact the Chamber at (970) 264-2360.

We look forward to having the community join us for a fun, informative and impactful day.



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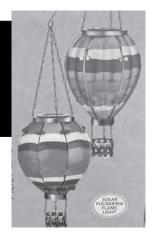
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Photo courtesy Patrice Pike

Patrice Pike, an acclaimed Austin-based musician known for her dynamic voice and engaging stage presence, will perform on April 30 at a concert presented by Pagosa Springs High School's Americana Project Class.

Concert

■ continued from previous page

Pike's music reminds us to be compassionate with ourselves and others, and to celebrate all that this life has to offer.

Pike has toured with Blues Traveler, Sarah MacLachlan, Allman Brothers, Dave Matthews, John Fogerty, Sinead O'Connor and many others.

Originally from Dallas, Pike moved to Austin in 1992 and was the front woman of the Austin jam band Little Sister aka Sister Seven. They released a number of well-received studio albums, including "This the Trip," which gained Billboard Chart recognition for its track "Know What You Mean."

After Sister Seven disbanded, Pike continued to play with Sister Seven's lead guitarist, Wayne Sutton, and has released several studio and live albums. In 2017, Pike and Sutton founded a new musical project, aptly called Pike and Sutton, and released the album "Heart is a Compass" in April 2020. They were scheduled to tour internationally after playing the Austin City Limits Music Festival in 2019.

After the complete implosion of the live music business due to the pandemic, Pike has re-grouped and is currently working with Hendrickson and John Bush, both formerly of Edie Brick-

ell and the New Bohemians, among other projects. They are developing a new collection of music together with their band for release in 2025.

Tickets are only available at the door the evening of the show.

The doors will open at 6:30 p.m. Students from the Americana Project will open the show at 7 p.m. Pike and Hendrickson will start around 8 p.m. and will be joined by the students for the encore.

Please join us for an amazing evening of music and help support these fine young musicians and the Americana Project program.

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Snow postponed this year's Earth Day celebration, with the event now scheduled for Saturday, April 26.

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Earth Day event rescheduled for April 26

By Pauline Benetti

Southwest Organization for Sustainability

There's more than one way to celebrate Earth Day, or the best laid plans of mice and men do often go astray. Take your choice.

In any event, the carefully laid plans put in place by the Southwest Organization for Sustainability Earth Day Planning Team to celebrate Earth Day on Saturday, April 19, were upstaged by the weather and instead the celebration was a glorious delivery of moisture. We were so grateful we could not even be angry.

But we are not easily put off. This Saturday, April 26, we will try again with the 2025 Earth Day Celebration. The NOAA weather forecast thus far states, "Mostly sunny."

As one might imagine, rescheduling an event takes a little time; it means contacting all who were going to be present to see if they will be present. The planning ream will be busy. We hope the new schedule will remain much the same as the old one; however, at this point guarantees are not possible, but no matter the order of things, it will be a great community celebration.

We do know that action will begin at 9 a.m. in Centennial Park with booth setup and the mindfulness hour including the opening earth blessing, a sound bath, yoga in the park and a wetland tour with the Riverwalk Naturalist Program.

From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., activities for young and old will abound: a community tea gathering, World Migratory Bird Day, a poetry slam and open mic, tours of the Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership Education Dome, a youth art booth, chalk art for children and the community booths.

Last but not least, there will be food.

Finally, the day will end as it began, reminding us of the spiritual nature of our celebration and drawing our attention to the earth, the reason we came together in the first place. New this year, organizers are inviting folks to join in a drumming circle as part of the finale. Bring your drum and join in.

Our motivation for this Earth Day celebration is found in these words by Margaret Mead: "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

WHIPS luncheon set for April 29

By Nancy Ford

Women Helping in Pagosa Springs

WHIPS, Women Helping in Pagosa Springs, will have their monthly lun-

cheon Tuesday, April 29, at 11:30 a.m. at Shang Hai Chinese Restaurant.

We must have you RSVP to (970) 946-1895 by Sunday, April 27.

All women are welcome.

We do know that action will begin 9 a.m. in Centennial Park with

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San Juan Stargazers to study asteroids May 1

By Joan Mieritz

San Juan Stargazers

The monthly meeting of the San Juan Stargazers will be on May 1.

Our amazing topic of study will be asteroids, near-earth asteroids and the asteroid belt.

We will meet at the regular time of 6 p.m. for our social time.

We will meet at our regular location — the Community United Methodist Church at 434 Lewis St. Please use the convenient parking lot and side door that leads into the kitchen and fellowship hall. We keep the front doors locked.

Also, from 6 to 7 p.m. we will be working on our new lending library. To be able to use books you must contribute a few books of your own. Bring a few with you, register them and you will be eligible to start checking out a book.

At 7 p.m., our Great Courses Program will begin, and it will be one of the best ones so far. Asteroids are one of the biggest threats to our planet, next to our fellow inhabitants. We can look at and thank the dinosaurs for what happened to them, which made way for us mammals. But, hopefully, we have made big enough advancements in science and rocketry to avert another catastrophe.

We will take time for questions and plenty of discussion so we can all sleep after the meeting.

Earth day celebration

Don't you love Colorado weather? The snow last Saturday made me smile most of the day to celebrate a great Earth Day for us. Snow was a true gift to our part of the earth.

But we will try again next Saturday, April 26, with mostly sunny skies for our Earth Day celebration.

I'm asking all Stargazers to stop at our table for about an hour to interact with visitors. We will have the two volume notebooks made from three years of past Space Mysteries Calendars to educate everyone. Those calendars are such a fabulous educational experience.

Visitors will have the opportunity to order a 2026 calendar to be delivered in the fall. You don't need to pay now, but as always it will be cash when you get your calendar, and they make great holiday gifts. I still use them as topics when we talk on the phone. We will also have our three volumes of the history of the San Juan Stargazers. I know that members will enjoy remembering past meetings and how much they learned. We also will have an update on discoveries of the James Webb Space Telescope.

There is just so much to learn. We hope to see you there.

Upcomina

Our meeting on June 5 will be very special. NASA is celebrating the 50th anniversary of Apollo 13, and our most well-known club member, Tom Hanchett, will be in Houston for the festivities.

He worked for every Apollo mission and has many exciting stories. He will share with us what NASA is doing to celebrate.

I would like to personally invite every student in Pagosa Springs to come to the June 5 meeting.

Hanchett spoke to all the astronauts while they were in space, and he has wonderful words of wisdom for our young people starting out their careers. Please come to be inspired.

About the Stargazers

If you would like to join the San Juan Stargazers, you will also receive Reflector Magazine, which is the publication of the National Astronomical League of which you automatically become a member. To join both groups and get an excellent astronomy magazine, annual membership is only \$25 per family.

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

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



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Curtains Up Pagosa to hold auditions for 'Matilda the Musical' Thursday and Friday

By Anthony Aldwell Curtains Up Pagosa

Auditions for the Curtains Up Pagosa production of "Matilda the Musical" will be held in the Pagosa Springs High School (PSHS) band room on Thursday, April 24, and Friday, April 25, from 6 to 9 p.m.

The audition will require candidates to present a 30- to 60-second monologue and 30- to 60-second song. A short dance number will be taught to those auditioning as part of the audition process. All community members are invited to join this production as the cast will feature both adults and children (who should be at least 6 vears old).

"Matilda" will have four performances on the PSHS stage: June 26-28 at 7 p.m. and a matinee at 2 p.m. on June 29.

The show will be directed by Pagosa theater veterans Krisha Doocy and Gus Palma, with musical direction by Leo Baughman. Music will be performed by the Pagosa Springs Community Band.

"Matilda the Musical" is based on the 1988 novel "Matilda" by Roald Dahl, the acclaimed author of "James and the Giant Peach."

The musical's narrative centers on Matilda Wormwood, a precocious young girl who loves reading and possesses a keen sense of justice. She uses her wit and telekinetic powers to right the perceived wrongs in her life and the lives of those closest to her.

This show originally opened in London in 2010 and is still playing there to packed audiences as the 15th longestrunning production in London's West

Rehearsals for our show will commence the week of April 28, usually from 6 to 9 p.m. School-age performers will be dismissed by 8 p.m. while school is still in session.

As our community theater, Curtains Up Pagosa also welcomes anyone interested in being a crew member for this show, as sets, costumes and backstage work require those specific skills to make "Matilda" come alive. If interested, drop by one of the audition sessions or send a note to aldwell@ verizon.net.

Informative.

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Tickets available for A Night to Remember: Masquerade

By Hannah Longmire

Our Savior Lutheran School

This week marks the last week for early-bird tickets for A Night to Remember: Masquerade, hosted by Our Savior Lutheran School.

Join us May 17 at 5 p.m. for an evening of elegance and glamour with a catered dinner, an open bar, and silent and live auctions.

Early-bird tickets are \$45 per person or \$300 for a table of eight. Prices will increase May 1 to \$50 per person

and \$320 for a table of eight, so buy them now before it's too late.

The evening will begin with the doors opening at 5 p.m., with the silent auction starting immediately thereafter. Don't be late as the silent auction will close once the catered dinner starts at 6 p.m.

After dinner and a few words from Aaron Longmire, the headmaster of Our Savior Lutheran School, the live auction will begin and guests can start bidding for their favorite items.

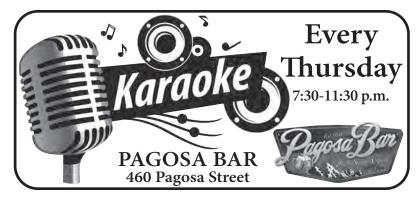
Go to oslcpagosa.org or auctria.

events/ANighttoRemember to buy your tickets and to preview the auction items. You can also call (970) 731-4668 or stop by the church and school office to buy your tickets in person.

Our Savior Lutheran School is a classical, Christian school operating without federal or state funding. Fundraisers like this, along with donations and scholarships, all go to benefit the students at Our Savior Lutheran School and provide financial assistance for families in need.

Don't miss out on this opportunity to enjoy a wonderful evening while making a meaningful difference in the lives of our students.

We look forward to seeing you at A Night to Remember: Masquerade on May 17.





Sexual Assault Awareness Month: How bystanders can make a difference

By Phoebe Schroeder

Rise Above Violence

Sexual violence is not just an individual issue — it's a community issue.

We all have the power to step in and create a culture of safety and respect. This Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM), as we focus on the theme "Communities Act Together," we recognize the role of bystanders in preventing harm.

Being an active bystander doesn't mean putting yourself at risk. It means recognizing when something isn't right and taking steps — big or small — to interrupt it. You don't need to be perfect. You just need to care enough to try.

The five Ds of bystander intervention

1. Direct: Speak up or step in.

Example: "It's not happening. They're too drunk to go home with you tonight."

2. Distract: Interrupt the moment. Example: If someone's being cornered at a party, step in with, "Hey, I need your help with something!"

3. Delegate: Get someone else to help.

Example: Ask a bartender or bouncer to check in if something feels off. It's better to say something than worry about "causing a scene."

4. Delay: Check in afterward.

Example: "I noticed what happened earlier. Are you OK?"

5. Document: Record the details (only if safe) and offer it to the person affected.

Example: If you witness public harassment, take a video or notes, but ask the person first before sharing it.

Where you can intervene

- At work: Shut down inappropriate jokes, support co-workers who speak up and report harassment.
 - In social settings: Watch for dis-

comfort. Step in early.

- In public: Use distraction or delegation.
- Online: Challenge harmful comments. Report abuse. Support survivors who speak out.

How to respond to harmful comments

Calling something out doesn't have to be aggressive; it just has to be clear. Try:

- "That's not funny."
- "I don't think that's OK."
- "Come on, you know better."
- "Why would you say that?" These moments matter.

This is the moment

Every action, no matter how small, makes a difference. Bystander intervention helps prevent harm and shows survivors they're not alone.

If you've ever wondered how to help, this is the moment.

Join us on Wednesday, April 30, for our Denim Day March at Bell Tower Park downtown.

We'll gather at noon to walk in solidarity, raise awareness and stand up for survivors.

Wear denim. Bring a friend. Be visible. Be loud.

Let your jeans be your protest and your presence be your power, because showing up does make a difference.

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Healthy Archuleta holds training to improve communication for better health care outcomes

Healthy Archuleta

Communication plays a vital role in accessing and receiving health-care.

A recent mental and behavioral health landscape assessment conducted by Healthy Archuleta highlighted the importance of training primary care providers in integrated and culturally competent care.

The assessment also underscored the importance of improving mental and behavioral health literacy within Spanish-speaking and Hispanic/ Latino households.

In response to these findings, Healthy Archuleta collaborated with expert professionals to bring essential resources to the community.

In April, a two-day training initiative was launched, targeting both health care providers and Spanish-speaking families. These sessions aimed to advance culturally competent care practices and foster open conversations about mental health within Spanish-speaking communities.

The training for health care providers focused on developing culturally competent practices in both primary and behavioral health care settings. It emphasized the significance of cultural competency, the necessary values and skills required including the importance of curiosity, and utilized case studies to facilitate group discussions.

A key element of the training was the focus on provider-patient communication. It recognized that communication can either reinforce or challenge an individual's beliefs and values, subsequently influencing patient satisfaction, adherence to recommendations and overall health outcomes.

