



Archuleta County Fair Livestock Auction



Ashton Tully, grand champion market beef



Madison DeClark, grand champion market swine



Emma Carnley, grand champion market lamb



Nora Forrest, grand champion market turkey



Amaya Linhardt, grand champion market chickens



Lilyanne DeClark, grand champion market goat

4-H'ers and community members joined forces at the annual Livestock Auction last weekend at the Archuleta County Fair.

Water district enacts drought restrictions amid dry conditions

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) Board of Directors voted at a July 31 special meeting to immediately enter stage two drought under the district's drought management plan due to low water levels in area rivers and other concerns.

At the meeting, PAWSD District Engineer/Manager Justin Ramsey explained that drought stages for

PAWSD are based on water levels in Hatcher Reservoir, which is used to supply water to the uptown Pagosa Springs area; water levels in the San Juan River, which is used to supply water to the downtown area; and what the state drought stage for the area is.

He stated that the heaviest weight in the drought calculation is on the level of Hatcher Lake, the second heaviest weight is on the San Juan River and the third heaviest is on the

■ See Drought A8

Fire restrictions implemented for unincorporated Archuleta County

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

Archuleta County has joined the San Juan National Forest and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) by implementing Stage 1 fire restrictions.

The county's restrictions went into effect at 12:01 a.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 5.

Archuleta County Sheriff Mike Le Roux announced Monday that restrictions would be implemented for unincorporated Archuleta County.

Based on discussion at its Tuesday evening meeting, the Pagosa Springs Town Council is expected to consider restrictions within the Town

of Pagosa Springs at an upcoming meeting.

The San Juan National Forest and BLM implemented restrictions in mid-July.

Following is information related to Archuleta County's restrictions.

Those looking to recreate or visit in other jurisdictions are urged to check restrictions in that area.

Prohibited activities

According to the county's Stage 1 restrictions, the following actions are prohibited according to the restriction details document released by

■ See Restrictions A8

Town takes step toward ballot question for town-only sales tax

By Derek Kutzer
Staff Writer

The Town of Pagosa Springs looks to be going to the November ballot to ask the town's voters for a 1 percent town-only sales tax to address issues with its "failing" sewer system.

On Aug. 5, the Pagosa Springs Town Council approved the first reading an ordinance calling for a coordinated election and setting the ballot language.

An agenda document on the matter states, "The sewer system is failing and needs funding for repairs, waste-

water treatment plant, and possible reuse system."

The document further states, "A sales tax is the most efficient way to obtain the funding needed."

Town staff has estimated it would take \$80 million to \$100 million to fully address the chronic issues with the sewer system.

"A 1% sales tax would generate an estimated \$3.6 million in the first year and it will take an estimated 25 years to generate all the funds necessary," the document states.

The ordinance, which will need to

■ See Ballot A9

Middle Mesa Fire burning in northern New Mexico near Archuleta County line

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

Three Archuleta County properties continued to be in pre-evacuation notice as of Wednesday morning due to the Middle Mesa Fire burning in northern New Mexico.

According to the Archuleta County Sheriff Office's emergency management commander, Roy Vega Jr., as of Wednesday morning, the fire re-

mained in New Mexico and had not crossed into Colorado.

"It's close, but not there," he said.

The Middle Mesa Fire is a lightning-caused wildfire on the Jicarilla Ranger District of the Carson National Forest in New Mexico, according to InciWeb, with the fire beginning the morning of Aug. 1.

The site explains, "Ground and air resources are working to suppress

■ See Fire A9

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Opinion

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OUR VIEW

It's time to dance

OK, I think it's officially time to put on our dancing shoes and do our rain dances.

The forecast for the coming days predicts continued warm temperatures, low relative humidity and little chance of rain paired with more wind — exactly what we don't want to see during a weak monsoon season.

Meanwhile, fires continue to burn and pop up in neighboring counties and states, reminding us of the possibilities we could face, and the river has dropped low enough to trigger additional drought restrictions for those serviced by the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD).

As of noon on Wednesday, Aug. 6, the San Juan River was flowing at 22.8 cubic feet per second (cfs) — just above the record low of 20 cfs set in 2000. The median value for Aug. 6 is 133 cfs, and the mean is 217 cfs.

PAWSD board chair Gene Tautges framed the drought restrictions as helping to protect next year's water, and we're grate-

ful that, while the river is low, our water supply sources are at acceptable levels right now that we can look at it as helping for the future.

We should each do our part to conserve our water and help ensure we don't get ourselves into an extreme bind should the weak monsoon season turn into a weak winter.

We also continue to be incredibly thankful for the wonderful, talented people who put themselves in harm's way to fight fires as quickly as they pop up and work hard to keep them away from residences and other values whenever possible.

We lost count a long time ago of how many fires have been tended to this season, but the fact that very few have made it beyond being small starts is amazing and a testament to the knowledge and quick action of multiple agencies, as well as the mitigation work that takes place year after year.

Please ensure you follow any and all fire restrictions that are in place, and help others who may not realize those limitations are in place understand them and encourage them to follow them.

Every man-made fire that can be avoided means additional resources are more likely to be available to protect us when we need it. It could be your home or our town that needs protected next.

The extended forecast currently shows a bit more of a chance for rain next week, though the Climate Prediction Center's outlook for Aug. 11-15 isn't as hopeful.

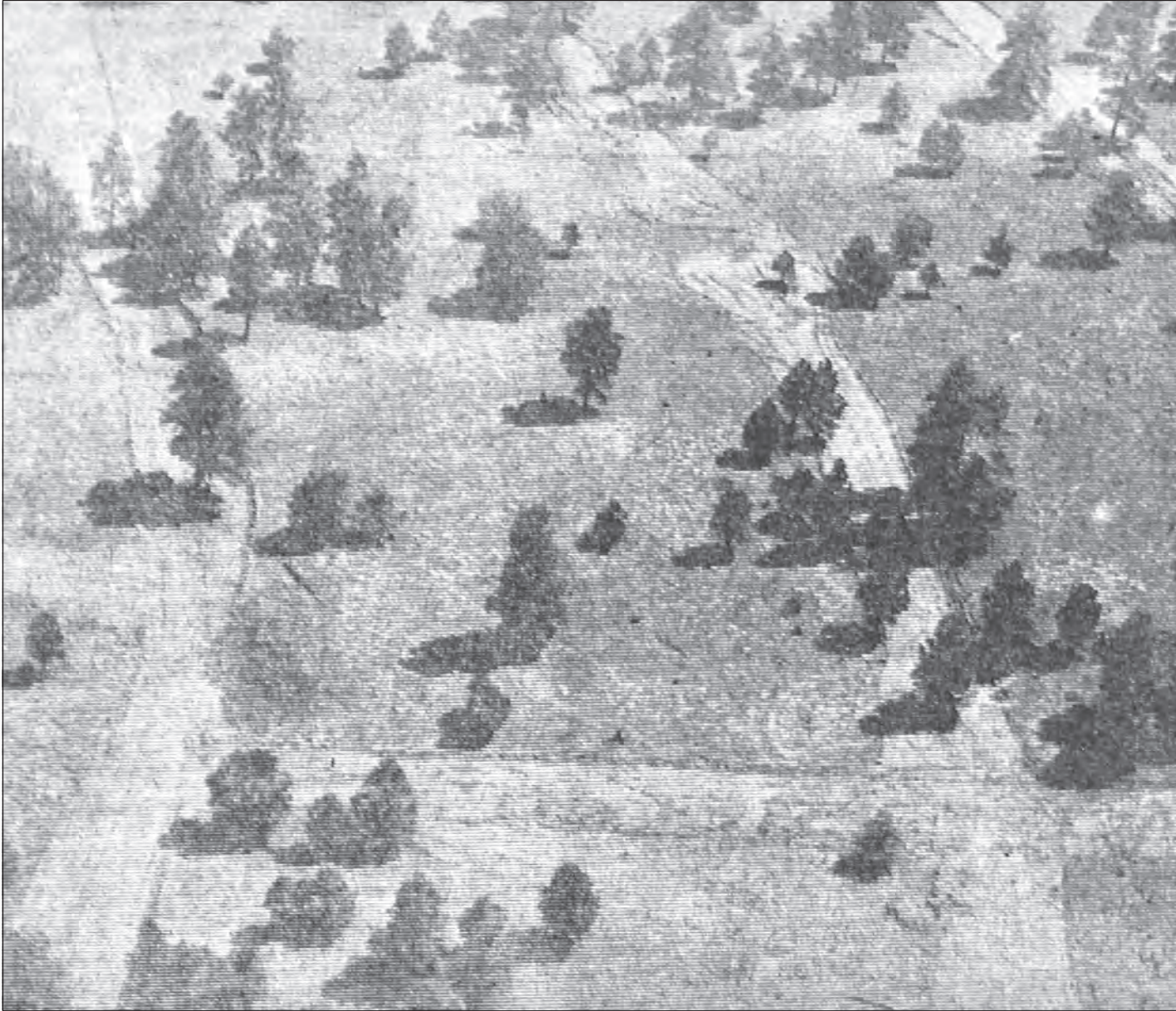
We hope there will be some semblance of measurable rain and not just dry lightning to further compound problems and stretch the area's resources.

Keep dancing, and dance like no one is watching.

Hopefully soon we'll be singing in the rain.

Randi Pierce

LOOKING BACK



From the Aug. 13, 1970, Pagosa SUN — **STREETS** — Streets in Pagosa, being developed by Navajo Trails Corp. west of town, are shown above. The company will soon have completed the rough pioneer work on nearly 20 miles of streets. These streets are in the area between Highway 160 and Lake Pagosa, just west of the Upper Piedra road.

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LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

100 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
August 7, 1925

On Wednesday afternoon of last week, Frank McMillan of Allison, while driving a four-horse team pulling a wagon-load of coal across the Piedra river bridge near Arboles, was precipitated into the river with team, wagon, coal and all when one of the bridge spans collapsed. Fortunately, the man nor team were injured seriously. Another wagon-load of coal had just crossed ahead of Mr. McMillan, and it is thought that the vibrations created hurried the collapse of the bridge, which was not in very good shape but not considered dangerous.

Commissioner John E. Walker, who resides at Arboles, got busy and a temporary structure was erected, thus again permitting passage across the river. At the meeting of the county commissioners here Wednesday, arrangements were started for a new steel bridge at that point, plans to be submitted soon and bids to be advertised for.

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
August 4, 1950

The Chamber of Commerce folders secured from the SUN are now completed and are available to tourist court operators, hotels, filling stations, garages, restaurants and others in daily contact with the traveling public. They may be obtained by calling at the Town Hall or at the SUN office. The folders are handsome six-page brochures, printed in two colors and containing much information regarding the county.

The Tacky Dance given by the Grange Saturday night was a big success. Martin Swanemyr and Mariana Procarione won the prize for the tackiest couple. The judges were Lawrence Wiseman, Richard Albrecht and a lady whose name I did not get.

Mrs. Herbert Thompson entertained at a picnic supper Saturday night for Joanne Gass and her daughter, Jeanette. The guests were Patsy Day, Essie Mari Jackson, Maureen Lynch, Donna Chambers, Mary Dean Morehart and Karen Poma.

The Pagosa Rod and Gun Club held one of their famous fish fries this past Sunday at their Rifle Range on the Piedra road. There were about two hundred people in attendance and more than enough fish. In attendance at the meeting in addition to the members and their guests were Mr. and Mrs. Carl Welsh of Antonito. Mr. Welsh is in charge of fish production and planting for this area.

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
August 7, 1975

The possibilities in the current program to beautify the San Juan River area through town are almost limitless. Such things as historical signs on the parking fill near the hot water fountain, a new name for that area, trees and a nature trail along the river, leveling the parking area, making more picnic tables for the park, doing something to pretty up the bridge, and approaches, repairing the rock wall, erecting the new signs at the Chamber of Commerce building, shrubs along the banks, thinning out the willow, making a picnic area between the medical center and the river, landscaping the medical center grounds, and other such programs could be completed. The area in back of the court house certainly needs cleaning up but that is private land and the funds must be spent on public property.

The Archuleta County Fair is set to go August 15, 16 and 17. It will feature all types of exhibits, displays, entertainment, a barbecue, fat stock sale, junior rodeo, parade of champions and a dance at the high school gym.

25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
August 3, 2000

It's an event that has occurred only once before in the history of Pagosa Springs. The installation of a traffic signal.

Crews began work Wednesday to install three light poles, mast arms and signal lights at the intersection of U.S. 160 with Lewis and South 5th streets, in downtown Pagosa Springs. Work on the poles was to be complete by week's end with signal lights due for delivery and installation by Aug. 11.

Cost of the project is being shared by the Town of Pagosa Springs and the Colorado Department of Transportation.

CDOT contributed \$90,000 to the project, with the town providing the balance of \$280,000. The overall project included recent reconstruction of the three-way intersection of U.S. 160 and Lewis and 5th streets on the north side of the highway.

Timing of signal lights will be controlled by video sensors. The presence of traffic on Lewis Street and 5th Street south of the highway will key a signal change. A left-turn arrow will be in place for eastbound highway traffic turning on to Lewis Street.



Weather data

Date	High	Low	Precipitation	Moisture	Type	Depth
7/29	81	54	0.01	NA	NA	NA
7/30	85	46	0.00	NA	NA	NA
7/31	83	47	0.00	NA	NA	NA
8/1	82	48	0.20	NA	NA	NA
8/2	83	48	0.00	NA	NA	NA
8/3	86	44	0.00	NA	NA	NA
8/4	85	41	0.00	NA	NA	NA



Letters

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

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

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

National debt

Dear Editor:

Last week's letter about the debt was quite ill informed. Government debt is a complex situation and 1/4 to 1/3 of the US debt is held by other government agencies ie. pension funds and money markets. To blame earmarks and spending on infrastructure for the debt is just not factual. Sure, there is some waste like the "Bridge to Nowhere", which by the way, was in Alaska and pushed by Republicans, Sarah Palin and Ted Stevens.

The Partnership for Public Service, a non partisan research group estimates that DOGE (Department of Government Efficiency) cuts will actually cost tax payers \$135 billion just this year alone. The IRS also predicts a potential loss due to cuts in personnel of \$500 billion from uncollected taxes. Other cuts to programs that returns money to consumers such as the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau are at risk. Also cuts to NIH funded medical research could result in \$billions of lost economic activity. But DOGE was never meant to find waste and abuse, it was created to destroy the regulatory powers of the US government and continue the transfer of wealth from the middle class to the rich.

The real culprit in the US ballooning debt are Republican tax cuts. The writer claimed that the Reagan tax cuts improved the economy, maybe, but he then raised taxes 11 times because of the exploding deficit. FICA withholding taxes were raised, Social Security and tips were taxed, while interest on personal loans and credit cards could no longer be used as tax deductions. Net revenue loss estimated to be \$10 trillion in today's terms.

Bush's tax cuts added another \$3 trillion to the debt and his unfunded wars in Iraq and Afghanistan are estimated to have added \$3 trillion and climbing due to health care for injured veterans.

Trump's tax cuts have added an estimated nearly \$10 trillion over a ten year period. Trump doesn't care about the debt and government efficiency. He's spending like a drunken sailor while signing more tax cuts that directly benefit him. \$1billion to retrofit a "gifted" jumbo jet, 47 rounds of golf in 7 months costing taxpayers \$3.4 million per round, hundreds of \$million building concentration camps, \$150 billion to create the largest police force in the world, ICE. All while cutting services for working people.

Yes, the debt increased during Obama's and Biden's terms also, but both were dealing with messes left by their Republican predecessors. Obama was elected during a recession and had the costs of two wars to pay, while Biden was elected during Covid and the resulting recession and inflation. The difference being they both put money in the pockets of working class Americans, not the wealthy. Biden also invested heavily in infrastructure and manufacturing which pays for itself in the long run by increasing economic activity. And yes, that includes wildlife corridors. Without the Republican tax cuts, the debt (and number of billionaires buying politicians) would be less than half of its current amount.

Dave Butcher
Albuquerque, N.M.

National debt and deficit

Dear Editor:

Last week John Meyer wrote a let-

ter about the national debt that was short on facts. The U.S. Treasury continually updates and publishes data about both federal budget deficits and the national debt. Those data are readily available on the Treasury's FiscalData website (at least until the President or one of his lackeys decides to hide these data from the public).

The U.S. has carried some level of national debt for more than a century. The national debt increased during World War II then dropped, but never since to pre-War levels. The debt remained mostly steady until rising through the recession years of the 1980s, pausing briefly at the end of the Clinton administration (which was the last time the U.S. had a balanced budget), and then shooting up on a steep climb since the mortgage crisis (2008-09) and its fallout and COVID.

