



PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147

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Updates provided on town’s wastewater emergency situation

By Derek Kutzer
Staff Writer

The Town of Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District (PSSGID) continues to deal with and work on alleviating its critical issues with its wastewater conveyance system.

On June 17, Public Works Director Karl Johnson gave an update to the PSSGID board about the critical emergency to the system.

The day before, at a listening session about necessary repairs to the troubled system, Town Manager David Harris said, “As of this afternoon, Pump Station #2 has failed, on top of a previous issue related to a recent lightning strike.”

That same day an emergency notice was sent out to PSSGID customers stating that “this combination of failures is putting the system at risk.”



Photo courtesy Town of Pagosa Springs

A bypass pump is installed at the Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District’s Pump Station 2 to help alleviate stress on the station’s other pumps.

Sheriff presents potential fire restriction information to county commissioners

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

Archuleta County Sheriff Mike Le Roux spoke to the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) during the board’s June 24 work session with information related to fire restrictions in the county and the national forest, indicating restrictions may be put in place in the coming week.

“So, fire restrictions is a conversation that we didn’t have last year, but it’s likely a conversation we’ll have this year,” he said, noting that it was a cloudy day with rain in the forecast that may help the fire situation.

Le Roux also mentioned that “the Forest Service is talking about that,” referring to a joint meeting between the Hinsdale and Archuleta county commissioners held on Wednesday, June 18.

During that meeting, San Juan National Forest District Ranger Josh Peck provided an update to the

boards on the current fire danger situation, also indicating the Forest Service may go into a stage one fire restriction soon.

Peck explained that the region had a “record high” fuel level in February, but that more moisture was received in the month of May this year than it did in January and February combined, “which is really unheard of for our neck of the woods.”

He noted that the delayed moisture improved the fire danger situation, but commented that, “we’re hitting our fire season right now.”

Peck indicated that fire restrictions may be talked about next week, “unless we start to see some pulses of moisture.”

During the June 24 work session, Le Roux noted that fire restrictions could be put in place on July 1, but that it was “not set in stone.”

Le Roux went on to explain that the Forest Service typically provides the science behind the indices and

Temporary county office space discussed

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

Archuleta County’s commissioners and other elected officials discussed options for temporary county office spaces during a work session held by the Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) on Tuesday, June 24, after an act of arson on June 12 forced the county to evacuate its offices located at 449 San Juan St.

Two options were discussed, which included moving offices from one end of the old county courthouse to the other end of the building that

was not affected by the June 12 fire or relocating the offices elsewhere.

Commissioner Warren Brown explained that he wanted the topic included on the work session agenda as he was planning to meet with the owner of the building — Ronnie Urbanczyk — about the potential of extending the county’s lease and the possibility of using the adjacent parking lot during the U.S. 160 reconstruction project.

Brown noted that Urbanczyk offered the west side of the old courthouse building “at the same lease agreement” the county currently has,

which waives a lease fee and has the county only paying for utilities and insurance.

The BoCC was joined by Treasurer Elsa White, Assessor Johanna Tulley-Elliott, and Clerk and Recorder Kristy Archuleta, who presented the option of the county leasing the Wyndham building located at 56 Talisman Drive, according to Archuleta.

The building would house all departments affected by the fire including elections, motor vehicle human resources and GIS, along with the treasurer, assessor, and clerk and

PSCDC’s affordable housing project paused

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation’s (PSCDC’s) affordable housing project has paused moving forward with phase two of the project until eight of the 10 homes from phase one are sold, Executive Director Emily Lashbrooke explained during a regular work session held by the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) on June 17.

During the work session, Lash-

brooke informed the BoCC that the PSCDC “Board of Directors decided to pause on phase two.”

Commissioner John Ranson noted that it may be a “blessing in disguise” for the PSCDC to put a pause on its housing project.

In an email to The SUN, Lashbrooke explains that phase two of the housing project had been on pause for 60 days, as of June 20, in order to sell the remaining five homes from phase one.

She also mentions there are currently eight applicants.

During the BoCC work session, Lashbrooke commented that pausing the project will give the PSCDC more time for other potential solutions in finding gap funding needed for the homes to be sold at an affordable price point.

She also mentioned that the PSCDC may pursue other building options.

The PSCDC partnered with a local builder — BWD Construction — to build the first 10 homes of the multi-phase project



Photo courtesy Colorado Department of Transportation

Workers maneuver around utility lines to complete work on storm and sewer lines. The Colorado Department of Transportation noted overhead utility lines are one of many reasons excavation work on storm and sewer lines is tricky.

A dream fulfilled: Wes Lewis retired after 29 years of coaching Pirate basketball

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

When next season’s Pagosa Springs Pirate basketball teams take to the court, for the first time in decades, Wes Lewis will not be coaching any of the teams.

Lewis’ retirement from coaching — which was commemorated by the Archuleta School District Board of Education earlier this month — closes a 29-year chapter of his book.

“It wasn’t easy, but I just really felt like it was time,” Lewis said of making the decision to step away from coaching.

Lewis will step away with decades of memories,



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Wes Lewis coaches the Pagosa Springs High School Pirates. Lewis recently announced his retirement from coaching after 29 years.

Rep. Jeff Hurd holds telephone town hall

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

On Tuesday evening, June 24, Rep. Jeff Hurd of Colorado’s 3rd Congressional District held a telephone town hall, addressing questions asked by

constituents over the course of an hour.

It was reported near the end of the town hall that there were more than 7,000 attendees.

Hurd answered questions about

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Opinion

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OUR VIEW

‘Your Brain on ChatGPT’

Many of us likely remember the anti-narcotics campaign that began in the 1980s that used eggs to demonstrate “your brain on drugs.”

Now, the folks at MIT are looking into “Your Brain on ChatGPT.”

And, while the study acknowledges its limitations and there’s undoubtedly a lot we won’t know for a long time, we don’t love the results of the study.

The study suggests large language models (LLMs) like ChatGPT may affect our critical thinking skills.

Not too surprising, if you ask us, and it sounds like exactly what we don’t need right now (or ever).

The MIT Media Center conducted the study, which included a total of 54 participants.

“With today’s wide adoption of LLM products like ChatGPT from OpenAI, humans and businesses engage and use LLMs on a daily basis,” a website on the study explains. “Like any other tool, it carries its own set of advantages and limitations. This study focuses on finding out the cognitive cost of using an LLM in the educational context of writing an essay.”

The study divided participants into three groups — an LLM group, a search engine group and a brain-only group — for three

sessions involving essay-writing tasks. A fourth session then asked LLM group participants to use no tools and the brain-only group to use LLM.

The participants’ brain activity was recorded “to assess their cognitive engagement and cognitive load, and to gain a deeper understanding of neural activations during the essay writing task.” Participants were also interviewed after each session. Scoring was done with the help of human teachers and an AI agent specifically built to help judge.

It was noted that the different groups had “significantly different neural connectivity patterns, reflecting divergent cognitive strategies. Brain connectivity systematically scaled down with the amount of external support: the Brain-only group exhibited the strongest, widest-ranging networks, Search Engine group showed intermediate engagement, and LLM assistance elicited the weakest overall coupling.”

In the fourth session, the LLM-to-brain participants showed, among other things, weaker neural connectivity, and the opposite group showed, among other things, higher memory recall.

We aren’t too surprised.

“As the educational impact of LLM use only begins to settle with the general

population, in this study we demonstrate the pressing matter of exploring a possible decrease in learning skills based on the preliminary results of our study,” the website states. “The use of LLM had a measurable impact on our participants, and while the benefits were initially apparent, as we demonstrated over the course of 4 sessions, which took place over 4 months, the LLM group’s participants performed worse than their counterparts in the Brain-only group at all levels: neural, linguistic, scoring.”

While it’s unlikely we’ll know the full effect of things like ChatGPT on our learning, memory and more anytime soon, what we do know is that this is a time when we should focus on sharpening our critical thinking skills, not taking the easy way out (never mind some terrifying reports we’ve heard about AI self-preservation and strategic lying lately).

There’s a lot facing us — at local, state, national and international levels — and if we’re going to solve problems and make things better, it’s going to take human brains with knowledge, memory, empathy, the ability to think and analyze critically, and more.

Count us as team brain-only. We hope you’ll join us.

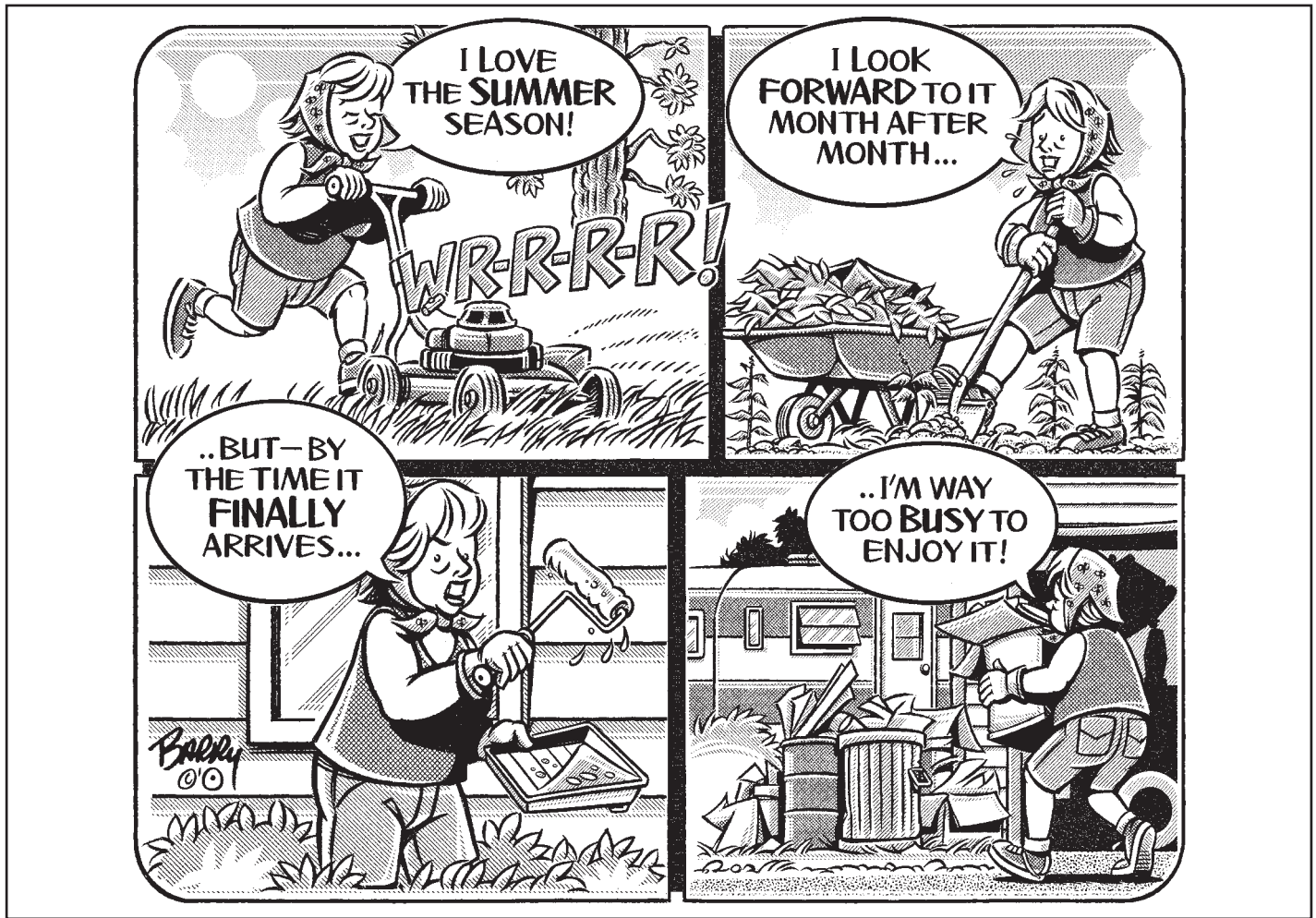
Randi Pierce

LOOKING BACK



From the June 29, 1989, Pagosa SUN — RODEO ROYALTY — Queen Lori Eoff, center, and attendants Stacy Formwalt, left, and Shawna Everett will represent the Red Ryder Roundup in Tuesday’s Fourth of July Parade. The Pagosa Springs cowgirls will also lead the Grand Entry Parade at this year’s Red Ryder Roundup rodeos.

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LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

100 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
June 26, 1925

Commencing tomorrow and continuing for three days, the Spanish-Americans of Arboles and vicinity will conduct a three-day celebration in honor of San Pedro. The committee consists of David Quintana, Kelly Duran and Patricio Martinez, and numerous races, dances and other sports events have been arranged.

An important decision was rendered yesterday afternoon by Judge W. N. Searcy in the district court, when he declared unconstitutional the act of the Colorado legislature, passed Feb. 25, 1925, which provided for a tax upon livestock brought by non-residents into Colorado from adjoining states for grazing purposes. The case was brought by District Attorney Jacobson and Assistant Noland on behalf of the People of the State of Colorado against R.C. Whitney who was alleged to have driven stock into Colorado without paying the tax. A motion to quash the indictment was entered in behalf of the defendant by Attorney B.B. Russell, and this motion was sustained by Judge Searcy’s ruling.

In an interview this morning, Judge Searcy stated that he felt the present law as merely a variation of similar ones that previously have been passed by the Colorado legislature. They have been held unconstitutional by the Supreme court of the state as making an unlawful discrimination against citizens of other states, and the present law will probably suffer a like fate.

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
June 23, 1950

One of the largest forest fires ever had in this area, which burned more than 600 acres, was under control Monday, although mopping-up operations still continue. According to Rod Blacker, District Ranger, while the definite cause of the fire is unknown, it is believed that it was started from either a cigarette or an abandoned camp fire. The fire broke out Thursday morning, according to reports from the Durango Forest Service and was not brought under control until late Sunday or early Monday. The fire started just above the old CCC camp on the north side of the Blanco area and burned over many acres of timber, brush and quakies. At one time over 300 men were engaged in combating the blaze. The rough country made it extremely difficult to use machinery in the fight and much of the equipment used had to be packed up.

The fire danger is acute in all mountain areas and local residents should take every precaution to avoid another such catastrophe as the Blanco Basin fire.

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
June 26, 1975

Snowfall on Wolf Creek Pass went over the 800 inch mark for the season last week. Four inches of snow at the East Side Highway Camp brought the total fall for the winter to 801 inches.

This is a record that may stand for many years. The previous high record was 619 inches the winter of 1972-73. The winter snow season ends on Wolf Creek Pass on June 30 and it is not now likely that the total fall for the winter will be increased.

This is the third winter since 1959 that snowfall on Wolf Creek Pass has exceeded 600 inches. The other record years were 1965-66 with 603 inches and 1972-73 with 619 inches. Official records on Wolf Creek have been kept since 1959.

Prior to that time there was no regular or official system of measurement of snowfall. A total fall of 80 feet, five inches is a record that should stand for many years.

25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
June 22, 2000

Rain is on the horizon for Pagosa Country. No one knows if the anticipated ethereal showers will trickle from the sky in inconsequential dribbles or descend in a volume sufficient to negate the need for water rationing and fire bans.

Local citizens still need to be careful with water consumption, according to Carrie Campbell, general manager of the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District.

“If we don’t get enough rain in the next week or 10 days, the threat of mandatory rationing will still be with us,” Campbell said. “People have been great about saving water, but the threat isn’t over. The water at the spillway at Hatcher and Stevens reservoirs is about 13 inches below the top. So far, voluntary rationing is working.”

Hearts were lightened last week by the first measurable rain on Pagosa Country since May 17.

Friday’s rainfall was the first measured during June and the first reported in town since May 17 when 0.10 of rain fell.



Weather data

Date	High	Low	Precipitation	Moisture	Type	Depth
6/17	82	41	0.00	NA	NA	NA
6/18	85	41	0.00	NA	NA	NA
6/19	87	43	0.00	NA	NA	NA
6/20	86	51	0.00	NA	NA	NA
6/21	82	46	0.00	NA	NA	NA
6/22	77	46	0.00	NA	NA	NA
6/23	80	37	0.00	NA	NA	NA



■ Continued from A3

the woods and crags on either side of US 160 leading up to Wolf Creek, and all of Coyote Hill and its trail system (which, full disclosure, is 100 yards from my house). Much of the land surrounding Williams Creek Reservoir is in there. That amazing drive along Plumtaw Road, where the aspens quake? In there.

The map is shocking. We say no.

We can look for guidance to history, and to the leaders, many of them Republican, who forged America's approach to public lands.

Ulysses S. Grant signed the law creating the first national park. Teddy Roosevelt added 150 million acres to the national forest system – including our own San Juan and Rio Grande national forests. Ronald Reagan said, “Preservation of our environment is not a liberal or conservative challenge, it's common sense.”

This is an incredibly divided time in our country. And, in many ways, our country. But of the dozens of folks I've talked to in the last week, not a single one says this is a good idea.

Whether we're Republicans, or Democrats, or unaffiliated. Whether we hunt, or fish, or hike, or snow-board.

Whether we just moved our young family here to “live clean” or we retired here to build our dream home a quarter-century ago or we're here camping for a weekend. Whether we're descended from the white ranchers – and before them, the Latino shepherds – who clawed out a living here. Or the French fur trappers who trudged over Wolf Creek Pass. Or the tribal heroes who first soaked in the “healing waters” of our hot springs.

Sell our public lands? We say no.

Rick Holter

PLPOA proposed bylaw change

Dear Editor:

What does the phrase “smoke and mirrors” mean? Here's the definition: something that is deceptive or misleading, designed to distract from the truth or hide something unpleasant. It implies a deliberate attempt to create a false impression of illusion.

A group of property owners discussed PLPOA capital spending and decided to propose a change to the PLPOA bylaws that would limit the board's spending on capital improvements to a maximum of \$500,000 with a yearly increase based on inflation. Following PLPOA guidelines for a change in bylaws, a petition was circulated and signed by the required number of property owners and presented to the board.

Suddenly the Board of PLPOA decided to add a second proposed bylaw change to the amount of capital spending the board can approve without member approval.

It seems the board had discussions outside of public meetings to launch their latest “smoke and mirrors” tactics to ensure this amendment does not pass. At the April meeting Treasurer Ericka Bailey proposed a second amendment to the bylaws which would severely limit the amount of money the board could spend without property owner approval. When asked for clarification Ericka explained this would require the board to “save up” for big expenditures just like normal people.

Without looking at the exact numbers and details on how voting works, this might seem like a good thing, limiting their spending even more. A yearly transfer, provided they spend none of the dollars, in 4 years they would have funds that exceed the current maximum allowed. There

would be no limit on what they can spend if the dollars are available in the capital fund.

Here are the numbers related to each amendment:

Current: \$1,217,623.50

Change A: \$317,217

Change B: \$500,000

One must ask why in the world would the board propose a change that limits their spending so drastically, lower than the original amendment.

There are three options on the ballot: No Change, Proposed Change A and Proposed Change B.

Having combined 3 choices into 1 amendment, the board is effectively diluting the vote in hopes that NEITHER proposed change gets the 2/3 yes vote needed for change.

The board has also decided that any ballots returned without a By-laws vote will be counted as voting for the option of no change, calling it a no vote rather than a non-vote. This appears to be yet another manipulation by the board to ensure they can continue to spend over a million dollars on a project without property owner voting.

I encourage my neighbors/property owners in PLPOA to take time to understand what is happening.

Not only are they using the continued tactic of “smoke and mirrors” they refuse to record the monthly meetings for those that cannot attend in person or online. What are they hiding?

Allan Pfister and Paul Zeman who both see how our board has lost the mission of “serving in the best interest of PLPOA property owners”. Isn't that what our board is supposed to be doing?

PLEASE participate and vote!

Peggy Knudson

Stop shooting ourselves in the foot

Dear Editor:

Do you know anyone battling diabetes? Alzheimer's Disease?

The proposed cuts to the 2026 HHS budget slashes the National Institute of Health's funding by 40%. For those who've heard this will help trim a bloated federal budget, you might consider the story of NIH research scientist, Dr. John Eng.

In 1999, Dr. Eng was studying the saliva of Gila Monsters. Sounds like a frivolous waste of taxpayer dollars, right? But, hold on. You may not have heard the rest of the story. Dr. Eng discovered that a chemical produced in the venom of the Gila Monster is very similar to a hormone naturally created in the human pancreas to stimulate insulin production.

After nearly a decade of research, the NIH found that a single injection of a synthetic version of the tested venom (extendin-4) restored normal insulin production in diabetic mice.

In 2005, the FDA approved the use of extendin-4 in the treatment of human diabetes, providing millions of Americans with a significant treatment for their disease. Today, NIH researchers are testing the same chemical as a possible intervention in the treatment of Alzheimer's Disease. This could be a blessing for thousands of families, unless the funding dries up.

Still think cutting support for the NIH is a good budget-slashing measure? Then consider that the federal tax dollars spent on medical research is a mere fraction of the bonanza the mega-wealthy will reap from the “Slash-Everything-To-Bail-Out-Millionaires” tax cuts AKA the proposed budget bill being debated now.

Yes. This is the same Big Ugly Bill that adds trillions to the national debt

and requires severe cuts to Medicaid, SNAP benefits, Veteran's Benefits, FEMA, Wildfire Prevention, National Parks, the EPA, PBS, the National Weather Service ... the list goes on.

Let's stop shooting ourselves in the foot. Tell the DC crowd that the well-being of their constituents matters more than padding the bank accounts of millionaires and billionaires.

Call: Hurd (DC) 202-225-4676. Hickenlooper (DC) 202-224-5941 Bennet (DC) 202-224-5852

Sincerely, Kathy Muth

Elementary school restructuring

Dear Editor:

On May 13th the school board heard a presentation from Principal Kelly Vining outlining changes upcoming this fall at Pagosa Springs Elementary School regarding tiered interventions. It is Mrs. Vining's opinion that her restructuring of the intervention program will have no noticeable or appreciable change to families or students. In fact, there is a huge change that she is attempting to shrug off: who is providing the interventions. In the Pagosa Sun article “School district discusses elementary school intervention program restructuring,” it states that in the current model of intervention, “the lowest five to ten students are pulled out of class and go with two interventionists.” It should be highlighted that these two interventionists are highly trained, distinctly qualified, experienced and credentialed individuals in teaching reading and math. In Principal Vining's new model students who require intense Tier 3 interventions will be pulled out, potentially in smaller groups, however, with classroom paraprofessionals who are taking their direction from a likely already overworked homeroom teacher. “It should not create any additional work,” she stated when specifically questioned on this. Principal Vining should be aware that there is, in fact, a science to reading. You wouldn't want an operating room technician performing a surgical procedure on you while the actual board-certified surgeon was in another room taking care of 15 other patients. Rest easy; the surgeon already told the technician what to do. What could go wrong? In the same way, I emphatically believe you don't want paraprofessionals teaching the lowest achieving students. In the spirit of full disclosure, my own child attends PSES and is in the bottom ten students for their grade in reading and has been for the past two years. She has made slow gains but I am convinced that those gains are the result of the direct care and attention of the specialized, trained teachers who she has had the privilege of working with such as Ms. Harris and Ms. Hershey. To say I have reservations about these upcoming intervention changes is an understatement. I understand Principal Vining's renewed emphasis on strengthening core instruction, and indeed, high-quality Tier 1 and 2 teaching is crucial for all students. However, shifting these critical remedial services away from highly qualified staff is not only a disservice to these children but also a shortsighted approach that will likely lead to their greater struggles down the line, potentially impacting their overall academic trajectory and future opportunities.

Our whole community should take notice and demand accountability. One year from now will these lowest students be making adequate gains in their weekly progress monitor testing or will this experiment simply be a failure at the expense of these, albeit, few sacrificial children to be left behind? Mrs. Vining herself noted that there “is no one on the planet who can teach reading better than Kristeen [Harris]” so how then does it make sense to move her to a different position and replace her with a collection of paraprofessionals?

Emma Ridley

A future memorial

Dear Editor:

Imagine the year 2050. The echoes of decades of Middle East conflict still resonate, a monumental endeavor on the National Mall reaches its quiet completion. The Middle East War Memorial, born from years of debate, stands ready to unveil its profound message of loss and reflection. No ordinary monument, its design is a deliberate departure from the linear, a swirling, fractured tapestry of

polished, dark granite. Its surfaces subtly angle, catching the light to cast shifting shadows that evoke the tumultuous lands it commemorates. The stone itself seems to absorb the surrounding vibrancy, darkening with the weight of its purpose.

Etched with sacred precision upon its vast face are the names of military personnel who gave their lives. These names are not presented in a chronological stream but in clusters—sometimes dense and overlapping, sometimes scattered—mirroring the unpredictable nature of the wars. Dates are less prominent, subsumed by the sheer volume of human lives lost, emphasizing the generational burden of these conflicts.

The memorial unflinchingly portrays the brutal truth of the human cost. Interspersed among the names are subtle, abstract engravings representing the countless civilians, displaced families, and shattered ancient cities. These patterns hint at dust storms over ruins or the silent journey of refugees, ensuring visitors grasp the whole, devastating ripple effect of prolonged engagement, acknowledging that war's canvas extends far beyond the battlefield.

And they will come. Mothers with faces etched by sorrow, fathers stooped by grief, siblings whose childhood memories are stained by absence, and countless relatives and friends, their lives forever altered. They will come not just with tears, but with a profound and aching understanding of this monument to mankind's enduring folly. The initial patriotic fervor has long evaporated, replaced by a pervasive sense of futility and a desperate yearning for comprehension. This memorial serves as a mirror, reflecting not only the courage of the fallen but also the collective failures that led to such immense loss.

Slowly, deliberately, they will approach, each step a testament to enduring love and unresolved grief. They will place vibrant flowers against the stark stone—fragile symbols of life in the face of death. Some will bring polished medals, while others will bring personal items: a faded photograph, a child's drawing, a worn letter—each a whisper of memory, a defiant refusal to let the lost be forgotten.

The air around the memorial will be thick with unshed tears and unspoken words. Visitors will move slowly, reverently, their gaze sweeping across the multitude of names, each representing a universe of unfulfilled dreams. The silence will be profound, broken only by the wind, the distant murmur of the city, and an occasional, heartbreaking sob. In this shared sorrow, a fragile communion will emerge, binding together those who carry the burden of these wars. This memorial is more than a place of remembrance; it is a crucible where grief is acknowledged, sacrifice felt, and where the enduring, warlike nature of humanity is displayed alongside monuments to similar conflicts throughout history.

Russell Widener

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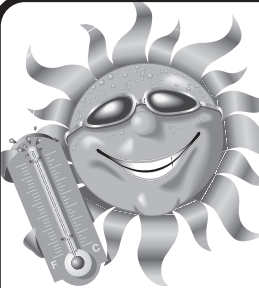
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This beautiful split-level home with A/C sits conveniently between uptown and downtown Pagosa Springs on 7.86 acres and is set up perfectly for horses with a 2 stall 48'x23' barn that includes space for parking equipment; spacious 60'x120' outdoor riding arena, 2 turn outs, and a fenced grazing area on the lower section of the property. This lovely home has been recently updated with fresh interior paint, engineered hardwood flooring, new carpet, oversized kitchen island, beautiful new granite, updated bathroom vanities, fixtures, updated landscaping and much more! Do you have an RV? Bring it along and park it in the 18'x44' covered RV storage that is complete with electricity. There is ample parking for additional trailers, toys or equipment. The current owner has also installed a large 20'x18' log sided storage building with electricity that could also be used for additional livestock as it has a stall and plenty of room for tack & feed storage.

Mountain views and privacy



MLS# 823159 • \$995,000 • 57 Antler Court

Enjoy privacy and unobstructed mountain and valley views from this almost 2000sq ft 3 bedroom 2 bath single level home on over 5 wooded acres. This hilltop oasis is very energy efficient and features a 2 car attached garage, fully finished and heated shop, a modern mountain exterior of low maintenance stucco and metal siding, landscaped yard, plenty of parking for an RV, trailers, toys, you name it and great southern exposure for the driveway makes this a perfect hilltop home and mountain retreat! This home is conveniently located only 5 minutes from City Market, restaurants, and Pagosa Lakes rec center.



