

Class of 2025



Photos courtesy Pagosa Springs High School, San Juan Mountain School

Saturday will feature the graduation of Archuleta School District students in a pair of ceremonies. The Pagosa Springs High School commencement ceremony is set for 9 a.m. at Golden Peaks Stadium, and the San Juan Mountain School ceremony will take place in the Pagosa Springs High School auditorium at 1 p.m.

Saturday graduations to feature 94 graduates

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

In a pair of graduation ceremonies on Saturday, May 31, Archuleta School District, families and friends will honor the work of an estimated 94 graduating seniors as they close the book on their high school careers.

The first ceremony of the day will feature Pagosa Springs High School's graduates beginning at 9 a.m. at Golden Peaks Stadium.

Then, at 1 p.m., San Juan Mountain School's graduates will be honored in a ceremony in the Pagosa Springs High School auditorium.

Pagosa Springs High School anticipates having 74 graduates this year.

Hailey Sams earned the honor of being the class valedictorian and Sophia Sottek earned the distinction of salutatorian.

The class chose "Everybody Wants to Rule the World" by Tears for Fears as its class song, the sunflower as its class flower and "Best of the worst ones" as its class motto.

Justin Pond will serve as the staff speaker at the ceremony.

"Congratulations to the graduates of the class of 2025," Principal Sean O'Donnell wrote in an email to The SUN addressing the graduates. "Your hard and perseverance has paid off as we honor your accomplishment. We are all excited for you and your future endeavors. As long as you have dreams, goals, and perseverance, you will achieve outstanding life accomplishments. You all have the ability to achieve great things!"

Pagosa Springs High School

San Juan Mountain School

San Juan Mountain School's ceremony will feature 20 graduates.

■ See Graduations A8

Collared wolf activity confirmed in Archuleta County

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

A map released Wednesday, May 28, showing radio-collared wolf activity from April 22 to May 27 highlights watersheds within Archuleta County and La Plata County, indicating the presence of collared wolf activity in a small portion of the counties.

"This is the first confirmed collared wolf activity in Archuleta or La Plata counties," Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) Southwest Region Public Information Officer John Livingston wrote in a Wednesday email to The SUN.

The map showing radio-collared wolf activity from April 22 to May 27 highlights watersheds in the northwest portion of Archuleta County.

Livingston indicates that the map highlights watersheds and not every-where a wolf has been, meaning even if a wolf only touches a small piece of the watershed, the entire watershed is highlighted on the map.

"We had a lone female gray wolf pass through the northern portions of both counties the week before Mother's Day," Livingston wrote, referring to Archuleta and La Plata counties. "But she continued to move northwest and hasn't been in the area for a few weeks."

He adds, "Radio collar locations have confirmed that one recently released wolf has made some broad movements in the southwest region of the state, including brief travel through parts of Archuleta and La Plata counties. The wolf is no longer present in those counties, but its movements are highlighted in the monthly collared wolf activity map"

■ See Wolf A6

Forest Service combats Freeman Fire

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

U.S. Forest Service firefighters began tending to a new fire, the Freeman Fire, in the First Notch area of the Columbine Ranger District of the San Juan National Forest over the weekend, with the fire now contained.

According to updates released by the San Juan National Forest, the fire was discovered north of U.S. 160 in

the First Notch area of the San Juan National Forest in Archuleta County — in the Piedra River corridor — Saturday night with the fire at 38 acres as of Sunday afternoon, May 25.

By midday Monday, May 26, a Forest Service update indicates, firefighters had completed fire line around the fire and had begun mopping up.

Updates released during the incident indicate the fire was initially active and is in close proximity to lines

providing power to Archuleta County.

According to the agency, even after dark on Saturday fire behavior was active with single-tree torching and 2- to 4-foot flame lengths.

Firefighters took direct suppression action on the fire, according to the Forest Service, by digging handline, installing hose lays, and working with Durango Helitack and a medium helicopter for bucket work.

In an update released late Sunday morning, the Forest Service

announced it would be using air tankers and helicopters as needed to prevent flames from impacting the Tri-State transmission line that feeds Archuleta County, adding later in the day, "This aggressive firefighting tactic is commensurate with the values at risk. The transmission line brings power to all of Archuleta County."

On Monday, the agency announced the day's cloud cover was

■ See Fire A8

School district discusses elementary school intervention program restructuring

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

Pagosa Springs Elementary School Principal Kelly Vining went before the Archuleta School District (ASD) Board of Education (BOE) during its regular meeting on May 13 to discuss details about the school's restructuring of its reading interventionist program.

Vining was invited to speak to the board on the topic after restructuring was brought up during public comment at the board's April 8 meeting.

During that meeting, five audience members spoke, including a trio of school district employees. All

expressed concern with the restructuring, with one suggesting it would put the district's lowest students at increased risks and multiple speaking to the proposed staffing associated with the restructuring and the need for early academic intervention.

"I'm here to discuss some restructuring that we're doing at the elementary school," Vining stated on May 13, explaining that the teachers and administrators at the school believe all students can grow at high levels, regardless of where they start in their reading skills.

Vining mentioned that teachers take a "collective responsibility" for all

students in a grade level, rather than only focusing on their homeroom students, while also noting that students should not be remediated back a grade level to fill any missed gaps.

Vining explained that the reading interventionist program is structured with three tiers, with tier one being instruction that happens in the core part of the student's schedule.

"It is the reading program and the math program that the district has adopted that they learn in a classroom," she said.

Vining then explained that every student receives tier two instruction

■ See School A7



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

The United States flag is saluted during Monday's Memorial Day ceremony at Hilltop Cemetery.

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Opinion



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OUR VIEW

Congratulations, graduates

Every year, we are afforded the pleasure of documenting the commencement ceremonies of Pagosa Springs High School and San Juan Mountain School.

This year, like every other, we are impressed with what these graduates have accomplished so far in their academic pursuits, in sports, through volunteering in the community and through their other efforts to make this world a better place.

And they're only just getting started. In this issue of The SUN, you'll find a special section featuring Archuleta County's graduates and their plans over the coming year and years. We encourage everyone to look at the varied plans of this year's graduates.

These young adults — whether they know exactly what they want to do yet or not — will be entering the next phase of their lives with many valuable skills, good ideas and big dreams.

Let's be sure we listen to them, support them and encourage them to continue to dream big.

We also remind our graduates to re-

member the people and things that have helped you get to where you are.

We also encourage you to be open to those who can help you get where you want, and who you can help as they accomplish their dreams.

In the words of Kermit the Frog during his "Kermencement" address to University of Maryland graduates on May 21, "Here's a little advice, if you're willing to listen to a frog: Rather than jumping over someone to get what you want, consider reaching out your hand and taking the leap side by side, because life is better when we leap together."

We also offer some advice we strive to remember:

Thank people who help you. A sincere, handwritten thank you can mean a lot, both in your chance to reflect on what they've done and in allowing them to hear the impact they've made.

Be grateful for the little things and the big things.

Remember to stop and breathe, and get some fresh air. Find the beauty around you.

Listen to others and take their viewpoints into consideration. You don't have to always agree, but be civil and willing to learn.

Dream big. When life is busy, make time for people. Your relationships with your family and friends are important. As Kermit said, "It's important to stay connected to your loved ones, stay connected to your friends and, most of all, stay connected to your dreams, no matter how big, no matter how impossible they seem. The truth is, dreams are how we figure out where we want to go, and life is how we get there."

Remember there is so much ahead of you. Some of you will accomplish everything you have planned currently. Others will look back years from now and be thankful life had different plans for you because you couldn't have imagined where you are.

No matter where life takes you, know that we wish each and every one of you nothing but the best.

Congratulations, graduates.

Randi Pierce

LOOKING BACK



From the May 28, 1970, Pagosa SUN — A LONG LINE — 700 head of cattle are strung out along a trail across the Jicarilla Apache reservation. The cattle are being driven to summer pasture near Pagosa Springs from Bluewater, N.M. The dry conditions made the drive a dusty one.

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IF GRADUATION CREATES AN EMPTY NEST AT HOME, HOW WILL YOU DEAL WITH IT?

Bailey
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MAE HEMM
"What a nice sewing room my girl's bedroom will make!"



LUCKY MANN
"I'm not losing a son — I'm gaining a man cave!"



BEA WILDURD
"Imagine — life without his socks and underwear to pick up!"



KENT FIGGER
"Empty?!! My oldest is 30 — an' still hasn't moved out!"

LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

100 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
May 29, 1925

Mat Arnold the past week purchased the Grant Shield building on San Juan street, occupied by the Journal office, and also leased from John P. Lynn the ground occupied by said building and the building and lot adjoining the Shields property. He is now installing his gasoline tank in front of the latter, where he will maintain a service station this summer.

The town hall, which is to be used as a restroom and information bureau by the Women's Civic Club this summer, is now being papered.

The new Farmington gasoline is causing no end of difficulty with the cars in this vicinity. It is exceedingly high test gas and carburetors must be adjusted for it.

The At Last ranch shipped in 200 head of fine cattle from Aztec Tuesday for the ranch on West fork.

Think This Over. The next time anybody yelps about a typographical error in this paper, think of this: In an ordinary column there are 10,000 pieces of type, there are seven possible wrong positions for each letter, there are 70,000 chances to make errors, and millions of possible transpositions. In the sentence, "To be or not to be," by transpositions alone, 2,759,022 errors can be made. — Ex.

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
May 26, 1950

The auction held for the benefit of the Red Ryder Round-Up rodeo grounds was a huge success in every respect with everyone in the county cooperating to the highest extent. Items sold at the sale received very good prices in most cases and the bidding was spirited throughout the sale.

Bob Oversteg, Durango auctioneer, who donated his services for the afternoon, did much to further the success of the sale. At one time Mr. Oversteg managed to auction a five dollar bill off for \$9.50. Several of the original articles were returned to be auctioned off a second time and quite often Mr. Oversteg secured a higher price the second time. Mrs. Oversteg acted as cashier at the sale and Mr. Rube Connelley was the clerk of the sale.

The total receipts realized from the sale totaled slightly more than \$1200 with the cash donations. This is a tidy sum and shows that he community realizes the possibilities of the rodeo grounds and are willing to cooperate in their construction.

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
May 29, 1975

Telephone service locally has gone from bad to worse. A great deal of the trouble is in long distance calls and the trouble experienced there is on Bell Telephone Co. lines rather than lines of Universal Telephone Co. However, the service within the community is deteriorating and construction plans for a system are still underway. It will be some time, though, before there is any noticeable improvement.

Welfare departments throughout Colorado will not be forced to close down for lack of funds at the time. The State Legislature has taken actions to insure operating funds until such time as final appropriations are made.

Newsprint has taken another increase in price and part of this increase must be passed on to our customers. Predictions are that paper prices will level out some time next year, but inflation continues to be a major factor in newspaper production.

Because of this price increase adjustment of advertising rates will take place in the SUN. These are being held at a minimum. Subscription prices and classified ad prices will stay the same unless there is another hike in paper prices.

25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
May 25, 2000

The first graduating class of the century will walk down the aisles in Pagosa Springs High School gymnasium at 10 a.m. Saturday in the school's 90th commencement exercise. It will be the second class to matriculate from the new high school building.

Named co-valedictorians for the class of 2000 were Seth Kurt-Mason, Valerie Niesen and Jake Wills. Co-salutatorians are Ashley Wilson and Erica Rader.

A record number of graduates — 118 — will receive diplomas during the ceremony.

Each of the valedictorians will speak before counselor Mark Thompson makes scholarship awards (stipends totaling \$203,333 will be presented) and Esterbrook presents the class to the board of education. Dr. Randall Davis, board president, will accept the class prior to the awarding of the diplomas.



Weather data

Date	High	Low	Precipitation	Moisture	Type	Depth
5/20	63	23	0.04	NA	NA	NA
5/21	71	28	0.00	NA	NA	NA
5/22	77	34	0.00	NA	NA	NA
5/23	75	36	0.00	NA	NA	NA
5/24	74	33	0.00	NA	NA	NA
5/25	73	37	0.00	NA	NA	NA
5/26	68	37	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.

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

Dear Editor:

Dear Mr. President

Kudos for closing the border and for deporting criminals and gang members. America is safer because of this. However, attempting to overturn the 14th amendment, which gives citizenship to people born in this country, is bad news. If you succeed in this, will you then deport them? How about the illegal immigrants that have worked here for years with no criminal record? Many of the above people have families, will you deport them also? I urge you sir to think about the ramifications of this. First, most of these people have to pay taxes and pay into social security. Second, many of these people have home loans, business loans, car loans etc. Third, many businesses depend on these type of workers to survive.

If you deport all the aforementioned people, we're talking millions here, you'll truly create an economic disaster. Social security needs every nickel to stay afloat. With our astronomical debt we need every penny of tax revenue. And, do you really want to see the banking industry suffer major losses when all those people default on their loans?

A smarter course would be to forget challenging the legality of the 14th amendment and to provide an avenue for the crime free, working illegal immigrants to become citizens. How about

Charles Newton
Highlands Ranch, Colo.

Philip Riffe
Hesperus, Colo.

Shawna Seed

Information provided by Colorado Department of Transportation

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

By Karen Griggs
Archuleta County Republican Women

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Tonya McCann explained the state

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



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Health service district board seeking to fill vacancy

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The Upper San Juan Health Service District (USJHSD), which operates Pagosa Springs Medical Center (PSMC), is seeking to fill a vacancy on its seven-member board of directors. Interested candidates have until 4 p.m. on Wednesday, June 11, to submit a completed self-nomination form, with the board anticipated to vote to fill the vacancy at its June 24 regular meeting.

“The USJHSD Board is responsible for steering the Upper San Juan Health Service District toward a sustainable future through sound, ethical, high-level governance,” a public notice published in this issue of The SUN explains. “The USJHSD mission is to provide quality, compassionate healthcare for each person we serve.”

It adds, “The USJHSD Board is made up of volunteer board members who have relevant expertise.”

The vacancy stems from the departure of Kathy Campbell, who resigned in a May 16 email to board chair Kate Alfred that cites personal reasons.

Campbell adds, “I have enjoyed my time working with the Board and wish everyone involved great success in the future.”

At their meeting Tuesday evening, the remaining six members of the board took action on a pair of resolutions relating to the vacancy.

The meeting was the first for three of the district’s newly elected members: Wayne Hooper, Eric Foss and Ashley Wilson.

The first resolution appoints Alfred and board treasurer Mark Floyd to “serve as the Board Search Committee, to assure the Board vacancy is advertised, to review applications and assess qualifications and attributes beneficial to PSMC’s governance, and make a recommendation to the Board at a duly noticed meeting in June 2025.”

In presenting the proposed resolution to the board, Chief Administrative Officer Ann Bruzzese suggested that Alfred and Floyd have years of experience and knowledge, making them a good fit.

The resolution was approved unanimously.

The following resolution related to board officer positions.

As the resolution explains, the board’s bylaws call for the board to elect the two-year officer positions of chair, vice chair and treasurer in May of odd-numbered years.

Bruzzese noted for the board that

there hasn’t previously been a vacancy at the time of electing board officers and that the board members may want to fully seat the board before choosing officers, with the exception of a chair and an interim treasurer.

She suggested the board appoint Floyd to continue in the role of treasurer on an interim basis.

The resolution, which was also approved unanimously, waives the board officer election for vice chair and treasurer for one month in order for the vacancy to be filled, appoints Floyd as the treasurer for one month or until the board elects a new treasurer, and indicates that the board would proceed with electing a chair at the May meeting “in order to ensure that the obligations of the Chair are fulfilled.”

The board then moved on to the election of the board chair.

Hooper asked if Alfred would be willing to serve again, explaining he liked the continuity that would provide with the new board members.

After Hooper turned his question into a motion, Alfred was re-elected to serve as chair.

How to apply
Qualified candidates must be

registered to vote in Colorado and either reside in the district or own taxable real or personal property in the district, which is comprised of all of Archuleta County and small parts of Hinsdale and Mineral counties.

Self-Nomination forms are available on the Pagosa Springs Medical Center website, www.pagosaspring-medicalcenter.org, or by contacting the board clerk, Antoinette Martinez, at Antoinette.Martinez@psmedical-center.org or (970) 507-3814.

Completed forms are due back to the USJHSD no later than 4 p.m. on June 11.

randi@pagosasun.com



On May 14, volunteers from the Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs took part in a community service project at Rotary’s Community Garden, located near the Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership domes. Pictured, left to right, are Ronnie Doctor, Warren Brown, Melanie Garrett and Shellie Peterson.

Photo courtesy Shellie Peterson

Archuleta County announces new landfill hotline number

By Ashley Springer
Archuleta County

Archuleta County has had quite a windy spring, which has required the landfill to close down with last-minute notice more often than we would like. In an effort to better communicate those closures with

residents, Archuleta County Public Works Director Mike Torres has implemented a new hotline number residents can call on inclement weather days.

For both safety and environmental reasons, the state of Colorado implements regulations primarily to prevent windblown debris when

sustained winds of 40 mph or more are prevalent. Sustained meaning one hour or longer. Landfill operators and county authorities have the final say, always keeping resident and employee safety at the forefront.

On windy or red flag days, please call (970) 264-8416 prior to making the trip down County Road 500. A

recording will inform residents of the landfill’s current standing. In addition, the county communications team will continue to do its best in simultaneously updating social media.

The landfill is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Obituary

Daniel Bruce Keuning

Sept. 8, 1970-Dec. 18, 2024

Dan was born and raised in Southern California to Bruce and Evelyn Keuning and sister Julie (Chase) Poindexter. His family — wife Lisl, sons Jake and Josh and daughter Kylie (Cam) Hinger, father Bruce (Pat) — and many extended family members walked with him through his extended illness.

Dan attended Calvin College, Grand Rapids, Mich., where he received his nursing degree and met his wife, Lisl. They were married in December 1993 and shortly thereafter moved to Pagosa Springs, Colo., to settle and start their family. This is where Dan opened the Mercy Home Health and Hospice office in Pagosa Springs. Dan also earned his master’s

degree in nursing, becoming a nurse practitioner during this time. Dan loved working with all his various co-workers and providers, and all his patients became his extended family. He had so many stories and just loved all of you.



Pagosa was home for 28 years, where they raised their three children, Jake, Josh and Kylie. Dan believed in living life to the fullest. He was grounded in relationships and in serving others. His life was based on faith, family and friends. He believed God put him on earth to serve others, and he did this well. Whether he was

your dad, health provider or hunting partner, Dan was there for you. He helped start Pagosa Bible Church and served his community in every way he could find. If you knew Dan, he was always laughing and always busy. He was a friend to all.

In 2018, Dan was diagnosed with frontal temporal dementia (FTD). This caused his early “retirement” from all his jobs and began a long journey of challenges. He was thrilled to be able to stay in Pagosa and watch our youngest graduate there and then moved to Grand Rapids, Mich., to be closer to family and the medical help that he needed. Dan was additionally diagnosed with ALS in 2022 — a few more challenges were added to his life.

There were many adventures along the way. Dan, Lisl and kids learned how to intentionally choose joy

through the journey — God had a plan through both the good and bad. This was not an easy journey, but choosing joy made it more bearable. One of his biggest goals he achieved was to be able to walk his daughter down the aisle as she married Cam Hinger, and to see his children become fantastic people. Nothing made him prouder than his children. Dan put his whole heart and soul into relationships, and it showed. His presence is missed. He has run the race well and he is with our Lord Jesus, happy and whole.

We will be celebrating Dan’s life on June 9 at 5:30 p.m. at Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive, with snacks and stories (appropriate, please) to follow. All are welcome.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to any of the following: Faith Hospice of Michigan, Susan Mast ALS Foundation or Pagosa Bible Church.

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June 12	Jackson Mountain Ramblers Project Sanctuary
June 19	Bo DePena Build Pagosa
June 26	Max Miller San Juan Headwaters Forest Health Partnership

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Business

County unemployment rate falls in April

By **Randi Pierce**
Staff Writer

Archuleta County's unemployment rate fell to 4.0 percent in April from 4.5 percent in March, according to a recent report from the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment (CDLE).

Archuleta County's rate of 4.0 percent in April compares to 3.6 percent in April 2024.

Archuleta County's labor force totaled 6,991 in March, according to the report, with 281 unemployed. That compares to a March labor force of 6,891 and 311 unemployed.

Colorado's unemployment rate remained at 4.8 percent for the month — the same as the month prior.

According to the survey of households, the number of unemployed individuals increased by 2,100 to 158,700 from March to April.

"Colorado's labor force increased by 2,600 in April to 3,283,400," state a press release from the CDLE. "The share of Coloradans participating in the labor force was 67.8 percent in

April, unchanged from the month prior."

Mineral County had the highest unemployment rate in the state in March at 8.8 percent, with Costilla County following at 7.8 percent.

Regionally, the data shows La Plata County with a 4.2 percent unemployment rate in April, San Juan County at 3.7 percent, Mineral County at 8.8 percent, Rio Grande County at 5.0 percent and Conejos County at 4.6 percent.

The national unemployment rate remained unchanged from March to April, coming in at 4.2 percent.

The national unemployment rate also increased by one-tenth of a percentage point from February to March to land at 4.2 percent, the report indicates. The U.S. labor force participation rate increased one-tenth of a percentage point to 62.6 percent in April.

Job growth

Employers in Colorado gained 8,400 nonfarm payroll jobs from March to April for a total of 2,982,000

jobs, according to the survey of business establishments. Private-sector payroll jobs increased by 6,900, while government added 1,500 jobs.

The press release accompanying the report notes, "March estimates were revised up to 2,973,600, and the over the month change from February to March was an increase of 7,600 jobs rather than the originally estimated increase of 6,800 (monthly revisions are based on additional responses from businesses and government agencies since the last published estimates)."

Nonfarm payroll jobs estimates are based on a survey of business establishments and government agencies, and are intended to measure the number of jobs, not the number of people employed.