Like household finances, the national debt grows when expenses outpace revenue (tax collections). Also like household finances, debt at a manageable level can be beneficial for financing significant investments - like a home for a family and infrastructure for a country - and too much debt is bad.

Last month, Congress passed Trump's One Big Beautiful Bill. It is the most expensive budget in recent history. And Democrats opposed it unanimously (along with a few Republicans in each chamber).

Trump's budget will add \$3.0-4.0 trillion to the national debt, according to nonpartisan and bipartisan estimates. The biggest cost in the bill is the permanent extension of Trump's 2017 tax cuts, which benefit large corporations and super-wealthy individuals like Trump and Elon Musk. Tax cuts will reduce revenue by an estimated \$3.7-4.5 trillion.

To offset that revenue loss, Trump and Congressional Republicans cut Medicaid, student loan funding, and food assistance for the poor, among other things. Programs supporting basic human services are not big enough, however, to support the entire cost of the Trump tax cuts so Americans will be paying an additional \$551-700 billion interest expense.

Plenty of Democrats, local and national, spoke out against the enormous windfall for the wealthy at the expense of public land management, rural healthcare, education, science, and culture.

Federal spending, like household spending, reflects our priorities and values. Trump and Congressional Republicans prioritized luxuries for a privileged few over necessities and rational investments in the future for the rest of us.

Candace Jones

Unsolicited mail

Dear Editor:

Dear Postmaster of Pagosa Springs, Colorado,

I am desperate about being able to stop the unsolicited mail coming into our mailbox, not only for personal reasons, but I also ache for the many trees that have to be cut down to make paper products that wind up in the trashcan or our woodstove. I would have preferred to knock on your door and see you at your office; but at 92 I have a very hard time getting around without a cane or help and do not drive any longer.

I have closed our e-mail accounts and have gotten rid of my credit card because of scammers; but I have no idea what I can do to stop all that unsolicited mail coming into our mail box on Cloud Cap Avenue? I know that some of the mail found its way into our mailbox via our web site: stretcherbearers.com. Web sites seem to be a favorite place where scammers harvest their addresses.

Allow me to tell you about two unusual first-class letters we receive. We have probably received them for ten or more years.

A "missionary organization" (Mano de Ayuda) keeps sending us their letters asking for donations. The text in their letters will pull on anyone's heart strings but has never pulled on mine. I never responded to them and finally sent them a letter asking to be removed from their mailing list. The letter was returned unopened by the post office with a label that read as follows:

RETURN TO SENDER
ATTEMPTED — NOT KNOWN
UNABLE TO FORWARD

I realize that this may be a bizarre and unusual situation; but is their any way the post office can trace the sender and deal with them for me? At 92 I expect to graduate fairly soon. What will happen to these letters and all that other unsolicited mail when I will no longer have a mail address?

I enjoy receiving letters and have enjoyed writing letters since I was

■ See Letters A4

U.S. 160 reconstruction information

Week of Aug. 11-16

Work activity

Concrete paving operations underway

- Nighttime paving operations are scheduled for Monday, Aug. 11, and Tuesday, Aug. 12. Some smaller paving operations are anticipated to take place throughout the next few weeks, from 1st to 3rd streets, to retouch portions of the new pour.

- The majority of project paving operations will take place at night, which will reduce impacts to the traveling public. Trucks will start rolling in around 7 p.m. and continue until 7 a.m.

Work activity this week

- The Town of Pagosa Springs has several concurrent projects taking place in and near the U.S. 160 work zone. For more information, visit <https://www.pagosasprings.co.gov/home-page/page/summer-2025-road-projects>.

- Installation of light pole foundations continues from 1st to 3rd streets.

- The 2nd Street and 4th Street intersections on the north side of U.S. 160 will remain closed until utility and paving work are complete.

- Lighting conduit installation is occurring near Pagosa Springs Middle School from 3rd Street to 4th Street. Note: Sidewalk demolition has begun in front of Pagosa Springs Middle School. This will lead to pedestrian detours around the demolition site. Please utilize crossings at Hot Springs Boulevard and 3rd Street to navigate around the demolition. Use the pedestrian flags provided by the town to cross 3rd Street.

- Excavation is planned for geothermal utilities near Tennyson Sculpture Park and Gardens in mid-August. Pedestrians need to plan for sidewalk detours around the work at this location in the near future.

- Saturday work will continue on the project for the foreseeable future.

Watch where you walk and park

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

- Overflow parking lots are open at 323 Hot Springs Blvd. and 811 San Juan St. Other public parking is available throughout the downtown.

Mountain Express Transit bus stop information

The River Center stop, #18, has moved to 1st Street and U.S. 160 in front of the museum. Bus stop #19, 2nd Street and U.S. 160, has moved to 2nd Street and Lewis Street.

Safety tips for pedestrians

Information provided by Colorado Department of Transportation

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

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

- Be alert for moving construction vehicles and other unexpected hazards, which often move suddenly and quickly. Stay off your phone when crossing the street or walking near the work zone.

- Look out for traffic before crossing the street make eye contact with drivers so you know they see you.

Safety tips for drivers

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

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

- Stop before a crosswalk, not in it.

- Obey all traffic signals. All light signals are operational and must be obeyed.

- Put your cellphone down. Never drive distracted or impaired.

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

Traffic impacts

- Motorists could expect up to 15-minute delays at various times through the work zone as equipment may need to be moved.

- There will be two-way traffic flowing in the east-bound lanes of U.S. 160 through the first season of operations.

- A 10-foot width restriction will remain in place 24/7 through Dec. 1.

- During inclement weather, project engineers will assess the roadway and work location to make determinations on work continuing depending on safety concerns for workers and commuters.

- Working hours are Monday through Saturday, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., and subject to change.

Stay informed and connect with the project

- Call the project information line: (970) 335-9230.
- Email the project team: Pagosa160reconstruction@gmail.com.

- Visit the project website: www.codot.gov/projects/us160pagosasprings.

- Subscribe to project updates: subscription.codtrip.org.

Letters

The SUN welcomes letters from readers.

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

All letters must:

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

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

Letters quoting other people must contain proper attribution.

There is no guarantee letters will be published.

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

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

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

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Ruby M. Sisson Library Director Barb Brattin, second from right, and members of the Upper San Juan Library District Board of Trustees celebrate the beginning of the library's expansion and renovation during an Aug. 1 ceremony. The library will continue to operate out of a reduced space in its existing building during the expansion construction.

SUN photo/Clayton Chaney

Obituary

Biz (Mary Elizabeth Ann Margaret Driscoll) Greene

Biz (Mary Elizabeth Ann Margaret Driscoll) Greene would rather walk than ride — anywhere, anytime. She walked to school, to St. Mary's and Muldoon High and all over Rockford, Ill., where she was born to Mamie Waugh and L. Alva Driscoll on June 7, 1929. Then she walked around River Forest and Chicago, graduating from Rosary College, and to graduate studies at the University of Missouri in Kansas City. With five children almost grown, Biz launched a career as counselor to students at Rockhurst College and was director of the Career Center, walking back and forth 20 miles a



week and participating in racewalking competition on weekends. She loved to dance and was a clogger.

Some of the highlights of her life, in addition to her five children and the thousands of students she counseled at Rockhurst, were serving in the diplomatic service in Reykjavik, Iceland, before marriage; a stormy boat trip up to the Arctic Circle; bareboat sailing as one of an all-woman crew around the islands of the Kingdom of Tonga; taking students to Mexico for summer study; winning the women's division in racewalking at the Juegos de la Tercera Edad in Xalapa; walking the Great Wall in China; climbing the 350 steps of the Potala Palace in Lhasa at the age of 80; and initiating, organizing and coordinating a lifelong learning program in Pagosa Springs.

Having chosen marriage over a career in the Foreign Service, her family included her husband of 58 years, Michael; her son, Michael Andrew, who was killed in a car accident at the age of 21; son Denis and wife Jenny, Kansas City, Mo.; daughter

Monica and husband Cappy White, Pagosa Springs, Colo.; daughter Brigid Driscoll Greene, Kansas City, Mo.; and daughter Kate Greene, Olympia, Wash.; as well as grandchildren Kiley, Dan, Cela, Ryan, Mary Grace, Harper, Kelly Ann and John, sister Tess Dyresm, and nieces Eileen Backes and Chris Peterson.

Biz was a proud, anti-capitalistic, Irish Democrat all her life. She experienced God on the high seas, in nature, in the San Juan Mountains, as well as in Benedictine and Gregorian chant. She believed in the eternal life of the spirit.

Biz transitioned on July 10. There will be a memorial service in Kansas City over Labor Day. Services in Pagosa Springs are to be determined.

Services

Wayne Walls

The celebration of life for Wayne Walls will be held at Coyote Moon Lounge, 120 Piedra Road in Pagosa Springs, Colo., from 2 to 5 p.m. on

Saturday, Aug. 15.

RSVP to Nancy Walls at (970) 946-3254. All are welcome. The Totally Happy Campers will be playing in his honor.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating toward the building of the Aspen House for adults with disabilities here in Pagosa Springs in honor of Wayne Walls. Donations can be sent to Aspen House Building Fund, P.O. Box 5913, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 or made by calling (970) 507-0122.



School district seeking board candidates for upcoming election

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

Archuleta School District (ASD) is seeking candidates to run for the ASD Board of Education in the Nov. 4 election, with three positions up for election.

According to a call for nominations, directors will be elected representing the following:

- Director District 1, for a term of office of four years.
- Director District 5, for a term of office of four years.
- Director District 4, for a term of office of two years.

District 1 is currently represented by Tim Taylor, with Butch Mackey currently representing District 5 and

David Iverson currently representing District 4.

Requirements

According to the call for nominations, "To be qualified, a candidate must have been a registered elector of the school district for at least 12 consecutive months before the election and a resident of the director district which will be represented."

It notes that legal descriptions of the director districts are available at www.mypagosaschools.com under the School Board tab, or at the district's administration office located at 309 Lewis St.

"A person is ineligible to run for school director if he or she has been convicted of committing a sexual of-

fense against a child," it adds.

How to become a candidate

"A person who desires to be a candidate for school director shall file a written notice of intention to be a candidate and a nomination petition signed by at least 50 eligible electors who are registered to vote in the regular biennial school election," the call for nominations explains.

Nomination petitions may be obtained at the ASD administration office at 309 Lewis St. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Completed petitions shall be submitted to Heather Schultz, ASD's designated election official, no later than 3 p.m. on Aug. 29.

Letters

■ Continued from A3
a teen. Writing letters is my "sand-box". At 92 it still is. As a Korean War soldier I sat behind a typewriter for my tour of duty in an overseas army hospital instead of carrying a gun. During those two years of service I mailed two hundred letters home to

my family. My doting mother quickly responded and that way kept the stream of letters flowing. She saved them and copied them on her typewriter. She handed them to me upon my discharge. They can now be read on our website. The file can easily be accessed via the Internet. Someone

merely needs to enter these words in their search engine: "Letters from a Soldier" Peter Laue.

I hope that you won't mind that I sent a copy of this letter to the Pagosa Sun.

Sincerely,
Peter Laue



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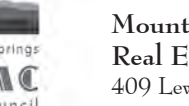
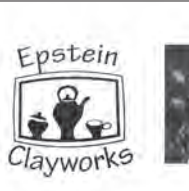
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Business

County’s unemployment rate continues to fall in June

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

Archuleta County’s unemployment rate fell to 3.6 percent in June, according to a recent report from the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment (CDLE).

The county’s unemployment rate was 4.0 percent in April and 3.7 percent in May.

Archuleta County’s rate of 3.6 percent in June compares to 4.1 percent in June 2024.

Archuleta County’s labor force totaled 6,969 in June, according to the report, with 251 unemployed. That compares to a May labor force of 6,981 and 259 unemployed.

Colorado’s seasonally adjusted unemployment rate came in at 4.7 percent for the month of June.

According to the survey of households, the number of unemployed individuals decreased by 3,400 to 155,300 from May to June.

“Colorado’s labor force increased by 200 in June to 3,282,900,” states a press release from the CDLE. “The share of Coloradans participating in the labor force was 67.7 percent in June, unchanged from the month prior. The U.S. labor force participation rate decreased one-tenth of a percentage point to 62.3 percent in June.”

The national unemployment rate decreased one-tenth of a percentage point to 4.1 percent from May to June.

Huerfano had the highest unemployment rate in the state in June at 7.0 percent, followed by Costilla

County at 6.9 percent and Las Animas at 6.5 percent.

Regionally, the data shows La Plata County with a 3.9 percent unemployment rate in June, San Juan County at 2.9 percent, Mineral County at 5.2 percent, Rio Grande County at 4.9 percent and Conejos County at 4.5 percent.

Job loss, growth

Employers in Colorado lost 1,500 nonfarm payroll jobs from May to June for a total of 2,984,600 jobs, according to the survey of business establishments. Private-sector payroll jobs decreased by 1,600, while government gained 100 jobs.

The press release accompanying the report notes, “May estimates were revised down to 2,986,100, and the over the month change from April to May was a decrease of 2,400 jobs rather than the originally estimated increase of 3,400 (monthly revisions are based on additional responses from businesses and government agencies since the last published estimates).”

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

The private-industry sectors with significant over-the-month job gains in June were:

- Leisure and hospitality at about 3,000 jobs.
- Information at about 1,600.
- Professional and business ser-

vices at about 1,000.

The private-industry sectors with significant over-the-month job losses were:

- Trade, transportation and utilities at about 2,500.
- Educational and health services at about 1,400.
- Construction at about 1,300.
- Other services at about 1,000 jobs.

Since June 2024, nonfarm payroll jobs have increased 10,600, with the private sector increasing by 600 and government adding 10,000 jobs.

The largest private-sector job gains were:

- Leisure and hospitality at about 10,800 jobs.
 - Educational and health services at about 7,200.
 - Information at about 4,000.
- During that same period, payroll jobs declined in:
- Trade, transportation and utilities by about 8,200.
 - Construction by about 5,100.
 - Financial activities by about 3,000.
 - Professional and business services by about 2,800.
 - Other services by about 2,800.

“Colorado’s rate of job growth over the past year is 0.4 percent, below the U.S. rate of 1.1 percent,” the report notes.

It further notes that, over the year, the average workweek for all Colorado employees on private nonfarm

payrolls decreased from 34.2 to 33.8 hours, while average hourly earnings grew from \$37.82 to \$39.19, \$2.89 more than the national average hourly earnings of \$36.30.

randi@pagosasun.com

Call for Nominations For School Directors

The Archuleta School District 50 JT in the Counties of Archuleta and Hinsdale, State of Colorado, calls for nomination of candidates for school directors to be placed on the ballot for the regular biennial school election to be held on Tuesday, November 4, 2025.

At this election three (3) directors will be elected representing the following director districts: Director District One (1) and Director District Five (5) for a term of office of four years, and Director District Four (4) for a term of office of two years. To be qualified, a candidate must have been a registered elector of the school district for at least 12 consecutive months before the election and a resident of the director district which will be represented. Legal Descriptions of the Director Districts are available at www.mypagasaschools.com under the School Board tab, or at the Administration office located at 309 Lewis Street, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. A person is ineligible to run for school director if he or she has been convicted of committing a sexual offense against a child.

A person who desires to be a candidate for school director shall file a written notice of intention to be a candidate and a nomination petition signed by at least 50 eligible electors who are registered to vote in the regular biennial school election.

Nomination petitions may be obtained at the Archuleta School District Administration office located at 309 Lewis Street beginning Wednesday, August 6th, 2025. Office hours are 8 am to 4 pm, Monday through Friday. Completed petitions shall be submitted to Heather Schultz, the school district’s designated election official, no later than 3:00 pm on Friday, August 29, 2025.



Networking, educational opportunities available for businesses

By Mary Jo Coulehan
Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce

Never underestimate the importance of networking: garnering new information, meeting a new contact, getting face-to-face with someone you have had on your “need-to-meet” list, and sharing successes and concerns.

This networking opportunity will be available for nonprofit agencies on Aug. 12 at the Community Resource Center’s Southwest Regional Session and Town Hall in Durango. The event will take place from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. at the Durango Elks Lodge.

The event will bring nonprofit agencies, funders and philanthropic organizations together. Think of it as a mini Philanthropy Day. Nonprofit agencies do need to register for the event. You can do so at https://ccramerica.org/programs/regional_conventions/. Tickets are only \$25.

The day includes planned networking, facilitated discussions, lunch and a resource fair. If you are a nonprofit agency, get in front of other agencies and funders. You can never network too much.

Human Resource Power Hour Series

Another important educational opportunity will be the Human Resource Power Hour Series hosted by the Community Foundation serving

Southwest Colorado.

The series will begin on Sept. 9 and include virtual sessions that last only an hour a week for six weeks, until Oct. 14. The class is every Tuesday from noon until 1 p.m. The cost is \$10 per session or \$50 for all six classes.

