



PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147 www.PagosaSUN.com VOLUME 117 — NO. 33, THURSDAY, MAY 15, 2025

Unofficial PAWSD election results released

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The unofficial results of the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District’s (PAWSD’s) May 6 election were released on Friday, May 9, by PAWSD, with Eugene L. Tautges, Bruce Jones Jr. and Alex Boehmer being elected to the board.

According to PAWSD and Public Alliance, the Canvass Board will convene on Thursday, May 15, to review and certify the official election results in accordance with applicable election laws. The Canvass Board will be composed of one current director, one eligible elector who is not a member of the board and AJ Beckman, the designated election official.

The preliminary vote totals are as follows, according to PAWSD:

■ See Results A8

New county attorney selected

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

During a special meeting held by the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) on Monday, May 12, the BoCC unanimously approved the selection of Cathleen Giovannini for the county attorney position.

The decision followed an executive session that lasted approximately one hour in which the commissioners interviewed Giovannini.

Commissioner John Ranson motioned to select Giovannini as the preferred candidate and for Commissioner Veronica Medina to act as the employment contract negotiator, which was seconded by Commissioner Warren Brown.

Giovannini previously interviewed for the county attorney position prior to the board initially select-

■ See Attorney A8

On to state



Eleven Pirate athletes earned their way to the season’s final track and field meet beginning Thursday, May 15, at Jefferson County Stadium in Lakewood. For more on the athletes and the meet, see related article on page A11.

Photo courtesy Connie O'Donnell

School district to poll community for direction on facilities master plan

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

The Archuleta School District (ASD) Board of Education (BOE) held a work session prior to its regular meeting on Tuesday, May 13, at which members of the district’s Master Plan Advisory Committee (MPAC) shared an overall review of what the committee has been doing and discussing over the past four months.

The MPAC began meeting monthly in January to review the district’s facilities assessment performed by RTA Architects and begin looking into possible options for how the district could address needs identified in RTA’s assessment.

The committee reviewed school funding options ranging from grants to mill levies and bond issues, while also looking into different options of building a new school or performing major renovations on the district’s existing buildings.

During the regular meeting, the BOE unanimously approved a motion made by BOE president Bob Lynch for him and BOE member Tim Taylor to work with ASD Superintendent Rick Holt to consult with Lynea Hansen to develop a survey to gauge the community’s perception on the facilities master plan.

Holt explained that Hansen previously worked with ASD to 2023 in surveying the community on a mill levy override, which was approved by voters in November 2023.

“I think we need some time to talk,” Lynch said before making his motion, explaining the BOE will likely need to “workshop” the topic more, suggesting that in the meantime a

■ See School A8

County, town first in Colorado to meet new housing requirements

By Ashley Springer
Archuleta County

Archuleta County and The Town of Pagosa Springs have become the first in the state of Colorado to have their regional housing needs assessment (HNA) officially accepted by the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) for full compliance with Senate Bill 24-174, also known as the Sustainable Affordable Housing Assistance bill.

The comprehensive HNA offers a detailed analysis of present and future housing needs in Archuleta County and Pagosa Springs, enabling informed decisions and effective housing strategies.

This analysis and subsequent projects will further the success of the Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation (PSCDC), a key entity in implementing SB24-174 locally. Notably, the PSCDC recently developed workforce housing in the Chris Mountain/Trails areas by linking developers with available grants to create affordable units. Requirements of the bill and the helpful addition of state support will further these

■ See Housing A8



Rafters maneuver the waves downtown during the Pagosa Paddle. The event, a fundraiser for the Friends of the Upper San Juan, featured two days of racing down the San Juan River May 9 and 10.

SUN photo/Randi Pierce

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Opinion



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OUR VIEW

Worth it

We've had the pleasure of chatting with several people visiting our community from out of town over the last week.

Beyond signaling that the tourist season is beginning, which is good news for a lot of our friends and neighbors who rely on tourism for their businesses, it was interesting to talk with folks who were seeing Pagosa Country for the first time and see what caught their attention — and what didn't.

Some of the people we spoke with were in the area for a work conference in a neighboring community, but brought their spouses and came early just to explore Pagosa Springs and drive down to New Mexico, exploring Archuleta County.

They were astounded by the beauty of the area and variety of landscapes the area offers. They can't wait to get back. Their comments about their trip to that point had nothing to do with our downtown road construction or any of the other challenges facing the community (they wanted to know the price of land, but we're pretty sure that's because they fell in love at first sight).

Others acknowledged the construction project is big, but it didn't stop them from

hitting up local restaurants or exploring the area.

Some asked us if seeing the mountains that surround us every day ever gets old. No. Not at all.

Those of us here at The SUN have lived in this community for a long time (some of us are natives), and we still comment on and discuss the beauty of the area.

Yes, Pagosa Country is experiencing challenges, growing pains and struggles. Yes, we have a big construction project and many smaller ones going on. But, we need to keep sight of how lucky we are to call this magnificent place home. Every community has it's struggles.

But this place makes those struggles worth it, and we will make progress on each of them, even if we know more are down the road.

This area is rich in history, beauty and heart. It's worth it.

A few notes

We also have a few items of housekeeping this week:

- You will not see letters related to the La Plata Electric Association election in

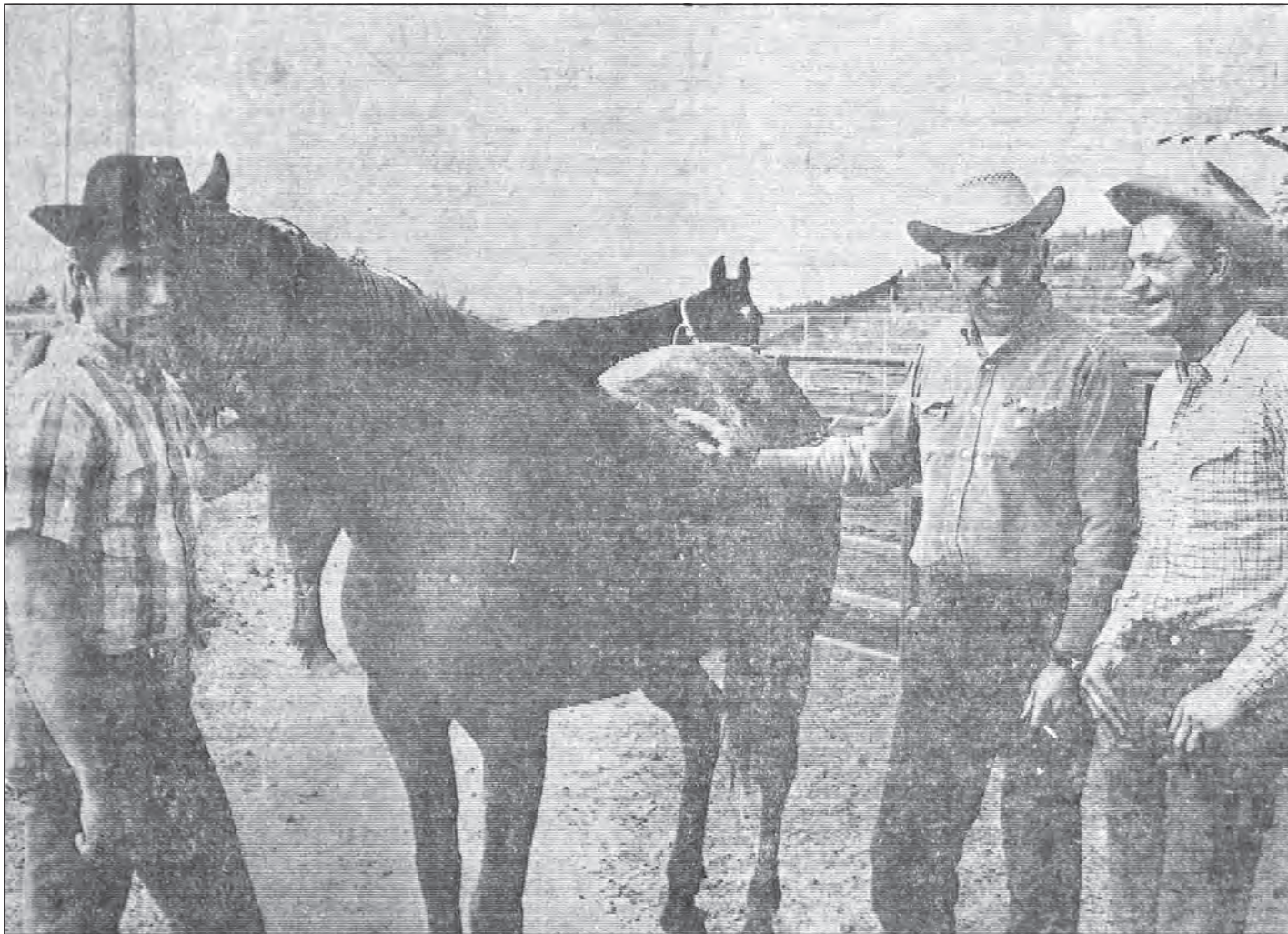
this week's issue of The SUN due to ballots being due back on May 20 — before the next issue of The SUN comes out. This is our standard practice leading up to elections (and may extend further out before an election for some elections). Now is the time to make up our minds and vote if we haven't already.

- Be aware that if you come to see us on a Friday afternoon, you'll be out of luck because we've changed our hours. The SUN is now open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday (we close from noon to 1 p.m. for lunch) and 8 a.m. to noon on Friday.

- The SUN will have early deadlines for our May 29 issue due to Memorial Day. The display advertising deadline for the May 29 issue will be noon on Friday, May 23. The deadline for legal advertising, articles and letters to the editor will be noon on Thursday, May 22. The classified advertising deadlines will be 10 a.m. on Tuesday, May 27, with the Too Late to Classify deadline being at 3 p.m. that day. The SUN's office will be closed on Monday, May 26, in observance of Memorial Day.

Randi Pierce

LOOKING BACK



From the May 14, 1970, Pagosa SUN — RELAY RIDERS — Jerry Adams, left, and Lionel Adams, right, are shown discussing the merits of horses with Bob Stovall, center. The two Adamases will be the riders in the endurance pony express race that will start Friday, May 15. Stovall is the chairman of the arrangements for the local entry, which is sponsored by the Pagosa chapter of the guides and outfitters association. Jerry is the son of Lionel and the two men will ride the grueling 205 miles to Grants, N.M., in two days.

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LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

100 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
May 15, 1925

Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Matthews came in Saturday night from Aransas Pass Texas, for an extended visit with their son, Frank Matthews, and family. Their arrival was a complete surprise to Frank, who had not seen his parents for sixteen years.

Better get rid of that still as the new law went into effect Tuesday. Possession of one for the manufacture and sale of illicit liquor is now a penitentiary offense.

Contractor R.T. Williams yesterday commenced work on remodeling the roof of the county court house, having been awarded the contract for said work by the county commissioners last week. The roof is to be changed from the pitched to the flat type.

Water has again been piped to the cemetery, and is ready for use. Many requests for this have been made to the Women's Civic Club in the last year, but the expense was so great that nothing was done until this spring. Grant Shields donated the large pipe that was needed to replace what was broken and gone, in carrying the water up the hill. The Women's Club then purchased between five and six hundred feet of inch pipe, and the water is now available in several places.

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
May 12, 1950

A big auction will be held at the new Red Ryder Round-Up rodeo grounds on May 20 and the proceeds will be used to finance additional work on the grounds. The items for sale are being donated by ranchers and local merchants. Several very fine articles and some excellent livestock have already been pledged and more is anticipated before the date of the auction.

The rodeo group has completed a lot of work on the new grounds, but much remains to be done to get the grounds in shape for this year's celebration. Brahma calves have been purchased to be used in the roping events and arrangements are now being completed for the rest of the livestock. The race track is completed and the arena leveled. Nearly all of the necessary material for fencing is on hand and work on this will start soon.

Plan now to donate some article for the big auction and be sure and attend. There will be many articles and several head of livestock at the sale. The services of a skilled auctioneer have been obtained and everyone will have a chance to view the improvements on the rodeo grounds.

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
May 15, 1975

Snowfall on Wolf Creek Pass is slowing down but a storm on May 6 and 7 left three inches of new snow. This brings the total for the winter to 784 inches. This is compared to the previous record of 619 inches set two winters ago and is the third year that snowfall exceeded 600 inches since official records have been kept. Temperatures up there are now running about 40 degrees during the days and in the low 20's at night. Snow depth has been dropping at the rate of two to three inches per day.

Traffic is picking up on U.S. 160 as vacationers start through the country. A large percentage of these travelers are in recreational vehicles of one type or another. Fishing is good at Lake Navajo and the big tourist season is about two weeks away.

25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
May 11, 2000

Shock was evident Tuesday night when, after a 14-minute executive session requested by Superintendent Terry Alley, members of the board of Archuleta School District 50 Joint filed back to their chairs.

Alley then told the gathered spectators he had requested the executive session to inform the board of his intention to retire from the superintendent's position on July 1, 2001.

"Taking the action now will give the board a year to find a replacement," he said, adding, "I will be available to work with them in selecting candidates for the job."

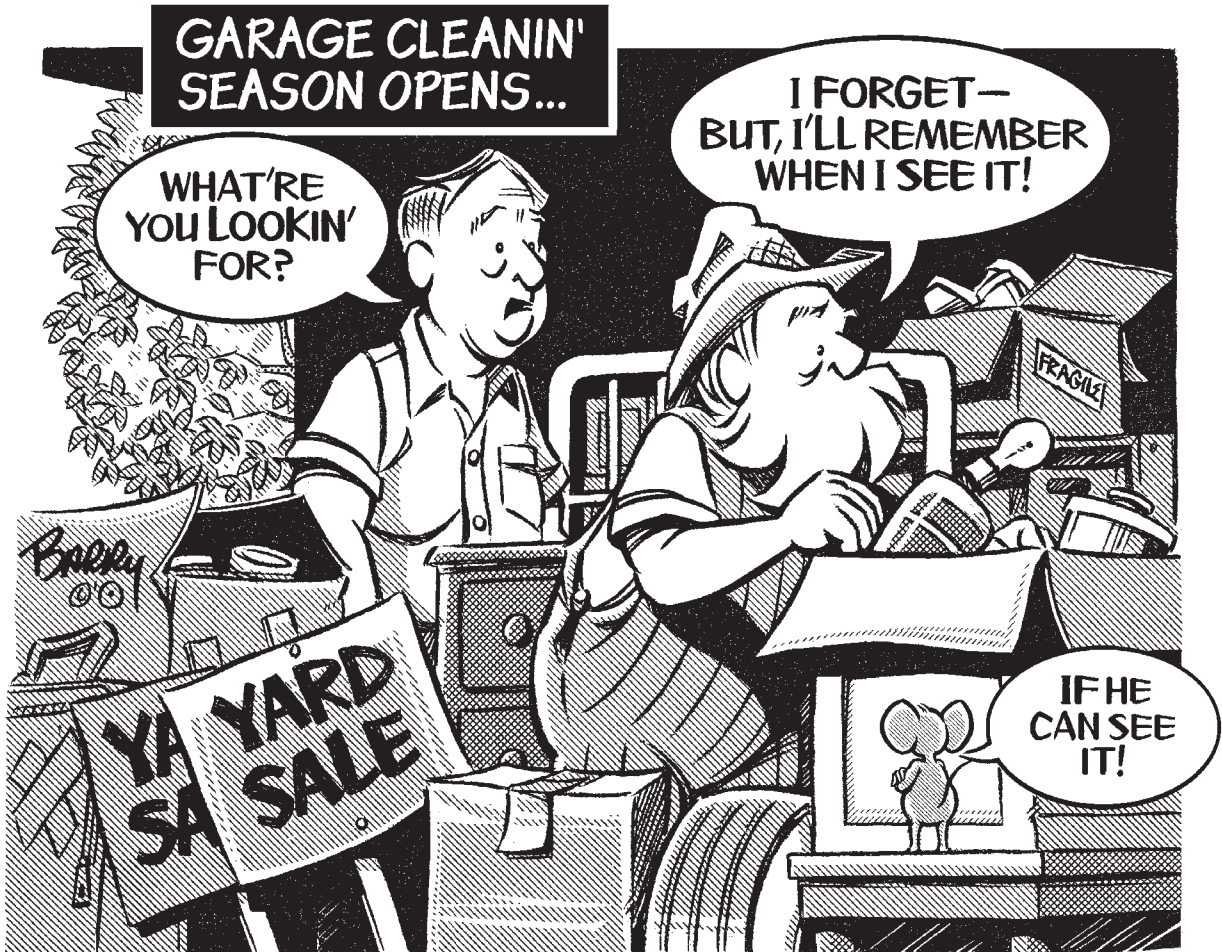
Board member Russell Lee, serving as president pro tem in the absence of Director Randall Davis, said, "This is a sad day for the district and the staff. You have served the community and the school very well, indeed."

Alley, whose family has long been an integral part of the Pagosa community, has served the district for 30 years, the last 20 as superintendent during the biggest growth spurt in the district's history. He had previously served the district for six years as middle school principal and four years as a teacher and coach.



Weather data

Date	High	Low	Precipitation	Moisture	Type	Depth
5/6	47	32	0.60	NA	NA	NA
5/7	56	27	0.23	NA	NA	NA
5/8	60	37	0.00	NA	NA	NA
5/9	68	32	0.00	NA	NA	NA
5/10	68	32	0.01	NA	NA	NA
5/11	70	33	0.02	NA	NA	NA
5/12	73	33	0.00	NA	NA	NA





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

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

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

Metro districts

Dear Editor:

The developer for the proposed Pagosa West project (100 acres south of City Market) is urging the Town of Pagosa to allow Metro Districts to operate within the Town's boundaries. A Metro District is a Special District that qualifies as a form of local government in Colorado. That means it has all the powers granted to government entities. So, like our Fire District, School District and others, it can set mill levies which are collected as property taxes—additional property taxes levied on property owners within the Metro District, potentially resulting in significantly higher taxes.

A Metro District is different in one major respect. On undeveloped property, the developer is the only property owner. This creates a situation where the developer can petition the County or Town to allow him to form a Metro District. If granted, the developer can set up a Board comprised of himself and four of his closest friends/family members. This then gives the developer the ability to obtain lower interest, tax-exempt bonds as a government entity and set mill levies to pay for those bonds—placing this obligation on future property owners who do not have any input or recourse. Additionally, as a government entity, the developer pays no taxes on materials and services it purchases to develop the property. In theory, with low interest bonds and no taxes to pay, the cost of development is lower, but those savings do not have to be passed on to future owners of the property. In fact, historically, property owners in Metro Districts pay higher taxes than their neighbors in a subdivision that does not operate as a Metro District. The difference is savings typically goes to the developer who has taken no risk but reaps the rewards.

To make matters worse, a developer who forms a Metro District can use his Board to vote to be released from TABOR restrictions which then can increase debt authority and set interest rates between 12-18% on bond rates for up to 20 years!

These abuses can and do occur in Colorado. While there are ways to curb these abuses, it requires a savvy, well-informed local government to either prohibit Metro Districts outright or place serious restrictions on them. The Town Council and Town Planning Commission have received guidance from the Town Attorney, Bob Cole, who has a background in developing Metro Districts. Before the Town votes on whether to permit Metro Districts within Town limits, wouldn't it be prudent to hear from other experts who have suffered the abuses of Metro Districts? Such an expert with legal and public planning experience has offered to provide the "other side of the story" to the Town Council and Planning Commission at no cost. This is potentially one of the most consequential votes our local government will be making for future development projects in Pagosa. I urge them to seek public input and to hear from other experts.

Let's take the time to do it right.

Sharon Carter

Lately, there's been some thoughtful conversation in school districts across Colorado about a new kind of high school sports classification—one based on skill level rather than gender. I've followed it with interest, especially as a long-time supporter of our public schools and student athletes.

This idea may feel unfamiliar, but that doesn't mean it's unworthy of discussion. A performance-based model could create more evenly matched games, potentially improving safety and allowing students to compete at their true level. That might mean more confidence, better development, and opportunities for athletes who may otherwise get overlooked. It's a change, yes—but one that could reflect how much youth sports (and young people themselves) have evolved.

As a community, we've always taken pride in building programs

Letters

that grow with our students. I hope families, educators, and students will explore this resolution with curiosity and care. Even if it's not a perfect solution, it might spark new ways to support all our athletes.

Thanks for considering new possibilities alongside tradition.

Matt Gawlowski
Ridgway, Colo.

After-prom event

Dear Editor:

I am writing to express our gratitude and excitement over the tremendous success of the recent After Prom event, Midnight in the Mountains, held in Pagosa Springs — the first of its kind in many years. Thanks to the collaboration of dedicated volunteers, generous local sponsors, and a supportive community, over 100 high school students were able to celebrate safely and memorably after the dance.

This event not only provided a fun, supervised environment for students to continue their celebration, but it also reinforced the values of safety, inclusion, and community spirit. The turnout and enthusiasm demonstrated just how much our youth appreciate having positive alternatives that allow them to enjoy themselves without unnecessary risks. Many of the students also walked away with some amazing prizes that evening, from local gift cards to a Playstation 5 and Wolf Creek lift tickets!

The After Prom was a reminder of what's possible when a community comes together with a shared goal: keeping our kids safe and supported. With this year's success, we're hopeful that After Prom will continue as a cherished tradition in Pagosa Springs for years to come!