The private-industry sectors with significant over-the-month job gains in April were in education and health services at about 4,800, and leisure and hospitality at about 4,300.

The private-industry sector with significant over-the-month job losses was professional and business ser-

vices at about 2,600.

Since April 2024, nonfarm payroll jobs have increased 23,200, with the private sector increasing by 9,000 and government adding 14,200 jobs, according to the report.

The largest private-sector job gains were in leisure and hospitality at about 8,300, educational and health services at about 5,400, and construction at about 1,100.

During that same period, payroll jobs declined in professional and business services by about 2,400; trade, transportation and utilities by about 1,900; and other services by about 1,500.

"Colorado's rate of job growth over the past year is 0.8 percent, below the U.S. rate of 1.2 percent," the press release states.

Over the year, the average work-week for all Colorado employees on private nonfarm payrolls increased from 33.4 to 33.1 hours, while average hourly earnings grew from \$37.80 to \$39.10 — \$3.04 more than the national average hourly earnings of \$36.06.

randi@pagosasun.com

More improvements coming to help navigate downtown

By **Mary Jo Coulehan**
Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce

Now that Memorial Day has passed, the community is welcoming and bracing for our influx of tourists. Many a business is glad of that transition after the doldrums of April.

We have been spending time talking about supporting our businesses, especially in the downtown district. There are more events, programs, signage and information that is coming on board to help us navigate the summer downtown.

If you missed last week's Chamber article, find it at www.PagosaSUN.com. That article describes the new Certified Tourism Ambassador Partner Program.

There are some great opportunities for your business and your employees to gain lots of tourism knowledge, and a chance to earn extra money, marketing and exposure for your business as a certified partner.

Contact Jennie Green at sales@visitpagosasprings.com or Mary Jo Coulehan at director@pagosachamber.com.

Driving downtown you will now see some green feather flags indicating "Business Access." These banners are meant to help direct traffic to some of those businesses set back from the highway or at entrances on the highway where it may be hard to

see where the turn in is. We will be assessing these banners and determining the best placement.

There is also signage for pedestrians to better direct them to the appropriate crosswalks. This signage will be visible from the Overlook parking area, at crosswalks and to crosswalks from various points around the downtown area. Look for the little purple walking icon. Some of the pedestrian signage will actually be on the sidewalks.

In addition, the Visitor Center has cards that indicate where the parking areas are and where the Mountain Express Transit (MET) routes are.

Please be aware that the MET will have shuttle service in the downtown area with routes from the various parking lots including west of the library, south of The Springs Resort and from the Mary Fisher Park area, which also includes the parking at the base of Reservoir Hill.

Does your business have these cards readily available for your clients, especially the businesses on the west side of town, including restaurants and lodging facilities? Give these cards out to customers to better inform our visitors and help them avoid the confusion once they get downtown.

Come and pick up these cards or contact us at the Chamber and we will get them to your business. We are also looking at additional signage to more clearly mark our larger parking lots.

La Plata Electric Association board election results announced

By **Amanda Anderson**
La Plata Electric Association

Results of the 2025 La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) board election were announced at the cooperative's annual meeting on May 21.

This meeting was held to elect and seat new directors, as well as present LPEA's 2024 annual report and accomplishments.

In accordance with LPEA bylaws, one seat in each of LPEA's four districts comes up for election annually.

Detailed election results are as follows. There were no bylaw amendments on the ballot for this election term.

- District 1 (Archuleta County): Dusty Mars won with 1,075 votes. Candidate Holly Metzler received 739 votes.

- District 2 (south and west La Plata County): Candidate Brad Blake won with 1,768 votes. Candidate Terry Greiner received 401 votes and candidate Greg Barber received 367 votes.

- District 3 (city of Durango): Candidate Joe Lewandowski won with 1,718 votes. Candidate David Peters received 640 votes.

- District 4 (north and east La Plata County): Candidate John Witchel won with 1,391 votes. Candidate Lyle McKnight received 1,337 votes.

Of the 37,384 eligible voters in all districts, a total of 9,446 LPEA members cast votes for a 25.27 percent return rate. Of these, 4,433 (47 percent) were cast using LPEA's new online voting option.

This year marked a milestone with the introduction of online voting. The added convenience appears to have played a key role in increasing turnout, with nearly half of voters casting their ballots online.

Officers will be seated at the next meeting of the LPEA Board of Directors, scheduled for June 18 beginning at 9 a.m. at LPEA in Durango. Members can join virtually (or attend in person). Meeting details can be accessed at lpea.coop/lpea-board-directors-resources.

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Chairman Vets4Vets Memorial Golf Tournament

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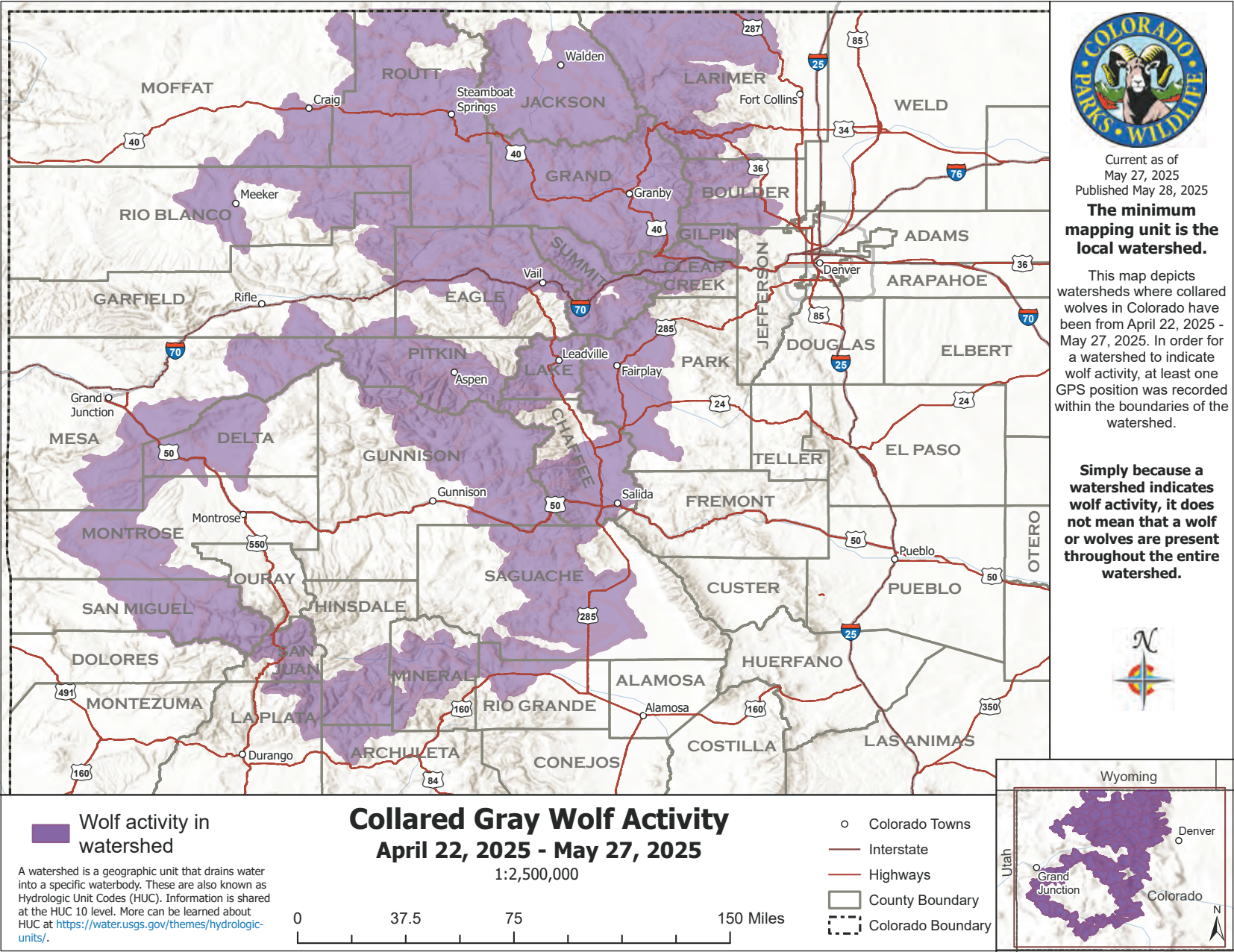
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Wolf

■ Continued from front that CPW released May 28.”

Livingston further explains that some large movements by translocated wolves were expected as the wolves explore their new surroundings after release.

CPW releases a monthly gray wolf activity map on its website the fourth Wednesday of every month to inform the public of wolf movements by watershed, he adds.

“Translocated wolves are currently exploring the Colorado landscape and, as wolf population numbers grow, some wolves will migrate to establish new territories,” according to Livingston. “Wolves are habitat generalists, meaning they can thrive in a wide variety of environmental conditions and habitats. As long as prey is available, wolves are highly adaptable. It is anticipated that wolves will

expand their distribution throughout the state widely over time.”

Livingston also notes that CPW field staff are working with locals regarding the presence of wolves in their areas.

“CPW field staff are in ongoing communication with local agricultural producers, local government officials, law enforcement partners and Tribal leaders regarding the presence of wolves in their areas,” he wrote. “CPW will continue to collaborate on ways to minimize the risk of depredation. Staff continues to perform site assessments and identify ways to effectively mitigate potential conflicts.”

He adds CPW also published a Wolf-Livestock Conflict Minimization Program Guide, available at <https://cpw.widencollective.com/assets/share/asset/pzqhpbz13>.

The guide, he explains, “provides information on a variety of tools and

methods available for livestock producers to employ in efforts to reduce the likelihood of wolf-livestock conflicts and establishes a framework for CPW’s response, along with available support from other state, federal and nongovernmental organizations.”

What if you see a wolf?

“CPW encourages anyone who believes they have seen a wolf to fill out the wolf sighting form found on our website. In addition to the wolf sighting form, members of the public can also find information on living and recreating in areas where wolves live,” Livingston wrote.

Sightings can be reported at cpw.state.co.us/wolf-sightings.

The site also includes information on how to differentiate wolves and

coyotes.

Wolf reintroduction and living with wolves

Proposition 114, now Colorado Revised Statute 33-2-105.8, was approved by Colorado voters on Nov. 3, 2020, directing the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission to develop a plan to introduce and manage gray wolves in Colorado west of the Continental Divide.

Reintroduction began in 2023 with 10 wolves and has continued, including with 15 wolves that were translocated from the central interior of British Columbia to Colorado earlier this year, according to CPW.

For information on living with wolves, visit <https://cpw.state.co.us/living-wolves>.

Celebration



Photo courtesy Shanna Robb

Amelia and Rachael Berndt, incoming sophomores at the University of Wyoming and Southeast Missouri State University, were two of three Deacon Pat McKenzie Memorial Scholarship recipients. Each recipient received a \$3,000 scholarship that was funded by the Knights of Columbus Council #7560. The scholarships were announced during the May 25 Holy Mass at Pope John Paul II Catholic Church.

Sales tax revenues up through each month of first quarter

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

Overall sales tax collections for March of this year increased 9.12 percent compared to figures from 2024, according to data released recently by Archuleta County Finance Director Chad Eaton.

That equates to \$129,489.44 more received this past March than in March 2024.

Sales tax collections have been up every month from January through March of this year compared to 2024 figures.

Eaton notes that the Town of Pagosa Springs and Archuleta County received a total of \$1,548,703.40 from the March sales tax and retail marijuana sales tax revenues, with \$773,718 going to the county and \$774,985.40 going to the town.

Categories that were up in comparison to March 2024 according to Eaton’s data include:

- Manufacturing at 22.55 percent, or \$11,330.69.
 - Retail trade at 7.15 percent, or \$54,134.42.
 - Information at 11.04 percent, or \$2,854.56.
 - Accommodation and Food Services at 14.54 percent, or \$40,149.96.
 - Miscellaneous at 15.37 percent, or \$29,243.69.
 - Eaton’s data also identifies categories that were down in comparison to March 2024, which include:
 - Construction at 6.87 percent, or \$3,040.31.
 - Finance and Insurance at 5.88 percent, or \$94.74.
 - Real Estate, Rental and Leasing at 6.74 percent, or \$2,308.37.
 - Professional, Scientific and Technical Services at 9.85 percent, or \$1,591.30.
 - Other Services (except Public Administration) at 5.19 percent, or \$1,191.16.
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SUN photo/Clayton Chaney
Pagosa Springs Elementary School Principal Kelly Vining presents the restructuring of her school's reading intervention program during the Archuleta School District Board of Education meeting on Tuesday, May 13.

School

■ Continued from front

during “What I Need (WIN) time.”

During that time, students who are performing above grade level receive enrichment activities and participate in book circles, students performing below grade level receive small group instruction and students performing at grade level continue to receive more grade-level material, she explained.

Vining then explained that for students where tier one and two instruction is not sufficient enough “to close gaps,” tier three instruction is given through an individualized mode, with a ratio of one teacher to three students, or fewer.

In response to a question from BOE member Tim Taylor, Vining explained that students below grade level are progress monitored with weekly Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills, or DIBELS, tests, while students at or above grade level are progress checked at the beginning, middle and end of school year, “because we don’t need to have extra testing just for them.”

“Every student’s getting tier one and tier two instruction,” Vining added.

She went on to explain that the “ideal model” would have 80 percent of students performing on grade level, 5 to 10 percent slightly below and 1 to 5 percent more than slightly below, noting that all three tiers are “stacked” on top of each other.

“So, a student who needs the most intensive support will get all three,” she said.

Vining then explained that, in the past, the elementary school had a system in place where students were not receiving all three tiers.

“We actually in the elementary school have had a system in the past where kids did not actually receive all three tiers, so when I became the principal I made this schedule to make sure that kids could actually

have an opportunity to have tier one, two and three instruction, and not just pretend to get it,” Vining stated as she referenced a schedule for instruction times.

Vining explained that she wants to make sure that all teachers have time to meet with each other to discuss the school’s data and core instruction.

“All tiers are built in for reading for every grade level,” she said.

Vining also mentioned there will be four paraprofessionals so that students are working in groups of one to five, whereas in the current model the lowest five to 10 students are pulled out of class and go with two interventionists.

Vining also mentioned that she was an interventionist for one year.

She noted that in the 2022-2023 school year the program was restructured to focus on kindergarten through second-grade students, and the school moved from having four interventionists down to two.

She explained that third- and fourth-grade students “have not had intervention instruction provided by interventionists, it’s all been in grade level,” beginning in 2022.

She then explained that with the restructuring of the program, those two positions would be broken up, with one becoming an additional paraprofessional.

Vining indicated that there will be a total of five next year, with another position becoming an instructional coach to support “the learning and teaching that is happening in every single classroom,” kindergarten through fourth grade.

Vining explained that the restructuring of the program better aligns intervention practices and core instruction, “which is something that some of our teachers are fighting for because they have seen success in their own groups.”

She went on to mention that any new “replans” are a collective responsibility of coaches, teachers and

principals.

BOE member Amanda Schick inquired about who oversees the progress monitoring of students.

Vining explained that grade-level teachers are responsible for that, and there is no change in that aspect.

“There is no change in the replan creation or progress monitoring,” she said, noting that students in tier three may have additional progress monitoring.

Vining clarified that the model for next year still has students receiving tier two in the classroom, with paraprofessionals moving into grade-level support.

Vining explained that with the new system, students will still receive targeted instruction through all three tiers as needed, noting the shift in what the restructuring is doing is focusing on tier one in order to reach the most students and prevent more from needing to receive tier two and three instruction.

BOE president Bob Lynch asked if the goal is to “shrink” the “red bar,” referring to the percentage of students performing below grade level, and if that is possible to do in one year.

Vining explained that she has seen that type of progress in one year, but noted that it depends on a number of factors.

She explained that the first-grade team “spoke up and advocated for team mindset,” integrating tiers one and two across the entire day.

“They were not letting any kids slip,” she said.

Taylor asked for clarification on if first-grade students have been in the current model.

Vining explained that first grade has been using the current model, while third and fourth grades have not had intervention support.

Vining also indicated that there has been one grade-level teacher who has shown concern over the restructuring of the program.

Schick asked if it is not the “general feeling” that this restructuring is going to put too much pressure on regular grade-level teachers to accommodate all these students, noting she wants to make sure the “pendulum” is not swinging too far “the other way” now.

“I have no indicator that that will happen,” Vining replied, explaining that no homeroom teachers have expressed that to her.

“It should not create any additional work,” she added.

Schick also asked about behavior issues with students who are performing at or above grade level.

“Do you have any concerns related to the classroom teacher’s ability to differentiate that many kids?”

“They’re currently differentiating that many kids. That’s not a change,” Vining replied, adding that behavior problems may arise because of “boredom.”

In an attempt to “minimize confusion,” Schick stated, “there is no tier two or tier three kid who is going to lose direct academic instruction from

■ See School A8

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School

■ **Continued from A7**

this restructuring, correct?”

“No, I would never do that,” Vining said, noting that the students won’t even notice the change.

Schick also asked Vining about any plans to communicate the changes to the program to the community.

“I personally believe that there’s not a huge change in what students and families will experience,” Vining said, explaining that if she needed to communicate that through a newsletter, she would be happy to do so.

“Nothing will change for the student,” Vining added, explaining that she would want to be mindful of her wording given that people have expressed that intervention is going away, but reiterated that the services to students are not changing.

Lynch then turned to ASD Superintendent Rick Holt for his thoughts on the matter.

Holt explained that he checked in with Vining “early in the process,” asking many of the same questions the board was asking, about whether or not students would receive any less instruction or if there would be an impact on the staff.

“Once I was assured that that was not the case ... I had no reservations,” Holt said, explaining that students will continue to receive the same services and be progress monitored as required by the Reading to Ensure Academic Development (READ) Act.

Holt explained that he also believes that enhancing tier one instruction by supporting teachers with a high-quality curriculum “is the best way to progress.”

Prior to Vining presenting the restructuring changes, a few public comments were given on the matter, with Vining expressing thanks for people coming to speak up.



Photo courtesy U.S. Forest Service

The Freeman Fire, located in the First Notch area, puts up smoke on May 25 near a power transmission line that feeds Archuleta County. Firefighters took an “aggressive firefighting tactic” due to the values at risk.

Fire

■ **Continued from front**

helping to keep fire behavior at a minimum, and that fire crews would remain on scene in the following days to patrol and mop up.

“I am glad that we have staff that advocate for our students,” she said, addressing members of the public in the audience with signs expressing concern over the restructuring.

“I love that we have staff that care about our kids that much,” Vining added.

Vining expressed that she wants all students to do well, specifically commenting on Title I reading and math intervention teacher Kristeen Harris, noting that there is “no one on the planet who can teach reading better than Kristeen.”

Public comment

Harris has been a certified educator since 1991 and joined ASD in 2006, where she then became an interventionist in 2014.

Harris expressed concerns over the restructuring with her public comment (she also spoke at the April meeting), noting that when the restructuring was presented to her and other staff, Vining indicated that it was “due to constant behavioral interruptions in the classroom” and that “teachers were feeling burnt out and finding it increasingly difficult to maintain a quality learning environment.”

Harris claimed that the restructuring “omits our Title I reading and math intervention program, to be replaced by an academic behavior coach for the classroom teachers.”

She explained that it is her opinion “that this plan will leave our most academically at risk students behind.”

“I wholeheartedly disagree with this restructuring plan because it is not in the best interest of students, nor our classroom teachers,” Harris said, explaining that she believes it will increase the workload of already overburdened teachers because

they have to plan and oversee tier three interventions, adding that the restructuring does not account for any additional time.

Harris then explained that tier three interventions should not be implemented by a “para-aide” and that the Colorado Department of Education “clearly states that tier three interventions must be implemented by a highly qualified teacher with the skills necessary to support the needs of the students.”

Harris urged the BOE, as it listened to Vining’s presentation, to keep in mind what is in the best interest of the students, especially the lowest academic students.

The other comment given on the matter during the meeting was from a mother, joined by her daughter, who expressed that the Title I intervention has been extremely helpful in her students’ academic success.

Interviews

In a later interview, Holt explained that the restructuring of the interventionist program is not something the BOE will need to vote on.

He mentioned that the agenda for the BOE’s next meeting is not set, but noted, “I’m not anticipating any further conversation about it.”

Holt explained that the primary concern from him and the BOE was if students will receive required interventions if this change is made.

“I believe that Ms. Vining showed that that was gonna happen,” he said, explaining that principals need to have freedom “to restructure schools to best meet the needs of their students.”

When asked if there is an openness amongst staff to move forward with the restructuring, Holt stated, “I believe that Ms. Vining has done

the work necessary to ensure that the rest of the staff is comfortable moving forward.”

Holt also explained that he has not received any other feedback from other staff or families about the restructuring.

“The only concerns we’ve had were at those board meetings,” he said.

In a later interview, Harris stated, “I still have concerns.”

Harris explained that it is her understanding that the district is hiring an academic coach for teachers kindergarten through second grade who will also serve as a behavior coach for kindergarten through fourth grades.

Harris explained that one of her concerns is that the restructuring will add more work to classroom teachers, who will now have to plan tier three interventions.

She mentioned that the tier three planning will be done by a licensed and certified teacher, but that the implementation of it will be done by an intervention aide, noting those are the “lowest paid and the hardest worked” employees.

Harris also expressed concerns that the aides may not have the required training needed, adding that she believes the lowest academic students should have the highest-qualified teachers working with them.

Harris also mentioned that this has been the “best year ever” in intervention, adding that she wants the district to “do right” by the students.

Harris expressed that the restructuring may work out fine, but that parents and families should be notified of the changes.

“I’m not being emotional; I’m sticking to the facts,” she added, noting that her concerns are not “geared” toward a single person, but to the system as a whole.

In an email to The SUN, Vining wrote, “Whenever there are changes in programs and/or staffing, it is understandable that questions will be raised. This particular change raised a few questions, and I feel confident that once we were able to demonstrate that this particular adjustment would maintain the level of interventions we have in place for all students, the majority of those questions were resolved.”