If you are a new business, if your business is growing, if you have even one employee, or if you are an HR manager in a larger company, it would behoove you to attend this important training.

The labor laws have new requirements and there have been some changes. Are you familiar with all the changes? Topics that will be covered include employee onboarding; labor laws; conflict prevention and resolution; HR policies; and working with volunteers, subcontractors and more.

If you have a question about any of these topics, visit www.swcommunityfoundation.org/hr-power-hour/ to find out more about each of the sessions and sign up individually or for a group of classes.

And, if you are an attendee, you will be entered into a drawing to receive \$500 in free HR services. As a business owner, please make sure that you are current with all HR laws and regulations. Invest just a little time and money in what could potentially save you thousands of dollars should you be hit with a HR case.

Grillin’ and Distillin’
■ See Chamber A6

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Price Reduced

33 Fawn Court
\$949,000

MLS # 8245832

This meticulously cared for full-wood 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
\$899,000

MLS # 8242945

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
\$695,000

MLS # 8236461

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

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

NEW LISTING

471 Deer Trail
\$356,000

MLS # 826138

Discover your mountain retreat in this 2 bedroom, 1 bath log cabin, in Aspen Springs 1 on well-maintained Deer Trail, just a half-mile from Hwy 160. This 1,205 sq. ft. cabin features a living room, dining area, modern kitchen, and a full bath on the main level, with two bedrooms upstairs. The kitchen boasts new cabinets, countertops, and flooring. A wood stove enhances the cabin's ambiance. The property is equipped with a state-of-the-art water filtration system, including reverse osmosis, water softener, and on-demand hot water, professionally installed.

Price Reduced

109 Carol's Curves
\$299,000

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
\$325,000

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.

NEW LISTING

1119 Hills Circle
\$500,000

MLS # 827227

This is a very cute 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with a 2 car attached garage. Across the street is an access point to enter National Forest. This is a very well-maintained home at a good price. The master bedroom is on opposite sides of the house from the guest bedrooms, and the colors are warm and inviting. This home is close to town and shopping, put it on your list.

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38 Heron Court — MLS # 821320 — \$45,000
814 Ginger Circle — MLS # 817526 — \$179,000
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Town and county discuss downtown sewage system situation, U.S. 160 construction

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) and Pagosa Springs Town Council held a joint work session on Monday, July 28, at which an update was given on the Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District's (PSSGID's) Saving our Sewers project.

Town Manager David Harris explained that the town has been performing community outreach efforts and has a survey available online for residents to fill out.

He noted the town has a dedicated webpage where residents can access the survey: <https://www.pagosasprings.co.gov/home-page/page/saving-our-sewers-sos-investing-future-our-wastewater-system>.

Harris also encouraged residents to subscribe to the town's newsletter.

When talking about responses received from the survey concerning transparency and communication from the town about the project, Harris stated, "We do encourage you to please go on our website and subscribe to our newsletter, because that is where this information is regularly carried."

Harris explained that the survey

presents three options for potential funding mechanisms for the PSSGID to address its sewage system issues, which included a fee increase, a 1 percent sales tax within town limits or additional property taxes.

"The survey, first and foremost, it is not statistically valid," Harris said, explaining there is a small sample size and a lot of "what we're taking are just people's opinions."

Harris noted that, as of July 28, the town had received 113 survey responses.

The proposal to raise the fee from \$71.25 to about \$201, "almost tripling that rate," was not well received, with 66 percent of respondents indicating they "were very unsupportive of that," Harris explained.

He then noted that 61 percent of respondents expressed support for a 1 percent sales tax within town limits.

The third option proposed raising property taxes, which Harris noted that 75 percent of respondents indicated they would not support.

The survey also asked which of the three proposed options is the most appealing, with 82 percent of respondents indicating the most appealing option is a 1 percent sales tax, Harris explained.

He also explained that an open-

ended question was included in the survey for respondents to provide additional feedback, and that concerns about equity were brought up, with some suggesting a "resort tax ... to distribute the financial burden more equitably, especially targeting non-local or short-term visitors."

Harris noted that a sales tax would be paid for by both locals and visitors.

"There were some concerns raised over property taxes," Harris added, noting specifically that property taxes disproportionately affect long-term owners and retirees.

He went on to mention that something not included in the survey, but a sentiment being expressed by constituents, is that "there's a sense of urgency."

"We need to get moving on this sooner than later," he added.

Council member Leonard Martinez commented that the town is still in the listening phase, suggesting that the community listening sessions have been productive and successful in terms of informing people of the situation.

He explained that the town now has data it can review after acquiring the needed equipment to properly assess the sewage system.

"We really began to understand

what is that we're looking at," he said, adding, "The numbers were hard to swallow."

He went on to mention that a "real" and "systemic" solution needs to be put forward, while thinking about how to use as many resources as possible from as many sources as possible.

Martinez also mentioned that the majority of people attending the listening session were town residents, but that about 30 percent of attendees were county residents.

He said that people were "very honest about the notion of taxation without representation and things like that."

Commissioner Veronica Medina explained that she also attended a listening session and that another sentiment being expressed is that "The question for the ballot should really be for the whole county, not just necessarily for the town."

She noted that she understands the reasoning for the town wanting it to be just a town ballot question, "but it affects the whole county."

Medina referenced Martinez's comments about taxation with representation, saying, "That's how a lot of people in the county feel."

■ See Town A7

Division of Insurance: Average premium increases of 13.6 percent requested for small group market, small employer definition to change

Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies Division of Insurance

The Colorado Division of Insurance (DOI), part of the Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA), released preliminary information on 2026 small group market private health insurance plans.

Five insurance companies — Anthem's Rocky Mountain Hospital and Medical Services, Kaiser Foundation of Colorado, Kaiser Permanente, United Healthcare Insurance Company, and United Healthcare of Colorado — plan to offer 383 plans across the state for 2026.

Health insurance companies are asking the division to approve, on average, 13.6 percent higher premiums for Coloradans in 2026. These requested rate increases impact approximately 172,000 Coloradans.

The definition of a small employer for health-insurance coverage purposes is shifting from an employer employing one to 100 employees to an employer employing one to 50 employees on average in a calendar year. This change has been made in accordance with Senate Bill 24-073.

"The requested premium increases for plan year 2026 will put employers in the position of making difficult decisions on how to pay for health insurance for their employees," said Colorado Insurance Commissioner Michael Conway. "Once again, this

year it will be important for employers to shop for the best option available for their employees as there may very well be more affordable options in the market. And we will continue to work to ensure that the rates we approve are appropriate and justified."

Average requested rate increase by insurance company

The average requested rate increase by insurance company:

- Kaiser Foundation of Colorado: 7.8 percent.
- Kaiser Permanente: 3.6 percent.
- Rocky Mountain Hospital and Medical Services (Anthem): 14.5 percent.
- United Healthcare of Colorado: 15.5 percent.
- United Healthcare Insurance Company: 16.7 percent.
- Total: 13.6 percent.

Average requested rate increase by rating area

The average requested increase for the West-Mountain Region is 14.9 percent.

Here is how the requested premium increases will hit consumers' wallets in the western region of the state in 2026:

- Age: 21.
- 2026 average requested silver plan monthly premium: \$715.96.
- Requested premium increase:

17.2 percent.

Annual increase in premium: \$1,263.95.

- Age: 45.
- 2026 average requested silver plan monthly premium: \$1,033.85.
- Requested premium increase:

17.2 percent.

Annual increase in premium: \$1,825.15.

- Age: 60.
- 2026 average requested silver plan monthly premium: \$1,943.13.
- Requested premium increase:

17.2 percent.

Annual increase in premium: \$3,430.37.

Small employer definition size analysis

SB24-073 changed the definition of a small group employer from "no more than one hundred (100) eligible employees" to "no more than fifty (50) eligible employees" pursuant to an evaluation by the division.

The law required the division to evaluate whether the small group market eligibility change would result in an additional rate increase of more than 3 percent. If that was the case, the small group market eligibility change would be repealed and the small group market would remain at employers with one to 100 employees.

The division's analysis showed that the impact of the small group

market eligibility change was an additional 0.8 percent increase in premiums, allowing the change to move forward.

Employers with 51-100 employees have up to five years to make the switch to the large group market. Those employers should contact their insurance agents to understand the options available to them.

Market change for 2026

Anthem's HMO Colorado has informed the DOI that it will discontinue its small group products effective Jan. 1, 2026. HMO Colorado's enrollment had been steadily declining and its decision impacts less than 0.9 percent of Coloradans enrolled in the small group market.

Anthem will continue to offer small group health benefit options in every county across the state through Rocky Mountain Hospital and Medical Services.

Access to filings

The small group plans and requested premiums from the insurance companies, also called filings, are accessible at the DOI's "Insurance Plan Filings & Approved Plans" website.

A step-by-step guide on accessing insurance filings and submitting comments can be found here.

The DOI will accept comments on small group market filings through Aug. 12.

Chamber

■ Continued from A5

Grillin' and Distillin' on Aug. 23 at the Archuleta County Fairgrounds is fast approaching. There is still time to enter as a master griller or backyard BBQer. The day will be filled with fun activities and great live music.

The live music for this event includes Tylor Brandon and SolOverLuna. Both are no stranger to the Pagosa music scene, and they will be paying up a storm.

Another new component of the

event is the distilling part. We will have multiple distillers from Colorado serving up spirit and whiskey tastings. Just imagine a relaxed afternoon of great BBQ and whiskey. There will also be retail vendors.

Tickets for the event are available online at www.pagosachamber.com for either the BBQ or whiskey tasting, or a combo ticket.

Not a whiskey aficionado? No problem. Other alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages will be avail-

able for sale by the glass. Don't miss out on this inaugural event at the Archuleta County Fairgrounds beginning at noon and lasting until about 5 p.m., when the awards will be handed out.

We're looking forward to seeing you there either as a participant or a spectator.

ColorFest

Don't forget that ColorFest tickets to the Passport or the Bands and Brews

event on Sept. 19 and 20, respectively, are also on sale at www.pagosachamber.com.

The restaurants are really shaping up this year for the Sept. 19 event and we're getting commitments from breweries as well. Remember that this event will also be moved to Yamaguchi Park. Tickets are available at www.pagosachamber.com.

With fall comes some great Chamber events. Make sure you are a part of the fun.

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Town

■ Continued from A6

Harris then explained that with the current lodging tax rates in the town and county at 4.9 percent and 1.9 percent, respectively, roughly \$1 million is being generated.

He noted that if the county were to double its lodging tax, that would theoretically double the revenue.

He explained that the PSSGID would need approximately \$3.6 million annually to address everything.

“So, a lodging tax would only get us part of the way,” he said, explaining that adding other initiatives such as a fee increase or sales tax would mean multiple ballot initiatives, claiming that “muddies the water.”

Harris also noted that the town council would be talking about considering calling an election for this November at its next regular meeting, scheduled for Tuesday, Aug. 5.

He mentioned that the “one common denominator” of the sewer system is, “people come to town to go to school, they come to town to go to church, they shop here, they dine here.”

He commented that all over the country jurisdictions have some sort of mechanism to help fund their communities with their visitors.

“You’re helping pay for amenities in that community,” he said, explaining it is through lodging or sales tax and using the example of Durango’s sales tax.

“You’re helping support that community,” he added.

He went on to mention that when considering a sales tax, part of that money helps pay for the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District’s (PAWSD’s) needs, and that the PSSGID contributes about 25 percent to PAWSD’s sewer treatment load.

“There are benefits to our larger community that are felt by our sewer operations here in town,” he added.

In response to questions from Commissioner John Ranson, Harris explained that the long-term plan is to build a sewage treatment facility at Yamaguchi Park South, which he noted is a seven- to 10-year process, and that the town has initiated conversations with the state on permitting.

Harris also explained that the \$80 million to \$100 million needed is in “today’s dollars,” warning that prices will likely only go up.

“It’s a tough situation that we’re in, but here is a solution,” Harris said.

Council member Matt DeGuise expressed that the council does not want to be in the sewage business as the long-term goal is to be able to hand off the system to PAWSD in a working condition.

Mayor Shari Pierce commented, “There’s kind of an urgency to the

situation,” explaining that the town recently got \$4.5 million in bonds to address priority problems with the sewage system, and then systems failed.

She commented that it cost approximately \$140,000 per pump that went down.

“So, that takes a lot of our funding that we just put together,” Pierce said.

Pagosa Springs Public Works Director Karl Johnson explained that at one point there were four pumps down.

“We have to have spares on hand,” Pierce said, explaining the town did not when the pumps failed and was forced to rent a pump.

Johnson noted that it costs roughly \$30,000 to rent a pump to keep the system functioning.

“But is it meeting the duty that it’s been asked to do?” Johnson asked rhetorically, explaining that it’ll cost approximately \$85,000 to purchase a new pump, and the town needs two of them.

“So, you see how the money is just going out the door quickly,” Pierce said.

She went on to comment that the town can raise rates or go to the voters with a sales tax or property tax increase proposal, but if the town waits to do it jointly with the county, then the ballot question will be pushed out a year.

If it is just a town ballot question, “I think that helps us get more in place where we need to be to have the funding to get us through, what I consider, to be a pretty urgent situation in the town,” Pierce said, noting that the urgency of the situation is the main reason for not waiting and working in conjunction with the county.

Martinez commented that it was expressed to him by Johnson that the pump manufacturer has Pagosa Springs on its wall for three things that occur nowhere else in the world, which include pumping sewage 7.5 miles and up 500 feet in elevation.

“We sure took on a lot of risk here,” he said, explaining he is not interested in “bashing” previous decisions, but that the town is at a point where it could get the right system in place to benefit the whole county.

Pierce also expressed that it is an economic piece because schools and downtown businesses need to have properly functioning sewage systems.

“It is a community issue, in my opinion,” she said.

U.S. 160 construction update

During the same meeting, the BoCC and town council heard an update on the U.S. 160 construction project from Meredith Greene,

one of the Colorado Department of Transportation’s (CDOT’s) public information managers for the project.

Greene explained that, as of July 28, construction crews were on working day 84 of 324, which is approximately 25 percent.

She explained that “quite a bit” of the utilities from 1st Street to 3rd Street are complete, in conjunction with the town’s additional utility work.

“We are supposed to start paving overnight on [July 31],” Greene indicated, explaining that is barring any inclement weather.

She noted paving will begin from 1st through 3rd streets.

She also explained that she would be meeting with businesses in the area to inform them that some driveways will be closed for a matter of days while the concrete sets.

Greene noted that CDOT is working with a few different concrete mixes to assess the dry time, but that “of course, we want it done correctly.”

She also noted that she was informed by the CDOT engineering team that “if anybody tries to write their name in the concrete, or tries to get cute and do that, then it will delay the project a month, so please don’t.”

Greene went on to mention that geothermal work is also happening along with the rerouting of sidewalks near 5th Street and Lewis Street and that new storm water system installation is occurring at the intersection with 4th Street.

“There’s a lot of moving parts right now,” she said.

Greene explained that along with weekly updates published in The SUN, she is encouraging people to sign up for CDOT’s email blast.

She noted that people have to sign themselves up and that CDOT can’t sign people up for it, otherwise it would be considered solicitation.

Greene mentioned the email blast is the best way to receive project updates “on the fly” for things like an emergency water shut off that is not included in the weekly update.

CDOT will be hosting an open-house event at the Ross Aragon Community Center, located 451 Hot Springs Blvd., on Aug. 13 from 5 to 7 p.m. to provide “big updates” and celebrate project milestones, Greene explained.

“All are welcome,” she added.

Martinez asked about the project’s progress and what things are expected to be completed by the end of this working season.

“We are going to have this whole entire north side complete by the time we have project shutdown in November, Decemberish,” Greene said, noting that a lot of it depends

on the weather.

She noted that CDOT still has 4th Street through 8th Street to pave, along with the town’s work on infrastructure in the area.

“The reality is we hope to have the Hot Springs [Boulevard] intersection open shortly after we finish this paving here on 1st through 3rd,” she added.

Ranson asked if CDOT is purchasing its concrete in Archuleta County, with Greene replying that the “short answer is yes.”

She explained that CDOT is preparing a poster for the open house event “to show economic return on investment for Pagosa Springs and Archuleta County.”

Greene added that is “in addition to the fact that we have full-time staff living here throughout the course of the project.”

She explained CDOT is planning to talk about that at the open house.

Ranson also asked when sidewalks would be completed, with Greene explaining that CDOT’s scope only goes so far in from the side of the highway and that it is working in conjunction with the town on sidewalks, but that they should be completed on the north side by the end of this working season.

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Fire district wins dunk tank competition at fair

By Greg Dykstra

Wolf Creek Gun and Bow Association

This year’s Archuleta County Fair resulted in a big splash for the Archuleta County commissioners.