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Celebration



Jason Carr and Erin Fisk, now Mr. and Mrs. Jason Fisk, wed at the mother springs on June 10, 2025, at 1:11 p.m.



Business

Fourth of July activities to abound

By Mary Jo Coulehan
Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce

Get your calendars out, for even if there is no parade this year, there are many things still to do, including many of the usual Fourth of July activities.

Park to Park Artisan Market

Of course, the Chamber of Commerce is preparing for our annual Park to Park Artisan Market that is always held over the Fourth of July holiday.

This year, it will be a four-day event July 3-6. There will be more than 100 vendors this year. Therefore, it may take you several days to see all the vendors. And that should be an incentive, as every day in the park there will be a beer garden and live music from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

You can shop, sip, listen to music under the entertainment tent and enjoy a variety of artists including Michael Silberhorn, Maxwell Miller, Carl Mori, Elwood, Emily Tholberg and more. The final musical schedule will be out soon.

The show will be open every day from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. except July 6, when the show will close at 4 p.m.

We will have a lot of new artists this year with beautiful, fun and useful items for people and pets. Join us

in Town Park and the athletic field for this traditional show.

‘Matilda the Musical’

Let’s kick the Fourth of July holiday back just a little and start it with the Curtains Up Pagosa production of “Matilda the Musical,” which will be held at Pagosa Springs High School starting Thursday, June 26.

Performances will be at 7 p.m. June 26, 27 and 28, and a 2 p.m. matinee performance on Saturday, June 28.

Tickets are available online at www.curtainsuppagosa.org or at the door.

Red Ryder Roundup Rodeo

Another multiday event is the fast-paced, exciting Red Ryder Roundup Rodeo.

This rodeo will take place July 3 at 6 p.m., July 4 at 2 p.m. and July 5 at 6 p.m., and will be held at the rodeo grounds near the Archuleta County Fairgrounds.

This will be the rodeo’s 75th anniversary, so you know there will be extra excitement built into the event.

Tickets for this event can be purchased at www.pagosarodeo.com.

Stars and Stripes Stroll

While there will not be the traditional parade on the Fourth of July, please don’t forget that there will be a walking parade, the Stars and Stripes

Stroll at Yamaguchi Park at 3 p.m.

This parade will honor our veterans and first responders; therefore, if you have family members, are a retired first responder or veteran, please join in the stroll.

Community band concert

The Community Band will perform at The Springs Resort at 2 p.m. on July 4. You can hear the concert from The Springs or from Centennial Park. Enjoy this patriotic musical tribute — an annual favorite.

Freedom Float

Hopefully we will get a little moisture before the holiday to put some water in the river and wet down the area. Water in the river would be great for the Freedom Float happening at 1 p.m.

Don on your best red, white and blue and float the river. This is just a fun way to cool off from the activities of the day.

Fireworks

Water would also be great so that our traditional fireworks display could happen. At this time, the fireworks are still scheduled. However, it is all weather and fire-condition contingent.

The fireworks will take place

around 9:15 p.m. and be held in the high school/Yamaguchi Park area. This is a great location as, hopefully, you can also attend the Independence Day Music Fest. This free concert will be held at Yamaguchi Park from 5 p.m. until the fireworks at dusk. Food trucks and a beer garden will be available.

There will also be other activities happening around town during the holiday. You, family and friends will have lots to keep you busy this season. Don’t miss out on the fun, many of the free admission opportunities and the traditional activities.

Also, please utilize the parking lots next to The Springs Resort, at the base of Reservoir Hill, and to the west of the library for the easiest access to town activities.

Don’t let a little construction scare you away from what is happening downtown. **Visit our downtown shops and restaurants and plan to spend some time supporting our businesses.**

Don’t drive around looking for parking. Just go straight to these larger parking lots.

Plan now for a fun Fourth of July holiday weekend and spend some time participating in our annual events.

You’re Invited to our

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Saturday, June 28 • 10-11 a.m. • 83 Harman Park Drive

Ride the MET for FREE

June, July & August!

ArchuletaCounty.org

Nicole Pitcher elected LPEA board president

La Plata Electric Association

At its June meeting, the La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) board appointed new leadership roles for the 2025-2026 term.

Nicole Pitcher, of Pagosa Springs, was elected president of the board of directors, leading a 12-member group representing the cooperative’s members.

Other officers elected include:

- Ted Compton, District 3, vice president.

- John Witchel, District 4, secretary.
- Tim Wheeler, District 4, treasurer.

Dusty Mars of District 1 and Brad Blake of District 2, the board’s two newest directors, were appointed to serve on the Round Up Foundation board. The foundation distributes grants to local nonprofits and community programs, funded by LPEA members who choose to round up their monthly electric bills.

In addition, Kirsten Skeehan of District 1 was appointed as LPEA’s representative to the Colorado Rural Electric Association, with Blake as the alternate.

David Luschen of District 4 will continue to serve as LPEA’s representative to Western United Electric,



Nicole Pitcher

with Skeehan as alternate.

“Our members expect strong, thoughtful leadership, and this board reflects just that,” said LPEA CEO Chris Hansen. “Together, they will guide LPEA through its ongoing energy transition, ensuring our power remains reliable and affordable for generations to come.”

LPEA’s board of directors is elected by members to represent four districts and guide the cooperative’s power supply, finances, policies, and oversee its critical energy transition toward more sustainable and local resources. For more information on LPEA’s board and governance, visit lpea.coop/board-directors.

U.S. Small Business Administration offers relief to Colorado small businesses, private nonprofits affected by drought

U.S. Small Business Administration

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) announced the availability of low-interest federal disaster loans to small businesses and private nonprofit organizations in Colorado to offset economic losses caused by drought.

The disaster declaration CO 21150 covers the primary counties of Custer, Dolores, Fremont, Hinsdale, Huerfano, Saguache and San Juan. It includes the neighboring counties of Alamosa, Archuleta, Chaffee, Costilla, El Paso, Gunnison, La Plata, Las Animas, Mineral, Montezuma, Ouray, Park, Pueblo, Rio Grande, San Miguel and Teller in Colorado; and San Juan in Utah.

The declaration covers the drought with an incident date beginning April 1 and continuing.

Under the declaration, the SBA’s Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) program is available to small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, nurseries and private nonprofit organizations with financial losses directly related to the disaster.

The SBA is unable to provide disaster loans to agricultural producers, farmers or ranchers, except for small aquaculture enterprises.

EIDLs are available for working capital needs caused by the disaster and are available even if the business or private nonprofit organization did not suffer any physical damage. The loans may be used to pay fixed debts, payroll, accounts payable and other bills not paid due to the disaster.

“Through a declaration by the U.S. secretary of agriculture, SBA provides critical financial assistance to help communities recover,” said Chris Stallings, associate administrator of the Office of Disaster Recovery and Resilience at the SBA. “We’re pleased to offer loans to small businesses and private nonprofits impacted by these disasters.”

The loan amount can be up to \$2 million with interest rates as low as 4 percent for small businesses and 3.62 percent for private nonprofit organizations with terms up to 30 years. Interest does not accrue, and payments are not due until 12 months from the date of the first loan disbursement. The SBA sets loan amounts and terms based on each applicant’s financial condition.

To apply online, visit sba.gov/disaster. Applicants may also call the SBA’s customer service center at (800) 659-2955 or email disastercus- ■ See Relief A6

4TH of JULY

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

PARK TO PARK ARTISAN AND FOOD MARKET

July 3rd, 4th, & 5th: 10am - 5pm
July 6th: 10am - 4pm
Town Park and the Athletic Field: Food vendors, beer garden, live music, jewelry, art, crafts, collectibles, clothes, & gifts.

RED RYDER ROUNDUP

July 3rd: 6pm
July 4th: 2pm
July 5th: 6pm
The Red Ryder Roundup Rodeo returns to the Archuleta County Fairgrounds for its 75th Anniversary!

FREEDOM FLOAT

July 4th: 1pm
Float on your own event! Grab a tube, don your best red, white, and blue, and join the Freedom Float on the San Juan River through downtown.

THE ADVENTURE ZONE

July 3rd, 5th, 6th: 10am - 7pm | 4th: 12pm - 7pm
Bouncy House fun zone in Baseball Field at Yamaguchi Park.

COMMUNITY BAND CONCERT

July 4th: 2pm
Enjoy patriotic tunes on the lawn by The Springs Resort.

STARS & STRIPES STROLL

July 4th: 3pm
Walking parade honoring our veterans and first responders around Yamaguchi Park.

INDEPENDENCE DAY MUSIC FEST

July 4th: 5pm
Enjoy a festive evening of live music, food trucks and a beer garden in Yamaguchi Park brought to you by the Pagosa Springs Summer Concert Series. No Cover.

FIREWORKS (depending on fire conditions)

July 4th @ Dusk (approx. 9pm)
Enjoy the fireworks show from downtown Pagosa Springs. Yamaguchi Park provides one of the best viewing areas.

Map showing event locations: Park to Park Artisan & Food Market, Red Ryder Roundup, Freedom Float, The Adventure Zone, Community Band Concert, Stars & Stripes Stroll, Independence Day Music Fest, Fireworks Viewing, Yamaguchi Park, Archuleta County, Pagosa Springs, Conservation Wetlands, Reservoir Hill, Downtown, Town Park, Historic Downtown, Mother Spring, Dr. Mary Fisher Park, Hermosa, East on 160 to the Red Ryder Rodeo, = PARKING

Events

VisitPagosaSprings.com/Events

Dream

■ Continued from front

among them coaching a team to a state championship and being able to coach his two children in high school.

He'll also step away having left his mark on Pagosa Springs basketball.

"It's been an honor and pleasure to watch Wes throughout his high school coaching career," Pagosa Springs High School (PSHS) Principal Sean O'Donnell wrote in an email to The SUN. "His passion for Pagosa Springs athletics and especially basketball will be sorely missed."

From player to coach

Lewis, a PSHS graduate, grew up playing basketball and developed a passion for it.

In his first years of high school, he thought he would one day be a history teacher and coach.

"I just always enjoyed trying to figure out what the other team was going to do, and different strategies and philosophies," Lewis said.

In high school, if the team had a night off, Lewis explained, he would jump in the Suburban with coach Bunk Preuit and head off to watch and scout the team's upcoming opponents.

"I really just started developing an interest in seeing what they were going to do and how we were going to attack it, and what we were going to do to try to counter some of the stuff they were going to try to do," he added. "I just took an interest at a young age."

While Lewis only did one year of college before deciding it and teaching weren't in his future, he quickly found out coaching was.

"I was able to get into coaching anyway, so that was a blessing," he said.

Just two years after graduating, Lewis joined the PSHS coaching staff as the C team coach.

One practice into his time as C team coach, Preuit made the decision to make Lewis the JV coach and have the other coach oversee the C team.

"I thought that was a real feather in my cap," Lewis said of his being "catapulted" into coaching the JV.

That left Lewis coaching players he'd previously played with while he was in high school.

"They were sophomores when I was a senior and here a couple years later I was the assistant coach, JV coach, so that was kind of interesting," Lewis said.

Lewis coached with Preuit for one year before Preuit retired from coaching. Preuit's high school coaching career spanned more than 20 years.

Around the time Preuit retired from coaching, Lewis resigned from coaching the high school JV and instead took on coaching the junior high's boys' team, where he stayed for several seasons.

"That was a real good learning experience to be a head coach down there," Lewis said.

He noted he had to design practice schedules, start making the decisions on what would be done as a program, and was determining and developing offenses, defenses, in-bound plays and more.

"That was a great experience for me to be able to be that junior high head coach," he said.

After that had "run it's course," Lewis noted the high school had a new boys' head coach, Jim Shaffer, with Lewis going back to the high school to serve as the coach for the JV boys for a few years.

Lewis then made the leap to varsity.

When Bob Lynch resigned from coaching the girls' varsity team, Lewis applied for it and was hired in 2007.

"Obviously, I did that for 13 years," Lewis said.

That ultimately allowed him to coach several family members, including nieces and his daughter.

When his daughter graduated, Lewis noted he thought he might be done.

He explained that, around the same time, the boys' coach, Randy Sorensen, was on the fence about whether or not he would return to coach another year.

"I really was trying to talk him into staying and I was going to be either a volunteer assistant or help him scout, or just sit in the stands," Lewis said.

Sorensen, however, opted to resign, with Lewis then applying and being hired to coach the boys' varsity, where he coached his final five years.

That also allowed Lewis to coach his nephew and his son, who graduated in May.

Lewis' resignation was made public late in the school year, with the longtime coach indicating he knows it's the right time to step away.

He noted he doesn't have the same energy he had 10 years ago to balance the demands of coaching, managing his businesses and managing his personal life.

He added his son will also be ro-deoing in college, and he wants the freedom and flexibility to support him.

He also suggested everyone has to know when it's the right time to step away.

"It's time for a new voice, it really is," he said.

But, he noted, he's "going to miss so many things."

He added, "I really love the competitive games, the trying to outwit the next guy and make adjustments and counter what they're doing. I'm going to miss all that greatly."

What Lewis won't miss, he indicated, are the long bus rides and the late practices.

Coaching to win

Lewis leaves behind a 336-94 record in 18 years of coaching at PSHS, according to PSHS Athletic Director Chantelle Jordan.

Over those 18 years, Lewis' teams made the playoffs 16 years, advanced to the Great 8 10 times, earned their way to the Final Four six times, made two championship games and brought home one state title.

"I have always said, 'If the kids will listen to Coach Lewis, he will coach them to the win,'" Jordan wrote in an email to The SUN. "What makes Wes exceptional is his intuition during those crucial moments. I've watched him turn challenging situations into victories time and again. He brought not only an impressive basketball IQ to our program, but also a remarkable sensitivity to each player's needs. That's his real gift—knowing precisely when a player needs to be challenged and when they need encouragement. This certainly doesn't take away from him knowing the game of basketball itself. Wes has an extraordinary understanding of the game and can get his athletes to execute when it matters most."

"It's easy to point to the number of times he had his teams in Denver in the quarterfinals, semi-finals, finals, and the State Championship in 2015, but I think the highlight of knowing and being around Wes for all of it was his willingness to accept the results," O'Donnell wrote. "I never once heard him make an excuse for a loss, but rather he would talk about all the ways he could have been better or done something differently to give his kids a chance to win."

O'Donnell also indicates Lewis never gave up during games. "In watching Wes over his years of coaching, I have always been impressed in the way he coaches till the very end of every game," he wrote. "Whether we were ahead by 30 or behind with little chance of winning, regardless of who was on the floor, Wes coached his kids all the way until the final buzzer went off."

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Lasting memories

Lewis' ability to coach teams to win and coach to the end allowed him and his teams to make lasting memories.

"You can't top the state championship," Lewis said of the Lady Pirates' 2015 title. "That was a ride in itself and just quite a journey."

He added, "We had a lot of really good girls' teams," pointing in particular to the years before and after the state championship.

Over those three years, the team lost a total of two games.

Lewis also noted that, while the Lady Pirates won the state title in 2015, he feels like they could have also won the year before against Holy Family.

"We were up by seven at halftime in the state championship game," Lewis recalled, remembering controversial calls that helped shift momentum and give Holy Family the win.

Lewis also recalled 2016, when the Lady Pirates were 23-0 and the top-ranked team heading into the state tournament.

"We had beaten Centauri three times by double digits and, lo and behold, we draw them again at the state tournament and they ended up beatin' us by one for a chance to advance at the state championship," he remembered. "And that was a heartbreaker, to say the least"

He noted that, despite the loss, he



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Wes Lewis, third from the left, stands with his family during a 2023 celebration of his 300th coaching win. Lewis logged a 336-94 record in 18 years of coaching at Pagosa Springs High School.

was able to put that three-year span in perspective.

The former coach also listed the Pirate boys' Great 8 appearance among his coaching highlights, noting the Pirates went 24-2 that year and, despite being a smaller 4A school, were able to compete.

Lewis added he was "very fortunate" to be able to coach his children, nieces and nephew.

"That was important," he said, noting there was a lot of give and take. "It ain't always easy being a coach of your kid. You catch a lot of flak and so do your kids, but ... I do think the pros outweighed the negatives, and it was a great ride for being able to share a lot of memories and things with your kids."

Leaving a legacy

After 29 years of coaching, Lewis has left a mark on Pagosa Springs basketball.

"Wes has definitely left his mark on both the boys and girls basketball programs here at PSHS," O'Donnell wrote. "His determination and hard work have laid a foundation and example for other coaches to follow. Besides planning practices and coaching games, there were many hours behind the scenes many did not see. His willingness to put in the time to make sure his kids had the best opportunity for success is a characteristic I see he has instilled in the other coaches he has worked with and mentored."

"He has definitely left a mark," coach Brandon Forster, the new head coach of the Pirate boys' team, wrote. "[H]e has left behind something that could be considered a legacy. He not only was the boys coach and took them to the great 8, he probably leaves behind a bigger component with the girls program. He was able to make many state runs and win a championship with the girls programs. It is fun to watch the impact that he had when older players come and talk with him, listening to the stories and seeing the joy that he brought to them. This is why I hope to recreate it with my program."

O'Donnell notes that, while Lewis may have built a reputation for his coaching style, he showed unwaivering support for his teams.

"Wes may have had a reputation of being loud, aggressive, and a little animated as a coach, but he stood up for his athletes, expected their absolute best at all times, and would go to the end of the earth for all of them," he wrote.

"I have learned so much from Wes," Forster wrote. "[H]e has probably forgotten more basketball than

I have learned. He sees things on the court that most people miss, I have admired how he can set the tone for games, in his preparation and ability to read what the opponent is trying to do. He has become so much more for me than a coach. He is a true mentor, he is always looking for ways for people to be successful in life not just on the court."

Passing the torch

Now, Lewis will take on a different role with respect to Pirate basketball — fan.

"I'll be their No. 1 fan," Lewis said, adding, "I just truly care about Pirate basketball."

O'Donnell, who worked with Lewis as a fellow coach, then as a school administrator and a friend, points out that Lewis is a fan of more than just Pirate basketball.

"One of the things that stands out to me about Wes is his support of all Pagosa Springs Pirates athletics," O'Donnell wrote. "He takes pride in the success of all of our programs."

Lewis explained that he'll try to be at as many of the games as he can and wishes the teams success.

He added he thinks the Pirates will have a good year next year.

Forster coached with Lewis for two seasons, one as the C team coach and the other as the JV coach, before being hired as the new head coach.

■ See Dream A7

ART CLASSES!

Would you like to teach a class?

The Pagosa Springs Art Council (PSAC) has a space for you. We are renting to those interested in teaching classes this summer.

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4th of July

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2016 & 2018 SPIRIT AWARD, 2019 REALTOR OF THE YEAR

Relief

■ Continued from A5

tomerservice@sba.gov for more information on SBA disaster assistance.

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Submit completed loan applications to the SBA no later than Feb. 2, 2026.



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

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Please see our blog on a comprehensive guide on why your crawlspace may need attention.
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County

■ Continued from front recorder.

“We feel like this flows really well for all of us,” Archuleta said of the Wyndham property, noting that the building is likely in compliance with the American Disabilities Act (ADA), “which is huge for elections.”

Colorado State Election Director Judd Choate was also in attendance and provided the county with information related to certain deadlines the clerk and recorder has, along with what would need to be done before the county could occupy either space for a temporary office solution.

“We’re aware of the fact that you’ve had a number of problems with your building,” Choate said, explaining the federal law under the Help America Vote Act requires adherence with ADA for the act of voting and accessibility.

He explained that because the clerk’s office is where primary activity is conducted related to voting, “it also needs to be ADA accessible for normal activity,” noting that is a “365 requirement.”

Choate also explained that federal and state laws require records associated with elections to be maintained for up to 25 months.

“She has to have a relatively big space,” Choate said, referring to Archuleta’s office.

Brown asked how the state might be able to assist the county with ensuring whichever building the temporary offices are going in is ADA accessible.

Choate explained that whenever counties move their office locations either to a new facility or to a different part of an existing building, the state can send an ADA compliance specialist to assess the facility and advise the county on any work that may need to be done.

“We have expertise that we can put on the road to help you,” he said, also noting, “we potentially have money to help with ADA compliance.”

“Now we’re talking,” Brown said. Choate mentioned that any funding assistance would have to be cleared with his bosses, but stated, “It’s not unusual for us to do that.”

He explained the state has helped with similar situations in the past, particularly when moving into a new building, whereas moving from one side of an existing building to the other, the state considers that as a county allocation since it already has that space.

“However, when you’re moving to a new building, that tends to be some-

thing where our expertise and our money can really help,” Choate said.

He also noted that the ADA-compliance specialist could be available to meet with the county within two weeks to help evaluate potential sites, adding that the county could be reimbursed for expenses related to ADA compliance through possible grants.

Information Technology (IT) Coordinator Gabe Cersonsky asked about time requirements for the county to have its building brought into ADA compliance.

Choate explained that the state is more flexible when it sees that a county is actively trying to address the problem.

“We’re gonna be as flexible as we can be,” he said.

Archuleta mentioned that she has deadlines “rapidly approaching,” noting that the ADA surveys are due July 17.

“That’s one we can be a little more flexible on,” Choate said, explaining that the state would be concerned if it does not receive anything by August.

Commissioner Veronica Medina mentioned that she had toured the Wyndham building and that, “for the most part,” the building appears to be “very compliant,” although the space has not been used for a few years.

Commissioner John Ranson explained that no decisions were being made during the work session, but stated, “I really like this,” referring to the county moving those offices to the Wyndham building.

He noted that the only negative of doing so is that it could keep people from going downtown.

Archuleta explained that with the construction of U.S. 160, the current building “is hard to get to right now” and the county could still face issues of ADA compliance.

“I couldn’t work in one of those jail cells, basically,” Ranson said of the old county courthouse, explaining he hopes the Wyndham building could suffice until the new county administration building is completed, “so we don’t have to keep moving.”

Brown mentioned that he’d want to know the cost of moving to the Wyndham building, noting the county is currently paying nothing to keep its offices in the old courthouse.

Medina explained that she had communicated with representatives of Wyndham who expressed they could lease their building for \$13,300 per month, “but because they want to be

a good neighbor,” they are offering a monthly rent of \$6,500.

That would total to approximately \$40,000 for the remainder of the year, she explained.

Medina noted that Finance Director Chad Eaton confirmed the county could cover that cost and would have the expense included in next year’s budget.

Tully-Elliott noted that insurance from the old courthouse may also be able to help with that expense.

Medina indicated the county still does not know what insurance will cover.

“Well ... I have to say it again, it seems like IT is being forgotten,” Cersonsky said, explaining that the Wyndham property would need to have fiber lines installed, noting that it could cost anywhere from \$20,000 to \$40,000.

“So, please do not forget about IT when making this decision,” he added.

Medina asked for more specifics on what would need to be done to have fiber lines installed, noting the county is not forgetting about IT, indicating that whichever space the county chooses, it will likely be there for at least two years.

Medina explained the Wyndham building is close to McDonald’s, which Cersonsky noted is near the county’s old dispatch center, which has fiber available.

Cersonsky noted that it would likely be much cheaper with a quicker turnaround with fiber lines available that are closer to the Wyndham building.

“That’s great news,” he added.

Brown commented that he wants the county to be mindful of the fact that it has a contract with its current space in the old county courthouse.

“I’d like us to give that some serious consideration,” he said.

Medina commented that she would like to hear from the electeds on what their preference is, as a floorplan for a potential layout for occupying the west end of the old courthouse was presented.

Tully-Elliott then noted that “the restrooms aren’t working right now” in the old courthouse and expressed concerns of having no waiting areas and “no real public access.”

She also noted concerns over heating and air conditioning systems, while mentioning this area of the building was evacuated more than 10 years ago due to health concerns, along with the building not being ADA compliant.

Brown explained that a new heating, ventilation and air conditioning

(HVAC) system could be installed.

“I wouldn’t ask anybody to go in there and occupy the way it was or currently,” he added.

White mentioned that her office is the smallest of those that would be moving and explained that “there’s not one office that would fit my office.” She added, “There’s just no way.”

Brown indicated that there are two vaults that could be used for storage and that the old county commissioners’ meeting room is also available to use.

Medina then asked again what the elected officials prefer, with White, Archuleta and Tully-Elliott all indicating they prefer to move into the Wyndham building.

“I can’t imagine any expectation of us occupying a location that is not totally up and running because that’s not acceptable,” Brown said.

Medina expressed that the county needs to make a decision soon, as the possibility of holding an executive session to gather more information was discussed.

A special meeting was scheduled for this morning, Thursday, June 26, at 8:30 a.m. with the agenda including an executive session to receive legal advice on specific legal questions regarding a temporary county office.

Also included on the agenda is a new business item for consideration of approval to enter a lease for temporary county office spaces.

For more on the outcome of that meeting, see www.PagosaSUN.com and the July 3 issue of The SUN. clayton@pagosasun.com

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Open Houses

Saturday June 28



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MLS # 824532

This meticulously cared for full-round log cabin, uptown near Lake Forest, spans 2,732 square feet, featuring 4 bedrooms and 3.5 bathrooms. Stunning mountain views. 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.

To tour this home go to: <https://pspixeltree.com/33-Fawn-Ct>



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Dream

■ Continued from A6

“I have known Wes for a long time and have been able to build more of a relationship with him within the past 5 years that I have been teaching and coaching here at Pagosa Springs,” Forster wrote.

Forster, son of David Forster, who coached the Centauri Lady Falcons against Lewis for years, added, “The greatest part for me with Coaching with Wes is definitely talking about past battles with my dad. It was fun to see the man on the other side. I gained more respect for Wes and insight from him by understanding how the battles went with [Centauri] and his thoughts on how to play against my dad’s team.”

Forster adds watching both Lewis and his dad coach showed him both contrasts and similarities.

“My father and Wes are similar in many fashions, they might contrast one another as far as style of pace and play, but the biggest thing they have in common is doing their best to put athletes in a place where they can succeed,” he wrote.

Forster also expressed appreciation.

“I just want to express my gratitude to Coach Lewis,” he wrote. “I considered myself lucky to have my dad to be an example of how to coach, but I doubled down my luck by coaching alongside someone else that showed me how to be a great coach.”

Lewis also expressed gratitude for those who coached alongside him and supported him during his coaching career.

“I’d love to thank my family, primarily my wife,” Lewis said. “There’s a lot of nights where she drove to basketball games by herself, she sat at home when I was at practice, she had to do chores, build a fire ... She spent a lot of nights alone. ... I really just want to thank her for supporting me to do this for this many years.”

Lewis added he had some really good assistants over the years.

While he noted he had too many good assistants to name, he pointed in particular to Charles Rand during his time with the Lady Pirates and Yul Wilson.

“We just worked really, really well together in my opinion and had a great relationship and became good

friends,” Lewis said of Rand. “He did so much for me all those years I was the girls’ coach.”

Wilson, Lewis explained, was with him for four years at the high school, and the pair coached their boys together in the youth programs, meaning they coached together for a long time.

Lewis also thanked O’Donnell.

“We were colleagues, we coached together with Shaffer, we became really good friends, he became my boss, and he was just somebody I could always count on and lean on when I needed to. He was just a great asset for probably 27 or 26 years of my 29 years. Sean was right there through a

lot of it,” he said.

Lewis also noted that Shaffer and Preuit were two big mentors for him who helped him get on a path to success.

Lewis also thanked the administration — David Hamilton, Shaffer and O’Donnell — and the school district for hiring him and giving him a chance.

“Allowing somebody who didn’t have a teacher’s certificate to be a head coach was a blessing a dream come true for somebody who didn’t go to college but was still able to fulfill his dreams of being a head coach,” Lewis said.

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The sun shines down on Sheep Mountain and Beaver Creek as seen from the Rainbow Hot Springs trail on Sunday, June 22.

SUN photo/Clayton Chaney

Updates

■ **Continued from front**
ting extreme pressure on the remain- ing system, which has already been working overtime while replacement parts arrive.”

The notice asks users to “limit the amount of water going down the drain in all forms” to minimize strain on the system, adding that “we urgently need community-wide support to minimize stress on the wastewater system until repairs can be made.”