One specific case study highlighted a patient with a family history of stroke seeking preventative care. This patient had previously experienced a medical visit where assumptions were made based on their name and



perceived background. The health care provider had assumed the patient spoke Spanish and had certain dietary habits without asking any preliminary questions. This experience illustrated how stereotypes can lead to misunderstandings and damage the patient-provider relationship, particularly when cultural differences are present.

Such interactions can deter individuals from diverse backgrounds from seeking necessary medical care. When health care providers make assumptions based on a patient's ethnicity, race or name, they risk undermining the quality of care.

Ultimately, health care providers are focused on achieving positive health outcomes, helping patients manage or overcome disease, and improving their overall well-being. Patient satisfaction is a crucial first step in this process, leading to adherence to recommendations and the realization of the provider's envisioned outcomes.

Therefore, the primary objective of these training sessions, both current and future, is to enhance communication between health care providers and community members.

Improved communication is essential for ensuring access to primary, preventive, and mental/behavioral health care, enhancing patient satisfaction, promoting adherence to treatment plans that respect individual backgrounds and values, and ultimately achieving better health outcomes for a healthier community.

Healthy Archuleta looks forward to further collaborations with local health care and mental/behavioral health providers, the community, and experienced professionals.

If you are a health care professional and interested in learning more about upcoming sessions, please send us an email at fsfearchuleta@gmail.com.

To learn more about the efforts of Healthy Archuleta, please visit our website at www.foodcoalition4archuleta.org.

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Tips for all ages: How to find new books that match your likes and interests

PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

If you would like to expand your reading choices, we suggest you go to our NoveList database, where you'll find a multitude of options to enrich your reading life.

With more than 135,000 fiction titles, there are categories for all genres including fantasy, historical novels, Christian fiction, mysteries, romance, sci-fi, westerns and more.

Access is available free by clicking on "Digital Collections" on the top of the library's website. Scroll down to NoveList, click on the icon, enter your library card number and see the many opportunities for all ages. They're presented for adults, teens, ages 9-12 and ages 0-8.

For kids, there also is a separate online database called NoveList K-8. It is designed for the younger readers, as the name implies, and provides the same helpful reader advisory tools. Here you can find read-alike recommendations, reading lists and more.

Happy searching, and happy reading.

Lifelong Learning Lectures

Your library's free Spring Lifelong Learning Lectures take place every Wednesday through May 21 — and note that they are now happening in the afternoons, from 1 to 2:15 p.m.

The time change was made from evenings because many patrons said they preferred not to have to drive at night to attend.

As always, these informative and interesting talks will cover a wide variety of topics with talented and knowledgeable speakers:

- April 30 with Kimberley Schooley of the Durango Dementia Coalition will explore what it's like to live well with dementia from a care partner's perspective.
- May 7 with Peggy Bergon will go back into history when Hispanic sheepherders expressed their loneliness and artistic talents with arborglyphs carved on aspen tress.
- May 14 will be a Zoom session by Dayton Romero introducing you to AARP Senior Planet live online classes for seniors on many topics from wellness to finance.
- May 21 will highlight the weather expertise of Arleen Prochazka discussing the 2025 monsoon in the Southern San Juans.

Pick up a brochure at your library with more details on all these outstanding talks.

Online author talks

Our highly popular free online author talks with New York Times bestselling authors continue in April with one more talk for you to watch live on Zoom or via a recording later.

Library **News**

For details and to register go to https://libraryc.org/pagosalibrary/

Thursday, April 24, at 5 p.m. will feature "The Thrill of Writing Action, Adventure and Suspense" with Gregg Hurwitz.

Craftapalooza tomorrow

All ages are invited to create a variety of crafts on Friday, April 25. We will have several free different craft stations set up. Stop by anytime from 2 to 3:30 p.m.

Adult knitting Saturday

Join new and experienced knitters Saturday, April 26, 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.

Brain fitness program Monday

In a special community partnership program, Judy, adult services librarian, is leading an Ageless Grace exercise program at the Pagosa Senior Center every Monday in April from 10 to 10:45 a.m.

It is a brain fitness program consisting of 21 simple exercises designed for all ages and abilities, performed while sitting in a chair. The Senior Center location was chosen so participants have more privacy as they exercise.

Fraud protection

Next Tuesday, April 29, from 1 to 2:15 p.m., a Bank of the San Juans representative will present a free talk about how to protect yourself from fraud and what to do if you become a victim.

Family storytimes

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

Elementary tutoring

Children ages 6-11 are welcome at these free sessions on Wednesdays from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. where they will build essential skills in core subjects. Preregistration is required.

Writers Guild

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

■ See Library on next page



Pints, Pools, and Paddles 2025

A Community Celebration of Craft Beer, Hot Springs, and the San Juan River the chance to kick off Pints, Pools.

The Springs Resort

The Springs Resort is excited to host the 10th Annual Pints, Pools, and Paddles Craft Brew Fest, happening May 9 through 10. This event isn't just a beer festival. It's a spring tradition that brings our community together to celebrate what makes Pagosa special:mineral-rich waters, craft brews, whitewater adventure, and the spirit of gathering in a place we all love.

Friday, May 9: Start with **Flavor and Fun**

Kick off the weekend with a Beer, Chocolate, and Cheese tasting session, hosted by Pagosa's own Riff Raff Brewing Company. Each session offers an intimate setting where just 30 participants gather to discover the art of pairing craft beer with rich chocolates and carefully selected cheeses.

This experience isn't just delicious; it's educational and fun. You'll learn how the flavors of a well-crafted brew can complement or contrast with sweet and savory notes, deepening your appreciation for both. Whether you're a seasoned beer enthusiast or just curious to learn more, this event is designed for you.

These sessions always sell out quickly, so be sure to secure your spot early. Two sessions are available, at 3 p.m. and 5:30 p.m., for \$50 per person. Don't miss

and Paddles in the most flavorful

Saturday, May 10: A Day for the Community

Saturday is the heart of the festival and a perfect chance to gather with friends and family.

Combo tickets for all-day soaking and beer tasting are \$99, or you can join the tasting-only event for \$49. Local residents within a 60-mile radius can enjoy a \$39 tasting ticket and add a soaking pass for just \$27 with a valid ID.

Spend the day relaxing in the geothermal pools while watching the exciting Pagosa Paddle Whitewater Races on the San Juan River, just steps from the resort. These races, featuring raft teams, kayakers, and stand-up paddleboarders, are a cherished local tradition. The day wraps up with a lively downriver parade full of costumes and good cheer.

From 3 to 6 p.m., sample craft beers from 28 breweries across Colorado, New Mexico, and beyond. Connect with fellow beer lovers and help crown the winner of the Favorite Brewery Award. Past champions Big Beaver Brewing from Loveland and La Cumbre Brewing from Albuquerque may return to defend their titles, but new contenders could take the top spot.

Paid advertisement

More Than a Festival. A **Celebration of Community** and Water.

Pints, Pools, and Paddles is more than craft beer and soaking. It's a celebration of our river, our town, and the people who care for both. Proceeds from this event support Friends of the Upper San Juan River, a local nonprofit dedicated to protecting the San Juan River and community parks through education, recreation, and environmental stewardship.

Their work includes hosting community races and whitewater competitions that raise funds for vital projects, like securing public river access south of town and allowing boaters to continue enjoying the beautiful Mesa Canyon

The Springs Resort is proud to contribute the proceeds from this event to help continue their efforts. When you join us, you're not just having fun — you're giving back to the heart of Pagosa Springs.

Whether you've lived here for years or are visiting for the first time, this festival is a chance to soak, sip, cheer, and connect with the community. Tickets sell quickly and prices increase as the event approaches. Don't wait to reserve your spot.

Visit pagosahotsprings.com for tickets and full event details.

Thank you for supporting our advertisers!

Library.

■ continued from previous page

Dungeons and Dragons

A community-library partnership is expanding the reach of Dungeons and Dragons for middle school students. They are invited to join friends at the Pagosa Community Initiative (PCI) every Thursday in April from 4 to 5:30 p.m. for a free after-school

Registration is required. Participants must be in middle school and registered with the PCI after-school programs.

This Dungeon and Dragons program will continue until the end of the school year.

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 schedule change

Free in-person slots are available from 10 a.m. to noon Tuesdays and 2 to 4 p.m. Thursdays.

But, beginning May 1, the schedule changes to only one session each week, on Thursdays from 2 to 4 p.m. Judy helps you with basic questions relating to computers, smartphones and tablets, and also provides assis $tance\,in\,accessing\,the\,library's\,online$

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.

Short story collections

"Best Stories of O. Henry" includes "Gift of the Magi," "The Ransom of the Red Chef," "Mammon and the Archer" and more, many centering around New York. "The

Edith Wharton Collection" by this Pulitzer Prize-winning author contains her six most acclaimed works including "The Age of Innocence" and "The Custom of the Country." "If It Bleeds" by Stephen King contains four supernatural novellas.

Large print

"A Map to Paradise" by Susan Meissner is a mystery set in Malibu in 1956. "Fight or Flight" by Fern Michaels features a bestselling reclusive author. "The Paris Express" by Emma Donoghue is based on the true story of a French train accident. "Lethal Prey" by John Sanford is a Lucas Davenport-Virgil Flowers mystery. "Onyx Storm" by Rebecca Yarros is book three in the Empyrean romantic fantasy series. "Preacher's Strike" by William W. and J.A. Johnstone is part of the First Mountain Man series. "The Buffalo Train" by Robert Vaughn and James Reasoner is a Faraday mystery.

Books on CD

"Bonded in Death" by J.D. Robb is an Eve Dallas mystery. "Don't Tell Me How to Die" by Marshall Karp is a thriller about a dying woman searching for a perfect woman to take her place. "The Queens of Crime" by Marie Benedict features the five greatest women mystery writers. The Border Legion" is a Zane Grey western adventure. "The Unworthy" by Agustina Bazterrica is set in a convent after a climate catastrophe.

"Victorian Psycho" by Virginia Feito features a governess on a dreary estate. "Far From Home" by Danielle Steel is an historical novel set in occupied France. "What I Should Have Said" by Max Monroe is book one of a new Red Bridge contemporary romance series. "Elphie" by Gregory Maguire explores the young life of the witch who would become famous in "Wicked: The Musical." "Retreat" by Krysten Ritter is a thriller about a beautiful con artist.

"The Legend of Sleepy Hollow" by Washington Irving is one of many classics just added to our new classics section of your library. "Chloe" by Connie Briscoe is a modern update of Daphne du Maurier's classic "Rebecca." "The Love We Found" by Jill Santopolo begins when a woman finds an address in Rome in an old photo box. "The Antidote" by Karen Russell is a historical fantasy bookended by two real weather events in Nebraska. "The World's Fair Quilt" by Jennifer Chiaverini is part of the Aelm Creek Quilts series. "Onyx Storm" by Rebecca Yarros is a romantic fantasy.

Nonfiction

"On Air" by Steve Oney is a history of National Public Radio. "The Icarus Curse" by former Belgian minister of finance Johan Van Overtveldt analyzes the economic forces that have brought western democracies

■ See Library on next page

The Weekly Crossword

14

17

20

23

31

35

38

41

53

56

59

32

ACROSS

- **1** Giant bugs in "Them!"
- 5 Tiny pests
- 10 Riyadh resident
- 14 Pixar fish
- **15** R2-D2, e.g.
- **16** Jewelry chain founder
- **17** Type of shark
- 18 Lists one by one
- 20 Blameless
- 22 Nurses take these
- 23 Custom-made
- 24 Numbskull
- 25 Many a cable CO.
- 26 Test subject
- 31 Dislikes intensely
- 33 Photographer Leibovitz
- **34** Excitement
- 35 Budget rival
- 36 Tour of duty
- 37 Dirt clump
- 38 Man of the cloth, slangily
- 39 Hotel upgrade
- 40 Black-tie events
- 41 Boating item (with "life")
- 43 Poetic sphere
- 44 Arborist's con-
- **45** Uttar (home to the Taj Mahal)
- **49** Vail trail
- **52** Legitimate target
- 53 Fixed limits
- 55 Kind of code
- **56** Jet black
- **57** Sudden burst
- 58 Butcher's stock
- 59 Sad ending?
- 60 Nymph chaser
- 61 Goofs up

DOWN

1 Go off script

2 "... said ____

57

60

15

18

27

33

ever" 3 Type of verb

39

42

44

- 4 Brief reviews
- 5 Athens native
- 6 Positive, as numbers
- 7 Be up against
- 8 Holland or Hardy
- 9 "Hurry up!"
- 10 Spring bloomer 11 Charlie Brown expletive
- **12** Toward shelter
- 13 First lady before Mamie
- 19 Calcutta coin
- 21 Heat in "The Heat"
- 24 Social event
- 27 Join together
- 28 Lifter at a funeral
- 29 Matinee hero
- 30 Mount Olympus dwellers



- 32 Say it's so 36 Certainty
- **37** Old maid, e.g.
- **39** Truth 40 Male swine
- 42 Pound critters. usually
- **46** Stair part

58

61

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47 Bad-mouth 48 Qualifying races

by Margie E. Burke

28

29

48

16

40

43

46

- 49 Quick trip
- 50 "Citizen
- 51 Exasperates **52** Achievement
- **54** FL airport letters

Answers to Previous Crossword:

	V	1	S	Т	Α		D	Α	М	S		M	Α	Α	M
I	Α	Ν	Т	0	Ν		Α	S	Α	Р		Е	L	В	Ε
Ī	I	С	0	N	S		Т	Н	R	0	Т	Т	L	Ε	S
Ī	L	Α	R	G	Е	S	S	Е		Т	R	Ε	Α	Т	S
			M	Α	L	F	U	Ν	С	Т	I	0	N	S	
Ī	Α	L	I		М	0	Ν		L	Е	Ε	R			
Ī	D	I	Ε	G	0			S	0	R	R	Ι	Ε	S	Т
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				Т	Α	R	Е		Н	Ι	М		Н	М	S
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Ī	В	Υ	R	D		S	Α	S	S		Α	L	L	Ε	Ν

Subscribe to The SUN PagosaSUN.com

Caregiver support group to discuss assisted living

By Rose Chavez

PREVIEW Columnist

This Thursday morn

This Thursday morning, April 24, from 10:30 a.m. to noon, the monthly caregiver support group will host a local guest speaker that will provide information about assisted living and answer your questions.