Commissioners Veronica Medina, Warren Brown and John Ranson all volunteered for our dunk tank as “dunkes.” Ranson had the least amount of time on the tank, but garnered the most dunks.

Our first responders assisted with the action by competing for bragging rights by accumulating the largest number of commissioner dunks.

The contest ended in a tie of seven dunks each, with six volleys of balls thrown at the commissioners.

However, Capt. Anthony Ferguson from the Pagosa Fire Protection District (PFPD) managed to throw a

ball with such force that it tripped the release handle on the tank, sending a commissioner to the depths even though the target was missed.

Ferguson was the MVP of the team, and it was decided that the PFPD team won the event and have the 2025 Dunk Tank Bragging Rights of the first responders. Congratulations to Ferguson for leading his team to victory.

Other contestants in the dunk tank competition included Anaya Engleking, LaJara McClure and Zaen Mitchell, who all won a \$20 gift certificate as winners of the dunk tank drawing.

The Wolf Creek Gun and Bow Association would like to thank all of the participants in the dunk tank competition and other games. We would also like to thank the Rotary Club for allowing us to borrow its dunk tank

for this event and allowing us to raise funds for our archery range(s).

The Wolf Creek Gun and Bow Association is still looking for land to build a community firearms range for all shooting disciplines. We are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, and donations are tax-deductible. Anyone interested in donating or leasing land for a firearms range can contact us at contact@wolfcreekgunandbow.org.

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Drought

■ **Continued from front**
state drought stage.

Ramsey noted that Hatcher is in “really good shape,” largely due to the pipeline from Fourmile Creek that supplies the lake with water being turned off due to calls by senior water users later than normal this year.

However, Ramsey commented that the San Juan River is “low” at 48 cubic feet per second (cfs) as of the day of the meeting and that the state drought stage for the area is stage two, which indicates severe drought.

As of 9 a.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 6, the San Juan River was flowing at 24.2 cfs at Pagosa Springs.

According to a PAWSD press release on the drought declaration, drought stage two is “an advance notice of severe drought conditions” and aims to reduce water usage by 20 to 30 percent.

Under stage two, outdoor irrigation is only allowed between 6 p.m. and 9 a.m. and only every other day, according to the press release. Additionally, irrigation is only allowed Monday through Friday and is not allowed on the weekends.

Ramsey commented that watering at night is a “good practice” in all cases since it helps conserve water and prevent losses to evaporation from watering during the day.

Properties with odd address numbers are allowed to water on odd-

numbered calendar days, while properties with even addresses can water on even-numbered days.

Under drought stage two, gardens can only be hand watered using a hose or drip irrigation, the release states.

Restaurants are only allowed to serve water on request under stage two, the release states, and hotels are encouraged to only replace towels and bed linens for new guests or at the request of existing guests.

Additionally, for residential properties, drought stage two includes a doubling of tier rate fees for usage of water above 4,000 gallons per equivalent unit.

Ramsey noted during the meeting that PAWSD’s drought management plan requires a vote of the board to enter into drought stages above voluntary drought.

PAWSD board chairman Gene Tautges commented that the drought restrictions help protect “next year’s water” and are a proactive measure.

Ramsey commented that is a “good way to look at it.”

The board then discussed how water levels in the river are measured and how agricultural users withdrawing water from the river may impact or control PAWSD’s drought stages.

Ramsey stated that PAWSD staff had to place sandbags to maintain flow into the ditch that diverts water from the river to the San Juan Water

Treatment Plant.

He added this is below where water from the Park Ditch reenters the river, which Ramsey stated is a major irrigation return, and is an indicator of how low water levels are.

However, he stated that the diversion that takes water from the river for the Snowball Water Treatment Plant, located further upstream, has not had similar issues with flow.

PAWSD board member Bill Hudson asked Ramsey to give him a reason why the district should not go into stage two drought.

Ramsey replied that the district should go into drought stage two since this would follow the drought management plan, which he noted was approved in 2020 and written by a citizen committee.

“We’re following that plan,” he said.

Tautges commented that he believes that PAWSD is also thinking about next year’s water, in addition to this year’s.

He then asked for a motion to move into drought stage two, with PAWSD board member Glenn Walsh moving to enter stage two drought and Hudson seconding the motion.

Walsh commented that not putting the plan in place would be “really counterproductive.”

He commented that the board should potentially consider lowering the number of gallons customers can

use during the winter before they pay additional water use fees compared to the summer, since customers are not using water for irrigation in the winter.

Tautges commented that this is a “good question” and something the board should potentially return to later this year.

Ramsey explained that the previous drought plan was based exclusively on water levels in PAWSD’s lake system and in the San Juan River.

He added that this plan would typically only allow the district to enter drought late in the year and ensured the district was always behind the drought conditions and that the new plan is more proactive.

Walsh added that the new plan provides early-season triggers based on when water is shut off at Fourmile and other factors.

Tautges commented that the district could potentially lower the drought stage if the area receives a substantial amount of rain, which Ramsey confirmed.

“A lot of work went into this,” Tautges said. “It’s a much better drought management plan than the one I remember working with ... and I see no reason not to follow all the good work that went into it.”

The board then unanimously voted to enter drought stage two.

josh@pagosasun.com

Restrictions

■ **Continued from front**
the Archuleta County Sheriff’s Office (ACSO):

- Fire: “The building, maintaining, attending, or using any fire, campfire, coal or wood burning stove, any type of charcoal fueled broiler, or open fire of any type in undeveloped areas, is NOT authorized during Archuleta County fire restrictions. (refer to EXEMPTIONS).”
- Burn permits: “Burn permits issued shall not be authorized during the fire restriction period.”
- Fireworks: “The USE of ALL fireworks is prohibited in a fire ban. This includes ‘permissible fireworks’ such as but not limited to small fireworks devices designed to produce audible or visual effects by combustion, fountains, cones, spinners, sparklers, poppers, snake or glow worm pellets and other trick noisemakers.”
- It adds, “Fireworks as defined in section 12-28-101(3) C.R.S. and shall specifically include ‘permissible fireworks’ as defined in section 12-28-101(8) C.R.S.”
- Open burning: “Agricultural burning of crop land, fields, rangeland, weed burning, debris burning, slash piles, prescribed burning and any open burning including ‘bon fires’ that require a permit from the fire authority having jurisdiction, will not be allowed during Archuleta County fire restrictions.”
- Shooting: “Shooting tracer rounds or explosive type targets are prohibited. The use of an explosive initiation system requiring a burning fuse line is prohibited.”
- Smoking: “Smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site, or while stopped in an area of at least six feet diameter that is barren or cleared of all combustible material is NOT authorized during Archuleta County fire restrictions.”

Exemptions during fire restrictions

The items below are approved exemptions during fire restrictions according to the ACSO’s document on the Stage 1 restrictions:

- Fire: “Recreational fires will be limited to appliances fueled by bottled gas, or pressurized liquid fuel, at developed parks, campgrounds, private residences, or picnic area and not closer than 30 feet from an undeveloped area.
- “Recreational fires within a permanently constructed fire grate in a developed park, campground, private residence, or picnic area and not closer than 30 feet from an undeveloped area.”
- The document includes the following definition: “Liquid or Gas-Fueled Appliances such as grills, camp stoves, and Tiki torches that burn liquid or gaseous fuels and can be shut off”
- The document adds, “Recreational camp fires will also be limited to burning material other than rubbish or debris where the fuel being burned is not contained in a portable outdoor fireplace or [barbecue] grill and has a total fuel area of 2ft wide x 2ft long x 2ft high, protected by a permanent fire ring structure and covered by a steel grate, for pleasure, religious, ceremonial, cooking, warmth, or similar purposes. This includes fires in barrels and drums; fixed, permanent outdoor fireplaces; and [barbecue] pit fires.”
- Chain saws: “Operating a chain saw with a USDA or SAE approved

spark arresting device properly installed and in effective working order and having a chemical pressurized fire extinguisher of not less than eight (8) ounces capacity by weight, and possessing one large size pointed shovel with an overall length of at least thirty-six (36) inches is allowed during fire restrictions. The extinguisher shall be with the chain saw operator. The shovel may be kept with the fueling supplies, but readily available for quick use.”

- Charcoal grills: “Charcoal grills use either charcoal briquettes or all-natural lump charcoal as their fuel source. The charcoal, when burned, will transform into embers radiating the heat necessary to cook food.
- “Charcoal grill fires at private residences or within a permanently constructed fire ring structure covered by a steel grate in a developed park, campground, or picnic area are allowed during fire restrictions.”
- Charcoal barbecue grills shall not be closer than 30 feet from an undeveloped area, it notes.
- Chimineas or portable outdoor fireplace: “A chiminea or a portable outdoor fireplace at private residences or within a developed park, campground, or picnic area and are not closer than 30 feet from an undeveloped area and not closer than 15 feet of a structure or combustible material, with covers, screens, spark arresters, and grates is allowed during Archuleta County fire restriction.”
- A chiminea is defined within the document as a freestanding front-loading fireplace or oven with a bulbous body and usually a vertical smoke vent or chimney.
- It further notes, “Fires start very quickly in chimineas after ignition with papers and small pieces of wood. When in full burn after just 15 minutes, they give off tremendous heat due to their design which allows much more air to be drawn in than, for example, a fire basket.”
- A portable outdoor fireplace is defined as a “commercially purchased portable, outdoor, solid-fuel-burning fireplace that may be constructed of steel, concrete, clay, or other non-combustible material. A portable outdoor fireplace may be open in design or may be equipped with a small hearth opening and a short chimney or chimney opening at the top. These devices must be operated according to the manufacturers’ instructions with all covers, screens, spark arresters, and grates in place. Portable outdoor fireplaces shall not be operated within 30 feet of a structure or combustible material.”
- Heating devices: “Any fires contained within liquid-fueled or gas-fueled stoves, lanterns or heating devices are allowed during fire restrictions.”
- The document offers the following definition: “Liquid or Gas-Fueled Appliances such as fire pits, grills,

camp stoves, and Tiki torches that burn liquid or gaseous fuels and can be shut off. This does not include any device that burns solid fuels such as wood or charcoal and which must be extinguished.”

- Permit fires: Exemptions approved under these temporary fire restrictions include the following permitted fires.
- 1. “Permitted fires by persons with a permit specifically authorizing the prohibited act such as professional fireworks displays. Contact must be made with the permitting authority to verify the status of permits issued prior to the establishment of burn restrictions.”
- 2. Fire department/district training fires.
- 3. “Burning of explosive waste by manufacturers of explosives in areas zoned for industrial use, when the burning is supervised by the fire protection district.”
- 4. “Open fires or open burning by any federal, state, or local officer in the performance of official fire suppression functions.”
- 5. Individuals operating under any of the above exemptions shall take adequate measures to prevent uncontrolled fires, the document notes. Possible measures include, but are not limited to:
- i. Containers of adequate water or dry soil nearby.
- ii. Shovels, fire extinguishers or other extinguishing agents nearby.
- iii. Coordination with the local fire department or district to be on the scene or standby during an activity.
- Tiki torches: “Tiki torches at private residences or within a developed park, campground, or picnic area and are not closer than 30 feet from an undeveloped area and not closer than 15 feet of a structure or combustible material is allowed during Archuleta County fire restrictions.”

The document offers the following definition: “Liquid or Gas-Fueled Appliances such as fire pits, grills, camp stoves, and Tiki torches that burn liquid or gaseous fuels and can be shut off. This does not include any device that burns solid fuels such as wood or charcoal and which must be extinguished.”

- Welding and cutting torches: “Welding or operating an acetylene or other torch with an open flame within an area that is barren or cleared of all combustible material at least 10 feet on all sides from the equipment is allowed during fire restrictions.
- “Welding and cutting torch appliances, as described below in the definition section, may only be operated in an area no closer than 30 feet from an undeveloped area.”
- The document defines welding and cutting torch appliances as “Gas cylinder mixtures, electric and/or portable powered welders and cutting appliances that produce heat, flame, sparks, molten metal slag, etc.”
- Wood pellet grills: “Approved wood pellet grills are exempt under

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Ballot

■ **Continued from front**
pass through a second reading of the council, would repeal the current sales tax and then re-adopt it to enact the new sales tax rate.

The decision comes after the town held a series of listening sessions on the issue, determining that the sales tax option — as opposed to raising fees for wastewater customers or raising property taxes — is the best option to pay for the critical system repairs.

Town Manager David Harris has stated that a public survey, and from “non-scientific” surveys of public sentiment at town-hosted listening sessions, show that the sales tax option is the most popular option among the public.

At the Aug. 5 meeting, Harris explained that he has also met with various groups throughout the county to “solicit their opinions of ‘what should we do?’ regarding our sewer system.”

He noted that the main public concern that he has heard “is the fact that we pump our affluent uphill.”

The current sewer system, operated by the Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District (PSS-GID), conveys the town’s wastewater, through a series of pump and lift stations, 7 miles uphill to the Vista Wastewater Treatment Plant, owned and operated by Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD).

According to the town’s website, challenges include an aging pipe system, averaging about 50 years of age, with about a third of the pipe system either failing or in need of immediate repair, and the continued costs of pump failures and maintenance to keep this system running.

Harris said, “We do about 325,000 gallons of sewage a day and maintain about 17.5 miles of sewer lines in the ground and we pump uphill about 7 and half miles.”

It was noted \$15 million would be needed just to address critical up-grades and repairs to the identified category 4 and 5 problems with the current pipe system, reminding the council that the town issued \$4.5 million in bonds to partially address these problems and to fund the cleanup of the old lagoon and for the purchasing of equipment to perform “in-house” repairs.

The PSSGID also faces a \$2 million price tag for its share of upgrading PAWSD’s Vista plant to bring it into compliance with state regulation 85, as well as \$25 million to upgrade the category 3, 2, and 1 aging pipes and up to \$7 million for a lift station at 1st Street.

Harris added that if the town were to look at building its own treatment plant downtown, it would cost in the neighborhood of \$40 million to \$60 million, adding that costs “for infrastructure have gone through the roof, not just for our community, but nationwide.”

He continued, “All in all, we’re looking at \$80 [million] to \$100 million needed.”

The sales tax option, Harris explained, is the most viable option for funding because it would be generated by both residents and visitors alike “and is more equitable for our residents.”

He noted it would create a dedicated fund that can only be used for sewer infrastructure maintenance, but it would make retail and grocery purchases more expensive, adding that “for a family of four, the price of groceries would go up roughly about \$15 per month.”

A non-scientific survey (due to its small sample size) conducted by the town shows that out of the three options presented — a sales tax increase, fee hike or property tax

increase — 81 percent of the respondents favored the sales tax increase, he explained.

The town “is kind of the hub of our larger community. People come here definitely to go to school, go to church, to dine, to shop ... so, they end up using our facilities, and, ultimately, one of the challenges is that we have to be able to flush our toilets,” he said.

Town Attorney Bob Cole explained that the sales tax ordinance language repeals the existing tax to be replaced with a new sales tax, if the voters approve it on Nov. 4.

Cole added that the ballot language restricts the revenues to be collected for the sole purpose of sewer infrastructure and maintenance.

“The ballot question proposes that the sales tax would begin Jan. 1 of 2026 ... and it also proposes that the tax would remain in perpetuity until the town council or town voters initiated a provision to appeal it,” he explained to the council.

When opened to questions, council member Brooks Lindner said that he was “a little surprised” that the ordinance came before council so fast, with council member Leonard Martinez responding that the impression he got from the public listening sessions was that this was an “urgent” issue that people want to get started on.

Harris added that he got the impression that the public wished “we’d have gotten started on this earlier, so that’s kinda where this came about.”

Martinez said that he’s “all in on this” and is “willing, able, and ready to lead the campaign” to pass the measure.

Mayor Shari Pierce said that, in her talks with town residents, “I’ve not had a single one tell me that we should do anything different than

this sales tax.”

Pierce explained that the campaign committee would target educating voters about the issue.

Council member Madeline Ber-gon expressed that she was “glad we are finally taking steps to address these issues and it feels really good to be taking these proactive steps,” with council member Matt DeGuise adding, “We’re beyond the Band-Aid step of this problem.”

Martinez explained the voter rate for town voters is about 500 to 600 people out of a total of 1,500 residents, and that he feels good about the number of people the campaign has “already touched” at the listening sessions and through other messaging means.

When opened to public comment, resident Bill Hudson worried that there was not enough time to get the message out, saying that “the ballot measures that have succeeded in this town have spent six months to a year selling the idea.”

He added that he thought April would be a more favorable election to get it passed.

Lindner expressed that he agreed with waiting until the April election.

“The urgency is meaningless if it doesn’t succeed ... When you have more time, you have time to strategize against misinformation and the arguments that will come out against you. You have time to go on the offensive and anticipate what they are gonna say,” he said.