At the June 17 meeting, Johnson informed the board that the town’s public works staff had worked over- night and continuously to try to get the problem under control, and that they had managed to get the failing “pump to run.”

Another update on June 18 states, “Over the last two nights, Town staff have been on site at the [pump] sta- tion to manually override the system to ensure continuity of pumping op- erations, but only at 50 to 60 percent of its normal capacity.”

The system “is now in stable but cautious condition,” the update states.

To stabilize the system, the town rented a crane truck from a contrac- tor in Bayfield to transplant one of the two submersible pumps from Pump Station 1 to be installed at Pump Station 2 to keep it operational, Johnson said.

As of June 18, “the transplant was successful, but the system currently does not have redundancy until re- placement pumps arrive, hopefully next week,” the update states.

It also informs PSSGID customers that “you may now resume basic home and business water use, but please limit large projects that may strain the system. We thank you for your conservation efforts, which helped prevent an overflow.”

Johnson informed the board that the town would be purchasing a crane truck and a bypass pump so that the town would have the necessary tools “in house” to better respond to prob- lems with the system that may arise in the future.

The crane truck is a used vehicle that will be purchased for the amount of \$122,000, Johnson explained.

To run at ideal capacity, each pump station requires two submersible pumps, often referred to as “wet pumps,” and two above-ground, or “dry,” pumps, with these pairs phasing in and out from one pair to the other as stress is put on the system, Johnson

explained.

As of now, neither pump stations 1 or 2 have their full lineup of pumps, but the manufacturer of the replace- ment pumps is expediting the town’s order and town staff would, if neces- sary, “go pick them up” when the new pumps are ready, Johnson explained.

Board member Gary Williams asked how many pumps the town has bought since the uphill convey- ance system became operational, with Mayor Shari Pierce saying, “way too many.”

Johnson noted that out of the eight newest pumps, two have failed, add- ing that the pump that they got run- ning at Pump Station 2 is “destined to fail at any point,” given the stress it’s under during this current emergency “need of now.”

An update from the town released Tuesday, June 24, states the pump again failed on Monday, June 23.

If Utilities Supervisor Lucian Brew- ster would not have “gotten that pump running,” Johnson said at the June 17 meeting, “we would have spilled over by 2 a.m. this morning. ... We’re still fragile, but we didn’t have a spill.”

According to the town’s June 24 update, a temporary bypass pump arrived on Monday, June 23, for Pump Station 2, which will “supplement the ‘transplanted’ wet pump at that location.”

It adds, “As the temporary bypass pump was being installed, the ‘in- jured’ pump that was being manually forced to work last week suffered a complete failure.”

The release further explains that PSSGID staff will deliver the two “in- jured” pumps to the manufacturer this week for warranty repairs and recondi- tioning if the manufacturer is able to.

It adds the pump manufacturer is accelerating construction of two new wet pumps.

It explains the first “injured” wet pump became inoperable during a lightning strike in April, while the second pump began having issues on the afternoon of June 16.

The emergency at Pump Station 2 is just the latest in a long series of problems with the town’s conveyance sewer system, which was implement- ed in 2016.

The PSSGID currently pumps its wastewater 7 miles uphill to the Vista Wastewater Treatment Plant, owned and operated by the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD), through a series of pump and lift

stations.

In 2023, the town hired Roaring Fork Engineering to conduct a com- prehensive study of the system to help get a grasp of the magnitude of the problems.

Roaring Fork suggested that a merger between the PSSGID and PAWSD might be in the best long-term interest of the community and that a downtown treatment plant might be necessary.

A recent memorandum of under- standing (MOU) between the PSSGID and PAWSD states, “There remains uncertainty as to the long-term vi- ability of the [district’s] main pipeline and two pump stations.”

Johnson noted at the meeting that “this is where we find ourselves,” add- ing that he doesn’t want to dwell on past decisions made by the town, but that “we need to get away from the current conveyance system.”

He said that he’s in talks with Roar- ing Fork Engineering and that he “planted the seed” with the firm that “we need to reach out” to the state’s public health department about grants and other opportunities to “fast track” a new town-run treatment plant at Yamaguchi Park South.

The PSSGID is currently tackling what it calls “Category 4 and 5” prob- lems with its piping system and the town is using \$4 million of revenue bonds to deal with the issue.

However, the town still faces mil- lions of dollars of repairs beyond the category 4 and 5 problems.

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

Harris explained at the sewer lis- tening session that the number is more like \$80 million to \$100 million to do all the repairs and for future infrastructure needs.

The PSSGID is a special district created by the Town of Pagosa Springs in 1971 to oversee the day-to-day operations and maintenance of the town’s sanitary sewer infrastructure. It serves businesses and residents within the Town of Pagosa Springs and surrounding properties east of Piedra Road.

A map of the PSSGID and an over- view of the challenges and potential funding options the town is con- sidering to update the system may

be found at www.pagosasprings.co.gov/sos.

Additional listening sessions scheduled

The June 24 update from the town indicates additional listening ses- sions about the system have been scheduled for July.

“We encourage our community to come and learn about the challenges we face regarding our collection system, conveyance system, future treatment options, and future fund- ing options,” it states. “Meetings are scheduled for July 14, 15, and 16.”

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Housing

■ Continued from front

During a PSCDC board meeting on June 11, Lashbrooke presented a different building option for modular homes through Clayton Homes, based out of Albuquerque, N.M.

She explained that BWD submitted a proposal to build five of the phase two homes that included a 2 percent increase in costs and was sent to the PSCDC's attorney for review.

In the meantime, Lashbrooke explained she had met with modular home manufacturers to see if they could "make this [project] more affordable."

Lashbrooke also provided the PSCDC board with information in regard to its predevelopment loan for phase two, noting that it was approved in May "and this board said to move forward; we need to keep building houses."

She added, "We do have our award of \$675,000 with the Department of Housing."

Lashbrooke explained that award allows the PSCDC to contribute \$67,000 toward the cost of each home.

Lashbrooke went on to provide the PSCDC board with more financial information related to different building options for phase two of the housing project.

She explained that the pricing included with BWD's proposal includes the cost of constructing the entire house and foundation, but does not include water, sewer or electrical connections.

The proposal from Clayton Homes includes the cost of constructing the foundation, freight and a site crane to stitch the home together and set it to the foundation, she explained.

Lashbrooke explained that the new cost of a three-bedroom home to be built on Domicile Circle from BWD would come out to \$431,500, which includes the proposed 2 percent increase. The award from the Colorado Department of Housing would knock off \$67,000 of that price, bringing it down to approximately \$370,000, with Lashbrooke noting that folks in the 100 percent range of the area median income (AMI) would not be able to afford that.

She then noted that the same home built through Clayton Homes could be sold for around \$250,000.

"We can sell to 100 percent AMI no problem," she said.

Lashbrooke also noted the difference in the size of homes that would be built by BWD compared to Clayton, explaining that a three-bedroom home built by BWD is roughly 1,176 square feet, while a two-bedroom home from Clayton would be roughly 1,400 square feet.

"And it's \$167,000 difference," she

added.

Lashbrooke then mentioned that Clayton Homes is anywhere from 75 to 90 days out from being able to start production on the project.

"We could try this," she said, noting that once production is started, five homes could be rolled off and have each home set to its foundation consecutively.

Lashbrooke also noted that it does not change the fact that the housing project is going to be "in the exact same position" as it is now, noting that it is hard to find the "unicorns" and "leprechauns" that are able to qualify to purchase one of these homes.

"It has to be very unique situations," Lashbrooke said in regard to finding buyers.

Lashbrooke also mentioned that soil testing has been performed on Travelers Terrace, which confirmed that the ground is good to build on.

She then noted that the PSCDC could use another five homes this year if it is able to sell the first 10 under phase one of the project, but, "if we can't move these 10, then we shouldn't."

PSCDC board member Mont McAllister mentioned he is worried about always having to find the "unicorns," asking why the PSCDC would want to build something like that "when we can do this and they'll fit," he said, referring to the modular home option.

PSCDC board president Sherry Waner asked if there would be any difference in the loan value for a stick-built home compared to a modular home, with Lashbrooke explaining there would not be any difference between the two.

McAllister noted that the PSCDC has already paid BWD to come up with sketches of the homes, but has not completed a site plan yet.

PSCDC board member Rosanna Dufour commented that it feels like BWD "wants out" of the contract. "They have been a great partner," Lashbrooke replied, explaining that BWD carried \$700,000 in loans for the PSCDC for 120 days during phase one.

Lashbrooke added that she does not want to "ruin" a relationship with BWD, but that "we are going to have to have a good conversation" about what to do for phase two.

Lashbrooke also directed the board's attention to its banking situation and how to move forward without winding up in a similar situation.

"We're losing money," Lashbrooke said, explaining that raising prices will move the homes into a price range that is not affordable.

Lashbrooke then indicated that its

current lender — the Bank of the San Juans — "cannot lend us anymore money until we move at least two to three more houses."

She mentioned that RG Bank is willing to step in to fund phase two if the board decides to move forward with the project.

"Well, first I would say that's pretty risky for us to do," Waner commented, noting that adding approximately \$2 million to have five more homes built under phase two would bring the total debt close to \$6 million.

"We probably should move a couple more homes," she added, noting that means "we probably have to stall our second phase."

Waner also mentioned that it is "not wise" in her opinion to take on additional debt.

"That's a gigantic amount of debt," she said.

Waner added that she could be in favor of moving forward with a different builder if things cannot be worked out with BWD.

PSCDC board member and county commissioner Warren Brown mentioned that its "generous" of RG Bank willing to fund phase two, but would like to know more about interest rates, noting he'd be more comfortable if the PSCDC could sell some more homes first.

"There's a lot riding on the success of selling the first 10," Brown said.

In response to questions about warranties on the homes, Lashbrooke explained that BWD offers a one-year warranty on everything, while Clayton Homes offers a 10-year warranty on the structure of the home and a two-year warranty on everything else.

Waner went on to mention that the "general consensus" of the PSCDC board is that taking on more debt right away is too risky, adding that the PSCDC would like to give BWD an opportunity to come back with something different.

Waner also noted that at least eight homes from phase one need to be sold before the PSCDC begins phase two of the project.

"I'm trying to look for a better, affordable option that we can actually adhere to our grant requirements and get homes into the market that the 100 percent AMI can afford, or we're building for the wrong people," Lashbrooke said.

During the June 17 BoCC meeting, Commissioner Veronica Medina praised Lashbrooke's efforts with the housing project, noting she's done an "amazing job," while also commenting on the AMI restrictions under Proposition 123, which provided funds for the PSCDC's housing project.

Lashbrooke has expressed previ-

ously that the 100 percent AMI restriction has caused issues with potential buyers not being able to qualify for a home, with some reportedly making \$500 too much, putting them above the 100 percent AMI for Archuleta County.

Medina noted that the 100 percent AMI limit, "doesn't really work for our community."

She then mentioned the properties that the county has donated to the PSCDC for the affordable housing project, asking if it would be open to having the 11 properties located on Bonita Drive transferred to the Archuleta County Housing Authority.

"They have the capacity and are able to do workforce housing," Medina said.

Lashbrooke expressed that the PSCDC is ready to get out of the housing business and get back to doing more economic development work.

"We are absolutely ready and willing to get out of the housing business," she said.

Lashbrooke went on to mention that the PSCDC was able to "unlock" the door to workforce housing, highlighting the collaboration between multiple agencies and partners needed to make the project happen.

She mentioned that there are now mechanisms in place that were not previously available for affordable housing projects.

"We would love to get out of the housing business," Lashbrooke added.

"You have opened a door that no one was willing to walk through," Medina commented, noting that power and fiber lines have been brought to new areas of the county, serving more than just the homes being built through the affordable housing project. "We appreciate all the hard work you have done."

She went on to mention that she "was against giving all of the properties originally to the [PSCDC], because ... the devil's in the details," explaining that in this case those details were that the PSCDC had to pay part fees along with homeowners' association fees.

Lashbrooke noted that the PSCDC was able to complete building all 10 of the phase one homes on time and on budget.

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Colorado Attorney General's Office to provide \$3 million in opioid settlement funds to maintain, prevent disruptions to naloxone access

Colorado Attorney General's Office

On Tuesday, Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser announced a \$3 million grant from Colorado's opioid settlement funds to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) to provide free naloxone to eligible organizations statewide, helping expand and sustain access to a medication that reverses opioid overdoses and saves lives.

"Every life lost to an opioid overdose is one too many," Weiser said. "This funding puts a proven tool in the hands of the people who need it most. We are using every resource available to protect communities, prevent overdoses and support recovery."

Thanks Car show

I wanted to thank Mary Jo Coulehan and the Chamber staff for a pleasant Friday evening at the car show at Yamaguchi Park. We enjoyed the new location for the ample parking nearby, more places to sit in the shade, and a breeze from the open area. Kids enjoyed having the playground for their entertainment after parents viewed the vehicles.

Patricia McMahon

Pagosa Pride

The Pagosa Pride Planning Committee wishes to thank everyone involved in Saturday's Pagosa Pride Celebration. That includes the interfaith sponsorship of Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, St. Pat's Episcopal Church, the Community United Methodist Church as well as numerous nonprofits and businesses. It was a beautiful day with over 250 participants.

The onetime grant, formalized through an interagency agreement between the Colorado Department of Law and CDPHE, will be administered by CDPHE's Overdose Prevention Unit through the Naloxone Bulk Purchase Fund.

The program supplies naloxone at no cost to schools, harm reduction organizations, law enforcement agencies and other groups serving individuals at risk of overdose. These organizations may use the medication directly or distribute it within their communities.

As Colorado faces federal funding cuts and filed a lawsuit against the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and HHS Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. for abruptly and illegally terminating \$11 billion in critical public health funds in early April, a federal court has since granted a preliminary injunction, temporarily restoring access to those funds while litigation continues.

Amid this uncertainty, Weiser is investing \$3 million to expand and sustain community overdose prevention efforts. This grant will help ensure that organizations statewide can continue to provide naloxone through June 2026.

"More than 1,600 people died from overdoses last year in Colorado. While that's still far too many people, it is encouraging to see that deaths from overdoses decreased 14 percent

compared to the previous year. This is why Denver Health believes harm reduction strategies, such as readily available Naloxone, are so vital to helping us prevent more deaths in our community," said Denver Health CEO Donna Lynne.

Opioid-specific data from 2024 further highlights the impact of harm-reduction efforts.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Colorado experienced a 24 percent decrease in deaths involving opioids and a 31 percent decline in fatalities related to synthetic opioids such as fentanyl in 2024 compared to the previous year.

State officials attribute this progress in part to the wider availability of naloxone and other public health strategies aimed at reducing overdose deaths and supporting recovery. Naloxone continues to be a cornerstone of these efforts because of its effectiveness in reversing overdoses and saving lives.

The grant comes from funds secured by Weiser through nationwide settlements with drug manufacturers and distributors that fueled the opioid crisis.


Colorado is on track to receive nearly \$870 million over 18 years. The state, which has received \$132.6 million to date, is using these funds to support prevention, treatment, recovery and harm-reduction strategies in every region of Colorado.

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33 Fawn Court
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MLS # 824532

This meticulously cared for full-round log cabin, up-town 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.

To tour this home go to:
<https://pspixeltree.com/33-Fawn-Ct>




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:
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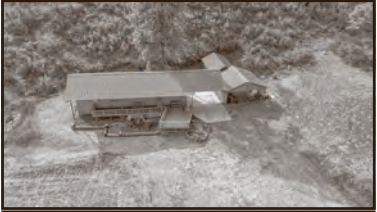
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\$340,000

MLS # 824583


The mobile home portion of this residence is 500 square feet. 1304 square feet is stick built. There is also a small cabin built in 1993, 576 square feet with bath and studio kitchen. The 1.2 acres is partially fenced for dog's and the acreage is all usable. The house has large picture windows with very nice views. There are 3 outbuildings, the septic has been inspected.



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


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Hurd

■ **Continued from front**

veterans services, the possible public land sale provision in the Senate budget reconciliation bill, wolves, crime, immigration, Second Amendment rights, oil and gas, bipartisan work, Medicaid, and roads.

Hurd began by welcoming everyone to the event and thanking everyone for participating.

Veteran care

The first question, about veterans affairs, asked when Hurd thought lawsuits and complaints regarding the PACT Act of 2022 would take to resolve.

“I think it’s surprising the veterans,” the caller said of the fighting.

Hurd noted that his understanding is veteran care in western Colorado is pretty good with regard to those served by the VA hospital in Grand Junction.

He added veterans with issues relating to disability qualifications or issues with qualifications for service can contact his office for help, with his office aiming to help veterans get the care they deserve.

“I know, unfortunately, that the quality of care that our veterans get around this district can be spotty,” he said, noting he’d heard concerns about care for veterans in the San Luis Valley and Archuleta County. “We can do better. We must do better. What I need is for you to help identify what those issues are and let us get on them.”

Regarding litigation, he said, “That is a big problem here.”

He noted too much litigation slows down “government’s efficient operation” in providing services and that decisions should be made with the best interests of veterans in mind, not by lawyers.

Public land sale provision

The second question centered on the proposed public land sale provision included in the Senate reconciliation bill, asking Hurd his position on the matter.

Hurd explained he was the one Republican in the House who voted against a last-minute land sale provision that was introduced in the House Natural Resources Committee in the middle of the night.

“I thought the decision with respect to that land was not necessarily informed and supported by the individuals that lived in those congressional districts that were affected, and so I opposed it,” he said, adding he then worked behind the scenes to have it removed from the House version of the bill.

Hurd then shifted to his thoughts on Sen. Mike Lee’s proposal for land sales.

“This gives me some concern,” Hurd said, stating he read through the original proposed amendment.

Hurd noted they might be able to knock out that amendment, but that it would have required federal land sales of at least a half of a percent of Bureau of Land Management land and at least a half of a percent of U.S. Forest Service land up to a maximum three-quarters of a percent of each across 11 western states.

The congressman then listed several concerns with the proposal, including that there was nothing stopping all the land sales from occurring in a single state, that political appointees shouldn’t be the ones deciding what land should be

sold, it was unclear if there would be protections for existing uses on land to be sold, that the issue was rushed through without input from constituents, that no one in his district asked for the land sale, that Montana was carved out for political reasons and creates questions about fairness, that the first right of refusal for state and local governments is likely meaningless for under-resourced areas, that privatizing large pieces of land could cut off access to public lands, that there are not affordability guardrails for affordable housing, and that there is already a process for selling public lands.

He added he would work hard to keep it out of the bill on the Senate side.

The Senate parliamentarian ruled Monday evening to remove provisions that sell off America’s public lands from the budget bill.

Wolves

The next question came from a livestock producer and centered on wolves, with the constituent noting it took 100 years to get rid of wolves, which are “the ultimate predator.”

The person asked Hurd’s perspective.

Hurd noted he heard about the “forced wolf introduction” from agricultural producers, hunters, outfitters and more who have been affected.

He noted the decisions that affect the congressional district should have input, noting it was people in the high-population area of Colorado on the Front Range making decisions about things that affect livelihoods in the western part of the state.

He added he’s “adamantly opposed” to the reintroduction and it’s not fair to producers or the wolves.

He noted he is working on legislation to delist the gray wolf from the Endangered Species Act and is working in other ways at the federal level.

He suggested the “forced translocation” into Colorado may not pass “legal muster” at the federal level and that he is working with the Department of the Interior and White House to see what can be done to prohibit further reintroduction of wolves and manage the population that exists.

He also spoke about compensation and the fact that even if wolves don’t kill cows, they can stress them out and cause other issues.

He added he will continue to be on the forefront of fighting the continued introduction of wolves into the state.

Crime and immigration

Hurd took a pair of comments/questions relating to crime (specifically the crime rate in Pueblo) and immigration over the course of the hour-long town hall, with the congressman stating the border needs secured.

He spoke in favor of the work by the Trump administration to lessen the illegal border crossings, but noted it is up to Congress to ensure the border is secured into the future, noting cartels would love to have a future president reopen the border.

He spoke of legislation passed to help with immigration and the “scourge of illegal immigration and the drugs and the crime that flow across the border.”

Part of it, he noted, is a state law problem, noting that “criminals” are getting out of custody quickly on bail and qualified immunity for

law enforcement has been stripped away, making it more difficult for law enforcement to do its job and easier for criminals to commit criminal acts.

He also spoke of decriminalizing drug offenses and the need to elect “law and order representatives” at all levels.

He added public safety is a top priority for him.

In response to a later question regarding current immigration enforcement efforts being dangerous and racist, Hurd noted that the U.S. is a nation of immigrants and diversity, and his wife is an immigrant, but that the U.S. is also a nation of laws.

He reiterated the need for border security and that he welcomes legal immigrants.

Hurd went on to voice support for Trump’s “crackdown” on drug trafficking and gang activity, stating some of it is driven by multimillion-dollar cartels.

He added it is important for the executive branch to comply with court orders and to properly vet suspected gang members.

He added he also believes the country’s asylum system needs reformed and there should be a way to work in the U.S. legally without obtaining citizenship.

Second Amendment rights

Another question centered on legislation pushed by population centers that minimizes gun rights, but that rural areas have concerns with law enforcement response times and the need to protect yourself.

Hurd brought up the idea that when the seconds count, law enforcement is minutes away and spoke of the rural nature of the congressional district.

He added that he believes that a number of the pieces of legislation passed at the state level will fail under legal challenges.

“I trust that the courts will resolve them in a way that protects and defends that fundamental Second Amendment right,” he said.

In the meantime, he noted, there is need to help those in metro areas understand the need, the fundamental right, and the self-reliance and the independence of the rural areas.

He suggested electing people who support Second Amendment rights and spoke about legislation he is involved with to help protect that right.

Oil and gas

In response to a question about oil and gas wells and the use of using local supply to build up reserves instead of buying foreign oil and gas, Hurd noted that the U.S. is producing more energy than ever before.

Hurd spoke about the need for energy independence and energy dominance, which would help the U.S. and its allies not have to rely on buying energy from countries that are “enemies.”

He also pointed out the high quality of the gas in Colorado.

“If you genuinely care about reducing global greenhouse gas emissions, you ought to support getting as much energy out of western and southern Colorado as possible,” he said.

He also spoke about the need for material and mining independence, adding the energy industry can be responsible and balance having

clean air and water and being good stewards

Bipartisan legislation

When asked about bipartisan legislation he’s been a part of, Hurd noted a bill he is working on with Rep. Joe Neguse relating to accurate measurement of snowpack.

He added there are a number of different acts he is working on, such as one related to compensation for the Gold King Mine spill and restoring probationary employees terminated by the federal government to ensure those employees don’t lost seniority if hired back.

Hurd added he will work just as hard for anybody, citing the very varied political opinions across his congressional district, but also acknowledged he’ll make mistakes at times.

Medicaid

In response to a question about the effects potential cuts to Medicaid would have on rural hospitals and state funding, and the possibility of other solutions, Hurd noted that 31 percent of people in the congressional district rely on Medicaid — the highest percentage of any Colorado district and among the highest percentages in the nation.

He spoke about signing on to a letter sent to Senate Majority Leader John Thune and House Speaker Mike Johnson earlier that day about preserving Medicaid for “those who need it most.”

That letter, from 16 Republican members of Congress, in part, states, “we believe it is essential that the final reconciliation bill reflects the priorities of our constituents—most importantly, the critical need to protect Medicaid and the hospitals that serve our communities. Throughout the budget process, we have consistently affirmed our commitment to ensuring that reductions in federal spending do not come at the expense of our most vulnerable constituents.”

Hurd noted that having a sustainable system is important, but, as a policy maker, he has seen an explosion in cost in the last 10 years, but that he’s not sure quality is keeping up with what’s being spent on it.

He noted that the reforms being talked about in the house aren’t perfect, but are a step in the right direction, though he is concerned about what the Senate is talking about.

He later noted there is need to do better, “otherwise the system risks collapse entirely,” he said.

Road conditions

The final question of the event centered on the condition of Douglas Pass Road south of Rangely.

Hurd noted he is on the House transportation committee and is working hard to ensure adequate funding and voted to increase funding to the state.

He suggested a need to make sure those federal dollars not spent on things like mass transit projects and bike paths, “that have nothing to do with western or southern Colorado.”

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Medical center’s board appoints Matt Mees to fill vacancy

By Randi Pierce

Staff Writer

At its meeting on Tuesday, June 24, the board of the Upper San Juan Health Service District, which oversees Pagosa Springs Medical Center (PSMC), appointed Matt Mees to fill the board vacancy.

Mees fills a vacancy created by the resignation of Kathy Campbell.

Following Campbell’s resignation, the board opted to have board members Kate Alfred and Mark Floyd serve as the Ad Hoc Search Committee to interview interested candidates and make a recommendation for appointment to the board.

The committee then made a report to the board, which was included as part of the appointment resolution, recommending Mees.

“The Board Ad Hoc Search Committee reports that applicant Matt Mees brings relevant experience and knowledge that would allow him to seamlessly and effectively fill the current vacancy on the Board of Directors,” the report states before delving into Mees’ qualifications.

Among the qualifications listed are that Mees is a longstanding resident of Pagosa Springs and a local developer who previously served on the board from May 2016 through April 2023, including serving as chair and vice chair.

“Mr. Mees has a developed and

clear understanding of the complexities of healthcare finance, PSMC operations, and strategic challenges,” it states.

The report further notes, “For more than a decade, Mr. Mees has volunteered consistently in support of PSMC’s facility projects—at times attending daily meetings and regularly devoting time each week.”

It adds that his contributions “have included involvement in the planning and execution: of the following:

- Construction of the outpatient clinic wing, registration area and parking lot.
- Renovation and replacement of HVAC systems serving surgery and pharmacy/oncology.
- Installation of the MRI modular building and equipment.
- Renovation of the Medical Wellness Building.
- Construction of the oxygen generation building.
- Ongoing staff-led renovation projects.

During the meeting, Alfred noted that the committee members independently chose the same candidate, with Floyd highlighting Mees’ long-time involvement with the boards and committees.

He noted the district is going to be facing a lot of challenges over the next two to four years, and it will be helpful to have somebody with experience.

Board member Wayne Hooper

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Outdoors

75th annual Red Ryder Roundup Rodeo set for July 3-5

By Diana Talbot

Red Ryder Roundup Rodeo

The Red Ryder Roundup Rodeo began in Pagosa Springs in 1949 and has been a town and rodeo tradition ever since.

The rodeo was named for the famous comic strip character Red Ryder, who was drawn by Pagosa Springs resident Fred Harman Jr. The comic strip was wildly popular and ran from 1938-1964 in 750 newspapers.

Red was a cowboy hero and a crime fighter of the West, accompanied by his sidekick Little Beaver, a young Navajo boy. Both had trusty steeds named Thunder and Papoose, respectively.

Cowboys and cowgirls from various states, on their trusty steeds, will travel to compete for prizes and prize money in this sanctioned rodeo series. The event is also filled with a variety of exhibition events to make an entertaining traditional American rodeo event.

The Red Ryder Rodeos are Thursday, Friday and Saturday. The July 4 rodeo will be at 2 p.m., with the July 3 and July 5 rodeos being at 6 p.m. They are presented at the Western Heritage Event Center arena and grounds off U.S. 84 and Mill Creek Road. Tickets are available online and at the gate prior to the event.

Tickets are \$20 per adult and \$10 for children 12 and under. A limited number of box seats are available and can be purchased by calling (970)



Photo courtesy Lea Leggett

Cowboys and cowgirls from various states, on their trusty steeds, will travel to compete for prizes and prize money in the upcoming Red Ryder Roundup Rodeo. The event is also filled with a variety of exhibition events to make an entertaining traditional American rodeo event.

749-3492.

Concessions include delicious smoked meats, beer and beverages.

Each daily performance begins with an impressive grand entry with

flags waving from westerners on horseback. Rodeo events are interspersed with a variety of other acts like the Mutton Bustin' contest, Daisy BB gun raffle and rodeo clown.

The website www.PagosaRodeo.com has detailed information about the entire event. Additional questions can be directed to (970) 749-3492 or dtalbot111@gmail.com.