Community, if you are caring for a family member or friend with physical/mental disability, emotional health needs or cognitive decline, this group was created for you.

This group is not limited to only caregivers of older adults. Caregivers of all types are welcome. This group offers a safe, welcoming space for caregivers seeking connection, empathy and encouragement. Whether you're looking for understanding during difficult times or just need a community to lean on, we're here for you.

These sessions will also offer educational resources to grow you in the knowledge and skill to strengthen self-care, to care for your loved ones and empower you to navigate your role as a caregiver, one day at a time.

Dates for the monthly caregiver support gathering in 2025 include: April 24, May 22, June 26, July 24, July 24, Aug. 28, Sept. 25, Oct. 23, Nov. 20 and Dec. 18.

All meetings will be held at the Ross Aragon Community Center in the West Conference Room (except the August gathering will be in a local park) from 10:30 a.m. to noon.

If you have questions or would like to be added to our announcement list, please contact Yeun Fiedler at (970) 946-5810 or Madeline Sutton at (970) 507-1574.

Senior News

No t'ai chi chih in April

The Senior Center offers t'ai chi chih with accredited instructor Patti Popovich to support older adults who want to discover purpose and fulfillment in this transitional phase of life.

This activity will be paused for the month of April and will resume in May. We apologize for any inconveniences.

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

Scrapbooking and crafters club

The Pagosa Springs Scrapbooking and Crafters club continues to hold monthly meetings the second Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Community Center, 451 Hot Springs Blvd., within 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 accom-

pany 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.

■ See Senior on next page



Trinity Anglican Church

God gave us eternal life.
This life is in his Son.
He who believes in the Son has life.
He who does not believe
in the Son does not have life.

246 Harman Park Dr. trinityanglicanchurch.org

I'm Alex Boehmer, currently serving on the PAWSD Board of Directors and running for re-election.

I'm a 2012 Pagosa Springs High School graduate, husband, father, and former volunteer firefighter.

I'm passionate about protecting your family budget and our water security.



OPPOSE LARGE RATE HIKES

Every dollar of rate hikes must be challenged and justified. This year, as a new Board member, elected to be Board Treasurer, I opposed a planned 30% sewer rate increase — and we lowered it to 10%. Not low enough, but a good start.

COMPREHENSIVE FIRE PLAN

STEP ONE: Test every fire hydrant in the district — in cooperation with the County and Fire District if possible — or by PAWSD alone, if necessary. No excuses. Starting immediately.

STEP TWO: Develop a collaborative Fire District, County and PAWSD action plan to use our reservoirs to directly attack wildland fires threatening our homes. We must plan for the large fires which threaten entire neighborhoods — and not merely react.

FINALLY STOP DRY GULCH

The unjustifiable and reckless Dry Gulch Reservoir is a \$400 million disaster which threatens to impose a \$65,000 second mortgage on every Pagosa family and business. We can triple our water supply by finally connecting the reservoirs we already have, at less than 1% of that \$400 million cost.

FIX THE LEAKS

Water losses are threatening to get worse as our water infrastructure ages — and repairing and replacing pipes is expensive. It's time to sell the \$10 million Dry Gulch property and invest that money to fix the leaks. Any other approach to water loss will hike rates higher.

Ballots will be mailed in mid-April. If re-elected, I promise to protect your family budget... and our water future.

Learn more at: www.AlexForPAWSD.com
Paid for by Alex Boehmer

Library.

■ continued from previous page

into crisis and internal division. We have two New Camp cookbooks by Emily Vikre — "Fireside Warmers" with drinks, sweets and shareables to enjoy around the campfire, and "On The Trail" with easy-to-pack meals and snacks.

Donations guidelines

The Friends of the Library have guidelines for donations to the library.

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

When the library is open, highquality 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.

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

Quotable quote

"There are three ways to ultimate success: The first way is to be kind. The second way is to be kind. The third way is to be kind." — Fred Rogers, also known as Mister Rogers (1928-2003). He was a Presbyterian minister, TV host, author and composer who was a pioneer in children's programming, having created, hosted and written the preschool show "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood" from 1968 to 2001. He also composed the show's music.

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.

Senior

■ continued from previous page Stretching and mobility class

Community members are invited to attend free weekly classes every Tuesday 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.

Upcoming bingo dates include May 9, May 23, June 13 and June 27.

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.

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, April 24 — Beef spaghetti, garlic bread, broccoli, garden salad, fruit, vanilla yogurt and milk.

Friday, April 25 — Crispy codfish with tartar sauce, glazed carrots, garden salad, fruit, strawberry rhubarb crisp and milk.

Monday, April 28 — Hawaiian beef with peppers, coconut rice, snow peas, garden salad, fruit, muffin and milk.

Tuesday, April 29 — Chicken enchilada casserole, pinto beans, Spanish rice, garden salad, fruit, flan and milk.

Wednesday, April 30 — Chicken and bow tie pasta with artichoke hearts and sundried tomatoes with pesto, garlic bread, garden salad, fruit, Bavarian cream puffs, and milk.

Thursday, May 1 — Ham steak with maple mustard sauce, roasted carrots, dinner roll, garden salad, cottage cheese, fruit and milk.

Friday, May 2 — Cod piccata, broccoli, brown rice, garden salad, fruit, banana pudding and milk.

Grab-N-Go meals

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

Meals on Wheels

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

Mobile food pantry service

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

Text reservations

Don't forget that we offer a con-

venient texting service for you to communicate with us. Text us at (970) 264-2167. When texting, please include your name, phone number and the days you want a meal. If you are canceling a reservation, please include your name, phone number and the days you want to cancel.

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

■ See Senior on next page

HUD Publisher's Notice

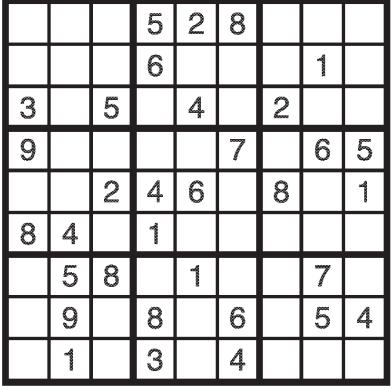


EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

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

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

SUDOKU



Fun By The Numbers

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

Level: Beginner

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!

7	8	6	Þ	G	3	1	veneĥ	9
\$	C	uudu	9	L	8	S	6	2
S	L	9	2	manth	6	8	Ç	t
6	7	L	9	3	mah	9	Þ	8
quun	ε	8	6	9	1	2	_	9
S	9	1	_	8	Z	neunds	£	6
9	6	2	your	V	2	G	Q	£
8	unerafib.	ç	3	6	9	1	2	L
L	þ	${\mathfrak S}$	8	Z	ç	6	9	dooo

: RANSWER:

'Our Power, Our Planet': Dr. Terry Root to speak at Earth Day program

Creation Care Pagosa

Creation Care Pagosa and the Community United Methodist Church (CUMC) are honored to welcome back renowned climate scientist Dr. Terry L. Root to speak at this year's Earth Day event, centered on the theme "Our Power, Our Planet."

Join us on Thursday, April 24, at 6 p.m. at the CUMC, 434 Lewis St. Admission is free, and donations are gratefully accepted to support local environmental education initiatives.

This year's Earth Day theme emphasizes the vital role each of us plays in creating a sustainable, resilient future. Root will speak on how ordinary citizens hold extraordinary power to shape the health of our planet through informed choices, community engagement and a shared commitment to change.

"We are thrilled to bring Dr. Root back to Pagosa," said the Rev. Ken Daniell. "Her message is both urgent and hopeful, and exactly what we need

in this moment. The theme Our Power, Our Planet reminds us that we're not helpless. We are the solution.

Root is professor emerita at Stanford University and a globally recognized voice in climate science.

She was a lead author for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change reports that were coawarded the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize alongside Vice President Al Gore.

Among her many honors, she received the Spirit of Defenders Award for Science and the Lifetime Achievement Award from Point Blue Conservation Science. She currently serves on the boards of Defenders of Wildlife, Birds Caribbean and the Renewable Energy Wildlife Institute, among others.

Known for her accessible and engaging speaking style, Root will offer both a scientific and spiritual perspective on how we can face the climate crisis with courage, clarity and compassion.

Creation Care Pagosa is a faith-

Airport Shuttle & Taxi Service

PUC 55878 Food & Grocery Delivery • Doctor's Visits Serving Durango to South Fork and metro Pago The friendly PAGOSA CAB

Call today to schedule! (970) 398-0123

Why pay more?



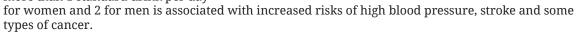
ALCOHOL DOES NOT DO YOUR BODY GOOD

too much alcohol can lead to some

stomach and fatigue you experience from a hangover may be the least of vour concerns.

Organization, alcohol is the third most harmful risk factor for chronic disease (WHO, 2003).

Research indicates that drinking



As the amount of alcohol consumed increases, the risk of these conditions also increases. "We need to clear up misconceptions that people may have about alcohol and health," says Rebecca Kavanagh, coordinator of the Smiths Falls FOCUS Community Coalition. "The bottom line is that for healthy people who choose to drink, reducing intake will help reduce the risk for chronic disease and other alcohol-related problems."

This month, FOCUS communities across Ontario are launching a province-wide campaign to raise awareness about alcohol and chronic disease, including the risk of stroke.

Drinking more than 1-2 drinks per day and binge drinking (more than 5 drinks at one time) can double the risk of ischemic stroke and increase the risk of hemorrhagic stroke two to three times.

Alcohol use at these levels increases the risk of stroke by raising the blood pressure and contributing to obesity. Source: "A hangover may be the least of your worries."

By Rebecca Kavanagh, http://www.healthunit.org/chsr/measure/chronic/cvd/cvd.htm

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

"But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life." John 4:14

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.



40 Oren Road • 970-731-1005

Senior

■ continued from previous page Mahjong

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

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

Medicare call by appointment

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

Mindful drawing

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

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

Bridge

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

Bridge is a four-player card game with partners sitting opposite each

other around a table. It is a tricktaking 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

Potential candidates should be at least 21 years of age or older.

Support the Senior Center

Please support our ongoing operations and programming that provide critical services to some of the most vulnerable in Archuleta County.

You may mail your donation to P.O. Box 3444, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, or please visit our website: http://www.psseniors.org/ (donation button).

Donation checks can be written to: Archuleta Seniors Inc.

We are located at 451 Hot Springs Blvd. For more information about ASI, please visit http://www.psseniors.org/.

based environmental stewardship

group open to everyone in the com-

munity. We meet on the fourth Thurs-

day of each month at the CUMC. If

you'd like to learn more or join our

mailing list, please contact commu-

nications@cumcps.org.

Most people know that drinking unwelcome symptoms the next day. But the trademark headache, upset

So begins today's excerpt provided

According to the World Health

more than 1 standard drink per day

to renew for an additional term.

Adventist Church





Easter Basket Blessing

Photos courtesy Shanna Robb

Despite snow, the Pagosa Springs Catholic Community's annual Easter Basket Blessing was well attended on April 19. The tradition blesses the food that will be eaten on Easter Sunday.

JIM GARRETT

* ATTORNEY *

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SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center announces upcoming events

By Shayla McClure

SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center

Save the date for the following activities at the SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center:

- April 28, 6 p.m.: New Moon Drumming Circle at Xanadu. A \$10 donation will be collected.
- May 7, 14 and 21, 6 p.m.: Tarot classes. Sign up by calling (970) 264-7474.
- May 11, 11 a.m.: Sunday service on "Embracing Your Divine Journey with Intuitive Mind, Body, Spirit" with Shayla Azriel.
- May 23, 6 p.m.: Southwest Cowgirl Burlesque Dance Playshop with Sassafras. Come celebrate with healthy refreshments, giveaways and more.

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.



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Divine Mercy Sunday service set for April 27

By Shanna Robb

Pagosa Springs Catholic Community

Diaries, resembling those used today, have been around since the second century AD. As literacy increased, so did the use of diaries. Originally used for capturing business or travel details, as they gained popularity, the pages became more personal.