When a motion was made to approve the first reading of the ordinance to set an election and ballot language for the 1 percent town-only sales tax to support the sewer system overhaul, it was passed unanimously.

The council is anticipated to consider the second reading of the ordinance at its Aug. 19 meeting.

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FD-58120-A-1-1 (06/2019)

Fire

■ **Continued from front**

the fire, which is burning in a remote area where natural gas infrastructure, such as wells and pipelines, is located.”

On Wednesday morning, Aug. 6, Southwest Area Complex Incident Management Team 3 took over management of the fire.

Vega noted that, as of that team’s 9:32 a.m. Wednesday update, the fire was listed at 3,213 acres and zero percent containment.

He relayed that, according to the update, 157 personnel are on the fire, including three crews, 19 engines, three helicopters, four bulldozers and two water tenders.

He added that, per the update, the resources on the fire would be continuing with their full-suppression strategy on Wednesday using both indirect and direct tactics across the perimeter.

He added that firefighters would also be continuing with burning operations along the southeast side in Carracas Canyon.

He added that, on the north side, the report indicates the fire is holding along Carson National Forest Road 218A.

He further indicated that, according to the report, the Wednesday night shift would be scouting for opportunities to conduct additional burnout operations as conditions allow.

Vega noted the fire area has been receiving the same gusty and erratic winds as the Pagosa Springs area.

InciWeb noted that fire managers have requested that the public avoid the northern reaches of the ranger district where the fire is burning for safety of themselves and fire crews.

Vega echoed the sentiment that people should stay out of the area

and cautioned that no one should set up any drones in the area because it will shut down all air operations and come with penalties.

He further encouraged trying to reduce the amount of traffic going down County Road 500 because a lot of fire vehicles are using that road.

Vega noted the area will continue to see the drift smoke from the Middle Mesa Fire, as well as multiple other fires in the region.

Of the three Archuleta County properties in pre-evacuation status, two have residences with people, he explained.

“As we’re moving forward, we’re getting closer and closer to out of the woods for those three [properties],” Vega said.

Vega further explained that successful burnout operations were completed in the area closest to Colorado earlier this week.

“What that means is they’re utilizing a holding feature that’s already in place,” he said, explaining they work to reduce fuels along that holding feature and, when temperatures and relative humidity allow, crews put fire on the ground along the holding feature so that fire will work toward the main fire and “then now you have a solid black edge” that works as a holding feature or containment line.

Community notification system

Archuleta County utilizes Nixle, a community notification system, to disseminate “localized emergency situations and relevant community advisories.”

To sign up for Nixle, visit <https://www.archuletacounty.gov/services/citizens-alert-nixle/>.

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Tough Enough to Wear Pink Rodeo

SUN photos/Randi Pierce
Rodeo action at the 74th annual Archuleta County Fair kicked off with the Tough Enough to Wear Pink rodeo on Friday, Aug. 1. In addition to providing light-hearted pre-rodeo fun and serious rodeo action, the event helped raise funds for Pagosa Springs Medical Center's Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders.



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County commissioners approve lease with Wyndham, release insurance funds

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

During its regular meeting on Aug. 5, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) unanimously approved entering into a lease agreement with Wyndham Vacation Resorts Inc. for temporary office space for multiple county offices.

During a work session held earlier in the day, County Attorney Cathleen Giovannini explained that the county had been working with Wyndham for the past month negotiating a lease for the building located at the corner of Village Drive and Talisman Drive.

She indicated that Wyndham performed a study and found that a market rate for renting its building would be \$13,000, but that it agreed to lease the building to the county for \$6,500.

Giovannini also noted the lease would be for a two-year term, and that the county will also have the option to purchase the property at any point if it chooses to do so.

"We also have a right to purchase that property," she said, explaining the county will have the first right of refusal on the property.

She mentioned that state election officials visited the county's office spaces in the building located at 449

San Juan St.

A June 12 arson incident led to the county vacating those office spaces.

"And there were some concerns about our building even if we were able to get in right now," she said, noting that the county has also been working with insurance companies and the building's owner, Ronnie Urbanczyk, filing claims to get the building cleaned up.

Giovannini noted that the election officials saw the Wyndham building as well and were pleased with the accessibility of it for the public.

Prior to voting on the matter during the regular meeting, Commissioner John Ranson commented that he was "glad" to have the option to purchase the Wyndham building.

"We don't know where the longer-term building plans are gonna be with the admin building, but we don't want to get stuck again," he added, noting it will be a "good option" for the county to have if it is not ready to move into a new admin building in two years.

"I think that's gonna be very difficult on a two-year timeframe," Ranson said, adding, "It may take care of our long-term needs at a very, very reduced price compared to building."

Commissioner Warren Brown

explained that he had previously voted against moving the county offices uptown, and that "it was just a cost point on that, and that ship has sailed."

He explained the majority of commissioners spoke "and we need to move forward and we need to get this done."

Brown and Ranson both voted in favor of entering into the lease with Wyndham.

Commissioner Veronica Medina exited the meeting prior to hearing the matter, citing a "family emergency."

Insurance claims

During the same meeting, the BoCC also unanimously approved the release of insurance funds from County Technical Services Inc. to Urbanczyk "specifically for clean up and restoration of the physical building in the amount of \$311,803.41," as stated in the meeting's agenda.

During the work session, Giovannini also provided the BoCC with information in regard to insurance claims on the 449 San Juan St. building, explaining there are three portions involved with the county's insurance claim.

She explained that the first portion is for alleviation, mitigation and

restoration of the building, while the second portion deals with personal property.

"Some of that was pretty valuable," she said, specifically noting items such as the county's Dominion Voting System machines and county records that were damaged in the fire.

The third portion deals with relocation costs for the county, Giovannini mentioned.

"That is something we were also insured for," she said, explaining that it will take significant time to repair the building.

She also explained that the county received and accepted the lowest bid from a local company to perform repairs and cleanup, which was estimated at \$391,000.

She noted the insurance company "cut a check" for 80 percent for the "building cost alone," and that there are still large portions of the claim still outstanding.

Medina explained that the county has to give permission to release the funds, but that the insurance company is saying those funds are specifically for the building.

"So, those funds technically are not our funds; we do have to release them to Mr. Urbanczyk," she said.

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Commissioners discuss timing of potential lodging tax increase

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) discussed next steps for a potential lodging tax increase to be put on the ballot at its Aug. 5 work session.

County Manager Jack Harper explained the reason for having the matter on the work session agenda was to get direction from the commissioners, noting there is "certainly interest" in moving forward with the ballot question and "it's more of, actually, a question of timing."

Harper inquired if the commissioners would want to put something forward this November or next year.

Commissioner Warren Brown commented, "I think this is a great idea; I don't think we can pull it off in [90] days," explaining he'd like to start the process this year in hopes of putting something forward in 2026.

"If it even makes the ballot then, with all the needs and asks we have coming forward," he added.

Brown also explained that what he's learned from being in the community and how voting topics are handled, "we need to do a better, more complete job of educating the community and getting them on board, and beyond a small group, but a county-wide group to try to make sure this is going to be successful."

Brown commented the county would be following the same pattern that has been established over the last few years and that there would not be a high chance of getting the ballot

question passed this year.

Commissioner John Ranson also expressed concerns about how going to the ballot this November may not be plausible for the county, noting the same concern Brown mentioned with multiple entities in the community looking for funding.

Ranson also indicated that he does "really like the concept" of proposing an increase to the county's lodging tax rate and what those funds could be used for.

He went on to explain that he believes the county will be able to "come up with significant savings, which we already have ... going into next year."

He commented that if the county could show the public anywhere from \$500,000 to \$700,000, "that would go a long ways," in showing the county is trying to come up with capital for road projects, "but we need additional help."

Ranson noted the road and bridge fund has decreased from \$9 million to \$2 million over the years, "and we're at a point now where we really gotta watch it in the summer 'cause all those expenses come in and we're close to having a negative fund balance."

Ranson commented that the county needs to show constituents that it's doing the best with what it has.

"These savings are gonna go towards roads," he added, noting that would help the county in getting a ballot question approved.

Commissioner Veronica Medina suggested that the county needs to

have more listening sessions, "that are better advertised, and really get out the word."

She explained that she received "a lot of messages" from constituents who were unaware of the previous two listening sessions the BoCC has hosted on the matter.

"We gotta do a better job of communicating with the public on when those meetings are," she said, noting the first session had a bigger crowd, "because more people knew about it."

She asked if the BoCC would want to host another listening session this year or put out a community survey.

"I think there's other steps that we need to take besides just whether or not we're gonna go to ballot this year or next year," she said, noting the county still needs to communicate with the public.

Brown agreed with Medina, encouraging the option of putting out a survey that could also ask if the community wants to have a listening session.

"If we're gonna do the survey, see how they want to go forward with it," he said.

Medina also mentioned that "another part of those questions" is how much the increase should be, as well as what the community wants to see those dollars go toward.

She noted that commissioners have considered putting those funds "towards roads, solely," and that she has also brought up housing, infrastructure and child care as options.

She also commented that she would like to see some of those

funds go toward emergency medical services.

Brown also noted the county should provide information on what areas funding can be used for under the approved state legislation.

Harper explained that, from a staff perspective, if the commissioners wanted to go to ballot this year, that would change the timing of things.

Medina asked what kind of timeline is expected with sending out a survey and determining if there will be another listening session.

She then indicated that in September the county would be able to send out the survey and "understand where we're at" after getting the survey results back.

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Town receives positive financial audit for fiscal year 2024

By Derek Kutzer
Staff Writer

On July 15, the Pagosa Springs Town Council listened to an audit presentation for fiscal year 2024 given by Crimson Singleton, representing accounting and advisory services firm Hinton Burdick.

Singleton told the council that, overall, the town's general fund "is in a healthy position," adding that the town "is in a good spot, even though tax revenues are trending downward a bit."

She noted the capital improvement fund, which are assigned resources designated to be used for capital improvement projects, was left with a \$3.8 million fund balance.

"It's not unusual for this fund to fluctuate a little bit, because sometimes resources are saved up for big projects and then, as the project starts, the fund depletes a little bit,

but, overall, it's been steady the last couple of years," she said.

The town's tourism fund "increased a little bit, due to less expenditures and increased revenues," and "the geothermal fund had an increase of \$170,000," she said.

"All of the governmental funds [for fiscal year 2024] operated within the approved budgets," she said.

Town Manager David Harris thanked Singleton and her team for "their thoroughness and professionalism," adding that the town "will once again submit the ACFR to the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for recognition of

Achievement Award."

The town previously received a Certificate of Achievement in Financial Reporting from the GFOA for its annual financial report for the fiscal season of 2023.

"We want to have a tradition of good accounting," Harris said.

On the issue of debt, the independent auditors' report, compiled by Hinton Burdick, states, "At year-end, the Town had \$3,666,246 in governmental-type debt, and \$2,949,505 in proprietary debt. During the current fiscal year, the Town's total debt decreased by \$534,465."

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Photo courtesy Carlos Martinez

Emiliano Martinez, 8, recently placed second overall in the Drive, Chip and Putt held at the University of New Mexico Championship Golf Course in Albuquerque, N.M. He placed first in the putting discipline and second in the chipping discipline, earning a spot to compete in Hawaii in October and a chance to go to the Masters golf tournament in August, Ga., in April.

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**BEFORE THE COLORADO ENERGY AND CARBON MANAGEMENT COMMISSION
NOTICE AND APPLICATION FOR HEARING
DOCKET NO. 250700135
TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES AND TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:**

Pursuant to Rule 523.d, the Colorado Energy and Carbon Management Commission Staff has applied to the Commission for an Order transferring the Gramps Oil Field ("Gramps") and/or ("Field") to the Orphan Well Program to adjudicate and remedy allegations of threats to public health, safety, wildlife, and the environment at the Gramps Oil Field.

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

Date: October 1, 2025
Time: 9:00 a.m.

Place:
Virtual Hearing with Remote Access via Zoom
To participate virtually navigate to <https://ecmc.colorado.gov/> and locate the Zoom meeting link on the left side of the webpage.

Colorado Energy and Carbon Management Commission
1120 Lincoln Street, Suite 801
Denver, CO 80203

Deadline for Affected Persons to Petition: September 2, 2025

The Notice and documents related to this matter can be found on our "Hearing eFiling System Document Search" page here <https://otico.hylandcloud.com/DN-RCOGPublicAccess/index.html>. Select "Search for Docket Related Documents" from the pull-down menu, use the above "Docket Number", and select "Search". Published August 7, 2025 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (270214)

Change of Name

Name of Garrett Evan Funk-Gray is requested to be changed to Garrett Evan Funk.

Published July 24, 31 and August 7, 2025 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (269282)

**COMBINED NOTICE - PUBLICATION
CRS §38-38-103 FORECLOSURE SALE
NO. 2025-004**

To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with regard to the following described Deed of Trust:

On May 5, 2025, the undersigned Public Trustee caused the Notice of Election and Demand relating to the Deed of Trust described below to be recorded in the County of Archuleta records.

Original Grantor(s): Donald L. Clark and Mary E. Clark

Original Beneficiary(ies): Rio Grande Savings and Loan Association

Current Holder of Evidence of Debt: Rio Grande Savings and Loan Association

Date of Deed of Trust: December 09, 2009

County of Recording: Archuleta

Recording Date of Deed of Trust: December 14, 2009

Recording Information (Reception No. and/or Book/Page No.): 20909887

Original Principal Amount: \$85,000.00

Outstanding Principal Balance: \$37,953.61

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 8X, a consolidation of Lots 7 and 8 of Block 5, PIEDRA PARK SUBDIVISION NO. 4, pursuant to a Resolution Approving the Consolidation of Certain Lots in Archuleta County, Colorado recorded March 8, 2000 as Reception No. 20002323.

Purported common address: 254 Deer Park, Arboles, CO 81121.

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, 09/04/2025, 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 7/10/2025
Last Publication 8/7/2025
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: 05/05/2025

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

By: Elsa P. White, Public Trustee

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

Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden & Nelson, P.C.
100 North Broadway, Suite 2900, Oklahoma City, OK 73102-8665 (405) 293-4277

Attorney File # CLARK

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 July 10, 17, 24, 31 and August 7, 2025 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (264845)

DISTRICT COURT
ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO
Court Address: 109 Harman Park Drive
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Phone Number: 970-264-8160
Attorney for Plaintiff:
Daniel L. Fiedler #47916
190 Talisman Drive, Suite D-6

Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
970-507-8528
Case Number 2025CV300034
Plaintiff:
MCCULLISS OIL AND GAS, INC. and C.O.T.A. RESOURCES, INC.

Defendants:
PAGLAND INVESTORS, INC., ARCHULETA COUNTY PUBLIC TRUSTEE, PAGOSA LAKES PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION and All Unknown Persons Who Claim Any Interest In The Subject Matter Of This Action

**SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION
PLAINTIFF: MCCULLISS OIL AND GAS, INC. and C.O.T.A. RESOURCES, INC.**

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:

**SUBDIVISION: PAGOSA HIGHLANDS EST Lot: 73
PHE Sec: 25 Twn: 36 Rng 2.5W**

Respectfully submitted this 28th day of July, 2025.

/s/ Daniel L. Fiedler
Daniel L. Fiedler
First publication: August 7, 2025
Last publication: September 4, 2025
Published August 7, 14, 21, and 28, and September 4, 2025 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (269753)

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

Plaintiff:
Peregrine Property Owners Association, Inc.

v.
Defendants:

Kelly Brady, et al.
Case No.: 2025CV30027

Attorney for Plaintiff:
Christopher B. Conley (51651)
Eck, Conley & Richardson, PLLC
700 South 21st Street, Fort Smith, AR 72901
Tel. 479.242.5906

Email: ir@ecrlegal.com

**SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION
TO THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO**

TO THE FOLLOWING DEFENDANT(S): Jean G Wick-

er, James E Wicker, Don W Vickroy, Marita M Vickroy, Samuel David Killinger, Harry A Crissman, Mae Louise Crissman, Carl A Thornton, L Jerilyn Thornton, Mintia L Wilson, Thomas O Wilson, Jr

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to appear and defend against the claims of the complaint filed with the court in this action, by filing with the clerk of this court an answer or other response. You are required to file your answer or other response within 35 days after the service of this summons upon you. Service of this summons shall be complete on the day of the last publication. A copy of the complaint may be obtained from the clerk of the court.

If you fail to file your answer or other response to the complaint in writing within 35 days after the date of the last publication, judgment by default may be rendered against you by the court for the relief demanded in the complaint without further notice.

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

Published in the *Pagosa Springs Sun*
First Publication: July 24, 2025
Last Publication: August 21, 2025

/s/ Christopher B. Conley
Christopher B. Conley
Published July 24, 31, August 7, 14, and 21, 2025 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (269309)

DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO
RADIO
Court Address: 109 Harman Park Drive
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Tel.: 970.264.8160
Plaintiff:
Teal Landing Vacation Owners Association, Inc.

v.