USDA rescinding 2001 Roadless Rule, Colorado rule remains

By Randi Pierce

Staff Writer

On Monday, June 23, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Brooke L. Rollins announced during a meeting of the Western Governors' Association in New Mexico that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is rescinding the 2001 Roadless Rule.

The Colorado Roadless Rule, however, remains in place.

According to the U.S. Forest Service's (USFS's) website, "The 2001 Roadless Rule establishes prohibitions on road construction, road reconstruction, and timber harvesting on 58.5 million acres of inventoried roadless areas on National Forest System lands. The intent of the 2001 Roadless Rule is to provide lasting protection for inventoried roadless areas within the National Forest System in the context of multiple-use management."

According to a USDA press release, "This outdated administrative rule contradicts the will of Congress and goes against the mandate of the USDA Forest Service to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the nation's forests and grasslands."

It notes that rescinding this rule will remove prohibitions on road construction, reconstruction and timber harvest on nearly 59 million acres of

National Forest System land, allowing for fire prevention and responsible timber production.

"This rule is overly restrictive and poses real harm to millions of acres of our national forests," the press release states.

It notes that, in total, 30 percent of National Forest System lands are impacted by this rule.

The press release cites as examples that nearly 60 percent of forest service land in Utah is restricted from road development and is unable to be properly managed for fire risk. In Montana, it is 58 percent, and in Alaska's Tongass National Forest, the largest in the country, 92 percent is impacted.

"Of the 58.5 million acres of inventoried roadless areas covered under the 2001 Roadless Rule, 28 million acres are in areas at high or very high risk of wildfire. Rescinding this rule will allow this land to be managed at the local forest level, with more flexibility to take swift action to reduce wildfire risk and help protect surrounding communities and infrastructure," the press release states.

The press release notes the action to rescind the rule aligns with President Donald Trump's Executive Order 14192, "Unleashing Prosperity Through Deregulation," which it

notes is "to get rid of overcomplicated, burdensome barriers that hamper American business and innovation."

It adds that it will also allow more decisions to be made at the local level, "helping land managers make the best decisions to protect people, communities and resources based on their unique local conditions."

The press release also states that the rule "hurts jobs and economic development across rural America."

It notes that Utah alone estimates the roadless rule alone creates a 25 percent decrease in economic development in the forestry sector.

Next steps

According to the USFS website, "This action will require preparation of environmental analysis, compliance with the Endangered Species Act, tribal consultation and coordination with affected states."

The website explains the rulemaking process "is a three-stage effort including the advanced notice of proposed rulemaking, notice of proposed rulemaking, and the final rule. More details about these steps are available at Regulations.gov."

It adds, "More information will be released as the rescission process gets underway."

The agency also notes that two

states, Colorado and Idaho, have adopted state roadless area rules, explaining "the roadless area boundaries adopted in those rules supersede the boundaries from the 2001 Roadless Rule in those states."

Colorado's roadless rule, which covers 4.2 million acres, was put into place in 2012.

July plant walks to focus on high-elevation flowers, medicinal plants

By Jean Zirnheldt

Weminuche Audubon Society

Weminuche Audubon and Audubon Rockies invite you to join us on July 14 to learn about our high-elevation native plants with certified herbalist Lake McCullough.

Join us for a fun and educational ramble through the forest as we discover edible and medicinal native plants. The walks are free of charge, and advance registration is required.

In July we will travel to the summit of Wolf Creek Pass during peak wildflower season at that elevation. We will take a leisurely walk up the Lobo Overlook Road, stopping to learn about the flowers and medicinal plants along the way. We may even spot some birds. The walk is about 2 miles round-trip. Please be prepared for rocky trails and unpredictable weather, and leave dogs at home.

From Pagosa Springs, travel about 23 miles east on U.S. 160 to the top of Wolf Creek Pass. Take the first left turn after the Continental Divide pullout on the right side of the highway onto Forest Service Road 402, Lobo Overlook Road. We will meet in the gravel parking area directly off the highway and walk up the road.

In order to handle increased popularity and demand for information about our local ecosystems, we will be conducting two back-to-back plant walks at this location. The first tour will begin at 9:30 a.m. and run until 11:30 a.m. The second tour will begin at 11:45 a.m. and go until 1:45 p.m.

There is a 15-person maximum on each walk. Please call McCullough at (970) 398-0923 to reserve a space and indicate which time slot you prefer.

McCullough's knowledge and fun sense of humor have made these walks very popular, and spaces fill quickly. Give her a call to add your name to the list.

Weminuche Audubon Society and Audubon Rockies are proud to sponsor these walks and grateful that she takes time from her busy schedule to share her expertise with us.

The final summer walk will take place on Aug. 2.



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Main Street board approves funding for multiple items

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs Main Street Advisory Board met on Thursday, June 12, approving funds for its heritage and culture committee's time capsule project, cone zone promotional materials and the allocation of funds to be dedicated for the Main Street business assistance fund.

Mayor and board member Shari Pierce presented the time capsule project to the board, explaining the idea was to purchase a gun safe to be used as the time capsule that would be sealed on Aug. 1, 2026 — the 150th anniversary of Colorado becoming a state — and would stay closed for 50 years.

Pierce explained that the request was for \$2,000 of the advisory board's budget to go toward purchasing books to be put into the time capsule.

Also included in the time capsule project request was \$1,200 to be used to purchase a gun safe.

Board member Mario Garcia mentioned that local businesses could possibly be interested in making an in-kind donation on a gun safe, asking if Pierce had considered that option yet.

"I will not do that because of my job, and I feel like businesses in this town get hit up way too much for donations," she said, explaining that she intended to purchase a gun safe on her own, but Main Street Coordi-

nator Kathleen McFadden indicated to her that "Main Street has money."

Board president Rick Holter expressed concerns over purchasing a gun safe, noting that a "significant chunk of money" would be spent on the safe, "and then we're gonna lock it up."

He added, "Doesn't that seem exactly the opposite of what we want to do?"

Pierce explained the idea was to have a time capsule and that the committee decided to call it a history vault.

"This is just preserving those items in it for that amount of time," she said.

Garcia asked if the items placed in the vault would be scanned to be preserved digitally.

Pierce explained that oral interviews will be placed in the vault and also be available on the town's website.

Holter commented that he would like for the board to somehow be able to take advantage of the history vault work between now and in 50 years.

"It just feels to me like it goes on a shelf and gets a bunch of dust on it," he added.

Pierce explained that the thought behind including books in the history vault is the concern that some books are becoming harder and harder to find, specifically noting one about the logging history of Pagosa Springs.

Pierce also mentioned that another idea is to have children from the

community record their perspective of life in Pagosa Springs and what it is like to grow up here around this time.

"I love the kid element. I think that's great," Holter said.

Garcia suggested that anything more "hands-on" or virtual learning experiences would "go far" for kids at the museum.

Pierce commented that is a great idea, but explained that is out of the scope of the history vault and intent behind the project.

Holter mentioned another concern about the amount of money requested for the project, commenting, "I think it's a lot of money to spend in this town when businesses are going out of business."

He explained he would have trouble defending that decision and suggested that \$1,200 for a safe is "ridiculous."

"We're certainly open for discussion," McFadden said in reference to obtaining a safe.

Board member Rosanna Dufour indicated she would be in favor of approving funds for purchasing books and tabling the request for a gun safe, supporting Garcia's suggestion of possibly having a local business make an in-kind donation for that.

"I think that sounds great," Holter said.

McFadden then reviewed the board's budget, explaining that it has spent a total of \$4,211.11 so far this

year, with \$15,788.89 still available.

She also mentioned The Springs Resort raised \$7,052 that was donated to the Main Street Advisory board to go toward the Main Street Business Assistance fund, noting those monies are currently in a "restricted account."

"Our intent is to grow that amount so that we have as large of a grant fund as we can and provide access to that after the county's funds are depleted," she added.

Holter suggested that, of the approximately \$15,700 the board has left to spend, it could spend a chunk of that to go toward matching funds raised by The Springs for the business assistance program.

Board member and county commissioner Warren Brown noted that the board cannot roll any money over in the next fiscal year.

"I think we need to spend it and not sit on it," Holter said, explaining the situation for downtown business may change over the next year, and "we know people need it now."

Holter suggested approving \$2,000 to be used to purchase books for the history vault, \$4,000 to be spent on cone zone promotional materials and for \$9,500 to be allocated for the business assistance fund going forward.

Garcia motioned to approve the budget items and allocation of funds, which was unanimously approved by the board.

clayton@pagosasun.com

Restrictions

■ Continued from front

information as to what goes into stage one, two and three fire restrictions.

He noted there is a list of 10 criteria and that when four of those criteria are met, usually a stage one restriction is implemented, and, if six of those criteria are met, then a stage two restriction is typically implemented. Anything more than that will usually trigger a stage three restriction, Le Roux explained.

"We've had one stage three that lasted two weeks in 2018," Le Roux said, noting a stage three restriction will likely not happen anytime soon.

"But, certainly, stage one and two are where we tend to hover," he added.

The last fire restriction implemented by the county was in 2023, Le Roux explained, noting there were numerous fires in and around the county that summer.

He went on to explain that he receives a set of indices daily from the Forest Service relating to current fire conditions.

"While as today, we're not close at meeting any of these parameters, certainly the forecast for next week and even as early as the weekend, we may be," Le Roux said.

He also noted that the county reserves the right to not go into any fire restriction, explaining that over the past few years he has worked with the Pagosa Fire Protection District on some "actual more definitive stage one fire restriction criteria."

Le Roux explained that "years ago," under the stage one restriction, "everything's prohibited," with an even more restrictive stage two.

He mentioned that the document is now more articulated as to what is and what is not allowed under a stage one restriction.

"We put in more parameters, but it's less restrictive," Le Roux said of the change, explaining that it still allows for recreational activity "so long as you do it responsibly."

He went on to note that the "big-ticket items" under the stage one restrictions include no agriculture or permitted burning, also noting that shooting of tracer rounds and explosive targets is prohibited.

"We don't prohibit shooting. We can't and we won't, but we prohibit tracer rounds and explosive targets," he said, noting that stage one restrictions also limit where smoking is allowed.

"We still allow recreational fires," Le Roux said, explaining that it must be a certain size and in a secure ring with a steel grate over the top, "and if you're not, well, then there's consequences for that."

He mentioned that the majority of stuff allowed under stage one restrictions is "primarily in developed areas," explaining that a fire pit or propane fire usually has less of a fuel source compared to a campfire in an undisturbed area of the forest.

Le Roux also indicated that charcoal grills, tiki torches, portable outdoor fire pits and chain saws with efficient spark arresters are "all good to go."

He went on to provide some information on fires that the county has responded to so far this year.

"Sadly, the largest majority of fires we've responded to this year — starting on Dec. 27, [2024] — has been man-made," he said, indicating that multiple arrests have been made related to multiple arson activities.

Commissioner Veronica Medina asked if those were mostly locals, which Le Roux confirmed.

Le Roux went on to mention that

the Forest Service has been dealing with unattended campfires, noting there have been a lot of "human-caused" fires in the county recently.

"Whether that's ignorance or stupidity or deliberateness, it's probably all three of those things," he added.

Le Roux also noted that the Town of Pagosa Springs is responsible for its own fire restrictions, noting that the Fourth of July fireworks show "seems to still be going ahead," mentioning there is usually no issue with it since it is a professional show.

He went on to explain that the surrounding counties of Hinsdale and Mineral will likely follow Archuleta County if and when it goes into stage one fire restrictions.

"If we go in, they're gonna follow the same fire restriction," he said.

Commissioner Warren Brown asked how many fires local agencies have responded to since Dec. 27, 2024, with Le Roux indicating "at least a dozen."

Le Roux also noted that once a fire restriction is implemented, the sheriff's office will be posting details online on multiple platforms.

As of Wednesday, July 25, the Forest Service listed the fire danger in high-elevation zone as moderate and the low-elevation zone as high.

Weather outlook

According to a temperature and precipitation outlook issued by the National Weather Service (NWS) on June 24 that is valid for July 2-8, the southwest region of Colorado is expected to receive slightly above average precipitation paired with slightly below average temperatures.

A seasonal precipitation outlook issued by the NWS in April that is valid for July through September also

indicates that the southwest region of Colorado has slightly above to average chances of receiving average precipitation.

According to the NWS forecast for Pagosa Springs, as of press time Wednesday, no precipitation is expected until Tuesday, July 1, with a chance of thunderstorms.

Camping ordinance

During the June 24 work session, Le Roux also briefed the BoCC on a new ordinance that will likely be presented to the BoCC during its regular meeting scheduled for Tuesday, July 1, at 1:30 p.m.

He explained that the ordinance primarily prohibits camping and overnight stays on county property, noting there were multiple incidents a few weeks back with people attempting to stay overnight at Cloman Park after an event.

He explained that the sheriff's office spent quite a bit of time dealing with that and "really had no teeth to enforce it."

Le Roux also noted similar issues taking place at Veterans Memorial Park.

"We thought we'd come up with this ordinance which is pretty basic and it just allows us to get people moving," he said.

He also explained that there is a clause included in the ordinance that allows for overnight camping in emergency events.

"We're always reasonable," he said, noting that it has to be a "legitimate" reason.

clayton@pagosasun.com



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Fourth of July parade set for Saturday in Arboles

By Sherri Foster
TARA Historical Society and Community Center

TARA is an acronym for Tiffany, Allison, Rosa and Arboles. The historical society at Navajo Lake got the community together 30 years ago and had the first Independence

Local

Evan Raymond

Valley City State University has released its Dean's Honor Roll for the spring 2025 semester, which includes Evan Raymond, of Pagosa Springs.

The Dean's Honor Roll recognizes students who completed 12 semester hours or more of classes for which grade points are earned with a GPA of at least 3.50.

Day parade, which is a tradition that continues to this day.

It is held the Saturday before the Fourth of July to avoid conflict with other large events in the surrounding area.

Some of the original founding families and grandchildren are involved with the festivities as it is such a beloved tradition.

The parade is at 10 a.m. starting at

the Piedra Peak General Store and goes down Milton Lane to the TARA Historical Society and Community Center.

This year, in celebration of 30 years, Braydon Zink is kicking it up a notch playing from noon to 2 p.m. at the TARA Center pavilion where people always gather and hang out after the parade for community-centered fun.

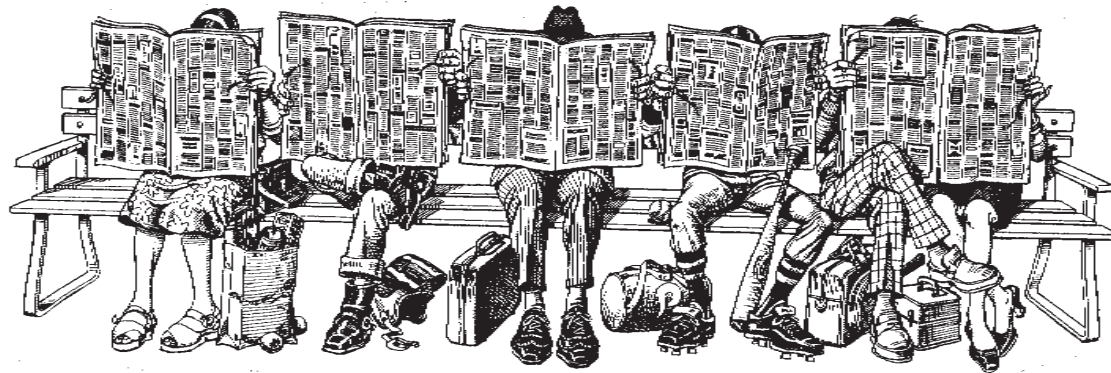


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**ARCHULETA COUNTY
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**
RFP Issue Date: June 19, 2025
RFP Title: Workers' Compensation Third Party Administrator
RFP Questions Due: 7/18/2025
Proposal will be received until: 8/1/2025
For additional Information please contact: Mitzi Bowman @ mbowman@archuletacounty.gov
**ARCHULETA COUNTY
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
PROPOSAL INSTRUCTIONS
COUNTY WORKERS' COMPENSATION THIRD PARTY ADMINISTRATOR**

1. PURPOSE/BACKGROUND: The Archuleta County Board of Commissioners by and through its Human Resources Department is accepting proposals for the purchase of a WORKERS' COMPENSATION THIRD PARTY ADMINISTRATOR as specified herein from a source of supply that will provide prompt and efficient service to the County.
2. SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS: The proposal must be received before the due date and time as specified in this Solicitation. The Contractor is responsible for addressing the envelope as indicated below. If the submittal arrives late, it may be returned unopened. Address the envelope(s) as follows:
Archuleta County HR
PO Box 1507
Pagosa Springs CO 81147

3. TERM OF AGREEMENT: This is a one-year agreement with the option of four one-year renewals.
3.1. OPTION TO RENEW FOR FOUR (4) SUBSEQUENT YEARS: The prices or discounts quoted by the Contractor in its Proposal shall prevail for the first one-year term of the Agreement, at which time the County shall have the option to renew the Agreement for four (4) subsequent one-year periods and to negotiate price for each renewal term. Continuation of the Agreement beyond the initial period is a county prerogative and not a right of the Contractor. This prerogative will be exercised only when such continuation is clearly in the best interest of the County and upon budget approval.

4. CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS
4.1. The successful Contractor will be required to sign an Agreement substantially similar to the Sample Agreement in Appendix A. The County reserves the right to add or delete provisions to the form prior to Agreement execution.
4.2. Issuance of this Solicitation does not commit the County to award any Agreement or to procure or Agreement for any equipment, materials or services.

4.3. If a formal Agreement is required, the Contractor agrees and understands that a Notice of Award does not constitute an Agreement or create a party interest of any nature until an Agreement is signed by the Awardee and the Board of County Commissioners and/or their authorized designees.
4.4. Contractor is responsible for reviewing the form Agreement and understanding the terms and conditions contained therein, including, but not limited to, insurance requirements, indemnification, equal opportunity, non-appropriation, and termination.

4.5. Contractor's Response must state its willingness to enter into the form Agreement or Contractor shall identify and include any proposed revisions they have for the form Agreement. Any proposed revisions made by the Contractor after the County Notice of Intent to Award the Solicitation may be grounds for rescinding said Notice. The identification on of willingness to enter into the standard Agreement is for general purposes at this time, but is part of the evaluation process and must be included. There may be negotiations on a project-by-project basis that provide clarification.
4.6. Incorrect Pricing/Invoicing. As part of any award resulting from this process, Contractor(s) will discount all transactions as agreed. In the event the County discovers, through its Agreement monitoring process or formal audit process, that material or services were priced/invoiced incorrectly, Contractor(s) agree to promptly refund all overpayments and to pay all reasonable audit expenses incurred as a result of the non-compliance.

4.7. The County may, during the term of the Agreement and any extensions/renewals, request additional work at other locations throughout the County by the successful Contractor.
5. METHOD OF AWARD - It is the intent of the County to award an Agreement to the Contractor who provides the best value for Archuleta County.
5.1. Pricing MUST be submitted in a separate sealed envelope.
5.2. Evaluation criteria, other than costs, are evaluated first. After rating the written Responses, costs are then considered against trade-offs such as satisfaction of requirements in the Solicitation, qualifications, risk and incentives and financial condition of the Contractor.
5.3. The County reserves the right to conduct negotiations with Contractors and to accept revisions of Responses. During this negotiation period, the County will not disclose any information derived from Responses submitted, or from discussions with other Contractors. Once an award is made, the Solicitation file and the Responses contained therein are in the public record.
5.4. Questions which arise during the Response preparation period regarding issues around this Solicitation, purchasing and/or award should be directed, via email, to Mitzi Bowman, Human Resources Director, mbowman@archuletacounty.gov. The Contractor submitting the question(s) shall be responsible for ensuring question(s) is/are received by the County.

6. INTERPRETATION: Any official interpretation of this RFP must be made by an agent of the County who is authorized to act on behalf of the County. The County shall not be responsible for interpretations offered by employees of the County who are not agents of the County.
7. COOPERATIVE PURCHASING: Archuleta County encourages cooperative purchasing in an effort to assist other agencies to reduce their cost of bidding and to make better use of taxpayer dollars through volume purchasing. Contractor(s) may, at their discretion, agree to extend the prices and/or terms of the resulting award to other state or local government agencies, school districts, or political subdivisions in the event they would have a need for the same product/service. Usage by any entity shall not have a negative impact on Archuleta County in the current term or in any future terms.

The Contractor(s) must deal directly with any governmental agency concerning the placement of purchase orders/agreements, freight/delivery charges, Contractual disputes, invoices, and payments. Archuleta County shall not be liable for any costs or damages incurred by any other entity.
8. Budget will not be disclosed.
9. By submitting this proposal, the Contractor warrants and certifies they are eligible to submit a proposal because their company and/or subcontract(s) is/are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible or voluntarily excluded from participation in a transaction by any Federal, State or local department or agency.
REMAINDER OF PAGE LEFT BLANK INTENTIONALLY

**ARCHULETA COUNTY
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
SCOPE OF WORK**
I. INTRODUCTION
Archuleta County is seeking proposals from qualified and experienced firms to provide a
WORKERS' COMPENSATION THIRD PARTY ADMINISTRATOR.
II. REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION
Failure to provide the required information may deem your submittal non-responsive.
Items which must be included in the response/submittal in order to be accepted and evaluated:
• Proposal
• W-9
• Pricing Form (In separate marked and sealed envelope)
• Contractor's Certification of Compliance (Signature required)
• Contractor's Statement (Signature required)
• References Form – Four (4) recent projects of similar size and scope or complexity
• Vendor Information Form
• One (1) marked, ORIGINAL proposal, One (1) USB with a single PDF formatted proposal and four (4) paper hardcopies of the proposal.
III. RESPONSE FORMAT
Failure to respond in the required format may deem your submittal non-responsive.
SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS: ONE (1) hardcopy proposal marked ORIGINAL, ONE (1) electronic original version (USB with a single PDF formatted proposal document) and four (4) PAPER COPIES of the proposal submittal. The Proposal must be received at the time

and place specified on the first page of this Solicitation. Submittals should be prepared simply and economically providing a straightforward, concise description of the Contractor's ability to perform the requirements of this Solicitation. Failure to submit the required number of copies may deem the Contractor non-responsive. The electronic copy shall be an EXACT reproduction of the original documents provided. All sections shall be combined into a single PDF electronic document.
PRICING MUST BE SUBMITTED IN A SEPARATE SEALED ENVELOPE. THERE MUST NOT BE ANY PRICING INFORMATION WITHIN THE HARD COPY PROPOSALS.

1. Provide Proposal submittal without reference to Archuleta County logo.
2. Proposal shall be in an organized and easy-to-find format.
3. Profile of the Firm (if applicable) - State whether your firm is local, national, or international.
Also include the following:
a. The Firm's key contact name, phone number and email address for this project.
(Your Firm's "Project Manager")
b. The size of the firm and the size of the local office.
c. Number and nature of the professional staff to be assigned to the project on a full-time basis.
d. Number and nature of staff to be assigned to this project on a part-time basis.
e. Identify the supervisory and management staff who will be assigned to the engagement. Provide resumes for each person that will be assigned to this engagement.

f. Provide any substantiated complaints against the firm in the last three (3) years and any outstanding litigation.
IV. BACKGROUND:
Archuleta County is seeking a Workers' Compensation Third Party Administrator (TPA) for its Workers' Compensation Fund and is looking for comprehensive services to manage and administer these claims.
The County is particularly interested in a Third-Party Administrator who can offer creative, innovative approaches, with a proven track record, that allows the County to contain or reduce costs.
Provide annual data for the calculation of the County's experience modification factor.
V. SCOPE OF WORK
• Review and process all workers' compensation claims.
• Create files and conduct the necessary investigations in consultation with the County.
• Establish and maintain reserves on the basis of most probable final cost.
• Obtain medical reports and pay medical bills as required by statute. Monitor treatment for appropriateness.
• Admit or deny claims, with prior approval from the County, in accordance with statutory guidelines based on investigation and analysis of medical information.
• Pay disability benefits on admitted cases in a timely manner. Obtain medical verification on continuing disability before payment.
• Outline claim strategy regarding defense and further claim handling in accordance with settlement authorization by the County.
• Refer claims to authorized counsel when necessary.
• Assist the County with defense of litigated cases when requested.

• Investigate and refer files for subrogation, where appropriate.
• Refer cases to vocational rehabilitation in accordance with State requirements.
• Appropriately document all files.
• When requested, provide copies of all written correspondence to medical care providers, claimants, attorneys, rehabilitation counselors, investigators, State agencies and the County as their interests may require.
• Attend hearings, pre-hearings and settlement conferences as needed.
• Reports to excess insurer per policy requirements.

• Provide monthly cumulative check register, giving a summary of all medical, indemnity and other payments for that month.
• When requested, quarterly vendor reports.
• Provide 1099's to vendors.
• Provide annual data for the calculation of the County's experience modification factor.
• Analysis of claims data.
• Monthly performance/experience reporting to include trend analysis.
• Reports for annual self-insurance permit renewal and loss runs for IBNR.
• Provide annual benchmarking report.
• Provide quarterly staffing on all open claims.
• Provide consultation on best practices including return to work program.
• Assist with development of long-range goals, objectives and strategies including recommending innovative ideas and new products, proven programs and services to ensure a cost-effective workers' compensation program.
• Provide telephone consultation as needed.
• Provide RMIS that allows for direct/online claim entry and County access to view claim information.
• Provide a comprehensive range of services, including fee scheduling, pharmacy management, specialist network, diagnostic referrals, DME, investigations, set asides and bill payment.
• Provide full transparency of all fees with specific details for services provided including:
o Monthly/Annual Fees
o Per Claim Fees
o Special Project Fees
o Fee Conversion Fee, if any
o All other fees
o Specifically itemize fees in your proposal and then provide one single

VII. EVALUATION CRITERIA
All proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:
• Expertise and experience of the representative(s) that will be assigned to our account.
• Understanding of the services requested and outlined in the STATEMENT OF WORK.
• Innovative or creative solutions offered in proposal
• Location and availability of the personnel assigned to the County's account
• Administration Fees for services provided
A second phase may be incorporated in the procurement process, in which the Evaluation Committee will invite a limited number of vendors who received the highest scores during phase one to provide an oral Presentation. If the Committee incorporates this second phase, the numbers of vendors who are invited to provide oral presentations will be determined by the Committee after the written Proposals have been scored. The evaluative score from the oral presentation will be used to determine the successful supplier.

**END OF STATEMENT OF WORK
REMAINDER OF PAGE LEFT BLANK INTENTIONALLY**

Published June 26, July 3, 10 and 17, 2025 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (267610)
**ARCHULETA COUNTY
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)**
RFP Issue Date: June 19, 2025
RFP Title: Third Party Administrator for County Employee Insurance Benefits
RFP Questions Due: 7/18/2025
Proposal Due Date: 8/1/2025
For additional information, please contact:
Mitzi Bowman, Human Resources Director
Email: mbowman@archuletacounty.gov
I. PURPOSE / BACKGROUND
Archuleta County is seeking proposals from qualified and experienced Third Party Administrators (TPAs) to provide administrative services for the County's fully insured employee benefit plans. These include medical, dental, vision, prescription drug, COBRA, FSA/HRA/HSA, and related benefit administration. The selected

TPA must have a strong history of compliance, customer service, employee support, and innovative solutions for cost control and plan management.

II. TERM OF AGREEMENT
The County intends to award a one-year contract with the option to renew annually for up to four (4) additional one-year terms based on performance and budget approval.

III. CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS
The successful TPA will be required to enter into a contract substantially similar to the County's standard form. Vendors must indicate acceptance of the terms or submit proposed changes. Any discrepancies post-award may result in disqualification.