Caitlin Snarr
Midnight in the Mountains committee

Protests

Dear Editor:

I'm going to play tourist for a minute for purposes of painting a picture. I'm driving into Pagosa Springs – a town I've heard so much about yet have never been able to visit.

Deepest Hot Springs in the world? Adorable mountain town with lots of great shops? I'm intrigued. I'll just be passing through, but it's worth the stop, right?

One of the first things I notice is a flashing sign alerting me that there are traffic restrictions ahead, then another message, lane restrictions,... another... businesses are open during construction, (ok, good, I think...I really want to stop, eat and shop), and then another, watch for pedestrians, (oh, good, this place accommodates the afternoon stroll my legs need). As I come down the hill, the looming construction I've been warned of enters my sight. Whew!! They weren't kidding, this is intense. But wait, what is all this? A parade? A group of... oh wait, no,...a protest? About what? A person in a bee costume? What do these signs say?...Fox News is Lying? Elon Must Go? Yelling and screaming but I have no idea what they are saying.

By the time this distraction passes,

The SUN welcomes letters from readers.

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

All letters must:

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

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

Letters quoting other people must contain proper attribution.

There is no guarantee letters will be published.

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

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

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

I'm part way through downtown and have been narrowly missed by a passing semi in this tiny 10' wide space I have to pull my trailer. Now, I'm not sure where to park. I see all the shops, but do I really want to deal with a town with an active protest going on? Is this worth the stop? They are taking up the sidewalk I planned to walk on....Never mind, I think I'll just keep driving.

I hope this small snippet of what it looks like when the protesters who continue to waste time lining the streets downtown rallying for 'a cause,' are really doing.

Take a moment, would you please, and think about the businesses downtown who are struggling to keep their doors open. Instead of holding several signs with wasteful negativity on them, how about promoting our little town with signs exclaiming to them: We are Amazing!! Stop here!

Businesses Open!! In doing this, we are collectively trying to keep our county's economy alive with some positivity. (crazy concept, right?) Is it so difficult to drop these senseless and 'silent' protests to HELP this community? Can we agree to disagree for the sake of the community?

Protests are not going to change anything. All they are accomplishing is a disruption in traffic, and what could cause an accident. You are painting Pagosa in a negative light as a town divided, not one which stands together as the resilient group we truly are.

Do us all a favor and stand down with the political rhetoric and stand up for the community you say you love. Change the signs or pack up and take a hike before the tourists land.

Jeanine Springer

Benefits of trees

Dear Editor:

Looking for a long, healthy, and vibrant life? New evidence from a long-term Swiss study has demonstrated that residents of communities with abundant, well-arranged trees live longer than areas without the benefit of trees. Aggregated, connected tree clusters seem to provide greater health benefits than isolated trees scattered here and there within neighborhoods. Aren't we the lucky ones to live in an area of the country enriched with extensive canopies of mature urban trees? As an example, the 100 acres of Ponderosa Pines

■ See Letters A4

U.S. 160 reconstruction information

Week of May 18-24

Work activity

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.

Fresh paint

- The crew will be refreshing striping on the road and open crosswalks in preparation for pedestrian safety during the summer tourist season. This work will take place on Sunday, May 18.

New water and sewer lines

- In the 1st Street through 3rd Street blocks, utility work is beginning — replacing water services for the decommissioned water line and beginning sewer service replacements.
- The team is doing its best to work with business owners to minimize interruptions to their schedules as much as possible during this activity.
- The water utility updates are a joint project with the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District.
- Businesses that may experience water service outages on the south side will be contacted by the project team to discuss the scheduled 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.

Watch where you walk

Pedestrian crosswalks will be open at 1st, 3rd and 4th streets. Mid-block crossings between 4th Street and 5th Street will be closed, but the crosswalk at 5th Street will remain open.

Mountain Express Transit bus stop information

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.

Important safety reminder about drones

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 only 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.codtrip.org.

Information provided by Colorado Department of Transportation



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Gladys Leona Thayer

Former Pagosa Springs resident Gladys Leona Thayer passed away in Del Norte, Colo., on May 2, 2025, leaving us with heavy hearts. She was born Feb. 27, 1929, in a tar-paper shack in north-eastern Colorado, the first child of Bill and Letha Adams. In 1934, the family migrated to a ranch in the Blanco Basin near Pagosa Springs, Colo. Leona later married rancher Carl Delbert Thayer and to this union two children were born, Patricia (Jim) Prentice and CD (Marlene) Thayer.



Leona wore many different hats during her lifetime, from being a rancher's wife to being a businesswoman in various entrepreneurial adventures, including a farm implement business and a liquor store. Her most prized accomplishment was refurbishing the Hill House Manor overlooking 6th Street in Pagosa Springs into a bed and breakfast.

Lightning strike damages one of town’s sewer lift station pumps

By Derek Kutzer
Staff Writer

During a report to the Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District (PSSGID) board on May 6, Public Works Director Karl Johnson explained that a lightning strike caused a power surge, resulting in approximately \$35,000 of damage to electrical equipment at Lift Station 2.

An agenda document for the May 6 meeting states that “some of the electrical equipment has been replaced, and a replacement pump has been ordered with a minimum of a twelve week lead time for shipment.”

The electrical damage caused the loss of two out of the three electrical legs on one of the submersible pumps at the lift station, the document states.

The lightning strike took place during an April 17 storm, Johnson explained.

“There was a strike near pump station number 2, in the field,” he said, adding that “we lost ... two out of the three phases of one of the submersible pumps.”

He said, “We are only running on one train at pump station two at the moment.”

He noted that town staff have

Leona lived her life in both Colorado and Oklahoma.

Leona is survived by her two children, seven grandchildren, numerous great-grandchildren, three nieces, as well as many friends and extended family members. She was predeceased by her ex-husband, her parents, siblings Virginia Suhre and Wanda Rambo, and one grandchild — Rusty Thayer.

Donations may be made in her name to the San Juan Historical Society, P.O. Box 1711, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147.

There will be no services. Arrangements in care were made by Strohmayer’s Funeral Home of Monte Vista, Colo.

Loyola ‘Lollie’ Rebecca Garcia Palmer

It is with a heavy heart and profound sadness that we announce the passing of Loyola “Lollie” Rebecca Garcia Palmer, age 78, in Durango, Colo., surrounded by her family. She was born on Jan. 24, 1947, in Lumberton, N.M., to Maria Cleofas and Preciliano Garcia.

Loyola began her professional journey immediately after earning

her high school diploma, stepping into the workforce with determination and purpose. As the sole provider for her two beloved children, she devoted herself tirelessly to creating a stable and loving home, cherishing her role as a mother above all else.

Faith formed the cornerstone of Loyola’s life. A devout Catholic, she dedicated much of her life as a faithful servant to St. Francis Catholic Church in Lumberton, N.M., and St. Anthony Catholic Church in Dulce, N.M. Her commitment to her church community reflected the same devotion she showed to preserving her family’s legacy.

Loyola’s life story is one of unwavering dedication — to her faith, her children and family, her work, and her heritage. Her legacy lives on through the values she instilled and the love she shared so generously.

She is preceded in death by her beloved companion, Thomas D. Zamora; her parents, Maria Cleofas and Preciliano Garcia; her maternal grandparents, Pedro and Soledad Martinez; her paternal grandparents, Jose Ignacio and Juanita Martinez; her brothers, Jose Ignacio, Preciliano and Rafael; her sisters, Lucila Props and Mary Lucero; and three siblings

who passed as infants.

Loyola is survived by her son, Roy “Butch” Palmer, and his wife Rachael, of Pagosa Springs, Colo.; her daughter, Preciliana “Pressi” Salida and her husband Francisco, of Las Cruces, N.M.; her only surviving brother, Amos Garcia (Leoda), of Bloomfield, N.M.; her grandchildren, to whom she was known as “Grammie,” are Jessica Caitlyn Caro (Rolando), Kristy Nicole Ponce De Leon (Roberto), Raul Ricardo Palmer (Emily), Reynaldo Christian Palmer (Ayano), Jennica Sara Bustamante (Valentin), Rachael Natalie Quezada (Eric), Jerrica Francisca Anderson (John), Anthony Luis Ayala and 24 great-grandchildren, an abundance of nieces, nephews and cousins, Godchildren, and many friends.

Her life was a blessing and her memory a treasure. She was loved beyond words and will be missed beyond measure. A rosary with a memorial Mass was held on Saturday May 3, 2025, at 10 a.m. at St. Francis Catholic Church located in Lumberton, N.M. Interment of ashes will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations in her name to: St. Francis Catholic Church P. O. Box 1147 Lumberton, NM 87528.

replaced most of the electrical equipment at the station, but that it would take several weeks for the pump replacement to arrive.

He also explained that along with ordering a new replacement pump, the town “went ahead” and ordered a back up pump, so that staff would have a “spare” available here.

He explained that one additional submersible pump was ordered, along with an “up top, dry pump,” but that it could take about 18 weeks for the town to receive all the equipment.

He explained that with some negotiation with the manufacturer of the damaged pump that the town was able to purchase the replacement at the original price of \$80,000.

“It was pushing somewhere in the neighborhood of \$100,000 to \$130,000 per pump,” he said, but Utilities Supervisor Lucian Brewster “was able to talk them into allowing us to order them at the original purchase price, as long as we ordered the three.”

He said that buying the pumps at this price amounted to “about a \$90,000 savings.”

Board member Gary Williams asked if a damaged pump is able to be “rebuilt,” with Johnson explaining that rebuilding a pump with “that much electrical damage” would cost

close to the same amount as buying a new pump.

Johnson added that the town would be pulling the pump out to “decontaminate it,” saying that the town would “hang on to it, so if we ever felt like we wanted to rebuild it, we could.”

This is part of a long list of repairs and replacements of pumps since the PSSGID began pumping its wastewater, through a series of lift stations, 7 miles to the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District’s (PAWSD’s) Vista treatment plant.

Recently, the town hired financial advisor Joey McLiney to help navigate the financial costs of critical repairs to its sewage system.

Doubts about the long-term viability of PSSGID’s wastewater system arose after a town-hired consultant, Roaring Fork Engineering, conducted a comprehensive study of the district’s sewer system in 2023 listing all the necessary repairs.

Aging infrastructure and a history of failing lift station pumps required the district to spend millions of dollars to keep its current system running.

According to the memorandum of understanding (MOU) between PSSGID and PAWSD, “There remains un-

certainty as to the long-term viability of the [district’s] main pipeline and two pump stations.”

PSSGID’s “collection system suffers from clogging, root intrusion ... and pipe deterioration, resulting in significant intrusion and inflow due to the advanced age and deferred maintenance,” the MOU states.

To tackle the first phase of these repairs, the town went for revenue bonds to pay for about \$4 million in repairs of the immediate category 4 and 5 problems with the system.

The category 4 and 5 repairs are currently underway.

However, the town still faces millions of dollars of repairs beyond the category 4s and 5s, and will likely come before the town’s voters in November to ask them for a town-only sales tax increase to pay for sewer system repairs.

It has been estimated that the town’s total proposed sewer projects in the coming years will amount to about \$40 million, and McLiney has stated that if the town decides to add a new downtown sewer treatment plant, this number would double.

Town staff and the board of the PSSGID have expressed that they want to avoid raising rates on its customers to pay for these system repairs.

On April 15, the town hired Slate Communications to help it guide the messaging for the sales tax election. derek@pagosasun.com



■ Continued from A3

and open meadows across from City Market and east of the medical center provide just the environment the Swiss study defined as optimum for the health of people in the community. Not only does it benefit humans, it secures the habitat of wildlife too.

In the example given, the trees have prospered such that their age is recorded at 200 years or more. Over 100 elk make the forest their home along with numerous birds and other wildlife. It is well-known that treed environments enrich human life. There are various reasons for this: Beyond creating a serene and open

atmosphere in urban areas, trees and parks also contribute to human well-being. Trees filter pollutants out of the air, provide shade, lower the ambient temperature in hot weather and encourage people to spend more time outdoors.

The advantages provided by urban forests are proven and ours to keep if we wish it. I suggest we should not relinquish it easily. The proposed Pagosa West development offers an unattractive gateway to Pagosa (another gas station, more storage facilities, car wash, acres of retail space and high-density housing.) Destruction of this forest and wildlife

corridor leads to increased noise, traffic and light pollutions.

Quality of life is important. Where are the parks and recreational facilities that uptown needs? The playgrounds. What is going to happen to the wildlife and trees? How will the proposed project fit in with these objectives? Everyone in the uptown area will be impacted, whether by traffic, noise, light pollution, or disrupted views, all factors which diminish the enormous gift we enjoy of living in this natural, life-enhancing environment.

What would you trade for a longer, richer life?

Jane Weitzel

Card of Thanks

Southwest Organization for Sustainability

Southwest Organization for Sustainability (SOS) wishes to thank our community for making our Earth Day Celebration a resounding success, once we were able to get out of the weather. And thanks also to all our vendors, exhibitor, performers and, very importantly, thank you to our sponsor, La Plata Electric Association.

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Business

Commissioners opt for internal management of business recovery funds

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) voted 2-1 to keep the county's business recovery fund program in-house during its regular meeting held on Tuesday, May 6.

Before voting on the matter, Commissioner Warren Brown inquired as to when the program could be rolled out if the county were to keep the process in-house rather than joining with the Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation (PSCDC) and Region 9 Economic Development District of Southwest Colorado.

County Manager Jack Harper explained that it would not take long to have the program opened for business to apply for the funds, indicating it could be ready by June 1.

In February, the BoCC announced it had earmarked \$100,000 out of the commissioners' budget to be awarded as grants to local businesses affected by the U.S. 160 reconstruction project.

During the meeting, Harper also explained that there have been conversations about the PSCDC and/or the Pagosa Springs Main Street Advisory Board assisting the county or if

county staff would be responsible for administering the program.

Region 9 has also announced that it has \$150,000 available to award as low-cost loans for business being affected by the construction.

County Finance Director Chad Eaton explained during the meeting that businesses would be asked to submit financials "showing that there has been a loss compared to this time last year."

Harper noted that he and Eaton would review the applications and make recommendations to the BoCC, who would approve the grant awards.

Brown asked if there would be any sort of performance clause included ensuring that businesses are using the funds in an appropriate manner.

Harper provided an example of how the funds would be distributed from the county, explaining the grants could be used for things like payroll or rent and that business would be reimbursed for those costs.

Commissioner Veronica Medina commented that she's "been thinking about this a lot" and acknowledged statements made by PSCDC Executive Director Emily Lashbrooke during a work session earlier that day about how "tight the market is."

Medina mentioned that bigger

corporations such as McDonald's and Amazon have reported declines in sales over the first quarter of 2025, "so it makes sense that our small businesses are going to see a decline."

Medina went on to explain that the former county attorney had advised the BoCC that it could not give away any financial responsibility to a third party.

"To me, this would be giving away our responsibility to a third party," she added.

Interim county attorney Lance Ingalls was present via cellphone during the meeting and indicated the former county attorney was correct, and explained that certain items can be delegated and that, with the right controls in place, the BoCC could still potentially have the PSCDC and Region 9 assist in facilitating the program.

In response to Ingalls' explanation, Medina stated, "I would like for the BoCC to keep this within house for two reasons."

She explained that local businesses have said multiple times how frustrated they are and that they "feel like communication is not flowing freely," noting not necessarily from the BoCC.

Medina went on to mention that in order to keep the program out of Durango with Region 9, "I think it

would better serve our constituents if we kept it in-house and we have staff do the process, and that way we would be able to show our constituents that we do care and we can take the time and effort to be able to allocate these funds to them as needed."

Brown motioned to keep the county business grant process in-house, directing staff to complete any forms and processes necessary to have the program ready no later than June 1.

The motion was seconded by commissioner John Ranson.

Ranson then explained that his campaign ran on the idea of different entities working together better, noting that Region 9 already has a process in place for its loan program.

Brown explained that he did not want to overload the PSCDC or the Main Street Advisory Board and that he would like to see the grant program kept in-house for at least this year.

"I don't want to overload either one," Brown added.

The motion was approved with Brown and Medina in favor and Ranson against after Ranson joked that he was excited the board would have its first 2-1 vote.

clayton@pagosasun.com

Pagosa Car Show to feature pinup contest

By Mary Jo Coulehan
Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce

Since many of the cars entered into the Pagosa Springs Car Show are classic cars, what better way to celebrate the era of the '40s and '50s than adding a pinup contest?

Pinup contests at car shows are an iconic and longstanding tradition celebrating not only the glamour and retro styles, but the era's iconic fashions and spirit of the time. If you attend car shows, you will often see owners of classic cars dressed up in the style of the year of their car.

Of course, everyone is familiar with the pinup girl during World War II. Glamorous photos of many a famous actress such as Betty Grable, Lauren Bacall and Rita Hayworth covered doors, airplane cockpits or walls. The pinup girl has had a lasting presence in car shows all over the nation.

While the Pagosa Springs Car Show had our first attempt at a contest last year, we're really celebrating the beauties that want to come to the show and enter the pinup contest in the classic style.

The attire is family-friendly and must be appropriate. Contestants will need to be at the show from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m., and other guidelines for the contest are located on the Chamber's website under the Car Show graphic on the homepage or at <https://pagosachamber.com/pagosa-springs-car-show.html>.

The contest will be held on June 14 at Yamaguchi Park in conjunction with the Show and Shine portion of the Car Show. The awards will be given out at approximately 2 p.m.

Now is your time to have some fun, get into the classic style of the era of the '30s through the '50s and enter the pinup contest, which will be a judged competition. Prizes will be given out to the winner and runner-

ups. Questions can be directed to the Chamber at (970) 264-2360.

There will be a lot of other activities going on at the 2025 Car Show. The show has been moved to Yamaguchi Park, and we are excited about the new location. With more convenient parking, people will be able to stroll on South 5th Street to view the cars. Bring the kids and if they get tired of looking at cars, you have the whole park to access for play time. There is more shade, better restrooms and, of course, there will be live music, food and beverages on both the evening of June 13 and on June 14. Friday evening's entertainment will be the new The Orange Whip Blues Band with Brooks Lindner and crew.


Saturday's entertainment, playing classic rock and roll, will be The Rock 'n Rebels with Ron Lowe. This free event is a great opportunity to enjoy a day of classic cars, entertainment, and friends and family time.


If you would like to volunteer at the

event, we still have slots open in a variety of areas. Again, just click on the Car Show graphic on the home page of the Chamber's website, www.pagosachamber.com and that will take you to the Car Show page with all the information for volunteer sign-ups, pinup girl contest guidelines and, of course, registration for your vehicle.


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Colorado Nonprofit Association to lead two leadership workshops for nonprofit staff, board members

By Kim Cassels
Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado

The Community Foundation Serving Southwest Colorado is pleased to host two dynamic leadership training opportunities this June in partnership with the Colorado Nonprofit Association. These interactive workshops are designed to strengthen governance, enhance board-staff collaboration, and equip nonprofit leaders with tools for long-term impact.

Beyond Governance: Building a Thriving Board-Staff Relationship will be held June 17 from 1 to 4 p.m. at TBK Bank, 259 W. 9th St. in Durango.

The cost is \$50 and includes light refreshments. This interactive session is geared toward nonprofit staff and will offer practical strategies to improve communication, clarify roles, and strengthen the partnership between boards and executive staff. Through case studies, guided exercises and group discussion, participants will walk away with a personalized toolkit to foster stronger organizational synergy.

One picture isn't enough to appreciate a 50 year old! Keep wishing Angelene a happy birthday!

Board Leadership Bootcamp will follow on June 18 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the same location.

The full-day workshop is offered at \$100 with breakfast, coffee and lunch included. This training is geared toward both new and seasoned board members. The session covers the fundamentals of board governance, fiduciary duties, conflict of interest mitigation, and strategies to boost engagement and accountability.

"These trainings are a valuable opportunity for nonprofits in our

region to grow stronger from the inside out," said Briggien Wrinkle, executive director of the Community Foundation. "Whether you're a board member looking to better understand your role or a staff leader seeking stronger alignment with your board, these sessions offer immediate, actionable tools."

Space is limited and registration is required.

To register or learn more, visit swcommunityfoundation.org/cna-june-trainings/.

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SUN photos/Shari Pierce
Construction workers work to fill in a hole following the replacement of a sewer lateral line on Wednesday, May 14. Crews are working to replace water and sewer lines throughout the work zone while maintaining business access.

Commissioners approve changes to workforce housing deed restrictions, hears update on project

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

At a work session on May 6, Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation (PSCDC) Director Emily Lashbrooke provided an update to the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) on the PSCDC's progress in selling the first 10 homes constructed as phase one of the organization's workforce housing project.

Lashbrooke also informed the BoCC about "another hiccup" with the deed restrictions put in place, explaining that the PSCDC has sold two of the first 10 homes constructed, with two more homes currently under contract.

Lashbrooke added that the first two homes sold by PSCDC were "very unique situations," with one putting a large down payment on the home and the other using a U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) loan.

"So, this problem with the deed restriction did not arise until we went under contract with the next two homes," she said.

Lashbrooke explained the "problem overall was" that the deed restriction was asking whichever banking facility is doing the final lending to be the second lienholder.

"Who knew that banks don't want to be a second lienholder?" she added.

Lashbrooke explained that she consulted with "experts in the state" on how to fix the issue with the banks while still protecting the deed restriction, noting she was able to come up with a deed restriction with the banks' approval "at this point."