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A Lasting Legacy: Principal Chris Hinger Retires After Nearly 30 Years of Service



With deep gratitude and appreciation, we announce the upcoming retirement of Chris Hinger, our longstanding and deeply respected Middle School Principal. After nearly three decades of dedicated service to the Archuleta School District, Mr. Chris Hinger has decided to retire at the end of this school year.

Chris’ journey with our district began in 1995 as a Junior High Science teacher and coach, where he inspired students with his passion for learning and mentorship. In 2003, he stepped into leadership as the Junior High Principal, a role he held until 2010 when he led the transition to our combined 5th-8th grade Middle School. Since then, Chris has been the driving force behind the school’s success, always striving to make it the best middle school possible for students, staff, and the community.

His unwavering dedication to the education of the whole child has been a hallmark of his leadership. Chris has fostered a school culture where academic excellence, personal growth, and community engagement go hand in hand. His commitment to students and staff has created an environment where everyone is valued, supported, and encouraged to reach their full potential. When reflecting on his educational career at Pagosa Springs Middle School, Hinger said, “I love the students, the staff, and the community. If I had to do it all over again, I wouldn’t change a thing.” Hinger’s final motivation to his staff was to challenge every member of the organization to keep pushing to be the best middle school in Colorado, hold a high bar for themselves and their students, and expect great things.

On behalf of the ASD community, we extend our heartfelt thanks to Chris for his years of service, leadership, and passion for education. His impact on generations of students, his colleagues, and our community is immeasurable, and his legacy will continue to shape and inspire our schools for years to come.

Please join us in celebrating Chris’ remarkable career and wishing him the best in his next chapter. We thank Mr. Chris Hinger for his years of unwavering dedication, steady leadership, and heartfelt service. Wishing you all the best in this well-earned next chapter of life—may it be as rewarding as the legacy you leave behind. Go Pirates!

With gratitude

Graduations

■ **Continued from front**

Mackenzie Moraine earned the distinction of class valedictorian, with Kate Cernosek earning the salutatorian title.

The school’s annual Character Award will go to Zayda Skai Cardoso.

The class chose “Alright” by Kendrick Lamar as its class song, the lotus as its class flower and “Stay in class”

as its class motto.

The school’s annual rose ceremony will feature purple roses, representing royalty, the extraordinary and mystery.

Jami Harms will serve as the graduation speaker.

“On behalf of the entire staff at San Juan Mountain School, I would like to wish our graduates the very best

in all of their endeavors,” Principal Stewart wrote in an email to The SUN addressing the graduates. “We will miss you all and appreciate the work you put in to make our community stronger and the education of all our students more valuable. You’ve left a positive mark on our school and in our hearts.”

randi@pagosasun.com



Memorial Day service

SUN photos/Randi Pierce
Community members and local leaders come together to honor those who lost their lives in service to the United States during a Memorial Day ceremony Monday at Hilltop Cemetery. In addition to honoring those who died while serving, a list of Archuleta County veterans who passed in the last year was read.



County approves additional public health services

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

During its regular meeting on Tuesday, May 20, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) unanimously approved the additional public health programming and personnel in order to provide basic primary care, women's health and reproductive services through the Archuleta County Public Health Department.

Public Health Director Ashley Wilson initially presented the matter to the Board of Health (BoH) on May 8, with the BoH approving the request by vote of 3-1 with Commissioner Veronica Medina opposing the motion. Medina and Commissioner Warren Brown both sit on the BoH.

During the BoH meeting, after Wilson's presentation on the request, Medina explained that she is concerned about the county's budget and what impacts of approving an additional position would have.

Medina also explained that what Wilson was presenting "sounds like a really great program" that could help

a potentially underserved population in the community.

"I need to look at it more," Medina said.

Wilson explained that the health department had applied for a grant from Caring for Colorado to fully fund the program for 18 months, but was denied due to not having the program already in place, and instead was offered \$30,000 in a grant to help start the program.

Wilson also mentioned that based on data from a community health survey distributed by Healthy Archuleta, there was a need expressed by the community for a bilingual basic care provider, as well as a need for access to women's health.

Wilson noted that if the county were to move forward with the program, services would be offered to uninsured persons as the county can not bill insurance at this time.

Wilson also clarified that the program would not offer prenatal care, but would offer services including pap smears, birth control and family planning.

The request is for one part-time

employee for no more than 15 hours per week, Wilson explained, noting that the nurse practitioner would likely be in the office on Fridays and for half a day on Saturdays. The position would not be eligible for county benefits.

Wilson then explained that the nurse practitioner hired as part of this program could perform physicals and drug tests needed for Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) verification.

She noted this would be one way the program could help save the county money and recuperate costs, noting the county currently has to send its employees to Durango for those services.

"There's no one else in Pagosa that does them," she said, noting those services could be offered to the public, as well.

Wilson noted that the county pays \$125 for CDOT physicals and an average of three hours of staff time, explaining that, if this program is approved, costs would come down to one hour of the nurse practitioner's time at roughly \$70 per hour.

During the BoH meeting, Brown asked if the difference in budgeting cycles and when these funds are available is why the county could not consider this a part of its 2026 budget process.

Wilson explained that the options for health department funding come in at different times, noting the program would need to start by January 2026.

Medina asked if the same women's health services are provided through Aspire, to which Wilson indicated they are not.

"I don't think it hurts to move forward," Brown stated, explaining there seems to be more to gain than there is to lose with this program.

During the May 20 BoCC meeting, Medina explained that she had done some more "homework" on the topic, adding, "I think it's a great idea. I'm not opposed."

Brown motioned to approve the additional programming and personnel for the county's health department, which was then unanimously approved by the BoCC.

clayton@pagosasun.com

Water district talks fire flow requirements

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

Discussions of the distribution of liability for approving new projects when the amount of water available for firefighting does not meet the requirements of the fire code took center stage at the May 22 meeting of the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) Board of Directors.

The discussion was multifaceted, covering requests for approvals and variances for projects by the Town of Pagosa Springs and Inter-Mountain Propane and potential changes to how PAWSD approves projects and engages with the Pagosa Fire Protection District (PFPD) about fire flow requirements.

The meeting followed a period of rising tensions and conflicts between PAWSD and the PFPD over the PFPD's willingness to allow projects where the fire flows available do not meet the standards in the district's fire code and concerns from PAWSD about if allowing such projects to move forward would expose the dis-

trict to future lawsuits.

At previous meetings, PAWSD board members raised concerns about how the district not receiving clear waivers of the fire flow requirements from the PFPD for projects with insufficient flows, which PAWSD board members and staff stated that PFPD was not providing, could open the district to liability if a building with insufficient fire flows were to burn.

Following an executive session called by the board to receive legal counsel on issues related to the PFPD and fire flows, public discussion of the topic began with Town of Pagosa Springs Development Director James Dickhoff presenting a request for expedited review of modeling and a mainline extension agreement for expanded fire lines and 13 new fire hydrants in downtown Pagosa Springs.

Dickhoff explained that the addition of the hydrants would address the "limited" number of fire hydrants downtown and would occur in coordination with the Colorado Depart-

ment of Transportation (CDOT) work on U.S. 160.

He explained that the town is investing \$7.5 million into various improvements in the area of the project, including improvements to water and sewer lines downtown.

This work is a priority because it will be far more expensive after the construction is done, Dickhoff stated.

He explained that the town worked with the PFPD and PAWSD staff to plan the work and that the improvements would be part of the town's contract with WW Clyde, who is also the CDOT contractor for the project.

WW Clyde is currently working on improvements and installing sewer lines on the 100 and 200 blocks of U.S. 160, and the paving on these blocks will likely begin in three or four weeks, Dickhoff explained.

The town project will involve installing a loop of water lines from near the bell tower at the junction of U.S. 160 and Lewis Street, along the 400 block of U.S. 160 in front of the businesses there and continuing up 4th Street to connect to a water line

in the Lewis Street alley, he stated.

Three hydrants will be added in the area, according to Dickhoff, including one near the bell tower, one midway through the block and one near the 4th Street intersection.

Dickhoff explained that the need for water modeling for the project had only recently come to his attention and that Mike Davis of Davis Engineering, who is doing the engineering for the project, would submit the necessary information to PAWSD's engineer, Steve Omer at Plummer and Associates.

The project would also add more hydrants in the 100 and 200 blocks, Dickhoff stated, and these would be placed with the goal of having a hydrant approximately every 500 feet, as required by the fire code for areas where hydrants are expected to produce less than 1,750 gallons per minute (gpm).

He indicated that hydrants in this

■ See Flow A15



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Live Your Colorado Dream!



33 Fawn Court
\$1,000,000

MLS # 822945

This meticulously cared for full-round log cabin in uptown near Lake Forest spans 2,732 square feet, featuring 4 bedrooms and 3.5 bathrooms. Relax on the covered deck or backyard patio while taking in stunning mountain views. Inside, the open floor plan connects the great room with a cozy fireplace to a modern kitchen boasting granite countertops, high end appliances, and an island for extra prep space. The primary bedroom and bathroom are conveniently located on the main floor. A 2-car garage connects through the laundry area. Upstairs has two bedrooms and a full bathroom, while the lower level offers versatile space for entertainment or an office, plus a fourth bedroom set up as a bunk room with a full bath nearby.



1001 Soaring Eagle Court
\$925,000

MLS # 823461

2 Bed, 2 Bath, 2,073 sq foot house on 36.44 acres. Navajo River Ranch has 2 private entrances into the forest. This home has wonderful views of the San Juan Mountain Range and great decks. 2 tributaries come together to form a seasonal creek called Oil Well Creek on the property.
To tour this home go to:
<https://tinyurl.com/1001SoaringEagleCourt>



65 Caballero Drive
\$725,000

MLS # 823461

This home is perfectly located on approximately an acre of land in the Pagosa Lakes area. Open the back door and a 700 sq ft deck will provide additional space for a BBQ grill, plenty of outdoor seating, and a new hot tub for your relaxation and enjoyment. 4 beds/2.5 baths with 2,350 sq. ft.
To tour this home go to:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=q0khZeKE-G0

Own Your Own Piece of Colorado Land!



1223 Trails Boulevard
\$647,800

MLS # 824043

Discover this stunning, near new 1,640 sq. ft. ranch-style, built in 2022, perfect for your next home. This 3-bedroom, 2-bath home features a 2-car garage and an open floor plan with 9-foot and vaulted ceilings. The spacious 223 sq. ft. primary bedroom includes a walk-in closet with custom shelving and a luxurious bath with a glass-enclosed tiled shower and double vanity. The large kitchen offers a 5'x10' pantry, Samsung appliances, an induction range, under-cabinet lighting, and granite countertops.



324/356/294 Sparrow Circle
\$330,000

MLS # 821243

3 separate lots 4.5 Acres total with no HOA or Covenants. This 2-bedroom 1 bath home is purged and is in very good shape. This is a very solid home with a well-constructed snow shed over the top. There is a 2-vehicle carport and a workshop behind the carport. There is a road behind the house going up the hill to get to a couple of nice building sites. The views are amazing up there. This is an awesome property and if needed the two vacant lots could be sold separately.



X Tall Pines Place
\$265,000

MLS # 821844

35+ acres in Alpine Lakes Ranch with amazing views of Navajo Peak and the San Juan Mountain range. This property has a number of nice building sites with year-round road maintenance, central water and underground utilities at the road. The subdivision borders thousands of acres of National Forest and hunting is allowed. This is a wonderful property for your horses and it is only 18 miles from town.







Shellie Hogue
REALTOR®, BROKER
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Sports



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Pagosa Springs High School Pirate football players join donors for a ribbon-cutting ceremony to unveil new weight room equipment donated to the high school recently. Several individual donors and the Pagosa Springs Booster Club donated funds for the new equipment.

Pagosa Rangers wrap up strong season

By Abigail Karas
Pagosa Youth Soccer

The Pagosa Rangers youth soccer program closed out another strong season this spring, with more than 75 athletes competing across multiple age groups. Players represented Pagosa Springs at tournaments in Durango and Grand Junction, capping off a season focused on skill development, teamwork and positive growth, both on and off the field.

The club's focus remains on developing strong technical skills, collaboration and sportsmanship. While

competition is part of the journey, the emphasis stays on player development and a supportive team culture.

This season also marked the debut of a U12 girls' team, a big step toward expanding opportunities for female athletes in the program. Looking ahead, the club hopes to field both U12 and U15 girls teams for next season.

Due to high interest and full rosters this past year, the club will be capping team sizes next year.

Families are encouraged to register early to secure a spot. Registration for the 2025-2026 season opens June

15 and closes July 15, or sooner if teams fill up.

The club is accepting players born between 2007 and 2017. Skill assessments will be held in August, with the season starting shortly after.

For registration details and more information about the club and its programs, visit www.pagosayouthsoccer.org.

Rangers recruiting coaches

Pagosa Youth Soccer is also on the lookout for passionate, experienced coaches to help lead the next genera-

tion of Rangers.

As a traveling, competitive club, we're looking for individuals who bring strong soccer knowledge, leadership skills and a genuine commitment to player development. Coaching youth ages 8-15 is a rewarding way to support young athletes and help them grow both on and off the field.

To apply, send a letter of intent or resume to doc@pagosayouthsoccer.org.

The Rangers are proud of the progress made this season and excited for what's ahead as the program continues to grow.

Public Notices

Request for Proposal

The Archuleta School District is accepting proposals for upgrading the Pagosa Springs High School parking lot with accessibility improvements. Details of the RFP are located on the district's website mypagosaschools.com under District > Bids/RFPs/RFOs. All proposals are due by 2 p.m. on Monday, June 2, 2025. Please contact Josh Sanchez at jsanchez@pagosa.k12.co.us with any questions.

Board Member Opportunity

The Upper San Juan Health Service District (USJHSD) is seeking a member of the community to fill a vacancy of the Board of Directors. The USJHSD Board is responsible for steering the Upper San Juan Health Service District toward a sustainable future through sound, ethical, high-level governance. The USJHSD mission is to provide quality, compassionate healthcare for each person we serve.

The USJHSD Board is made up of volunteer board members who have relevant expertise. Further, qualified candidates must be an eligible elector (registered to vote in the State of Colorado and either reside in the District or own taxable real or personal property in the District which is comprised of all of Archuleta County and a small part of Hinsdale and Mineral Counties).

Self-Nomination forms are available on the Pagosa Springs Medical Center Website www.pagosapring-medicalcenter.org or by contacting the Board Clerk, Antoinette Martinez at Antoinette.Martinez@psmedicalcenter.org or (970) 507-3814. Qualified candidates interested in serving on the Board must submit completed self-nomination forms to USJHSD no later than 4:00 p.m. MST on Wednesday, June 11, 2025.

Published May 29, 2025 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (265581)

COMBINED NOTICE - PUBLICATION CRS §38-38-103 FORECLOSURE SALE

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.

MORTGAGORS CONSENT AND AGREE THAT THE MOBILE HOME DESCRIBED AS A1981 TIT 14 X 60 VIN #2210655587 IS, OR SHALL BE AFFIXED FORTHWITH TO THE REAL ESTATE ABOVE DESCRIBED, AND THAT THE SAID MOBILE HOME SHALL BECOME AND DOES HEREBY BECOME AN IMPROVEMENT UPON AND AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE REAL ESTATE AND SHALL NOT BE SEVERED FROM SAID REAL ESTATE WITHOUT THE PRIOR WRITTEN CONSENT OF THE RIO GRANDE SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION FIRST HAD AND OBTAINED, OR UNTIL THE NOTE AND ALL INDEBTEDNESSES DESCRIBED HEREIN IS PAID AND THIS DEED OF TRUST RELEASED. THE SAID ASSOCIATION RESERVES AND IS GRANTED THE RIGHT, IN EVENT OF FORECLOSURE OF THIS DEED OF TRUST, TO SEVER SAID PROPERTY FROM THE REALTY, AND DISPOSE OF EACH, EITHER JOINTLY OR SEPARATELY, AS THE ASSOCIATION DEEMS NECESSARY TO PROTECT ITS INTEREST.

Purported common address: 299 Canyon Cir, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147.

THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCUMBERED BY THE LIEN OF THE DEED OF TRUST.

NOTICE OF SALE

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

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

DATE: 03/05/2025

Elsa P. White, Public Trustee in and for the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado

By: Elsa P. White, Public Trustee

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

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)

DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO
Court Address: 109 Harman Park Drive
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Tel. 970.264.8160

Teal Landing Vacation Owners Association, Inc.
Plaintiff

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, Debora A Crane, James Bradley Shepherd, Shawn Kirkland, Rebecca Dunn, Doug Hooten, Judy V Hooten, Joe Shadid, Martha Shadid, Christine Howe, Paul Graite 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.

This is an *in rem* action of judicial foreclosure on your timeshare interest(s) located at Teal Landing Condominiums for failure to pay assessments to Teal Landing Vacation Owners Association, Inc. Published in the *Pagosa Springs Sun*
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)

DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO
Court Address: 109 Harman Park Drive
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Tel. 970.264.8160

Wyndham Vacation Resorts, Inc.
Plaintiff

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.

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.

This is an *in rem* action of judicial foreclosure on your timeshare interest(s) for failure to pay the Monthly Payments to Wyndham Vacation Resorts, Inc. Published in the *Pagosa Springs Sun*
First Publication: May 1, 2025
Last Publication: May 29, 2025
/s/ Christopher B. Conley
Christopher B. Conley

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

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, Norman 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

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.

This is an *in rem* action of judicial foreclosure on your timeshare interest(s) located at Peregrine Townhouses for failure to pay assessments to Peregrine Property Owners Association, Inc. Published in the *Pagosa Springs Sun*
First Publication: May 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29, 2025 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (263205)

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

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
TO THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO
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 Magie, 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 Aiken, 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

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.

This is an *in rem* action of judicial foreclosure on your timeshare interest(s) located at Peregrine Townhouses for failure to pay assessments to Peregrine Property Owners Association, Inc. Published in the *Pagosa Springs Sun*
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*. (263225)

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

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, Norman 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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First Publication: May 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29, 2025 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (263276)

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

Defendants
Deborah A Downing, 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

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION
TO THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO
TO THE FOLLOWING DEFENDANT(S) : Mona Archer, Candida Orndorf, Jeremy Vincent Hardin, Howard O Hartzog, Martha A Hartzog, Clarence E Christian, Trustee of the Clarence E Christian Trust of November 27, 2000, Penny A Trehan, Surviving Joint Tenant with Right of Survivorship of John Trehan, deceased, Wallace R Smith, Lois Mae Smith, D. Dickerson McCoy, Co-Trustee of the D. and F. McCoy Trust dated 9/30/99, Faye S. McCoy, Co-Trustee of the D. and F. McCoy Trust dated 9/30/99, Norma Rose, Surviving Joint Tenant with Right of Survivorship of Lowell Rose, deceased, Scott R Crawford, Angela L Crawford, Louis A Valencia, Julie K Valencia, Karen L McCoy, Jere D Fisher, Mona Jo Fisher, A. Darryl Rice, Charles Chubb, Surviving Joint Tenant with Right of Survivorship of Sharon Chubb, deceased, Juanita D Schmidt, Patrick A Dutton Sr, Kathleen J Dutton, Marc C Cuellar, Trudy R Cuellar, John B Smith, Annie R Smith, Menno Gaedert, Jessie M Gaedert

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.

This is an *in rem* action of judicial foreclosure on your timeshare interest(s) located at Peregrine Townhouses for failure to pay assessments to Peregrine Property Owners Association, Inc. Published in the *Pagosa Springs Sun*
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*. (263281)

DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO
Court Address: 109 Harman Park Drive
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Tel. 970.264.8160

Teal Landing Vacation Owners Association, Inc.
Plaintiff

Defendants
James E Sawyer, 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
TO THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO
TO THE FOLLOWING DEFENDANT(S) : Kalande 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, Zana Harlow, Jessica Cantu Garza, Marie A Garcia-Cravens, James Johnson, Paula Johnson

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 last publication, judgment by default may be rendered against you by the court for the relief demanded in the complaint without further notice.

This is an *in rem* action of judicial foreclosure on your timeshare interest(s) located at Teal Landing Condominiums for failure to pay assessments to Teal Landing Vacation Owners Association, Inc. Published in the *Pagosa Springs Sun*
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*. (263283)

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 situated in the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado, to wit:

Legal Description: PAGOSA IN THE PINES Block: 11 Lot: 59 5IP Sec: 16 Twn: 35 Rng: 2W and said County Treasurer issued a certificate of purchase therefor 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 C.R.S. 39-11.5-101 for initiation of the process for a deed to said real estate; Notice Is Hereby Given that on the first possible Auction date (unless the Auction is continued) at on Wednesday, September 3, 2025, I will sell at Public Auction to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property and all interest of said Lawful Holder, Lawful Holders' heirs and assigns therein, for the purpose of paying the indebtedness provided in said Application for a Public Auction of a Certificate of Option for Treasurer's Deed, plus fees, expenses of sale and other items allowed by law, and will deliver to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.

First Publication: 5/15/2025
Last Publication: 5/29/2025
Published in: PAGOSA SPRINGS SUN

Said property may be redeemed at any time prior to the actual Public Auction.

Witness my hand this 24th day of April 2025.

ELSA P. WHITE, TREASURER of Archuleta County, Colorado
Published May 15, 22 and 29, 2025 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (264184)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of James Edward Price, Jr., aka James E. Price, Jr., aka James E. Price aka James Price aka Jim Price, Deceased.

Case Number 2025 PR 30018

All persons having claims against the above-named estate are required to present them to the personal representative or to the District Court of Archuleta, County, Colorado on or before September 12, 2025, or the claims may be forever barred.