IV. SCOPE OF WORK
The selected TPA shall provide a comprehensive range of administrative services, including but not limited to:

- Claims coordination with insurance carriers
- Stop-loss claims support
- Customer service with dedicated account representatives
- Secure online portal for employees and HR
- Enrollment and eligibility administration
- COBRA, FSA, HRA, and HSA administration
- Compliance assistance (HIPAA, ACA, etc.)
- Monthly and annual reporting with data analysis
- Open enrollment support
- Plan design consultation and cost containment strategies
- Wellness program integration or coordination
- Transparent fee structure with itemized pricing

V. REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION
To be considered, proposals must include:
• Proposal Narrative
• W-9 Form
• Pricing (in a separately sealed envelope)
• Contractor's Certification of Compliance (signed)
• Contractor's Statement (signed)
• References for four (4) similar clients
• Vendor Information Form
• One (1) original, four (4) hard copies, and one (1) USB with a PDF version
VI. EVALUATION CRITERIA
Proposals will be evaluated based on the following:
• Experience and qualifications of the proposed team
• Understanding of the County's needs and the services requested
• Technology capabilities and reporting tools
• Innovation in service and cost control
• Fee structure and transparency
• Customer service and reference feedback

VII. SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS
All proposals must be received by the deadline indicated above. Proposals must be submitted in hard copy and digital format as specified. Pricing must be in a separate sealed envelope. Any questions must be submitted in writing to Mitzi Bowman by the specified deadline. Published June 26, July 3, 10 and 17, 2025 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (267609)

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

NO. 2025-003
To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with regard to the following described Deed of Trust:
On April 17, 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): Justin Schroeder
Original Beneficiary(ies): L&CO, LLC, a New Mexico Limited Liability Company
Current Holder of Evidence of Debt: L&CO, LLC, a New Mexico Limited Liability Company
Date of Deed of Trust: September 22, 2017
County of Recording: Archuleta
Recording Date of Deed of Trust: September 29, 2017
Recording Information (Reception No. and/or Book/ Page No.): 21706008
Original Principal Amount: \$11,500.00
Outstanding Principal Balance: \$4,209.95
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 645 in ASPEN SPRINGS SUBDIVISION NO. 6, according to the plat thereof filed for record August 3, 1971 as Reception No. 74689, Archuleta County, State of Colorado
Purported common address: 326 Justin's Road, 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, 08/14/2025, 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 6/19/2025
Last Publication 7/17/2025
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: 04/17/2025
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:
Danita S. Alderton #37275
Altman, Keilbach, Lytle, Parlapiano & Ware, P.C. 503 N. Main Street, Suite 125, P.O. Box 333, Pueblo, CO 81003 (719) 545-7325
Attorney File # 325 Justins Rd
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 June 19, 26, July 3, 10 and 17, 2025 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (264828)

DISTRICT COURT
ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO
Court Address: 109 Harman Park Drive
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
970-507-8528
Attorney for Plaintiff:
Daniel L Fiedler #47916
190 Talisman Drive, Suite D-6
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
970-507-8528
Case Number 2025CV030026
Plaintiff:
TRACI SAMMETH
vs.
Defendants:
The Testate and Intestate Successors of HAROLD HOPPE, deceased, and All Persons Claiming by, through or under such Decedent, and All Unknown Persons Who Claim Any Interest In The Subject Matter Of This Action,
**SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION
PLAINTIFF: TRACI SAMMETH
TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS AND ALL UNKNOWN PERSONS WHO CLAIM ANY INTEREST**

**IN THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THIS ACTION
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED** and required to appear and defend against the claims of the Complaint to Quiet Title Pursuant to Rule 105 filed with the Archuleta County District 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 service of this summons upon you. Service of this summons shall be complete on the last day of 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 with 35 days after the date of the last publication, judgment by default may be entered against you by the Court for the relief demanded in the Complaint without further notice.

This is an action to quiet the title of the Plaintiff in and to the real property situate in Archuleta County, Colorado more particular described as follows:
THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER (SE1/4SE1/4SE1/4NE1/4) OF SECTION 10, TOWNSHIP 34 NORTH, RANGE 1 WEST, N.M.P.M., ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO.
Respectfully submitted this 22nd day of May, 2025.
/s/ Daniel L. Fiedler
Daniel L. Fiedler
First publication: June 5, 2025
Last publication: July 3, 2025
Published June 5, 12, 19, 26 and July 3, 2025 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (265870)

FOR PLANNING COMMISSION HEARING ON JUNE 26, 2025
PROJECT SANCTUARY is renewing their WILDERNESS LODGING ESTABLISHMENT BOARD CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT on the Parcel in the SW1/4NE1/4 of SEC 13, TWN 34N, RNG 1W, at 1099 Blue Creek Rd, Pagosa Springs, CO (PLN29-153). The property is zoned AGRICULTURAL RANCHING (AR). Comments regarding this case may be submitted to Archuleta County Development Services-Planning Department, P.O. Box 1507, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147-1507, telephone: (970) 264-1390 or to Planning@archuletacounty.org prior to the public hearing by the Archuleta County Planning Commission on June 26, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in the County Commissioners Meeting Room, 398 Lewis Street, Pagosa Springs and via Zoom Link.
Published June 12, 2025, and June 26, 2025 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Estate of Roger Westley Paradis a/k/a Roger W. Paradis, Deceased
Case Number 2025PR30020
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 October 12, 2025, or the claims may be forever barred.
Juanita Paradis
8930 Jefferson Drive
Buena Park, CA 90620
Published June 12, 19 and 26, 2025 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (266719)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Estate of Scott Alan Gray, Deceased
Case Number 2025PR30022
All persons having claims against the above named estate are required to present them to the personal representative or to District Court of Archuleta County, Colorado on or before October 20, 2025, or the claims may be forever barred.
Thomas F. RuBane, Attorney for the Estate
2922 Akron Ct
Denver, CO 80238
Published June 19, 26, and July 3, 2025 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (267082)

ARCHULETA COUNTY APRIL 2025 PAYABLES VENDOR	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	VENDOR	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
INLAND KENWORTH US	KENWORTH 1880/PARTS & SUPPLIES	\$192,097.83	WHO WE PLAY FOR	REPLCMNT AED PADS	\$830.00
CIGNA HEALTH	EMPL BENEFITS	\$170,923.76	BURNS FIGA & WILL PC	ATTY LEGAL PROFESSIONAL SVC	\$829.50
TYLER TECHNOLOGIES	ANN SFTWR RENWLS	\$84,874.00	CAROLINA SOFTWARE	WASTEWORKS SUPPORT	\$825.00
ARCHULETA SENIORS	GRANT FUNDS	\$70,000.00	MOBILE JO	DHS TESTING	\$754.00
DESERT MOUNTAIN CORP	MAG CHIL	\$64,043.98	ROCKY MOUNTAIN GUN WORKS	REGIST-PTRL RIFLE INSTRUCTOR COURSE	\$750.00
YOUTH HEALTH ASSOC	DHS 2023 SVCS	\$52,850.00	CO BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONS	CCW BCKGRND CHKS	\$747.50
WELLS FARGO	P-CARD PURCHASES	\$43,165.05	S SLADE	PER DIEM-GRANT WRITING CRS	\$697.93
SOUTHERN CO COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY	SENIOR CNTR MEALS/TRNSP	\$40,000.00	MSC INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY	FLEET SUPPLIES	\$648.89
C & J GRAVEL PRODUCTS	ASPHALT/FUEL SURCHG	\$23,030.19	ACCESS TRUCK PARTS	PARTS/TOOL	\$621.64
ASPEN SPRINGS METRO DISTRICT	FENCING-COURTS AT UTE PARK	\$22,495.00	O'REILLY AUTO PARTS	PARTS & SUPPLIES	\$619.32
KOY DINGBOOM OATES	DHS LEGAL SVCS	\$21,328.20	PATAGONIA HEALTH	PHD MNTHLY SUBSCRIPT	\$596.70
DAY LUMBER COMPANY	CULVERT PIPE CR 411/SUPPLIES	\$19,994.63	TERRY'S ACE HARDWARE	CNTY SUPPLIES	\$561.39
DAVIS WIP CLEANING	CNTY CLEANING SVCS/SPECIAL EVENT SVC	\$18,560.00	NOAH ENTERPRISES	REPAIR SVC	\$517.50
SHADROCK FOODS	INMATE FOOD/KITCHEN SUPPLIES	\$17,402.19	CO CORRECTIONAL INDUSTRIES	DHS SEC ENVELOPES	\$508.00
WAGNER RENTS	FLEET REPAIR SVC/PARTS & SUPPLIES	\$17,307.67	NO BS AUTOMOTIVE	VEH SVCS	\$505.00
ESRI	ANN SFTWR	\$16,500.00	ICS JAIL SUPPLIES	SO DETEN INMATE SUPPLIES	\$464.75
HARMAN PARK OWNERS ASSN	LEGAL/SEWER TAP FEES	\$16,457.00	POLICE RECORDS & INFORMATION MANAGEMENT GROUP	REGIST-SYMPOSIUM	\$449.00
HEALTHY ARCHULETA	ARPA SUBMISSION #34	\$15,697.50	COWBOY CARWASH	CNTY VEH MAINT	\$448.66
WORLD FUEL SERVICES	CNTY FUEL	\$14,769.39	KELSEY JENSEN	ON CALL SVCS	\$438.00
FLYERS ENERGY	CNTY FUEL	\$14,432.11	ASPIRE MEDICAL SERVICES & EDUCATION	DHS MEN'S CLASSES	\$416.66
ECONORTHWEST	PROFESSIONAL SVCS	\$14,177.00	INTL CODE COUNCIL	BLDG SUPPLIES	\$413.00
LEXIPOL	CO AW ENF ANN RENWLS/DOCS	\$13,842.86	CO DIVISION OF FIRE PREVENTION & CNTRL	ANN FEE-FIRE EQUIP	\$400.00
A SAFE PLACE IN PAGOSA	ARPA SUBMISSION #34	\$13,212.77	MODERN IMAGING SOLUTIONS	DETEN SUPPLIES	\$387.00
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CO STATE TREASURER	SUTA	\$6,602.94	K ARCHULETA	PER DIEM-SPRING CONF	\$238.00
HINKLE & COMPANY PC	PROFESSIONAL SVCS	\$6,500.00	W BROWN	PER DIEM-CCI STEERING CMTE MTG	\$235.00
AXXIS AUDIO OF DURANGO	COMP EQUIP	\$6,325.38	MIGHTY AUTO PARTS	FLEET SUPPLIES	\$230.49
AXIS HEALTH SYSTEM	INMATE MED SVCS	\$6,122.90	B CHAVEZ	PER DIEM-PPHV CONF	\$224.00
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CLEARGOV	STRATEGIC PLNG	\$5,733.33	D GAUVEY	PER DIEM-TASER INSTRUCT CRS	\$220.00
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ODP BUSINESS SOLUTIONS	CNTY OFF SUPPLIES	\$2,501.65	CONNIE PRUNTY	REIMB-WRIT CANCELLED	\$120.00
ARCH CNTY VICTIM ASSISTANCE PGRM	DHS CONTRACT SVCS	\$2,500.00	STERICYCLE	PHD MED SVCS	\$107.91
CARLOS W ROSS	AG LAND VALUES	\$2,500.00	LA PLATA COUNTY CORONER	MORGUE USE FEE	\$100.00
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	TRALS REVIEW	\$2,347.50	D BERNAL	REIMB-CDL PHYSICAL	\$99.18
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DOUGLAS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE	SOTAR SYSTEM USER FEE	\$2,000.00	BUCKSKIN TOWING & REPAIR	FLEET SVC	\$91.75
AMERITAS	EMPL BENEFITS	\$1,929.56	SOURCE OFFICE & TECHNOLOGY	COPY PAPER	\$90.36
CO BARRICADE CO	R&B SIGNAGE	\$1,856.70	RECLA METALS	METAL RECYCLING	\$84.00
CHARM-TEX	INMATE SUPPLIES	\$1,723.84	MICHAEL LEWIS BERNDT	1ST AID/CDPR CLASS	\$80.00
AMAZON	OFF/INMATE SUPPLIES & FURNITURE	\$1,667.79	MICHELE ANN BERNDT	1ST AID/CDPR CLASS	\$80.00
THE PONDEROSA LUMBER CO	CNTY SUPPLIES	\$1,627.54	CO WEED MANAGEMENT ASSN	MBRSH	\$75.00
TARA HISTORICAL SOCIETY @ NAVAJO LAKE	SENIOR LUNCH/TRASH ALLOWANCE	\$1,600.00	ISABEL SHELTON	DHS CONSULTING SVCS	\$75.00
GREAT FALLS DRAFTING	PROFESSIONAL SVCS	\$1,597.50	A WILSON	PER DIEM-CPDP CONF	\$72.00
GRAINGER	SUPPLIES	\$1,469.61	L SANCHEZ	PER DIEM-CPDP CONF	\$72.00
ELITE RECYCLING & DISPOSAL	CNTY TRASH UTILITY	\$1,466.17	S KUHNIS	PER DIEM-CPDP CONF	\$72.00
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CO CNTY CLERKS ASSN	DUES	\$1,339.11	AMERICAN JAIL ASSN	DOC REVIEWS	\$60.00
AZTEC MACHINE & REPAIR	FLEET SUPPLIES	\$1,212.69	ARCH CNTY SOLID WASTE	DISPOSAL CHG	\$59.50
ID NETWORKS	DISP SFTWR MAINT	\$1,163.00	CO SECRETARY OF STATE	REGIST SPRING REG TRNG	\$40.00
RIO BLANCO BACKFLOW	CNTY ANN BACKFLOW TESTING	\$1,050.00	PARTS AUTHORITY	FLEET SUPPLIES	\$37.03
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ALSCO	CNTY CLEANING SVCS	\$991.21	PAWSD	DHS WATER/SEWER UTILITY	\$23.59
PURCHASE POWER	DHS POSTAGE	\$986.23	J LUCERO	REIMB-CDL LEARNERS PERMIT	\$19.70
MASA	EMPL BENEFITS	\$944.00		TOTAL	\$1,272,647.49
CURTIS BLUE LINE	UNIFORMS	\$929.44			
DIAMOND PHARMACY SERVICES	PUB HEALTH MED SUPPLIES	\$899.35			

Published June 26, 2025 in The Pagosa Springs SUN. (267626)



SUN photo/Clayton Chaney

A stream flows alongside the Rainbow Hot Springs trail on Sunday, June 22. The trailhead is located off of West Fork Campground Road and takes hikers into the Weminuche Wilderness.

Lightning strike injuries surge amid June heat wave

AccuWeather

Amid an alarming spike of lightning-related injuries across the United States, AccuWeather expert meteorologists are encouraging people to learn how to recognize the signs of developing thunderstorms.

"Lightning is a serious summertime safety risk that can injure or tragically kill people who are outdoors," AccuWeather Chief Meteorologist Jonathan Porter said. "Be aware of your surroundings and have a plan to get to a safe shelter if you hear thunder rumble in the distance. Don't wait for the storm to approach or to hear more thunder; the first rumble is the time to get indoors, or to a vehicle if a building is not nearby."

The National Lightning Safety Council reports that more than 30 people have been injured by lightning strikes in the past two weeks, including 20 people who were hit by a single bolt of lightning on Tuesday at Lake Murray near Columbia, S.C.

"This case shows that dangerous lightning can happen in any thunderstorm, not just severe thunderstorms," Porter said. "Stay indoors for 30 minutes after the last rumble of thunder or flash of lightning to allow

the threat to pass before returning outdoors."

Local authorities report that 12 people were transported to area hospitals with non-life-threatening injuries after the lightning strike in South Carolina on Tuesday, and that everyone is expected to recover.

"Conditions went from quiet and calm to a small thunderstorm with multiple lightning strikes within a matter of minutes," AccuWeather Chief On-Air Meteorologist Bernie Rayno explained. "As quickly as this storm developed, it weakened and passed by. This was a very small thunderstorm, but it packed a lot of lightning."

Swimming and other beach activities are some of the "deadly dozen" activities for lightning-related deaths, ranking as the second-deadliest, only after fishing. Lightning has killed 32 people at beaches across the country since 2006.

Lightning safety can save lives

More than 20 million cloud-to-ground lightning strikes occur in the U.S. every year.

The easiest and fastest way to stay aware and prepared for lightning and severe weather threats this summer is

to download a weather app and turn on push notifications.

Multiple apps notify users when lightning strikes within 10 miles of their location.

Porter says it's also important for everyone to check the forecast before outdoor activities and learn how to recognize the visual warning signs of a developing thunderstorm that could produce lightning, especially for people who are hiking, camping, biking, swimming, working outdoors, or spending time in the wilderness or areas with limited cellphone signal.

Rapid vertical growth in cauliflower-looking cumulonimbus clouds is a sign of a maturing thunderstorm, likely producing heavy rain. Abundant moisture and instability due to cool air aloft and heating at the surface set the stage for cumulonimbus to develop. Heavy rain, frequent lightning, strong winds and hail can be threats associated with cumulonimbus clouds.

Anvil clouds are the flat top of a thunderstorm, or cumulonimbus cloud. They can spread up to hundreds of miles downwind from the thunderstorm itself. Lightning can strike from anvil clouds, even far away from a thunderstorm. Lightning described as striking "from out of the

blue" is usually from an anvil cloud that has drifted from a thunderstorm.

Lightning is caused by an unbalanced electrical charge in the atmosphere. The air around a bolt of lightning reaches temperatures up to 50,000 degrees F, which is hotter than the surface of the sun.

Lightning can strike up to 30 miles away from a storm and is called a "bolt from the blue."

The National Lightning Safety Council says July is the month with the most lightning fatalities in the United States.



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Colorado State Patrol warns DUIs can significantly impact employment

Colorado State Patrol

When you're enjoying a beer at the ballpark, a cocktail at dinner or a smoke at a barbecue, you likely aren't thinking about work.

Yet, a bad choice to get behind the wheel impaired can lead to significant consequences on a person's ability to find a new job or maintain your existing one.

According to Colorado Crime Statistics, more than 15,560 DUI cases were filed in 2024. In addition, 214 traffic fatalities involved an impaired driver (one-third of Colorado traffic fatalities) last year.

Drivers make choices every day; Colorado state troopers want you to make the safe one.

"Troopers, judges, and employers all take DUI seriously for a reason: It can and does impact innocent people. When you think about who a company would want to represent them, a person with a DUI doesn't typically come to mind," stated Chief Matthew C. Packard of the Colorado State Patrol. "Employers have a range of policies regarding DUI convictions. Some are extremely strict, depending

on the nature of your job."

Being convicted of DUI may disqualify a person from certain jobs, like those involving driving (trucking, forklift operator, transportation, etc.) or law enforcement.

Even if other careers or employers are more lenient with their DUI policies, losing your license for nine months can hinder a person's job performance and reduce their duties.

Other professions, like health care, require licensing, and employees with DUIs can face additional scrutiny from licensing boards, which can result in further disciplinary actions or even revocation of their licenses.

"It is difficult to see the long-term effect that a DUI can have on your life," explained Packard. "When you are 20, it's hard to imagine that a decision you make today could impact your income or employment options when you are 30 or 40. But, employers often conduct background checks, and depending on their policies, a DUI conviction could lead to job denials, especially if positioned against other candidates without a criminal record."


Keep your personal choices out of your business life. Plan for a sober ride every time to celebrate outside of your home.




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The second annual Pagosa Pride celebration was held Saturday, June 21, at Town Park, with multiple community organizations sponsoring the event. The event featured an Indigenous land acknowledgment and a speech from Pagosa Springs native Kat Martinez, as well as trivia, community art, food trucks and vendors.



SUN photos/Clayton Chaney

Commissioners approve new attorney employment contract, business grants

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

During its June 17 meeting, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) unanimously approved an employment contract with the county’s newly hired attorney, Cathleen Giovannini.

According to the employment contract, Giovannini will receive an annual salary of \$165,000 with a three-year agreement lasting through June 16, 2027.

Not included in Giovannini’s contract is a vehicle stipend, nor a monthly phone stipend.

“We’re so glad that Cathleen Giovannini is here,” County Manager Jack Harper said.

First round of business grants approved

Also during the meeting, the BoCC unanimously approved the first round of business assistance grant applications, granting a total of

\$14,102 to six different businesses located in the main street area.

The requests were presented to the BoCC by Finance Director Chad Eaton, with Eaton providing recommendations for each application.

He also indicated that applicants planned to use the grant funds for payroll and rent.

The total amount requested from those six businesses totaled to \$28,102.

Prior to voting on the matter, Commissioner Veronica Medina stated, “My concern for all of these businesses is that we are barely into this process.”

Medina also mentioned that she’d like to know what businesses were doing in preparation for the construction project and noted that if a business is “down,” she wants to make sure the county considers its application.

Medina suggested that in approving the recommendations for grants, the BoCC could include saying that

if the funds are to be used for rent, it will not exceed \$5,000, “Cause that is the max that we are allowing each applicant.”

She added that since the commissioners are talking about funds from its taxpayers, they need “to lay it all on the line.”

Commissioner Warren Brown addressed comments he received on the question in the application that asks, “What steps has your business taken to address the reconstruction project?” saying, “I realize that this is a very emotional time for our business community. I get it, that’s why the county has come to the table to help.”

Brown also mentioned that the county has no intention to be “snarky,” explaining that the county wants to make the best decision for every business that turns to the county for help.

“This is a genuine effort in trying to assist,” he added.

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preview

ARTS & LIFE

Pagosa Duathlon

July 12 • Turkey Springs Trail System



Photo courtesy A Safe Place in Pagosa Inc.

Aspen House to present 17th annual Pagosa Duathlon July 12

By Keena Carstensen
A Safe Place in Pagosa Inc.

A Safe Place in Pagosa Inc., doing business as Aspen House and Aspen Services, is pleased to announce that it is honored to be presenting the 17th annual Pagosa Duathlon on July 12.

The race will take place in the Turkey Springs Trail System, and we have a race for everyone in the family.

The first race of the day will be the Dusty Kids Gravel Growler on a dirt/gravel road. Bring out the kiddos for a fun time. This race is a 1-mile run and a 2-mile bike.

There are two adult races for the day on single track and ATV trails throughout the Turkey Springs Trail System.

The Dirty Sprinters will begin with a 3-mile trail run, followed by an 8-mile bike. The surrounding flora of the San Juan National Forest provides

the perfect backdrop for fun outdoor activities.

For a more challenging course, the Dirty Du begins with a 7-mile trail run, followed by a 15-mile bike. This longer race has more opportunities for scenery, including groves of aspen trees on the Aspen Run Trail. There will be rocky up and downs, winding trails and plenty of ponderosa pines to provide shady spots.

The adult races have three divisions: individual men, individual women and two-member relay team (one runner and one biker). Register before July 4 as there will be a price increase.

Register online at <https://www.trisignup.com/Race/CO/PagosaSprings/PagosaDirtyDu>.

Races are professionally timed and there will be plenty of post-race refreshments.

The race lineup is as follows:

- Dusty Kids Gravel Growler: 7:30 a.m., \$15.
- Dirty Sprint: 8:15 a.m., \$65 early registration (through July 4), \$75 after July 4.
- Dirty Du: 8:15 a.m., \$65 early registration (through July 4), \$75 after July 4.

Pre-race packet pick up will be July 11 at PS FroYo, 459 Lewis St., from 4:30 to 7 p.m.

The Pagosa Duathlon is one of three summer fundraisers where all proceeds will benefit A Safe Place in Pagosa Inc., a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization committed to constructing a home and providing services for adults with developmental disabilities in Pagosa Springs.

The Pagosa Duathlon operates under a special permit with the San Juan National Forest and is an equal opportunity provider.

Live Performers

- Thursday**
Coyote Moon Lounge: Karaoke Party with DJ Marcus, 6 p.m.
Pagosa Springs Golf Club: Max Miller, 5:30 p.m.
The Pagosa Bar: Karaoke, 8 p.m.
- Friday**
Coyote Moon Lounge: Alibi 5, 7 p.m.
Meltdown on Main: Retro Cats, 5 p.m.
The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Ron and Susan, 5 p.m.
- Saturday**
Coyote Moon Lounge: The 13th Hour Band, 7 p.m.
The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Maxwell Miller, 5 p.m.
- Sunday**
Coyote Moon Lounge: Ron and Susan, 5 p.m.
- Monday**
Coyote Moon Lounge: Jackson Mountain Ramblers, 5 p.m.
- Tuesday**
The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Dustin Burley, 5 p.m.

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Final 19th Hole Concert of season set for June 26

By Joan Ward

Archuleta Seniors Inc.

The Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado, in partnership with the Pagosa Springs Golf Club, is sponsoring four 19th Hole Concerts, which will finish this Thursday, June 26.

The featured artist this week is Jazz specialist Max Miller and the featured nonprofit is the San Juan Headwaters Forest Health Partnership.

Alex Handloff of the Mountain Studies Institute states: "San Juan Headwaters Forest Health Partnership is a collaborative group committed to a better, healthier future by developing science-based, collaborative priorities for the sustainable management of forests, watersheds and essential community resources. Our group is composed of people and groups representing regional business interests, conservation organizations, local and state governments, federal agencies, recreation interests, ranchers, homeowner associations, scientists, and any interested citizens. Our work directly leads to additional funding, resources, and projects that protect our infrastructure, water, homes, and the health of our forests and natural surroundings."

Food, beer and wine will be available for purchase. No outside food, drink or pets will be allowed. Concertgoers should bring a camping chair or blanket — or both — to take full advantage of a summer evening in the Rocky Mountains.

The 19th Hole Concerts are held

every Thursday in June from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Pagosa Springs Golf Club.

The cover charge is a \$10 donation that supports the four nonprofits selected through the month of June. Corporate sponsors cover event expenses, allowing all proceeds at the end of the series to be pooled and distributed equally to the featured organizations. The collaborative approach to the concerts is vital to their success.

The past nonprofits were Archuleta Seniors Inc., Project Sanctuary and Build Pagosa. Last Thursday's attendance was 275.

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.

For more information about the 19th Hole concert series, contact the Community Foundation at (970) 375-5807, ext. 3.

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Pagosa Sidewalk Astronomers launch photo contest

By Dena Laterza

Pagosa Sidewalk Astronomers

Hey, photographers: It's Milky Way season.

The Pagosa Sidewalk Astronomers are sponsoring a photo contest to promote astrotourism and to raise awareness about the need to protect the night sky against light pollution.

We are requesting photo submissions from local photographers of the stars or the Milky Way with something that represents Pagosa Springs in the foreground.

Photos of people participating in night sky events hosted by Pagosa Sidewalk Astronomers will also be considered.

Submissions will be accepted through August, beginning July 1. Winners will be announced in The Pagosa Springs SUN newspaper

■ See Contest on next page



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Photo courtesy Curtains Up Pagosa

Matilda, with her Curtains Up Pagosa castmates, are ready to sing and dance in their entertaining musical. The cast will present four performances of “Matilda the Musical” June 26-28 in the Pagosa Springs High School auditorium.

Curtains Up Pagosa to present four performances of ‘Matilda the Musical’

By Anthony Aldwell
Curtains Up Pagosa

Where else but in community theater can one find landscapers, teachers, rockhounds, international affairs specialists, musicians and real estate agents pool their talents to produce quality entertainment for their community and its visitors? Well, in our town, that’s what Curtains Up Pagosa (CUP) is all about, and this weekend they will do so with “Matilda the Musical,” a Roald Dahl story about a young girl who uses her genius and special

talents to make life better for those dear to her. With a cast of 27 young adults and children, coupled with veteran adult actors, this story comes alive through clever dialogue interwoven with powerful music. “Matilda” will be performed on the Pagosa Springs High School auditorium stage for three evening shows this week at 7 p.m. — Thursday, June 26; Friday, June 27; and Saturday, June 28 — and a 2 p.m. matinee on Saturday, June 28. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for students and seniors, and can be purchased online at curtainsuppagosa.org

or at the door. Concessions benefiting CUP will be available before the show and during intermission. CUP’s mission is to: “Nurture, educate, inspire, and strengthen Pagosa’s artists through the power of the performing arts, and to entertain our community by providing a superior theatrical experience.” We only do so with the support of our community, which is sustained through generous sponsors and robust audiences. So, come be entertained this weekend and be part of this magical show.