"The main cause they had a problem with was if the house went into foreclosure," Lashbrooke said, explaining that the deed restriction previously stated that the lender had to notify the county to allow 60 days to "recover the deed," noting the town

could be included in that.

"So, we had to remove that," Lashbrooke said, explaining the changes to the deed restriction allow the banks to go into foreclosure.

She explained that a lien and memorandum of acceptance were put in place, noting that "this lien will actually go on the property" and when a title company goes into foreclosure on house, they'll see the lien, explaining it is "just a notification lien" and the title company would notify the county that the house is going into foreclosure.

"That's our safety net," she said, noting that the onus is now on the owner of the house to notify the county that the house will be foreclosed on.

Commissioner Veronica Medina asked if DOLA is "good with" the new deed restriction.

Lashbrooke explained that this "problem caused a ripple across the entire state," noting La Plata and Gunnison counties are having similar issues.

Lashbrooke also noted that the Department of Housing is reviewing the deed restriction, but that it also withdrew its model of deed restrictions.

"I believe that the Department of Housing never ran their deed restriction by bankers when they put it into play," she said.

She went on to mention that because the PSCDC was part of the first round of funding for these projects, "we're feeling all the penalties."

Commissioner John Ranson asked what impact these changes have on the owner of the home, to which Lashbrooke replied, "It really doesn't have any," explaining that the homeowner would now have to notify the county in the event the home goes into foreclosure.

Interim county attorney Lance Ingalls mentioned that he had reviewed the changes to the deed

restriction and did not have any concerns with it.

Later that day during its regular meeting, the BoCC unanimously approved its consent agenda, which included the approval of the deed restriction changes discussed by Lashbrooke.

Housing update

During the work session, Lashbrooke also provided the BoCC with more information on phase one of the PSCDC's housing project.

Lashbrooke mentioned that the PSCDC has four homes sold or under contract, describing those as a "guaranteed sale," noting there is a fifth home ready to go under contract once the area median income verification is completed.

She mentioned that the 2024 buyers are "frustrated with the process," along with other factors coming into play.

"We are finding that our homeowners are becoming more and more cost-burdened," she said.

Lashbrooke went on to explain that over the next six to eight weeks, the PSCDC is planning to target veterans as potential buyers for the remaining five homes.

"We believe that our veterans could qualify for these houses," she said, adding, "This could be a really great solution."

Lashbrooke also mentioned the PSCDC will be doing a campaign to "move these houses," noting that a letter has been sent to all major employers in the county.

Ranson inquired as to who is liable for the payments on the unsold homes.

"We hold the liability," Lashbrooke said, explaining the PSCDC will start making payments this month.

She also mentioned that the PSCDC is currently holding about \$100,000 in fees on the project that cannot be recouped until the last

home is sold.

Lashbrooke expressed the difficulties encountered throughout this project, stating, "I cannot believe how hard this is," adding that it is a nonstop moving target.

Lashbrooke also commented on the economic state of Colorado and the nation as whole, stating, "One wrong move and we're gonna go into a full-blown economic crash."

Lashbrooke claimed that credit card debt is rising, while unemployment rates are stable and interest rates are on the rise again after briefly declining.

Lashbrooke mentioned that "people are not spending right now," noting that businesses in main street portion of downtown Pagosa Springs are reporting up to a 60 percent loss in business due to the construction project, but that there may be other factors contributing to those reported losses.

Medina suggested that there may be some value in looking into having homes in the PSCDC's second phase be available for rent, noting that based on the recent community housing assessment, "that's what we need."

Lashbrooke explained that the PSCDC can ensure the homes are built on time and on budget, but that it is not in the business of running rental properties.

"I can't do economic development and build houses," she added.

Medina noted that there may be an option to "hand off the second phase" to a different entity so that the PSCDC can get back on track with economic development.

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PAWSD board hears update from equivalent unit subcommittee

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) Board of Directors heard an update from its recently formed equivalent unit (EU) calculation subcommittee at its April 10 meeting.

The subcommittee was formed at the district's March 13 meeting in response to issues with the EU calculations at the Timberline affordable housing project, located near Aspen Village.

An EU is a unit of water or wastewater that is intended to represent the average use of a single-family home.

PAWSD board member Alex Boehmer explained that the subcommittee, composed of himself and PAWSD board member Bill Hudson, discussed the issue and came to the recommendation that the board should "take a look" at how EUs are

charged.

He noted that the meeting was the last before the board election in May and that a further discussion should be delayed until after this election since there were three open seats on the five-member board.

Boehmer continued that the decrease from 51 EUs to eight EUs requested by Timberline is "not reasonable," especially because the district already gave the development significant discounts.

He stated that the district should look at how EUs are calculated in general, since the usage for a large home is very different from a small apartment.

However, he stated that the district likely should not create new rules for federal Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) projects as this would open up the district to potential conflicts of interest and to demands from other affordable housing projects.

Hudson noted the differences between tiny homes and mansions, although he noted that he understands why PAWSD had to simplify EU calculations since assessing each project individually would be a "massive job."

If this approach is impractical, Hudson proposed that an alternative could be looking at if properties have deed restrictions and if there should be allowances for low-income families.

Hudson added that he agreed with Boehmer that the issue should be discussed further after the board election.

In response to board member questions, Boehmer and Hudson both emphasized that discussing the issue after the election would be valuable, but that they were not currently recommending specific solutions.

PAWSD board member Glenn Walsh noted that the issue of EU calculation is different for water and

wastewater since PAWSD has water meters and bills for excessive water use, but does not have wastewater meters and does not have a way to track sewer usage.

Hudson pointed out that outdoor water usage for things like lawn irrigation is also different between different sizes of dwelling.

Walsh noted that PAWSD has more tools to address water EUs, while wastewater EUs will "have unfairnesses however you choose."

Hudson noted that another issue would be how to approach affordable housing projects that have one meter that serves multiple units.

PAWSD chairman Jim Smith commended Boehmer and Hudson for their work on the issue.

Hudson concluded the conversation by noting that it would be a long-term issue that would require significant discussion in the future.

josh@pagosasun.com

Chase Regester Memorial Scholarship recipients announced

By Lisa Scott
Special to The SUN

Kylie Ketchum and Colt Lewis have each been awarded a \$1,000 Chase Regester Memorial Scholarship for the 2025-2026 academic year.

This scholarship is designed to honor the memory of Charles L. Regester III — "Chase" — (May 29, 1986-Aug. 2, 2006), who was raised on a ranch and spent his childhood and youth involved in 4-H, rodeos and ranch life. He graduated from Pagosa Springs High School in May 2005 and was pursuing ranching as a career.

Regester loved animals, the great outdoors, his friends and family, and had a great sense of humor and a "whipping and spurring" approach to life.

This scholarship was endowed by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lindner to honor Regester and his family for living and preserving the history and traditions

of the American West. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Russell Jr. added to that endowment in 2007, as did Tiger Regester in 2012.

Both students attend Pagosa Springs High School, are involved in high school activities and sports, know the value of community service, and are tremendous role models within the 4-H program, especially to the younger 4-H members. Their 4-H participation has included raising and showing livestock, and each have won top awards at the Archuleta County Fair.

Ketchum is an 11-year member of 4-H, participating in several projects, raising swine, turkey and steer, and has held several leadership positions in the 4-H Club. Local rodeo events and being a member of Future Farmers of America (FFA) has also demonstrated her western heritage values.

She has many accolades in varsity basketball and track, and this 4.0

scholar is a member of National Honor Society and Student Athlete Leadership Club.

In eighth grade, she started a custom design printing business that has continued to grow and expand, which is why Kylie is pursuing a degree in agribusiness media and communications and entrepreneurship at South Plains College in Levelland, Texas. Her business mission is "to create a community that reaches as many people as possible so that I can give back what has been given to me."

Lewis has been riding horses and raising cattle since he was a boy and calls himself a "ranch kid." He wrote, "I have learned in ranching that if you have a good work ethic and you are a problem solver, you can get a lot of stuff done."

He is a varsity letterman in basketball, football and track, and a member of Student Athlete Leadership

Club, FFA and Fellowship of Christian Athletes. As a member of the National High School Rodeo Association and the Colorado Pro Rodeo Association, he continues to compete and win as a saddle bronc rider. Lewis has been a long and active member of 4-H, participating in the livestock project by raising swine and steer. Tarleton State University in Texas is where Lewis will take his place on the rodeo team and study agribusiness and welding.

This scholarship is designed to support a student pursuing post-secondary education of any variety, which can include university, college, community college, technical, business, vocational, agricultural or ranch training program. The basic requirement for any scholarship applicant is that they have participated in Rodeo, 4-H, FFA, or have agriculture or ranching background and upbringing during their high school years.

Colorado traffic fatalities down 21 percent this year

Colorado Department of Transportation

Traffic fatalities in Colorado are down this year, a positive sign as state agencies continue to push toward zero deaths on our roadways.

Preliminary data shows a 21 percent decrease in overall traffic fatalities compared to this time last year, reflecting progress made in the state's efforts to improve roadway safety.

While the trend is encouraging, the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) and other safety partners continue to emphasize that every life lost is one too many.

"This decrease is a step in the right direction, but we still have progress to make," said CDOT Office of Transportation Safety Director Darrell Lingk. "While CDOT, law enforcement, legislators and safety partners work to improve the safety of our roads, every driver needs to do their part as well. Drive sober, put the phone down and follow the speed limit. One reckless decision can change a life forever."

Notable comparisons from mid-April last year to this year include:

- A total of 130 fatalities, down from 164 in 2024.
- A 12.5 percent decrease in unbuckled fatalities.
- A 17.5 percent decrease in pedestrian and bicyclist fatalities.

- A 12.5 percent decrease in motorcyclist fatalities.
- A 70 percent decrease in teen driver fatalities.
- A 19 percent decrease in fatalities involving impaired drivers.
- A 22 percent decrease in fatalities involving distracted drivers.
- A 26 percent decrease in fatalities involving speeding.

"This progress is hopeful and underscores the efforts made by legislation and enforcement to improve roadway safety. It also signals that more individual drivers are using safe behaviors," said Col. Matthew C. Packard, chief of the Colorado State Patrol. "However, every fatality is preventable, and more work can be done. We need drivers to stay focused, drive the posted speed limit and always drive sober. Let's continue this trend and ensure more Coloradans make it home safe to their loved ones."

Several new laws took effect this year to promote safer travel in the state.

Colorado's new Hands-Free Law prohibits the use of handheld phones while driving, allowing only hands-free accessories. The law carries a minimum \$75 fine for first-time offenses.

Additionally, the state updated its child passenger safety law, requiring booster seats until age 9, rear-facing car seats until age 2 (or 40 pounds), and mandatory seat belt use until age 18.

CDOT and law enforcement also increased enforcement in Express Lanes across the state, where weaving in and out of the designated boundaries now results in a fine of \$75 or more.

As we approach the "100 Deadliest Days of Summer" — a historically dangerous time on our roads when traffic fatalities spike — CDOT is encouraging every driver to keep the following safety reminders in mind:

- Buckle up on every trip, and ensure your passengers and any children are properly restrained.
- Put the phone away while driving, even at stoplights.
- Always plan a safe and sober ride when consuming alcohol, cannabis or other impairing substances.
- Obey speed limits, especially in construction and school zones.
- Stay alert and make eye contact with drivers when walking or biking across intersections.

The decline in traffic fatalities builds on the 5 percent decrease from

2023 to 2024. CDOT and the Colorado State Patrol remain committed to their goal of reducing the number of traffic-related fatalities and serious injuries by 22.5 percent by 2027.

PAWSD approves thank-you letter for \$1 million grant

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

At its April 10 meeting, the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) Board of Directors approved a thank-you letter to the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) for a grant it received to support the district's wastewater treatment plant upgrade project.

PAWSD Programs Director Renee Lewis explained that the district was notified the third week of March that it received \$1 million from DOLA to help support construction at the Vista Wastewater Treatment Plant to bring the plant into compliance with new nutrient-removal requirements.

She indicated that the district received the executed award at the end of March.

Lewis commented that she would welcome comments on the letter and that it was not a timely matter, but that she feels sending the letter is "good form."

"DOLA's been very supportive of all of our projects," Lewis said.

PAWSD board member Gene Tautges moved to send out the letter

that Lewis drafted.

He also commended staff for doing a "stellar job with a capital S" on obtaining the grant.

PAWSD board member Alex

Boehmer also thanked staff for their work.

The board then unanimously approved the letter.

josh@pagosasun.com

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Hill Top Cemetery Spring Clean-Up

May 19 – June 2, 2025

The spring cemetery clean-up is scheduled for May 19th through June 2nd. Town staff will be at the cemetery raking pine needles, removing broken, spent, and faded decorations from plots, mowing, and weed-trimming.

The Town welcomes all groups or individuals who wish to help with the spring clean-up efforts. Place your cemetery trash and debris at the nearest roadside ditch for pickup. Trash bags are available at the Town's Maintenance Facility at 550 Pirate Drive.

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SUN photo/Clayton Chaney

The Archuleta School District Board of Education hears results and findings from the district’s Master Plan Advisory Committee during a work session on Tuesday, May 13. The committee met four times over the past five months to discuss options for how the district could move forward in addressing its facility needs.

School

■ **Continued from front**
public poll could be administered to get a reading on the community’s perception of the district’s needs.

Holt commented, “That’s the missing piece. That’s the next piece that we don’t have.”

He explained the BOE can take results from the public poll and compare it with information gathered by the MPAC.

During the work session, Lynch explained, “We have no agendas planned other than to listen.”

He also mentioned, “We know the current state isn’t so great,” adding that the district needs to look for a path to the future of its facilities and what that path entails.

MPAC chair Lisa Scott provided the BOE with a summary of what the MPAC discussed during each of its meetings.

Scott was joined by eight volunteers from the MPAC during the work session, while she noted that there were approximately 35 community members that showed up to each MPAC meeting.

She explained that the eight volunteers were made up of a diverse group from the community with varying age and interests.

The goal was to start with the facili-

ties assessment report from RTA and review it for additional information, Scott explained, noting the committee was looking to “really understand our facility needs” and provide potential solutions for the aging facilities.

Scott also reminded the BOE that the MPAC is an advisory committee and that the BOE will make final decisions on how to address the district facilities.

“This is an advisory committee,” she said. “We are not the decision makers.”

Scott then explained the first MPAC meeting in January reviewed the four categories of the facilities assessment: urgent needs, important needs, necessary needs, and beneficial and long-term needs.

She also mentioned that enrollment projections and historical populations of Archuleta County show a “stagnant population,” noting that is the probable case for the foreseeable future.

Scott also noted that the committee worked with a demographer that informed the group that “the more affordable housing we have in this community, the better — the more robust our community is going to be.”

The committee also began looking into how schools receive their fund-

ing, Scott explained, commenting, “It is very complicated how schools get their money and where it goes.”

The committee also learned about Building Excellent Schools Today, or BEST, grant opportunities through the state, which provides an annual amount of funding in the form of competitive grants to school districts to be used for the construction of new schools or renovations.

During the February MPAC meeting, the committee explored more options for school funding, reviewing its mill levy along with discussing what a bond could do for the district, Scott explained

Scott noted that a BEST grant “is not a total solution,” explaining it is a competitive process with no guarantees of receiving funding.

She explained that the committee also developed an extensive pro and con list for building a new school versus renovating existing buildings.

“And then, through this, the concept of a PK-8 school was introduced as a possibility, and the reality there is building one school is just cheaper,” Scott said.

During the March meeting, the MPAC looked into the lifespan of the district’s facilities, with Scott commenting that just because a building

is old that doesn’t necessarily mean it needs to be knocked down.

The committee also played “Schoolopoly” during its March meeting, during which five small groups were able to incorporate real costs and begin prioritizing the district’s needs.

Scott commented that the Schoolopoly activity gave people the chance to “realize the enormity of the expense.”

Scott also mentioned that there are multiple needs within the community, with Archuleta County considering going to voters for support in building a new administration building, the Town of Pagosa Springs also considering a tax increase to help fix its sewer systems, and needs of the medical center and the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District.

“The financial needs of our facilities outweigh what this community can afford, and there are competing priorities within the various municipalities,” Scott said.

Scott explained that the April meeting involved the committee reviewing the results of the Schoolopoly activity and looking into where the majority of students in the district live within the county.

According to Scott’s presentation, ■ **See School A9**

Housing

■ **Continued from front**
efforts for future projects.

“This achievement demonstrates Archuleta County’s, the Town of Pagosa Springs’ and the PSCDC’s commitment to proactive planning and addressing the critical housing needs of our community,” said Archuleta County Development Director Pam Flowers. “We are proud to be at the forefront of implementing SB24-174 and ensuring a sustainable and affordable future for our residents.”

SB24-174 places significant emphasis on data-driven planning at the local level to address housing needs, with the state providing guidance and financial support. The bill also aims to promote more diverse housing options.

With a deadline of December 2026, most local governments are still in the early stages of implementing these requirements, with deadlines for assessments and plans in the coming years putting the county and

town ahead of the game. However, compliance with the bill does not end there.

“We appreciate the 600 employee and nearly 100 employer survey responses that provided valuable local opinions on challenges our community faces regarding the limited availability and options for affordable and workforce housing units,” noted James Dickhoff, the Town of Pagosa Springs’ development director. “The survey responses helped inform portions of the adopted HNA, which will be referenced by elected officials, developers and residents as we all participate in developing our community’s Housing Action Plan.”

Pursuant to SB24-174, having a population exceeding 5,000, the county and town must develop a Housing Action Plan by Jan. 1, 2028.

On May 7, DOLA awarded a \$56,250 grant to support this effort, matched by \$9,375 each from the county and town. The plan, outlining strategies for identified housing

needs (updated every six years), requires a progress report to DOLA three years after publication and will be overseen by a DOLA project manager.

“I would like to point out that the Housing Action Plan process will involve a significant amount of community engagement, so people should be looking for information about those opportunities on our socials, in the media, and on our web pages,” Flowers commented. “We are expecting to begin that process as early as July or August of this year.”

“This successful achievement was made possible through the strategic collaboration between Archuleta County, the Town of Pagosa Springs and Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation,” said Emily Lashbrooke, executive director of the PSCDC. “This milestone is the result of months of dedicated partnership, shared vision, and a deep commitment to addressing workforce and

community housing needs with data-driven solutions. By aligning municipal, county and community development efforts, we have created a model of cooperation that ensures sustainable growth, housing equity, and economic resilience for the future of Archuleta County.”

The full HNA is available for review at <https://archuletacounty.org/886/Archuleta-County-Housing-Needs-Assessment>.

Attorney

■ **Continued from front**
ing a different preferred candidate, Martha Whitmore, on April 15.

A week later, on April 22, the county confirmed that Whitmore had withdrawn from consideration for the position.

According to Giovannini’s resume, she currently serves as the senior assistant city attorney for the

city and county of Denver, a position she has held since January 2020.

Giovannini’s resume also notes that she has an undergraduate degree from the University of California Los

Angeles and a doctorate degree from the University of Notre Dame.

Giovannini has been licensed to practice law in Colorado since 2018. clayton@pagosasun.com

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Results

■ **Continued from front**

- Boehmer: 604.
- Tautges: 513.
- Jones: 494.
- Carl Lee Young: 467.
- Christa Chagra: 422.

The next regular meeting of the PAUSD Board of Directors is scheduled for 5 p.m. on Thursday, May 22.

For more information on the meeting, visit www.pawsd.org/district-business/public-meetings/. randi@pagosasun.com

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School

■ **Continued from A8**

68 percent of ASD’s students live “up-town,” or west of Piedra Road, while 32 percent live “downtown,” or east of Piedra Road.

She also noted that RTA presented options for the district showing that a new building can be built on any of the properties the district currently owns.

The committee also ranked five options for the district to build a new building, perform major renovations or a combination of both.

According to Scott’s presentation, the committee ranked the option of building a new PK-8 building as the top option, followed by building a new elementary and a new middle school. The third-ranked option was to build a new middle school and renovate the elementary school, followed by the opposite for the fourth-ranked option. The fifth-ranked option from MPAC is to renovate both the elementary and middle school buildings.

Scott also mentioned that “there really needs to be an analysis of priority” in identifying what the district can fund first.

“We are definitely gonna have to make some hard choices,” she said.

Scott noted that no matter what

the BOE decides to do, “you have just got to engage your community, in a very intentional way,” explaining that will be crucial in getting anything approved by voters.

BOE members Butch Mackey and David Iverson both attended and participated in the MPAC meetings.

Mackey explained that the members of the MPAC were serious and dedicated to the task at hand, while also acknowledging other statements about how the district’s needs outweigh the amount of funds available.

“We got more needs than we’re gonna have money,” Mackey said, noting the district has some “drastic needs” that need to be addressed.

Iverson commented that educating the community on school funding will be important.

MPAC member Lawrence Rugar commented that the committee “heard from a diverse group of people” exploring many avenues while leaving “no stone unturned.”

He mentioned the general consensus seemed to be, “Let’s do the best we can for what little we may have for the best outcome for the kids.”

MPAC member Ronnie Doctor also commented that if the community understands how difficult it

will be to get funding, that’s a better starting point than before.

MPAC member Bill Hudson noted that as much as the committee was able to do, there are still many details that need to be worked out, adding that the MPAC could continue assisting in this process.