One of the gems of mystical literature is the "Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska," which was written in Vilnius and Kraków from 1934-1938. The diary presents the "richness and fascinating beauty of the mystery of Divine Mercy from the vantage-point of Sister Faustina's life and mystical experiences." (saint-faustina.org)

Following Jesus's directive to transcribe His message of mercy, Faustina's diary entries are a great testimony of God's divine mercy. There is an inspiring three-fold message throughout the nun's writings: God is love itself. His love is poured out for us. God wants no one to escape His merciful love.

Pope John Paul II in his Nov. 30, 1980, encyclical letter on divine mercy, titled "Dives in Misericordia," called upon all people to face the evils that afflict modern humanity. His reinvigorating message invited all to pray with intensity, fervor and zeal for the saving power of God's merciful love.

Following Jesus' instructions to St. Faustina, the Pope underscored the profound power in reciting, "Jesus, I trust in You."

The underlying message of the Pope's stirring directive, as explained by author and Catholic priest Father Michael Gaitely, is that "merciful love transforms consciences, puts a stop to evil, and can renew the face of the earth."

Gaitely spotlights the need for bold prayer that "pierces the heart of God and can help save the world."

Per Faustina's diary, the first service the divine mercy image was displayed

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Raise Your Spiritual IO! Series.

By Laurah Brock Young

was on April 28, 1935, which was the second Sunday of Easter. Pope John Paul II canonized Faustina on April $30, 2000, and \, subsequently \, designated$ the second Sunday of Easter as Divine Mercy Sunday.

Divine Mercy Sunday marks the eighth day of Eastertide, which is often called the Octave Day of the Easter season. The second longest liturgical season, the 50-day period begins on Easter Sunday and leads up to Pentecost Sunday, which will be on June 8 this year.

It is a season of celebration that focuses on the resurrection of Jesus

In 2001, the Pagosa Springs Knights of Columbus Council #7560 joined the ranks of churches around the world in leading a Divine Mercy Sunday service. Earl Greenwood, grand knight at that time, led the effort with the support of Guiseppe Margiotta.

In 2002, the Divine Mercy Sunday logistics were handed over to Margiotta and his wife of 32 years, Maureen. When asked why they have tirelessly kept it going for 24 years, Maureen Margiotta shared, "It is our rock during difficult times. When our family and friends face challenges, we turn to God's Mercy for us and the whole world."

When COVID prevented in-person attendance for two consecutive years, the Margiottas livestreamed.

"This is our ministry and, with the grace of God, we keep it going because," Guiseppe Margiotta explained, "everyone is deserving of God's Mercy."

In His revelations to Faustina, Jesus asked for a special prayer and meditation focused on His Passion to be said at 3 p.m., which recalls the time of His death on the cross. Known as the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, the faithful pray a nine-day novena that starts on Good Friday and ends on Divine Mercy

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Knights of Columbus Council, all are

invited to attend the Divine Mercy Sun-

day service on April 27. The chaplet,

led by the music ministry, will start at

2:45 p.m. A light reception will follow.

is located at 353 S. Pagosa Blvd. If un-

able to attend, free pamphlets are avail-

org for hours.

Pope John Paul II Catholic Church



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and bring a friend. This month, our focus is on past lives and reincarnation. This complimentary program of-Ave., at 1 p.m.

fers 10 techniques included in a Raise Your Spiritual IQ! Experience Journal. It includes three books that can

Spiritual Experiences Group to

continue spiritual IQ series Sunday

help you unlock the power of your dreams, understand more about reincarnation and learn the meaning of your inner experiences.

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your past lives. • Gain an understanding of rein-

carnation. • Receive a free book and beautifully illustrated experience journal to

jump-start your spiritual adventure. We will meet Sunday, April 27, at the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association Clubhouse, 230 Port

Eckankar, a spiritual resource for people of all faiths and backgrounds, sponsors this free event. It is an individual, creative practice to experience our unique relationship with the Divine.

Join the Spiritual Experiences Group of Pagosa Springs at https:// www.meetup.com/pagosa-springsspiritual-experiences-group/.

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PAGOSA SCENE...

GOOD FRIDAY PILGRIMAGE

Photos courtesy Shanna Robb

Scene ... the Pagosa Springs Catholic Community leads a Good Friday pilgrimage on April 18.









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 western cattle egret.

Original ancestors of this egret lived in Africa. In North America, the cattle egret was first reported in Florida in 1941 and documented breeding there by 1953. In less than 15 years, its breeding range had expanded as far north as Canada. Today, breeding has been confirmed in pockets in almost all of the United States.

Two years ago, the cattle egret species was split into the geographically separated western type, which lives in Africa, western Asia, southern Europe and the Americas, and the eastern type, which lives in eastern Asia, Australia and New Zealand.

Unlike other herons and egrets, which are usually associated with water, this small tropical heron spends most of its time in fields. It is known to follow large animals or farm equipment and eat the invertebrates that they stir up. Its common name here is derived from its association with cattle. In other parts of the world they are known by the animals they associate with and are called elephant birds, and rhinoceros and hippopotamus egrets.

Part of their success is attributed to their broad diet. They eat insects, other invertebrates, fish, frogs, small mammals and birds. They will fly toward smoke to catch the insects fleeing fire. They forage alone or in large, loose flocks.

These egrets have shown an aptitude for dispersing to new areas and, after breeding, vagrants range widely. In addition to native grasslands, they will feed in fields, on lawns, in parks and at the edges of airport runways. They can become a nuisance when they build their large, noisy, smelly colonies in populated areas.

These all-white herons with yellow legs and a short, yellow bill develop golden plumes on the head, neck, chest and back in breeding season. For a short period, their bills and legs turn bright red to signal their readiness to mate. They are smaller and more compact than the other white herons that stop here.

Western cattle egrets are highly migratory. We have the chance to see them in spring in small numbers when they stop on their journeys between southern winter areas and summer breeding territories.

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



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Overview

New this year is our Business and Service Directory! Ask about being included in this great special section of the publication. Other sections of the guide highlight Pagosa Springs' Business and Economy, Education, Health Care Resources, Real Estate and Construction, Leisure, Active Adults and Getting Settled, making it a useful tool for businesses and families looking to relocate to our beautiful part of Colorado.

Distribution

10,000 copies of the Relocation Guide will be printed for distribution by area businesses, on newsstands and in one edition of The Pagosa Springs SUN. Distribution will begin mid June.

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No debts are left unpaid

By Eric Fisk
PREVIEW Columnist

The young teenage boy stands on quivering legs, his palms sticky from sweat as he anticipates the penalty for his crimes. Maybe if he had only committed one, but the list the bailiff will read is lengthy. His accuser seems giddy for his chance to lay out the case for the worst possible debts to be paid. He knows this criminal has no chance for leniency. The case seems stacked against this kid. The accused looks at dower faces in the jury. They don't appear to be his kind of peers. "All rise." The entirety of the courtroom stands for the supposed "honorable judge."

This aging child never really understood what his father did for an occupation. In fact, he just didn't care. When his father would invite him to learn about the intricacies of his work, the kid just found different things to do, most of which ended up in debauchery. He rejected all his father tried to teach him. He mastered the word "No" to the chagrin of his father. Then bad friends pushed evil activities. The cussing, smoking, booze, marijuana, fights, narcotics and finally the situations that landed him in this courtroom. He knew he was guilty, although he always thought what he did was his own business. He believed his life was his own, and he should not be held accountable to anyone, especially his father.

In his short life, he became a drunken drug addict, guilty of being a thief, lying for his buddies and more. Why not? After all, that's what society had taught him. Hollywood movies, video games and too few adult influences molded him into what he is now. A month ago he considered himself a tough guy among his "friends." Would he feel the same as handcuffs remained cutting off the circulation in his wrists, when "guilty" is the jury's decision?

The judge entered. The boy's eyes dared not to look up. When the judge was seated on his throne, all respectfully took their seats. "Who accuses this boy?" the judge asks in a voice that seems vaguely familiar to the boy, still looking down. The accuser then lays out the case against him. No more defense could help the boy. The jury deliberated, and reported, "Guilty."

"Son, do you have anything to say for yourself?"

"No" he replied, easing his gaze upward. To his utter amazement, the somewhat familiar voice of the judge was his father. The judge continued with the sentencing.

"This court orders either a fine of \$40 billion, or life in solitary confinement in a prison on the equator in complete darkness, where all you will hear day and night for eternity is wailing and the gnashing of teeth."

The boy shouts out, "Dad, you

A Matter of Faith

know I can't pay that."

"You address me as 'Your Honor' when I am on this bench. Do you think my judgment is unjust? What is the price for all the damage you have done? Think of everyone that has been affected by your actions. What price could you possibly come up with for these crimes? Do you think society should pay your due? What have you ever done that could possibly come close to even paying for the slightest of your crimes, let alone the most egregious?"

At this time, an onlooker comes from the right hand side of the judge, writes out a check for the full amount. He lays it down on the bench. "I have paid this boy's debt in full."

The boy has choices here; he could allow his penalty to be paid by someone he doesn't know, or he could reject the payment and spend his life in a literal hell hole. Either way, the debt must be paid. No debts are ever unpaid. This boy represents every person, in that we all break moral laws. Note that this code of morality comes from God, not from mankind.

The judge is God. He is the Judge of all. He alone is the One who gives perfect mercy or justice. He calls us to know Him, and we can either acknowledge Him and allow Him to have a relationship with us, or reject Him and pay our own debts.

The accuser is Satan. He is the very best prosecutor for our sins. He not only knows our sins, he sometimes orchestrates situations that make us decide to act immorally. He is against God and draws as many souls from God as he can.

The stranger that paid the boy's debt is Jesus. He has paid our debts so effectively that it potentially covers everyone's sins.

The boy could reject what Jesus paid and spend eternity in the prison. His pride could keep him from bowing down and taking a gracious gift from his loving Savior.

However, if the boy reflects on all he has done, feels deep regrets for his actions, turns from his wicked ways, thanks the judge (his father), and allows the debt to be paid in full, he is showing a heart change. He is pronounced innocent.

This is what Jesus has done for us. We all stand guilty before God. Jesus Christ took our punishment for us. Instead of writing out a check, he was crucified for our sins. He paid for our sins with His blood, signified by animal sacrifices to cover our sins over millennia.

If we refuse to allow His actions to cleanse us, would God just go ahead and grant us reprieve from our sins? No, for to do this He would be going against our will. He would be unjust, in other words. For Him to be a purely just God, He must sentence you to your own will. If separation from Him is what you ultimately want, then separation is what you will get. You cannot pay the fine, so your hell hole is forever. Annihilation is not an option.

What could you possibly do to gain the favor of the all powerful, all knowing Judge? God the Father sent His only begotten Son to die on a cross, as the perfect payment for mankind's sins. This was foretold throughout the Bible. It was the resurrection of Jesus that promises everlasting life for those who believe when they are called.

This calling comes in many different ways. It could be from a friend or from something in nature. It could be the night sky that makes you ponder how something so wonderful could possibly exist. You may be called by a piece of music that influences you like never before. You may even understand a preacher for the first time. It could also be the point in time when you are at your absolute lowest point in your life, when you have nowhere to turn, realizing that this world cannot help you. Ask for help from the One that created it all.

However the calling may come, embrace it. When He pays your debts, it will not only change your life, it will change your eternity. There is a choice. Will you let your pride get in the way? If you do not want to be close to Him, He won't force you into an eternal relationship with Him. That would be injustice on His part. But He is never unjust.

When you recognize and believe what Jesus did on the cross for your debts, something the Father orchestrated for all, mercy will be granted. If not, justice is your due. No debts are left unpaid.

This column may include both fiction and nonfiction, and views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN. Submissions can be sent to editor@pagosasun.com.

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Unitarian Universalists to hear about Friends and Neighbors in Need

By De Anna Hoyle

Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Join us for Action Sunday at the Pagosa Unitarian Universalist (UU) Fellowship this Sunday, April 27.

We begin at 10:30 a.m. and welcome Leonard Martinez, organizer of Friends and Neighbors in Need, a local, faith-based organization filling a need in our community. Friends and Neighbors in Need organized officially and launched last September.

Its mission: To provide emergency services and identify systemic issues to the appropriate agencies for our most vulnerable in Archuleta County.

Martinez has been involved with this effort and we are happy to host him as we learn more about the needs in our community and how we can be in partnership with those affected.

The UU Fellowship holds six shared values, all centered around love. Two of the values stand out as we focus on the purpose for this Action Sunday, one being pluralism: we believe that all are sacred beings, diverse in culture, experience and theology. The second is justice, working to be a diverse, multicultural beloved community where all feel welcome and can thrive. (Source: UUA.org/beliefs/shared-values)

We gather in community to make friends, grow our spirits and do good works

This week, meditation practice

and dharma talk will be from 9 until about 10:15 a.m.

The monthly schedule is as follows: the first and third Sundays of the month are calm-abiding and tonglen meditation practices from 9 to 9:40 a.m. The second and fourth Sundays are calm-abiding, tonglen and mantra practices followed by a short dharma talk and discussion from 9 to 10:15 a.m.

The instructor for this Buddhist practice, Dan Dempster, is a certified meditation instructor and authorized dharma teacher, for over 18 years a student of Khenpo Migmar Tseten, Buddhist chaplain at Harvard University.