Lisa Diagne Price
164 Lisa Cawood
19275B Highway 151
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

Published May 15, 22, and 29, 2025 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (264190)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of Steven Lee Bass
Case Number 2025 PR 30019

All persons having claims against the above-named estate are required to present them to the personal representative or to the District Court of Archuleta, County, Colorado on or before September 15, 2025, or the claims may be forever barred.

Daniel L. Fiedler, Attorney at Law
190 Talisman Drive, Suite D-6
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

Published May 15, 22, and 29, 2025 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (264188)

LEGAL ADVERTISING DEADLINE NOON FRIDAY

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

BASEBALL

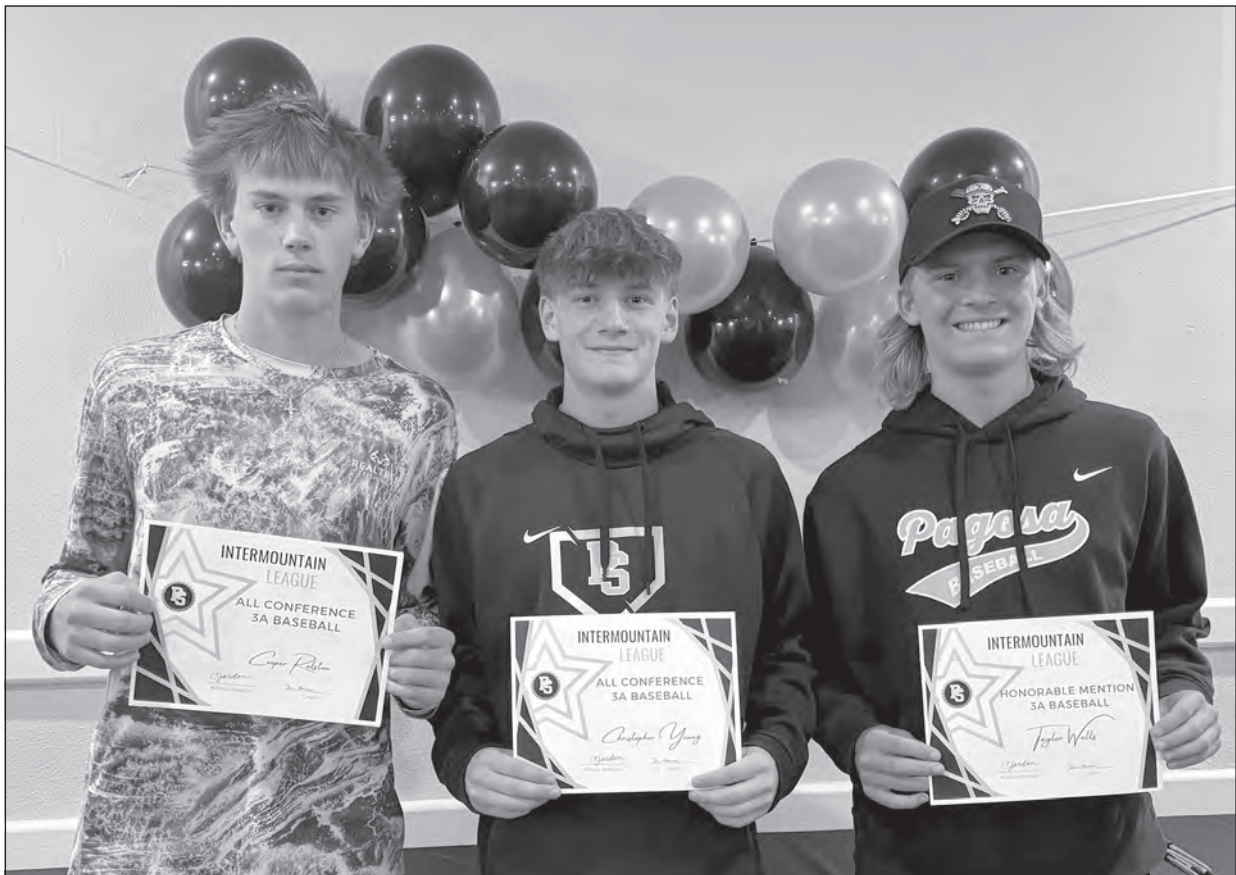


Photo courtesy Aubrie Limebrook
A trio of Pirate baseball players received Intermountain League honors for their work on the field during the spring season. From left, Cooper Ralston and Chris Young-Martinez earned all-conference honors, and Taylor Wells received an honorable mention.

RECREATION NEWS

Town recreation programs to offer summer fun

By Amanda Gadomski
Town of Pagosa Springs

The sun is out and the Town of Pagosa Springs' Recreation Department is serving up a full lineup of programs to keep you active, connected and having fun all summer long.

Softball season is right around the corner, and both men's and coed leagues are gearing up to play. Register your team online today and don't forget, the mandatory captains' meeting is June 9 at 6:30 p.m. Have questions? Just give the Recreation staff a call at (970) 264-4151, ext. 524.

Want something the whole family can enjoy? Sign up for our Family Pickleball Camp, running June 23-27. Open to youth ages 7-16, this camp also welcomes parents who want to learn the game with their kids. It's a great way to stay active and build memories together. These are just a few highlights;

there's plenty more happening this summer. From youth programs to adult leagues and special events, the Town's Recreation calendar is packed. Visit www.pagosasprings.co.gov, click the Parks and Rec button to check the full calendar, and register online today.

Pagosa Peak Open School playground construction underway

By Emily Murphy
Pagosa Peak Open School

After receiving a nearly \$700,000 grant from the Colorado Health Foundation, the Playground for the People at Pagosa Peak Open School is underway. The playground will double as a

park for the community, open to the public when the school is not in session and will be adjacent to the walking path near Walmart. The project is expected to be completed in August, before school is back in session. Pagosa Peak Open School students visited the Archuleta County

commissioners in April, requesting additional funding for this community park. The students were excited to hear that the county approved their request, with nearly \$70,000 more put toward the project. The playground will be the only public playground in uptown Pagosa,

and the only multitiered playground in the county. The school community is celebrating the start of this project with a groundbreaking ceremony at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 29. Pagosa Peak Open School is a free, K-8 district charter school focused on implementing a project-based learning curriculum in a restorative practices environment. To learn more about the school, visit pagosapeakopen-school.org.

SOCCER

SUN photo/Clayton Chaney


Multiple Lady Pirates received Intermountain League (IML) all-conference awards for the spring soccer season. Elizabeth Currier, left, was named to the IML second team, and Hailey Sams, right, was named to the IML first team. Not pictured is Adison Johnson, who was named to the IML first team, and Keira Davis, who garnered an honorable mention.



Pagosa Springs High School receives donation of pickleball equipment


By Tina Heffner
Pagosa Pickleball Club

On May 15, Laura Metallo, on behalf of the Pagosa Pickleball Club, met with Rose White and members of her Pagosa Springs High School freshman health/PE class. White is planning to include pickleball in her health/PE curriculum and she reached out to the club for guidance. After communicating with White, Metallo organized the effort to surprise her and numerous class members with the donation of 25 new pickleball paddles and 40 pickleballs from the Pagosa Pickleball Club.



Triple Impact Student-Athlete of the Week

Creede Dozier
Track and field



Favorite subject: English
Comments from coach Connie O'Donnell: "While Creede Dozier is a naturally talented athlete who excels in multiple sports, he is also an incredibly hard worker. Creede is dedicated to the sport of track and field and puts in the work so that he

can perform to his potential. Earlier this season, Creede broke a 20 year old school record in the long jump. This past week, Creede became the 3A long jump state champion. He is a leader on our team and a great teammate."



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Americana Project concert

SUN photos/Randi Pierce

Pagosa Springs High School Americana Project students take to the stage at the Tennyson Sculpture Park and Gardens on May 20. The students performed 22 songs during the concert, which served as the final for the class.



Flow

■ Continued from A11
area will likely produce about 1,000 gpm.

The exact placement of the hydrants will be dependent on locating areas where they will not conflict with other utilities being installed as part of the work on U.S. 160, Dickhoff stated.

Dickhoff outlined the approximate placement of the proposed hydrants, including one near the Humane Society Thrift Store, hydrants on the north and south sides of U.S. 160 in the middle of the block between 3rd and 2nd streets, hydrants on the north and south sides of U.S. 160 in the middle of the block between 2nd and 1st streets, and potentially a hydrant on the south side of U.S. 160 near 1st Street.

This project would cost about \$1.4 million, Dickhoff explained, including hydrants and fire lines, and the Pagosa Springs Town Council has already approved funding the proposal.

He highlighted that the project would improve the availability of water for firefighting downtown, even if the water pressures at the hydrants do not meet the 1,750 gpm required by the fire code.

Dickhoff closed his presentation by noting that the project would likely be prohibitively expensive if it does not occur in concert with the CDOT project and stating that he had come to answer any questions or concerns the board might have about the proposal.

Davis, who was also at the meeting, then spoke, explaining that the modeling would not be needed in this situation to judge the project's impact on everyday water demand since it would not alter demand and might actually improve the functioning of the downtown water system.

PFPD Fire Chief Robert Bertram commented that the project would have a "big impact" for the PFPD, increasing its capability to fight fires downtown by increasing its access to water.

He added that the district is "realistic" about the fact that making these hydrants reach the pressure standards of the fire code is likely not feasible.

Davis questioned if modeling would be necessary since the model would only provide information about water flow from the hydrants and the PFPD is likely not requiring that the hydrants meet flow standards.

PAWSD board chair Gene Tautges raised concerns about the fact that, if a fire occurs downtown, "somebody's going to get sued."

He commented that he would want the PFPD to waive the requirements for fire flow in writing to insulate PAWSD from liability for approving and serving projects with fire flow levels that do not meet the fire code requirements.

He characterized the issue as a "conundrum," pointing out that the district must balance its responsibility to its customers to reduce liability and working with other groups in the community.

PAWSD board member Alex Boehmer echoed Tautges' concerns about the district being sued for the insufficient fire flows if the requirements are not clearly waived.

Bertram commented that his priority is increasing access to water downtown and having the flow levels clearly identified to assist with maintenance.

He added that he would be willing to draft a letter accepting the flow levels at those hydrants.

The group then discussed if modeling would be necessary, with Davis and Bertram expressing that the model would be valuable, but that they were concerned about the modeling taking too long and delaying the work to the point that WW Clyde has already moved forward with paving and can no longer install the lines and hydrants.

Following a discussion of how fire hydrants impact the Insurance Services Office ratings for the community, Bertram stated that he approved the location of the proposed hydrants.

PAWSD Programs Manager Renee Lewis commented that the timeline of the process was the biggest issue for the proposal, and she and PAWSD District Engineer/Manager Justin Ramsey had discussed the issue and determined that the town could avoid the modeling process by maintaining ownership of the new lines and the hydrants connected to them instead of conveying them to PAWSD.

Ramsey added that this approach would also avoid the mainline extension request to PAWSD, which also requires board approval.

Tautges noted that, while it would be a "travesty" to miss the WW Clyde project, until that evening he had only seen a vague drawing from CDOT showing potential hydrant locations.

In response to a question from PAWSD board member Bill Hudson, Ramsey explained that PAWSD would normally do modeling on all the hydrant locations to assess how much water flow a hydrant would produce to ensure that the district can work with the developer on any upgrades needed to increase fire flows.

In the subsequent discussion of the project's logistics, Davis, Ramsey and Dickhoff explained that WW Clyde would begin paving on the 100 and 200 blocks of U.S. 160 within three to five weeks and that Plummer and Associates would have to do the modeling, but this might be delayed depending on what staff the company has available.

Responding to a question from PAWSD board member Glenn Walsh, Ramsey noted that the district anecdotally believes that the currently existing hydrant in the 400 block of U.S. 160 produces about 1,000 gpm.

He added that he discussed flow testing this hydrant with WW Clyde and CDOT, but they were concerned about that due to the water potentially creating mud in the construction zone.

Davis commented that he believes that all the hydrants will likely flow at 1,000 gpm or more.

Ramsey explained that district staff would want direction from the board on how, if at all, it wishes to diverge from the normal approval process for this project.

He also outlined that the normal process includes modeling and the mainline extension request process being done prior to the project being approved.

After this, he stated, the project construction can move forward and, after it is complete, the developer transfers ownership of the infrastructure to PAWSD.

Walsh asked Ramsey for his recommendation on how to move forward.

He stated that, if the PFPD is willing to waive the fire flow requirements, he would be willing to forgo modeling, although the project would still need engineered plans.

He added that foregoing the mainline extension request process would be a board decision.

Davis commented that the engineered plans could likely be completed in the next week.

Hudson asked Bertram how quickly the PFPD could provide a letter releasing PAWSD from legal risk of approving a project that does not meet the fire code.

Bertram stated that he would have to speak with PFPD legal counsel Dino Ross to draw up a letter, which could likely be done in a week.

Ramsey noted that Ross knows PAWSD's attorney, Marcus Lock, and suggested that the two attorneys could work together to expedite the process.

Walsh highlighted that this case could be a valuable test case for the process of addressing approvals with insufficient fire flows and clearly establishing lines of responsibility between the PFPD, PAWSD and other local governments.

Hudson proposed that the board could move to waive the modeling requirement contingent upon a letter from the PFPD approving the lower flow levels and immunizing PAWSD from responsibility for the flows.

Lewis noted that no letter would fully absolve PAWSD of liability.

She added that she would also have concerns about PAWSD being blamed for slowing down the CDOT project.

Lewis then reiterated that the town retaining ownership of the lines and hydrants would be the fastest way to move the project forward.

Dickhoff commented that this would be "complicated," that portions of this project would benefit PAWSD and that the town is "not in the water business."

Walsh proposed that the agreement between PAWSD, the PFPD and the town could use anecdotal evidence and tests of relevant currently existing hydrants to assess flow levels downtown in addition to the PFPD providing a statement of what flow levels it would find acceptable.

He added that the town could agree to upgrade the hydrants if the flows are lower than what the PFPD deems acceptable.

Dickhoff replied that the town would mark the hydrants as not meeting specifications and would not spend more money upgrading infrastructure for the hydrants in this case.

He added that the town is contributing \$1.4 million to the project and that it also frequently accepts liability for new infrastructure, just as the PAWSD board was concerned about doing.

Walsh responded that he was not suggesting that the town retain ownership of the hydrant infrastructure.

He added that the town is "extremely meticulous" about how it accepts infrastructure and "it isn't done

the way we're perhaps doing it today."

He added that he would want assurances from the town that, if the hydrants produce water at an unacceptably low level once the project is completed, it would pay for the improvements in exchange for waiving the modeling and mainline extension requirements.

Walsh questioned how much risk the town wants PAWSD to assume.

Davis commented that he would focus on the PFPD and, if it is willing to accept the flow levels as is, he would accept that.

Walsh questioned what would happen if the PFPD changes its mind once the project is completed and the results are available.

Bertram commented that the modeling would have the advantage of ensuring that there is sufficient flow at all the proposed hydrants, but that he did not expect the flow levels to be too low at any of the hydrants.

Davis proposed that they could test the flow levels by testing flow at nearby hydrants, as Walsh had previously suggested.

Ramsey commented that he would have PAWSD staff go out and test relevant hydrants as a substitute for modeling.

Walsh summarized the discussion, stating that, if the district could do hydrant flow testing to give the PFPD assurances about the likely flow levels and the PFPD and PAWSD's attorney could draft an agreement protecting PAWSD from liability, then the group would likely have a deal.

Hudson proposed that the PAWSD board should schedule a meeting to approve waiving the modeling and mainline extension processes as soon as PAWSD receives the plans from Davis and an agreement that both attorneys approve from the PFPD.

Walsh expressed approval for this idea, noting that the district would likely be dealing with many projects that do not meet fire code standards and that PAWSD, the PFPD and others would have to "work out a way to come to some agreements that protect everybody."

Lewis thanked Dickhoff, Davis and Bertram for coming to the meeting and commented that the project is an "incredible opportunity."

Dickhoff expressed his appreciation for PAWSD's assistance and support with the project.

Lewis commented that she would work with Bertram to help put Ross and Lock in contact.

She added that Lock and the district also have concerns about the PFPD setting requirements for fire flow at the beginning of projects and being willing to accept lower flow levels later in a project without clear documentation.

Lewis noted that this issue was discussed in the executive session at the beginning of the meeting and that addressing it is a goal of PAWSD.

She commented that cooperating on addressing such issues with the PFPD would be ideal.

"Working together is much better," she said.

Discussion of fire flows continued during a discussion of a petition for inclusion for a property owned by Inter-Mountain Propane located at 1061 Cloman Blvd.

As part of this inclusion, Tautges explained that the PFPD is requiring the company to install a new fire hydrant at the property with a flow rate of 1,750 gpm.

According to testing, flows at the nearest fire hydrant are 1,339 gpm, he added.

He also referenced a "kinda weird" letter from the PFPD fire marshal concerning the project, which states that the PFPD would accept the 1,339 gpm flows for the time being and would re-evaluate the project once the new hydrant is installed at the property.

Lewis explained that staff had concerns about the installation of the hydrants and about how the project would meet the flow requirements from the PFPD.

Ramsey added that PAWSD knows that the new hydrants will not meet the requirements the PFPD laid out and that the meaning of the letter from the fire marshal is unclear.

Walsh commented that he would be willing to follow the lead of the PFPD, "but the fire department has to give us the marching orders and not a kind of complicated, self contradictory, kind of gobbledygook letter."

He added that, if the PFPD would issue a clear waiver of its requirements, then PAWSD could rely on its recommendations.

However, he commented that he would not be willing to vote for the inclusion of the property until the PFPD waives its standards.

Tautges expressed agreement with Walsh, adding that he would find it difficult to believe that the PFPD would not be willing to accept this

level of flow.

Boehmer, Hudson and Walsh stated that they would want to see a letter from the PFPD prior to moving forward with the inclusion.

Lewis suggested that the issue was similar to the previous issues with the town's hydrant project and that the issues could potentially be grouped as part of an effort to move forward with creating an acceptable process for the PFPD approving variances to the fire code.

Lewis asked if the board would be willing to consider approving the inclusion at the meeting to consider the town's project if PAWSD receives a letter by that point.

Tautges asked if a delay in the inclusion process would significantly damage the project, with the Inter-Mountain Propane representative stating it would not.

Tautges emphasized that PAWSD needs to get written approval for variances from the PFPD, and Lewis stated that she felt that she had received the necessary staff direction from the board.

Boehmer commented that "Chief Bertram made it clear tonight that he wants to work together" and that he "could see this working out."

Lewis added that she was "pleasantly surprised" about how the discussion went.

The discussion of fire flows closed with the PAWSD board approving a change to its operating procedures and a letter stating the need for approvals of variances to fire flow standards to come from the PFPD.

Prior to the unanimous vote to approve the changes, board members noted that these documents would be a valuable accompaniment to the increased cooperation with the PFPD and would supplement the efforts to create a standardized letter from the PFPD approving variances to fire flows.

On May 28, PAWSD announced that a meeting including consideration of the town hydrant project and Inter-Mountain Propane inclusion is scheduled for 5 p.m. on May 29.

The meeting will occur at the PAWSD administrative offices at 100 Lyn Ave. and virtually on Zoom.

More information is available at <https://www.pawsd.org/district-business/public-meetings/>.
josh@pagosasun.com



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Photo courtesy Colorado Department of Transportation

The continued updates to sanitary and water utilities have required the removal of sidewalk at specific locations in the 100 and 200 blocks of U.S. 160. The project’s contractor, WW Clyde, has supplied bridges over the work areas to maintain pedestrian access to all affected sections of sidewalk.

County’s business recovery fund applications to open June 1

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

After voting to keep the business recovery fund program in-house earlier this month, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) heard from Finance Director Chad Eaton during a May 27 work session, with Eaton providing more insight into what the application

will entail for businesses applying for grants. Eaton explained that the program was “created to help businesses during the construction.” Eaton indicated that grants will be available in amounts ranging from \$500 to \$5,000 with requirements being that the business is located within Pagosa Springs’ main street district with 20 or fewer full-time employees,

have a physical business address and presence within the district, and have been in business for at least one year prior to submitting an application. He also noted that grant awards are subject to final approval of the BoCC and available funds. “My main focus on here is to get their sales tax information,” Eaton said, explaining that will “really show how the business has been doing,” which will show an “actual decline in business.” Eaton also mentioned the question of, “What steps has your business taken to address the reconstruction project?”

He explained that it will show what businesses are doing to be “proactive during this time.” Eaton also noted that the application will be a Google Form, which will allow businesses to attach additional documents. Another question included in the application that Eaton brought up is, “How does your business intend to sustain itself after receiving a onetime funding from this grant?” Eaton explained that he did not want to “make this really hard” or get into any personal finances that they need, “because my main focus is with the sales tax information” from the prior year to this year. Commissioner John Ranson asked if businesses would be providing their sales tax information, to which Eaton explained businesses will provide it and he will check it. Commissioner Warren Brown asked if the application would be “set to go” June 1, with Eaton and County Manager Jack Harper confirming it would be ready by then. Commissioner Veronica Medina asked how the application compares to that of the Main Street Advisory Board’s application for low-cost loans from the Region 9 Economic Development District of Southwest Colorado.

Eaton explained that the loan application is “credit-based” and that the county is not offering credit on this portion and that it is “need-based.” “That was the one big difference of what theirs to ours is, they were really going after their financial information to be credit worthy,” he said. Ranson asked if Eaton has had any interest in the application up to this point, with Eaton explaining he has and businesses are waiting for it to be put up on the county’s website. clayton@pagosasun.com



Photo courtesy Terri House

A swallowtail butterfly rests on a lilac on Saturday, May 24.

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JC Allen
Working



Joel Alvarez-Pina
Working for the Forest Service as a firefighter and joining the Army



Ryan Anderson
Attending PIMA Medical Institute in Albuquerque/ Certificate in Medical Assistant



Logan Beach
Attending WyoTech Trade School studying Diesel Technology



Jesse Beck
Attending the University of Colorado Boulder/majoring in Chemical Engineering



Taren Bennet
Taking a gap year and working before deciding on a college



Cassie Brunson



Owen Burns
Attending McAir Aviation/ Altitude Pilot Pathway Program to pursue a career in the aviation industry



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Rylie Carr
Attending California State University San Marcos and majoring in business.