Hudson also mentioned that getting community support for the project will be crucial, specifically as to how much the community is willing to support the project financially.

He suggested that if the district looks to go to the voters, it should wait until the November 2026 election in order to put together a successful campaign.

“I want this to succeed, whatever the school board comes up with,” Hudson said.

Scott provided more insight on costs associated with building a new school, explaining that the PK-8 option started to gain traction, with it costing around \$125 million, while building a new middle school and elementary school would each cost around \$75 million.

RTA Principal Doug Abernethy explained that beyond the facilities analysis, RTA also included educational adequacy scores in its report, noting that the district has

buildings with classrooms with no windows, small cafeterias and small libraries.

County Commissioner John Ranson was also in attendance and provided an anecdotal story of a constituent changing their mind from being against a bond to supporting it once the personal impact was broken down into a monthly cost.

RTA had previously presented information indicating that the impact on homes in the community valued at \$500,000 for an approximately \$70 million bond translates to approximately \$20 per month on a single household, while a \$125 bond has an approximate monthly impact of \$40 on a home.

One other public comment was heard on the matter during the meeting, with Mark Weiler suggesting the district could “consider researching alternative methods of providing education that do not involve massive investments in physical infrastructure.”

Weiler noted the Jordan Peterson Academy as an example.

All of the information presented at the MPAC meetings is available to view online at <https://rtaarchitects.com/archuleta-fmp>, along with notes taken by RTA for each meeting.

clayton@pagosasun.com

Public Meetings



The following meetings are subject to change.

Friday, May 16

San Juan Headwaters Forest Health Partnership meeting. 9 a.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners’ meeting room, 398 Lewis St. View on Zoom using meeting ID 836 9543 6522 and password 146408.

Monday, May 19

Archuleta County Road and Bridge Advisory Committee meeting. 2 p.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners’ meeting room, 398 Lewis St. For more information, visit <http://archuletacounty.org/agenda-center>.

Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners and Pagosa Springs Town Council joint work session. 5 p.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners’ meeting room, 398 Lewis St. View Zoom meeting at <https://zoom.us/j/91609048375?pwd=d1FFV0J1cGVKa1NHWHFsa2taeGxtZz09>, meeting ID: 916 0904 8375, passcode: 4141885. For more information, visit <http://archuletacounty.org/agenda-center>.

Tuesday, May 20

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

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

Pagosa Springs Town Council meeting. 5 p.m., Town Hall, 551 Hot

Springs Blvd. See town website for participation information: <https://pagosasprings.civicweb.net/portal/>.

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

Wednesday, May 21

Pagosa Peak Open School Board of Directors meeting. 5 p.m., 3133 Cornerstone Drive. For more information, visit: <https://pagosa-peakopenschool.org>.

Thursday, May 22

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/agenda-center>.

Tuesday, May 27

Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners work session. 10 a.m., Archuleta County Road and Bridge Facility, 95 County Road 973, Arboles. For more information, visit <http://archuletacounty.org/agenda-center>.

Archuleta School District Board of Education work session (budget presentation). 5 p.m., Pagosa Springs Middle School, 309 Lewis St. Visit www.mypagosaschools.com for more information.

Upper San Juan Health Service District Board of Directors meeting. 5 p.m., Pagosa Springs Medical Center board room, 95 S. Pagosa Blvd. View the meeting on Microsoft Teams using meeting ID: 248 378 716 11, passcode: g2ZTGA.

Thursday, May 29

Board of County Commissioners board-to-board meeting. 5 p.m., Montezuma County Senior Center conference room, Cortez.

Tuesday, June 3

Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners work session. 8:30 a.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners’ meeting room, 398 Lewis

St. View Zoom meeting at <https://zoom.us/j/91609048375?pwd=d1FFV0J1cGVKa1NHWHFsa2taeGxtZz09>, meeting ID: 916 0904 8375, passcode: 4141885. For more information, visit <http://archuleta-county.org/agenda-center>.

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

Pagosa Springs Town Council meeting. 5 p.m., Town Hall, 551 Hot Springs Blvd. See town website for participation information: <https://pagosasprings.civicweb.net/portal/>.

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

Thursday, June 5

Colorado Department of Transportation telephone town hall. 6:30 p.m., phone or virtual. To participate in the town hall, sign up at <https://www.codot.gov/programs/yourtransportationpriorities/telephone-town-hall-signup>.

Tuesday, June 10

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

Archuleta School District Board of Education meeting. 6 p.m., Pagosa Springs Middle School, 309

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Celebration

Boyd Neagle

Boyd Neagle, of Pagosa Springs, has been named to Southern New Hampshire University’s spring 2025 President’s List. The spring terms run from January to May.

Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.700 and above for the reporting term are named to the President’s List. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits over each 16-week term or paired eight-week terms grouped in fall, winter/spring and summer.

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Outdoors

New Upper San Juan Watershed film will debut May 20

San Juan Water Conservancy District

The San Juan Water Conservancy District (SJWCD) will host a public premiere of “In Between Water and Fire” on Tuesday, May 20, at the Pagosa Lodge, 3505 W. U.S. 160.

The doors will open at 5:30. Various organizations with specialized points of view about our community’s water supply, forest health, wildfire preparedness and related issues will host tabletop exhibits before the films begin about 6:30 p.m. Expected to join the conversations are Wildfire Adapted Partnership, Weminuche Audubon, Mountain Studies Institute, San Juan Headwaters Forest Health Partnership, 2-3-2 Cohesive Strategy Partnership, Trout Unlimited, Upper San Juan Watershed Enhancement Partnership and the SJWCD.

The SJWCD invites guests to enjoy heavy hors d’oeuvres during the early networking time. A cash bar will offer soft drinks, beer and wine. The SJWCD cannot accept credit cards, so please bring cash. Proceeds offset the costs of producing the public event. In 2024, the SJWCD partnered with the Colorado Water Conserva-tion Board to produce three short films about the headwaters of the San Juan River.

The San Juan watershed supplies water from snowmelt to our forest, our local riparian habitats and our municipal drinking water.

The three films are “The Value of Snow,” “The Waterways that Connect Us” and “In Between Fire and Water.” The first two films can be accessed now on www.sjwcd.org. The third film will be available on the SJWCD

website after its debut. “In Between Water and Fire” is the latest film by documentarian Christi Bode. Bode has written and produced several films about our water in southwest Colorado in recent years. Her work provides invaluable information about our warmer and drier future in Archuleta County.

Appearing in the third film are Jonathan Coop, fire ecologist; Lea Knutson, Hermits Peak Watershed Alliance; JR Ford, Renewable Forest Energy LLC; and Tim Montgomery, city manager for Las Vegas, N.M. Each shares personal experiences relevant to the conversation about the SJWCD.

According to Bode, “... headwater systems can do everything that hu-mans try to recreate in our treatment plants and reservoirs. ... And to the extent that we can support them, our

watershed will take care of us.” All three SJWCD short films will be shown on Tuesday evening. Follow-ing the debut of “In Between Water and Fire,” a panel of water experts and local professionals will explain the relevance of their work. Expected to join the conversation are Josh Peck, U.S. Forest Service; Bill Trimarco, Wildfire Adapted Partnership; Alex Handloff, San Juan Headwaters For-est Health Partnership and 2-3-2; Mike Le Roux, Archuleta County sheriff; and the SJWCD. Opportunities for valuable net-working will follow the films and panel discussion. Guests are invited to bring their questions and to share food and drink, while continuing to share opinions about the future of the Archuleta County water supply. There is no charge for the SJWCD film event.

Weminuche Audubon to present about birding by ear

By Jean Zirnheld

Weminuche Audubon Society

Learning to identify birds by their songs and calls will be the topic of the next Weminuche Audubon Chapter meeting, which is set for Wednesday, May 21, at 6:30 p.m.

Keith Bruno, Audubon Rockies community naturalist and Wemi-nuche board member, will lead us in this exercise of seeing with our ears. With mating season getting into full

swing and the arrival of our summer birds, the air is filled with birdsong. Some birds we haven’t heard for several months.

Distinguishing a bird by its unique sound is a fun challenge. Bruno will provide tips for picking apart the song we hear and align-ing it with the bird singing it. Learn about the technology available to teach yourself this skill.

Birding by ear to identify bird species is an important skill used by vol-

unteers in our Forest Bird Monitoring Project, set to start soon. Identifying birds by their songs is used to count birds that are difficult to see hidden in the canopy or the brush in the forest. Learning their songs will also add to your enjoyment of the birds at your home.

The public is invited to join us for our meeting on Wednesday, May 21, at the Community United Methodist Church on Lewis Street.

We will gather at 6 p.m. for social-

izing and the meeting will start at 6:30 p.m. Please enter through the side door off the parking lot or let us know to open the main door for handicap entry.

In appreciation for our meeting space, we welcome donations of nonperishable food for the church food bank.

Prior to the meeting, a link to join on Zoom will be posted on the events tab of our website for those unable to join us in person.

Water conservancy district hears water film funding request

By Josh Pike

Staff Writer

At its May 12 meeting, the San Juan Water Conservancy District (SJWCD) heard a funding request from the Upper San Juan Watershed Enhance-ment Partnership (WEP) to support its river restoration work in the San Juan River upstream of Pagosa Springs.

WEP representative Al Pfister ex-plain-ed that the organization is scheduled to start work in the river in September and that, although the organization has the money needed for the project, it would take all of its reserves to complete due to previ-ously awarded grants being pulled.

However, Pfister explained that he was seeking additional funding op-tions to reduce the amount of money the WEP has to take from its reserves.

Pfister stated that the total budget for the project is \$7,900.

Later in the meeting, Pfister clar-i-fied that was the budget for the creation of a film of the restoration process, not for the actual restoration work itself.

He indicated that the project would include restoration and bank

stabilization of a 2-mile section of river upstream from the property where Bob’s LP was formerly located.

These improvements would en-hance this section of the river for both wildlife and the rafting com-munity, Pfister stated, and would include work to mitigate the impacts and risks associated with car bodies located in this stretch of river and the removal of an old water pipe cur-rently sticking into the river, among other things.

He indicated that the project has obtained written permission from all 18 landowners along this stretch of the river and that permitting for the project is moving forward on schedule.

In response to a question from SJWCD board member Robert Hag-berg, Pfister explained that he was seeking \$1,500 from the SJWCD or whatever amount the district could contribute.

Following a discussion of previous failed efforts to locate a put in at the Running Iron Ranch property that the SJWCD jointly owns with the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District, Pfister explained that there would

be public access to the project area through the Town of Pagosa Springs’ recent purchase of the former Bob’s LP property.

He stated that the town would be putting in public access at the site and that the project had been adjusted to accommodate the town’s plans.

The board then moved to discus-sion of the budget for this request, with SJWCD board president Can-dace Jones noting that she was unsure how much money the district would have in its budget due to uncertainty about the cost of another educational film and other budgetary ambigu-ities.

Hagberg moved to make a dona-tion to the educational film project to the extent the district is able to, which was seconded by SJWCD board member Randy Cooper.

Community news.

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Sports

TRACK

Eleven Pirates advance to state meet

By **Randi Pierce**
Staff Writer

Eleven Pirates will represent Pagosa Springs High School at this week's state track and field meet, with coach Connie O'Donnell noting she anticipates most of the team's qualifiers returning with medals "if all goes well."

"The state track meet is really fun," O'Donnell wrote in an email to The SUN. "There are so many people since it includes all classifications. We have upperclassmen that have been there a few times and will be able to help out our first time qualifiers. I anticipate most of our qualifiers getting medals this weekend if all goes well."

The top 18 in each classification advance to state in each event.

The meet will take place at Jefferson County Stadium in Lakewood between Thursday, May 15, and Saturday, May 17.

Pagosa's state qualifiers include Colton Lucero, Creede Dozier, Jeremiah Jones, Alex Pacheco, Tommy Nigro, Rylie Carr, Sienna Rose, Lexi Campbell, Abigail Nehring, Malorie Morton and Molly Washburn.

The Pirates will be represented in 13 events at the state's final meet, with multiple Pirates going into the meet with high seeds.

In the boys' 100-meter dash, Lucero is the No. 1 seed. Lucero entered the 200-meter dash as the No. 4 seed.

The boys' 4x100-meter relay team of Lucero, Dozier, Pacheco and Nigro enter the event as the No. 10 seed.

In the boys' high jump, Dozier entered as the No. 4, with Jones entering as the No. 10 seed.

Dozier earned the No. 2 seed in the boys' long jump and the fifth seed in the triple jump.

On the girls' side, Carr earned the No. 10 seed in the 100, with Rose entering as the No. 16 seed.

Carr entered the state meet as the No. 18 seed in the 200, and Rose entered the 400-meter dash as the No. 7 seed.

The Lady Pirate relay team — Carr, Rose, Campbell and Washburn — earned the No. 14 seed in the 4x100 and Nov. 15 in the 4x200-meter relay.

Campbell earned the 16th spot in

the triple jump.

Nehring earned the top seed in the discus and No. 7 seed in the shot put.

Malorie Morton advanced to state as the No. 14 seed in discus.

O'Donnell also highlights that the Pirates had three athletes who qualified in four events.

"Creede qualified in 3 individual events which is incredibly impressive," she wrote.

O'Donnell notes she thought the Pirates would be able to qualify more for state at last week's Friday Night Lights meet in Pueblo, but they weren't able to make it happen.

The Pirates did, however, walk away with two event winners from their final regular-season meet.

Carr, she highlights, won the 200, while Rose won the 400.

"The Friday Night Lights meet was competitive and well run," she wrote.

"There were 55 teams so there were so many heats and flights of everything."

The May 9 meet was a change from how the Pirates usually cap off the regular season, with O'Donnell indicating she hopes the team can return to that normal in the future.

"I really like the Grand Junction meet that we usually go to as a last chance qualifier because the distance races and the field events are split over two days," she explains. "It gives athletes a better chance to qualify when they are not running between field events and races all of the time. Hopefully, Grand Junction will have their meet next year."

She adds she's sure why the Grand Junction meet didn't take place this year.

The Friday Night Lights meet allowed up to three entries per team in each event.

In the girls' 100, Carr took second with a time of 12.83 seconds. Rose notched 10th with a time of 13.28 seconds. Washburn finished 37th with a time of 14.03 seconds.

Carr won the 200 with a time of 26.48 seconds. Campbell took 11th in 27.58 seconds, and Amber Snarr finished 54th in 30.69 seconds.

Rose won the 400 with a time of 59.86 seconds.

Honestye Sweet took 18th in the



Photo courtesy Jessica Carr

Lady Pirate Liana Vega throws the shot put during the shot put at the May 9 Friday Night Lights meet in Pueblo. Vega took 10th with a distance of 97 feet, 5 inches.

800-meter run with a time of two minutes, 43.33 seconds.

Sweet finished 17th in the 1,600-meter run with a time of 6:10.47, and Madisen Stretton finished 20th in 6:13.85.

Stretton notched 13th in the 3,200-meter run with a time of 13:24.94.

The 4x100 relay team finished seventh in 51.59 seconds, and the 4x200 relay team took fifth in 1:49.74.

Campbell earned ninth in the triple jump with a distance of 33 feet, 2 inches.

Nehring took second in the discus with a throw of 124-7, and Liana Vega finished 10th with a distance of 97-5.



Photo courtesy Jessica Carr

Pirate Alex Pacheco runs the 100-meter dash at the May 9 Friday Night Lights meet in Pueblo. Pacheco logged a time of 12.32 seconds in the event.

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Soccer

Lady Pirates' season ends after first round of playoffs

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirate soccer team wrapped up its season this last week after being eliminated from the state playoffs in the first round.

On Thursday, May 8, the Lady Pirates traveled to Denver to take on the No. 1-ranked team and defending state champion in the state's 3A division, Colorado Academy. The Lady Pirates entered the playoffs as the No. 32 team in the state.

The Lady Pirates gave up 10 goals after a total of 67 minutes being played, triggering the sport's mercy rule.

Coach Trevor Gian explained that the Lady Pirates knew they would be going up against "a tough team," describing Colorado Academy a "very quality" opponent.

"It was good to see, good for us to get a chance to play," Gian said, explaining the Lady Pirates did not have a playoff spot confirmed until the morning of Sunday, May 4.

Gian mentioned that the Lady Pirates tried to keep things "light" and had a little bit of a different pregame approach with the team going out for lunch and getting to explore Denver.

Gian added that there were no "real expectations" going into the matchup "besides giving it everything we have and just having a positive attitude no matter what happened."

Gian mentioned it was important for the Lady Pirates to have the "right mindset" going into the match, understanding that having the chance to compete in a playoff match is a privilege that not every team gets.

Gian noted that losing a match like that can lead to things turning negative quickly and that it was important to understand that the team "well earned ... the opportunity just to go."

Lady Pirate goalkeepers Kiera Davis made 17 saves on the day, and Hailey Sams made four saves.

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

The Lady Pirates finished the season with an overall record of 6-7, including a league mark of 2-4, which earned them third place in the Intermountain League (IML),

Gian explained that one of the main goals at the beginning of the season was to put in quality performances and earn points in their IML games.

"Which we definitely accomplished," he said, adding that it is

"awesome to know we could play with those teams."

Gian also commented that the Lady Pirates had two "hard-fought wins" against the Bayfield Wolverines during the season, noting that is "something to grow on."

Alamosa finished first in the IML, followed by Montezuma-Cortez in second place. All three IML teams that qualified for the state playoffs were eliminated in the first round.

The Lady Pirates last qualified for the state playoffs in 2019, which Gian explained is a testament to the growth of the program since he took charge in 2024.

Gian added that he hopes to "keep making steps forward" with the Lady Pirate soccer program in building a strong foundation.

"Making the playoffs was a really, really great thing ... especially for a lot of those seniors," Gian added. "We're gonna miss all the seniors."

The Lady Pirates had seven seniors on the roster this year, with one junior who will be graduating early. Those players were: Davis, Sams, Elizabeth Currier, Caroline Simon, Adison Johnson, Morgan Galloway, Kailey Keyes and Sophia Sottek.

"The legacy they're leaving behind

is looking pretty good," Gian added.

Gian mentioned that it was a tough season for the Lady Pirates, with a lot of games played in a short amount of time, but he praised the seniors, saying he's "really, really proud of the senior's leadership, their attitudes. We're gonna miss 'em, for sure."

He added, "We're just really proud of what they showed, how they helped hold the team together."

According to stats entered into MaxPreps, Sams led the Lady Pirates in goals this season, tallying a total of nine goals scored, followed by Currier with eight goals and Tatiana Monterroso scoring seven.

Ellie Vining led the Lady Pirates in assists with a total of four on the season, followed by Terriana Cage and Johnson both with three assists.

Davis made a total of 138 saves on the season, averaging 10.6 saves per match.

Gian also commented on what he is looking for from the Lady Pirates going into next season, noting the program has had "good interest" from underclassmen down to the middle school level.

Gian mentioned that he'll be looking to this year's juniors to step up into ■ See Soccer A13



COMBINED NOTICE - PUBLICATION CRS §38-38-103 FORECLOSURE SALE NO. 2025-002

To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with regard to the following described Deed of Trust: On March 5, 2025, the undersigned Public Trustee caused the Notice of Election and Demand relating to the Deed of Trust described below to be recorded in the County of Archuleta records. Original Grantor(s): Diana Ramsey Original Beneficiary(ies): Rio Grande Savings and Loan Association Current Holder of Evidence of Debt: Rio Grande Savings and Loan Association Date of Deed of Trust: July 31, 2006 County of Recording: Archuleta Recording Date of Deed of Trust: July 31, 2006 Recording Information (Reception No. and/or Book/ Page No.): 20607279 Original Principal Amount: \$34,000.00 Outstanding Principal Balance: \$10,980.02 Pursuant to CRS §38-38-101(4)(i), you are hereby notified that the covenants of the deed of trust have been violated as follows: Failure to pay principal and interest when due together with all other payments provided for in the evidence of debt secured by the deed of trust and other violations thereof.

THE LIEN FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.
LOT 47, PAGOSA VISTA, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF FILED SEPTEMBER13, 1971, AS RECEPTION NO. 74884 IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK AND RECORDER, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO.