Defendants:
Jeffrey Martin, et al.
Case No.: 2025CV30028

Attorney for Plaintiff:
Christopher B. Conley (51651)
Eck, Conley & Richardson, PLLC
700 South 21st Street, Fort Smith, AR 72901
Tel. 479.242.5906

Email: ir@ecrlegal.com

**SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION
TO THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO**

TO THE FOLLOWING DEFENDANT(S): Connie

Young, surviving joint tenant with right of survivorship of Ron A Richardson, deceased; Katherine L Robinson, surviving joint tenant with right of survivorship of Douglas G Robinson, deceased;

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to appear and defend against the claims of the complaint filed with the court in this action, by filing with the clerk of this court an answer or other response. You are required to file your answer or other response within 35 days after the service of this summons upon you. Service of this summons shall be complete on the day of the last publication. A copy of the complaint may be obtained from the clerk of the court.

If you fail to file your answer or other response to the complaint in writing within 35 days after the date of the last publication, judgment by default may be rendered against you by the court for the relief demanded in the complaint without further notice.

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

Published in the *Pagosa Springs Sun*
First Publication: July 24, 2025
Last Publication: August 21, 2025

/s/ Christopher B. Conley
Christopher B. Conley
Published July 24, 31, August 7, 14, and 21, 2025 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (269311)

FOR PLANNING COMMISSION HEARING ON August 28, 2025

BRIAN WATTIER, representing 84 Ranch, has applied for a WILDERNESS LODGING, BOARD CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT on the Parcel of SEC 9, TWN 34, RNG 1W, at 6252A US Hwy 84 Pagosa Springs, CO (PLN-BCUP-24-189). 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 August 28, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in the County Commissioners Meeting Room, 398 Lewis Street, Pagosa Springs and via Zoom Link.

Published August 7 and 21 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (270277)

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION FOR TREASURER'S DEED
2025-002**

To all current occupants, owners, parties of interest, and to all others listed on the mailing list on file at the Treasurer's Office:

You are hereby notified that on June 25, 2025, the Treasurer of Archuleta County, Colorado, sold a tax lien on the following property at public sale to ANNEE G KUEHLER ("COP HOLDER"):

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Subdivision: PAGOSA DEVEL SUB 1 Lot: 9 PORTION OF AND: Lot: 11 PORTION OF PD 1 Sec: 11 Twn: 35 Rng: 2W

PROPERTY ADDRESS: X COUNTY ROAD 411, PAGOSA SPRINGS, CO, 81147

A Certificate of Purchase was issued to the COP HOLDER for unpaid property taxes for the year 2018-2022. The property was assessed in the name of PAGOSA DEVELOPMENT ("PROPERTY OWNER")

On June 25, 2025, ANNEE G KUEHLER ("LAWFUL HOLDER"), the current certificate holder, filed an Application for a Public Auction of a Certificate of Option for Treasurer's Deed (COO), under C.R.S. 39-11-5-101.

NOTICE: The property will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, November 12, 2025. The sale will include the real estate and all interests held by the Lawful Holder, along with applicable fees, costs, and legal charges.

First Publication: 7/24/2025
Last Publication: 8/7/2025

Published in: PAGOSA SPRINGS SUN
You may track the Public Auction date on the Treasurer's website:

The property may be redeemed at any time before the actual public auction.

Dated: July 10, 2025
/s/ Elsa P. White
ELSA P. WHITE, TREASURER of Archuleta County,

Colorado
Published July 24, 31 and August 7, 2025 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (269317)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of Firma Marie Lucas
Case Number 2025 PR 30026

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 November 24, 2025 (date)*, or the claims may be forever barred.

Daniel L. Fiedler, Attorney at Law
190 Talisman Drive, Suite D-6
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Published July 24, 31 and August 7, 2025 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (269323)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of Linda Jean Daley
Case Number 2025 PR 30027

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 December 1, 2025, or the claims may be forever barred.

Daniel L. Fiedler, Attorney at Law
190 Talisman Drive, Suite D-6
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Published July 31, August 7 and 14, 2025 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (269573)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the *DAVIS ESTATE REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST* is the trade name under which the living man, Jacob-Lee Davis, transacts all business and affairs. The Trust exists for the protection, administration, and growth of its property and assets.

Declaration of Trust was filed with the Colorado Secretary of State on 06/20/2025, ID# 20251679884, and recorded with the Rio Grande County Clerk and Recorder on 06/23/2025, Reception # 202504055711.

All correspondence shall be directed to the Trustee at: **PO BOX 561, PAGOSA SPRINGS, COLORADO 81147**

This notice affirms the standing of the living man and the lawful operation of the Trust.

Published July 24, 31, August 7 and 14 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (269279)

ARCHULETA COUNTY JUNE 2025 PAYABLES VENDOR	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	VENDOR	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
PS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORP	DS FINAL PHASES B&C	\$476,547.00	RONALD V. LOWE	2025 FAIR PERFORMANCE	\$900.00
CIGNA HEALTH	EMPL BENEFITS	\$168,905.81	MEDICAL AIR SERVICES ASSN	EMPL BENEFITS	\$896.00
K5 STATEBANK	LF COMPACTOR	\$161,914.14	RECLA METALS	CNTY SUPPLIES	\$694.56
DECKARD TECHNOLOGIES	ANN SFTWR	\$33,075.00	ALPINE PORTABLE TOILETS	RNTLS & SERVICING	\$890.00
WELLS FARGO	COUNTY P-CARD PURCHASES	\$31,729.90	DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING ASSOC	EMPL TESTING	\$840.00
HUTCH AND SONS CONSTRUCTION	N PAGOSA REPAIR	\$28,285.00	BAYFIELD GLASS	WINDSHIELD REPLCS	\$835.00
SHORT-ELLIOTT-HENDRICKSON	LF MONITORING/CELL 4B ENG	\$27,979.23	BLAKE KENNEDY	RFND-APP FEE	\$825.00
HUMANE SOCIETY OF PAGOSA SPRINGS	IMPOUND FEES	\$22,500.00	CLEAN DESIGNS	DETEN REPAIR SVCS	\$821.60
4 CORNERS EQUIPMENT	EQUIP RNTLS	\$22,250.00	O'REILLY AUTO PARTS	CNTY PARTS & SUPPLIES	\$812.19
SHAMROCK FOODS	INMATE FOOD/KITCHEN SUPPLIES	\$19,429.25	LAWSON PRODUCTS	FLEET SUPPLIES	\$812.06
VAL'S VIP CLEANING	CLTY CLEANING SVCS	\$18,360.00	C EATON	PER DIEM-GFOA ANN CONF	\$793.21
KOY DINGMONG OATES	DHS LEGAL SVCS	\$16,106.40	O ODELL	PER DIEM-BASIC WETLAND DELINEATION	\$785.40
FLYERS ENERGY	CNTY FUEL	\$15,105.68	POSTMASTER	ANN BOX RENWALS	\$778.00
WORLD FUEL SERVICES	CNTY FUEL	\$14,219.85	CO BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONS	COW BG CHKS	\$760.50
PS MEDICAL CENTER	PUB HEALTH/INMATE MED SVCS	\$13,918.50	FERRRELLGAS	PROPANE/ANN TANK RNTL	\$749.45
BUILDINGS BY DESIGN	TRANSIT FACILITY CONSTR	\$12,228.98	GRAINGER	FLEET SUPPLIES	\$697.32
ECHO IT CONSULTING	SONICWALL MIGRATION	\$11,134.00	DJ GONZALES	ON CALL SVCS	\$691.00
ICENOGLE SEAVER POGUE P.C.	LEGAL SVCS	\$11,000.00	THE PONDEROSA LUMBER	CNTY SUPPLIES	\$676.83
C & J GRAVEL PRODUCTS	ASPHALT	\$10,735.16	BURNS FIGA & WILL P.C.	LEGAL SVCS	\$647.00
LPEA	CNTY ELECTRIC UTILITY	\$10,472.78	TEHRYS SACE HARDWARE	CNTY SUPPLIES	\$592.15
DRY LUMBER	CULVERT PIPE CR 302/SUPPLIES	\$16,106.40	PS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	CNTY ANN MBRSHIP	\$590.00
KNICKLE & COMPANY PC	YEAR-END AUDIT	\$10,035.71	A WILSON	PER DIEM-COPHAD CONF	\$584.44
WAGNER RENTS	EQUIP RENTAL/REPAIR SVC/PARTS/SUPPLIES	\$9,768.60	DESIGN-A-SIGN	DECALS/NAME PLATES	\$549.00
HEALTHY ARCHULETA	ARPA SUBMISSION #35/CONTRACT SVCS	\$9,366.72	COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION ASSN OF AMERICA	TRANSIT ANN MBRSHIP	\$500.00
MUTUAL OF OMAHA	EMPL BENEFITS	\$8,967.96	MODERN IMAGING SOLUTIONS	DETEN SUPPLIES	\$483.00
AXIS HEALTH SYSTEM	INMATE MED SVCS	\$7,975.24	LESLIE MONTROY	FAIR MUTTON BUSTER T-SHIRTS	\$450.00
QUILLER ELECTRIC	FAIR ELECTRICAL SVCS	\$7,849.42	DURANGO MOTOR CO	FLEET PARTS/SUPPLIES	\$446.46
PEAK PERFORMANCE FIRE & SAFETY SOLUTIONS	ANN INSPECTS	\$7,824.65	JLM TIRE	WASTE TIRE FEES	\$433.50
DELTA DENTAL OF CO	EMPL BENEFITS	\$7,815.99	BIG STATE INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY	W&P SUPPLIES	\$421.86
RELADYNE WEST	FLEET SUPPLIES	\$7,029.76	ASPIRE MEDICAL SERVICES AND EDUCATION	DHS MEN'S CLASSES	\$416.66
A SAFE PLACE IN PAGOSA	ARPA SUBMISSION #36/35B	\$6,594.54	COWBOY CARWASH	CNTY VEH MAINT	\$416.48
CENTURYLINK	CNTY LANDLINE/FAX UTILITY	\$6,527.46	E PROUD	PER DIEM-NWAC MGT	\$369.54
ARCH SCHOLARSHIPS IN ESCROW	2025 MOIF GRANT AWARD	\$6,000.00	REYNOLDS ASH & ASSOC	TRANSIT FACILITY CONSTR	\$357.50
INLAND KENWORTH US	FLEET REPAIR SVC/PARTS/SUPPLIES	\$5,347.45	PAGCO	FLEET SUPPLIES	\$350.93
AT&T MOBILITY	CNTY CELL PHONE DATA/USAGE	\$4,968.83	AMERICAN WEST FABRICATION	ACSO SUPPLIES	\$331.00
ASPEN VILLAGE MASTER ASSN	2901 CORNERSTONE ANN ASSESSMNT	\$4,700.57	PITNEY BOWES	DHS POSTAGE/METER LEASE	\$320.61
TOWN OF PAGOSA SPRINGS	LDG TAX/WATER UTILITIES	\$4,408.78	GLORIA MACHT	CPR/1ST AID CLASSES	\$320.00
ROSE MOUNTAIN DHS	DHS MNTHLY LEASE	\$4,166.67	JN LUBETZ	ON CALL SVCS	\$319.00
CO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION	O2 CSU EXT DIR	\$4,087.50	K JENSEN	ON CALL SVCS	\$319.00
PUB HARGOSA MEDICAL GROUP	PUB HEALTH CONTRACT SVCS	\$3,900.00	MOREHART MURPHY REGIONAL AUTO CNTR	FLEET PARTS & SUPPLIES	\$291.80
VALLEWEST	PROFESSIONAL SVCS	\$3,800.00	QUADIENT FINANCE	POSTAGE	\$268.85
BLACK HILLS ENERGY	CNTY NATURAL GAS UTILITY	\$3,788.64	SUSAN J. COPENHEAVER	ACSO SEWING SVCS	\$264.00
CONCRETE CONNECTION OF PAGOSA SPRINGS	SNOW REMOVAL	\$3,582.50	S KUHNIS	REIMB PREMIUM	\$264.00
MICHAEL HENDERSON	DRYWALL	\$3,500.00	WARNE CHEMICAL & EQUIPMENT	W&P SUPPLIES	\$245.92
CAPITAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS	CNTY COPIER LEASE/USAGE	\$3,295.29	MIGHTY AUTO PARTS	FLEET PARTS/SUPPLIES	\$243.58
PAGOSA PHOTOGRAPHY	2025 FAIR/RODEO PHOTOGRAPHY	\$3,200.00	AXXIS AUDIO OF DURANGO	ALARM MONITORING	\$240.00
VAN DIEST SUPPLY	HERBICIDES	\$3,014.85	GREAT FALLS DRAFTING	ARCHITECTURAL SVCS	\$236.25
MOUNTAIN LAND ASSOC	SURVEY PLAT/DOC REVIEW	\$2,900.00	STERLING	BG CHKS	\$221.48
BUICKSKIN TOWING & REPAIR	TOWING SVCS	\$2,878.18	ACCESS TRUCK PARTS	FLEET SUPPLIES	\$219.96
STROHECKER ASPHALT & PAVING	ASPHALT	\$2,568.75	W BROWN	MILEAGE REIMB-CCI SUMMER CONF	\$209.22
PARTS PLUS OF NM	FLEET PARTS/SUPPLIES	\$2,506.02	LA PLATA CNTY DEPT OF HUMAN SVCS	DHS CORE/CW SVCS	\$201.92
ARCH CNTY VICTIM ASSISTANCE PGRM	DHS CONTRACT SVCS	\$2,500.00	LA PLATA CNTY CORONER	MORGUE USE FEES	\$200.00
REGALIA	FAIR SUPPLIES	\$2,497.02	UNITED REPROGRAPHIC SUPPLY	CONTRACT SVCS	\$196.82
AZTEC MACHINE & REPAIR	R&B EQUIP	\$2,456.08	GEORGE T. SANDERS CO	B&G SUPPLIES	\$186.12
THE PAGOSA SPRINGS SUN	CNTY PUBLICATIONS	\$2,412.00	M BOWMAN	REIMB-EMPL APPREC SUPPLIES	\$175.55
ROCKY MTN MICROFILM AND IMAGING	DHS SFTWR MAINT/ANN FEE	\$2,320.00	ARCH CNTY SOLID WASTE	CNTY SW CHGS	\$172.50
AMAZON	ACSO SUPPLIES	\$2,254.51	ARCH CNTY WEED & PEST	AIRPORT SVCS	\$171.25
OOP BUSINESS SOLUTIONS	CNTY OFF/JANTL SUPPLIES	\$2,219.68	NEWEGG BUSINESS	COMP EQUIP	\$170.35
MSC INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY	FLEET SUPPLIES	\$2,199.89	4RIVERS EQUIPMENT	FLEET SUPPLIES	\$170.11



The Blotter

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

Archuleta County Sheriff's Office
July 21 — Littering, alcohol-open container/drink in vehicle, Great West Avenue.

July 22 — Theft, criminal mischief, information only, Turkey Lane.

July 22 — Warrant arrest, U.S. 160/ Village Drive.

July 23 — Information only, U.S. 160.

July 23 — Warrant arrest, warrant arrest, Eagle Drive.

July 23 — Trespass warning, warrant arrest, Navajo Trail Drive.

July 24 — Illegal possession or consumption of alcohol by minor, following too closely, driving under the influence of alcohol, DUI per se, Harman Park Drive/U.S. 160.

July 24 — Felony menacing-real/ simulated weapon, domestic violence, violation of protection order-criminal, Divide View Place.

July 24 — Failure to appear, View Place.

July 24 — Vicious dog with injury to person, Hidden Drive/North Pagosa Boulevard.

July 24 — Harassment-strikes/ shoves/kicks, Badger Road.

July 24 — Theft-\$300 to \$1,000, unauthorized use of financial transaction device-petty, crimes against at-risk adult/juvenile-theft over \$500, East Golf Place.

July 24 — Agency assist, information only, U.S. 84.

July 24 — Information only, U.S. 84.

July 24 — Possess weapon by previous offender, Colo. 151/County Road 988.

July 25 — Violating conditions of burn permit, River Run Drive/U.S. 160.

July 25 — Harassment by phone or computer-injury or damage threat DV, Oakwood Circle.

July 26 — Violation of protection order-criminal, Divide View Place.

July 28 — Criminal attempt to commit class five or six felony, second-degree assault on police officer or fireman minor injury, obstructing governmental operations, resisting arrest, disorderly conduct-petty offense, U.S. 160.

July 28 — Agency assist, Lake Forest Circle.

July 30 — Warrant arrest, U.S. 160/ Eagle Drive.