Contest

■ continued from previous page and cash prizes will be awarded on Sept. 10. Three winners will be chosen in September, with a first prize of \$50, second prize of \$30 and third prize of \$20. See the rules and more details on PagosaSidewalkAstronomers.org/

photo-contest. DarkSky International’s Advocates Network is a global community united in its efforts to protect the night from light pollution. The Pagosa Sidewalk Astronomers are local advocates working to preserve the night sky as an important natu-

ral resource. More advocates are needed; please contact us to join the effort. We also organize free, educational public events using telescopes and binoculars. Together, we can preserve our dark sky for ourselves and future generations.

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Photos courtesy Thingamajig Theatre Company

Trevor Brown (Monty) and Dan Morrison (The D’Ysquith Family) hardly leave the stage in the whirlwind opening of “A Gentleman’s Guide to Love and Murder” — and with this many deaths and double-crosses, why would they? The show will open at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts on Friday, June 27.

‘A Gentleman’s Guide to Love and Murder’ to open at Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts June 27

By Tim Moore
Thingamajig Theatre Company

Opening this Friday, June 27, “A Gentleman’s Guide to Love and Murder” marks the third and final opening in the 2025 repertory season at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts.

Part period farce, part comic opera, part high-stakes body count, the show delivers fast-paced entertainment with elegance, edge and a murderous sense of humor.

At the center of it all is Trevor Brown as Monty Navarro, a modest young man with a recently discovered link to nobility and a long line of relatives standing between him and a fortune. Brown guides Monty’s increasingly “pragmatic” rise through the family tree with charisma, wit and vocal finesse.

But the real jaw-dropper? Dan Morrison, who plays all eight doomed members of the D’Ysquith family. In a role that defies logic and challenges the laws of quick change, Morrison becomes everything from a bloated banker to a sanctimonious reverend to

an overly dramatic actress each with distinct voices, gaits and grotesqueries. Watching him shift at lightning speed is not just impressive — it’s nearly the price of admission on its own.

And he’s doing it in some truly grand attire.

The costumes for this production come directly from the North American national tour of “A Gentleman’s Guide,” filling a 20-foot transportation truck with Edwardian splendor. Nearly half of that wardrobe is worn by Morrison alone, making every entrance a fresh spectacle of feathers, bustles and tailored absurdity.

Directed by Andrew Barratt Lewis and featuring musical direction by Dominic Girolami, the production brings a crisp comic sensibility to the intricately plotted tale. The visuals dazzle, the lyrics bite and the timing is tuned within an inch of its life.


“Gentleman’s Guide” joins the already-running “Something Rotten!” — a zany Elizabethan era musical bursting with Broadway self-awareness — and Andrew Lippa’s “The Wild

Party” — a darkly lush tale of jazz-age decadence and desire.


All three shows will run in repertory through Aug. 30, offering locals and visitors a rare opportunity to catch multiple high-caliber productions performed in rotation by a cast of seasoned professionals.

This weekend’s opening is the last “first night” of the season, but it may just be the most delightfully diabolical. Secure your seats before someone else snatches your spot, preferably not with poison.

Tickets for “A Gentleman’s Guide to Love and Murder” and all summer repertory productions are available now at PagosaCenter.org or by calling (970) 731-SHOW (7469).



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San Juan Stargazers' meeting slated for July 3

By Joan Mieritz
San Juan Stargazers

Our next meeting, on Thursday, July 3, will be at the regular time of 6 p.m. for the social hour and 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.

During our social hour we have coffee and many kinds of tea, plus people usually bring treats such as a dessert or a snack for those who didn't make it home for dinner. If you haven't brought something in a while, please grab cookies or some other treat to share with the group.

This is a great opportunity to visit with friends, and it is also a wonderful time to ask questions about astronomy. Usually there is much new information from the James Webb Space Telescope to talk about. Just this past week the Webb discovered information indicating that our galaxy may be located inside a black hole. I have not yet recovered from that information or asked all the questions that I have from such a mind-blowing possibility.

At 7 p.m. we will begin our educational program, which this month will be a presentation from the Great Courses. It will be on something we can see with a telescope.

During June and July this year we are focusing on our telescopes because on July 16 to 18 we will have a special educational guest, Steve McAllister from the Westcliffe obser-

vatory. He will be helping us improve our telescope skills.

If you have a telescope that you are wondering about, this is a great time to join our club to get the best answers. McAllister is an amazing expert who has given us special assistance for three years.

This summer we have night sky programs at Chimney Rock National Monument several Friday nights from May to September.

We have our next one on Friday, June 27, and again on July 18 and July 25 (see our website for details). The gate will be open from 7:30 to 8 p.m. People from Pagosa Springs are always welcome to attend our programs without a reservation. Just let us know that you are a local and we will have a place for you with a ticket purchased at the gift shop.

In August we have two special nights, on Aug. 11 and 12, to see the Perseid meteor showers. The gate will open at 7 p.m. This is a great opportunity to enjoy Chimney Rock's super dark skies. It is an especially relaxing time to experience our very precious national monument much like the ancient people did.

We try to have telescope viewing at our night sky programs 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 incidence of lightning strikes in our nation and telescopes usually have metal parts that add to the danger. The mountains near Chimney Rock are especially difficult because storms can start so quickly and blow over peaks. And 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. It is the best opportunity to practice living in the present moment.

At this altitude, nights begin to cool rapidly after sunset, so bring appropriate layers of jackets, blankets and pillows for sitting on and covering up with to remain comfortable. Also suggested are fold-up carry-along chairs, a regular flashlight and a flashlight with a red lens (which we have for sale and which does not interfere with night vision).

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 individual or family. You can join the club at any of our meetings or on our website.

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

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Photos courtesy Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership
The Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership is offering social gardening on Wednesday evenings, with the work preparing an area to plant edible plants.

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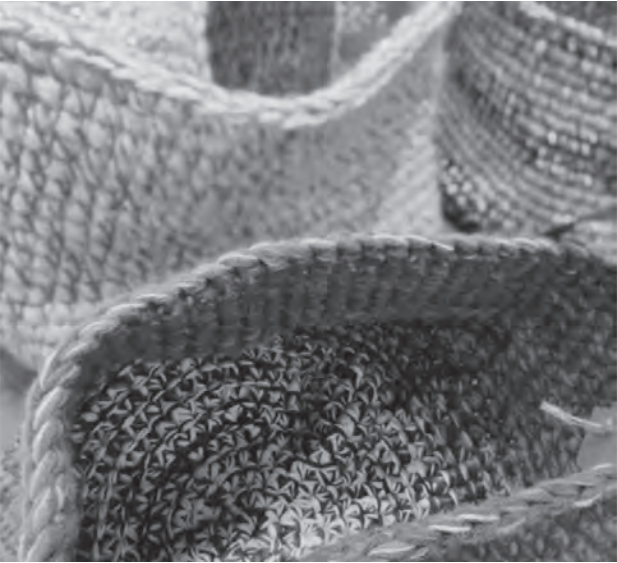
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Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership announces social gardening, new planting effort

By Pauline Benetti
Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership

The Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership (GGP) has a new gig going: social gardening.

It's weekly on Wednesday evenings around 6 to 7:30 p.m. We are inviting folks to come on down to the GGP site on the Riverwalk in Centennial Park and (your choice): sit and watch folks take after the bind weed and hoary cress, join in on the effort, bring a guitar (as one fellow did) and play music for everyone to enjoy, sit and simply watch the river pass in the cool breeze of the evening, or more.

The benefits are many. First is community — just getting to know folks. Second is there is much to learn from GGP members and from one another. Third is that weeding, planting and watering are good therapy, as is simply chatting with a new or old friend. Fourth is that the GGP is recipient of a PPAN grant which will allow us to replace the afore mentioned bind weed and hoary cress with pollinator plants. You are invited to help.

On the site already by way of pollinator protection is the Audubon Native Plant Garden (Habitat Hero-certified) on the west side and the Rotary garden on the east side.

Both offer more than 50 species of pollinator-friendly perennials ranging from early flowering prairie smoke (*Geum triflorum*) and Rocky

There will be native plants, but also generous quantities of edible plants, like berries (raspberry, gooseberry and current), vegetables (squash, zucchini, corn and potatoes) and herbs (basil, sage and oregano).

Mountain penstemon (*Penstemon strictus*) to mid-season flowering blanketflower *Gaillardia* (*Gaillardia aristata*) and golden currant (*Ribes aureum*) to late-season rubber rabbit-

brush (*Chrysothamnus nauseosus*).

Then we have signage on the western end of our site about native plants and their role in supporting native pollinators with vital nectar and pollen. On the east side, we have signage that addresses water-efficient, xeriscaping techniques.

In between there are a number of solitary-nesting bee boxes that support robust numbers of mason and leafcutter bees in spring and summer. There is also signage and QR placards that provide education on why native bees are important.

The current clearing and planting effort is focused on the interior of the site; however, this time planting will be a little different. There will be native plants, but also generous quantities of edible plants, like berries (raspberry, gooseberry and current), vegetables (squash, zucchini, corn and potatoes) and herbs (basil, sage and oregano). In this garden largely along the Riverwalk, folks are invited to harvest, take what you need and give what you can.

The giving is easy — just lend a hand — or, if not possible, then drop a bit of change in the soon to arrive outdoor proof change box.

In any event, come on down and hang out with the GGP gang and your neighbors.

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172 E. Pagosa St., Pagosa Springs, CO 81147



Photo courtesy Pagosa Springs Instrumental Music Society

The Pagosa Springs Instrumental Music Society Community Band will again hold its annual Fourth of July 4 concert, to be held at the new Hot Springs Resort lawn by the Wild Finch from 2 to 3 pm.

Community Band preparing for free Fourth of July concert

By Michelle Chapman
Pagosa Springs Instrumental Music Society

The Pagosa Springs Instrumental Music Society (PSIMS) Community Band is preparing for the annual Fourth of July concert to be held at the new Hot Springs Resort lawn by the Wild Finch from 2 to 3 pm.

We will have one more rehearsal for this concert on Sunday, June 29, from 2 to 3 p.m. in the high school band room.

Our fearless conductor, Leo Baughman, also the high school band director, will lead us in some familiar patriotic songs accompanied by solo vocalist Diana Kelly.

PSIMS is a 501(c)(3) organization with the mission to bring music into the lives of the people of Pagosa Springs. Our motto is "Music for Life." We believe that music enriches the lives of the audience as well as the performers.

We support music education in the community. This year, we are giving out three \$1,000 scholarships to Pagosa Springs High School graduates continuing their music education at a higher level. Last year we were able to purchase a set of chimes for the high school.

Our performances are always free and we love to provide them for you. Donations go toward furthering music education in Pagosa Springs.

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Colbert and Kimmel
- 6 Ali ____
- 10 Bells' sound
- 14 ____-America: Latin America, mostly
- 15 Away from port
- 16 Shell competitor
- 17 Sherpa's land
- 18 Tampa Bay hockey team
- 20 Iris' cousin
- 22 Obliterates
- 23 Ireland alias
- 24 1945 summit site
- 26 Religious recluse
- 28 One of the Osmonds
- 32 Director's cry
- 34 "Friday the 13th" setting
- 36 Memorable time
- 37 Paint diluter
- 39 Removes, as some text
- 41 Sun shade?
- 42 Math course, briefly
- 44 Gender-biased
- 45 Kind of iron
- 47 Like Boston's rock
- 49 On the way
- 51 Backtalk
- 54 Simple shelter
- 57 "Who's on first?" comic
- 59 Entrance fee
- 61 Kind of personality
- 62 ____ Nam
- 63 "Anything ____?"
- 64 Played on stage
- 65 Craftsy etailer
- 66 Iditarod vehicle
- 67 Salon colorists

DOWN

- 1 Door part

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14						15					16			
17						18				19				
20					21				22					
23					24			25						
		26		27						28		29	30	31
32	33						34		35			36		
37						38		39			40			
41				42			43		44					
45			46			47		48						
			49		50						51		52	53
54	55	56					57			58				
59						60				61				
62					63					64				
65					66					67				

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- 2 Manuscript marks
- 3 Preparing laundry
- 4 Exchanges for a new car
- 5 Songs for one
- 6 Voting slip
- 7 Like some elephants
- 8 Seek change?
- 9 Oohed and ____
- 10 Straw hat
- 11 Goddess of discord
- 12 Skin malady
- 13 Fireplace fodder
- 19 Flattens underfoot
- 21 First game of the season
- 25 Large amount
- 27 Table of ____
- 29 Netlike
- 30 Gets one's goat
- 31 Seat anagram
- 32 "____ boy!"

- 33 Jackie of "Rush Hour"
- 35 Bungles, with "up"
- 38 Puerto ____
- 40 Urgent need
- 43 Blood sugar
- 46 Mercifulness
- 48 Made up (for)
- 50 Valentine's gift
- 52 Snoopy, in his dreams
- 53 Bronco and Mustang
- 54 Take a bath
- 55 Blue-pencil
- 56 Iowa college town
- 58 Pond dweller
- 60 Ind. neighbor

Answers to Previous Crossword:

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

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EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

ARTISAN AND FOOD MARKET

July 6th: 10am - 4pm

Town Park and the Athletic Field: Food vendors, beer garden, live music, jewelry, art, crafts, collectibles, clothes, & gifts.

July 3rd: 6pm

July 4th: 2pm

July 5th: 6pm

The Red Ryder Roundup Rodeo returns to the Archuleta County Fairgrounds for its 75th Anniversary!

July 4th: 1pm

Float on your own event! Grab a tube, don your best red, white, and blue, and join the Freedom Float on the San Juan River through downtown.

July 3rd, 5th, 6th: 10am - 7pm | 4th: 12pm - 7pm

Bouncy House fun zone in Baseball Field at Yamaguchi Park.

July 4th: 2pm

Enjoy patriotic tunes on the lawn by The Springs Resort.

July 4th: 3pm

Walking parade honoring our veterans and first responders around Yamaguchi Park.

July 4th: 5pm

Enjoy a festive evening of live music, food trucks and a beer garden in Yamaguchi Park brought to you by the Pagosa Springs Summer Concert Series. No Cover.

July 4th @ Dusk (approx. 9pm)

Enjoy the fireworks show from downtown Pagosa Springs.
Yamaguchi Park provides one of the best viewing areas.



Events



VisitPagosaSprings.com/Events





Save the date for Broadway Gala fundraiser for Thingamajig Theatre Company

By Carole Howard
Thingamajig Theatre Company

Mark your calendars for an exciting Broadway Gala fundraising event on July 29 at 5 p.m. that will include a cabaret-style evening showcasing the talents of the Thingamajig Theatre Company's brilliant summer musicals cast and an opportunity to bid on unique private events with the actors.

Longtime fans of actor Dan Morrison will be delighted to know that he will return to his role as the energetic, exuberant emcee of the event.

It's all part of an elegant evening of live music and entertainment at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts to raise funds for Pagosa's only professional nonprofit live theater.

As well, beginning July 15, Thingamajig fans have the opportunity to place online advance bids on multiple one-of-a-kind interactions with the actors whether or not you are attending the gala. If you want to be added to the theater's email list for this and other notifications, send your email address to thingamajig-box@gmail.com.

Tickets available now

Only about half of the costs of Thingamajig productions are covered by ticket sales. The remainder of the theater's funding comes from private donors, business sponsors, grants and proceeds from this annual Broadway Gala fundraiser — the most important event of the year to keep the theater up and running.

Tickets are \$150 for the dressy gala

evening and are on sale now on the theater's website, pagosacenter.org, or by phoning the box office at (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Here's a new addition to the gala fun this year: When you buy your ticket, you can note your favorite Broadway song and — for a donation — have it sung by one of the actors at the event.

Other highlights of the evening include a catered meal catered served by the actors. There will be a cash bar with tips going to the actors.

Unique auction items

A look at just three of the one-of-a-kind live auction offerings gives you a good idea of what special enjoyment will be available to you if you are among the many lucky winners.

One is a progressive dinner for 10 people where the actors will chauffeur you and your friends to four incredible locations where you'll enjoy serenades along with wine and cocktail pairings to go with a multi-course meal prepared by the cast.

Another unique opportunity is hosting the entire cast at your home for a sing-along — around a campfire or not, your choice — so you can enjoy their music with your family and friends.

Also a remarkable auction item is a trip for two to New York City with Thingamajig co-founders Tim and Laura Moore, where you'll join them as they audition potential actors to perform in next year's summer musicals. This trip also includes visiting with past Thingamajig performers,

■ See Gala on next page

Photo courtesy Carole Howard

Mark your calendars for an exciting Broadway in the Mountains gala fundraising event on July 29 at 5 p.m. that will showcase the talents of Thingamajig Theatre Company's brilliant summer musicals cast, including Cassandra "Cassie" Brooks. It's part of an elegant cabaret-style evening of live music and entertainment at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts to raise funds for Pagosa's only live professional nonprofit theater.

HUD

Publisher's Notice

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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

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

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!

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

ANSWER:

Healthy Archuleta hosts gardening party with flavor

Healthy Archuleta

On Tuesday, June 10, the Healthy Archuleta CLAC Spanish language group gathered for a unique boot camp with special garden instructor Deborah at a taquería stand.

The main focus was the “Salsa Garden in Pots,” a class designed especially for our Spanish-speaking community who love spice, flavor and, of course, salsa.

Salsa is more than just a food. It’s a tradition at our family and social gatherings. So, it was no surprise that the enthusiasm for learning how to grow it in a pot at home was popular. More than 25 community members and staff joined this event full of flavor, soil and smiles.

The stand provided a delicious dinner before starting the class, and then it was time to get our hands dirty.

Deborah taught us all about growing our favorite ingredients in small spaces. She explained what size pots are needed for planting separately or for companion planting. She showed us how to create a salsa garden with just

a large pot and how easy it is to start a small garden at home.

We planted a patio tomato, a chili pepper and essential herbs like cilantro in one large pot. We also learned about the importance of healthy soil, what to mix to improve it and the secrets to making our plants thrive.

A generous member donated empty large and medium pots so everyone could participate. We planted tomatoes, chili peppers, eggplant, cilantro seeds and even beautiful flowers that help our pollinators, provided by Healthy Archuleta. All this with nutritious soil and refreshing water — key ingredients to start our salsa garden at home.

Best of all, this type of container gardening is perfect for people with limited space: small patios, balconies or even a sunny window can become a mini garden full of life and flavor.

Adults and children alike had fun, learned and left ready to continue growing at home.

One attendee commented the information was so easy that she felt confident in doing it at home.

Thank you to everyone who attended, helped and got their hands full of dirt. Our journey toward healthy gardening and tasty salsa gardening is just beginning.

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



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Gala

■ continued from previous page

enjoying dinners out in the Big Apple and shows on Broadway. Airfare is not included.

Gala fun

“We know from previous galas that our guests have been surprised and delighted by the evening’s festivities — and especially the clever and creative auction opportunities,” said Laura Moore, executive director of the theater. “We are deeply grateful for everyone’s support because the exciting musicals that folks are seeing on stage this summer — and all our other productions throughout the year — would not be possible without the funding raised at the gala.”

Hit Broadway musicals

Thingamajig has earned a reputation as one of the premiere venues for live professional theater in Colorado. Talented actors, singers, dancers, directors and designers have come from as far away as New York City and California to present another blockbuster summer season.

There are a total of 37 in the cast and crew here this summer to make that happen.

Three Broadway musicals are on stage in rotation until the end of August:

“Something Rotten!” is a hilarious musical comedy about two playwright brothers in Elizabethan England who are struggling to compete with the huge success of their contemporary and rival William Shakespeare.

“The Wild Party” is a steamy, thought-provoking prohibition tale about self-indulgence and decadence in the roaring twenties, with R-rated content making it not suit-

able for younger audiences.

“A Gentleman’s Guide to Love and Murder” is a musical comedy about a low-born Englishman who learns he is ninth in line for an earldom, so he creates a plan to get rid of the eight heirs in his way.

Artistic Director Tim Moore said, “I’m not surprised our audiences are enjoying these amazing shows and performers. They represent a return to narrative theater, works that are based on storytelling with great music.”

Ronald Dahl’s “James and the Giant Peach Junior” on July 12 and 13 will be the theater’s Whatchamawhozits children’s summer camp musical. The kids are being coached by the summer professional actors in another example of Thingamajig living up to its mission of providing educational opportunities for local youth.


More about Thingamajig

Thingamajig Theatre Company is an award-winning professional non-profit theater in residence within the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. Its talented cast and crew come from across the U.S. to produce musicals, comedies and dramas year-round.

The theater was co-founded in 2010 by Tim and Laura Moore, both award-winning actors and directors in their own right.

Their mission is to provide high-quality theatre experiences at a low cost to our community, thereby making art accessible as well as providing a major economic driver for our tourist industry. They also provide youth, many of whom are recipients of scholarships, with low-cost, hands-on educational opportunities to see and participate in professional productions of important plays.

Live Your Colorado Dream!




33 Fawn Court
\$1,000,000

MLS # 824532

This meticulously cared for full-round log cabin, up-town 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.

To tour this home go to:
<https://pspixeltree.com/33-Fawn-Ct>




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=q0khZeKE-G0

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38 Heron Court — MLS # 821320 — \$45,000


814 Ginger Circle — MLS # 817526 — \$179,000



109 Carol's Curves
\$340,000

MLS # 824583


The mobile home portion of this residence is 500 square feet. 1304 square feet is stick built. There is also a small cabin built in 1993, 576 square feet with bath and studio kitchen. The 1.2 acres is partially fenced for dog's and the acreage is all usable. The house has large picture windows with very nice views. There are 3 outbuildings, the septic has been inspected.



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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Photo courtesy Healthy Archuleta

Healthy Archuleta is seeking volunteers to help with food drives, the community gardens and more.

Healthy Archuleta seeks community volunteers

Healthy Archuleta

Did you know that Pagosa Springs has multiple opportunities to volunteer and give back to our community? We read about it in the paper or online or even at our churches. But, one of the areas for volunteering opportunities that really hits home for many of us is the issue of food security and nutrition.

There are many areas volunteers can support in our community.

Food drives

One upcoming opportunity is Healthy Archuleta’s quarterly food drives. These food drives are usually held at City Market and you may have seen the Healthy Archuleta table outside on a Saturday morning. These food drives are very important because they provide nutritious nonperishable staples that will be distributed to the food pantries. This is an opportunity to collect as much food as possible at one time, and although it seems like a lot of food is donated at these events, it goes very quickly. The need is great.

Those who volunteer at the food drives are not just standing around and handing out a food donation shopping list. The food has to be collected, bagged, loaded and transported to a central food distribution center where it will be separated by category and stocked, ready for pick up by pantry coordinators.

Community gardens

If growing food and gardening is more your line of interest and you would be available to volunteer some of your time, there are two community gardens in Pagosa Springs.

The Vista Lake Community Garden beds are located near Vista Lake and the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association (PLPOA) administrative office. One garden is dedicated to growing food specifically for the charitable food system. The new garden next to Vista Lake has a few beds that also grow food for donation. The new bed also has a handful of fruit trees that require care.

The Vista Lake Community Garden committee, as a part of the PLPOA, regularly seeks volunteers to work in both garden spaces. It also holds activities that are free to the community, such as outdoor garden activities for children, it co-hosts an outdoor barbecue for PLPOA residents, and hosts fun harvesting activities in early fall.

Another community garden is located downtown along the San Juan Riverwalk. The Pagosa Springs Community Garden is a small but peaceful space where local gardeners can access a raised garden bed to plant vegetables, herbs, flowers and even garlic. The beds are free to use in season. The garden coordinator works with the gardeners and organizes watering and weeding schedules, planting and harvesting schedules, and events that are open to the community to attend, usually at no charge.

Hydroponic growing

Hydroponic growing is quickly becoming a source for year-round produce, and Healthy Archuleta currently maintains and operates several vertical growing towers. These towers are dedicated to growing fresh vegetables such as lettuce, other greens

and herbs to be distributed to the local charitable food system.

Healthy Archuleta’s growing consultant oversees and manages the

■ See Volunteers on next page



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Photo courtesy Community United Methodist Church

On July 6 at 4 p.m., the Community United Methodist Church will host an old-fashioned community hymn sing, which will be followed by an ice cream social.

Community hymn sing and ice cream social announced

Community United Methodist Church

End your Fourth of July weekend with this fun and festive event. On July 6 at 4 p.m., the Community United Methodist Church (CUMC) will host an old-fashioned community hymn sing in its sanctuary in downtown Pagosa Springs, 434 Lewis St.

The one-hour sing-along will be followed by an ice cream social in the fellowship hall. We'll have everyone's favorite ice cream flavors on hand with all the fun toppings. This family-friendly event should appeal to all ages, so bring your family and out-of-town holiday guests. The church offers plenty of off-street parking.

Hymn singing will be led jointly by the CUMC Choir and the St. Patrick's Episcopal Church Choir — directed by Robert Neel and accompanied by

Kathy Isberg. The CUMC Choir is led by Sarah Riehm, director of music ministries, who will accompany the hymns on the new three-manual Rodgers organ. Narrators will also tell the fascinating stories behind each of the hymns.

No matter what your faith tradition, you will enjoy singing these beloved traditional hymns. You'll have a chance to vote for your favorite. The top three winners will earn a spot on the program, along with six other treasured favorites. What is your top choice? "Amazing Grace," "In the Garden," or "Be Thou My Vision"? Show up to vote to ensure your hymn winds up on the program of local Pagosa favorites.

The event is free and open to the public. A love offering will be taken during the concert to support future community concert events.

Volunteers

■ continued from previous page towers, but is always looking for volunteers to help maintain the towers and to participate in growing, harvesting and cleaning activities.

This is a year-round growing operation and requires the help of one volunteer per day to carry out these tasks.

Farmers market

And, finally, we wanted to share volunteer opportunities with the Pagosa Springs Farmers Market, which is currently being held in the St. Patrick's Episcopal Church parking lot.

How to volunteer

So while you're out, enjoying the great outdoors of Pagosa Springs, please consider spending some of that time at one or both of our local community gardens, the farmers market, learning about hydroponic growing or donating a few hours to support our local food drives.

To learn more about these volunteer opportunities and to support your community, please email Healthy Archuleta at fsfearchuleta@gmail.com or visit our website, www.foodcoalition4archuleta.org, to complete our volunteer interest form.

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Photo courtesy Pagosa Springs Catholic Community

The feast day celebration for the Immaculate Heart of Mary will be celebrated Saturday, June 28, at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church.

Immaculate Heart of Mary Feast Day to be celebrated June 28

By J. Leonard Martinez
Pagosa Springs Catholic Community

A prominent theme in our family's' life are things large and small associated with the heart.

Culturally, the term coraz'on refers to having courage and compassion. Our elders encourage the young ones to have and to show coraz'on. It is an honor to be referred to as "Mi Coraz'on," as is often the case with grandparents and godparents, as it is a show of respect bestowed upon the recipient.

For 20 years, our family served in a program called Healing the Children. In this program, children were brought to the United States for

■ See Celebration on next page



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

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June's Educational information is on Crawlspace Mitigation. Please see our blog on a comprehensive guide on why your crawlspace may need attention. Have you checked your crawl space for moisture yet this year?




See Our Blog



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SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center announces upcoming events

By Shayla McClure

SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center

The June 29 Sunday service at 11 a.m. will be “World Peace Meditation” with Shayla Azriel.

A love donation will be collected.

For more information, contact (970) 510-0309.

Upcoming events

Save the date for the following activities at the SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center:

- July 6, 11 a.m.: Annual outdoor service and picnic at Xanadu. Bring a dish to share. A love donation will be collected.

- July 11, 7 p.m.: Illuminations on “The Benefits and Uses of Lavender” with Susanne Bryant.

About us

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

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

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

SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center events are held at 3505 W. U.S.

160, on the second floor of the Pagosa Lodge (elevator available). Obtain information by joining us; emailing pagosacommunitynewthought@gmail.com; mailing P.O. Box 1052, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147; or calling (970) 510-0309.

Celebration

■ continued from previous page
treatment from developing countries where the technology did not exist in their country to address their need, and the family of the child had little or no resources. Everyone in this program is a volunteer, including the doctors, who in our case was a pediatric cardiologist, a heart doctor.