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NOTICE OF SALE
The current holder of the Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, described herein, has filed Notice of Election and Demand for sale as provided by law and in said Deed of Trust.
THEREFORE, Notice Is Hereby Given that I will at public auction, at 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, 07/03/2025, at the Archuleta County Treasurer's Office at 449 San Juan St. Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property and all interest of the said Grantor(s), Grantor(s)' heirs and assigns therein, for the purpose of paying the indebtedness provided in said Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, plus attorneys' fees, the expenses of sale and other items allowed by law, and will issue to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.
First Publication 5/8/2025
Last Publication 6/5/2025
Name of Publication Pagosa Springs Sun
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By: Elsa P. White, Public Trustee
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Shay L Denning #36736
Hall Estill Attorneys At Law 100 North Broadway, Suite 2900, Oklahoma City, OK 73102-8865 (405) 283-4277
Attorney File # Diana Ramsey
The Attorney above is acting as a debt collector and is attempting to collect a debt. Any information provided may be used for that purpose.
Published May 8, 15, 22, 29 and June 5, 2025 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*, (263333)

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Tel. 970.264.8160
Teal Landing Vacation Owners Association, Inc.
Plaintiff
v.
Defendants
Joy Nichole Goodie, et al.
Case No.: 2025CV30010
Attorney for Plaintiff:
Christopher B. Conley (51651)
Eck, Conley & Richardson, PLLC
700 South 21st Street, Fort Smith, AR 72901
Tel. 479.242.5906
Email: ir@ecrlegal.com

**SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION
TO THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO
TO THE FOLLOWING DEFENDANT(S) :** Robert G McGowan, Trustee of the McGowan Revocable Trust, dated July 16, 1999, Magdalene E McGowan, Trustee of the McGowan Revocable Trust, dated July 16, 1999, Brittan Rojas, Martin Rojas, John Nazar Jemelian, Trustee of the John Nazar Jemelian Family Trust of 2001, U/T/A dated October 28, 2001, Rose Jemelian, Trustee of the John Nazar Jemelian Family Trust of 2001, U/T/A dated October 28, 2001, Debora A Crane, James Bradley Shepherd, Shawn Kirkland, Rebecca Dunn, Doug Hooten, Judy V Hooten, Joe Shadid, Martha Shadid, Christine Howe, Paul Graige Jr, Joyce L Forte, Jean Simmons, Sheri L. Burnham, Michael D Kelley, Stella M Kelley, Avery Lee Conley II, Manuel U Montoya
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to appear and defend against the claims of the complaint filed with the court in this action, by filing with the clerk of this court an answer or other response. You are required to file your answer or other response within 35 days after the service of this summons upon you. Service of this summons shall be complete on the day of the last publication. A copy of the complaint may be obtained from the clerk of the court.
If you fail to file your answer or other response to the complaint in writing within 35 days after the date of the last publication, judgment by default may be rendered against you by the court for the relief demanded in the complaint without further notice.

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First Publication: May 1, 2025
Last Publication: May 29, 2025
/s/ Christopher B. Conley
Christopher B. Conley
Published May 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29, 2025 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*, (263228)
v.
Defendants
LARRY WAYNE CONNALLY, CARISSA DAWN CONNALLY
Case No.: 2025CV30016
Attorney for Plaintiff:
Christopher B. Conley (51651)
Eck, Conley & Richardson, PLLC
700 South 21st Street, Fort Smith, AR 72901
Tel. 479.242.5906
Email: ir@ecrlegal.com

**SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION
TO THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO
TO THE FOLLOWING DEFENDANT(S) :** Larry Wayne Connally and Carissa Dawn Connally
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to appear and defend against the claims of the complaint filed with the court in this action, by filing with the clerk of this court an answer or other response. You are required to file your answer or other response within 35 days after the service of this summons upon you. Service of this summons shall be complete on the day of the last publication. A copy of the complaint may be obtained from the clerk of the court.
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/s/ Christopher B. Conley
Christopher B. Conley
Published May 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29, 2025 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*, (263228)
v.
Defendants
LARRY WAYNE CONNALLY, CARISSA DAWN CONNALLY
Case No.: 2025CV30016
Attorney for Plaintiff:
Christopher B. Conley (51651)
Eck, Conley & Richardson, PLLC
700 South 21st Street, Fort Smith, AR 72901
Tel. 479.242.5906
Email: ir@ecrlegal.com

Wynndham Vacation Resorts, Inc.
Plaintiff
v.
Defendants
LARRY WAYNE CONNALLY, CARISSA DAWN CONNALLY
Case No.: 2025CV30016
Attorney for Plaintiff:
Christopher B. Conley (51651)
Eck, Conley & Richardson, PLLC
700 South 21st Street, Fort Smith, AR 72901
Tel. 479.242.5906
Email: ir@ecrlegal.com

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v.
Defendants
LARRY WAYNE CONNALLY, CARISSA DAWN CONNALLY
Case No.: 2025CV30016
Attorney for Plaintiff:
Christopher B. Conley (51651)
Eck, Conley & Richardson, PLLC
700 South 21st Street, Fort Smith, AR 72901
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DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO
Court Address: 109 Harman Park Drive
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Tel. 970.264.8160
Peregrine Property Owners Association, Inc.
Plaintiff
v.
Defendants
James M Kaufmann, et al.
Case No.: 2025CV30007
Attorney for Plaintiff:
Christopher B. Conley (51651)
Eck, Conley & Richardson, PLLC
700 South 21st Street, Fort Smith, AR 72901
Tel. 479.242.5906
Email: ir@ecrlegal.com

**SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION
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TO THE FOLLOWING DEFENDANT(S) :** James M Kaufmann, Norma K Kaufmann, Dennis M Paterson, James H Caid, Trustee of the James and Donna Caid Revocable Trust, dated January 23, 1996, Donna J Caid, Trustee of the James and Donna Caid Revocable Trust, dated January 23, 1996, James B Wiley, Jr., Surviving Joint Tenant with Right of Survivorship of Sharon D Wiley, deceased, Geneva Robinson, Surviving Joint Tenant with Right of Survivorship of C George Robinson, deceased, Clifford Maggie, Arlan Robert Greening, G Owen Clark, Surviving Joint Tenant with Right of Survivorship of Maria L Clark, deceased, Charles S Watts, Jane Jaramillo, Meyler R Anderson, Joyce M McCullough, Isabel M Pacheco, Surviving Joint Tenant with Right of Survivorship of H Paul Pacheco, deceased, Sandra E Kennedy, Surviving Joint Tenant with Rights of Survivorship of Jess Scott Kennedy, deceased, Frank Grandinetti, Kristina Anne Larson, Willard A Dunn, Billy H Thompson, Warren W McCane, Maxine V McCane, Donald G Bomer, Lucille Marie Alken, Mark Ketterman Brockett, Tara Christina Brockett Jones, Rex L Hickman, Patricia C Ewen, William E Ewen, Aditha Cher Taylor, Jack J Taylor III, Edwin L Putnam, The Terry J Lutz Living Trust dated January 10, 2012, and any Amendments Thereto
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/s/ Christopher B. Conley
Christopher B. Conley
Published May 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29, 2025 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*, (263225)
v.
Defendants
James R Vines, et al.
Case No.: 2025CV30009
Attorney for Plaintiff:
Christopher B. Conley (51651)
Eck, Conley & Richardson, PLLC
700 South 21st Street, Fort Smith, AR 72901
Tel. 479.242.5906
Email: ir@ecrlegal.com

**SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION
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/s/ Christopher B. Conley
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v.
Defendants
James R Vines, et al.
Case No.: 2025CV30009
Attorney for Plaintiff:
Christopher B. Conley (51651)
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700 South 21st Street, Fort Smith, AR 72901
Tel. 479.242.5906
Email: ir@ecrlegal.com

DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO
Court Address: 109 Harman Park Drive
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Tel. 970.264.8160
Peregrine Property Owners Association, Inc.
Plaintiff
v.
Defendants
James R Vines, et al.
Case No.: 2025CV30009
Attorney for Plaintiff:
Christopher B. Conley (51651)
Eck, Conley & Richardson, PLLC
700 South 21st Street, Fort Smith, AR 72901
Tel. 479.242.5906
Email: ir@ecrlegal.com

**SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION
TO THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO
TO THE FOLLOWING DEFENDANT(S) :** James R Vines, Sharon L Stockton, John Anthony Ciani, Jr., Loretta E Gilbreath, Surviving Joint Tenant with Right of Survivorship of Norman L Gilbreath, deceased, Kimberly Eileen Vaughan Cornelius, Gloria C Burton, Barbara Overbey, Judith Hahn, Robert Hahn, Pearl D Means, Norma Sampson, Patricia Sampson, Donna Maschmeyer, Robert Maschmeyer, Kevin L Kirk, Michael H Valencia, Rebecca T Valencia, James G Mook, Velma C Hickman, Vikki Morris, Toni M Hurt, Alonzo Hurt, Mary A Wilk, D Virgil Willett, Jr., D V Willett, Jr., Stephanie Sue Johnson, Mary B Lloyd, Surviving Joint Tenant with Right of Survivorship of P B Lloyd, deceased, Joyce A Bolyard, Lena F Shook, Gordon J Benesh, La Rue Benesh, Judith A Nottrott, Sue E Montoya
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v.
Defendants
James R Vines, et al.
Case No.: 2025CV30007
Attorney for Plaintiff:
Christopher B. Conley (51651)
Eck, Conley & Richardson, PLLC
700 South 21st Street, Fort Smith, AR 72901
Tel. 479.242.5906
Email: ir@ecrlegal.com

DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO
Court Address: 109 Harman Park Drive
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Tel. 970.264.8160
Peregrine Property Owners Association, Inc.
Plaintiff
v.
Defendants
James R Vines, et al.
Case No.: 2025CV30007
Attorney for Plaintiff:
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700 South 21st Street, Fort Smith, AR 72901
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/s/ Christopher B. Conley
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v.
Defendants
James R Vines, et al.
Case No.: 2025CV30008
Attorney for Plaintiff:
Christopher B. Conley (51651)
Eck, Conley & Richardson, PLLC
700 South 21st Street, Fort Smith, AR 72901
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Attorney for Plaintiff:
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700 South 21st Street, Fort Smith, AR 72901
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/s/ Christopher B. Conley
Christopher B. Conley
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v.
Defendants
James R Vines, et al.
Case No.: 2025CV30011
Attorney for Plaintiff:
Christopher B. Conley (51651)
Eck, Conley & Richardson, PLLC
700 South 21st Street, Fort Smith, AR 72901
Tel. 479.242.5906
Email: ir@ecrlegal.com

**SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION
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TO THE FOLLOWING DEFENDANT(S) :** Kalanie McIntosh, Surviving Joint Tenant with Right of Survivorship of Steven E McIntosh, deceased, Marolyn R Wood, Trustee of the Marolyn R Wood and Donald Wood Revocable Living Trust, dated December 16, 1996, P. Carol Kyle-Cooper, Surviving Joint Tenant with Right of Survivorship of John H Cooper, deceased, James E Bradley, Judith A Bradley, John Andrew Dewett, Oliver Harlow, Zona Harlow, Jessica Cantu Garza, Marie A Garcia-Cravens, James Johnson, Paula Johnson
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Christopher B. Conley
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v.
Defendants
James R Vines, et al.
Case No.: 2025CV30011
Attorney for Plaintiff:
Christopher B. Conley (51651)
Eck, Conley & Richardson, PLLC
700 South 21st Street, Fort Smith, AR 72901
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v.
Defendants
James R Vines, et al.
Case No.: 2025CV30008
Attorney for Plaintiff:
Christopher B. Conley (51651)
Eck, Conley & Richardson, PLLC
700 South 21st Street, Fort Smith, AR 72901
Tel. 479.242.5906
Email: ir@ecrlegal.com

KNOWN INTERESTED PARTY NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A PUBLIC AUCTION OF A CERTIFICATE OF OPTION FOR TREASURER'S DEED
Tax Lien Sale Certificate No. 2021-05336
Schedule/Account No. R007285
Treasurer's Deed No. 2025-001
To Every Person in Actual Possession or Occupancy of the hereinafter Described Land, Lot or Premises, and

to the Person in Whose Name the Same was Taxed or Specially Assessed, and to all Persons having an Interest or Title of Record in or to the said Premises and To Whom It May Concern, and more especially to:
R. SAM TORN
P.O. BOX 64200990
SIOUX FALLS SD 57186
SUSAN B. TORN
P O BOX 64200990
SIOUX FALLS SD 57186
You and each of you are hereby notified that on the 4th day of November 2021 the then County Treasurer of the County of Archuleta, in the State of Colorado, sold at public tax lien sale to LAURENE LARSEN the following described real estate situate in the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado, to wit:
Legal Description: PAGOSA IN THE PINES
Block: 11 Lot: 59 PIP Sec: 16 Twn: 35 Rng: 2W
and said County Treasurer issued a certificate of purchase therefore to LAURENE LARSEN.
That said tax lien sale was made to satisfy the delinquent taxes assessed against said real estate for the year 2020. That said real estate was taxed or specially assessed in the name(s) of R SAM TORN & SUSAN B TORN.
That said LAURENE LARSEN on the 16th day of April 2025 the present holder of said certificate, has made request upon the Treasurer of said County by presenting an Application for a Public Auction of a Certificate of Option for Treasurer's Deed pursuant to



Photo courtesy Jessica Carr

Lady Pirate Sienna Rose wins the 400-meter dash at the 55-team Friday Night Lights meet in Pueblo on May 9. Rose is one of 11 Pirates competing at this week’s state meet in Lakewood.

BASEBALL

Pirates draw season to a close

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School baseball team finished the regular season this week with a 9-9 record, ranked as the No. 32 team in Colorado 3A baseball.

But, when the 32-team regional playoff brackets were released Wednesday morning, the Pirates were not listed, with the final playoff spot going to the team ranked 33rd in the Seeding Index.

That team, Lincoln, holds a 16-7 record on the season.

“I’m very disappointed in not the boys, absolutely, and not our year, but the way the season progressed with limited games and opportunities to be able to build that record up to where it wouldn’t come down to a decision like that, because this is a very good team this year and they deserve better,” coach Ben Garcia said.

The Pirates had five games canceled early in the season that they were unable to make up, leaving the team with fewer games than many in the state.

“You’ve got to give yourself a chance,” he said, adding losing five games and bouncing around trying to figure out games “takes its toll.”

Garcia noted he called about 15 schools trying arrange games to allow the Pirates to play before the regular season ended and have a better chance of moving up in the index and making the playoffs.

“I’m just really disappointed in how things finished for us on a lot

of levels,” he said, adding that’s how sports are. “Baseball can be very humbling.”

Despite the team not advancing to the postseason, Garcia highlighted several aspects of the team’s play over the course of the season.

Cooper Ralston, he noted, had a really, really good season from a pitching standpoint, even logging a perfect game.

Ralston ended the season with a 1.56 ERA and 71 strikeouts over 40.1 innings. He tallied five wins.

“That’s a huge highlight,” he said.

Garcia also stated that he thinks Chris Young-Martinez had the best year of his career in terms of hitting and on-base percentage, as well as other areas.

“He continued to excel ... at baseball,” Garcia said.

Kyler Henderson also did a lot of good things hitting-wise on the season, the coach added.

Garcia further highlighted that Taylor Wells played a lot of different positions for the team and played them “very, very well.”

“And that’s a freshman. That, I think, speaks volumes for what kind of year he’s had,” he said, adding Wells is a pleasure to coach. “He’s a coach’s dream because he loves to work. He’ll be there at every practice. He’ll stay late, come early, whatever it takes. And that’s the kind of ball players you want to build with.”

Garcia noted there was a lot the team was unable to do with catching this season due to injuries and other factors, but that there’s hope for the

future.

“Catching is such a critical position that ... we definitely for years to come need to build that position, and we knew that going into the season,” he said, adding the team was hoping someone would stand out.

That happened, Garcia said, indicating there were multiple Pirates who took on the role at the JV level and “did a great job,” but that they weren’t yet ready for the varsity level consistently.

The coach indicated he’s excited about the team’s future after seeing the progress made this season.

Garcia added he’s really pleased with the progression of the Pirates who swung between JV and varsity.

“The growth in them ... was amazing to see, it really was,” he said, adding if those players could progress that much in a short period of time, there’s opportunity for them to progress further over the course of the off-season if they play over the summer.

Garcia acknowledged, however, that the team will have a “big hole to fill” when it comes to pitching since the team’s main pitchers — Ralston, Young-Martinez and Charles Washburn — are all seniors who are departing the team.

But, while the team’s youth means holes to fill moving forward, Garcia noted the team’s youthfulness is exciting.

“They really love to work,” he said of the team’s younger players. “They love coming to practice. They loved gettin’ better and just havin’ fun, and that’s really what I’m looking for

because I think that group’s gonna be good for some years to come.”

In addition to Ralston, Young-Martinez and Washburn, the Pirates will also lose Henderson and Sean Ryan to graduation.

“I think all of them are gifted, I really do,” Garcia said of the seniors, noting they each have a lot of the qualities needed to be a college player.

“I wish them tons of success, not only in baseball, but in life,” the coach said.

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Track

■ Continued from A11

Jonathan Baker finished 33rd in the 200. Gavin Carter finished 44th with a time of 24.94 seconds.

Jones finished 12th in the 110-meter hurdles with a time of 17.05 seconds, and Tristan Frame finished 25th in 19.52 seconds.

Jones took ninth in the 300-meter hurdles with a time of 43.39 seconds. Frame finished 42nd in 49.26 seconds.

The 4x100 relay team ran a time of 44.72 seconds to finish ninth, and the 4x200 relay team ran a time of 1:33.25 to finish 11th.

Dozier logged a new personal record (PR) in the high jump with a

height of 6-4.5.

“It has been a while since he got a PR in high jump so it’s nice to see it happening before the state meet,” O’Donnell wrote.

Jones finished 12th in the high jump with a height of 5-8.5.

Jaxten Schiel finished seventh in the long jump with a distance of 20-2.5.

Dozier took sixth in the triple jump with a distance of 42-0.5. Jones notched 13th with a distance of 39-6. Schiel finished 15th with a result of 39-2.

In discus, Emile Schneider finished 32nd with a throw of 106-4.

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Soccer

■ Continued from A12

a senior leadership role while looking to “just keep building off the foundation we’ve set.”

He explained that players on the junior varsity team this year put in “fantastic efforts,” which he hopes will carry over to the varsity level.

Gian also noted that he does not have a ton of expectations specifically on wins and losses, “but just progressing as a program.”

Informative.

The Pagosa Springs SUN
970-264-2100

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PIRATES
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and play hard.

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Pottery and Jewelry - Metal Art
Gems/Minerals - Woodworks - Tie Dye clothing
Fresh Seasonings - Baked Goods
Blown Glass Art - Guatemalan Imports

Visit our Food Court
and dine in our shady picnic area!
Lonchera Don Jose - Authentic Mexican Cuisine
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The Pagosa Paddle whitewater races featured watercraft of many types navigating the San Juan River May 9 and 10. Boaters took to the water for sprints, slalom and head-to-head races, all to raise funds for the Friends of the Upper San Juan River.

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Madeline Sutton
msutton@archuletacounty.org

This is Your Watershed: Upper San Juan River Film Series

Tuesday, May 20
5:30 - 8:30pm
Pagosa Lodge
3505 W U.S. Hwy 160

The San Juan Water Conservancy District (SJWCD) invites the community to join us for a short 3-part film series that explores the elements of water and fire, and our relationship with them. The series features the premiere of the third film, produced by local filmmaker Christi Bode.

Engage in thoughtful conversation about the places that shape our home. Invite your neighbor. Bring a friend.

Free admission.
A cash bar and heavy hors d'oeuvres will be offered.

Learn more at
www.sjwcd.org

2nd Chance Prom

May 17 • 7-10 p.m.
Theme: Denim & Diamonds
a Pagosa Community Initiative fundraiser

Join us for a great opportunity to dance and celebrate prom with other community members and come together to support PCI.

The Pagosa Community Initiative aims to create opportunities that honor culture and diversity and provide services that increase wellness and provide a better quality of life.

We serve our community by providing out-of-school opportunities for students K-12, family advocacy and support services, adult education, and community building opportunities.

In 2024, we served approximately 600 family members through family development programming including parent education, financial education, mental health resource connection and education towards stability as a family and community member.

Scan the QR Code to buy tickets or make a donation

**YOUR CO-OP
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**11:30 AM - 1:30 PM in the
Truck Barn at LPEA in Durango**

FOR EVENT INFORMATION & RSVP VISIT:
lpea.coop/annual-meeting

preview

ARTS & LIFE

Second Chance Prom

7-10 p.m. • Friday, May 17 • Ross Aragon Community Center



Photo courtesy Kelly Lewis

May 15, 2025

Dance with a purpose at third annual Second Chance Prom

By Carrie Blue-White
Pagosa Community Initiative

Get ready for a night of sparkle, dancing, and meaningful impact at the third annual Second Chance Prom, hosted by the Pagosa Community Initiative (PCI) on Friday, May 17, from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Ross Aragon Community Center.

This year’s fabulous theme, Denim and Diamonds, invites guests to mix rugged with refined — whether you show up in rhinestone-studded jeans, cowboy boots or your flashiest sequins, you’re dressed for fun.

This event has quickly become a local favorite, not only for its lively energy and nostalgic charm, but also for the real change it helps create in our community. The Second Chance Prom is more than just a fun night out — it’s a fundraiser that directly supports PCI’s vital programs serving youth and families in Archuleta County.

New theme, same mission

In past years, Second Chance Prom has leaned into decade themes — the first year was all about the ‘90s, and last year we took it back to the ‘80s. This year, we’re switching things up and having some fun branching out from the decades with a theme that lets everyone shine in their own way. Denim and Diamonds brings together the best of casual cool and all-out glam, so come as you are or dress to dazzle.

Why it matters

PCI is a local nonprofit dedicated to creating accessible programs that support at-risk and underserved youth and families. Through after-school programs, the Get Wild Child summer camp and a Family Resource Center, PCI builds safe, enriching spaces that promote academic success, social-emotional growth, wellness and community connection.

In a rural area where many families face economic and

social challenges, PCI’s work helps remove barriers and provide tools for lasting change.

Proceeds from the Second Chance Prom help sustain these programs, support scholarships, and strengthen the organization’s ability to reach those who need it most.

“Every dollar raised helps a local child or family access resources that empower them,” states the PCI team. “This event is all about joy — joy in dancing, in giving, and in being part of something bigger than ourselves.”