Alivia Clark
Moving to Arizona for job corps to be a medical assistant.



Davian Coss
Attend Pueblo CSU and major in Physical Education



Elizabeth Currier
Going to SNHU for a bachelors in substance abuse and getting Colorado Real Estate License



Bethannie Daniels-Wesley
Her 5th year plan is to attend PCC and study business



Keira Davis
Going to Colorado Mesa University to study get my Bachelors of Science and Nursing



Savannah Foster
Finishing certificate for Herbal Medicine and going on a Mission.



Tristan Frame
Attending Colorado State University/ Majoring in Fire Sciences



Morgan Galloway
Attending Adams State University on a golf scholarship and studying mechanical engineering



Aubrey Gerdel
Going to Utah State University to study marketing



Elisabeth Girardin
Undecided, but interested in music, business, and pre law



Rowan Goss
His 5th year plan is to attend CSU Greeley to study Forestry



Naomi Grimes
Attending Colorado State University, majoring in Equine Science



Bella Gutierrez
University of Colorado Boulder/ Major in Nursing



Charlie Gutierrez
Attending the University of Colorado and majoring in acting.



Taylor Hancey
His 5th year plan is to attend Red Rocks Community College and Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design



Jaiden Hazelwood
Attending Culinary School



Ray Hodges
Attending Rhode Island School of Design and majoring in Illustration.

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PAGOSA SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL



Olivia Hodges
*Attending Alabama and
majoring in Nursing*



Gavin Houston
*Attending Colorado School of Mines
and majoring in Computer Science*



Peyton Jackson
*Going to San Juan College to study
welding*



James Jolley
*Attending Colorado Mesa University
& studying Applied Science in
Respiratory Therapy*



Alexis Kappauf
*Taking a gap year with a plan to get
certified in CNC machining.*



Cadence Kerns
*Attending University of Colorado
Boulder/ Majoring in Public Health*



Kylie Ketchum
*Attending South Plains College and
Studying Business Management*



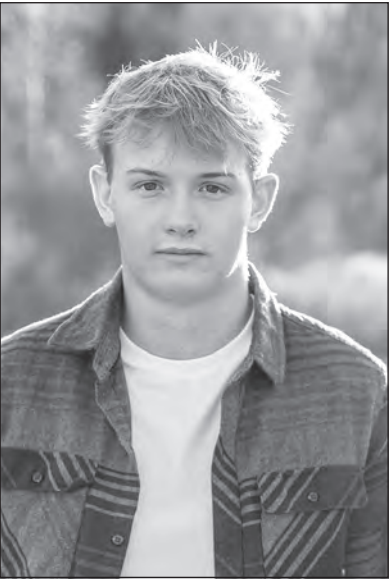
Kailey Keyes
*Attending community college and
then transferring to the University
of Manoa, Hawaii. Majoring in
psychology.*



Mathew Lane
Joining the Navy



Colton Lewis
*Attending Tarleton State University
and majoring in Interdisciplinary
Agriculture*



Cedar Liverett
*Moving to San Marcos, Texas/
Internship with Young Life*



Diandra Lucero



Anthony Manzanares
*Moving to Canon City, CO, to work
at an Auto Parts Store and getting
into Ranching*



Angelina Martinez
*Studying phlebotomy, ECG tech,
radiology tech, IV tech and telemetry
tech.*



Brisa Montes
*Her 5th year plan is to attend Fort
Lewis College this fall and study
business*



Quetzal Montes
*Attending Fort Lewis to major in
Business*



Abigail Nehring
*Going to College to study computer
science*



Olivia Nehring
*Attending Austin State College and
majoring in Art*

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— Dr. Seuss

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Edgar Ortiz
Taking a gap year.



Jayslynn Perea
Attending Grand Canyon University and majoring in Nursing



Alexander Pham
Attending Colorado School of Mines and majoring in Mechanical Engineering



Aspen Pitcher
Attending CU Boulder to study Humanities



Antonio Quezada
His 5th year plan is to work construction and landscaping, and eventually go to PCC to get an associates degree in entrepreneurship



Christopher Rafferty II
His 5th year plan is to work though the end of the year and begin college in 2026.



Cameron Reis
His 5th year plan is to move to Florida and attend a community college down there.



Emily Reynolds
Attending LSU to study Biology



Aspen Salazar
Air Force- Tactical Air Control/ Communications



Hailey Sams
Attending CU Boulder and majoring in Political Science and Psychology



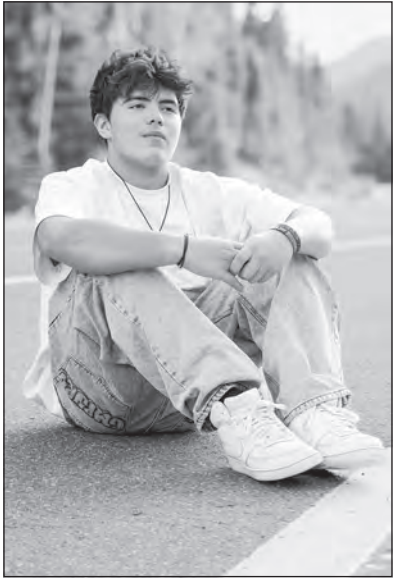
Jaxten Schiel
Enlisted in the United States Army/ Infantry



Hannah Schultz
Attending Tarleton State University and majoring in Veterinary Medicine



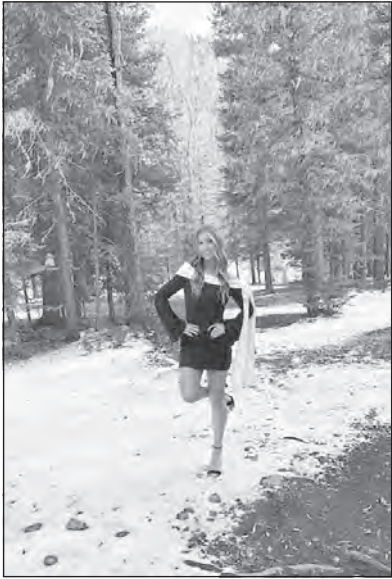
Aiden Serr
Continuing to work



Jesus Serratos
His 5th year plan is to attend CMU in Grand Junction and earn a BSN.



Jonah Sherman
Attending College to study Nursing



Caroline Simon
Her 5th year plan is to go to Fort Lewis College and study nursing



Ariel Slead
Attending Fort Lewis College and majoring in Biology



Gemma Slingerland
Attending Savannah College of Art and Design, majoring in Sequential Design



Payton Smith
Taking a Gap Year in Jamestown, ND/ plan on becoming an EMT



Sophia Sottok
Undecided between colleges but going to study some combination of Acting, Law, and Pre-Med



Honestye Sweet
Taking a gap year and then going to college to be a teacher.



Sofia Talamante
Attending Universal Technical Institute in Sacramento, CA.



Logan Velarde
His 5th year plan is to work in Pagosa Springs and live his best life.



Lorelei Vining
Taking a gap year and then attending school for architecture or a Bachelor's of fine arts.

“You are braver than you believe,
stronger than you seem,
and smarter than you think.”

A.A. Milne, “Winnie the Pooh”

PAGOSA SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL



Calvin Voss
Attending CU Boulder to major in Computer Science/Engineering



Charles Washburn
Working



Trevor Wirth
Attending University of Northern Florida/ Major in Mechanical Engineering



Christopher Young-Martinez
Attending the Inspiration Academy



Seth Zeigler
Attending Colorado State University and majoring in business administration.

SAN JUAN MOUNTAIN SCHOOL



Neveah Aragon
Working at Riff Raff to save money for college



Zayda "Skai" Cardoso
Attending Colorado State University and majoring in Psychology



Katherine "Kate" Cernosek
Attending Fort Lewis and majoring in Psychology



Viridiana Cortez-Pina
Pursuing a career in Culinary Arts



Kayla Easling
Attending US Aviation Academy to start a career working on airplanes



Kyler Espinosa
Pursuing a career in the automotive industry



Joslyn Gurule
Attending San Juan College and majoring in Phlebotomy



Kyler Henderson
Attending college to play baseball and majoring in Project Management



Chance Hurt
Attending San Angelo University and majoring in Visual Art or Graphic Design



Michael Jones
Working at The Springs to save money for college in Kansas



Alex Lucero
Working to save money to enroll at Universal Technical Institute



Mackenzie Moraine
Attending San Juan College and majoring in Phlebotomy

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Special congrats to Trevor Wirth!

Trevor will be attending the University of North Florida in the fall to study mechanical engineering.

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SAN JUAN
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Oscar Morin Pena
Pursuing a career in music



Christopher Patten
Continue working and build a business



Jillian Ramsey
Complete a state-approved esthetician program



Destiny Reval
Attending college in Texas and majoring in Psychology



Dallas Revuelta
Attending Pueblo Community College majoring in Nursing



Davione Solis
Attending Santa Fe Community College and majoring in Art



Manuelito Talamante
Attending San Juan College and majoring in Welding



Shayla Villa
Attending a trade school for cosmetology as well as obtaining a real estate license

GOAL HIGH SCHOOL



Isabella Adams
Bella is looking at Veterinary programs in Wyoming, Colorado, Utah and Montana. Business & Finance



Dalton Archuleta
Dalton is planning on starting his own landscaping business and enjoying all life has to give.



James Biltz
James' plans are to find a trade he's most productive in and get some land so he can farm.



Peyton Bishop
Peyton is currently a Code Enforcement Officer at the PD. He plans to attend law enforcement academy when he turns 21



Willow Brooks
Willow's plans for after high school is to get into an accredited mortuary science course. In the near future she hopes to own her own funeral home.



Aiden Brown
Aiden's plans after high school are to get into real estate and eventually become his own boss.



James Burk
James is interested in a culinary pathway.



Thomas Fackiner
Thomas is looking at joining the Marines in the US military.



Degan Feirn
Degan is joining the workforce.



Colin Fichtelman
Colin is graduating with an Associates Degree from Pueblo Community College and is planning on moving to Denver to pursue his culinary dreams.



Blake Harlan
Blake is still exploring what pathway is the best fit.



Ilona Huck
Ilona's plan after high school is to move to Arizona to be with family. She would also like to attend a trade school for welding.

“What lies behind you and what lies in front of you,
pales in comparison to what lies inside of you.”

Ralph Waldo Emerson



Amberly Hucke
Amberly is moving to Denver. She is planning on obtaining a Bachelor Degree in Nursing.



Alaura Hughes
Alaura's plan after high school is to move and go to cosmetology school.



Erica Hutchens
Erica is joining the local workforce.



Nicholas Jones
Nick will be attending Texas Tech in Lubbock and pursue his Criminology degree.



Autumn Lambert
Autumn's plans are to continue in her current career working at the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office



Jasper Lambert
Jasper is looking at going to Fort Lewis and studying to become a history teacher.



Cody Landis
Cody is looking into becoming a pilot, either private or commercial.



Regan Leyba
Regan is going to college and plans to become a large animal veterinarian and help small communities



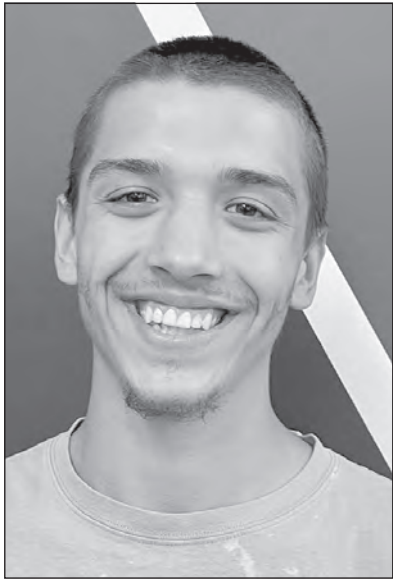
Davan Mattingly
Davan is exploring his options.



Ayden Montoya
Ayden is going into the workforce.



Maryah Montoya
Maryah is finishing up her EMT certification and then moving to Arizona to attend cosmetology school.



James Pacheco
James is entering the workforce so he can save up for a house and land.



Natasha Pina
Tasha is looking at culinary pathways and is considering college.



Brian Pina Espino
Brian is working on his welding pathway.



Arasely Ponce de Leon
Arasely's after high school plan is going to Grand Canyon University to get her nursing degree.



Cooper Ralston
Cooper is testing out a baseball driven college pathway but is also registered at Colorado Mountain College for Nursing in the fall.



Finn Ralston
Finn is attending Colorado Mountain college in the fall and is continuing his path to obtain his Bachelor Degree in Nursing.



Janice Rivera-Echavarria
Janice's plan after High School is to attend photography school and become a professional photographer.



Nyx Rohrer
Nyx's plans after high school is to continue to provide attentive care to K-8 children in an afterschool setting, planning and providing activities that foster community.



Isabel Romine-Vasquez
Izzy is looking at going to school at Lincoln Technical Institute in Denver.



Sean Ryan
Sean is looking at going to college and is exploring some baseball based pathways.



Elias Sanchez
Elias will be attending Fort Lewis College and see what kind of stories he'll be able to tell to family and friends in the future.



Eddie Scheib
Eddie is joining the workforce.



Kaeden Schrader
Kaeden will report to boot camp for the United States Air Force on June 3. His career goal in the Air Force is to become a Pilot. Dare to Dream!



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GOAL HIGH SCHOOL



Vern Stewart
Vern is currently interested in getting into either the health care industry or the animatronic manufacturing business



Ryan Taylor
Ryan is planning to pursue cosmetology and become a master in all things in the cosmetology field



Zalend Thames
Zalend is currently working while considering going to UTI to become a mechanic or welder.



Michael Thomas
Michael is joining the workforce and helping the family business



Mackenzie Trowbridge
After high school Mackenzie is putting her creative talents to work and is pursuing a tattooing career in Hilo, Hawaii.



Dazia Villereal
Dazia plans to attend to a college in Colorado Springs for sonography.



Payton Warner
Payton is looking at trade schools and is hoping to become an electrician.



Sebastian Webb
Sebastian has joined the workforce and is looking at running his own food truck.



Nickolas Wilson
Nick is exploring different pathways within aviation and is looking forward to his new journey with faith as his unwavering guide.



Brandt Winther
Brandt is attending college in Hawaii and pursuing a degree in psychology.



Gabriella Young-Martinez
Ella's plan after high school is to continue her path in the family business, and down the road she plans to leave Pagosa and explore the rest of the country.



Alexyss Zander
Lexi is moving to Texas to start cosmetology school in July.

PAGOSA VALOR ACADEMY



Daniel Cobden
Going to California and continue acting career and to film school to try out other parts of the film industry.



Tamara Ellis
Plans on pursuing an EMT certification and going on to be a firefighter



Aybree Hampton
Planning to take an EMT certification class and working towards becoming a ski patroller



Olivia Mazur
University of Wyoming to explore Veterinary Science, Education, Music, Missions



Sienna Rose
Planning to attend Charleston Southern University to major in Aviation and Professional Flight with a minor in Psychology or Business

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preview

ARTS & LIFE

19th Hole Concerts

5:30 to 7:30 p.m. • Thursdays in June • Pagosa Springs Golf Club



Photo courtesy Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado

May 29, 2025

A decade of giving back on the green: 19th Hole Concerts returning for 10th year

By Kim Cassels
Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado

Ten years ago, during a balmy summer at the Pagosa Springs Golf Club, a crowd of locals would show up each Thursday, lawn chairs in hand in lieu of putters and wedges, to enjoy a new event featuring live music and local non-profits.

It was called the 19th Hole Concerts, organized by a small group of passionate locals on the Archuleta Committee of the Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado.

Their goal was to give nonprofits in Archuleta County a boost in visibility and funding.

Once nonprofits applied for the grant, the committee voted on the recipients across multiple sectors, who then evenly split the proceeds raised from the summer concerts on the green.

The first recipients of the grant included the Chimney Rock Interpretive Association, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwest Colorado, Foundation for Archuleta County Education, Geothermal Greenhouse Project, THRIVE and Veterans Memorial Park of Archuleta County.

“As the Archuleta Committee planned that first year, we, of course, wondered what would eventuate,” said Jan Johnson, the first board member to represent Archuleta County on the board of the Community Foundation and first chair of the Archuleta Committee. “We eagerly anticipated the turnout each week and celebrated as we approached 100 attendees.”

Since 2016, the 19th Hole Concerts have grown to see

■ See Concerts on next page



Photo courtesy Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado

For the 10th year, the 19th Hole Concerts will present live music at Pagosa Springs Golf Club every Thursday evening in June for the benefit of local nonprofits.

Live Performers

Thursday
The Pagosa Bar: Karaoke, 8 p.m.

Friday
Meltdown on Main: The Status Crowes, 5 p.m.
The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Jackson Mountain Ramblers, 5 p.m.

Saturday
East Side Market: Emily Tholberg, 11 a.m.
The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Maxwell Miller, 5 p.m.

Tuesday
The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Dustin Burley, 5 p.m.

The PREVIEW is a publication of

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Youth lead walk in support of mental health awareness

By Marissa Marquez
Rise Above Violence

This May, our community came together for a powerful and inspiring event — our Mental Health Awareness Walk.

We want to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who showed up, walked beside us, shared their stories, and supported the cause with such compassion and strength.

Your presence made it clear: We are not alone. Mental health affects us all — our families, our friends, our neighbors. And when we walk together, we carry each other forward.

A group of high school students sponsored and organized this event.

Their leadership, passion and dedication to breaking the stigma around mental health are truly inspiring. They reminded all of us that advocacy knows no age — and that our youth are not only the future, but powerful voices of the present.

This event was more than just a walk. It was a statement — a collective step toward awareness, understanding and healing. It was a space where we came together to support one another and to say, loudly and clearly that mental health matters.

We especially want to recognize and uplift those who are navigating mental health challenges every day. To our youth who may be struggling silently, please know that you are seen, you are heard and your feelings matter. To our first responders who bear the weight of unimaginable stress while protecting and caring for others — you are not forgotten. Your mental health matters, too.

Our commitment does not end with this walk. We are dedicated to continuing this work. We are dedicated to continuing this work. We are dedicated to continuing this work.

■ See Awareness on next page



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Concerts —

■ continued from previous page

more than 700 attendees every summer since, raising approximately \$75,000 for nonprofits serving Archuleta County.

In addition to receiving a share of the proceeds, each organization assists with marketing the event and serves as the featured nonprofit at one of the concerts.

As for the elements that bring people out to the fairway, the expansive views of the San Juan Mountains and a musical lineup of local favorites makes for an incredibly enjoyable evening.

"I never decline an opportunity to play this gig," said Bo DePeña, a local country artist who has performed at the concerts since 2021. "The audiences are incredible and very supportive of both the artists and the nonprofits. I look forward to this event every year, as it is one of my most memorable shows of the season."

The 2025 19th Hole Concerts lineup is:

- June 5: Bob Hemenger (jazz, blues, soul and pop). Presenting nonprofit: Archuleta Seniors Inc.
- June 12: Jackson Mountain Ramblers (country and folk). Presenting nonprofit: Project Sanctuary.
- June 19: DePeña (Americana and country). Presenting nonprofit: Build Pagosa.
- June 26: Max Miller (jazz). Presenting nonprofit: San Juan Headwaters Forest Health Partnership.

The concerts will be held every Thursday in June from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Pagosa Springs Golf Club. A \$10 ticket supports the participating nonprofits, helping them further their missions in the community.

Guests should bring a lawn chair to sit back and relax. Food and drinks will be available for purchase. Please note: Pets are not allowed on the golf course, so leave furry friends at home.

Celebrating a decade of music and community spirit, the 19th Hole Concerts continue to bring Pagosa Springs together — one Thursday, one song and one nonprofit at a time, proving that small towns can make a big impact. Join the tradition this June and be part of making a difference.



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‘Something Rotten!’ to blow the dust off Shakespeare beginning May 30

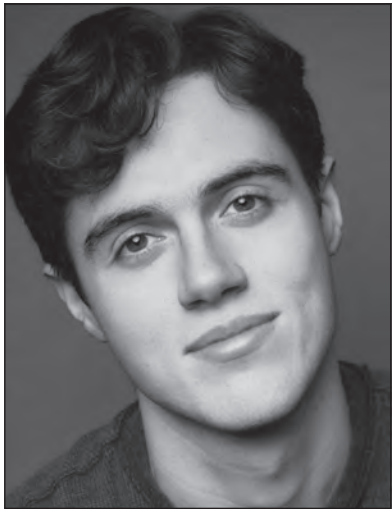
Thingamajig Theatre Company

If you thought Elizabethan England was all plagues, ruffs and moody Danish princes, “Something Rotten!” is here to set your ruffled collar straight.

The Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts kicks off its 2025 summer repertory season with a musical so joyously unhinged it makes “Spamalot” look like a history documentary.

Opening Friday, May 30, this deliriously funny Broadway hit hurls us back to the 1590s, where the Bottom brothers (Nick and Nigel) are struggling playwrights stuck in the shadow of a guy named Shakespeare. Correct, that Shakespeare, whose ego is matched only by his rhyming couplets. Desperate for a hit, the Bottoms consult a soothsayer named Nostradamus (nephew of that Nostradamus) who peers into the future and sees musical theater. Song.Dance. Omelettes.

Yes, omelettes. What follows is a madcap scramble through showbiz tropes, Shakespearean jabs and musical theater in-jokes, performed with such gusto and glee that even the Bard himself might drop his quill and start tap-dancing. Imagine “Rent” by way of “The Merry Wives of Windsor,” with a chorus line.



Evan Hoefer



André Spathelf-Sanders

Directed by Dennis Elkins and choreographed by Pia Wyatt, this production features a crackjack cast of national talent, plus local talents Hannah Rockensock and Leela Simpson.