July 30 — Failure to comply, warrant arrest, Harman Park Drive.

July 30 — Warrant arrest, Colo. 151/U.S. 160.

July 31 — Information only, Eaton Drive/North Pagosa Boulevard.

July 31 — Assault in the third degree, Driftwood Drive.

Aug. 1 — Information only, Great West Avenue.

Aug. 1 — Recklessly discharges a firearm, illegal discharge of a firearm, criminal mischief \$300 to \$1,000 private, Jan's Court.

Aug. 1 — Lost/found property, Solomon Drive.

Aug. 1 — Violating conditions of burn permit, Indian Land Road.

Aug. 1 — Trespass warning, County Road 119.

Aug. 1 — Warrant arrest, U.S. 84.

Aug. 2 — Criminal mischief under \$300 private, Badger Place.

Aug. 2 — Agency assist, County Road 988.

Pagosa Springs Police Department

July 21 — Agency assist, Hot Springs Boulevard.

July 21 — Owner/custodian allowed animal to run at large, South 8th Street/South 7th Street/Durango Street.

July 22 — Lost/found property, Hot Springs Boulevard.

July 22 — Careless driving, failed to notify police of accident, U.S. 160.

July 23 — Lost/found property, Rosita Street.

July 23 — Theft/intends to deprive person, South 9th Street.

July 24 — Disorderly conduct/offensive utterance or gesture, trespass warning, Country Center Drive.

July 25 — Harassment, Hot Springs Boulevard.

July 25 — Lost/found property, East Pagosa Street.

July 25 — Reckless driving, Talisman Drive.

July 25 — Lost/found property, Hot Springs Boulevard.

Pagosa Springs Municipal Court: Judge Anthony D. Edwards

July 28 — Jacob Blandford, speeding 5-9 over PFL, one point off, fine, surcharge and costs — \$126.

July 29 — Yolanda Salas, animal at large, fine and costs — \$135.

July 29 — Daniel Snow, marijuana prohibited, possession of drug paraphernalia, fine and costs — \$185.

July 29 — Jefferson Quinn, criminal mischief, fine and costs — \$85.

July 29 — Danielle Miller, shoplifting, fine and costs — \$185.

July 29 — Louann Poma, animal at large, fine and costs — \$85.

July 29 — Jason Hollar, open container of alcohol in public place, fine and costs — \$85.

July 29 — Luis Molina, failed to yield when proceeding from a stop sign, three points off, fine, surcharge and costs — \$116.

July 29 — David Novak, failed to notify police of accident, 12 points off, fine and costs — \$185.

July 29 — James Moore, careless driving, four points off, fine and surcharge — \$167.

Archuleta County Court: Judge Justin P. Fay

July 23 — Charles M. Brashears,

license plates-expired, fines and costs — \$83.

July 23 — Jeffrey Thomas Powers, driving under the influence, 10 days electronic surveillance, 48 hours community service, 12 months probation, fines and costs — \$1,320.50.

July 24 — Scott Wilcox, fail to yield right of way/enter roadway, fines and costs — \$144.50.

July 24 — Robert P. Noriega, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs — \$210.50.

July 24 — Shaylene Tafoya, driving under the influence-with prior, 365 days jail suspended imposition, 48 hours community service, 30 days electronic surveillance, two years probation, fines and costs — \$2,520.50.

July 25 — Corey T. Dunlevy, speeding 5-9 over limit, fines and costs — \$127.50.

July 25 — Cody Scott Caler, license plates-expired, fines and costs — \$120.50.

July 25 — Jaesse Anderson, driving under restraint, fines and costs — \$177.50.

July 25 — Daniel Avalos-Duran, driving under restraint, fines and costs — \$177.50.

July 25 — Tosna J. Baird, registration-unregistered vehicle, fines and costs — \$161.50.

July 25 — William Barragan, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs — \$233.50.

July 25 — Angel A. Beltran Hernandez, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs — \$233.50.

July 25 — Jackson Perry Bock, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$225.

July 25 — Jackson Perry Bock, license plates-expired, fines and costs — \$155.50.

July 25 — Dylan T. Bowton, seat belt not used, seat belt not used, driving under restraint, fines and costs — \$321.50.

July 25 — Brian J. Burrell, seat belt not used, fines and costs — \$133.50.

July 25 — Kristy Michelle Christy, license plates-expired, fines and costs — \$155.50.

July 25 — McKenzie Hackler, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs — \$233.50.

July 25 — Carlos Augusto Isava Marin, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$225.

July 25 — Cody S. Caler, seat belt not used, fines and costs — \$98.50.

July 25 — Larry David Martinez, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$225.

July 25 — Axel Y. Montes Jacquez, seat belt not used, driver's license-driving without, fines and costs — \$179.50.

July 25 — Donte J. Morquez-Gonzalez, off-highway vehicle operated on street, fines and costs — \$118.50.

July 25 — Dayarta Myers, registration-unregistered vehicle, fines and

costs — \$161.50.

July 25 — Chandra C. Ortega, seat belt not used, seat belt not used, fines and costs — \$205.50.

July 25 — Travis D. Peralta, seat belt not used, fines and costs — \$133.50.

July 25 — Steven A. Phante, failed to stop at stop sign, fines and costs — \$140.

July 25 — Avian R. Rodriguez, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs — \$233.50.

July 25 — Christopher J. Thompson, license plates-expired, fines and costs — \$155.50.

July 25 — Dusty Ray Walters, registration-unregistered vehicle, fines and costs — \$161.50.

July 25 — Kimberly S. Wilson, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs — \$233.50.

July 29 — Jason Lee Steward, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$225.

July 29 — Jason Lee Steward, registration-unregistered vehicle, fines and costs — \$161.50.

July 29 — Mark Menning, speeding 5-9 over, fines and costs — \$125.

July 30 — Aven Bleu Cole, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$190.

July 30 — Patrick Allen Norton, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$190.

July 30 — Tiernan Anderson, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs — \$210.50.

July 30 — Eppie Quintana, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs — \$210.50.

July 30 — Krista G. Serafin, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs — \$139.50.

July 30 — Raymond Eugene Revelle, theft-\$300 to \$1,000, 12 hours community service, 10 days jail suspended imposition, one year unsupervised probation, fines and costs — \$199.50.

July 30 — Julie M. Cartrette, speeding 5-9 over limit, fines and costs — \$139.50.

July 30 — Skyler James Joseph Bilazzo, violation p/o-civil, 30 days jail, fines and costs — \$224.50.

6th Judicial District Court: Judge Justin P. Fay

No report.

6th Judicial District Court: Judge Jeffrey R. Wilson

No report.

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Blown Glass Art - Guatemalan Imports

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Lonchera Don Jose - Authentic Mexican Cuisine
Webbs Hot Dogs - Premium Dogs and Gyros
Robert's BBQ - Texas BBQ with the fixins
Cosmic Crow - Espresso and Coffee drinks

Downtown
225 E. Pagosa St.
HWY 160



♦ **Police Misconduct**

♦ **Civil Rights Violations**

♦ **Wrongful Death**

♦ **Disability Violations**

♦ **Excessive Force**

♦ **Unlawful Seizure and Sale of Property**

Contact for a FREE CONSULTATION

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Public Meetings

The following meetings are subject to change.

Thursday, Aug. 7

Archuleta County Board of Equalization Hearings. 8:30 a.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St. For more information, visit <https://archuletacounty.gov/archuleta-county-co-official-website/agendas-and-minutes/>.

Archuleta County Emergency Communication Services Executive Management Board meeting. 9:30 a.m., Pagosa Springs Medical Center Board Room, 95 S. Pagosa Blvd. For more information, visit <https://archuletacounty.gov/archuleta-county-co-official-website/agendas-and-minutes/>.

Combined Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. 5:30 p.m., Town Hall, 551 Hot Springs Blvd. For more information, visit <https://pagosasprings.civicweb.net/portal/>.

Monday, Aug. 11

Archuleta County Board of Equalization Hearings. 8:30 a.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St. For more information, visit <https://archuletacounty.gov/archuleta-county-co-official-website/agendas-and-minutes/>.

Tuesday, Aug. 12

Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners work session. 8:30 a.m. Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St. For more information, visit <https://archuletacounty.gov/archuleta-county-co-official-website/agendas-and-minutes/>.

[website/agendas-and-minutes/](https://www.sjwcd.org/).

Wednesday, Aug. 13

Archuleta County Fair Board meeting. 6 p.m., CSU Extension building, 344 U.S. 84. For more information, visit <https://archuletacounty.gov/archuleta-county-co-official-website/agendas-and-minutes/>.

Thursday, Aug. 14

Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District Board of Directors meeting. 5 p.m., 100 Lyn Ave. or via Zoom. View on Zoom using meeting ID 886 0969 7683 and passcode 223708. For more information, visit pawasd.org.

Friday, Aug. 15

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

Monday, Aug. 18

San Juan Water Conservancy District meeting. 4 p.m., 46 Eaton Drive, Suite 5. Visit <https://www.sjwcd.org/> for more information.

Tuesday, Aug. 19

Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners work session. 8:30 a.m. Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St. For more information, visit <https://archuletacounty.gov/archuleta-county-co-official-website/agendas-and-minutes/>.

Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners meeting. 1:30 p.m. Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St. For more information, visit <https://archuletacounty.gov/archuleta-county-co-official-website/agendas-and-minutes/>.

Pagosa Springs Town Council meeting. 5 p.m., Town Hall, 551 Hot Springs Blvd. For more information, visit <https://pagosasprings.civicweb.net/portal/>.

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Fair fun

Photos: Randi Pierce, Clayton Chaney, Jeff Laydon
The 74th annual Archuleta County Fair, held July 31 through Aug. 1, provided days of fun for all ages, with competition, live music, fun and games, animals and more.

preview

ARTS & LIFE

Movie Night Fundraiser

Pagosa Youth Soccer • 6 p.m. • Liberty Theatre



Photo courtesy Shantilly Brewer

August 7, 2025

Pagosa Youth Soccer to hosts first-ever movie night fundraiser Aug. 12

By Abigail Karas
Pagosa Youth Soccer

Looking for a fun night out that supports a great local cause?

The Pagosa Youth Soccer Rangers are hosting their first-ever movie night fundraiser, and the whole community is invited.

The event features a one-night-only screening of “Goal!,” the inspiring underdog story of a young soccer player chasing his dream of going pro. It’s a perfect pick for families, teams and fans of the game — or anyone who enjoys a feel-good sports movie.

The fundraiser will take place on Tuesday, Aug. 12, at the Liberty Theatre. The doors will open at 5 p.m., and the fun begins at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door. Advance tickets are available now at pagosamovies.com/movies.

In addition to the film, guests can look forward to fun

door prizes from local businesses.

Pagosa Youth Soccer is a competitive, community-based soccer club serving boys and girls born between 2007 and 2017. The club’s mission is to develop strong players and teammates through hard work, good sportsmanship and access to quality coaching — regardless of a family’s financial situation.

The Rangers represent Pagosa at league games and tournaments throughout the region, and fundraising efforts like this help keep those opportunities accessible for all.

All proceeds from the event will help cover tournament fees, coaching stipends, uniforms and other seasonal costs that make it possible for local kids to play the game they love.

The club encourages families to bring the kids, invite friends and help spread the word. Every ticket supports youth soccer in Pagosa Springs, and every seat filled makes a difference.

Live Performers

- Thursday**
Coyote Moon Lounge: Open Mic with Eric Wade, 6:30 p.m.
The Pagosa Bar: Karaoke, 8 p.m.
- Friday**
Coyote Moon Lounge: Jacques Grant, 7 p.m.
Meltdown on Main: Maxwell Miller, 5 p.m.
- Saturday**
Coyote Moon Lounge: Aquila, 7 p.m.
- Sunday**
Coyote Moon Lounge: High Altitude Blues, 5 p.m.
- Monday**
Coyote Moon Lounge: Jackson Mountain Ramblers, 5 p.m.

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San Juan Stargazers to meet Aug. 7

By Joan Mieritz
San Juan Stargazers

On Thursday, Aug. 7, the San Juan Stargazers Astronomy Club will hold its regular monthly educational meeting.

The Aug. 7 meeting 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 then fellowship hall. We keep the front doors to the church sanctuary locked.

At 7 p.m. we will begin our educational program, which this month will be a presentation from Great Courses. It should be exceptionally interesting about the beginning of our solar system.

A star is formed when the critical mass is achieved for a nuclear reaction to begin. After that the material that remains becomes the planets of the solar system and the interesting part is how this happens. How do the planets form? Is it in order of how close they are to the sun or maybe is it the biggest planet forms first? There are a hundred questions to be answered and question 101 is: Does it happen the same way for every solar system? This will be a very exciting presentation and, I think, an unforgettable one.

In August we will have two special nights at Chimney Rock National Monument on Monday, Aug. 11, and Tuesday, Aug. 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 may not have telescope viewing, but we will be doing tours of the night sky before we go to some special locations for viewing the Perseid meteor shower.

We have a special location for adults only that presents the best viewing experience of the night sky. We have parking spots for people with small children. Parking is assigned. There will be some activities before dark. We cannot stay overnight at the national monument, but we try to stay until 11 p.m. to midnight.

Of course, we will be dealing with our regular weather problem, which I call "dancing between the rain drops."

Unfortunately, the problem is more serious than that. We must be aware that Colorado has one of the highest incidences of lightning strikes in our nation. The mountains near Chimney Rock are especially difficult because storms can start quickly and blow over peaks. And then they can pass and be gone.

We monitor lightning very closely, but nothing is 100 percent accurate since you never know until after it

strikes. We never cancel our programs. It is a great opportunity to practice living in the present moment. Unfortunately, it does have a serious side and leaves uncertainty.

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.)

Rec.gov had some incorrect information. We have to go by the price it gave, which is \$10 per vehicle, but we had sent \$10 per person. So, we will be taking donations also. It said the program is from 7 to 8:30 p.m., but it won't even be dark by 8:30 p.m. The gate will open at 7 p.m., which is too early since the Perseids are not visible until dark. We will assign

■ See Stargazers on next page

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Thingamajig Theatre Company's summer season winding down

By Tim Moore
Thingamajig Theatre Company

As August rolls in and school supplies start reappearing on store shelves, we're looking ahead to the final weeks of Thingamajig Theatre Company's 2025 summer season.

With just a few performances left, we want to take a moment to say thank you to our audiences, our artists, our volunteers and our community for another unforgettable summer at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts.

This year's repertory lineup brought three wildly different stories to life, and we've loved seeing audiences return again and again to experience them all.

"Something Rotten!" will close out the season on Aug. 30. This fast-paced musical comedy dives into the world of two playwright brothers trying to outdo Shakespeare by inventing an entirely new form of theater — something called "a musical." Packed with big laughs, over-the-top dance numbers and a lot of heart, it's been a hit with audiences of all ages.

"The Wild Party" will wrap up a week earlier on Aug. 23. Set in the roaring twenties and told almost entirely through song, this dark and dazzling musical follows a group of showbiz outsiders whose night of revelry spirals into something deeper and more dangerous. It's been our most daring show of the season, and one that's sparked some great post-show conversations.

"A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder" continues through Aug. 29. This witty British comedy tells the story of Monty Navarro, a charming underdog who discovers he's ninth in line to inherit a fortune and starts



Photo courtesy Thingamajig Theatre Company

Cassandra Brooks as Sibella and Caleb Barton as the inspector share a moment of suspicious charm in "A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder" at Thingamajig Theatre Company.

knocking off the relatives ahead of him. With quick changes, big characters and a lot of laughs, it's been a standout favorite among the cast and audience alike.

As we head into these final weeks, we invite you to catch one (or more) of the shows before they're gone for good. Repertory theater is fleeting by design. Each performance is unique, and, once the season ends, you won't see this cast on these sets again.

And while the summer season may be wrapping up, we're already getting ready to announce our 2025-

2026 fall/winter lineup. From holiday shows to intimate dramas, there's a lot on the horizon. We can't wait to share it with you.

For tickets, schedules and updates, visit pagosacenter.org or stop by the box office. And from all of us at Thingamajig: Thank you for making live theater a part of your summer.

Stargazers

■ continued from previous page
parking from 7 to 9 p.m. and then close the gate.

There also is a regular night sky program on Aug. 30 with the gate opening at 6:30 p.m.

If you would like to join the San Juan Stargazers, you will also receive Reflector Magazine (again with hard copies), 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.

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Community food drive planned for Saturday

Healthy Archuleta

Are you looking for a way to support our community this summer? One way you can help this weekend is to come by the food drive at City Market on Saturday, Aug. 9, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

It's an easy action to take that has a lasting impact in our community. According to the Healthy Archuleta 2024 Community Survey, 35 percent of residents in Archuleta County were worried that they might not always be able to afford enough food to feed themselves and their families in the next year.