There are three hearts involved in this endeavor: The first is the failing heart of the child. The second heart is those of the doctors, the nurses, flight attendants and program participants. The third heart is the heart of the foster parents, principally the foster mother. Open-heart surgery is never trivial, so the burden of being “on” for 24 hours, seven days a week until the child recovers falls on the foster mother. The foster mother’s job is to love the child as if it were her own, and then return the healthy child to its parents.

From a faith-based perspective, this is where another set of hearts come into play. The seriousness and solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is celebrated the first Friday after Corpus Christi, which is June 27 this year.

The Sacred Heart of Jesus represents Jesus’s love without boundaries and his mercy for all of humanity. The Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary go hand-in-hand, it was Pope John Paul II who coined the term “alliance of the hearts,” which represents the united love of Jesus and Mary, for God and for humanity.

Specifically, the Immaculate Heart of Mary represents Mary’s love

and compassion as the mother of God, the mother of our church and, of course, a source of maternal guidance and protection for us. Without faith in the alliance of the hearts, the aforementioned work would not have been possible.

This year marks the 76th anniversary of the establishment of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic parish in our community.

For the pioneers in our community and those dedicated to Mary, we have lived with this symbolism of compassion for each other. In fact, every Wednesday afternoon at 4 p.m., the church opens and a group of parishioners, led by women, pray the rosary and recite the Divine Chaplet in honor of our blessed mother.

This year’s feast day celebration for the Immaculate Heart of Mary is Saturday, June 28, at 445 Lewis St., but the festivities will be significantly scaled back this year and next due to the construction downtown and the limited parking.

That being said, the feast will begin with music inside the church at 4:30 p.m. provided by the Rivas Family Spanish Choir. Mass will be celebrated at 5 p.m. and presided over by our revered pastor, Father Samuel Auta. Fellowship with refreshments, will take place after Mass on the sidewalks of Lewis Street.

Bring your heart to our limited feast day celebration on June 28, but remember, you can show your compassion and courage, your coraz’ón, all year long.



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SOME AWESOME BENEFITS OF FRESH AIR

We know that serotonin our bodies produce is a mood lifter. But did you know that serotonin was oxygen dependent? Breathe, and read today’s informative excerpt.

Here is a list of important health benefits of fresh air:

Fresh air is good for digestion.

Improves your blood pressure and heart rate.

It makes you happier.

Strengthens your immune system.

Fresh air cleans your lungs.

You will have more energy and sharper mind.

Enjoy time outdoors and get the maximum out of the health benefits of fresh air.

A few Important Health Benefits Of Fresh Air

Fresh air is good for digestion: Fresh air helps you to digest food more effectively. That is why it’s great to take a small walk outside after you eat. From all the health benefits of fresh air, this one is really important if you are trying to lose weight.

Improves your blood pressure and heart rate: If you have a problem with blood pressure, you should avoid polluted environments and try to stay in surroundings that have a good supply of fresh air. Dirty environment forces the body to work harder, to get the amount of oxygen it needs.

Source: “6 Health Benefits of Fresh Air.” By Urmet Seepeter. <http://goodrelaxation.com>

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

“All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.” John 1:3

A public service from your Adventist friends & neighbors at Pagosa Springs Seventh Day Adventist Church.

Disclaimer: This and all our Nature’s Remedies are for health information purposes only. The Seventh Day Adventist Church is not responsible for results.



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PAGOSA SCENE . . .

ComFest

PREVIEW photos/Randi Pierce
Scene ... celebrating community at the season's first ComFest concert at Yamaguchi Park. The town's free outdoor concert series will continue on July 18 and Aug. 15.



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 European starling.

Prior to the 1890s releases in New York of around 100 starlings imported from Europe, these birds did not inhabit North America. A look at the current range map shows just how successful they have been at colonizing the United States and Canada where many now live year-round. They are counted among the continent's most numerous songbirds. Starlings typically live around people, and their simple habitat requirements are easily met in towns. To forage they need open grassy areas of short vegetation like those found in parks, in lawns and in fields. They need water to drink and bathe, and tree cavities or crevices in buildings for nesting.

European starlings eat nearly anything. On the grass, they poke their closed bills into the earth and capture insects and other invertebrates with the use of strong jaw muscles that force the bill open. They also eat wild and cultivated fruits, grains, seeds, nectar and livestock feed, and pick through our garbage for food scraps. During breeding season they are extremely aggressive birds that drive other cavity nesters away from desirable nest sites. Outside this time of year they are gregarious birds that feed and perch together in flocks.

They are admired for their ability to fly together in huge groups in hypnotic, swirling, shape-shifting clouds of birds known as murmurations. During these flights, each starling responds to the flights of six or seven of its nearest neighbors to change direction and position in the flock.

Starlings are admired for their vocal abilities. Their songs are composed from loud whistles and softer warbling. They communicate with each other using several different calls to indicate danger, location and their state of aggression. They are skilled mimics that imitate the songs of other birds, sounds like car alarms and human speech.

Lastly, these chunky, short-tailed birds are admired for their beauty, which changes with the seasons. In breeding plumage their feathers show purplish-green iridescence and their dark bills turn orange. In fall, newly grown feathers have white tips, which give winter birds a spotted appearance.

Despite the starling's adaptability, populations are now in steep decline both in North America and in Europe.

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

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Preview Calendar

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

Thursday, June 26

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.

Vacation Bible School. 9 a.m.-noon, Pope John Paul II Catholic Church, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd. Kids in pre-K through middle school can enjoy a variety of faith-based crafts, music, games, interactive Bible stories and refreshments. The cost is \$40 per child for the week. Register online at ihmjp2.org/religiouseducation or at the parish office during business hours.

Early Summer Wildflowers and Edible/Medicinal Plants Hike. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. The event is free, but registration is required at sjma.org/events.

Adventure Club. 9:30-11:30 a.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. For ages 3-12. There will be a Bible story with drama and activity, a memory verse, high-energy songs, games, crafts and snacks. Contact Connie Porter at frank.connie@coloradocef.org or (303) 901-5290 with questions. Register at https://cef-colorado-431831.churchcenter.com/people/forms/961153.

Adventure Club. 9:30-11:30 a.m., Archuleta Housing Corp. Site B, 375 North 5th St. For ages 5-12. There will be a Bible story with drama and activity, a memory verse, high-energy songs, games, crafts and snacks. Contact Connie Porter at frank.connie@coloradocef.org or (303) 901-5290 with questions. Register at https://cef-colorado-431831.churchcenter.com/people/forms/961153.

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 wooden 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.

Adventure Club. 1:30-3:30 p.m., Vista Estates, 129 Fireside Drive. For ages 5-12. There will be a Bible

story with drama and activity, a memory verse, high-energy songs, games, crafts and snacks. Contact Connie Porter at frank.connie@coloradocef.org or (303) 901-5290 with questions. Register at https://cef-colorado-431831.churchcenter.com/people/forms/961153.

Adventure Club. 1:30-3:30 p.m., Aspen Springs park, 981 Ute Park Drive. For ages 5-12. There will be a Bible story with drama and activity, a memory verse, high-energy songs, games, crafts and snacks. Contact Connie Porter at frank.connie@coloradocef.org or (303) 901-5290 with questions. Register at https://cef-colorado-431831.churchcenter.com/people/forms/961153.

Tech Time. 2-4 p.m., Sisson Library. Basic questions related to computers, smartphones, tablets, etc. Bring your device charger. We provide assistance with accessing any of the library’s online resources. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

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

PALS Adult Education. 5:30-8 p.m., Sisson Library. Pagosa Adult Learning Services, or PALS, can help you with high school equivalency, GED, college prep, financial aid, tutoring and more. Mark can help you de-

velop 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 Max Miller. The cover charge is a \$10 donation that supports the season’s four nonprofits.

Curtains Up Pagosa Presents ‘Matilda the Musical.’ 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium. Based on the 1988 novel “Matilda” by Roald Dahl. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for students and can be purchased at curtainsuppagosa.org or at the door.

Friday, June 27

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.

Vacation Bible School. 9 a.m.-noon, Pope John Paul II Catholic Church, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd. Kids in pre-K through middle school can enjoy a variety of faith-based crafts, music, games, interactive Bible stories and refreshments. The cost is \$40 per child for the week. Register online at ihmjp2.org/religiouseducation or at the parish office during

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Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

business hours.

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.

Summer Reading Crafts. 1-2:30 p.m., Sisson Library. 3-D art and decor, and survival bracelets. 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 or call (877) 444-6777.

Summer Tie-Dye Party. 3-4:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Tweens and teens are invited to decorate their own canvas tote bag. All supplies will be provided.

Curtains Up Pagosa Presents 'Matilda the Musical.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium. Based on the 1988 novel "Matilda" by Roald Dahl. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for students and can be purchased at curtainsuppagosa.org or at the door.

Thingamajig Theatre Company Presents 'A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, 2313 Eagle Drive. For tickets and more information, visit pagosa-center.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Family Movie Night. 7:30 p.m., Town Park athletic field. Join the Pagosa Springs Police Department for a free showing of a movie. Bring lawn chairs or blankets. Free hot dogs and popcorn will be provided.

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, June 28

Riverwalk Wetlands Tour. 8 a.m., Centennial Park. Participants should bring water, hats, sunscreen and bug spray. Meet at the

native plants garden next to the geothermal domes. Leave dogs at home. Tours will not occur during inclement weather.

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

Vermiculture Workshop. 10 a.m., CSU Extension, 344 U.S. 84. Join CSU Extension Director Cindi Galabota to learn about the vital role worms play in healthy soils and build your own worm composting bin. There is a \$20 materials fee. RSVP at (970) 264-5931 or archuleta.extension.colostate.edu.

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.

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

Curtains Up Pagosa Presents 'Matilda the Musical.' 2 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium. Based on the 1988 novel "Matilda" by Roald Dahl. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for students and can be purchased at curtainsuppagosa.org or at the door.

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

76th Anniversary of Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church. 4:30 p.m., Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, 445 Lewis St. Music led by the Rivas Family Spanish Choir will start at 4:30 p.m., followed by Holy Mass at 5 p.m. Light refreshments will follow.

Curtains Up Pagosa Presents 'Matilda the Musical.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium. Based on the 1988 novel "Matilda" by Roald Dahl. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for students and can be purchased at curtainsuppagosa.org or at the door.

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Monday, June 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

■ See Calendar on page 23



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- ASCEND
- BANKING
- BARREL ROLL
- BOOMERANG
- BRAKES
- CAMELBACK
- COASTER
- COBRA ROLL
- CORKSCREW
- CURVES
- DIVE
- DROP
- ELEVATED
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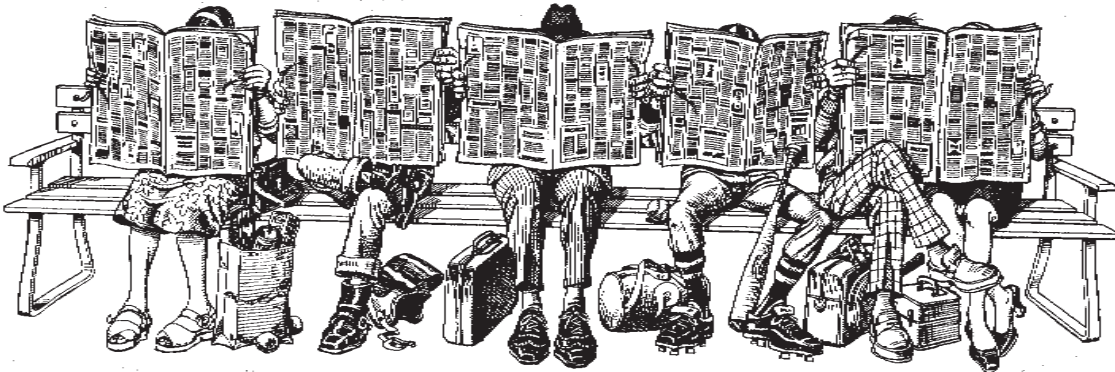
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■ continued from page 21

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.

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

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

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

Pagosa Sidewalk Astronomers: Moon/Mars Conjunction. 9:30-10:30 p.m., Yamaguchi Park. The Pagosa Sidewalk Astronomers will have telescopes near the pickleball courts. Mars and the waxing crescent moon will be close together and can be seen in the same field of view through the telescope.

Tuesday, July 1

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.

Coffee and Kiddos Playgroup. 10-11 a.m., Aspire Medical Services and Education, 602 S. 8th St. For those with kids ages birth to 3 years old.

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.

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.

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

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour. 5-7:30 p.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour explores both the natural and cultural history of the area through geologic time and incorporates the anthropology and archaeology of the Puebloan people. Tickets are \$20 for ages 13 and up and \$10 for ages 5-12, with those under 5 free. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

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

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

Riverwalk Wetlands Tour. 7 p.m., Centennial Park. Participants should bring water, hats, sunscreen and bug spray. Meet at the native plants garden next to the geothermal domes. Leave dogs at home. Tours will not occur during inclement weather.

Thingamajig Theatre Company Presents 'The Wild Party.' 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).

Wednesday, July 2

Family Storytime. 10-11 a.m., Sisson Library. Join us for great stories, fun songs, and plenty of reasons to get up and move. It's a great way for kids to have fun while building the skills they need to become independent readers. For all ages. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

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.

Mexican Train Dominoes. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

A Mystery 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.

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).

Thursday, July 3

Ruby's Writers Guild. 9-11 a.m., Sisson Library. Ruby's Writers Guild welcomes writers who are

■ See Calendar on next page

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Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page**

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 wooden cross.

Park to Park Artisan Market. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Town Park.

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.

Summer Reading: Writing and Storytelling. 1-2:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Creative exercises with Ruby’s Writers Guild authors.

Tech Time. 2-4 p.m., Sisson Library. Basic questions related to computers, smartphones, tablets, etc. Bring your device charger. We provide assistance with accessing any of the library’s online resources. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

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

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

Red Ryder Roundup Rodeo. 6 p.m., Western Heritage Event Center rodeo and event grounds. Tickets are available online at www.pagosarodeo.com and at the gate prior to the event. The cost is \$20 per adult and \$10 for children. Box seats are available and can be purchased by calling Diana at (970) 749-3492.

San Juan Stargazers. 6 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Social time will begin at 6 p.m., followed by an educational presentation at 7 p.m.

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).

Friday, July 4

A Mystery 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.

Park to Park Artisan Market. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Town Park.

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.

Freedom Float. 1 p.m., San Juan River. Don red, white and blue and float the river.

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.

Red Ryder Roundup Rodeo. 2 p.m., Western Heritage Event Center rodeo and event grounds. Tickets are available online at www.pagosarodeo.com and at the gate prior to the event. The cost is \$20 per adult and \$10 for children. Box seats are available and can be purchased by calling Diana at (970) 749-3492.

Community Band Concert. 2-3 p.m., The Springs Resort lawn. The band will present its annual Fourth of July concert.

Stars and Stripes Stroll. 3 p.m., Yamaguchi Park. A walking parade honoring veterans and first responders.

Pagosa Sidewalk Astronomers: Moon Party. 8:30 p.m., Yamaguchi Park. The Pagosa Sidewalk Astronomers will have telescopes near the pickleball courts beginning at 8:30 p.m. Learn all about

the moon during the educational program, enter to win giveaways and view the waxing gibbous moon through the telescope. There will also be a kid-friendly rocket photo booth.

Fireworks. 9:15 p.m., Yamaguchi Park area.

Saturday, July 5

Riverwalk Wetlands Tour. 8 a.m., Centennial Park. Participants should bring water, hats, sunscreen and bug spray. Meet at the native plants garden next to the geothermal domes. Leave dogs at home. Tours will not occur during inclement weather.

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour. 8-10:30 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.

Park to Park Artisan Market. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Town Park.

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

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

Red Ryder Roundup Rodeo. 6 p.m., Western Heritage Event Center rodeo and event grounds. Tickets are available online at www.pagosarodeo.com and at the gate prior to the event. The cost is \$20 per adult and \$10 for children. Box seats are available and can be purchased by calling Diana at (970) 749-3492.

Thingamajig Theatre Company Presents ‘A Gentleman’s Guide to Love and Murder.’ 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).

Community news.

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Photo courtesy Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

A Pride march takes place as part of the Pagosa Pride event on Saturday, June 21.

Unitarian Universalists recap Pagosa Pride festivities at Sunday service

By De Anna Hoyle

Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Summer has come full-on, and the Pagosa Unitarian Universalist (UU) Fellowship will take this fifth Sunday of the month for rest and rejuvenation, especially after last weekend's pride celebration in Town Park.

More than 200 people, and dogs, came together in community pride.

There will not be a service at the fellowship this Sunday, June 29, or July 6, as will be meeting off-site for our annual fellowship potluck picnic at the home of one of our members.

We are an inclusive community centered in love, and invite you to email info@pagosauu.org if you are interested in attending the picnic gathering.

We will be back for services on July 13 with our small-group ministry, Going Deeper Circle.

Our services begin at 10:30 a.m. We are located in Unit B-15 of the Greenbriar Plaza 301 N. Pagosa Blvd., on the north side facing Pagosa Peak. Join us. For more information about the fellowship, please see www.pagosauu.org and find our current newsletter.

As one of the faith partners supporting Pagosa Pride, along with St. Patrick's Episcopal Church and the Community United Methodist Church, we are thrilled with the community's support of our LGBT-

GIA2S+ friends and neighbors. A wide spectrum of people — young, older, families with children and the youth — made a strong showing of celebration.

This second annual Festival had many community sponsors and supporters, 20 booths in all, creating a safe place for folks to gather.

Disc jockey music opened the day, along with Elizabeth Baldwin's welcome honoring those trailblazers who opened the way for celebrations of this kind all around the world.

The reading of the Town of Pagosa Springs proclamation, naming June 2025 as Pride Month, was a highlight. Keynote speaker Kat Martinez shared their story of growing up here in Pagosa, and the way to build an inclusive community. Attendees were greeted with booths of brightly colored stickers, flags and art projects, making this event family-friendly and fun. Angelina Waterman also spoke on "Unmasking, Undoing, Becoming," which highlighted ways neurodivergent and queer spaces can be supported.

A community vision board was created by the festivalgoers and is a testament to how important it is to honor each person's dignity and worth, which is a tenet of Unitarian Universalism. As a welcoming faith congregation, we will continue to offer programs and services relevant to welcoming all.

The meditation gathering is on

hiatus in June. Stay tuned for new meeting time for this ongoing meditation practice and dharma talks led by an authorized teacher in the Buddhist tradition.

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What should your child read this summer?

By Carole Howard
PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

Do you have a plan to make sure your child has lots of reading opportunities this summer? Several studies have documented a “summer slide” in reading skills once kids go on summer vacation. And the loss compounds each year.

Research offers a surprisingly simple and affordable solution: Bring your youngsters to the library and let them choose their own books.

In a three-year study, researchers at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville found that simply giving children access to books — and allowing them to choose books that interested them — had a significant effect on the summer reading gap.

Children who chose their own books and those who were given activity and puzzle books were tracked for three years.

Those who could select their own books posted significantly higher test scores than the children who received books from others. The effect was equivalent to a child attending three years of summer school. And the difference in scores was twice as high among the poorest children in the study.

Another of the notable findings of the research was that children improved their reading scores even though they typically weren’t selecting the curriculum books or classics that teachers normally assign for summer reading. That conclusion confirms other studies suggesting that children learn best when they are allowed to select their own books.

Bottom line: What should your children read this summer? Bring them to the library and let them decide for themselves, because any books will do.

Library closure

Your library will be closed Friday, July 4.

Tie-dye for teens/tweens tomorrow

Tomorrow, Friday, June 27, from 3 to 4:30 p.m., teens and tweens are invited to a free summer tie-dye party where you will decorate a canvas tote bag for yourself. All supplies will be provided.

Saturday your last chance to donate books

To prepare for the forthcoming Friends of the Library book sale July 17-19, the Friends are hosting a book drive this Saturday, June 28, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the library parking lot, where they will accept gently used books — and you’ll get a coupon for a free book at the summer book sale. Please note that damaged books will not be accepted.

This is the last chance you have to donate books to your library for the next 12 months. That’s because we will be breaking ground for our expansion construction on Aug. 4.

Library News

In anticipation, we are clearing out as much as we can so we can stay in the building during the construction.

Here are the guidelines for your donations:

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 the Friends sales.

Writing and storytelling advice

Next Thursday, July 3, from 1 to 2:30 p.m. join us for a special free session on writing and storytelling with Ruby’s Writers Guild authors where you’ll enjoy creative exercises to hone your skills.

Summer book sale plans

Mark your calendar for the hugely popular Friends of the Library book sale in July at the Community United Methodist Church located downtown at 434 Lewis St., when you can take advantage of great bargains on books of all genres for all ages while helping the Friends raise money for your library.

July 17 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. is the members-only early shopping opportunity — and if you are not a member, you’re welcome to join at the door. Annual memberships are \$15 per person or \$25 per family. Lifetime memberships are \$150 per person.

July 18 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and July 19 from 9 a.m. to noon, the book sale is open to the public.

Reading rewards

Pick up your free Summer Reading Program bingo sheets every week at the library through Aug. 1. Then, complete activities to earn rewards throughout the summer and a chance to win a grand prize. There will be awards for different age groups: infants and preschool, youth aged 5-11, tweens and teens, and adults.

Watch for details with dates and times of Summer Reading events and activities in future “Library News” columns throughout the summer. And, pick up the Summer Reading Program flyer at the library so you don’t miss any of the free programs, events and activities available to you and your family.

Friday arts and crafts

Every Friday through Aug. 1, we are hosting special free all-ages events from 1 to 2:30 p.m. with experts leading sessions on different arts and crafts skills.

June 27 will feature Jesse Krebs, survivalist and “Alone” star, teaching us to make a survival bracelet. All materials will be provided.

Adult knitting and needlework

Join new and experienced knitters Saturday, June 26, for our free Knitters Circle from 1 to 3 p.m. It is aimed at anyone over the age of 18 who would like to knit together or get some help if you are stuck on your project. Any type of needleworker is welcome.

Music fun Monday

Pagosa Unplugged is free from 4 to 6 p.m. Monday, June 30, for amateur musicians of all abilities to play, sing and jam with other people.

Hiatus for bilingual storytimes

Please note that Hora de Cuentos, the bilingual storytime for children, will take a break in July and return in August.

Writers Guild

Every Thursday from 9 to 11 a.m., Ruby’s Writers Guild welcomes writers looking for support, guidance, 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.

Taylor helps with basic questions
■ See Library on next page

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Last 19th Hole Concert set for June 26

By Joan Ward
PREVIEW Columnist

The Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado, in partnership with the Pagosa Springs Golf Club, is sponsoring the last of four 19th Hole Concerts this Thursday, June 26.

The featured artist this week is Max Miller, and the featured non-profit is the San Juan Headwaters Forest Health Partnership.

Save the date for high tea

Archuleta Seniors Inc. (ASI) will be hosting high tea from 1:15 to 2:15 p.m. on July 24. Come by and try our cucumber sandwiches and scones. All ages are welcome.

Senior Conversations

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

Senior News

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., fol-

lowing Senior Conversations.

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

Stretching and mobility class

Community members are invited

■ See Senior on next page

Library

■ continued from previous page

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.

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.

How-to and self-help

"The Complete Guide to Sheds/ fourth edition" is a Black+Decker DIY guide. "Winning Grants Step by Step" helps you plan and write successful proposals. "Shooter's Bible/116th edition" is the world's bestselling firearms reference. "First-Time Landlord" is a Nolo guide to renting out a single-family home. "Start Your Second Act" by Shannon Russell offers advice on how to change careers or launch a business and create a new life for yourself.

Other nonfiction

"1861: The Lost Peace" by historian Jay Winik documents the weeks leading up to President Lincoln's decision to go to war against the Confederacy. "Sea of Grass" by Dave Hage and Josephine Marcotty explores the ecological marvel that is the North American prairie. "By the Second Spring" by historian Danielle Leavitt reveals the human cost of the Russian war in Ukraine. "Mesa Verde's Secret Garden" by wilderness expert Christopher Barns is a history of the national park's management preserving both natural and cultural resources while allowing for their enjoyment by visitors. "Shamanism:

The Timeless Religion" by anthropologist Manvir Singh investigates the spiritual practice and powers of shamans.

Alert about book donations

Over the years your library has greatly benefited from the generosity of our community in donating books to add to our collection and sell at the Friends of the Library book sales. But after this Saturday's Friends book drive (see above) and for the next 12 months, we no longer can accept any donations.

That's because we will be breaking ground for our expansion construction on Aug. 4. In anticipation, we are clearing out as much as we can so we can stay in the building during the construction. Many thanks for your understanding.

Quotable quote

"In the 1980s, I was rejected by CBS News over and over and over again over the years. They told me at one point, 'Please stop applying.' They really did. And at the time, I thought, 'What's wrong with these people?' They couldn't hear the song in my heart. Maybe they were smarter. Every time I was rejected, I got better. Maybe that was the plan. But I finally made them hear the music in my heart. You only lose if you quit. Do not settle." — Scott Pelley's commencement speech at Wake Forest University on May 19. He is a CBS News reporter and "60 Minutes" correspondent who has won numerous journalism awards and 40 Emmys.

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

to attend free weekly classes every Tuesday from 10 to 11 a.m. at the Pagosa Senior Center.

The stretching and mobility classes for adults age 55 or better 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.

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

Mahjong

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

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

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 p.m. 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.

No experience is necessary, so come willing to learn.

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.

Mexican Train dominoes

A new group is forming and will meet on Wednesdays at 1:15 p.m. at the Senior Center.

Tai chi

Please note that there will be no classes on June 19 and 26. Please also note that, starting in July, the classes will be held at Yamaguchi Park from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

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 ASI at (970) 264-2167.

Bingo

Please note that there will be no bingo on Friday, June 27.

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

The dates in July are July 11 and July 25.

Participation is free, and all we ask is you bring yourself and a friend for an hour of joyful fellowship. We will provide prizes for all winners, and snacks will also be provided.

No RSVP is required.

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

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

Scrapbooking and crafters club

The Pagosa Springs Scrapbooking and Crafters Club continues to hold monthly meetings the second Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Community Center, 451 Hot Springs Blvd., within the dining hall in the Senior Center.

This creative tradition has been happening since 2005, and we invite all creative individuals to come and share ideas, connect with new and old friends, learn/share creative techniques, share supplies and indulge in a potluck lunch together. Bring your scrapbooking projects — or any crafting project that you may want to work on with the group.

Help us create an intergenerational community. Those ages 18 and older are welcome. For those youth age 17 and younger, we kindly request an adult chaperone accompany them.

If you would like to be added to the mailing list, please send your request to copenhavercreative@gmail.com and you will receive notification each month of the upcoming meeting, along with handy tips and tricks for scrapbooking and more.

Brain fitness program

The Ageless Grace Brain Fitness Program will not be held during the summer.

Produce Box Program

ASI, in partnership with TerraWalk Farms and Nourish Colorado, is launching its second season of the Produce Box Program for seniors (55+) in Archuleta County.

Through this Community Supported Agriculture initiative, eligible participants will receive weekly boxes of fresh, local, organic produce from June to mid-October.

Eligibility requirements: You must be a current or new ASI client (Meals on Wheels, congregate, pick-up/Grab-N-Go meals) or a resident of low-income senior housing (e.g., Casa De Los Arcos, Rose Mountain Townhomes).

Please note that the “Self-Survival Food Lecture Series” is canceled.

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

Participants pick up their boxes at the Senior Center on Tuesdays, 11 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m.

Share lunch Monday through Friday

Please note that we are closed June 27.

Join local elders, their friends, family and community at the Silver Fox’s Den in person for delicious meals Mondays through Fridays at the Ross Aragon Community Center

■ See Senior on next page



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Senior

■ continued from previous page

between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. It is open to all. Pickup via our convenient portico is also available all week including Fridays.

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

Please note that occasionally the menu must be changed at short notice.

Thursday, June 26 — Chef salad with ham, turkey, Swiss, cheddar, avocado and egg; tomato basil soup; cheesy garlic toast; fruit; and milk.

Friday, June 27 — Closed.