There’s no need to brush up on your Broadway knowledge or dust off your “Complete Works.”

“Something Rotten!” is the kind of show that rewards the theater nerd and welcomes the theater newbie. The original Broadway production earned 10 Tony nominations and snagged a

few statues along the way. But, awards aside, this is a show that lives to entertain. It sings. It struts. It scrambles. And it might just be the funniest thing you’ll see all summer.

Performances run May 30 through Aug. 30. Tickets are on sale now at www.pagosacenter.org or by calling 970-731-SHOW (7469).

Awareness

■ continued from previous page ing the conversation, offering support, and creating spaces where everyone feels safe, valued and understood. Together, we will keep pushing forward to build a healthier, more compassionate

world, one step at a time. Thank you for showing up. Thank you for standing together. And thank you for reminding us that, in this community, no one walks alone. P.S. It’s OK.

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San Juan Stargazers to celebrate Apollo 13 mission’s 55th anniversary

By Joan Mieritz
San Juan Stargazers

On June 5, the San Juan Stargazers will celebrate NASA’s 55th anniversary of the Apollo 13 “most successful failure” mission with Pagosa Springs’ own Tom Hanchett. Everyone is invited to join us to celebrate and learn.

Our next meeting, on Thursday, June 5, will be at the regular time of 6 p.m. for the social hour, which will include a welcome celebration with cake and a gift for Andy and Elodie Green’s new baby. He is the littlest Stargazer, and we welcome him with a heart full of love.

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

At 7 p.m., we will begin our Program with Carolyn Pyeatt giving a presentation to update the latest findings of the James Webb Space Telescope. These discoveries are getting more and more exciting. Pyeatt will soon be leaving Pagosa to be with her family during deployment.

Then, at 7:30 p.m., Hanchett will present NASA’s 55th anniversary of the Apollo 13 mission, which has been named NASA’s “most successful failure.” Hanchett will tell us how it got that name and other interesting stories from that and other Apollo missions.

Hanchett worked at Houston’s mission control, where he was the

dedicated voice from the ground to the astronauts in space. And when the astronauts sent their famous message, “Houston, we’ve got a problem,” it was to Hanchett that they were speaking. Hanchett was truly in on everything and has an amazing perspective on our space program and details from so many of the Apollo missions.

Hanchett also has a valuable attitude about the world of work. I think that he should speak personally to every Pagosa student, so I am encouraging every parent to bring their child to our meeting to meet him. Hanchett has words of wisdom, and he is certainly one of the most fascinating men I have ever met. Each time Hanchett speaks at our Stargazer meetings I am so impressed and impacted by his personal attitude and outlook on life. I am going to have him write a special message on our San Juan Stargazer website for the benefit of every visitor.

June 5 should be a meeting you don’t want to miss.

Night sky programs

Our night sky programs begin at Chimney Rock National Monument on Friday, May 30, and June 20 and 27, with later dates in the summer. (See our website.) People from Pagosa are always welcome to attend our programs without a reservation. Just let us know that you are a local and we will fit you in with a ticket purchased at the gift shop.

We will try to have telescope viewing when it gets dark enough and if the weather permits without rain or,

more seriously, lightning. We must be aware that Colorado has one of the highest incidences of lightning strikes in our nation and telescopes usually have metal parts that add to

■ See Stargazers on next page

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The Pagosa Springs SUN



June is Alzheimer’s and Brain Awareness Month: 10 healthy habits for your brain

By Jim Herlihy

Alzheimer’s Association of Colorado

This June, during Alzheimer’s and Brain Awareness Month, join the Alzheimer’s Association to help raise awareness of this tragic disease that is the sixth-leading cause of death.

You can start by learning and sharing 10 healthy habits for your brain.

Approximately 7.4 million people in the United States, including 91,000 Coloradans, are living with Alzheimer’s. The only leading disease without a prevention or cure, Alzheimer’s kills more Americans every year than breast cancer and prostate cancer combined.

While there isn’t yet a cure, researchers believe that the risk of developing Alzheimer’s can be reduced up to 40 percent if people take proactive steps to lead a healthier lifestyle. When possible, the Alzheimer’s Association recommends adults combine these habits to achieve the maximum benefit for the brain and body.

1. Break a sweat: Engage in regular cardiovascular exercise that elevates your heart rate and increases blood flow to the brain and body. Several

studies have found an association between physical activity and reduced risk of cognitive decline.

2. Stay in school: Formal education in any stage of life will help reduce your risk of cognitive decline and dementia. For example, take a class at a local college, community center or online.

3. No smoking: Evidence shows that smoking increases risk of cognitive decline. Quitting smoking can reduce that risk to levels comparable to those who have not smoked.

4. Control your blood pressure: Medications can help lower high blood pressure. A World Health Organization study showed that people with untreated high blood pressure had a 36 percent higher risk of Alzheimer’s. Work with a health care provider to control your blood pressure.

5. Heads up: Brain injury can raise risk of cognitive decline and dementia. Wear a seat belt, use a helmet when playing contact sports or riding a bike, and take steps to prevent falls.

6. Fuel up right: Eat a healthy and balanced diet that is lower in fat and higher in vegetables and fruit to help

reduce the risk of cognitive decline. Although research on diet and cognitive function is limited, certain diets, including Mediterranean and Mediterranean-DASH (Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension), may contribute to risk reduction.

7. Catch some ZZZs: Not getting enough sleep due to conditions like insomnia or sleep apnea may result in problems with memory and thinking.

8. Manage diabetes: Type 2 diabetes can be prevented or controlled by eating healthier, increasing physical activity and taking medication, if necessary. The National Institutes of Health notes that while the exact connection between Alzheimer’s and Type 2 diabetes is still in debate, poorly controlled blood sugar may increase the risk of developing Alzheimer’s.

9. Stump yourself: Challenge and activate your mind. Build a piece of furniture. Complete a jigsaw puzzle. Do something artistic. Play games, such as bridge, that make you think strategically. Challenging your mind may have short- and long-term benefits for your brain.

10. Maintain a healthy weight: Talk

Stargazers

■ continued from previous page

the danger.

The mountains near Chimney Rock are especially difficult because storms can start so quickly and blow over peaks. Then they can pass and be gone. We never cancel our programs because we can start out the night with pouring rain and end it with great viewing.

Our program will begin informally on the plaza while we wait for others to arrive. We may later include talks about the James Webb Space Telescope’s latest discoveries, a fascinating lesson about the life cycle of a star and an unbelievable survey of galaxies.

Some nights there may be a saga of how North and South America

became inhabited given by one of the most famous anthropologists in the world, Dr. John Kappelman. Other nights we may take a walk to our Great Kiva and excavated pit house. We may take a tour of the night sky with Judith Jubb.

There is so much to learn that every program will be brimming with learning.

Upcoming

We hope to take part in the Fourth of July “Standing-Still Parade” where we can share astronomy lessons with all of Pagosa. In the middle of July, we will have a guest astronomer, Steve McAllister, who is in charge of the Westcliff observatory and is an outstanding expert on telescopes to help us improve our individual


telescope skills.

About the Stargazers

If you would like to join the San Juan Stargazers, you will also receive Reflector Magazine, which is the publication of the National Astronomical League of which you automatically become a member. To join both groups and get an excellent astronomy magazine, annual membership is only \$25 per family.

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

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Chimney Rock Interpretive Association offers invite to annual Life at Chimney Rock Festival

By Ana Murray
Chimney Rock Interpretive Association

The Chimney Rock Interpretive Association (CRIA) is excited to announce its annual Life at Chimney Rock Festival, a two-day event celebrating the rich cultural heritage of the Ancient Puebloans.

The festival will take place on Saturday, June 7, and Sunday, June 8, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day at Chimney Rock National Monument.

Once again, thanks to a special announcement from the U.S. Forest Service, the festival will be fee-free, allowing visitors to experience this vibrant event without an entrance fee.

The Life at Chimney Rock Festival offers a unique opportunity for families and history enthusiasts to explore the fascinating skills and traditions of the ancients.

Attendees will enjoy interactive demonstrations led by CRIA volunteers, featuring hands-on activities such as pounding yucca, making coil pottery, creating rock art, weaving, corn grinding and learning how to throw a spear using an atlatl.

In addition, guests will have the chance to learn about astronomy, flint knapping and dendrochronology, and sample traditional foods like Anasazi beans. A highlight of the festival will be the opportunity to observe a peregrine falcon up close.

The cultural celebration continues with Native American dance

performances. This year, the festival will feature two dance groups: the Fragua Family from Jemez Pueblo and the Roach Family Dancers from Gallup, N.M.

The Fragua Family will perform at 2 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday in the amphitheater. The Roach Family Dancers will perform at 11 a.m. on Saturday and Sunday in the Visitor Plaza. For this location, visitors may provide their own camp chairs for seating.

Thanks to the Forest Service's generous waiver of the daily activity fee on June 7 and 8, visitors will have free access to the festival as well as all of the regular amenities at Chimney Rock National Monument, including self-guided tours of the cultural sites, the nature trail and the Visitor Plaza. The monument will be open from 9 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. for those wishing to explore the site.

CRIA invites everyone to join us in celebrating the living history of the Ancestral Puebloans at this year's Life at Chimney Rock Festival. We hope to see you there for a fun and educational weekend for all ages.

For more information about the event, visit www.ChimneyRockCo.org or contact CRIA at (970) 731-7133.

About CRIA

CRIA is a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving, interpreting and educating the public about

the cultural and natural heritage of Chimney Rock National Monument.

CRIA and the San Juan National Forest of the U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, are working in partnership to preserve and develop educational opportunities about the significant archaeological, cultural, geological and biological resources at Chimney Rock National Monument.



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Alzheimer's

■ continued from previous page

to your health care provider about the weight that is healthy for you. Other healthy habits on this list — eating right, exercising and sleeping well — can help with maintaining a healthy weight. An analysis of multiple studies shows that obesity between the ages of 35 and 65 can increase dementia risk in later life by about 30 percent.

It's never too late or too early to

start thinking about your brain's health — making healthy choices at any age is beneficial. Visit alz.org/10ways to learn more.

The Alzheimer's Association provides a broad range of information, programs and services at no charge. To learn more, go to alz.org or call the Association's free Helpline, staffed 24/7 by trained professionals, at (800) 272-3900.



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JUN 26	Wayne Justus <i>Oils</i>
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JUL 10	Tricia Bass <i>Oils & Michelene Berkey</i> <i>Jewelry</i>
JUL 17	Paint Off <i>(with gallery artists George Bodde, Kathleen Steventon & Michael Vittitow)</i>
JUL 24	Closed for Liberty Theatre Comedy Event William Lee Martin
JUL 31	Lise Neer <i>Pastels</i>
AUG 7	Cathy Ledeker <i>Fused Glass, Watercolors</i>
AUG 14	Buster Griggs <i>Oils</i>
AUG 21	Debra Ferrari <i>Acrylics, Mixed Media</i>
AUG 28	Kathleen Steventon <i>Oils, Palette Knife</i>

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Photo courtesy Healthy Archuleta

A Garden Conversations event takes place in the Pagosa Springs Community Garden in Centennial Park. The meetings are scheduled to take place throughout the summer.

Garden Conversations to continue at Pagosa Springs Community Garden

Healthy Archuleta

Please join us this season to spend some time in the Pagosa Springs Community Garden, situated next to the San Juan Riverwalk, to enjoy lively conversations about gardening in Pagosa Springs.

We not only talk about the ins and outs of gardening, but we also have discussions about our local natural surroundings.

The plants that grow along the river play an important part in how our

gardens thrive. These trees, shrubs, grasses and native perennials provide food and shelter for pollinators, vital to growing some of our favorite fruits and vegetables.

The community garden beds are just now in the planting phase, so it's a good time to see how the folks working in those beds are tending to the beds, what items they are planting or planning on growing, plus learning more about the community garden itself. There may even be some extra space to grow something if interested in spend-

ing time among fellow gardeners.

Come on down, bring a folding chair and a beverage, and relax in the garden. The scheduled meetings are for June 14 and 28, July 12 and 26, Aug. 9 and 23, and Sept. 13 and 27, from 9 to 10 a.m. (or longer if you feel like hanging out to enjoy the sunshine).

Visit Healthy Archuleta at www.Foodcoalition4Archuleta.org for more information about Garden Conversations and other Healthy Archuleta-sponsored events happening in Pagosa Springs.

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO CAME TO OUR 6TH ANNUAL MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WALK



P.S. ITS OKAY

It was a huge success and will happen again next year! We look forward to seeing everyone next year!

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USDA serves up food safety guidelines for summer cookouts

U.S. Department of Agriculture

As friends and families get ready to kick off summer by firing up the grill and serving foods at a cookout, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) shares some tips to keep your celebrations safe.

"Food safety is a year-round priority, but it's especially important during summer months when we're cooking outdoors and handling food in warmer temperatures," said FSIS Administrator Dr. Denise Eblen. "We have simple but effective steps that can keep you and your family safe while enjoying those outdoor meals."

Here are some key recommendations:

Clean your grill

- Grill surfaces should be washed with soap and water. Ensure old residue is scraped off.
- If you don't have access to a faucet, carry bottled water, soap and paper towels.

• After washing, start your grill and allow the heat to kill any remaining bacteria before cooking.

Prevent cross-contamination

- Pack raw meats in sealed containers at the bottom of the cooler to prevent juices from contaminating other items.

• When grilling, use separate plates, cutting boards, and utensils for raw and cooked foods.

• Never place cooked food on plates that held raw meat, poultry or seafood.

Cook to safe temperatures

- Remember that color is not a reliable indicator of doneness.
- Use a food thermometer to ensure foods reach a safe minimum internal temperature:

Beef, pork, lamb, and veal steaks, chops and roasts: 145 degrees F.

Seafood (fish and shellfish): 145 degrees F.

Ground beef, pork, lamb and veal: 160 degrees F.

Poultry (whole and ground): 165 degrees F.

Avoid the danger zone

- The bacteria that can cause foodborne illness grow between 40 and 140 degrees F — also known as the danger zone.

• If you plan to keep perishable foods on the table for more than two hours (or one hour in temperatures above 90 degrees F), keep hot foods hot and cold foods cold to avoid the danger zone.

• Keep hot foods heated at or above 140 degrees F with chafing dishes or a preheated grill.

• Keep cold foods chilled at or below 40 degrees F by placing them on bowls of ice or keeping them inside a cooler near the picnic table.

For more information about food safety, call the USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline at 1-888-MPHotline (1-888-674-6854) or email MPHonline@usda.gov.

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We appreciate all the support from within the community. We encourage all to support our local businesses. We also encourage all to support those businesses downtown during this road construction, they need our support.

*Thank you all,
Ted Eckerson
Chairman Vets4Vets
Memorial Golf Tournament*

**All gave some and
some gave all.**

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The Pagosa Springs SUN
264-2100



Living in the end time harvest

By Betty Slade
PREVIEW Columnist

We are living in the end time harvest. Many people are coming to Jesus. Professional athletics claim Him as their savior. Elon Musk confesses his faith to the world. Matthew McConaughey reads scripture on television, and Mark Wahlberg leads an audience in prayer.

Keanu Reeves testifies to “The View” of his encounter with God. Jockey Junior Alvarado, the winner of the Kentucky Derby, also declares his faith to the crowds, “I thank my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.”

I heard the words in my spirit, “God has taken the muzzle off Christians. They are speaking out.”

We have not seen this current openness so electrifying before. Even with the faith of a mustard seed, new converts lead others into the kingdom. In the midst of this great joy and the end time harvest, we are warned not to be deceived; there will be great persecution.

We have seen the depth of darkness in humanity. Christians throughout the world are being persecuted and killed for their faith. This earth is shaking to its core, a tinderbox ready to explode.

We are warned about wars and rumors of wars, nations rising up against nations, kingdoms against kingdoms, famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in many places. We have experienced pestilence (COVID), and an estimated 20,000 earthquakes annually. (See Matthew 24:4-14, NKJV).

These times are a paradox. Lawlessness and evil are emboldened, speculation and confusion are in the minds of many. Jesus is peace, righteousness and justice. He is coming to war against evil.

Closer to home, in our sweet town of Pagosa Springs, many feel immune to these horrible things that shout from the global headlines. We live peaceably with our neighbors and all is well. The question is, how will we handle persecution if it comes to our town?

Author Lynn Moffett has written and released a seven-book series about a cozy little town like ours — Singing Springs.

When asked how this idea came



We have seen the depth of darkness in humanity. Christians throughout the world are being persecuted and killed for their faith. This earth is shaking to its core, a tinderbox ready to explode.

to her, Moffett said the series of contemporary novels was “birthed as a result of a dream I had three years before the story fully formed. I live in a small town in the Colorado mountains. In the dream, I saw soldiers in white camo moving stealthily through pine trees down a snow-covered hill. I knew they were up to no good. Their orders were to round up people and force them to give up their deeply held beliefs. The hidden purpose behind the invasion was to still the voices of the ultimate ‘haters’ in our country — Christians.”

Final brushstroke: I type this article and wonder how I would stand against persecution. Even though these books are fictional, I believe Moffett’s books are a warning of what will happen. Are we spiritually prepared to stand? Don’t be deceived.

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

Views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN.

Man 2 Man Prostate Cancer Support Group to meet virtually June 3

By Dion Hollenbeck

Man 2 Man Prostate Cancer Support Group

The Man 2 Man Prostate Cancer Support Group will meet June 3 at 7 p.m. via Zoom.

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

been diagnosed with prostate issues, including BPH and cancer.

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

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

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Mayberry sot
5 Poet Pound
9 "Common Sense" writer
14 Pear homophone
15 Mine product
16 Moon-related
17 Rise above
19 Moving about
20 Summertime shoe
21 Magazine VIPs
23 Oscilloscope maker
26 Go-Go's co-founder
30 Addled by age
33 Ancient Greek theater
34 Weapon supplier
36 Film director's cry
37 Small drinks
38 Swiss mountains
39 Diner dish
40 Before-long link
41 South Korea's largest port, formerly
42 Brief brawl
43 Lash out at
45 Medical pad
47 Usually
49 Tree with white flower clusters
51 State of India
56 Light on one's feet
57 Work a deal
60 Bamboo unit
61 Kilt-clad kin
62 Large amount
63 Puts up, as wallpaper
64 Barks
65 Jocko of "New Amsterdam"

DOWN

- 1 Chooses
2 Scarlett's home
3 Farsi-speaking land
4 Email action
5 Proverbs follower, for short
6 "Avatar" actress Saldana
7 Hightailed it
8 Birch relative
9 More evident
10 Texas capital
11 Make drunk
12 Shaving alternative
13 Drops the ball
18 Lustrous fabric
22 Medicine amounts
24 Actor Kinski
25 Patio of sorts
26 ___ del Sol
27 Farewell
28 Move
29 ___ Alamos, NM
31 Hungers (for)
32 Community spirit

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- 35 Landed estate
38 Minty drink
39 That girl
41 Little squealers
42 Blackjack play
44 Pre-digital clock type
46 Secret society members
48 1980's White House name
49 "A Boy Named Sue" singer
50 Turkish title
52 Painted-face foursome
53 Shiva's wife
54 Big-ticket ____
55 Kittens' cries
58 Inventor Whitney
59 Opening

Answers to Previous Crossword:

C	A	S	T	E		S	U	B	S		C	H	A	P
A	L	C	O	A		O	P	I	E		H	A	L	L
M	A	R	E	S		C	O	N	T	R	A	L	T	O
P	R	E	F	I	X	I	N	G		A	L	L	A	Y
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P	A	M		S	I	L	I	C	A	T	E			
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C	O	R	E		O	Z	O	N	E		G	I	G	O
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			R	O	A	D	S	I	G	N		P	R	Y
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S	U	S	T	A	I	N	E	D		O	N	S	E	T
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Colorado attorney general alerts parents to dangers of social AI chatbots

By Elliot Goldbaum

Colorado Attorney General's Office

Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser recently issued a consumer alert warning parents of the dangers of children's use of social chatbots powered by artificial intelligence, or AI.

The alert is in response to the growing number of social AI chatbots and the sharp rise in reports of children engaging in risky behavior, including self-harm, resulting from interactions with social AI chatbots.

"Artificial intelligence is evolving rapidly, and many parents may not even be aware of social AI chatbots and their potential to harm children," Weiser said. "That needs to change, because the rise of these chatbots poses dangerous risks that must be addressed. I encourage parents to talk to kids about what social AI chatbots are, to think critically about their interactions with these chatbots, and to use chatbots and other AI tools safely and responsibly."

Social AI chatbots are chatbots powered by AI that are based on real and fictional characters that engage in human-like conversation. These chatbots often have personas such as celebrities, popular fictional characters, parental figures or friends. Many apps and websites, including social media platforms, allow users to build and interact with social AI chatbots as if they are other users on the platform.

Here are some tips for parents to familiarize themselves with social AI

chatbots, and help guide their conversations with children about them:

- Social AI chatbot interactions can turn age inappropriate even with innocuous prompts. Disturbing content may include violence, explicit sexuality, self-harm and eating disorders.

- Engaging with social AI chatbots can be addictive. The chatbots often mimic human emotions and can be manipulative.

- Social AI chatbots can generate inaccurate and biased information, which should be examined carefully and critically.

- Information shared with social AI chatbots may be shared with the platform's developers to train the AI, raising privacy concerns.

- Parents should talk to their kids about their online experiences, including which online platforms they use and why. Monitor their usage and adhere to age restrictions. Use available parental controls, including internet filters. Be active in their online activities and supervise their tech use.

- Teach children that social AI chatbots are not human; they are only designed to seem human. Learn about the benefits and risks. Don't wait to talk to your kids about safe and responsible use of social AI chatbots and other AI tools.

Coloradans who believe social AI chatbot companies are violating the

law should file a complaint with the Colorado Attorney General's Office at [StopFraudColorado.gov](https://stopfraudcolorado.gov).