Dempster stated, "Newcomers are always welcome as those more experienced deepen their practice. These are simple, yet profound and beautiful practices based on cultivating the four immeasurables (love, compassion, joy and equanimity). Please bring your favorite cookies to share over tea. Come regularly to deepen your practice. Attending group practice will also encourage, support and reinforce your daily home practice."

The Pagosa UU Fellowship meets in-person on the first and third Sundays of the month at 10:30 a.m. for Sunday service. The second Sunday is the Going Deeper Sharing Circle, also at 10:30 a.m., while the fourth Sunday is for putting our energy towards actions.

Find us in Unit B-15 of the Green-

briar Plaza, 301 N. Pagosa Blvd., on the north side facing Pagosa Peak. We welcome diversity and invite everyone to share in our faith community.

For additional information about the fellowship, please visit www. pagosauu.org.



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100 years ago this month: historical events from April 1925

Special to The PREVIEW

The month of April has been home to many historical events over the years.

Here's a look at some that helped to shape the world in April 1925:

- King Yeta III of Barotseland and the Lozi people in what is now Zambia abolishes the corvée on April 1 in the British colony of Northern Rhodesia. The corvée is a system of forced labor that is considered the last vestige of slavery in the colony.
- On April 2, Harry Pierpont is arrested in Detroit for a string of bank robberies across Indiana and Michigan. Pierpont escapes from prison eight years later and ultimately joins John Dillinger in committing numerous additional bank robberies.
- Henry Ford begins running a private air freight service between Detroit and Chicago on April 2.
- On April 4, Field Marshal Paul von Hindenburg agrees to run in the second round of the German presidential election in place of Karl Jarres, who had won the first round. Jarres withdrew his name prior to the second round, paving the way

for Hindenburg's candidacy and ultimate victory.

- Several men working for criminal Al Capone severely assault investigative reporter Robert St. John on April 6. St. John had previously authored several pieces exposing Capone's criminal empire in Cicero, Ill.
- Adolf Hitler formally renounces his Austrian citizenship on April 7. Hitler would remain stateless and ineligible for public office until being granted German citizenship in early 1932.
- In conjunction with the British Colonial Office, the Australian government announces a plan on April 8 to encourage nearly half a million British citizens to relocate to Australia. The government offers low-interest loans and skills training to entice people to move.
- A demonstration against Lord Balfour in Damascus ends with two people dead and 11 wounded on April 9. The protests were a response to Balfour's promotion of Jewish interests in Palestine. Balfour would depart Damascus in haste a day after the demonstration.
- See Events on next page

How it used to be isn't how it is

PREVIEW Columnist

I showed up for a scheduled nuclear stress test in Durango with my entourage, my family. We travel as a family to the doctor, dentist and hospital. We have had to change as life has changed.

When my Sweet Al accompanied me on this trip, he insisted on helping me into the wheelchair.

Taking paint off corners and putting holes in the hospital walls, he pushed me into a corner. I couldn't move. He wouldn't let go of the handles. He was taking care of me. In his mind, he had not left his post as my protector and the leader of this family.

My Sweet Al is changing as he moves into the next stage of demen-

I need to listen to Al. He has definite reasons for wanting what he wants. These are some of the things I need to be aware of. I'm still learning.

- 1. Embrace his reality. When I'm stuck in the wheelchair in the corner and he insists on helping me, don't make a big deal out of it. Al believes he is taking care of me. That's what he was doing.
- 2. Don't argue with him. What is true for me is not true for him. I marked a pink line on the calendar to assure him he had not missed the Bristol NASCAR Race. He insisted it was Sunday and he was missing the race. I argued with him, "It's Thursday." I showed him on the calendar.

Artist's Lane

He couldn't comprehend.

- 3. Don't talk about him as if he weren't in the room. I have. Yes, I have talked about a situation while he sat quietly hearing what I told the children. "Watch your dad, Angel. He could wander off. He doesn't comprehend."
- 4. Keep him on a routine it helps him to associate with the familiar. Al and I have a routine every day. But in these days, I have had to leave at 6 a.m. to be at a doctor's appointment in Durango. Al is bumfuzzled. He doesn't understand why he isn't getting breakfast. He's hungry and wants breakfast. I tell him it's only 5:30 in the morning. We will pick up something down the road. He wants breakfast now. I need to take a few minutes and fix him something. It wouldn't hurt for me to do that.
- 5. Don't exclude him from parties and family gatherings. It's easy for this family to drown out a quiet person. I insisted that Al put on his hearing aids to engage with the family during a basketball game or dinner conversation. I wrestled with him for 30 minutes to get his aids in his ears. It helps the whole family.
- 6. He likes to pick up things and carry them around. I tell him those

are my things. Put them back. He wants to help me. He moves things around and I find them in another room. I tell him, "Let me carry my own purse. I know what I need." His response is, "I'm just trying to help." I need to let him help.

- 7. Let him explain what he's trying to say. It's important to let him talk. I have a habit of talking for him. I need to learn how to be quiet and listen.
- 8. He wants to eat what he wants to eat. I tell him what we are eating. If he wants cream of mushroom soup every day for a week, it's OK, I don't.
- 9. When he leaves the water on and I take a cold shower, I need to learn it's OK. He feels like I'm chastising him. I've got to work on that.

10. He wants me by his side more and more. He falls asleep, but he needs to know that I'm there. I turn off the television and he wakes up.

Final brushstroke: My Sweet Al is still very sweet, but he's changing. I have to learn how to change for him. He is still the love of my life, and I get to have him next to me for another day. I'm the blessed one.

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

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The Knights of Columbus would cordially like to Thank the community and visitors for their support of the 29th year of our Lenten Fish Frys.

Net proceeds will support community non-profits in Pagosa Springs and Archuleta County.

We hope to see you next year. Sincerely, **Knights of Columbus Council #7560**

Happy Easter!

Sponsored by The Knights of Columbus Council #7560

Events.

■ continued from previous page

- F. Scott Fitzgerald's novel "The Great Gatsby" is published on April
- Police in Denver, Colo., carry out a raid on Good Friday on April 10. More than 200 people, including bootleggers and gamblers, are arrested. The raid was ordered by Denver Mayor Benjamin F. Stapleton, a member of the Ku Klux Klan. The KKK had benefited from many of the institutions targeted during the raid, which prompted the organization to strip Stapleton of his membership months later.
- The James Simpson-Roosevelt Asiatic Expedition departs New York City on April 11. The expedition aimed to collect wildlife species from mountainous regions in Asia and would ultimately return with thousands of specimens.
- Women are granted the right to vote in the Dominion of Newfoundland on April 13.
- Anarchists open fire on the vehicle of Tsar Boris III of Bulgaria on April 14. Though King Boris is grazed by a bullet and two of his companions are killed, the assassination attempt
- The Caterpillar Tractor Company is founded upon the merger of

Holt Manufacturing Company and the C.L. Best Tractor Company on

- After consuming an excessive amount of hot dogs and soda, Babe Ruth undergoes surgery on April 17. Ruth had collapsed on a team train 10 days earlier and is treated for what doctors characterized as an intestinal
- The Communist Party of Korea is founded in Japanese-ruled Korea on April 17.
- The use of a sign shaped like a shield is standardized as the way to identify federally funded highways in the United States on April 20.
- The entire crew of the Japanese cargo ship S.S. Raifuku Maru perishes when the ship sinks in a storm on April 21. The ship was transporting wheat from the U.S. to Germany, but rescue efforts failed due to stormy conditions.
- Franz Kafka's novel, "Der Prozess" (later translated in English as "The Trial"), is published posthumously on April 26. Kafka, a relative unknown at the time of the book's publication, died of tuberculosis roughly nine months earlier.
- France begins air raids on Morocco as part of the Rif War on April 27. The raids would continue intermittently for the next nine years.



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Preview Calendar

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

Thursday, April 24

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.

Caregiver Support Group. 10:30noon, Community Center.

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.

Pagosa Springs Varsity Girls' Soccer. 4 p.m., Golden Peaks Stadium. Pagosa Springs High School vs.

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.

Online Author Talk: Gregg Hurwitz. 5 p.m., virtual. "The Thrill of Writing Action, Adventure and Suspense" with Gregg Hurwitz. For details and to register, go to https://libraryc.org/ pagosalibrary/upcoming.

Curtains Up Pagosa 'Matilda' Auditions. 5:30-8 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School band room. Candidates will present a 30- to 60-second monologue and 30- to 60-second song. All community members are invited. The play will be performed June 26-29.

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.

Seminar: Environmental Health with Dr. Terry Root. 6 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Dr. Terry Root will speak on "Climate Change: Our Power, Our Planet."

Friday, April 25

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

Craftapalooza. 2-3:30 p.m., Sisson library. Join for a variety of crafts for all ages and abilities.

Curtains Up Pagosa 'Matilda' Auditions. 5:30-8 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School band room. Candidates will present a 30- to 60-second monologue and 30- to 60-second song. All community

members are invited. The play will be performed June 26-29.

Saturday, April 26

Be Prepared for an Emergency. 9 a.m., CSU Extension, 344 U.S. 84. CSU Extension Director Cindi Galabota and Archuleta County

Public Health Outreach Specialist will teach a workshop covering best practices for preparing for and recovering from an emergency.

Fly-fishing Basics. 9 a.m-noon, Pagosa Bible Church. Put on by Pagosa Bible Church. For more

■ See Library on page 23

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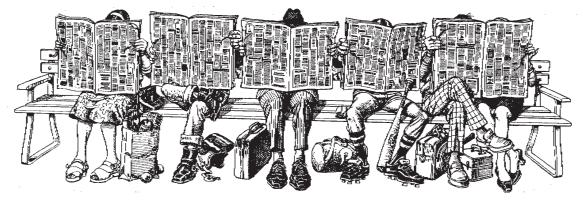
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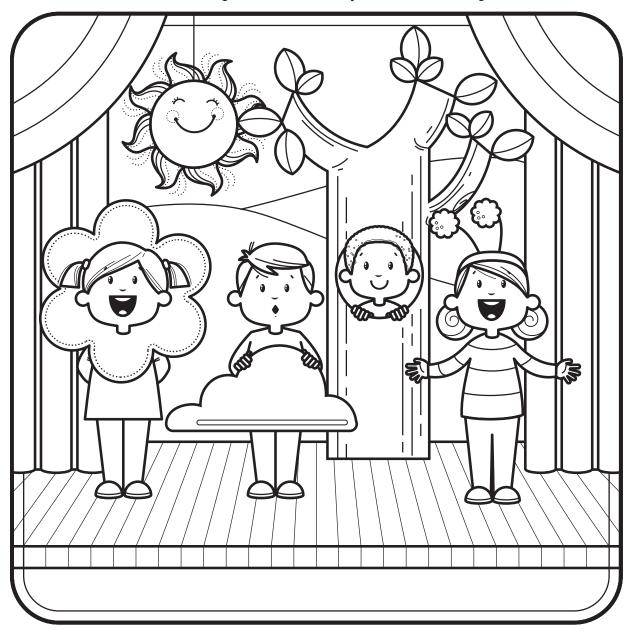
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Preview Calendar

■ continued from page 21

information, call (303) 828-6386. **Earth Day Celebration.** 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Centennial Park. There will be an early mindfulness hour from 9-10

early mindfulness hour from 9-10 a.m. From 10 a.m.-2 p.m., visitors can enjoy a variety of activities.

GriefShare. 10-11:30 a.m., Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. A 13-week program to assist with the healing process, regardless of how long it is since your loved one passed. For more information, contact Marie Rasco at marierascoe67@gmail.com or Centerpoint Church at (970) 731-2205. You can also register and learn more at www.griefshare.org.

Pagosa Springs Varsity Baseball. 11 a.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Pagosa Springs vs. Centauri doubleheader.

Brews for Rescues. Noon-5 p.m., Archuleta County Fairgrounds. Admission, which includes unlimited beer tastings, is \$25 online or \$35 at the door. There will be more than 40 beers, live music by A-Mac and The Height, and the Brewfest Brawls. Proceeds benefit Rugby's Rescue House. Tickets are available at brewsforrescues2025. eventbrite.com.

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

Monday, April 28

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

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

Women's Fellowship Book Study. 9:30-11 a.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church.

Line Dancing. 9:30-11 a.m., PLPOA Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Beginners meet at 9:30 a.m. and the advance group meets at 10:15 a.m. If you haven't attended before,

please call Beverly at (970) 264-2064 for more information.

Pi Beta Phi San Juan Alumnae Club Luncheon. Noon, Victor's Sushi. Celebrate the 25th anniversary of the alumnae club and honor Founders' Day and the club's Golden Arrows, women who have been a member of the sorority for 50 years or more. RSVP to Carole Howard.

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

Deepening the Faith Classes. 6-8 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms.

DivorceCare/DivorceCare for Kids. 6-7:30 p.m., Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. A 13-week program that provides a safe environment for people who have gone through, are going through or are considering divorce and features experts on divorce and recovery topics. DivorceCare for Kids is for kids 5-12, with topics mirroring the

■ See Calendar on next page



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Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

adult sessions. For more information, email Jim Shook at jshookup@gmail.com or the church at admin@centerpointpagosa.com. You can register online at www.divorcecare.org.