Monday, June 30 — Chinese plum chicken, jasmine rice, snow peas, garden salad, fruit, ginger snaps and milk.

Tuesday, July 1 — Shrimp scampi over linguine, broccolini, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Wednesday, July 2 — Beef spaghetti, green beans, garlic bread, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Thursday, July 3 — Chicken fajitas, tortillas, guacamole, salsa, sour cream, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Friday, July 4 — Closed for Independence Day.

Grab-N-Go meals

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

Meals on Wheels

We deliver fresh Meals on Wheels

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

Mobile food pantry service

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

Text reservations

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

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

Medicare call by appointment

For anyone who needs help enrolling and navigating Medicare plans, the San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging helps with parts A, B and D. They can also help you with fraud concerns and troubleshooting any billing issues you may be having. By appointment only. Please call the Medicare line at (970) 403-6759 for an appointment and where to meet.

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.

Please stop by our offices at 451 Hot Springs Blvd. to pick up an application or call (970) 264-2167 for more information.

Support the Senior Center

Please support our ongoing operations and programming that provide critical services to some of the most vulnerable in Archuleta County.

You may mail your donation to

P.O. Box 3444, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, or please visit our website: <http://www.psseniors.org/> (donation button).

Donation checks can be written to: Archuleta Seniors Inc.

Another way to donate: Are you 70.5 years old or better? Do you have an IRA from which you need to take a distribution? Did you know you can make charitable donations directly from your IRA without paying taxes on the distribution, up to \$100,000 per year? The donation from the account would be payable to Archuleta Seniors Inc. and sent to the address above. This gift option is called the IRA charitable rollover or qualified charitable distribution.

We are located at 451 Hot Springs Blvd. For more information about ASI, please visit <http://www.psseniors.org/>.



Animal FACT:

These powerful predators typically are not found in captivity because of their demanding needs.

Answer: Great white shark

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> Classifieds

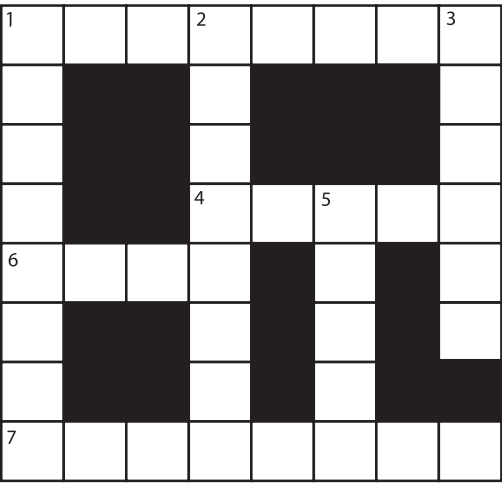
> Place Your Classified Ad

All classified line ads appear on PagosaSUN.com

Deadline: Tues., 10 a.m.

Holidays will have alternate deadlines.

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 1. When animals are being fed
- 4. Engine
- 6. Body of water
- 7. Young animal

DOWN

- 1. A place for a particular purpose
- 2. Straight line through the center of a circle
- 3. Insufficient, not many
- 5. ____ frutti

Answers:
Across
1. Feedings 2. Motor 3. Scarce 4. Facility 5. Tutti
Down
1. Diameter 2. Lake 3. Yearling 4. Feeding 5. Frutti

THIS DAY IN HISTORY



1673: French explorers Jacques Marquette and Louis Jolliet reach the Mississippi River.

1885: The Statue of Liberty arrives in New York Harbor.

1901: The College Board introduces a standardized test that would ultimately evolve into the SAT.

NEW WORD

ZOO

an establishment that maintains a collection of wild animals

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news.

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“How they say that in...”

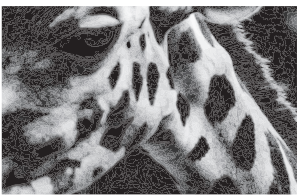
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Spanish: Hábitat
Italian: Habitat
French: Habitat
German: Lebensraum

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Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

Answer: Giraffe

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MISCELLANEOUS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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THERE IS A SOLUTION GROUP of Alcoholics Anonymous meets Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, 5:30- 6:30p.m, Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. Questions? Richard: (970)903-1456. Diamond: (970)264-1073. 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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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

PAGOSA AA: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 5:30p.m. Mens' meeting Tuesday 5:30p.m. Saturday and Sunday 10a.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 12 noon. 315 N. 2nd St., County Road 200 (.2 miles off 160). Women's Friday 12 noon at Yamaguchi Park. Zoom Sunday 10a.m. Zoom Thursday noon women only; Zoom ID 858319763, password 754234. Call Kathi (970)946-1482 or Central Office (888)333-9649.

THE PAGOSA SPRINGS AREA TOURISM BOARD currently has one (1) open Short Term Rental seat. The application can be downloaded from: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1sWUWSwHnaEaloyhryS-9h8S_n7Lq6B0c/view?usp=sharing. Applications should be submitted no later than Friday, June 27th, 2025 at 5pm. Please contact Jennie Green at (970)903-9728 with any questions.



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Starting at \$17 per
hour, dependent on
experience.

Weekends and
holidays required.

Benefits include
discounts, paid time off,
profit sharing and more!

Apply in person.
Applications available
on www.terrysace.com



Terry's ACE
525 Navajo Trail Dr.

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.

GENERAL LABORER NEEDED Full time. Assorted Duties. Please send resume or work history to frontdesk@pagosalandcompany.com. Phone (970)264-5000.

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

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.

IMMEDIATE OPENING for CDL Driver / Equipment Operator. Experience with forestry equipment helpful. Must pass drug test. Local driving only. Please send your resume to frontdesk@pagosalandcompany.com.

JAND J ENTERPRISES is looking for friendly and enthusiastic people who are eager to help customers navigate the wide world of cannabis. We offer paid sick leave, product sampling, employee discounts, sales bonuses and comprehensive on-site training! Must be 21 years of age. A Marijuana Enforcement Division badge is required to start work. E-mail your resume to employment@jandjinc.net or check us out on Indeed.com.



Archuleta Housing has an immediate opening for a person with maintenance experience. This position involves taking care of small repairs and general maintenance of 65 apartments and common area grounds at 4 sites. Ability to take direction, work as a team or independently is needed. Must have valid driver's license and submit to a background check.

Starting wage depending on experience.

Please contact our office with any questions at (970)398-1860, or email us your resume.

office.archhouse@gmail.com
970-398-1860

HILLSIDE INN IS LOOKING FOR two housekeepers. Housekeeper responsibilities include (but not limited to): performing a variety of cleaning activities (bathrooms, rooms, hallways), make beds, ensure all rooms are cared for and inspected according to standards, etc. Depending on the amount of rooms, shifts are usually from 8a.m.- about 1p.m. or 2p.m. Must be able to work on weekends and holidays. Email Natalie your resume to hillsideinnpagosa@gmail.com or stop by the hotel to pick up an application.

(970) 264-2100

Classifieds

(970) 264-2100

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

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HELP WANTED

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

RECRUITING COACHES!

PAGOSA YOUTH SOCCER is seeking passionate, experienced coaches to lead ages 8-15 for our competitive traveling soccer teams. Build skills, shape futures, and grow the game. Send resume or letter to doc@pagosayouthsoccer.org

MAIL CARRIER/USPS: p/t 1-2 days a week.

Memory and organization skills a must.

Email Michelle: liveforeverinparadiseearth@gmail.com.

HELP WANTED

MALT SHOPPE NOW HIRING. Apply in person between 9a.m. and 2p.m.

LANDSCAPE LABORERS WANTED. Must have own transportation. Call for an application. Good pay for good help. (970)946-2277.

LIKE GUNS OR GUITARS? Come sell them for us. The San Juan Trading Post is looking for a sales person. Computer literacy and ability to lift 45 lbs. is required. Starting at \$15/ hour, part-time. Stop by in person at 635 San Juan St.

LOOKING FOR SOMEONE to help with ranch and yard work, help with machinery. (970)731-4707.

NO DEGREE REQUIRED. MY WORK MATTERS? Help others? Earn great wages through hard work & showing up on time every day? We can train you to be a dental assistant. No experience needed! We are blessed to have weekends and holidays off. Beautiful facility, modern equipment, 401K, excellent pay, e-mail resume to office@pagosasmiles.com.

NORTH PAGOSA MARATHON is hiring a full-time cashier nights and weekends. Competitive wages. Please apply in person at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

HELP WANTED

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN SCHOOL is hiring a Kindergarten Teacher, Lower Grades Aid, Upper Grades Part-time Teacher, PE Teacher, Aftercare Teacher. Please contact our Headmaster, Mr. Aaron Longmire, for position details at (920)585-6494.

OWNERS, THERE IS A LONG TERM RENTAL SHORTAGE IN PAGOSA SPRINGS. We have a waiting list for approved tenants. Need all types of rentals. Call us today for lowest commission and highest customer service. All you have to do is wait for your rent check to come in. We do the rest! Rocky Mountain Realty & Rentals (970)507-1192.

PAGOSA BAKING COMPANY is hiring part time dishwasher/kitchen prep, weekdays. Pick up an application at the bakery, or find on our website. 238 Pagosa Street.

PAGOSA CRAFT is looking for trimmers to join our team! The perfect candidate is detail oriented, reliable, team focused and able to meet required quotas. We are willing to train the right person. Pay is per pound, hours are flexible, employee discounts offered. This position requires having a valid MED employee badge and being 21+ years of age. Please drop off your resume to 127 Goldmine Dr. or email to kc@pagosacraftcannabis.com.

HELP WANTED

PAGOSA LIQUOR IS HIRING a full-time cashier. Please come and apply in person at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

PART -TIME ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT. Community United Methodist Church in Pagosa Springs is seeking a friendly, organized Administrative Assistant to manage office operations and support the pastor. This is a **part -time position** (16 hrs/week, Mon-Thurs, 8:30 AM-12:30 PM). The **Administrative Assistant** is often the first point of contact at our welcoming and inclusive church. To apply, email your resume to Rev. Ken Daniell at pastor@cumcps.org.

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.

HELP WANTED

PINE VALLEY RENTAL, busy equipment rental yard is seeking a reliable, self starting shop/yard person. Must have experience in mechanics, diesels, hydraulics, electrical work, and be knowledgeable of heavy equipment plus small engines. CDL is a plus but not required. Must have own transportation. Full time, Monday -Friday 8-5. Please call (970)731-4410 Or Email ppine000@century-tel.net. 391 Bastille Drive.

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

THE TOWN OF PAGOSA SPRINGS is seeking to hire an **Administrative Assistant** in the Parks and Recreation Department. The individual selected for this position performs a variety of routine and complex clerical, record-keeping, and administrative functions to support the operation of the Parks and Recreation Department. Assists the public as to available facilities, services, and programs offered at the Community Center. This is a full-time position with benefits. For more information on the position and to apply, go to the Town's website at www.pagosasprings.co.gov and select Employment.

JOIN OUR TEAM

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE



O'Rourke Media Group is recruiting for an Advertising Account Executive. We're seeking a proven sales professional that has a demonstrated track record of driving growth and new business development. Great opportunity for an experienced media sales rep, recent college grad or those looking to make a career change from outside of the media business. We offer an excellent compensation plan ranging from \$50K to \$100K+, great support and training, a fun work environment and lots of autonomy.

OMG 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. For more company information, please go to our website at www.orourkemediagroup.com.

POSITION OVERVIEW

The Advertising Account Executive is responsible for managing client relationships, developing advertising strategies, and ensuring client satisfaction. This role requires a blend of sales, marketing, and communication skills.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Client Management:

- Act as the primary point of contact for assigned clients.
- Build and maintain strong, long-lasting client relationships.
- Understand clients' business objectives and advertising needs.

Strategy Development:

- Collaborate with internal teams to develop effective advertising campaigns.
- Present campaign proposals to clients and negotiate terms.
- Monitor campaign performance and adjust strategies as needed.

Sales and Business Development:

- Identify and pursue new business opportunities.
- Prepare and deliver sales presentations.
- Engage in networking activities.
- Meet and exceed sales targets.

Reporting and Analysis:

- Provide regular reports on campaign progress and results.
- Analyze data to identify trends and insights.
- Present findings to clients and internal teams.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelor's degree in Marketing, Advertising, Business Administration, or a related field.
- Proven experience in sales or account management, preferably in the advertising industry.
- Strong communication, negotiation, and presentation skills.
- Ability to build and maintain client relationships.
- Excellent analytical and problem-solving abilities.

SKILLS

- Client Relationship Management
- Sales and Business Development
- Strategic Planning
- Communication and Presentation
- Data Analysis



O'ROURKE
MEDIA GROUP

Interested candidates should apply directly with an email message and resume to Jim O'Rourke at jorourke@orourkemediagroup.com. Feel free to provide Linked In credentials as well.

(970) 264-2100

Classifieds

(970) 264-2100

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

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

FOR SALE

WANTED

COMMERCIAL FOR RENT

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

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

OWN YOUR OWN BUSINESS IN 2025! Four year-old profitable Side-by-Side rental business with extremely high reviews on Google. 1 to 8 Polaris Rzrs, LLC, website, reservation site, customer list, insured, bonded, licensed, maintenance and safety gear included. Better location than any of our competition. Operates May- Nov. Call or text Ryan (970)946-2409.

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

2009 ENCLOSED TRAILER. TC Trecker made by Wells Cargo, 14’x5’, set up to haul motorcycles, but can haul other things as well. Asking \$3,200. (970)946-0996.

2017 KAWASAKI VULCAN S. 650cc, maroon and black color, \$21,000 miles, no damage history, original owner, \$4,500. (704)618-9000.

BASSMASTER BOAT, trolling motor and battery, \$600. John, (970)946-0293.

DO YOU BURN FIREWOOD? Guarantee yourself dry seasoned wood this winter and get stocked up now! Get a HUGE dump truck load split and delivered for \$550. Pine /Fir mix. Contact FIRE&ICE (970)582-0006.

DRY FIREWOOD- PINE. Pick up \$255 a cord. Delivery available. Call for prices. Bayfield. Gabe (970)403-2784.

FIREWOOD DELIVERED, DOUG FIR/PINE MIX. \$250 per cord or \$1400 for 6 cords. Call Kathie (303)358-6218.

FIREWOOD. PONDEROSA PINE. Already cut into 16 inch rounds. \$75 pick up load. Located on 4-Mile road. (970)585-4528.

LG WASHER AND DRYER. 4 years old. Used only 3 loads /week. \$1,600 new, \$700 for both. (970)398-4929.

NEW 20’ CONTAINERS FOR SALE or rent. We deliver to homes or businesses. Pagosa Springs Storage (970)731-0007.

ROOFNEST CONDORXL roof top tent sleeps 4 plus Awning & Vestibule, new \$4000, NOW \$2500, good condition, (505)699-0150, Juli.

SELL OR TRADE YOUR GUNS. We buy for cash or trade it. No hassle. Licensed, bonded, insured. San Juan Trading Post, 635 San Juan St. (970)731-PAWN (7296).

LIVESTOCK

IRRIGATED PASTURE. 4 miles north of Pagosa, Snowball Road. 20 minute ride to forests and streams. (970)946-6274 or (216)618-3391.

PETS

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

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

RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

23’ GRAND DESIGNE. Used twice. Many extras. \$44,500 new. Sell: \$35,000. (970)398-1155.

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

WANTED UNIT WIDE 77 deer vouchers. Open to 2nd, 3rd, or 4th season. Please call/text Curtis (435)828-4230.

AUTOS

1988 FORD F250 XLT Lariat, extended cab. EFI 460. 5 speed manual. 75k miles. Price reduced, \$7,200. (970)398-0100.

GUARANTEED CREDIT APPROVAL! 4X4 Auto Sales, 21698 Hwy. 160 West, Durango. (970)385-7940.

YARD SALES



GARAGE SALE. It’s summer! Time for a garage sale at 9 South Driver Court. Multi-family sale including: grounding mat, juggler exercise plate, suitcases, binoculars, clothing (men’s and women’s), shoes (some new), puzzles, games, books, assorted household items. Saturday, June 28, 7a.m. to 3p.m.

GIFT SHOP CLEARANCE SALE. Everything in our gift shop is 50% off marked price (excludes books and fabric postcards). Kitchen towels, pot holders, crochet patterns, jewelry, quilt patterns, handmade pillows and more. Wednesday through Saturday, 10a.m. to 4:30p.m.

MULTI FAMILY YARD SALE. 149 Grenadier Place and Musket Court, June 27 and 28 from 9a.m. -2p.m. Gear for RVs, pets, survival, camping, bullets, Army surplus equipment, furniture and more.

PARKING LOT SALE at Memory Lane. Saturday, June 28, 9a.m. The last one was so fun we’re going to do it again. 480 San Juan St., right downtown.

WHETHER YOU ARE MOVING downsizing, or rehoming the belongings of a loved one, let us help you with your transition. Call Allison with Mountain Cactus Estate Sales at (586)703-7706.

COMMERCIAL FOR RENT

4 OFFICE SPACES. Freshly remodeled, \$400-\$525. Well suited for spa services, 140-270 sq. ft. Beautiful spacious restrooms. (970)946-3232.

COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS FOR LEASE. 1501 W. Hwy 160 #1 and #2. (970)398-5290.

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

FLEXIBLE COMMERCIAL/ INDUSTRIAL SPACE on the western side of Pagosa Springs. two 1,000 sf spaces available. One is double height. Both come with overhead garage doors. Both units come with bathrooms. Will be delivered as a shell space ready to be customized with credits for Tenant Improvements. Tenants in compound include building trades, UPS, light manufacturing, and artists. Available July 1st. Rent ranges \$800 -\$1,000 depending on the unit. raswheeler@gmail.com.

NEW LARGE SPACE AVAILABLE located in Cloman Park. Near Airport and is also in an Opportunity Zone. Light Industrial. (720)470-2653.

PAGOSA VALLEY PROPERTIES: Offering “Aspen Plaza ProSuites” These are Professional Office Suites available for Long Term rental from 135 SF to 205 SF, priced from \$465-\$669/ month. Also, Large Conference/ Event Room Available. Call (970)889-2022 for more information.

PRIME OFFICE SPACE available downtown in the Pagosa Hotel. Call Jacque (970)946-7636.

PROFESSIONAL PRIVATE OFFICE for rent \$565/mo. 13’ 4” x 15’ 11” Includes water, sewer, heat, Wi-Fi, trash service, common area & snow removal. Contact Angelene at Hometown Insurance with questions or to schedule a showing. Call (970)264-4321 or email angelene@hippsllc.com.

THREE UNITS IN UPTOWN 419, 364, and 1477 sq. ft. Available now. \$900 -\$2400. Utilities included. Call Gina (970)880-0910 for more info.

HOMES FOR RENT

SADDLE MOUNTAIN TOWNHOME For Lease off North Pagosa near Village Lake and rec center. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath with 2 car garage. \$2550 per month includes H2O/ Sewer/snow removal. Text (512)626-8499.

VACATION RENTALS

OWNERS, WE ARE BOOKED UP AND NEED MORE VACATION RENTAL PROPERTIES! Call us today for lowest commission and highest customer service. All you have to do is wait for your rent check to come in. We do the rest! Rocky Mountain Realty & Rentals (970)507-1192.

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

1, 2 AND 3 BEDROOMS. Call (720)869-8877. Hickory Ridge Apartments.

BASEMENT STUDIO APARTMENT. Downtown, river view, furnished. \$1000 rent, \$1000 deposit. Utilities included. No smokers. No pets. (970)264-6797.

THE TOWN OF PAGOSA SPRINGS is seeking to hire an **Equipment Operator II** in the Public Works Department. The individual selected for this position performs a variety of **working-level, skilled, and technical duties** related to the construction, installation, maintenance, and repair of city streets, irrigation, geothermal water, and sewer systems. This is a full-time position with benefits. For more information on the position and to apply, go to the Town’s website at www.pagosasprings.co.gov and select Employment.

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT. Looking for full time and part time workers, experience preferred but willing to train the right fit. Pay DOE. Contact Ben, (970)264-7992 or ben@mountainpizzataproom.com.

(970) 264-2100

Classifieds

(970) 264-2100

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

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HOMES FOR SALE

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HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

"We owned a condominium in the Pagosa Springs area which was a rental property. For many years the firm provided property management services for us and we always found them to be very professional and responsive. If you are in need of a competent, professional property management firm or realtor, we would strongly recommend them."

Michael Gamba



www.RMREALTYANDRENTALS.COM

Rocky Mountain
REALTY & RENTALS
970.731.5515

Info@rmrealtyandrentals.com

117 Navajo Trail Dr. Ste E, Pagosa Springs

Largest Local Property Management Co.



150+ SW Colorado
Property Owners Served
19+ Years. Mortgage &
Real Estate Exp
FULL LT TENANT SCREENING
NATIONWIDE ADVERTISING
ON CALL 24 HR 7 DAYS



RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

BRAND NEW HOUSE FOR RENT. 3 bedrooms, 2-1/2 bathrooms with a large 2-car garage. Scenic backyard and next to National Forest hiking and biking trails. Lake Hatcher area. No pets. \$3,000 per month, includes utilities. Contact Kevin, (505)470-4926.

CUTE SPOT OUT OF TOWN. 1 bedroom, large loft, repainted, fenced yard, wood stove, private ranch. \$1,500/month. (970)731-2010.

DOWNTOWN PAGOSA RENTAL — one bedroom and bath, \$1350. Walking distance shops and restaurants in old downtown. (720)470-2653.

DOWNTOWN UNITS FOR RENT. New 3 bedroom, 2 bath unit. Granite countertops, all appliances and utilities included. Porch and patio. \$2000/ month. (318)347-6100.

FIVE BEDROOM, FOUR BATH HOME for rent. 1 acre, close to town. Rent \$2,800 per month. First, last and deposit. (970)946-3692.

FOR RENT — 2 BEDROOM, 1-1/2 Bath Duplex. Located on E. Golf with patio and 1 car garage. Washer and dryer included. Pets considered. Long term rental, \$1700/month. 303-210-7369.

FURNISHED 2 BEDROOM 2 bath townhome across from Lake Pagosa. Washer, Dryer. \$1,750. Pets Negotiable. Nicole, (970)398-1645.

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

VERY NICE, NEWLY CONSTRUCTED, spacious one-bedroom downtown apartment. Riverwalk, garage and deck. \$1,600 per month includes utilities. Available July 1. (970)398-9136 or builder7@fastmail.com.

COMMERCIAL

2.25 ACRES, FENCED, COMMERCIAL. Off Highway 151, \$325,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call, (970)903-2817.

PRICE REDUCED. Gas station, convenience store. Comes with nine long-term leases, high producing. \$1,350,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

PRIME BUSINESS LOCATION Large building and land. \$1,250,000. Motivated seller. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

UNORTHODOX COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE SERVICES Learned from Master Investors. Pagosa Springs. Free Report at SouthwestTrust.com then to "Services" tab. F. Scott Tonges. 970-731-4421.

HOMES FOR SALE

2 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, 2 carports, 2 sheds. Overlooking Navajo Lake State Park. \$395,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call, (970) 903-2817.

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.

FOR SALE BY OWNER. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, Chris Mountain Ranches, gated subdivision, 1-1/2 miles west of City Market. 35 acre lot, 3,600 sq. ft. house under roof, 1,200 sq. ft. workshop. \$1.6 million. John, (970)946-0293.

GREAT STARTER HOME. Two bedroom, 2 bath mobile home. Fenced yard. \$320,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

HOMES FOR SALE

REAL ESTATE SERVICES

*Whether
Buying or Selling*



Call Marcie Lewis
(970) 759-8672



MarcieLewis.com

HOME FOR SALE. 3200 square feet on 3 acres. 181 River Forest Drive. See on Zillow. Agents welcome. \$740K (970)585-9181.

MOTIVATED SELLER, PRICE REDUCED to \$530,000. Located across the street from National Forest access. 10 minutes from grocery store and other amenities. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1 car garage family home. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

PRICE REDUCED. 3 BED 2 BATH 2 car garage. 3.9 acres. 5 shares of water. Detached 1 bedroom, 1 bath, 1 car garage apartment. Great views. \$560,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

THREE BEDROOM 2 BATH newly built 1454 square foot single level in Pagosa's Chris Mountain Two with central AC, XL attached garage, concrete apron, large redwood sundeck, porcelain tile, great views, and many more upgrades detailed and pictured at 18HomeCt.com.

TWO BEDROOMS, TWO BATHROOMS, manufactured home with 6" walls on secluded acre. Large back deck with view of meadow and trees. Insulated pump house and 225 sq. ft. log bunk house /studio. Property is on a cistern and propane. (970)731-3814, afternoons /evenings. \$305,000.

RANCHES

40 ACRES 38 SHARES Pine River Canal, well, septic, small mobile, Allison, CO area, very private, wild game, workshop, \$485,000. (970)403-9483.

64 ACRES, 46 SHARES OF IRRIGATION. 3 bedroom, 2 bath home. 2 garages and shed, 3-3 phase electric outlets. Brand new Generac Generator, Pastures with beautiful views, too many extras to name them all. \$928,000. AP-10. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

LAND/ BUILDING SITES

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

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

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

3.7 ACRES. Great views of Navajo lake. Power near, water available. \$400,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

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

5 MINUTES FROM DOWNTOWN. 3 flat buildable acres. Great mountain views, water cap and driveway in. Power to the property, fully fenced, corners marked. \$300k. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

LAND/ BUILDING SITES

SAN JUAN RIVER ACCESS

4 acres. Great views.
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PagosaSUN.com

Alzheimer’s Association launches free mobile app to guide Alzheimer’s journey

By Jim Herlihy

Alzheimer’s Association of Colorado

Individuals and their care partners who are left confused and directionless by a diagnosis of Alzheimer’s and other dementias are the target audience for a new app developed by the Alzheimer’s Association.

The free My Alz Journey app is aimed at helping newly diagnosed, early-stage individuals and their care partners navigate their journey with Alzheimer’s and other dementias, connecting them to needed information and resources. It provides personalized guidance, education, planning tools, interactive activities and links to local community resources.

“An Alzheimer’s or dementia diagnosis can be overwhelming and isolating,” said Jim Hammelev, executive director of the Alzheimer’s Association of Colorado. “After receiving a diagnosis, Colorado families can use this app to understand where there are resources in the community — or online through the Alzheimer’s Association — to help them better navigate the challenges they are facing.”

Currently, there are more than 7.4 million Americans living with Alzheimer’s disease, including 91,000 cases in Colorado alone. An estimated 50 percent of those cases are never diagnosed.

A 2024 Alzheimer’s Association survey found 66 percent of dementia caregivers report difficulty finding resources and support following a dementia diagnosis.

People living with dementia, including members of the Alzheimer’s Association National Early-Stage Advisory Group, were instrumental in the app’s development — identifying the need for it, helping shape and test its content and, eventually, naming it.

Unpaid family caregivers, who number more than 178,000 in Colorado, also will find the My ALZ Journey app helpful in supporting those who are involved in the care of loved ones with Alzheimer’s and other forms of dementia.

The free My Alz Journey app is aimed at helping newly diagnosed, early-stage individuals and their care partners navigate their journey with Alzheimer’s and other dementias, connecting them to needed information and resources.

by-step guidance and resources that evolve over time to reflect the user’s journey.

The app’s library provides easy access to topic-based educational content from alz.org, answering common questions about Alzheimer’s, caregiving and planning for the future.

Users can connect directly to the Colorado chapter of the Alzheimer’s Association through the “community” section, which highlights nearby support groups, events and programs. The activity center offers interactive tools, planning resources and brain-stimulating activities to help users stay engaged and supported.

“We’re excited to have this new app as a resource for our local families,” said Hammelev. “In addition to connecting them to important disease-related information, we hope it will encourage their participation in the various local programs we offer. We want families affected by Alzheimer’s and other dementia to know they are not alone.”

My ALZ Journey is available now for free in the Apple App Store and Google Play Store. For more information, visit alz.org/MyALZJourney.

To learn more about the information, programs and services provided by the Alzheimer’s Association, all at no charge, go to alz.org or call the Association’s free 24/7 Helpline at (800) 272-3900.

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