What to expect

The Second Chance Prom is open to adults 21 and over. Whether you’re reliving prom night, making up for one you missed or just looking for a fun evening out, everyone is welcome.

This year’s event includes:

- A live DJ spinning dance hits all night.
- A silent auction featuring unique goods and experiences from local businesses.
- Free appetizers and snacks to keep you fueled on the dance floor.
- A cash bar for guests 21 and older.
- Shuttle service available by reservation — ride in style and ease.
- A joyful, inclusive environment where everyone belongs.

Tickets and details


Tickets and reserved tables are available now and will also be sold at the door.

Bring a group or come solo—there’s a seat (and a dance floor) for everyone.


The theme is Denim and Diamonds — embrace your inner glam cowboy or glitter queen.

Shuttle reservations are encouraged ahead of time.

■ See Prom on next page



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www.esmpagosa.com

Live Performers

Thursday	The Pagosa Bar: Karaoke, 7:30 p.m.
Friday	The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Ron and Susan, 5 p.m.
Saturday	The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Maxwell Miller, 5 p.m.
Tuesday	The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Ron Lowe, 5 p.m.



2nd Chance Prom

May 17 • 7-10 p.m.


Theme: Denim & Diamonds
a Pagosa Community Initiative fundraiser

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Scan the QR Code
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Ruby Sisson Library to present virtual reality films voiced by Holocaust survivors

By Judy Brennen and Taylor Worsham
Ruby Sisson M. Memorial Library

Journey with courageous Holocaust survivors on an immersive “walk” into their hometowns and World War II concentration camps. Through the Illinois Holocaust Museum’s generous loan, participants can attend the library’s upcoming film events through virtual reality headsets.

The five available films are based on true experiences in the concentration camps Auschwitz, Mathausen and Ebensee. The films also take viewers on journeys across Northern Europe to evade Nazis, and one survivor’s experience fleeing Germany to Shanghai, China, which was one of the only open countries for European Jews during the Holocaust. For full film descriptions and detailed viewing hours, please visit pagosalibrary.org.

Participants may watch one film, which are on average 17 minutes long, or view all five films that run approximately 83 minutes.

Library staff and volunteers will help participants set up the headsets, and participants are encouraged to be prepared for any emotional responses and to make self-care a priority before and after viewing.

View the virtual reality films at the Ruby Sisson Library, 811 San Juan St., between May 27 and June 6. Film showing times will vary and no registration is required to attend. Call ahead to (970) 264-2209 with questions or email library@pagosalibrary.org

coordinator Judy Brennen at judy@pagosalibrary.org.

These virtual reality films are part of a traveling trunk show that has been loaned to the Ruby Sisson Library from the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center. This museum’s aim is to “foster dialogue that respects and honors diverse perspectives, encouraging individuals of all political and social

perspectives to engage with history to better understand today’s realities.” It promotes “empathy, respect, and collective humanity as we navigate these turbulent waters.”

By bringing this first-in-the-world virtual reality exhibition to Pagosa Springs, the Ruby Sisson Library continues to provide access to informative and enriching experiences to our community.



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Prom

■ continued from previous page
Don't miss it

Whether you're a longtime supporter of PCI or brand new to the party, the Second Chance Prom promises an unforgettable night of music, connection and impact. Celebrate with us, dance with purpose and support the programs that uplift our youth and families all year long.

For tickets, shuttle reservations, and more info, visit www.pagosa-communityinitiative.org or follow Pagosa Community Initiative on social media for updates and sneak peeks.

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Photo courtesy Pagosa Springs High School

The Americana Project class will perform its “Final Exam” concert at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, May 20. The show is free and will be held at the Tennyson Sculpture Park and Gardens. In case of rain, it will be moved to the Pagosa Springs High School auditorium.

High school advanced art students to present curated exhibition exploring personal narratives

By Kelly Lewis

Pagosa Springs High School

The advanced art students at Pagosa Springs High School cordially invite the community to an exclusive art exhibition on Thursday, May 15, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. at the Ross Aragon Community Center, located at 451

Hot Springs Blvd.

This one-night-only event will showcase the work of eight dedicated student artists who have each curated a collection that communicates messages deeply meaningful to them.

Through various mediums — including painting, sculpture, mixed media and ceramics — these young

artists express personal narratives, reflections, and perspectives, offering attendees a unique glimpse into their creative journeys.

Guests will enjoy complimentary light snacks and refreshments while engaging with the artwork. Admission is free, and all members of the public are welcome to attend.

Memorial Day car wash to raise funds for Pirate athletes

By Christine Jones

Pagosa Springs Booster Club

This Memorial Day, swing through Cowboy Car Wash (uptown location) and wash off Pagosa Springs’ spring mud — because every single dollar is going straight to the Pagosa Springs Booster Club and our hardworking Pirate track and field team. Yep, 100

percent of the proceeds.

So, while the suds are doing their job, you’ll be doing yours — supporting local kids who are chasing big goals. Call all your friends, grab your truck, and let’s show up for our athletes.

Behind every winning season and memory-making game, there’s a crew of dedicated volunteers — the Booster Club — quietly showing up to

make it all happen. These folks pour time, heart and hustle into helping our Pirates succeed, both on and off the field. From early morning meets to late-night cleanups, they’re in it because they believe in our kids.

So, go get that car wash, cheer a little louder and know that you’re part of the reason sports stay special around here.

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Unitarian Universalists to hear about ‘Mystics on the Front Lines: Integrating Spiritual Perspectives and Resources into Social Activism’

By De Anna Hoyle
Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

“Mystics on the Front Lines: Integrating Spiritual Perspectives and Resources into Social Activism” is this week’s topic, Sunday, May 18, at the Pagosa Unitarian Universalist (UU) Fellowship.

The Revs. Janess and David Sheets will describe some of these spiritual principles and show how they apply to our approach to social activism.

The Sheets are ordained ministers of the Sufi Universal Worship, spiritual retreat guides and senior teachers in the Inayatiyya, a Sufi path of spiritual liberty. They studied with renowned Sufi master Pir Vilayat Inayat Khan for more than 30 years and continue to serve in many local, national and international roles in the Inayatiyya. Now retired from careers in Texas child protective services, they live in Pagosa Springs, where they guide meditation retreats and enjoy being in the mountains, traveling, and spending time with family and friends.

The following is what they say about the upcoming service.

Today across the globe, millions of people are suffering from wars of aggression and genocide, oppression of freedom and human rights by autocratic regimes, migration of peoples whose lives are at risk in their home

countries, and mass extinctions of plant and wildlife populations due to climate change. These tragic events overwhelm us with shock, sorrow and outrage, and call us to take action for change.

How we engage existing power structures to achieve change — our attitudes, methods, goals, and even our thoughts and emotions — makes all the difference for the impact and effectiveness of our activism. Reacting to unjust and intolerable conditions with anger, divisiveness and animosity toward those in power often adds fuel to the fire and contributes little to lasting, positive change.

Studying spiritual principles, such as unity of all beings, interconnectedness, acting from wholeness and disarming hatred with love, and then integrating them into our social activism, enables us to be aware of the inner and outer dynamics of lasting change and to engage them consciously, compassionately and courageously.

All are invited to explore with us as we offer diverse topics with curious minds and open hearts.

You can find us at Unit B-15 of the Greenbriar Plaza, 301 N. Pagosa Blvd., on the north side facing the Pagosa Peak. We also offer Zoom services the first and third Sundays of the month. Find our current newsletter at PagosaUU.org for the link to join, and to find our current

programs.

A shortened meditation practice is held each Sunday at 9 a.m. All are welcome to share in this weekly practice.

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Photo courtesy Justin Treptow

Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County is now accepting applications for its 2026 homeownership program.

Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County opens 2026 homeownership applications

By Leah Ballard
Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County

Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County is now accepting applications for its 2026 homeownership program. Applications will be accepted through June 30, offering local individuals and families the opportunity to build and purchase an affordable home in partnership with Habitat. Prospective homeowners must earn no more than 80 percent of the area median income (AMI), as determined by the 2025 guidelines from the Colorado Housing and Finance Authority (CHFA) that were recently released. For example, a family of four may earn up to \$81,600 and remain eligible to apply. Income minimums vary depending on an applicant's debt-to-income ratio, which will be reviewed individually. Habitat Archuleta often partners with families earning just 60 percent of AMI. Habitat Archuleta staff will review applications this spring and conduct one-on-one meetings with applicants in July and August to walk them through the process and assess eligibility, including potential qualification for a USDA Rural Development 502 Direct Loan — a program that often features more favorable interest rates than conventional mortgage loans. "Habitat for Humanity offers a unique path to homeownership," said Executive Director Leah Ballard. "Our homes are sold at appraised value, but with a mortgage structure

our local workforce can afford." The 2026 builds mark the final phase of Habitat Archuleta's ambitious "15 Homes in 5 Years" campaign, with four new homes planned for the Chris Mountain Village and Trails subdivisions within the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association. These modular homes will be equipped with rooftop solar panels, targeting net-zero energy use. Habitat Archuleta's homes are deed-restricted to ensure long-term affordability and safeguard community investment. Construction is powered by a blend of volunteer labor, skilled subcontractors, in-kind donations and the sweat equity of future homeowners who actively participate in building their homes. Homeownership applications are available:

- In person at the Habitat office, located above TBK Bank in downtown Pagosa Springs.
- On the bulletin board outside the office.
- Online at habitatarchuleta.org.
- By email request to home@habitatarchuleta.org.

Starting in June, volunteer build days will run Tuesday through Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Interested volunteers are encouraged to reach out in advance by calling (970) 264-6960 or emailing volunteer@habitatarchuleta.org. For more information about the homeownership application process or how to get involved, visit habitatarchuleta.org.

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National Historic Preservation Month: Why we tell our stories (even the smelly ones)

Pagosa Springs Main Street Heritage and Culture Committee

Daisy Opdyke was 15 in 1881 — that’s 144 years ago. She grew up in Pagosa Springs, just across from where Subway is now. I bet she never imagined there would one day be a sandwich shop, a stoplight or construction right outside her front door.

If you have a minute, check out one of her stories from long ago:

“A young man came to town and boarded with my mother; he had a little gun he carried around, always looking for something to shoot. One evening he came in and said he saw a cat in the wood pile and would we care if he killed it? I asked what it looked like and he said it was black and white and had a big bushy tail. I said: ‘No we don’t want it. Go and Kill it!’ So he got up rather close and shot, and he sure got the benefit of that shooting. at that same time there was a preacher in town who wanted everybody to come to the shool house that night, and of course this fellow went. He would set down by someone and the person would move. he would look around and see that he was alone; then he would get up and sit down by someone else. They preacher was talking and the people were moving around. I think the preacher wanted to get out too.”

I’m guessing you knew exactly what was coming when you read “black and white cat with a big bushy tail.” Most of us learn to be cautious around those deceptively cute little skunks that call this place home — usually through the unfortunate

experience of someone else.

This story, small and silly as it is, has lasted for generations. It’s not about a famous person or a major event. It’s just a simple, relatable moment, and that’s exactly why it matters.

These are the kinds of stories that connect us through time. They remind us that people in the past weren’t so different from us.

And that’s the real heart of historic preservation.

It’s not just about saving old buildings or collecting dusty photos. It’s about holding on to the stories that make a place feel like home. And it’s about making sure the next generation understands that they’re part of this story, too.

So, how do we help kids see history as something they belong to?

Here are a few fun ways to get them curious:

- Take a walk through history. The free Visit Pagosa app has an audio walking tour with 16 stops around downtown. It’s like a time machine in your pocket.
- Ask about family stories. Where did grandparents go to school? What did your neighborhood look like 30 years ago? Sharing memories makes history personal.
- Visit the Pagosa Springs History Museum. Reopening Memorial Day weekend, the museum is full of artifacts and local treasures that show what everyday life used to look like.
- Interview a neighbor. Ask an older resident what downtown was like when they were a kid. You’d be surprised what a chat over lemonade

can reveal.

- Snap some photos. Give kids a camera and ask them to capture buildings or places they think are worth saving. Ask them why. You’ll love their answers.
- Write it down. Whether it’s a poem about Reservoir Hill, a sketch of their favorite trail or a short story about growing up here, encourage kids to put their love for Pagosa into words or art.
- And, most importantly, let them know their stories matter.

The smelly ones, the silly ones, the ones about where they got their first bike or who they saw at the Fourth of July parade — they all add up. Because someday, someone will want to know what it was like to grow up here “way back when.”

If your family does any of these activities, the Pagosa Springs Main Street Heritage and Culture Committee would love to hear about it. We’re collecting local stories, photos and kid-led projects that help preserve Pagosa’s unique past. Email Main Street Coordinator Kathleen McFadden at Kat@PagosaSpringsCDC.org or call (970) 264-3023 to share your piece of the story.

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Memorial Day Fundraiser Cowboy Car Wash

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Mental Health Awareness Month: Why our community should care

By **Marissa Marquez**
Rise Above Violence

Every May, communities across the United States observe Mental Health Awareness Month, a time dedicated to raising awareness, breaking stigma and encouraging open conversations around mental health.

Started in 1949 by Mental Health America, this month-long campaign has grown into a national movement that shines a spotlight on the importance of mental well-being — and why it’s something we all need to care about.

Why mental health matters

Mental health affects every aspect of our lives: how we think, feel, relate to others and manage daily stress. According to the National Institute of Mental Health, nearly 1 in 5 adults in the U.S. lives with a mental illness.

That means mental health challenges — ranging from anxiety and depression to more serious conditions like bipolar disorder or post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) — are more common than many realize.

Despite these numbers, stigma and misunderstanding still keep too many people from seeking help. Mental Health Awareness Month serves as a vital reminder that mental health is just as important as physical health — and that no one should suffer in silence.

Certain groups face especially high levels of mental health stress, and they need our attention.

- **Youth:** Mental health issues often begin early. According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, more than 1 in 3 high school students reported experienc-

ing persistent feelings of sadness or hopelessness in 2021, a significant increase from previous years. Suicide is now the second leading cause of death among people ages 10–14 and 15–24.

- **First responders:** The men and women who serve as police officers, firefighters, EMTs and paramedics face constant exposure to trauma. Studies show that first responders experience PTSD and depression at rates nearly five times higher than the general population.

According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, up to 30 percent of first responders develop behavioral health conditions, including depression and PTSD, compared to 20 percent in the general population. Tragically, more first responders die by suicide than in the line of duty in some years.

The role of the community

Community support plays a critical role in improving mental health outcomes.

Here’s why it matters:

1. **Reducing stigma:** When neighbors, schools, workplaces and religious organizations openly talk about mental health, it becomes easier for individuals to ask for help. Open dialogue can normalize the experience of struggling and seeking support.
2. **Building stronger connections:** When people feel supported, they’re more likely to stay connected, productive and resilient. Mental wellness strengthens families, schools and neighborhoods.
3. **Preventing crises:** Early intervention can prevent many mental health issues from becoming crises. Community members who are trained in mental health first aid or who simply know the signs of distress can make a life-saving difference.

How you can get involved

Come to the annual Mental Health Awareness Walk on May 17 in Town Park.

Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m. and the walk will begin at 10 a.m.

Community organizations are partnering up with Youth Rise to break the stigma around mental health. We want everyone in our community to feel supported and know that they matter.

Mental health is not just a personal issue; it’s a community one. When we come together to support mental well-being, we create a society that values empathy, resilience and connection.

This May, let’s not only raise awareness but also take action, because mental health matters to all of us. P.S. It’s OK.



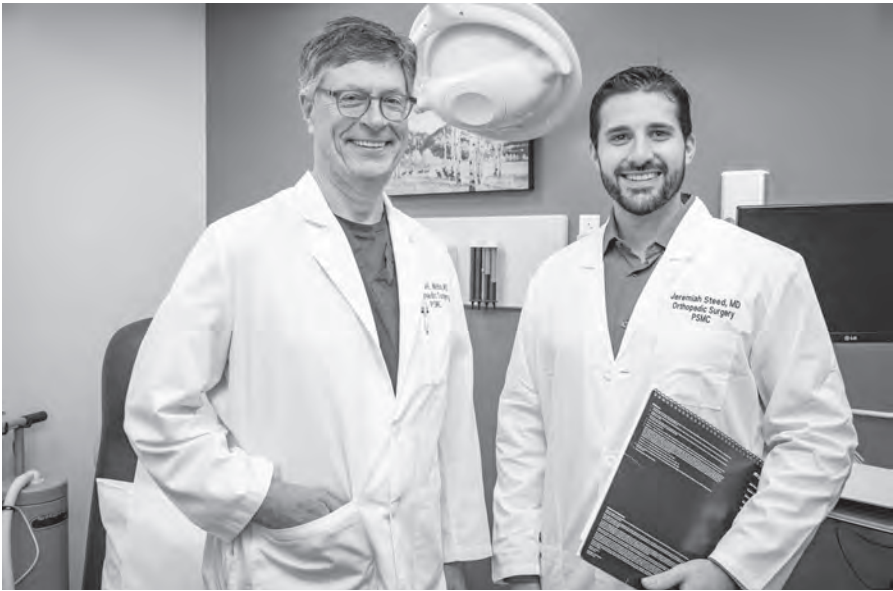
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Photo courtesy Healthy Archuleta

On May 9, Healthy Archuleta and Stacey Foss hosted the first session in a two-part motivational interviewing training.

Healthy Archuleta, Stacey Foss host motivational interviewing training

Healthy Archuleta

The month of May marks Mental Health Awareness Month. Healthy Archuleta is committed to increasing access to mental and behavioral health care services in Archuleta County and local workforce development.

As part of this process, Healthy Archuleta partnered with Stacey Foss, counselor, to host a two-part motivational interviewing training.

Participants included representatives from different health, education and human service agencies around Archuleta County.

Motivational interviewing is a counseling method described as an “evidence based, person centered method for fostering change and growth.”

A motivational interviewing approach helps people explore the ambivalence and challenges they are

facing in making positive behavior changes. This therapy method can be applied within a wide range of helping professions, including the field of mental and behavioral health.

On May 9, participants learned about motivational interviewing and how to incorporate it into their work with agencies.

Foss introduced the training goals and what participants could expect from next month’s session. Everyone introduced themselves and their job positions, and shared their familiarity with motivational interviewing and its benefits.

Foss discussed the five stages of change: pre-contemplation, contemplation, preparation, action and maintenance. Participants identified characteristics of each stage and its appearance in individuals. They also practiced rephrasing questions into open-ended ones, a key aspect of using

the motivational interviewing method.

Motivational interviewing is a style that is person-centered. It is built on the belief that everyone and anyone is capable of making a lasting positive behavioral change in their life.

Everyone at this training will have the opportunity to use this skill in the work they do and, hopefully, in turn, will have a positive impact on the community members they serve.

The second motivational interviewing training session that is a part of this series will take place early next month, and participants will have the opportunity to have one-on-one practice with each other and keep learning how to build on change talk.

Stay tuned to hear more. To learn more about the efforts of Healthy Archuleta, please visit our website at www.foodcoalition4archuleta.org or send us an email at fsfearchuleta@gmail.com.

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Hill Top Cemetery Spring Clean-Up

May 19 - June 2, 2025

The spring cemetery clean-up is scheduled for May 19th through June 2nd. Town staff will be at the cemetery raking pine needles, removing broken, spent, and faded decorations from plots, mowing, and weed-trimming.

The Town welcomes all groups or individuals who wish to help with the spring clean-up efforts. Place your cemetery trash and debris at the nearest roadside ditch for pickup. Trash bags are available at the Town’s Maintenance Facility at 550 Pirate Drive.

Questions can be directed to
Public Works
at (970) 264-4151 x400.

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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:

- May 21, 6 p.m.: Tarot class. Sign up by calling (970) 264-7474.
- May 23, 6 p.m.: Southwest Cow-girl Burlesque Dance Playshop with Sassafras. Come celebrate with healthy refreshments, giveaways and more.
- June 6, 7 p.m.: Illuminations.
- June 7: Sacred Water Medicine Wheel Blessing Ceremony with Maggie Red Eagle and Shayla White Eagle.
- June 10: Healing 101 Class with Shayla Azriel. A six-week series on energy work, spirit work, blessings and more. Call (970) 510-0309 for more information.

About us
The SpiritFire Inspirational Liv-

ing 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.

Spiritual Experiences Group to continue spiritual IQ series Sunday

By Laurah Brock Young
Spiritual Experiences Group of Pagosa Springs

Are you ready to become a more joyful you? There are many ways to become a happier, more loving, more aware being. Let's chat about how you create a spiritually rich, more joyful life. What does the joy of living mean to you? How do you create and maintain it? How do you get back on track when faced with challenges? A solution exists for every challenge to our peace of mind. There is always a way, somehow. What can hold us back is our lack of faith in the Divine. It can address our most humble needs. Join the Spiritual Experiences Group of Pagosa Springs to chat about "The Joy of Living - Raise Your Spiritual IQ!" We will meet Sunday, May 18, at

the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave., at 1 p.m. 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-springs-spiritual-experiences-group/>. To learn more about Eckankar, visit www.eckankar.org or www.eckankar-colorado.org/.

Community news.