Tuesday, April 29

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.

Women Helping in Pagosa Springs (WHIPS). 11:30 a.m., Shang Hai Chinese Restaurant. All women are welcome for the monthly luncheon. RSVP by Sunday night, April 27, by calling (970) 946-1895.

Protecting Yourself from Fraud: Before and After. 1-2:15 p.m., Sisson Library.

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

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

Mahjong. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center. English as a Second Language. 4-7 p.m., Sisson Library. Your library offers English as a second language classes. These classes are free. Call (970) 264-2209 or email for more information. Beginning students are encouraged to attend from 4-5 p.m., intermediate students from 5-6 p.m. and advanced students from 6-7 p.m.

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

Men's Fellowship. 6 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms.

Wednesday, April 30

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.

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.

Denim Day March. Noon, Bell Tower Park. Stand with survivors and take part in the annual march. Wear denim to challenge harmful myths and show your support for ending sexual violence. For more information, visit www.riseaboveviolence. org/saam2025.html.

Lifelong Learning Series. 1-2:15 p.m., Sisson Library. The discussion will explore what it is like to live well with dementia from a care partner's perspective. The role of the Durango Dementia Coalition will also be discussed.

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. Build essential skills in core subjects. Registration required. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

Americana Project Concert Featuring Patrice Pike. 7-9:15 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium. Students will open the show with a mix of original songs and covers. The doors will open at 6:30 p.m. Tickets will be available at the door for \$20 for adults, \$15 for students and seniors. Children 12 and under will be admitted free.

Thursday, May 1

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.

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.

Pagosa Springs Varsity Girls' Soccer. 4 p.m., Golden Peaks Stadium. Pagosa Springs High School vs. Del Norte.

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, May 2

Chimney Rock Interpretive Association Volunteer Orientation. 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. CRIA's orientation program for both new and returning volunteers. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

Tween/Teen Takeover. 2-4 p.m., Sisson Library. The large meeting room and some of the computers will be set aside for tweens/teens to use and spend time with friends.

Pagosa Springs Varsity Girls' Soccer. 4 p.m., Golden Peaks Stadium. Pagosa Springs High School vs. Fruita Monument.

Saturday, May 3

Chimney Rock Interpretive Association Volunteer Orientation. 9

■ See Calendar on next page

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Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

a.m.-noon, Chimney Rock National Monument. CRIA's orientation program for both new and returning volunteers. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

Fly-fishing Basics. 9 a.m-noon, Pagosa Bible Church. Put on by Pagosa Bible Church. For more information, call (303) 828-6386.

Pagosa Springs Varsity Track: Terry Alley Invitational. 9 a.m., Golden Peaks Stadium.

LEGO Play. 11 a.m.-noon, Sisson Library. For kids 6-11 years old. Bring your own or use the library's LEGOs to free build. Contact the library at (970) 264-2209 for further information.

Pagosa Springs Varsity Baseball. 11 a.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Pagosa Springs vs. Bayfield doubleheader.

GriefShare. 10-11:30 a.m., Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. A 13-week program to assist with the healing process, regardless of how long it is since your loved one passed. For more information, contact Marie Rasco at marierascoe67@gmail.com or Centerpoint Church at (970) 731-2205. You can also register and learn more at www.griefshare.org.

Monday, May 5

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

Line Dancing. 9:30-11:30 a.m., PLPOA Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Beginners meet at 9:30 a.m. and the advance group meets at 10:15 a.m. If you haven't attended before, please call Beverly at (970) 264-2064 for more information.

Women's Fellowship Book Study. 9:30-11 a.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church.

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

DivorceCare/DivorceCare for Kids. 6-7:30 p.m., Centerpoint Church. 2750 Cornerstone Drive. A 13week program that provides a safe environment for people who have gone through, are going through or are considering divorce and features experts on divorce and recovery topics. DivorceCare for Kids is for kids 5-12, with topics mirroring the adult sessions. For more information, email Jim Shook at jshookup@gmail.com or the church at admin@centerpointpagosa.com. You can register online at www.divorcecare.org.

Deepening the Faith Classes. 6-8 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms.

Tuesday, May 6

Veterans for Veterans of Archuleta County. 9 a.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. Veterans and family members are invited to share experiences with vets of all ages. Find out about the latest in vets benefits, vets news and community-focused events. Contact (970) 880-8387 for more details.

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.

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. Pagosa Springs Varsity Baseball. 3 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Pagosa Springs vs. Ignacio.

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

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

Men's Fellowship. 6 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms.

Wednesday, May 7

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.

Thursday, May 8

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.

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.

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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)

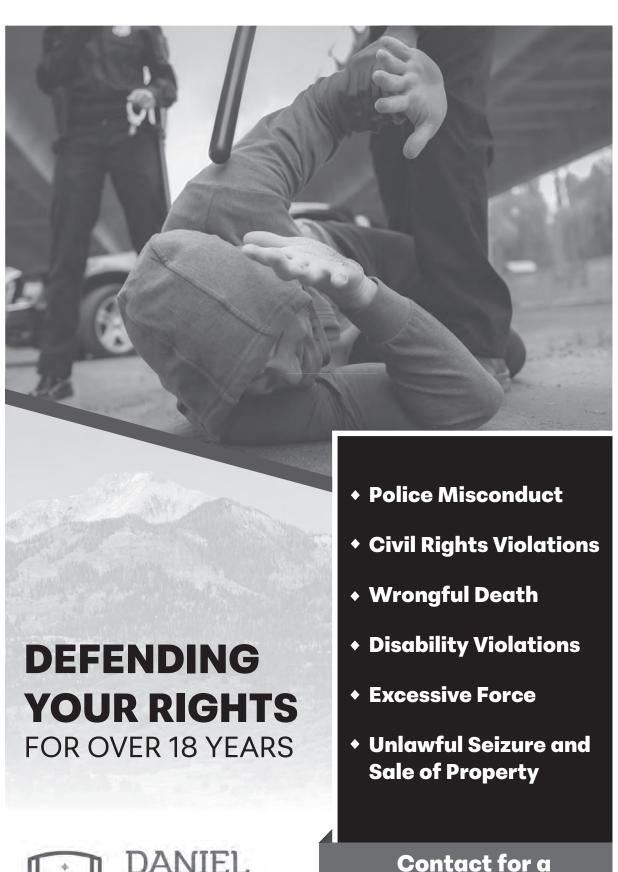
264-2209 for more information.

Seminar: Spiritual Health with the Rev. Debra Huffman. 6-7:30 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. The Rev. Debra Huffman will speak on "Nurture Your Spirit: Your Journey to Enhancing Spiritual Wellness."

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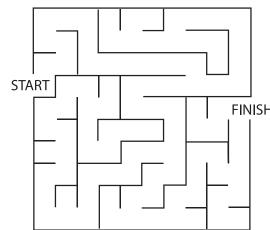
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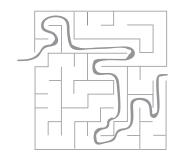


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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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CONCERNED ABOUT ANOTHER'S DRINK-ING? Pagosa Springs Al-anon Family Group meets Tuesdays 6-7p.m., Pagosa Bible Church. Questions? Call/text (303)815-8569. www.al-anon.org.

MONTANA RANCHERS COEXISTING with Grizzlies and Wolves? Climate and Human Ecology educational movie. Monday, April 28, 4:00p.m. -5:00p.m., Covote Moon Lounge.

PAGOSA AA: M-W-F 5:30p.m. Mens' meeting Tuesday 5:30p.m. Saturday and Sunday 10a.m. Tuesday and Thursday at noon. 315 N. 2nd St., County Road 200 (.2 miles off 160). Zoom Sunday 10a.m. Zoom Thursday noon women only; ID 858 319 763, password 754 234. Call Kathi (970)946-1482 or Central Office (888)333-9649.

THERE IS A SOLUTION GROUP of Alcoholics Anonymous meets Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, 5:30-6:30p.m. Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. Questions? Richard: (970)903-1456. Diamond: (970)264-1073. More resources: www.aa.org, www. aa-westerncolorado.com, (970)245-9649, (888)333-9649 (24 hours).

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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.

ROOF REPAIRS, LEAKS, RESCREWS, INSPECTIONS. 35+ years experience. Call Jeff at Blair Roofing. (970)903-6556.

ROOF RESCREWING, CHIMNEY CLEAN-ING, roof repairs, dryer vent cleaning, valley repairs. Arlie's Chimney Sweep. (970)731-

SMALL ENGINE SOLUTIONS. 2-stroke and 4-stroke gas engines. Maintenance, tuning, repairs. Pick-up and drop-off available. Chain and blade sharpening. Tire changes, balance, flat fixes. (970)585-4191.

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SERVICES

SERVICES







Have your plans drawn now. Don't wait!

Be ready to start your house, barn, garage or deck on time.



Call Rick 946-1737

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Deck Specialist

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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.

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Semi-retired plumber 30+ years experience 15+ years in Pagosa Reasonable rates · Local references

Michael · 480-685-6191 I return all calls!

VANCE AND BERNARD TREE SERVICES. Trimming, removals, fire mitigation, masticator, tractor, dump trailer, chipper, Insured, Call (720)409-9923. vandbtreeservices@ amail.com.

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Plans drawn & submitted



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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.

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Roof Repairs

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SERVICES

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Services include but not limited to; fencing,

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Pagosa 27 years, Dr. Dean and Amanda,

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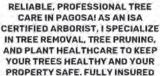
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GOODMAN'S DEPARTMENT STORE is looking for a sales associate, Saturdays required. Sales associates must be friendly and self-motivated. Ask about our benefits and employee discounts. Come pick up an application at 402 Pagosa Street.

SERVICES HELP WANTED **HELP WANTED**



We are Growing!

Now Hiring: Digital Marketing Consultant

Are you passionate about driving results through innovative marketing strategies? Do you thrive on helping businesses grow their online presence? Join our team as a Digital Marketing Consultant and make an impact!

What You'll Do:

Develop, implement, and optimize digital marketing campaigns across multiple platforms-Search Engine Marketing, SEO, Facebook, Video and much more. Plus, have a competitive advantage by including our own Pagosa Springs SUN digital and print audience.

Bring cost-effective, website development opportunities to local businesses to help build long-term, win-win partnerships. Analyze campaign performance and generate actionable insights to maximize ROL

Collaborate with clients to understand their business goals and create tailored marketing strategies.

Stay ahead of industry trends and identify new opportunities for growth.

What We're Looking For:

2+ years of experience in digital marketing, preferably in a consultancy or agency role.

Proven expertise selling digital advertising solutions. Strong analytical skills with proficiency in tools like Google Analytics, Ads Manager, and SEMrush.

Exceptional communication skills and a client-first mindset. A passion for creativity, strategy, and measurable results.

Why Join Us?

Competitive salary + performance-based incentives. Access to professional development and growth opportunities. Be part of a collaborative, innovative, and supportive team.

O'Rourke Media Group is a family-owned, diversified media company that was formed in 2018. Originally just a holding company that owned a few newspapers, O'Rourke Media Group (OMG) has established itself as an industry-leading, digital media company comprising a cutting edge digital agency and an impressive group of award-winning, hyper-local print newspapers and niche magazines. OMG now operates in eight states, 36 markets with over 50 publications and hyper-local websites. In Pagosa Springs, we publish The SUN, Preview and a number of niche publications.

Ready to take the next step in your career? Send your resume and a brief cover letter to CEO Jim O'Rourke at jorourke@orourkemediagroup.com.

The Pagosa Springs SU

HISTORY MUSEUM HOST. May 24 through Labor Day, Wednesday-Saturday, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. \$18 per hour. Greet guests, gift shop and daily operations, light cleaning. Interest in local history a plus. Email info@ pagosamuseum.org or call (970)799-4056.

IMMEDIATE OPENING for CDL Driver / Equipment Operator. Experience with forestry equipment helpful. Must pass drug test. Local driving only. Please send your resume to frontdesk@pagosalandcompany.com.

(970) 264-2100 Classifieds

(970) 264-2100

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

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED



Walmart Pagosa Springs Supercenter

In-person hiring event

Friday, April 25 and Saturday, April 26 Walk ins welcome from 10am-2pm

Full Time and Part Time positions available Starting pay \$18-\$25 *position and qualifications dependent

> Start the application process at www.walmart.com/careers



We Are Hiring!

Elementary Teachers

We are hiring elementary school teachers for the 2025-26 school year. If designing curriculum and engaging students in Project-based Learning excites you, don't hesitate to apply.

Apply now!

Send your resume to:

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Apply in person. Weekends and Applications available holidays required. on www.terrysace.com COLORADO ROME Terry's ACE 525 Navajo Trail Dr.

Starting at \$17 per

hour, dependent on

experience.

www.pagosapeakopenschool.org

LANDSCAPE LABORERS WANTED. Must have own transportation. Call for an application. Good pay for good help. (970)946-2277.

MCDL DRIVER. Ponderosa Lumber is hiring a CDL Driver. This is a full-time position. Duties include deliveries, loading /unloading trucks, and helping customers. Requires the ability to drive a stick shift and have a Class B endorsement. We offer paid time off, medical, dental, vision, prescription, 401(k) and Profit Sharing. Please apply at Ponderosa Lumber 2435 Eagle Dr. (970)731-4111.