The consumer alert is available at <https://coag.gov/app/uploads/2025/05/Social-AI-Chatbots-Consumer-Alert.pdf>.

JIM GARRETT

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Unitarian Universalists to host Heidi Steltzer on June 1

By De Anna Hoyle
Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Join us as Heidi Steltzer, an earth scientist who took a leap of faith into theological studies at the Iliff School of Theology in the fall of 2023, shares her understanding of the exploration of what we can know about the earth and ourselves through relationship and what becomes possible when we do.

Steltzer earned her bachelor of science in biology at Duke University. Her doctorate is in ecosystem ecology from University of Colorado at Boulder, and soon a master's in theological studies from the Iliff School of Theology.

On Sunday, June 1, meditation practice will be at 9 a.m., followed by the service at 10:30 a.m., when Steltzer will speak on "Living into Human and Planetary Possibilities Through Relationship and Community."

Steltzer states, "I often wonder about the impossible being possible. About loving all that differentiates person from person from person. And what becomes possible when difference is an asset rather than a problem to be solved or feared. We are a relational species. And through relationship, we can live into wholeness, wildness and possibility."

June 8

Meditation practice and dharma talk: 9 to 10:15 a.m.

Going Deeper Sharing Circle: 10:30 a.m.

We come together in this small-group setting to share with one another and practice deep listening. We explore themes of recent topics and leave space for reflection and for whatever else is on our hearts. Come make friends and practice the art of listening with others.

June 15

Meditation practice: 9 a.m.
Sunday service: 10:30 a.m. featuring "Pilgrimage: A Journey to a Sacred Place for a Holy Reason" with Julie Loar.

Loar will explore how we might travel more consciously and deeply, returning with widened horizons and a more open heart. Loar is the highly



Heidi Steltzer

awarded author of eight books and more than a hundred articles.

She has served on the board of the Pagosa Unitarian Universalist (UU) Fellowship. We welcome Loar back, knowing her ability to engage and inspire us.

June 21

As sponsor and supporter of Pagosa Pride, we invite the community to join us in Town Park to celebrate and honor the LGBTQIA2S+BIPOC community.

June 22

Meditation practice and dharma talk: 9 to 10:15 a.m.

Action Sunday: 10:30 a.m.
Join us for Action Sunday as we put our values and doing good into practice.

June 29

June 29 will be a Sunday of unplugging with no service.

You are invited to find ways that feed your spirit and tap into the rest you so deeply deserve.

The Pagosa UU Fellowship invites those with curious minds and open hearts to join us any Sunday as we envision beloved community.

Join us in-person at our services at 10:30 a.m. Sunday worship is held on the first and third Sundays of the month, with the second and forth Sundays being the Sharing Circle and Action Sunday, respectively.

We are located at Unit B-15 of the Greenbriar Plaza, 301 N. Pagosa Blvd., on the north side facing the Pagosa Peak. We offer Zoom streaming of our service, and a link to join online can be found at PagosaUU.org, where you will find our current newsletter with information about our programs.

The Pagosa UU Fellowship is a welcoming congregation; we believe that all of who you are is sacred, and all of who you are is welcome. Find out more at <https://www.uua.org/lgbtq>.

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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.

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SUDOKU

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		8				6	3	
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				3	6	2	4	

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!

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

ANSWER:



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The Pagosa Springs SUN

Preview Calendar

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

Thursday, May 29

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.

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.

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 30

Mysteries Tour of Chimney Rock. 8 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour provides an in-depth discussion along the Great House Trail about the connection of Chimney Rock to the greater Chacoan culture, the significance of the mesa-top Great House, and the day-to-day lives of the ancestral inhabitants of Chimney Rock. 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.

Stroll of the Three Sisters Tour. 1:15 p.m., Chimney Rock National Mon-

ument. 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

■ See Calendar on next page

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33 Fawn Court
\$1,000,000

This meticulously cared for full-round log cabin in uptown near Lake Forest spans 2,732 square feet, featuring 4 bedrooms and 3.5 bathrooms. Relax on the covered deck or backyard patio while taking in stunning mountain views. Inside, the open floor plan connects the great room with a cozy fireplace to a modern kitchen boasting granite countertops, high end appliances, and an island for extra prep space. The primary bedroom and bathroom are conveniently located on the main floor. A 2-car garage connects through the laundry area. Upstairs has two bedrooms and a full bathroom, while the lower level offers versatile space for entertainment or an office, plus a fourth bedroom set up as a bunk room with a full bath nearby.



1001 Soaring Eagle Court
\$925,000

MLS # 822945
 2 Bed, 2 Bath, 2,073 sq foot house on 36.44 acres. Navajo River Ranch has 2 private entrances into the forest. This home has wonderful views of the San Juan Mountain Range and great decks. 2 tributaries come together to form a seasonal creek called Oil Well Creek on the property.

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



65 Caballero Drive
\$725,000

MLS # 823461
 This home is perfectly located on approximately an acre of land in the Pagosa Lakes area. Open the back door and a 700 sq ft deck will provide additional space for a BBQ grill, plenty of outdoor seating, and a new hot tub for your relaxation and enjoyment. 4 beds/2.5 baths with 2,350 sq. ft.

To tour this home go to:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=qOkhZeKE-G0

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30 High Drive — MLS # 794628 — \$55,900
 38 Heron Court — MLS # 821320 — \$45,000
 814 Ginger Circle — MLS # 817526 — \$179,000



1223 Trails Boulevard
\$647,800

MLS # 824043
 Discover this stunning, near new 1,640 sq. ft. ranch-style, built in 2022, perfect for your next home. This 3-bedroom, 2-bath home features a 2-car garage and an open floor plan with 9-foot and vaulted ceilings. The spacious 223 sq. ft. primary bedroom includes a walk-in closet with custom shelving and a luxurious bath with a glass-enclosed tiled shower and double vanity. The large kitchen offers a 5'x10' pantry, Samsung appliances, an induction range, under-cabinet lighting, and granite countertops.



324/356/294 Sparrow Circle
\$330,000

MLS # 821243
 3 separate lots 4.5 Acres total with no HOA or Covenants. This 2-bedroom 1 bath home is purged and is in very good shape. This is a very solid home with a well-constructed snow shed over the top. There is a 2-vehicle carport and a workshop behind the carport. There is a road behind the house going up the hill to get to a couple of nice building sites. The views are amazing up there. This is an awesome property and if needed the two vacant lots could be sold separately.



X Tall Pines Place
\$265,000

MLS # 821844
 35+ acres in Alpine Lakes Ranch with amazing views of Navajo Peak and the San Juan Mountain range. This property has a number of nice building sites with year-round road maintenance, central water and underground utilities at the road. The subdivision borders thousands of acres of National Forest and hunting is allowed. This is a wonderful property for your horses and it is only 18 miles from town.

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Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page**
tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Summer Reading Kickoff Party. 1:30-4:30 p.m., Sisson Library. For all ages. Join for the “Color Our World” Summer Reading kickoff. Make colorful planets, moons, stars, etc. Sign up and have fun.

Thingamajig Theatre Company Presents ‘Something Rotten!’ 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, 2313 Eagle Drive. For tickets and more information, visit pagosacenter.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Tour of the Night Sky Program. 8:15 p.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour program focuses on the Ancient Puebloans who once lived here and studied the night skies along with interactive talks about the life cycle of a star, categories of galaxies, telescopes and other topics. 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.

Saturday, May 31

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.

Pagosa Springs High School Graduation. 9 a.m., Golden Peaks Stadium.

Habitat for Humanity’s 15 Homes in 5k. 10 a.m., PLPOA Clubhouse. The event will include a 5k, 10k and kids’ super sprint. Register and pay at www.habitatarchuleta.org or beginning at 8 a.m. the day of the race.

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.

San Juan Mountain School Graduation. 1 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium.

Thingamajig Theatre Company Presents ‘Something Rotten!’ 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, 2313 Eagle Drive. For tickets and more information, visit pagosacenter.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Telescope Moon Viewing. 9-10 p.m., Aspen Village. Join the Pagosa Sidewalk Astronomers on the east side of the Walmart parking lot near the picnic tables for a brief educational presentation about the moon, then gaze at the moon through a telescope. The five-day-old waxing crescent moon has many visible craters.

Sunday, June 1

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, June 2

Mysteries Tour of Chimney Rock. 8 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour provides an in-depth discussion along the Great House Trail about the connection of Chimney Rock to the greater Chacoan culture, the significance of the mesa-top Great House, and the day-to-day lives of the ancestral inhabitants of Chimney Rock. 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.

Line Dancing. 9:30-11:30 a.m., PLPOA Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Beginners meet at 9:30 a.m. and the advance group meets at 10:15 a.m. If you haven’t attended before, please call Beverly at (970) 264-2064 for more information.

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

Great House Tour. 10:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This

■ See Calendar on next page

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Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page**
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.

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

Tuesday, June 3

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.

Veterans for Veterans of Archuleta County. 9 a.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. Veterans and family members are invited to share experiences with vets of all ages. Find out about the latest in vets benefits, vets news and community-focused events. Contact (970) 880-8387 for more details.

Pagosa Springs Stitchers. 10 a.m.-noon, Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Bring your current stitching project and a snack/drink if you wish, and enjoy the fellowship of other stitchers. All are welcome.

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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Wednesday, June 4

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

■ See Calendar on page 19

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A Lasting Legacy: Principal Chris Hinger Retires After Nearly 30 Years of Service



With deep gratitude and appreciation, we announce the upcoming retirement of Chris Hinger, our longstanding and deeply respected Middle School Principal. After nearly three decades of dedicated service to the Archuleta School District, Mr. Chris Hinger has decided to retire at the end of this school year.

Chris' journey with our district began in 1995 as a Junior High Science teacher and coach, where he inspired students with his passion for learning and mentorship. In 2003, he stepped into leadership as the Junior High Principal, a role he held until 2010 when he led the transition to our combined 5th-8th grade Middle School. Since then, Chris has been the driving force behind the school's success, always striving to make it the best middle school possible for students, staff, and the community.

His unwavering dedication to the education of the whole child has been a hallmark of his leadership. Chris has fostered a school culture where academic excellence, personal growth, and community engagement go hand in hand. His commitment to students and staff has created an environment where everyone is valued, supported, and encouraged to reach their full potential. When reflecting on his educational career at Pagosa Springs Middle School, Hinger said, "I love the students, the staff, and the community. If I had to do it all over again, I wouldn't change a thing." Hinger's final motivation to his staff was to challenge every member of the organization to keep pushing to be the best middle school in Colorado, hold a high bar for themselves and their students, and expect great things.

On behalf of the ASD community, we extend our heartfelt thanks to Chris for his years of service, leadership, and passion for education. His impact on generations of students, his colleagues, and our community is immeasurable, and his legacy will continue to shape and inspire our schools for years to come.

Please join us in celebrating Chris' remarkable career and wishing him the best in his next chapter. We thank Mr. Chris Hinger for his years of unwavering dedication, steady leadership, and heartfelt service. Wishing you all the best in this well-earned next chapter of life—may it be as rewarding as the legacy you leave behind. Go Pirates!

With gratitude

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PAGOSA SCENE . . .

A NIGHT TO REMEMBER: MASQUERADE

Photos courtesy Hannah Longmire, Anna Harbison, Carmen Thigpen and Mary Atkisson

Scene ... taking in an evening of elegance and fun at Our Savior Lutheran School's A Night to Remember: Masquerade on May 17. The fundraiser featured dinner, auctions and more.



2025 SEASON DATES:
MAY 31 – OCTOBER 25



REGULAR TRAIN EXCURSIONS:

Tuesday–Sunday
8:30am Departure by Bus
10:00am Departure by Train

GEOLOGY TRAINS:

June 15 & September 7

CHAMA EXPRESS:

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Fridays: June 27, July 11, 18, 25

FIREWORKS DINNER TRAIN:

July 4th

MOONLIGHT TRAINS:

168 Moonlight Wine: July 26

168 Moonlight Beer: August 30

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Bird of the Week



Photo courtesy Charles Martinez

This week's Bird of the Week, compliments of the Weminuche Audubon Society and Audubon Rockies, is the northern rough-winged swallow.

Swallows can fly for hours, swooping and gliding with pointed wings, sometimes high in the air, sometimes close to the ground, picking insects from the air. Birds of the rough-winged species typically fly lower and with slower wingbeats than other swallows. They are often found over water, dipping to snatch insects on the surface and in the air.

During summer, this small bird with a long name is common in open areas throughout the United States and southern Canada. Winter finds them in Mexico and Central America. The southern rough-winged swallow, recognized as a separate species, ranges from Panama south to Argentina. Both this swallow's common and scientific names refer to the small hooks and points on their outer wing edges that give them a file-like feel. The advantage that this adaptation confers to these swallows is not apparent.

If you could perch our swallow species side by side, the differences in appearance would be apparent. Instead, we often watch them zipping by or high on a wire and a glimpse of the undersides is all we see. The northern rough-winged swallow is brown above and whitish below. The dingy wash on its chest and throat distinguish it from the also-brown bank swallow that has a gleaming white throat and dark breast band.

Swallow species that breed here employ different nesting strategies. Barn and cliff swallows gather mud and attach their outer nest structures to a vertical wall. Tree and violet-green swallows are cavity nesters. Both of the brown-colored swallows, bank and rough-winged, nest in holes in vertical dirt banks, often not far from water. The tunnels where rough-winged swallows build a nest may have been built by kingfishers, squirrels or other animals. They have also learned to use man-made cavities, including drain pipes, culverts and holes in buildings.

Not long after their young have left the nest and are independent, northern rough-winged swallows depart for the south. By mid-September, most have left western states. We can help these birds by eliminating our use of pesticides, which kill the food they depend on.

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

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

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

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Preview Calendar

■ continued from page 15

the skills they need to become independent readers. For all ages. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

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.

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

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

Mysteries Tour of Chimney Rock. 5 p.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour provides an in-depth discussion along the Great House Trail about the connection of Chimney Rock to the greater Chacoan culture, the significance of the mesa-top Great House, and the day-to-day lives of the ancestral inhabitants of Chimney Rock. 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.

Thursday, June 5

Ruby's Writers Guild. 9-11 a.m., Sisson Library. Ruby's Writers Guild welcomes writers who are looking for opportunities, support and camaraderie with other writers. Members will provide support, resources and guidance for each 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.

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.

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.

19th Hole Concerts. 5:30-7:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs Golf Club. Live music by Bob Hemenger. The cover charge is a \$10 donation that supports the season's four nonprofits.

San Juan Stargazers. 6 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Social time will begin at 6 p.m., followed by a presentation at 7 p.m. on findings of the James Webb telescope and a celebration of the 55th anniversary of the Apollo 13 mission at 7:30 p.m.

Friday, June 6

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.

■ See Calendar on next page

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Summer Reading Crafts. 1-2:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Drawing and painting for all ages. No registration is required.


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.

■ See Calendar on next page



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Summer Reading kickoff party set for tomorrow

By Carole Howard
PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

Tomorrow afternoon, Friday, May 30, we are hosting the Summer Reading Kickoff Party from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Book lovers of all ages will enjoy free food, crafts and fun at this annual event that marks the start of the many highly popular Summer Reading activities that result in many enjoyable experiences and prizes for all ages.

Watch for details with dates and times of Summer Reading events and activities in future “Library News” columns throughout the summer. And, pick up monthly calendars at the library so you don’t miss any of the free programs, events and activities available to you and your family.

Virtual reality Holocaust films

Today through Friday, June 6, we are hosting a first-in-the-world virtual reality exhibition with five unique films featuring Holocaust survivors

Library News

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 virtual reality headsets.

We are privileged to share it with you free of charge, thanks to a generous loan from the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center.

The films will show daily. They average 17 minutes in length, and you can watch one movie or up to all five for a total of 83.5 minutes. Each showing is limited to 10 people because that’s how many headsets we have.

“We will have staff and volunteers

to help you set up the headsets,” said Judy Brennan, adult services librarian. “As well, we encourage you to be prepared for an emotional response to these films and make self-care a priority before and after viewing.

“You also will want to consider what age is appropriate for children to attend.”

Please pick up a handout with all the dates and times at your library, or find them on our website.

Online author talks

Our highly popular free online author talks with New York Times bestselling authors continue in June with three more talks for you to watch live on Zoom or via a recording later. For details and to register go to <https://libraryc.org/pagosalibrary/upcoming>.

On Wednesday, June 4, at noon, will feature “Extinctopedia–A Discovery of What We Have Lost, What is at Risk, and What To Do About it with Smithsonian Scientists.”

■ See Library on next page

Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page
org or call (877) 444-6777.
Thingamajig Theatre Company Presents ‘Something Rotten!’ 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, 2313 Eagle Drive. For tickets and more information, visit pagosacenter.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Saturday, June 7
Life at Chimney Rock Festival. Chimney Rock National Monument. A free, family-oriented event with interactive demonstrations of crafts and skills of the Ancestral Puebloan people.
Introduction to Landscaping in Archuleta County. 10 a.m., Native Plant Garden, Centennial Park. Join CSU Extension, the Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership, and

Archuleta County Weed and Pest to learn about gardening with native plants and more.
Festival of the Arts. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Tennyson Sculpture Garden, 475 Lewis St. Fine art and sculpture by more than 35 local and regional artists, live music, and more. Sponsored by the Pagosa Springs Arts Council.
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.
Thingamajig Theatre Company Presents ‘Something Rotten!’ 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, 2313 Eagle Drive. For tickets and more information, visit pagosacenter.org or call (970) 731-

SHOW (7469).
Sunday, June 8
Life at Chimney Rock Festival. Chimney Rock National Monument. A free, family-oriented event with interactive demonstrations of crafts and skills of the Ancestral Puebloan people.
Festival of the Arts. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Tennyson Sculpture Garden, 475 Lewis St. Fine art and sculpture by more than 35 local and regional artists, live music, and more. Sponsored by the Pagosa Springs Arts Council.
Submit your calendar items to editor@pagosasun.com; mail them to The Pagosa Springs SUN, P.O. Box 9, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147; or deliver them to The SUN office by noon Monday.



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Library

■ continued from previous page

On Tuesday, June 10, at noon we'll interact with Lisa Jewell on "Exploring Unexpected Twists and Turns."

June 24 at 2 p.m. will feature Katherine Applegate on "Living the Otter Life," a children's book in verse for those in the third through sixth grades.

Save Fridays for Summer Reading crafts

Starting Friday, June 6, we will have free crafts for all ages from 1 to 2:30 p.m. every Friday.

June 6 will be drawing and painting, June 13 will be fiber arts, June 20 will be photography, and June 27 will be 3-D art and décor.

Date changes for conversational Spanish

Conversational Spanish happens today, May 29, from 4 to 5 p.m.

Then, starting in June, the group will move its days and gather on the second and fourth Mondays of the month from 4 to 5 p.m.

This is a great opportunity to practice your Spanish in a free group setting. No minimum skill level is needed.

Brain fitness program Monday

In a community partnership program, Judy is leading a free 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 designed for all ages and abilities, performed while sitting in a chair. The Senior Center location was chosen so participants have more privacy as they exercise.

Music fun Monday

Pagosa Unplugged is free from 4 to 6 p.m. Monday, June 2, for amateur musicians who would like a safe, supportive, non-bar setting to play, sing or both with other people.

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.

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

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

Judy helps you with basic questions relating to computers, smartphones and tablets, and also provides assistance in accessing the library's online resources.

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

Note: There will be no Tech Time May 29.

ESL classes

Free in-person evening classes take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays, with 4 to 5 p.m. reserved for beginners, 5 to 6 p.m. for intermediate and 6 to 7 p.m. for advanced students. Please help us share the word about these classes.

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.

Mysteries and thrillers

"The Staircase in the Woods" by Chuck Wendig is a horror story about five high school friends on a camping trip. "Travels and Adventures of Lidie Newton" by Jane Smiley features an abolitionist woman posing as a boy searching for killers in slave territory. "The Amateur" by Robert Littell is a spy classic featuring a back-office CIA cryptographer.

Other novels

"The Friend" by Sigrid Nunez unites a woman and a dog when she unexpectedly becomes responsible for a great Dane. "The Amalfi Curse" by Sarah Penner is a story of witchcraft and sunken treasure. "Great Big Beautiful Life" by Emily Henry features two writers competing for the opportunity to write the biography of a reclusive woman. "The Anthropologists" by Avsegu Savas follows a couple house hunting and building a new life away from their country of origin.

Nonfiction

"Ocean: Earth's Last Wilderness" by David Attenborough and Colin Butfield includes photos and illustrations as it explores our last great wilderness that is both fragile and resilient. "The Electric State" by Simon Stalenhag is an illustrated dystopian sci-fi story using paragraphs linked to large artworks to tell about a teenage girl and her robot searching for her long-lost brother. "The Jemez

Mountains" by Thomas W. Swetnam recounts the history of these New Mexico mountains in words and photos. "Burn Book" by Kara Swisher is an expose of the tech industry and its founders. We have two LSAT preparation guides, one by the Princeton Review and the other by Kaplan.

■ See Library on page 23

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HEALTHY SELF

DO THIS FOR OTHER PEOPLE AND YOUR BODY WILL THANK YOU

This week we are focusing on investing time in others. After reading this excerpt, why not get a friend and begin brainstorming together how you can help your community?

Benefits from helping others:

- Increase happiness
- Increase a boost in a feel-good part of the brain
- Remind people that they are relatively lucky
- Feel connected to others
- Feel needed and effective
- Take the mind off worries for a while
- Feel generous
- Add a sense of purpose and meaning to life

Tips on helping others

- Call a friend to see how she's doing
- Cook a meal for the family
- Let a car merge in front
- Smile at a stranger in the street
- Hold the elevator door for others

Even though a small generosity might not have a big impact at the moment, many small



generosities could make a big difference. However, people should be careful when others ask favors. Sometimes it is perfectly fine to say no to favors.