The Pagosa Springs SUN 264-2100

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The Weekly Crossword by Margie E. Burke

- ACROSS
- 1 Wilson or Moreno
 - 5 Flat floater
 - 9 Nether world
 - 14 Sign of trouble
 - 15 ___ Minor
 - 16 Alpha's opposite
 - 17 Deep thinkers
 - 19 From around here
 - 20 Home for many hippies
 - 21 Assassinated SF mayor
 - 23 Information analyzer
 - 25 Upturned mug?
 - 28 Beginning from
 - 29 TV spots
 - 32 Whetstone's purpose
 - 34 Water pill
 - 36 Right-hand man
 - 37 Speeder's bane
 - 39 "___ Las Vegas"
 - 40 Brody's "King Kong" role
 - 42 Trade ship of old
 - 44 Triumphant cry
 - 45 Game-box insert
 - 47 Fine-grained abrasive
 - 48 Narrow escape
 - 51 Bookstore shopper
 - 53 Evens the score
 - 57 Prophetic signs
 - 58 Walter's running mate in 1984
 - 60 Feudal superior
 - 61 Wrinkle remover
 - 62 One of the Great Lakes
 - 63 Mink's cousin
 - 64 Pessimist's word
 - 65 Lays down the lawn

- DOWN
- 1 Campus military org.

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51	52							53				54	55	56
57						58	59							
60						61					62			
63						64					65			

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- 2 "If you ask me," online
- 3 Abound
- 4 Odd occurrences
- 5 Claude of old movies
- 6 Ledger column
- 7 Tailor's concern
- 8 Island state of Australia
- 9 Piece keeper?
- 10 Fuel brand with a torch logo
- 11 Ornamental
- 12 "The Candy House" novelist Jennifer
- 13 Store sign
- 18 Blades of song and film
- 22 Happens
- 24 Funny little teasers
- 25 Less than legit
- 26 Watered silk
- 27 Cary Grant film with Ingrid Bergman
- 30 Treasure hunter, perhaps
- 31 Like Poe tales
- 33 Pheasant cousin
- 35 "Hitch" actress
- 38 Kind of reaction
- 41 Double-____ (rat)
- 43 Carpenter's device
- 46 Actress Gless
- 49 Leg exercise
- 50 ___-garde
- 51 Ralph Lauren label
- 52 "Mite" anagram
- 54 Copter's forerunner
- 55 English author Blyton
- 56 Meets, as a bet
- 59 Notable period

Answers to Previous Crossword:

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

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Library building expansion and renovation starting soon

By Carole Howard

PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

Your library's building project is now out for bid, with responses due this month and plans to begin the expansion construction in late summer or early fall, according to Barb Brattin, library director.

Plans call for an addition on the south side of the building that will provide a new children's room and a large meeting room to host all our popular events. There also will be an exterior children's garden and beautiful gardens surrounding the building connecting to the walking path on San Juan Street.

Brattin pointed out that interior renovation of the current space will create a collaborative work area called a maker space and a dedicated room for teens and tweens.

"With a fresh coat of paint and new carpet in the rest of the existing space, it all will feel brand new and shine for many years to come," she said.

It's also good news that Brattin expects to be able to continue our service from our current location during the expansion and renovation, with a few modifications, including stopping acceptance of donated books because of space issues.

Does this exciting news mean your library's capital campaign to pay for all this is over? Not quite, Brattin advised.

"While we've raised enough for

Library News

the addition, we're still \$800,000 short of funds for everything we want to accomplish," she said. "So, we welcome your participation and generosity, and we look forward to an expanded and updated facility to serve you and our community even better.

Virtual reality Holocaust films

May 27 through June 6, we will host the first-in-the-world virtual reality exhibition with five unique films featuring Holocaust survivors walking us through their memories and concentration camp experiences as they share their stories of survival.

"The Journey Back" applies cutting-edge technology to engage visitors with the survivors' incredibly important stories via film using virtual reality headsets.

We are privileged to share it with you thanks to a generous loan from the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center. The films will show daily with group discussions (limited to 10 people because that's how many headsets we have). Please call for the times closer to the dates.

Summer Reading Program launch

The Summer Reading Kickoff

■ See Library on next page

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Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints announces new bishop for local ward

By David H. Hamilton

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Monte "Kip" Strohecker of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has recently been called to serve as the bishop of the Pagosa Springs Ward.

Jason Judd and Travis Sewell will serve as his counselors.

Strohecker will replace Dr. Jason Wallace, whose family will be relocating to Anchorage, Alaska.

Bishops in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints typically serve for five years.

Leaders of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints serve without remuneration.

Trinity Anglican Church



*Jesus said to His disciples,
"I tell you the truth, it is for
your good that I go away..."
How could this possibly be?
Come join us this Sunday and hear why.*

246 Harman Park Dr.
trinityanglicanchurch.org

Library

■ continued from previous page

Party will take place Friday afternoon, May 30, from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Book lovers of all ages will enjoy food, crafts and fun at this annual event that marks the start of the many highly popular summer reading activities that result in prizes for all ages.

Watch for more details of summer reading activities in future columns.

Lifelong Learning Lectures

There is one more talk next week as your library’s free Spring Lifelong Learning Lecture series comes to an end.

May 21 will showcase the weather expertise of Arleen Prochazka discussing the 2025 monsoon in the Southern San Juans from 1 to 2:15 p.m.

Online author talks

Our free online author talks with New York Times bestselling authors continue in May with another talk for you to watch live on Zoom or via a recording later.

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

May 21 at noon will feature Rachelle Bergstein on “The Genius of Judy,” exploring how Judy Blume rewrote childhood for all of us.

Kids’ science fun

Friday, May 16, from 2 to 3:30 p.m., youngsters aged 6-10 are invited to Steam Engines, a free fun science session.

Paws to Read tomorrow

Friday, May 16, from 2 to 3 p.m., youngsters are invited to share their favorite books with Maple, a therapy dog who love stories, at a free Paws to Read session.

LEGO play

Kids aged 6-11 are invited to the free LEGO Club on Saturday, May 17, from 11 a.m. to noon. Bring your own LEGOs or use ours to free build.

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 Mondays from 10 to 10:45 a.m.

It is a brain fitness program consisting of 21 simple exercises de-

signed 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.

Music fun Monday

Pagosa Unplugged is free from 4 to 6 p.m. Monday, May 19, for amateur musicians of all abilities to play, sing and jam with other people.

High school math tutoring

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

Adult DIY

At the free in-person adult DIY next Tuesday, May 20, from 1 to 2:30 p.m., we will make survival bracelets with Jessie via YouTube, with all supplies provided.

Family storytime

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

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.

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 from 4 to 5:30 p.m. for a free after-school adventure.

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.

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.

Tech Time schedule change

Free in-person slots are available from 2 to 4 p.m. on Thursdays.

Judy helps you with basic questions relating to computers, smart-

phones and tablets, and also provides assistance in accessing the library’s online resources.

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

Note: There will be no Tech Time May 29.

ESL classes

Free in-person evening classes take place on Tuesdays and Thurs-

■ See Library 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

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

Level: Advanced

Fun By The Numbers

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

Here’s How It Works:

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

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

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Library

■ **continued from previous page**
days, 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.

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.

Spanish-language book

"Un Café en el Fin del Mundo" ("Café at the End of the World") by John Strelecky serves not just food, but also three thought-provoking questions for its customers to ponder.

Nonfiction

We have seven new Nolo guides: "Social Security, Medicare and Government Pensions," "U.S. Immigration Made Easy," "Make Your Living Trust," "Tax Savvy for Small Business," "Get It Together: Organize Your Records," "Buying Your First Home" and "Working for Yourself: Law and Taxes for Independent Contractors, Freelancers and Gig Workers."

Mysteries and thrillers

"Shadow of the Solstice" by Anne Hillerman is a Leaphorn, Chee and Manuelito Navajo Nation mystery. "The Island" by Natasha Preston tells of teen social media influencers being hosted at a private resort for the rich. "The Empusium: A Health Resort Horror Story" by Pulitzer Prize-winner Olga Tokarczuk takes place at a sanatorium in Poland. "A Study in Scarlet" by Arthur Conan Doyle is the first book in the Sherlock

Holmes series.

Other novels

"Primary Trust" by Eboni Booth won the 2024 Pulitzer Prize for drama. "Night Watch" by Jayne Anne Phillips follows survivors of the Civil War trauma. "The Leopard" by Giuseppe di Lampedusa tells of a Sicilian nobleman's family after Garibaldi's conquest. "The Last Anniversary" by Liane Moriarty reveals family secrets after a woman inherits her aunt's home. "Forever..." by Judy Blume follows teens exploring their sexuality. "Dope Thief" by Dennis Taffoy features two small-time thieves when one wants out of the scam.

"Fish Tales" by Nettie Jones looks at high-rolling times in New York and Detroit. "Mad About the Boy" by Helen Fielding features Bridget Jones. "Catalina" by Karla Cornejo Villavicencio focuses on an undocumented student at Harvard. "The Stars Are Dying" by Chloe C. Penaranda is a romantic fantasy. "Rabbit Moon" by Jennifer Haigh begins when a college student is a victim of a hit-and-run accident in Shanghai.

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 sales.

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

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

Quotable quote

"Freedom isn't about doing everything, but rather choosing what matters most." — Craig Coben, an investment banking retiree speaking about learning to manage your time after your life no longer is controlled

by your work.

Website

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A FEW GREAT REASONS HELPING OTHERS BENEFITS YOUR OWN HEALTH

Doing good feels good. And "[doing] the neighborly thing on a regular basis and, studies suggest, you may live longer.

There's only one caveat: "You have to genuinely care," says Stephanie Brown, Ph.D., associate professor of preventive medicine at Stony Brook University in New York." Understand some of the science related to doing good in today's excerpt.

"We consistently find that volunteering and helping behavior is associated with a reduced risk of mortality," says Brown.

"We see this over and over again in prospective studies that control for other variables, such as baseline health and gender." For example, a study in Detroit looked at 423 married couples over age 65. They were asked if they helped anyone other than each other in the previous year with transportation, errands, shopping, housework, childcare or other tasks. Those who did were about half as likely to die over the next five years than those who didn't.

"Now," says Brown, "we need to find out why and how." She and fellow researchers have already uncovered a few clues. To help someone you don't know, you have to overcome the natural impulse to avoid risk. Every time you help a stranger, you are reaching out a little, and that can make you feel vulnerable.

The theory is that to overcome those fears, your body releases a hormone called oxytocin, which helps you buffer stress while increasing social trust and tranquility. This "compassion hormone," it turns out, is very good for your body. "You are limiting exposure to stress hormones like cortisol," says Brown. "That may be one reason why helping behavior is related to longevity."

Source: "19 Healthy Reasons To Help Others." By 19 Healthy Reasons To Help Others. <http://www.huffingtonpost.com>

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

"Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again." Luke 6:38, KJV

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Preview Calendar

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

Thursday, May 15

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.

Labyrinth Guided Walk. 10 a.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Join a docent for a guided tour of the Chartres-design labyrinth. Walking the labyrinth can bring a sense of releasing, receiving and renewal. The labyrinth is available from dawn until dusk and is located in the wooded area behind the parking lot at the wooded cross.

Great House Tour. 10:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour goes to the top of the mesa ridge for a 360-degree panoramic view of the landscape and a close-up of the two pinnacles with stops along the way to learn about ancient Puebloan structures. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$6 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

End of Life Education. 1 p.m., Community United Methodist Church,

434 Lewis St. Dr. Pam Kircher will speak.

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.

T'ai Chi Chih. 2:30-3:30 p.m., Senior Center. Free for those 55 and better.

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.

Advanced Art Student Exhibition. 5-6:30 p.m., Community Center. An art exhibition by the advanced art students at Pagosa Springs High School. Each student has curated a collection that communicates messages deeply meaningful to them using a variety of mediums.

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 16

Great House Tour. 10:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. **See Calendar on page 16**

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Preview Calendar

■ continued from page 14

ney Rock National Monument. This tour goes to the top of the mesa ridge for a 360-degree panoramic view of the landscape and a close-up of the two pinnacles with stops along the way to learn about ancient Puebloan structures. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$6 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Stroll of the Three Sisters Tour. 1:15 p.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour along the Mesa Village Trail, where they will learn about an agricultural village and the crops and other foods grown and gathered there. Tickets are \$15 for ages 13 and up and \$8 for ages 5-12. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Paws to Read. 2-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Read with Maple, the therapy dog who loves stories.

Steam Engines. 2-3:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Science fun for ages 6-10.

Spring Constellation Tour. 9:15-9:45 p.m., Yamaguchi Park. Join the Pagosa Sidewalk Astronomers at Yamaguchi Park near the pickleball courts to learn the visible spring constellations. Learn how to use pointer stars to find bright stars in neighboring constellations, and hear from a storybook of constellation myths from around the world. Weather depending. A cloud forecast can be found on cleardarksky.com.

Saturday, May 17

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour. 8 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour explores both the natural and cultural history of the area through geologic time and incorporates the anthropology and archaeology of the Puebloan people. Tickets are \$20 for ages 13 and up and \$10 for ages 5-12, with those under 5 free. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Conversations in the Garden. 9-10 a.m., Pagosa Springs Community Garden.

Produce Box Program Informational Session. 9:30 a.m., Community Center. Seniors aged 55+ and their families are invited to learn about the produce box program and the basics of starting a garden at elevation.

East Fork of the San Juan River Cleanup. 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., East Fork of the San Juan River. Join Five Rivers Trout Unlimited to clean up trash along the East fork northeast of Pagosa Springs. For more details or to sign up, visit www.facebook.com/fiveriverstu.

Mental Health Awareness Walk. 10 a.m., Town Park. Registration begins at 9 a.m., with the walk

beginning at 10 a.m. Youth Rise and community organizations are partnership to break the stigma around mental health.

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.

Great House Tour. 10:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour goes to the top of the mesa ridge for a 360-degree panoramic view of the landscape and a close-up of the two pinnacles with stops along the way to learn about ancient Puebloan structures. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$6 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

LEGO Play. 11 a.m.-noon, Sisson Library. For kids 6-11 years old. Bring your own or use the library's LEGOs to free build. Contact the library at (970) 264-2209 for further information.

Pokémon Club. 12:30-2:30 p.m., Sisson Library. For ages 6-11. Bring your cards to battle against others who love Pokemon too. No experience is required.

A Night to Remember: Masquerade. 5 p.m., Our Savior Lutheran School. Step into a world of mystery and glamour while supporting Our Savior Lutheran School. Tickets are available at auctria.events/ANighttoRemember, stopping by the school office or calling Lois at (970) 731-4668.

Pagosa Community Initiative Second Chance Prom. 7-10 p.m., Community Center. The theme is denim and diamond. For tickets

or to donate, visit www.givebutter.com/2ndchanceprom2025.

Spring Constellation Tour. 9:15-9:45 p.m., Yamaguchi Park. Join the Pagosa Sidewalk Astronomers at Yamaguchi Park near the pickleball courts to learn the visible spring constellations. Learn how to use pointer stars to find bright stars in neighboring constellations, and hear from a storybook of constellation myths from around the world. Weather depending. A cloud forecast can be found on cleardarksky.com.

Sunday, May 18

Great House Tour. 10:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour goes to the top of the mesa ridge for a 360-degree panoramic view of the landscape and a close-up of the two pinnacles with stops along the way to learn about ancient Puebloan structures. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$6 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Monday, May 19

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.

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

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

■ See Calendar on next page



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Preview Calendar

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Great House Tour. 10:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour goes to the top of the mesa ridge for a 360-degree panoramic view of the landscape and a close-up of the two pinnacles with stops along the way to learn about ancient Puebloan structures. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$6 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Stroll of the Three Sisters Tour. 1:15 p.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour along the Mesa Village Trail, where they will learn about an agricultural village and the crops and other foods grown and gathered there. Tickets are \$15 for ages 13 and up and \$8 for ages 5-12. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

High School Math Tutoring. 4-5:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Math tutors are available for ages 14 and up. Registration is required.

Pagosa Unplugged. 4-6 p.m., Sisson Library. Musicians of all abilities are invited to jam and sing with others.

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 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 20

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.

Stretching and Mobility Class. 10-11 a.m., Senior Center. A stretching and mobility class for those ages 55 and up.

Great House Tour. 10:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour goes to the top of the mesa ridge for a 360-degree panoramic

view of the landscape and a close-up of the two pinnacles with stops along the way to learn about ancient Puebloan structures. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$6 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Adult DIY. 1-2:30 p.m., Sission Library. Learn to make survival bracelets with Jessie via YouTube. Supplies will be provided.

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.

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour. 5 p.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour explores both the natural and cultural history of the area through geologic time and incorporates the anthropology and archaeology of the Puebloan people. Tickets are \$20 for ages 13 and up and \$10 for ages 5-12, with those under 5 free. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

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.

'This is Your Watershed: Upper San Juan River' Premiere. 5:30 p.m., Pagosa Lodge, 3505 U.S. 160. The premiere of the third film of a three-part series about Archuleta County's water will be followed by discussions about water and networking. The educational project is presented by the San Juan Water Conservancy District.

Men's Fellowship. 6 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms.

Americana Project Class Concert. 6 p.m., Tennyson Sculpture Park and Gardens. Member of the Americana Project class at Pagosa Springs High School will present their "final exam" concert.

Wednesday, May 21

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.

Mountain High Gardeners. 10-11:30 a.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Join a group of Archuleta County gardeners for a roundtable discussion on when to start planting a variety of local plants. How to protect plants from a variety of local wildlife will also

■ See Calendar on page 19



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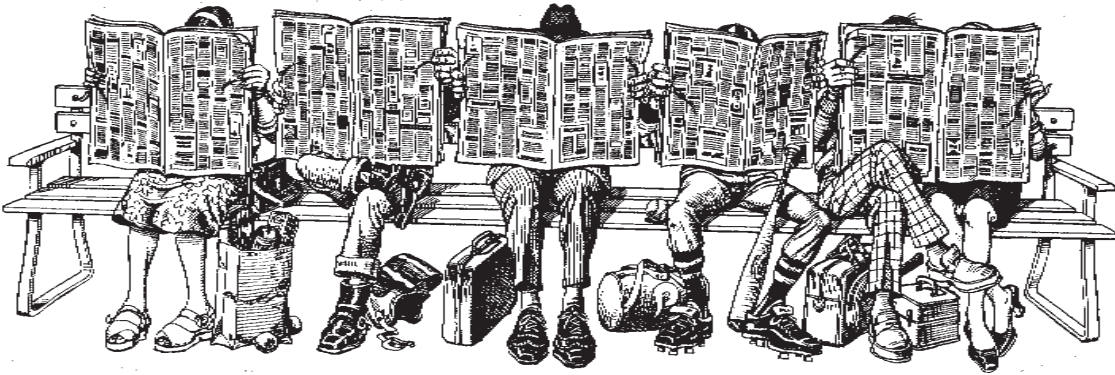
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Preview Calendar

■ continued from page 17

be discussed. Vegetable, flower and landscape gardeners are all welcome.

Great House Tour. 10:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour goes to the top of the mesa ridge for a 360-degree panoramic view of the landscape and a close-up of the two pinnacles with stops along the way to learn about ancient Puebloan structures. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$6 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Lifelong Learning Lecture Series. 1-2:15 p.m., Sisson Library. "Monsoon Season in the San Juans" with Arleen Prochazka.

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. For those in grades 1-3. Registration required. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

Pagosa Springs High School Booster Club. 5:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School.

Weminuche Audubon Society. 6:30 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Keith Bruno will lead an exercise in learning to identify birds by their songs and calls. Social time will begin at 6 p.m., with the meeting beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, May 22

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.

Labyrinth Guided Walk. 10 a.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Join a docent for a guided tour of the Chartres-design labyrinth. Walking the labyrinth can bring a sense of releasing, receiving and renewal. The labyrinth is available from dawn until dusk and is located in the wooded area behind the parking lot at the wooded cross.

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Caregiver Support Group. 10:30-noon, Community Center.

Great House Tour. 10:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour goes to the top of the mesa ridge for a 360-degree panoramic view of the landscape and a close-up of the two pinnacles with stops along the way to learn about ancient Puebloan structures. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$6 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

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Friday, May 23

Birding at Chimney Rock Tour. 8 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour is presented in partnership with the local chapter of the Audubon Society and affords

a wonderful opportunity to observe and learn about birds that are native to the area. Tickets are \$20 for ages 13 and up and \$10 for ages 5-12, with those under 5 free. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Great House Tour. 10:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour goes to the top of the mesa ridge for a 360-degree panoramic view of the landscape and a close-up of the two pinnacles with stops along the way to learn about ancient Puebloan structures. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$6 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Free Kids Clothing Exchange. 1-7 p.m., Open Door Church, 110 Trinity Lane. Swap and shop. Clothing for newborns through teens and maternity clothes will be accepted. For more information, contact Amy Dutton at (719) 440-4305 or visit [Facebook.com/pagosaminicloset](https://www.facebook.com/pagosaminicloset).

Stroll of the Three Sisters Tour. 1:15 p.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour along the Mesa Village Trail, where they will learn about an agricultural village and the crops and other foods grown and gathered there. Tickets are \$15 for ages 13 and up and \$8 for ages 5-12. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

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

Mental Health/Self-care with Rise Above Violence. 2-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Learn about the importance of taking care of yourself, including your mental health.

Craftapalooza. 2-3:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Join for a variety of crafts for people of all ages and abilities.

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To honor this year's graduating seniors, The Pagosa Springs SUN will run photos of each senior along with their post-graduation plan.