NORTH PAGOSA MARATHON is hiring a full-time cashier nights and weekends. Competitive wages. Please apply in person at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

OWNERS, THERE IS A LONG TERM RENT-AL SHORTAGE IN PAGOSA SPRINGS. We have a waiting list for approved tenants. Need all types of rentals. Call us today for lowest commission and highest customer service. All you have to do is wait for your rent check to come in. We do the rest! Rocky Mountain Realty & Rentals (970)507-1192.

JAND JENTERPRISES is looking for friendly and enthusiastic people who are eager to help customers navigate the wide world of cannabis. We offer paid sick leave, product sampling, employee discounts, sales bonuses and comprehensive on-site training! Must be 21 years of age. A Marijuana Enforcement Division badge is required to start work. E-mail your resume to employment@jandjinc.net or check us out on Indeed.com.

We are looking for reliable, motivated additions to our team!

Full-time and Seasonal

MULTIPLE POSITIONS

MULTIPLE DEPARTMENTS

Renefits include

discounts, paid time off,

profit sharing and more!

ALT SHOPPE NOW HIRING. Apply in person between 9a.m. and 2p.m.

HELP WANTED

COLORADO DREAM HOMES is seeking a finish carpenter for year round work. Pay is dependent on skill set and experience. Paid holidays, accrued PTO and annual bonuses. Please send resumes to coloradodreamhomesinc@gmail.com or swing by our office at 2283 Eagle Dr. to hand deliver or fill out an application.

COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST THRIFT

STORE -Now Hiring. Now hiring for two parttime positions in Pagosa Springs. Co-Manager: Helps run daily operations, works with volunteers, manages inventory. Sales Floor Assistant: Provides customer service, runs register, restocks, keeps store tidy. Make a difference at this nonprofit, church-supported store. Apply: Rev. Ken Daniell- pastor@ cumcos.org.

CONSTRUCTION LABOR and metal working help needed. Good driving record a plus but not necessary. Pay based on construction experience. Full-time or part-time. (970)585-

DEDICATED CLEANERS Must be detail oriented, trustworthy, reliable and committed. \$20/ hour possibly more for special projects. Text Pagosa Sparkles, (970)946-6446.

EMPLOYMENT AT SILVER DOLLAR LI-QUOR. Must be 21. Full-time or part-time. Nights and weekends. (970)264-2749.

GENERAL LABORER NEEDED Full time. Assorted Duties. Please send resume or work history to frontdesk@pagosalandcompany. com. Phone (970)264-5000.

IMMEDIATE OPENINGS at Pagosa Springs Golf Club and Square Top BBQ: Server/ Bartender \$11.79-\$15/ hour +Tips, Grounds and Irrigation Crew DOE \$16- \$20/ hour, Golf Carts \$16/ hour +Tips, Housekeeping \$18/ hour. Seeking honest, outgoing, reliable and responsible applicants with excellent customer service skills for our team. Full- or Part-time positions available. Training available for all positions. Apply in person at 1 Pines Club Place.

MOUNTAIN SPIRITS IS SEEKING customer service associates. Must be available nights and weekends. We offer accrued vacation/ personal time, performance-based bonuses twice a year, and employee discounts. Please apply in person.

HELP WANTED

NEWSPAPER REPORTER — We are searching for a talented reporter to fill a fulltime position in Pagosa Springs, Colorado, at The Pagosa Springs SUN. Our journalists are driven to find stories that matter to our community and are dedicated to fairness, accuracy, and ethics. The successful candidate for this position is someone who knows how to cover hard news but also loves to write about people and their passions. They know that a good interview is often a good conversation and know when to ask the tough questions, but also when to listen. The ideal candidate has exceptional writing skills and is willing to put in the extra effort and research to deliver an engaging story. Preferred qualifications for this position include: Degree or diploma in journalism, or a related field; At least 1-3 years of experience as a reporter with experience covering hard news and feature stories or experience at a college newspaper; The ability to meet tight deadlines and report the news as it happens; Superior language, writing and editing skills; Strong photography skills; Able to work a variety of schedules, including evenings, nights and weekends; Excellent critical thinking and problem-solving skills; Ability to work in a fast-paced environment; A valid driver's license and a reliable vehicle; Willingness to live in or near Pagosa Springs, Colorado. If this sounds like the perfect position for you. we would love to hear from you! To apply, please send your resume, letter of interest and relevant samples of your work to Chad Richardson, Vice President of News, crichardson@orourkemediagroup.com. Company Benefits: We offer competitive compensation plans and employees are eligible for medical dental, vision, life insurance benefits, paid time off and our 401 (k) savings plan. This is an excellent opportunity for career development and growth within the company O'Rourke Media Group is a fast-growing company that owns and operates hyper-local, community newspapers, websites, niche publications and a full-service digital agency. We are family-owned and mission-driven to save newspapers and local media companies by investing in the people, resources and technology needed to thrive for many years to come. We believe that every community can benefit from a well-run, properly resourced, local newspaper and website. Our News teams produce hyper-local, high interest local news and accurate and trustworthy reporting. Our Sales and Digital Fulfillment teams bring omnichannel advertising solutions to local businesses in the communities we serve. O'Rourke Media Group now operates in nine states and 38 markets with 51 publications and hyper-local websites. We started from ground zero in December 2018, totally bootstrapped, confident and with an entrepreneurial mindset.

PAGOSA LIQUOR IS HIRING a full-time cashier. Please come and apply in person at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

PINE VALLEY RENTAL, busy equipment rental yard is seeking a reliable, self starting shop/yard person. Must have experience in mechanics, diesels, hydraulics, electrical work, and be knowledgeable of heavy equipment plus small engines. CDL is a plus but not required. Must have own transportation Full time, Monday -Friday 8-5. Please call (970)731-4410 Or Email ppine000@centurytel.net. 391 Bastille Drive

Cassifieds (970) 264-2100

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

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE

The Pagosa Springs SUN is recruiting for a dynamic, versatile customer service representative. This position is required to work at our office at 457 Lewis Street, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. Hours 8am to 4:30pm, Monday through Friday.

Job Responsibilities

Account Management: Support the Advertising Department with account management activity that's associated with customers running ads in The SUN, PREVIEW, special publications and on our digital platforms. Administrative: Handle postal paperwork, insertion order processing and payment processing for advertising and subscriptions.

Service: Provide personable, friendly customer service answering phones and interacting in person with customers that visit the office.

Communication: Serve as a point of contact for internal and external communications. Answer phones, respond to emails and direct inquiries to the appropriate team members.

Project assistance: Assist with special projects and initiatives as needed.

Requirements

3-5 years of experience working in an office.

Excellent attention to detail and accuracy in data entry.

Strong organizational and time management skills to meet payroll dead-

Excellent communication skills on the phone and through all communication channels.

High level of proficiency in MS Excel and other Microsoft Office applications.

Compensation Range/Benefits

\$17-\$20/hour depending on experience level.

Eligible for medical, dental and vision benefits on the 1st of the month after 30 days of employment.

Eligible to enroll in the company's 401 (k) retirement savings on the 1st of the month after 90 days. The company matches 50% of your contribution up to 2.5% of total compensation.

16 days of PTO plus 4-5 paid holidays.

Opportunity for advancement and career growth within the company.

About the Company

O'Rourke Media Group is a fast-growing company that owns and operates hyper-local, community newspapers, websites, niche publications and a full-service digital agency. We are family-owned and mission-driven to save newspapers and local media companies by investing in the people, resources and technology needed to thrive for many years to come. O'Rourke Media Group now operates in eight states and 28 markets with 41 publications and hyper-local websites.

Send your email or letter of interest directly to CEO Jim O'Rourke at jorourke@orourkemediagroup.com

The Pagosa Springs **S**

an O'Rourke Media Group company

THE KEYAH GRANDE GUEST HOUSE is hiring a dishwasher (\$17/ hour) for our new fine dining restaurant, "Beyond the Gates". Experience preferred. Email your resume and references to theguesthouse@keyahgrande.com.

WAREHOUSE PERSON. Detail oriented FT, Monday- Friday. Must be able to lift 50+ lbs. Must be over 21 for forklift. Non smoker. Drop resume off at The Tile Store, 204 Bastille Dr.

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

SPECIAL EVENTS COORDINATOR The Pagosa Springs Chamber of Commerce is seeking a part-time coordinator. Must have customer service, energy, event planning and organizational skills and be able to work in a fast-paced, physical environment. Hours are flexible, increase during the summer and fall event season and must be able to work weekends and evenings when administering events. Position offers competitive hourly rate. Deadline for resumes is May 3, 2025. Submit resumes to director@pagosachamber.com or drop off at the Chamber at 105 Hot Springs Blvd. Pagosa Springs Chamber of Commerce is an EEO employer.

HELP WANTED

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

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.

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

FOR SALE

16 FT FIBERGLASS step ladder, \$100. Tonneau hard cover, fits 2020-2025 Chevy GMC long-box pickup. Used one week, \$600. Layout blinds, duck and goose decoys, make offer. (970)903-7567.

4 COOPER TIRES AT3 265/65 R18. Good tread left. \$40 each. Must take all 4. (970)946-

ASPEN. DOUGLAS FIR. PINE MIX firewood for sale. (719)937-8707.

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 SALE! The end of the season dump truck special is back. Get a HUGE load split and delivered for \$500! This will be the cheapest price of the year. Pine/ Fir mix. Start getting stocked back up now! Contact FIRE&ICE (970)582-0006.

NEW 20' CONTAINERS FOR SALE or rent. We deliver to homes or businesses. Pagosa Springs Storage (970)731-0007.

OUTDOOR VEHICLE STORAGE SPACES available. 16', 20', 25', plus indoor 12'x20'. Winter specials starting at \$60. Pagosa Springs Storage. Gated with security cameras. (970)749-1500.

RABBITS FOR SALE. Everything from baby Easter bunnies to breeding pairs. Starting at \$10.00 each. Dan Snow (719)849-8873.

FOR SALE

SELL OR TRADE YOUR GUNS. We have for cash or trade it. No hassle. Licensed, bonded, insured. San Juan Trading Post, 635 San Juan St. (970)731-PAWN (7296).

PETS

4.5 MONTH OLD black lab female, AKC litter registration. Got here 3 weeks ago but can't keep due to allergies. Sweet good looking pup. Paid \$600, asking \$300 to good home. Contact Rick at (713)385-7873 call or text.

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

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

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Ready to go 2012 Forest River Pop-Up camper

Dry inside, even in rain and snow. Heated. Sleeps 4-6, queen, full and twin beds. Three burner stove and outdoor gas grill. Indoor toilet and shower. Refrigerator. Good battery and back up system. Full propane bottle. Winterized. \$5000, OBO.

Call (970)585-9084

23' GRAND DESIGNE. Used twice. Many extras. \$44,500 new. Sell: \$35,000. (970)398-1155.

WANTED

Pagosa Springs Employer Seeking Housing for Manager

Employer seeking housing for 1 employee who works a full time management position and attends university online. Looking for an apartment, self contained unit. or something similar. Preferably in town. Not looking for shared housing. Employee has one small dog (under 10 lbs) who will be at doggy daycare when the employee is not at home. Good credit, good rental history, and can provide references upon request. Looking to pay up to \$1,000 per month including utilities. Please call Kevin (720) 234-8380 for more information.

BLUEGRASS MUSICIANS interested in joining an intermediate/ advanced level regular bluegrass jam, contact Melinda at malutz@ centurytel.net.

PagosaSUN.com

AUTOS

2005 MAZDA RX8. Immaculate one owner. always housed in garage. 163,914 miles, new engine at 96k, new transmission at 135k, new clutch at 155k. 245X40 ZR18 custom wheels, 97v speed rated tires, (970)761-1173. carlwilles@gmail.com. \$6000.

2015 SILVERADO TRUCK, Red 4 door Crew Cab. 139,077 miles. \$6,700. (402)960-1978 mobile or (402)291-6609 landline.

GUARANTEED CREDIT APPROVAL! 4X4 Auto Sales, 21698 Hwy. 160 West, Durango. (970)385-7940.

YARD SALES

369 BEAVER CIRCLE, Last Day Friday April 25. 8a.m. til 3p.m. Furniture, sleeper sofa, futon, beautiful buffet, clothing, jewelry, serving pieces, plate sets, hats, quilts, antique trunk, lots of office supplies, Christmas items, tools. Something for everyone!

ATTENTION TREASURE HUNTERS! Estate Sales By Elizabeth, LLC has Two Big Weekends planned so far! Don't miss out on these incredible estate sales happening the first two weekends in May! Whether you're a collector, bargain hunter, or just love a good treasure hunt-there's something for everyone. Check out my Facebook page for previews of the goodies! Happy Hunting!

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

MULTI-FAMLY GARAGE SALE. Rain or shine. Friday and Saturday 8a.m. Toys, home decor, kitchen, adult and kids' clothing, snow blower, furniture, exercise equipment, lots of fabric and sewing notions and more. 409 Escobar off Piedra Road or North Pagosa Boulevard. Half-price Saturday.