Ways to Volunteer:

- School or tutoring program
- Clean up a local park
- Work with immigrants
- Community events
- Volunteer as a coach
- Local hospital or clinic

Source: "8 benefits of helping others." By Mykim Tran. <http://www.examiner.com>

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

"Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets." Matthew 7:12

A public service from your Adventist friends & neighbors at Pagosa Springs Seventh Day Adventist Church.
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PAGOSA SCENE . . .

SECOND CHANCE PROM

Photos courtesy Kelly Lewis

Scene ... dancing the night away at the Pagosa Community Initiative's annual Second Chance Prom. The May 17 fundraiser for the local non-profit featured a theme of denim and diamonds.





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Archuleta Seniors Inc. to benefit from 19th Hole Concert Series

By **Rose Chavez**
PREVIEW Columnist

Summer's highly anticipated 19th Hole Concert Series at the Pagosa Springs Golf Club features a different local music talent each Thursday evening in June.

The cover charge for each concert is \$10, and all proceeds are pooled and distributed evenly to the four selected nonprofits by the Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado.

Last year's concerts raised \$2,500 for each participating organization. This year's recipients are Archuleta Seniors Inc. (ASI), Build Pagosa, Project Sanctuary and the San Juan Head-

Senior News

10 years now," said Susan Buchner, current chair of the Archuleta Committee. "We raised a total of \$75,000 for local nonprofits in the first nine seasons, which we could not have

■ See Senior on next page

waters Forest Health Partnership.

The 19th Hole Concerts are community fundraisers that feature local musicians and local nonprofits each Thursday evening in June, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., at the Pagosa Springs Golf Club.

"The Archuleta Committee is proud to have been active in supporting Archuleta County's nonprofits for

Library

■ continued from page 21

"How to Stand Up to a Dictator" by CNN reporter Maria Ressa tells of her work in the Philippines. "America, America" by Greg Grandin is a new five-century history of North and South America. "Careless People" by Sarah Wunn-Williams is an insider's look at Facebook's leaders and policies by one of its senior executives. "No New Things" by Ashlee Piper is a witty, no-nonsense, 30-day guide to cutting back on shopping while eliminating clutter and saving money. "The Body Keeps Score" by trauma expert Dr. Besse Van Der Kolk explains scientific advancements and innovative treatments to help trauma victims heal.

Large print

"Tooth and Claw" by Craig Johnson is a Longmire adventure set in Alaska. "Booked for Murder" by P.J. Nelson is book one of the Old Juniper Bookstore mystery series. "The Bandit and Other Best Western Stories" by Loren D. Estleman is a collection of short western stories. "The Truth: The Future of America First" by Vivek Ramaswamy is authored by this 2023 Republican presidential candidate. "Reckoning Day" by Robert Vaughn features a bounty hunter in the Southwest.

DVDs

"The War of the Rohirrim" is a "Lord of the Rings" film. "Museum Alive" is a tour of London's Natural History Museum with David Attenborough. "The Madame Blanc Mysteries" is season three. "Paddington in Peru" and "Paddington 2" are family films featuring the famous English bear. We have seasons three and four of "Grace and Frankie," and seasons one, two and three of "Call the Midwife."

Thanks to your donors

We are grateful to the Randy Kroemer family for their generous donation of books.

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

"I surround myself with people who are happy and positive and smart and funny." — Ina Garten, author of 13 bestselling cookbooks that have sold 14 million copies worldwide and host of the Food Network TV program "Barefoot Contessa." Among her most famous dishes are perfect roast chicken, weeknight bolognese, French apple tart and a simplified version of beef bourguignon. Her culinary career began with her gourmet food store, also called Barefoot Contessa, in the Hamptons on Long Island, N.Y.

Website

For more information on library books, services and programs — and to reserve books, e-books, books on CD and DVDs from the comfort of your home — please visit our website at <https://pagosalibrary.org>.

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Senior

■ continued from previous page

done without the support of our faithful concert attendees and corporate sponsors.”

As a community facilitator, the Community Foundation works to increase resilience and success for nonprofits, while maximizing effective grantmaking for philanthropists to make Southwest Colorado a better place to live.

19th Hole Concerts schedule

- June 5: ASI, Bob Hemenger — Dixieland, jazz, blues, soul and pop.
- June 12: Project Sanctuary, Jackson Mountain Ramblers — country, folk and pop.
- June 19: Build Pagosa, Bo De Peña — Americana and country.
- June 26: San Juan Headwaters Forest Health Partnership, Max Miller — jazz.

The policy is to cancel in the event of lightning. If you want to check the status of a concert, check www.swcommunityfoundation.org for the most up-to-date information.

Open house scheduled

ASI, a local nonprofit organization supporting an age-friendly, independent and resilient community, is hosting an open house on June 11 from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Pagosa Senior Center.

All community members are invited to come and hear about ASI’s 2025-2027 strategic plan and learn about initiatives such as nutritional programs, caregiving support, educational programs, activities for mind and body, and our geodesic “grow” dome. There will be information on upcoming special events and fundraisers as well as the opportunity to volunteer for an array of programs.

Come meet our staff and board members at this free social event. Refreshments will be served. The Senior Center is located in the Ross Aragon Community Center at 451 Hot Springs Blvd. Parking is available. For more information, please call (970) 264-2167.

Self-Sufficiency Food Series and produce box program

ASI, in partnership with TerraWalk Farms and Nourish Colorado, is launching its second season of the Self-Sufficiency Food Series and Produce Box Program for low-income seniors (ages 55+) in Archuleta County.

Through this Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) initiative, eligible participants will receive bi-weekly boxes of fresh, local, organic produce from June to mid-October 2025.

Eligibility requirements: must be a current or new ASI client (Meals on Wheels, congregate, pick-up/Grab-N-Go meals); a resident of low-income senior housing (e.g., Casa De Los Arcos, Rose Mountain Homes).

Others may apply by contacting the ASI executive director at rosa@psseniors.org

for case-by-case consideration.

In addition to the fabulous vegetables, the community is invited to attend our Self Survival Food Lecture Series May through June. For more information, please visit our website, www.psseniors.org.

Monthly caregiver support group

If you are caring for a family member or friend with physical/mental disability, emotional health needs or cognitive decline, this group was created for you.

This group is not limited to only caregivers of older adults. Caregivers of all types are welcome. This group offers a safe, welcoming space for caregivers seeking connection, empathy and encouragement. Whether you’re looking for understanding during difficult times or just need a community to lean on, we’re here for you.

These sessions will also offer educational resources to grow you in the knowledge and skill to strengthen self-care, to care for your loved ones and empower you to navigate your role as a caregiver, one day at a time.

Dates for the monthly caregiver support gathering in 2025 include: May 22, June 26, July 24, July 24, Aug. 28, Sept. 25, Oct. 23, Nov. 20 and Dec. 18.

All meetings will be held at the Community Center in the West Conference Room (except the August gathering will be in a local park) from 10:30 a.m. to noon.

If you have questions or would like to be added to our announcement list, please contact Yeun Fiedler at (970) 946-5810 or Madeline Sutton at (970) 507-1574.

T’ai chi chih

The Senior Center is offering t’ai chi chih with accredited instructor Patti Popovich each Thursday from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. in the Senior Center dining hall located in the back of the Community Center.

The class is intended to support older adults who want to discover purpose and fulfillment in this transitional phase of life.

Tai chi is not a martial art, but rather a tool for self-healing. Softness, flow and effortlessness are the guiding principles in this practice.

All classes 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.

Stretching and mobility class

Community members are invited to attend free weekly classes every Tuesday from 10 to 11 a.m. at the Senior Center.

The stretching and mobility classes for older adults (age 55 and up) are designed to help build balance in the

body through functional exercises that aim to improve mobility and flexibility.

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

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

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

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

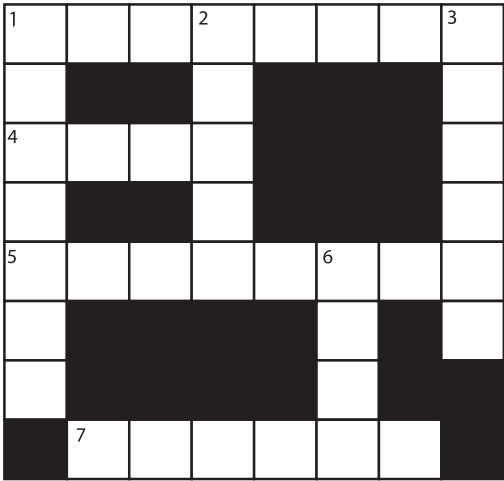
■ See Senior on next page



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ANSWER: TAMALE

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

1. Arts, customs, and behaviors of a social group
4. Person who operates something
5. With others
7. Menu items

DOWN

1. Nation
2. A number; trio
3. Salty or spicy
6. A place one lives

Answers: Across 1. Cultures 4. User 5. Together 7. Dishes Down 1. Country 2. Three 3. Savory 6. Home

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- **1865:** THE INTERNATIONAL TELEGRAPH UNION IS ESTABLISHED IN PARIS.
- **1902:** GREEK ARCHAEOLOGIST VALERIOS STAIS DISCOVERS AN ANCIENT MECHANICAL ANALOG COMPUTER.
- **1954:** THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT OUTLAWES RACIAL SEGREGATION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.



CULTURE

the customs and achievements of a particular people



ENGLISH: Celebrate

SPANISH: Celebrar

ITALIAN: Festeggiare

FRENCH: Célébrer

GERMAN: Feiern



THE WORD “SOMBRERO” IS DERIVED FROM THE SPANISH WORD “SOBRA,” WHICH MEANS “SHADE” OR “SHADOW.”



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: TACOS

Senior

■ continued from previous page

Thursday, May 29 — Beef lasagna, broccoli, garlic bread, garden salad, fruit, cottage cheese and milk.

Friday, May 30 — Tuna salad over greens, potato salad, whole-wheat roll, garden salad, fruit, chocolate cake and milk.

Monday, June 2 — Chicken pesto wrap, pasta salad, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Tuesday, June 3 — BBQ country ribs, creamed corn, garden salad, fruit, southern biscuit and milk.

Wednesday, June 4 — Baked herb chicken, couscous, broccoli hollandaise, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Thursday, June 5 — French beef dip sandwich on hoagie roll with au-jus, cheesy cauliflower, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Friday, June 6 — Pork kielbasa, sweet and sour cabbage, roasted potatoes, 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.

Medicare call by appointment

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

Mindful drawing

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

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

Bridge

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

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

Hand and foot card game

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

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

No experience is necessary, so come willing to learn.

Board vacancies

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

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

Classifieds

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

JOIN US JUNE 23 -27 at Amazing Grace Community Church vacation bible camp. Kids ages 5- 12 from 8a.m. -5p.m. Monday- Friday. Including adventure club. Lunch provided. Contact us (970)444-2111.

PAGOSA AA: M-W-F 5:30p.m. Mens' meet- ing 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.

SACRED WATERS MEDICINE WHEEL workshop. Saturday, June 7, 10a.m. -12p.m. at Xanadu. Potluck after. \$25 donation. Maggie Red Eagle and Shayla White Eagle facilitating. Call/ text (970)510-0309.

THERE IS A SOLUTION GROUP of Alco- holics Anonymous meets Tuesdays, Thurs- days, Saturdays, 5:30- 6:30p.m, Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. Questions? Richard: (970)903-1456. Dia- mond: (970)264-1073. Ann: (303)918-8137. Charlotte: (970)903-9690. More resources: www.aa.org, www.aa-westerncolorado.com, (970)245-9649, (888)333-9649 (24 hours).

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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.

CDL DRIVER. Ponderosa Lumber is hiring a CDL Driver. This is a full-time position. Duties include deliveries, loading /unloading trucks, and helping customers. Requires the ability to drive a stick shift and have a Class B endorsement. We offer paid time off, medical, dental, vision, prescription, 401(k) and Profit Sharing. Please apply at Ponderosa Lumber 2435 Eagle Dr. (970)731-4111.

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Friday, June 6 and Saturday, June 7

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Starting pay \$18-\$25 *position and qualifications dependent

Start the application process at
www.walmart.com/careers

ARCHULETA SCHOOL DISTRICT IS NOW HIRING!



Archuleta School District
strives to achieve
"Success for Every Student —
Every Class — Every Day."
Currently accepting applications
for the following full-time position:

Chief Operations Officer

Seeking an experienced, dynamic leader to oversee district operations including maintenance, custodial services, safety, transportation, and facility management. The ideal candidate will bring strong leadership, project management, and technical expertise to ensure the district's physical infrastructure supports optimal educational outcomes. Requirements: Bachelor's degree (Master's preferred); leadership and project management experience. Salary: \$98,110–\$108,031 (based on experience).

Benefits include (but are not limited to) PERA retirement, life insurance, optional health/dental insurance and paid discretionary days.

**You belong on the
Archuleta School District Team!**



For more details and to apply for these positions click on "Job Postings" on the following web-site: www.mypagosaschools.com
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stop by Riff Raff and ask for an application

COLORADO DREAM HOMES is expanding our crew! We are seeking multiple crew assist positions (framing /siding /finish carpentry). Starting rate is \$20+ an hour depending on experience. Paid holidays, accrued PTO and annual bonuses. Please send resumes to coloradodreamhomesinc@gmail.com or swing by our office at 2283 Eagle Drive to hand deliver or fill out an application.

CONSTRUCTION LABOR help needed. Good driving record a plus but not necessary. Pay based on construction experience. Full-time or part-time. (970)585-1021.

DEDICATED CLEANERS Must be detail oriented, trustworthy, reliable and committed. \$20/ hour possibly more for special projects. Text Pagosa Sparkles, (970)946-6446.



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.

DOGGY DAY CARE is now hiring. Dog attendant and or groomer. \$20 to start. \$100 signing bonus. Must have ranch, dog and or grooming experience. Part time to full time 4/9, 36 hours per week. Contact Jeffrey Edens (970)799-4691. jeffrey@doggydaycare81147.com.

Email us at
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THE ARCHULETA COUNTY FAIR BOARD is looking for **laborers** to help with setup, take down and various other job duties during the fair. We will need someone from July 24th to August 6th. Pay \$20 an hour.
Send resume to tsteadmon@archuletacounty.org or call (970)264-8424.

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CAREER OPPORTUNITIES. Front office administrative assistant or chair side procedural assistant positions available for immediate hire. Will train if necessary for these valuable positions. Flexible hours, full time or part time available. Great pay with room for advancement. Please send your resume today to pdimplants@yahoo.com.

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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**

LANDSCAPE LABORERS WANTED. Must have own transportation. Call for an application. Good pay for good help. (970)946-2277.

LOOKING FOR PART-TIME maintenance help. 20 hours per week. Please email hickoryridge@pagosacreek.com.

MEANDER HIRING COOKS! NYT TOP 50. Competitive pay. Meals included. Dinner service only. GREAT FOOD! 2 days off! Apply: Meandereatery.com.

NORTH PAGOSA MARATHON is hiring a full-time cashier nights and weekends. Competitive wages. Please apply in person at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

NOW HIRING. Positions available for Service Counter Assistant and part-time Bookkeeper. Computer skills a must. Monday – Thursday 7 to 6. Apply in person at Piedra Automotive, 505 County Road 600, Pagosa Springs.

ARCHULETA SCHOOL DISTRICT IS NOW HIRING!

We're looking for Outstanding Employees to join our team!



Archuleta School District

strives to achieve
"Success for Every Student —
Every Class — Every Day."

Currently accepting applications
for the following positions:

Elementary Mild to Moderate SPED Teacher 2025-26 SY

Full-time position with a starting salary \$51,645-\$67,469 for 175 days paid over a 12-month period.

Middle School SPED Instructional Aides

(2) Full-time positions with a starting salary \$27,899-\$31,175 for 173 days paid over a 12-month period.

High School Teachers 2025-26 SY

Full-time positions with a starting salary \$51,645-\$67,469 for 175 days paid over a 12-month period.

High School Significant Support Needs Aide

Full-time significant support needs paraprofessional position with a starting salary \$29,283-\$32,559 for 173 days paid over a 12-month period.

MS & HS Coaching Positions 2025-26 SY

Part-time positions based on salary schedule range from \$3,411 up to \$3,750 paid at the end of the season.

Benefits for all FULL-TIME positions include (but are not limited to) PERA State Retirement, Life Insurance, optional Health and Dental Insurance and paid Discretionary Days.

**You belong on the
Archuleta School District Team!**

For more details and to apply for these positions click on "Job Postings" on the following web-site: www.mypagosaschools.com
EOE



TERRY'S COLORADO HOME SUPPLY AND ACE HARDWARE IS SEEKING A MOTIVATED, DEPENDABLE, DETAIL ORIENTED INDIVIDUAL FOR SALES IN OUR FURNITURE DEPARTMENT.

Product or home design familiarity is a plus; proficient computer skills, exceptional communication, people and customer service skills are a must have.

Job requires working in a team atmosphere, high level of professionalism, and building long term

customers through a dynamic service repertoire.

Starts at \$18/hr with benefits. Full time/40hr week.

Applicants will need to be available for weekends and holidays. Apply in person at 525 Navajo Trail Drive.



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.

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



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Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

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HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

PETS

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 SpringsSUN
an O’Rourke Media Group company

PAGOSA LIQUOR IS HIRING a full-time cashier. Please come and apply in person at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

PAGOSA SPRINGS GOLF CLUB and Square Top BBQ Immediate Openings: Irrigation Tech \$20- 25/ hour DOE, Grounds Crew \$17- \$19/ hour DOE, Server/ Bartender \$11.79- \$15/ hour +Tips, Kitchen staff \$17- 20/ hour, 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.

PART-TIME FRONT DESK Opportunity. Are you friendly, organized, and customer-focused? We are looking to add a reliable and enthusiastic member to our team! Shifts may include a combination of mornings, days, nights, and weekends. Our front desk is open 8a.m. to 10p.m. daily, including holidays. Download application at www.pshotsprings.com or stop by to pick one up. Resumes/ applications can be emailed to: sales@pshotsprings.com, Attention Front Desk Position or dropped off at Healing Waters Resort & Spa, 140 Hot Springs Blvd.

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.

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

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.

THE SPOTTED PUP GROOMING SALON in Pagosa Springs is hiring a full-time experienced groomer. Please call (970)507-0905.

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YARD SALES
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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.

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‘Be not afraid’: Finding the remedy

By Caleb Monroe
Special to The PREVIEW

According to the World Bank, when comparing America’s wealth and standard of living to that of the rest of the world, Americans can easily count their blessings. If your family income is \$10,000 a year, you are wealthier than 80 percent of the world. If it’s \$50,000 or more, you make more than 99 percent of the world.

These humbling statistics go to show that Americans are incredibly blessed when it comes to our financial well-being and standard of living. As Americans we have been bestowed with blessings so substantial that it is sometimes hard for us to comprehend just how truly great we have it.

Why, then, does it at times feel like the polar opposite? Why does it sometimes feel like we can’t catch a break, especially when around 50 percent of Americans say that they are living paycheck to paycheck and struggling to make ends meet?

Is it possible that there is a growing disconnect between the true blessings we have, which we often fail to take notice of, and our perception of what really matters? Are we worrying about and chasing the wrong things in life?

Our modern American world is engrossed in materialistic consumerism. It is feeding false promises, stripping the soul and beauty from our world, and leaving a lot of people with an enormous void.

The remedy offered by the world of materialism is to fill the void with material items and self-centered pursuits. The undeniable truth, as supported by mental health statistics, is that this “remedy” is not working.

There is an increase in mental health issues within communities. We see the effects in our schools, in our friend groups, on social media and in those living on the streets. A staggering 50 million Americans suffer from anxiety and people are suffering despite living in America.

Why?
The answer can be found in whom and from where we get our satisfaction and fulfillment. The world has convinced millions of Americans that the only solution to their problems can be found in material things, in the one-night stands of a hook-up culture, and in the self-centered pur-

A Matter of Faith

The undeniable truth, as supported by mental health statistics, is that this “remedy” is not working.

suits founded in the ideology of me.

These are promises that only serve to empty people more and mistakenly take people further away from the true source of fulfillment. This misguided belief is causing people to continually seek more and more, thus resulting in them not recognizing the true source of all our needs, namely Our Heavenly Father.

God knows all our needs and, in fact, He knows them even before we do. But so many times these needs that we desire are not what we truly need. A culture driven by instant gratification isn’t the solution.

For both Christians and non-Christians, it is only by turning to God and opening our hearts in saying, “Alright God, you know better than I do when it comes to what I need. Guide me,” are we able to fill that void and bring peace and humility to our lives.

When we worry, we are taking our eyes and trust away from God, who has our best interests in mind. When we turn to material things and the false pretense that we can handle

life alone, we leave out the One who can actually fill the void.

One thing that God has consistently reminded us is to not worry about the things of this world. In fact, He tells us 365 times in the Bible to, “Be not afraid.”

In our day-to-day lives, whenever we feel that shadow of doubt and worry start to creep in, we must immediately turn to God for assistance. For it is only through Him and with Him that we will ever be able to completely shed the worry caused by this world and enjoy God’s blessings.

In a way we have won the lottery by being Americans. How we enjoy those winnings is ultimately up to us.

Do we keep them hidden in the darkness, seeking only materialist joy and being self-focused? Do we give thanks where thanks is due? Do we turn our hearts to God, acknowledging that He is the one who has blessed us, thus putting our trust and faith in Him to guide our lives to happiness and fulfillment?

If the answer to these questions is “no,” then who and what are we turning to?

For every day of the year, there is a simple but profound reminder: “Be not afraid.” Let us then turn our hearts and minds to our Lord, Jesus Christ, by acknowledging and sharing the blessings He has bestowed upon us, pushing the worry from our lives, and striving to live according to His will and not our own.

Let us keep in mind that He is the “remedy” the world needs.

This column may include both fiction and nonfiction, and views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN. Submissions can be sent to editor@pagosasun.com.



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