If you would like to participate in the project, the sponsorships will be \$150 for an ad space that is 4.125" wide by 2.875" tall.

The pages with the graduating seniors will be published in our Thursday, May 29, 2025 edition.

If you would like to be a sponsor, please call Shari at (970) 264-2100 before Thursday, May 2.

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■ See Senior on next page

Senior

■ continued from previous page

ness, flow and effortlessness are the guiding principles in this practice.

All classes are free for older adults (age 55 and better) and class will last approximately 1 hour. No special clothing or equipment is required.

For more information, call (970) 264-2167.

Senior Conversations

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

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

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

Snacks will be provided.

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

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

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, May 15 — Stuffed giant Portobello mushroom, hummus and pita chips, garden salad, fruit, and Milk.

Friday, May 16 — Garlic ginger sticky pork, rice, broccoli and cauliflower, garden salad, fruit, carrot cake, and milk.

Monday, May 19 — BBQ country ribs, corn casserole, apple crisp, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Tuesday, May 20 — Spaghetti squash with Italian sausage marinara, green beans, dinner roll, garden salad, fruit, cranberry nut muffin and milk.

Wednesday, May 21 — Vegetarian tempeh chili with shredded cheese, wilted spinach, honey cornbread, garden salad, fruit, lemon bar and milk.

Thursday, May 22 — Cajun shrimp with cheesy grits, zucchini sauté, garden salad, yogurt, fruit and milk.

Friday, May 23 — Chicken fajitas with peppers, flour tortillas, guacamole, salsa, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Grab-N-Go meals

Dine-in and Grab-N-Go meal reservations and cancellations are required. Please call or text by 9 a.m. the morning of the day you want to pick up a meal. A suggested donation of \$6 helps to sustain our program. For ages 59 and younger, the cost is \$10.50. No one will be turned away for their inability to donate. Please call or text us at (970) 264-2167 to make a reservation.

Meals on Wheels

We deliver fresh Meals on Wheels five days a week (and provide frozen Meals on Wheels for weekends) to homebound Archuleta County residents. Call or text us at (970) 264-2167.

Mobile food pantry service

Older adults needing a ride to a local food pantry should contact the MET to schedule a ride with its para-transit service. For more information, contact Lavonne at (970) 264-2250.

Text reservations

Don't forget that we offer a convenient texting service for you to communicate with us. Text us at (970) 264-2167. When texting, please include your name, phone number and the days you want a meal. If you are canceling a reservation, please include your name, phone number and the days you want to cancel.

Texting services are available for dine-in meal reservations, Grab-n-Go meals and Meals on Wheels recipients.

Mahjong

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

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

Medicare call by appointment

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

Board vacancies

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

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



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONCERNED ABOUT ANOTHER'S DRINKING? Pagosa Springs Al-anon Family Group meets Tuesdays 6-7p.m., Pagosa Bible Church. Questions? Call/text (303)815-8569. www.al-anon.org.

HUMAN ECOLOGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE Education Group, Evolve, to meet Wednesday, May 14th from 4:45p.m. to 5:45p.m. at Ruby M. Sisson Library, exploring Climate Change myths. Evolve serves to provide information, inspiration and connection for healthy global ecology through media education. No charge, public. Wednesday, May 21, 4:45p.m., Ruby M. Sisson Library, documentary, "Return of the Wolf." Why here? Why now? Friday, May 23, 4:45p.m., Ruby M. Sisson Library, topic; "The Conservative Environmentalist," Benji Becker, and film, "Beasts of Our Time: Climate Change and Grizzly Bears."

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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ELITE RECYCLING AND DISPOSAL,

a division of Bruin Waste Management, LLC is a rapidly growing organization with services expanding the Western Slope of Colorado.

We currently have a **Route Truck Helper/ Tipper** position open. The starting rate for this position is \$19/hour. Helpers ride on the trucks and empty trash carts and dumpsters. A valid driver's license is a plus, as helpers do a variety of tasks including cart delivery, shop cleaning, light mechanical and washing trucks and carts.

We offer a competitive benefits package including a matching 401k Plan with opportunities to earn safety bonuses.

We are committed to first-class service, where safety and people are our top priority!

Applications can be picked up at 250 Industrial Circle in Pagosa Springs, Colorado or call our office at (970)731-2012 or email ctanner@elite-recycling.com to request one.

ELITE

RECYCLING DISPOSAL

ELITE RECYCLING AND DISPOSAL,

a division of Bruin Waste Management, LLC is a rapidly growing organization with services expanding the Western Slope of Colorado.

We currently have a **Class B CDL Driver Trash Recycle Route Driver** position open. The starting rate for this position is \$24/ hour and includes a sign-on bonus of \$500 payable after 6 months of accident-free employment.

We offer a competitive benefits package including a matching 401k Plan with opportunities to earn safety bonuses. Must be able to pass a pre-employment drug test.

We are committed to first-class service, where safety and people are our top priority!

Applications can be picked up at 250 Industrial Circle in Pagosa Springs, Colorado or call our office at (970)731-2012 or email ctanner@elite-recycling.com to request one.

(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

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 ROI. 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 **SUN**

EMPLOYMENT AT SILVER DOLLAR LIQUOR. 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.

OWNERS, THERE IS A LONG TERM RENTAL SHORTAGE IN PAGOSA SPRINGS. We have a waiting list for approved tenants. Need all types of rentals. Call us today for lowest commission and highest customer service. All you have to do is wait for your rent check to come in. We do the rest! Rocky Mountain Realty & Rentals (970)507-1192.

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

NOW HIRING
Immediate Openings

All Positions, All Shifts

Apply in person at 2501 Eagle Dr.,
Pagosa Springs
or online at
[CAREERS.SONICDRIVEIN.COM](https://careers.sonicdrivein.com)

HIRING SKILLED ARTISAN BARISTAS at Saire Society. Competitive pay. (719)937-8653.

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.

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.

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.

JAND J ENTERPRISES 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.

JOIN OUR TEAM and help support our mission to provide a safe haven for animals in need, promote adoptions, humanely reduce pet overpopulation through spay/neuter programs, support lifelong pet ownership, and to educate the community. The Humane Society of Pagosa Springs Thrift Store is looking for a donation receiving team member to help cover our new uptown donation drop off center and work shifts at the downtown location. Hours and pay will be negotiable according to what responsibilities and experience candidates bring. This can be a fast pace job with a lot of movement throughout the day. It requires repeatedly lifting heavy boxes and furniture. The ideal candidates will also assist with furniture pickups and drive a box truck. PT and Full-Time Opportunities for shifts available. \$16.00 - \$17.50 per hour DOE and on availability. Please email resume to hsjobs@pagosahumane.org, complete an application on our website <https://pagosahumane.org>, or stop by 279 Pagosa St 10-4 Tuesday- Sunday.

SEEKING PART-TIME HELP. For landscaping, experience helpful. Must have valid drivers license and transportation. Contact Eric. (970)946-2061.

THE HUMANE SOCIETY of Pagosa Springs Administrative Assistant. Salary Range: \$17 - \$19 per hour (DOE). 24 - 32 hours per week. Do you love animals? Would you like to be an integral part of our organization's administration, supporting the important work of our thrift store and animal shelter? The Humane Society of Pagosa Springs is seeking an Administrative Assistant who will play a key role in fostering our relationships with donors and supporters. This position involves administrative tasks crucial to the HSPS Shelter and Thrift Store operations - including donation processing, managing accounts receivable and payable. An attention to accuracy and detail, the ability to learn new software, experience with CRM platforms, and Microsoft office programs are a must. See our website at pagoashumane.org for more information.

LANDSCAPE LABORERS WANTED. Must have own transportation. Call for an application. Good pay for good help. (970)946-2277.

LINE COOK AND PREP COOK needed at Two Chicks and A Hippie. Apply at 135 Country Center Drive.

LOOKING FOR PART-TIME maintenance help. 20 hours per week. Please email hickoryridge@pagosacreek.com.

MALT SHOPPE NOW HIRING. Apply in person between 9a.m. and 2p.m.

NEWSPAPER REPORTER — We are searching for a talented reporter to fill a full-time 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.

NORTH PAGOSA MARATHON is hiring a full-time cashier nights and weekends. Competitive wages. Please apply in person at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

PAGOSA LIQUOR IS HIRING a full-time cashier. Please come and apply in person at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

(970) 264-2100

Classifieds

(970) 264-2100

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

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

FOR SALE

AUTOS

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 deadlines.
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

SUN

an O'Rourke Media Group company

RISE ABOVE VIOLENCE is seeking a **Director of Advocacy** to lead a team of advocates who provide 24-hour support and advocacy services to survivors of domestic and sexual violence. Applicant must be proficient in Microsoft Office; have excellent public speaking, teaching and leadership skills; and, be a highly organized, independent worker. Position is FT with benefits. BA in human services or related field preferred. Equitable experience will be considered. Rise is an equal opportunity employer where we celebrate diversity and are committed to inclusion. Visit www.riseaboveviolence.org for complete job description. Email resume to carmen@riseaboveviolence.org.

THE HUMANE SOCIETY SHELTER animals need you. Do you dream of a career working with animals who need you? The Humane Society of Pagosa Springs has an opening for a full-time Animal Care Specialist. Must love to work with animals AND people, spend time outdoors in all kinds of weather, and get a lot of exercise throughout the day. Previous dog and cat handling experience is a plus. A positive attitude is a must. PTO, additional sick time, and great shelter and thrift store discounts as benefits. Hourly rate \$16.00- 16.50 DOE. Apply online <https://pagosahumane.org/> or stop in the Shelter and complete an application. Come join our team caring for the homeless pets of Pagosa Springs.

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

SEEDS OF LEARNING EARLY CARE and Education Center (SOL), an NAEYC accredited childcare center, is accepting applications for their Executive Director position in Pagosa Springs, CO serving children ages 2 1/2- 5 years. The Executive Director is responsible for providing management, leadership, and integrity in the operations of SOL. The Executive Director will manage all aspects of the program including ECE legal/fiscal components, staff management, educational programming, professional development, operations/facilities management, stakeholder relations, fundraising, and will serve as a model for family support through family-centered practices. The Executive Director in collaboration with the Board of Directors, will implement forward thinking policies and procedures that are consistent with the program vision, philosophy, mission, goals of growth and best practices in Early Childhood Education. The ED will have a commitment to continuous quality improvement with input from all stakeholders including families and staff. The ED will be an effective communicator both orally and in writing and will be able to effectively utilize current computer technology in their work. Must be knowledgeable in the field of budget management, and grant writing knowledge is preferred. A full job description is available at growingseeds.org. Must have a minimum of a bachelor's degree in Early Childhood (or like degree), preferably a Colorado Director Qualified Certificate with experience as an ECE preschool teacher and some supervisory/ management experience. This is a 40-hour a week year-round position with a starting salary between \$65,000 -\$70,000, depending upon qualifications. Please email resume or reach out to Lisa Peters at lisa@peterspagosa.com by May 23 for more information.

THE SPOTTED PUP GROOMING SALON in Pagosa Springs is hiring a full-time experienced groomer. Please call (970)507-0905.

TRAIL RIDE WRANGLER: Must be 18 years or older with a valid driver's license. 5 days a week May-August. Call (970)749-0634 for an interview.

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

BASSMASTER BOAT, trolling motor and battery, \$600. John, (970)946-0293.

DO YOU BURN FIREWOOD? Guarantee yourself dry seasoned wood this winter and get stocked up now! Get a HUGE dump truck load split and delivered for \$550. Pine /Fir mix. Contact FIRE&ICE (970)582-0006.

DRY FIREWOOD- PINE. Pick up \$255 a cord. Delivery available. Call for prices. Bayfield. Gabe (970)403-2784.

FIREWOOD FOR SALE. Pine and aspen. Cut about 16" long, split. Delivered by longbed truckload. Call (970)946-4450.

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.

SELL OR TRADE YOUR GUNS. We buy for cash or trade it. No hassle. Licensed, bonded, insured. San Juan Trading Post, 635 San Juan St. (970)731-PAWN (7296).

LIVESTOCK

GRASS HAY! \$9 per hefty bale. For 50+ bales, free local Pagosa area delivery. 100+ bales, \$8.50/ bale. (970)264-1365.

PETS

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

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

RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

2011 22' SUN TRACKER PONTOON with trailer, seats 12, 115HP Mercury, great condition. (970)946-6705.

2018 POLARIS RANGER XP 900. Includes: 72" poly blade with winch, Harvester 28" tires, Amplify 14" black wheels, poly roof and windshield. \$14K. Call (970)582-0161.

WANTED

BLUEGRASS MUSICIANS interested in joining an intermediate/ advanced level regular bluegrass jam, contact Melinda at malutz@centurytel.net.

LOOKING FOR SOMEONE with a fenced yard that would be willing to provide daycare for my German Shepherd. Call or text Randy, (970)946-0094.

AUTOS

1989 CHEVY K. 134k miles, 5 speed. Good engine/ tires. \$2000 cash. tonyshideler1@gmail.com, (765)749-4830.

2004 SUBARU IMPREZA SPORT hatchback. AWD. New struts, head gaskets and radiator. 195k miles. \$4500 firm. (720)352-5215.

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. 97y speed rated tires. (970)761-1173, carlwilles@gmail.com. \$6000.

2007 TOYOTA RAV4 LIMITED. 116K, great condition, garaged, auto, front wheel drive, leather, moon roof, original owner. \$6,100. (970)507-0226.

GUARANTEED CREDIT APPROVAL! 4X4 Auto Sales, 21698 Hwy. 160 West, Durango. (970)385-7940.

YARD SALES

ATTENTION TREASURE HUNTERS!

 Estate Sales by Elizabeth, LLC is announcing this week's treasure hunting location.

Please arrive at 6252 B Highway 84 — look for pink balloons and MARKED parking. Wear your sneakers, this is a big house and lots of stuff!

Sale is Fri May 16 (9-3),
Sat 17 & Sun 18 (8-3)



Check out my Facebook page for previews of the goods, text with any questions 719-291-2318, and look for the PINK balloons!

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

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY 8a.m. -2p.m, 529 Morro Circle. RV, garage, tools, electronics, useful items. (720)482-2439.

HUGE ESTATE SALE. Friday and Saturday, 7a.m. -3p.m. Hunter's dream. Gun cases, hunting equipment, commercial tents, stoves, game cameras, cots, gaming bags, warm weather camo/ wool/ unused long johns, etc. Fishing equipment, gardening tools of every kind. BBQ grill. Entire kitchen household goods. Small appliances. Huge set of canning equipment, pressure cooker, bowls, canning jars. Carpet cleaners (Shark, Rug Doctor, Bissell). 2015 Forest Run Flagstaff Mac pop-up camper and so much more. 391 Lake Street in PLPOA.

HUGE GARAGE SALE. Friday May 16th, Saturday 17, 401 Paciente Pl. 8:00, Check Facebook for pictures. Furniture, antiques, tools, art.

MAY 17 at 8a.m. 311 East Golf Place. Kitchen and holiday stuff, yard and hand tools, toys and clothes.

SALE: 83 WOODRIDGE CIRCLE. Crystals and more. Saturday 17th, 9-1. No early birds please.

PagosaSUN.com

(970) 264-2100

Classifieds

(970) 264-2100

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

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

"We owned a condominium in the Pagosa Springs area which was a rental property. For many years the firm provided property management services for us and we always found them to be very professional and responsive. If you are in need of a competent, professional property management firm or realtor, we would strongly recommend them. ~ Michael Gamba



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970.731.5515

Info@rmrealtyandrentals.com

117 Navajo Trail Dr. Ste E, Pagosa Springs

Largest Local Property Management Co.



150+ SW Colorado
Property Owners Served
19+ Years. Mortgage &
Real Estate Exp
FULL LT TENANT SCREENING
NATIONWIDE ADVERTISING
ON CALL 24 HR 7 DAYS



COMMERCIAL FOR RENT

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 for rent on 2nd floor with private bathroom. \$400/ month including utilities and WiFi. No smokers. No pets. (970)946-2728.

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.

LIGHT INDUSTRIAL SPACE/ STORAGE. Cloman Park. New Build. 2700 square feet, Opportunity Zoned. (720)470-2653.

NICE OFFICE IN PROMINENT Main Street location. 262 Pagosa St. #100. 900 sq. ft. Private bathroom and kitchenette. (970)946-9780.

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.

STORAGE SPACES AVAILABLE 100, 150, and 200 sq ft. Contact Sunrise Property Management today at (970)731-4344 to check availability.

COMMERCIAL FOR RENT

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 PROPERTIES! Call us today for lowest commission and highest customer service. All you have to do is wait for your rent check to come in. We do the rest! Rocky Mountain Realty & Rentals (970)507-1192.

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

1, 2 AND 3 BEDROOMS. Call (720)869-8877. Hickory Ridge Apartments.

DOWNTOWN PAGOSA RENTAL — Large living room kitchen area, one bedroom and bath. 311 S. 7th. Walking distance to hot springs and shops and restaurants in old downtown. Available June 1. (720)470-2653.

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.

FOR RENT. 3 Bed, 2.5 Bath Lake/ Mountain Views. \$3000/ month. Pets ok. (970)903-2394.

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

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.

2.25 ACRES, FENCED, COMMERCIAL. Off Highway 151, \$325,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call, (970)903-2817.

COMMERCIAL

GAS STATION, CONVENIENCE STORE comes with nine long-term leases, high producing. \$1,650,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

PRIME BUSINESS LOCATION Large building and land. \$1,250,000. Motivated seller. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

HOMES FOR SALE

REAL ESTATE SERVICES

*Whether
Buying or Selling*



Call Marcie Lewis
(970) 759-8672



MarcieLewis.com

2 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, 2 carports, 2 sheds. Overlooking Navajo Lake State Park. \$395,000. 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.

HOMES FOR SALE

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.

FOR SALE BY OWNER. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, Chris Mountain Ranches, gated subdivision, 1-1/2 miles west of City Market. 35 acre lot, 3,600 sq. ft. house under roof, 1,200 sq. ft. workshop. \$1.6 million. John, (970)946-0293.

HOME FOR SALE. 3200 square feet on 3 acres. 181 River Forest Drive. See on Zillow. Agents welcome. \$740K (970)585-9181.

RANCHES

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.

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.

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

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.

LAND/ BUILDING SITES

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

5 MINUTES FROM DOWNTOWN. 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.

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.

SAN JUAN RIVER ACCESS

4 acres. Great views.
Electric near. \$175,000.
Very motivated seller.

**Give Deb Archuleta
at Archuleta Properties a call
(970)903-2817**



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Photo courtesy CSU Extension

Western Region Extension staff tour the Banded Peak Ranches with Tim Haarmann, learning about its history and ecology. The Archuleta County Colorado State University Extension office hosts more than 50 Extension staff from the Western Region last week.

Healthy Archuleta’s Garden Conversations to begin Saturday

Healthy Archuleta

May is Mental Health Awareness Month. It’s also the time when many of us are starting to work in our gardens to prepare them for the growing season. For some, this activity takes us outside and connects us with nature, which can be a way to support our mental well-being, an important part of our overall wellness.

Mental and emotional health can be benefited by spending time outdoors, and in particular during the spring after a long winter season, the warmer temperatures reset our clocks and bright sunshine lightens our mood. What better way to spend time outdoors than in a garden.

Garden activities, such as working in the soil, planting and even pulling weeds provide an opportunity for some amount of physical activity and can help to boost our moods.

Growing vegetables can improve eating habits, creating a positive routine. Doing this helps us look forward to being outside, working among the plants. The more time spent outdoors, the more we can notice the natural life that exists in the garden. Planning special meals around the harvest, sharing what we’ve grown with family and friends, gives a sense of pride and excitement. Swapping gardening stories, advice and tips with others expands our social bonds.

Interested in learning more about gardening and how it can improve your mood?

Please join Healthy Archuleta and the Pagosa Springs Community Garden this year for Garden Conversations. The first meeting is this coming

Saturday morning, May 17, from 9 to 10 a.m. in the Pagosa Springs Community Garden.

Garden Conversations is a gathering of local gardening enthusiasts and those just wanting to connect with like minds, happy to just chat about the ins and outs of growing vegetables, herbs and flowers in Archuleta County.

Garden Conversations will hap-

pen twice a month from May until September on the following Saturday mornings from 9 to 10 a.m.: May 17 and 24, June 14 and 28, July 12 and 26, Aug. 9 and 23, and Sept. 13 and 27.

We hope to see you there.

To learn more about the efforts of Healthy Archuleta, please visit our website at www.foodcoalition4archuleta.org or send us an email at fsfearchuleta@gmail.com.



I'm short on listings!

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Thursday, Friday & Saturday

END OF THE MONTH \$3 PURPLE DOT SALE

PSST...DON'T MISS OUR SUPER SECRET SALE

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This is Your Watershed: Upper San Juan River Film Series

Tuesday, May 20
5:30 - 8:30pm
Pagosa Lodge
3505 W U.S. Hwy 160

The San Juan Water Conservancy District (SJWCD) invites the community to join us for a short 3-part film series that explores the elements of water and fire, and our relationship with them. The series features the premiere of the third film, produced by local filmmaker Christi Bode.

Engage in thoughtful conversation about the places that shape our home. Invite your neighbor. Bring a friend.

Free admission.
A cash bar and heavy hors d'oeuvres will be offered.



Learn more at www.sjwcd.org