YARD SALE. 2011 GMC Z71 3/4 ton truck, furniture, bedroom suite camping tents and supplies, Craftsman snow thrower, Honda lawnmower, artificial tree, Friday and Saturday, April 25 and 26. 7a.m. to 1p.m. 95 **Enchanted Place**

YARD SALE, 2011 GMC Z71 3/4 ton truck. furniture, bedroom suite camping tents and supplies, Craftsman snow thrower, Honda lawnmower, artificial tree. Friday and Saturday, April 25 and 26. 7a.m. to 1p.m. 95 **Enchanted Place**

COMMERCIAL FOR RENT

260 SF OFFICE at the Metro Hotel downtown on Main Street. \$469 monthly, utilities included. Jacque (970)946-7636.

4 OFFICE SPACES. Freshly remodeled, \$400-\$525. Well suited for spa services, 140-270 sq. ft. Beautiful spacious restrooms. (970)946-3232

COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS FOR LEASE. 1501 W. Hwy 160 #1 and #2. (970)398-5290.

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

Classifieds

(970) 264-2100

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

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

www.RMREALTYANDRENTALS.COM

HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

"We owned a condominium in the Pagosa Springs area which was a rental property. For many years the firm provided property management services for us and we always found them to be very professional and responsive. If you are in need of a competent, professional property management firm or realtor, we would strongly recommend them. ~



Info@rmrealtyandrentals.com

117 Navajo Trail Dr. Ste E, Pagosa Springs Largest Local Droperty Management Co.



150+ SW Colorado
Property Owners Served
19+ Years. Mortgage &
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FULL LT TENANT SCREENING
NATIONWIDE ADVERTISING
ON CALL 24 HR 7 DAYS



COMMERCIAL FOR RENT

FLEXIBLE COMMERCIAL/ INDUSTRIAL SPACE on the western side of Pagosa Springs. 2 spaces available. One is 1,000 sf and one is 2,000 sf with 2 14' Overhead garage doors. Both units come with bathrooms. Will be delivered as a shell space ready to be customized with credits for Tenant Improvements. Tenants in compound include building trades, UPS, light manufacturing, and artists. Available May 1st. \$1/sf per month. raswheeler@gmail.com.

LARGE INDUSTRIAL ZONED LOT Cloman Park. 1.12 acre lot zoned industrial. Utilities are in the street and ideal for contractor, storage and etc. Tenant to verify approved end use with the County. \$1500/ month. Long lease is available. Team Pagosa (970) 731-8599. arun@teampagosa.com.

LIGHT INDUSTRIAL SPACE/ STORAGE. Cloman Park. New Build. 2700 sq. feet, \$3250 a month. Opportunity Zoned. (720)470-2653. More info at Rowfmanagement.com

NICE OFFICE IN PROMINENT Main Street location. 262 Pagosa St. #100. 900 sq. ft. Private bathroom and kitchenette. (970)946-

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.

SMALL SPACE FOR RENT. \$250/ month. Inside a new barber/ salon. Text/ Call (760)277-5318.

STORAGE SPACES AVAILABLE 100, 150, and 200 sq ft. Contact Sunrise Property Management today at (970)731-4344 to check availability.

THREE UNITS IN UPTOWN 419, 364, and 1477 sq. ft. Available now. \$900 -\$2400. Utilities included. Call Gina (970)880-0910 for more info.

VACATION RENTALS

OWNERS, WE ARE BOOKED UP AND NEED MORE VACATION RENTAL PROP-ERTIES! Call us today for lowest commission and highest customer service. All you have to do is wait for your rent check to come in. We do the rest! Rocky Mountain Realty & Rentals (970)507-1192.

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

1, 2 AND 3 BEDROOMS. Call (720)869-8877. Hickory Ridge Apartments.

3 BEDROOM 2 BATH with storage unit. Access to lake, park and rec center. \$1,950. (719)850-8680.

3 BEDROOM/ 2 BATH home for rent. 1868 sq ft in the Ranch Community. Lake view with 2-car garage. Rental amount is \$3300 with a one month security deposit. Contact Sunrise Property Management today at (970)731-4344 to schedule a tour.

BASEMENT STUDIO APARTMENT. Downtown, river view, furnished. \$1000 rent, \$1000 deposit. Utilities included. No smokers. No pets. (970)264-6797.

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.

HIGH END 2 BEDROOM/ 2 BATH home for rent. 1243 sq ft located in downtown Pagosa Springs. 2 assigned heated parking spots. Rental amount is \$2250 with a one month security deposit. Contact Sunrise Property Management today at (970)731-4344 to schedule a tour.

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

ONE BEDROOM. One bath apartment. Furnished. Utilities included. Close to town. No pets. No smoking. \$1,200 month. (808)330-

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

THREE BEDROOM, 1 1/4 BATH, two car garage-Rent \$2,000.00 plus utilities. Located 374 S. 8th Street. Available June 1st. Call Yvonne at (970)946-4019 or Erlinda at (970)946-6702.

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.

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3 BED 2 BATH 2 car garage. 3.9 acres. 5 shares of water. Detached 1 bedroom, 1 bath, 1 car garage apartment. Great views. \$585,000. 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.

64 ACRES, 46 SHARES OF IRRIGATION. 3 bedroom, 2 bath home. 2 garages and shed, 3-3 phase electric outlets. Brand new Generac Generator, Pastures with beautiful views, too many extras to name them all. \$928,000. AP-10. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

BRAND NEW ROOF with 5 year warranty. Located across the street from National Forest access. 10 minutes from grocery store and other amenities. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1 car garage family home. \$550,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

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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.

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

.27 ACRES. Views of Navajo. Electricity near, well installed. \$40,000. 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.

LAND/ BUILDING SITES

3.7 ACRES. Great views of Navajo lake. Power near, water available. \$400,000. 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.

FOR SALE BY OWNER. Owner financing, 3+ acres, central location, utilities available, views and privacy, sloped lot. \$50 HOA fee yearly. Call Darlene (970)946-5119.

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

NATIONAL FOREST ACCESS. .21 acres, buildable lot, tap available, motivated seller. \$40,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

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.



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.

Weed management: grazing, livestock, pasture health and weeds

By Ethan Proud and Cindi Galabota

PREVIEW Columnists

Manifest destiny and westward expansion, North America was covered with large mammals that moved across the landscape grazing as they went. These animals were crowded out and replaced with different large mammals that were tamer and easier to raise for human consumption.

Prior to the Taylor Grazing Act of 1934, massive amounts of cattle and sheep were let loose to graze on public lands, resulting in overgrazing and soil degradation. The Taylor Grazing Act still allows for grazing on public lands, but regulates it through apportionment and the grazing districts.

Livestock grazing can be a great land management technique, or it can be a terrible disaster. Overgrazing leads to erosion, explosions of weed populations and reduction of forage. Proper grazing can lead to a healthier ecosystem that continues to produce forage and reduce weed populations.

When stocking rates are too high and livestock are allowed to graze continually on a single pasture, they naturally gravitate to desired forage and eat it until those plant species can no longer compete due to their weakened root system. This allows for undesirable plants, some native and some noxious, to expand their population exponentially until drastic measures are required to rehabilitate the pasture.

In areas where all of the forage is desirable and overgrazing occurs, all that is left is barren soil, susceptible to blowing away in a strong wind or sliding down a hillside in a rainstorm, creating arroyos.

Good grazing isn't cut and dry, but depends on proper stocking rates and rotational grazing. Not every acre is created equal, and some may support more animals and some may support less depending on the plant communities present.

Rotational grazing moves animals from one pasture to the next, allowing the plants to rebound, both maintaining their foothold in the current community and creating more food

Extension Viewpoints

as they grow.

Good grazing practices help prevent livestock poisoning, as well, as many native species are toxic but are rarely selected for forage. When desirable species are overgrazed, poisonous plants like the noxious weed Russian knapweed can take over.

When faced with starvation or eating a poisonous plant, the livestock will resort to filling their bellies. Ironically, Russian knapweed causes chewing disease in horses and is incurable. It results in starvation. Chewing disease destroys the part of their brain that is responsible for motor movement in the mouth. Afflicted horses will drag their nose across forage as if they were eating but can't actually open their mouth or chew.

Grazing livestock isn't just a way to put food on the table using the land, but can also be a handy conservation technique when done correctly. As many ranchers know, grazing is more complex than a short article can surmise.

Archuleta County Weed and Pest is your local resource for managing noxious weed populations and controlling other pests.

Email list

Do you want to be added to our email distribution list to learn about upcoming programs and the latest resources? Email cindi.galabota@ colostate.edu to be added to our list.

Or, to learn more about the many programs, resources and services offered by Colorado State University (CSU) Extension, visit https://extension.colostate.edu.

Seed potatoes for sale

Place your order today for Colorado certified and non-GMO seed potatoes. Five varieties of potatoes are available.

Order by April 30 and pick up your

potatoes May 13, 14 and 15 at the CSU Extension Office. Visit https:// archuleta.extension.colostate.edu or call (970) 264-5931 to learn more and place your order today.

Be prepared for an emergency

A "Be Prepared for an Emergency" workshop with Cindi Galabota, CSU extension director, and Lacy Capre, Archuleta County Public Health outreach specialist, is set for 9 a.m. on Saturday, April 26, at the CSU Extension Building at 344 U.S. 84. This free workshop will cover the best practices for preparing for and recovery from an emergency.

Field to Freezer Course

Colorado Parks and Wildlife will be holding its Field to Freezer Course on May 16 and 17 at the CSU Extension building located at 344 U.S. 84.

Trained professionals will teach you how to responsibly care for and process the meat from any big game ungulate in Colorado. Participants must be at least 16 years old. Visit https://forms. gle/owfhB5R8PTpYYHGGA to register.

There are limited spots available. Applications are due by May 9.

Vermiculture workshop

Ioin Galabota for a fun, hands-on and engaging Vermiculture Workshop. Learn all about the vital role worms play in healthy soils and build your own worm composting bin.

It is set for 10 a.m. on June 28 at the CSU Extension Building at 344 U.S. 84. There is a \$20 materials fee. RSVP at (970) 264-5931 or https:// archuleta.extension.colostate.edu/.

CPR and first aid classes

CPR and first aid certification classes are offered every other month at the CSU Extension office, generally on the third Monday and Wednesday from 6 to 10 p.m. The cost for the classes is \$80 for combined CPR/first aid and \$55 for CPR, first aid or recertification. Call the Extension office at (970) 264-5931 to register.

Check out the online option on our website, https://archuleta.extension.colostate.edu/.

Colorado Department of Human Services releases draft of Colorado's first-ever Multi-Sector Plan on Aging

Colorado Department of Human Services

The Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS) is leading the state's efforts to improve and develop resources to support all Coloradans as we age, which includes developing the first-ever Multi-Sector Plan on Aging

"For the first time in our state's history, more Coloradans are older than 60 than are younger than 18. This plan will aim to make Colorado a place where everyone can age with

dignity, safety and purpose," said CDHS Executive Director Michelle Barnes. "Aging is one of the only collective experiences we will all share. so we've created a plan to ensure all Coloradans are represented and supported in meaningful ways."

The 10-year blueprint lays out five high-level goals:

- Support age-friendly, connected communities.
- Develop a health care system that supports older adults.
 - Sustain and tailor long-term

services and supports.

- Bolster Colorado's economy.
- Prioritize economic security for older Coloradans.

An initial draft of the plan, which lays the groundwork for the future, is now available for review at https:// bit.ly/3EkVyt4.

Coloradans statewide can give feedback about the plan using CDHS's online form at http://bit. ly/44GYfzA. The form will close May 30 and the plan will officially launch in July.





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5 Cardiovascular Ultrasound Screenings

- Heart Screening: Scans the heart valves, measures systolic function, the motility of the left ventricle, the ejection fraction and the dimensions of the atrium and ventricles.
- Atrial Fibrillation Screening:
 Atrial fibrillation is a heart rhythm problem found in almost one in every 150 people, causing palpitations, shortness of breath, fatigue and risk of stroke.
- Carotid Artery Screening: Stroke
 is the most common cause of long
 term care admissions in the US.
 This screening will show your level
 of plaque build up in the carotid
 arteries.
- <u>Thyroid Screening</u>: Scans for cysts, nodules and other abnormalities that may indicate signs of thyroid disease.
- Peripheral Arterial Disease (PAD):
 Peripheral arterial disease (PAD) is a condition where blood circulation is restricted. It affects over 8 million Americans. Scans for signs of circulatory problems in the lower extremities.

6 Abdominal Ultrasound Screenings

- Abdominal Aorta Screening:
 Aneurysms form as a result of weakening in the arterial wall.
 Scans for aneurysms and other abnormalities.
- <u>Liver Screening</u>: Scans for cysts, nodules, masses, texture and density and size dimensions of the liver.
- <u>Kidney Screening</u>: Scans for cysts, nodules, masses, stones, fluid and more.
- <u>Gallbladder Screening</u>: Scans for stones, sludge, wall thickening and other abnormalities.
- Pancreas Screening: An important organ providing essential hormones and digestive enzymes. This screening detects small lesions, abnormalities and other signs of disease.
- Spleen Screening: This organ is essential in regard to red blood cells and the immune system. This screening detects an enlarged spleen and additional signs of disease.

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Appointments are required. Call 602-254-7130 or book online.

Please wear a two-piece outfit.

A minimum 4-hour fast is required with the Abdominal Ultrasound Screenings.