Participating in the food drive helps to provide some of these needed food items to our neighbors. Donated items are collected by Healthy Archuleta and shared with all of the food pantries in Archuleta County through the Healthy Archuleta Food Distribution Center.

Another way to participate in helping our neighbors with food availability is to grow food. If you are a backyard gardener, or perhaps own a greenhouse, and are growing fruit, vegetables and herbs, please consider growing a little extra to donate. Fresh, local produce is always welcomed and appreciated by the pantries. Please visit our website at <https://www.foodcoalition4archuleta.org/community-produce-donations.html> for more information about donating fresh produce to the Food Distribution Center.

On Saturday, Aug. 9, please stop by the Healthy Archuleta table outside City Market, pick up a shopping list and fill a bag to support our neighbors accessing food through the food pantries this summer.

If you are unable to attend the food drive, Healthy Archuleta has a donation bin located inside the UPS store in the City Market plaza. Nonperishable, unexpired items can be donated during the UPS Store's open hours.

To learn more about the food drive, including the list of requested items, please visit <https://www.foodcoalition4archuleta.org/food-drive.html>.

To learn more about the efforts of Healthy Archuleta, please visit www.foodcoalition4archuleta.org or send us an email at fssearchuleta@gmail.com.

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This is an awesome 3bedroom, 3.5 bathroom, 3.68 acres tucked into the woods in a gated community. All three bedrooms are en suite and the living area on the second floor is to die for. The whole family can fit into the gourmet kitchen and the decks are all covered, with a hot tub. There is a wood burning fireplace in the great room and one on the covered deck off the dining. The views from inside and outside are incredible and the privacy is worth noting. The garage is large; there is a barn which can be used to store toys or horses. MLS# 826465 \$1,375,000.00



33 Fawn Court
\$949,000
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
\$899,000
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>



240 Glade Dr.
\$1,225,000
3 bedroom, 2 bath. Discover an exceptional single-level home in the prestigious Ranch Community, nestled on a sprawling acre-plus lot. Meticulously crafted with every detail in mind, this residence exudes quality and sophistication. The thoughtful design features three spacious bedrooms and two bathrooms, seamlessly integrated with an open-concept kitchen, dining, and living area—perfect for modern living and entertaining. A dual-sided gas fireplace, connecting the living room and primary suite, creates a warm, inviting ambiance for cool evenings. Step outside to the expansive covered deck, complete with a private hot tub, ideal for relaxing while soaking in breathtaking sunsets. Positioned at the end of a tranquil road, this home offers serenity and convenience, with Lake Pagosa just a short stroll away and a premier golf course nearby. Properties of this caliber are rare—don't miss the opportunity to own this extraordinary retreat. MLS# 826768



471 Deer Trail
\$356,000
MLS # 826138
Discover your mountain retreat in this 2 bedroom, 1 bath log cabin, in Aspen Springs 1 on well-maintained Deer Trail, just a half-mile from Hwy 160. This 1,205 sq. ft. cabin features a living room, dining area, modern kitchen, and a full bath on the main level, with two bedrooms upstairs. The kitchen boasts new cabinets, countertops, and flooring. A wood stove enhances the cabin's ambiance. The property is equipped with a state-of-the-art water filtration system, including reverse osmosis, water softener, and on-demand hot water, professionally installed.



109 Carol's Curves
\$299,000
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
\$325,000
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.



1119 Hills Circle
\$500,000
MLS # 827227
This is a very cute 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with a 2 car attached garage. Across the street is an access point to enter National Forest. This is a very well-maintained home at a good price. The master bedroom is on opposite sides of the house from the guest bedrooms, and the colors are warm and inviting. This home is close to town and shopping, put it on your list.



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Aug. 13 Pagosa Springs Photography Club presentation: ‘How to See in Black and White’

By Andy Butler
Pagosa Springs Photography Club

The August meeting of the Pagosa Springs Photography Club will be held on Wednesday, Aug. 13, at 6 p.m.

We will meet at the Community United Methodist Church at 434 Lewis St. While the program will start at 6:30 p.m., feel free to arrive anytime after 6 p.m. to socialize. Please use the side door near the parking lot to enter.

Our topic this month will be “How to See in Black and White,” which will be presented by Greg Holden, speaking via Zoom. Holden is a photographer based in Longmont, Colo. He enjoys teaching others and sharing his passion for photography. He speaks around his home in the greater Denver area, but also continues to speak and judge virtually at clubs throughout his former home in the Maryland and Virginia areas.

To read more about Holden and his presentation, visit <https://pagosaprintphotoclub.org/2025/08/03/seeing-in-black-white/>.

Virtual Shutter Therapy

The club’s current Virtual Shutter Therapy topic is “Golden Hour, Sunsets and Sunrise,” through Aug. 7.

During this time of day, colors are richer and shadows longer — perfect for capturing mood and texture. Explore how this fleeting light transforms ordinary subjects into something extraordinary.

Please take part in this challenge by sharing up to three photos on the topic as comments to the post about this topic on our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/PagosaPhotoClub>.

Like and comment on the works of others. All photographers are wel-

come to take part.

Digital photography contest

The Photography Club’s annual photography contest is now underway.

Don’t wait until the last minute to pick your favorite photos to enter. The entry deadline is Sept. 10.

Club members may enter up to six images among four categories (Nature, Landscape, People and Creative).

Winners will be announced, and awards presented, at our Oct. 8 meeting.

For contest details and entry form, see <https://pagosaprintphotoclub.org/2025/07/01/eighth-annual-digital-photo-contest/>.

Astrophotography contest

The Pagosa Sidewalk Astronomers are holding a photo contest to promote astrotourism and raise awareness about dark skies in the Pagosa Springs area.

This contest will run until Aug. 31. Winners will be announced on Sept. 10 at the Pagosa Springs Photography Club meeting.

For details on this contest, visit <https://pagosasidealkastronomers.org>.

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The Pagosa Springs SUN
264-2100

Photo courtesy Andy Butler

Black and white photography is a good choice for subjects like this detail from the historic mining town of Summitville, high in the San Juan Mountains. “How to See in Black and White” will be the topic at the Aug. 13 Pagosa Springs Photography Club meeting.



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8 p.m.- 12 a.m.

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To tour this home go to:
<https://pspixeltree.com/471-Deer-Trail>



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Photo courtesy Donna Mosher
Gabe, Malcomb and Violet show off some book baskets to be auctioned off in the “A Tisket, a Tasket Story Time” basket campaign for the Wings in the Wild fundraiser this month.

‘A Tisket, A Tasket’ basket auction part of Wings in the Wild fundraiser

By Donna Mosher
Wings Early Childhood Center

Have you seen a lobster on the loose? How about that little engine that could? Or maybe you’ve seen Junie B. Jones.

You can find these storybook stars and more in the “A Tisket, A Tasket Story Time” book basket auction benefiting Wings Early Childhood Center.

Each basket features a beloved children’s book and related treats, toys, gift certificates and opportunities for experiences like a lobster dinner and ski passes. How about soaking passes or even a membership to the hot springs for a year?

The Wings online and silent auction is your chance to get these incredible items and more while making a meaningful difference in our community. Not only will winning bidders walk away with some-

thing special, but donations will help Wings to provide high-quality child care with tuition subsidies to our families.

It’s a win-win: you can feel good about supporting our kids while treating yourself.

The auction is part of the Wings in the Wild family fundraiser on Aug. 23 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association Clubhouse.

But, you don’t have to wait to bid on a basket. The online auction is live now. Visit WingsEarlyChildhood.org to browse and bid on your favorite baskets.

The Aug. 23 event will provide fun for the whole family, including tethered hot air balloon rides, remote-control airplane demonstrations, a root beer float stand, face painting, food, family games, kids’ yoga and more.

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Pagosa Sidewalk Astronomers' photo contest continuing

By Dena Laterza
Pagosa Sidewalk Astronomers

The night sky photo contest is underway.

We have received some submissions, but we realize there were many cloudy nights in July. We are hoping for clear skies during the moonless nights of August when the beautiful Milky Way is visible.

Submissions will be accepted through August. Winners will be announced in The Pagosa Springs SUN newspaper and cash prizes awarded on Sept. 10.

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

We are requesting photos 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.

Three winners will be chosen in September, with first prize being \$50, second prize being \$30 and third prize being \$20. See rules and more

details at 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 natural 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.

Pagosa Peak Genealogical Society to meet Aug. 9

By Carolyn Paschal
Pagosa Peak Genealogical Society

The Pagosa Peak Genealogical Society will hold its next monthly meeting on Saturday, Aug. 9, at the Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St.

The meeting will begin at 10 a.m. We will begin with a short business

meeting, followed by a group activity to help you solve your brick wall.

Do you ever find yourself frustrated by your genealogy research? Maybe you feel like you've looked everywhere and will never find that missing ancestor. Do you need help climbing over, going around or breaking through your genealogy brick wall?

Bring your "brick wall," your laptop, and a brief description where you have already searched to this meeting and we will explore avenues you possibly have not explored to make that breakthrough.

For more information, please contact Carolyn Paschal, carolynpaschal@gmail.com, or visit our website: pagosapeakgs.org.

Unitarian Universalists to hold monthly sharing circle

By De Anna Hoyle
Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

To continue our motto of "Make Friends, Grow in Spirit and Do Good," the Pagosa Unitarian Universalist (UU) Fellowship holds a monthly Going Deeper sharing circle, which gathers the second Sunday of each month.

The fellowship heard the sermon "Hope is an Unfinished Story" last week, where the Rev. Sean Neil-Barron shared stories of building beloved community through a theology of community organizing. He challenges the notion that it begins with strategy and tactics and mass mobilization, but rather relationship, which is what sits at the heart of Unitarian Universalism.

We invite all those with curious minds and hearts to join us Sunday, Aug. 10, at 10:30 a.m. in this small-group setting where we invite sharing and practicing deep listening. We will explore the themes of the "Unfinished Story" and leave space for quiet reflection and for sharing whatever else is on our hearts.

Come make friends and practice the art of listening with others.

The following Sunday, Aug. 17, again at 10:30 a.m., we will hear a

sermon entitled "Love at the Center." We will welcome Mary Ocken, a lay leader at the UU Fellowship of Durango.

Ocken is a native Coloradoan, growing up on a ranch, and describes herself as having a lifelong love affair with the world.

She states, "Love is at the center of our Unitarian Universalist values. Love is also central to many of the spiritual traditions. We will explore love as a key spiritual value and how it is fundamental to who we are as human beings."

As a reminder, there will be no Sunday morning programming on Aug. 24 and Aug. 31.

We invite you to the weekly meditation practice every Sunday at 7 p.m. New-to-meditation and experienced practitioners are welcome. The schedule for meditation is as follows:

- First and third Sundays — 7 to 7:45 p.m. (a shortened meditation only practice).
- Second and fourth Sundays — 7 to 8:30 p.m. (meditation practice and dharma talk).

This practice is led by a certified meditation instructor who has been authorized as a dharma teacher.

For more information about this and current programs, visit Pago-

saUU.org. Once there, you can email to be added to our mailing list or the meditation email list to receive notices about the schedule.

We are located at Unit B-15 of the Greenbriar Plaza, 301 N. Pagosa Blvd., on the north side facing the Pagosa Peak.



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When:
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Where:
The Springs Resort
Outdoor Event Space
323 Hot Springs Blvd

Featuring:
Steve Blechschmidt

Divorce Care, Divorce Care for Kids recovery programs to begin Aug. 25

By Holly Shook
Centerpoint Church

Did you ever think the word divorce would enter your life? You dated, then you found your love. You were so happy. When you were apart, all you could think about was the next time you would be together. You may have planned a wedding or eloped. You may have gone on a honeymoon trip or used your money to buy a home. Your dream of being a soulmate has become your reality. Life was bliss.

Then something happened. It all unraveled and, yes, divorce entered the picture. How could this be happening to me? How am I going to survive? My family is being torn apart. My home, my income, my health, everything I know is changing. My heart keeps beating, the sun keeps rising. How am I going to get through this divorce?

If this story sounds familiar, then DivorceCare is here to help. You will learn to understand the complexities and emotional struggles you are facing or have already experienced.

DivorceCare is a nationally recognized program that can bring healing during this difficult time. Our sessions include a video that gives you practical information from expert counselors and input from people

just like you who have gone through the divorce process. The session ends with a group discussion, and a workbook is provided to help you in your journey.

This program is nondenominational and features biblical principles and insight. Everyone is welcome here. Whether you're separated or already divorced, in the middle of the process, or if you've been divorced for years and still have not healed or forgiven your ex-spouse, you will find healing and help in a safe and warm environment.

The program runs for 13 weeks and will meet each Monday evening from 6 to 7:30 p.m. beginning on Aug. 25 in the Centerpoint Church library.

You can register online at www.divorcecare.org or join us at any class during the 13-week session. There is no cost for this program, and all materials are provided.

If you have any questions or need more information, please call Jim Shook at (951) 733-1893 or email at jshookup@gmail.com.

DivorceCare for Kids

DivorceCare for Kids, DC4K, is a special group to help children heal the hurt caused by the separation or divorce of their parents.

In DC4K, kids will make friends with other children who understand how they feel and the struggles they

are going through.

DC4K follows the same schedule and age-appropriate themes as the adult Divorce Care program, allowing parents and children to progress through the healing process together and providing a springboard for meaningful discussions.

DC4K is nondenominational and features biblical teaching to help children recover from the hurt they are experiencing. The program uses games, crafts, activities, music and DVD dramas to create a fun atmosphere where children feel comfortable and accepted. Kids will also learn how to prepare snacks for themselves.

This program is for kids ages 5-12. Parents do not have to attend the DivorceCare class for children to participate.

We will meet on the same schedule as the adult classes, Mondays from 6 to 7:30 p.m. beginning on Aug. 25 and continuing through Nov. 17 at Centerpoint Church.

For more about the program, visit www.DC4K.org.

Students may join at any time during the 13-week session. There is no cost for this program, and all materials will be provided. If you would like more information, contact Holly Shook at (951) 837-5393 or email at hollymarie36@yahoo.com

For more information about these programs, please contact Jim and Holly Shook at jshookup@gmail.com or (951) 733-1893 or contact the church at (970) 731-2205.

Centerpoint Church is located at 2750 Cornerstone Drive.

SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center announces upcoming events

By Shayla McClure
SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center

Save the date for the following activities at the SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center:

- Aug. 10: Sunday birthday picnic for the leos in our community at drumming circle at Xanadu. There will be a brunch potluck with fun and inspirational music.

- Aug. 23, 11 a.m.: New moon drumming at Xanadu. A love donation will be collected.

- Aug. 24, 6 p.m.: Sunday new moon drumming at Xanadu. A love donation will be collected.

- Sept. 21, 6 p.m.: New Moon Drumming Circle at Xanadu.

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 Inspira-

tional 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 Xanadu private retreat. Obtain information by joining us; emailing pagosacomunitynewthought@gmail.com; or texting/calling (970) 510-0309.

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Call for Nominations For School Directors



The Archuleta School District 50 JT in the Counties of Archuleta and Hinsdale, State of Colorado, calls for nomination of candidates for school directors to be placed on the ballot for the regular biennial school election to be held on Tuesday, November 4, 2025.

At this election three (3) directors will be elected representing the following director districts: Director District One (1) and Director District Five (5) for a term of office of four years, and Director District Four (4) for a term of office of two years. To be qualified, a candidate must have been a registered elector of the school district for at least 12 consecutive months before the election and a resident of the director district which will be represented. Legal Descriptions of the Director Districts are available at www.mypagosaschools.com under the School Board tab, or at the Administration office located at 309 Lewis Street, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. A person is ineligible to run for school director if he or she has been convicted of committing a sexual offense against a child.

A person who desires to be a candidate for school director shall file a written notice of intention to be a candidate and a nomination petition signed by at least 50 eligible electors who are registered to vote in the regular biennial school election.

Nomination petitions may be obtained at the Archuleta School District Administration office located at 309 Lewis Street beginning Wednesday, August 6th, 2025. Office hours are 8 am to 4 pm, Monday through Friday. Completed petitions shall be submitted to Heather Schultz, the school district's designated election official, no later than 3:00 pm on Friday, August 29, 2025.

All things work together for good

By Betty Slade
PREVIEW Columnist

This year our family found itself in a new place, working together with love and respect for the good of the whole. We’ve always stayed tight-knit, but, in 2024, we faced a different kind of trauma that deepened the way we appreciated and supported each other.

Each family member, doing their part, gave extra energy and kindness to two old people, impaired, slowly healing, but aging and needing extra attention — a lot to deal with.

The automobile accident last August happened to us all — everyone relied on each other for help to keep the wheels moving. Synergy comes to mind. “The whole is greater than the sum of its parts,” expressing the basic meaning of synergy.

Synergy became a trendy buzzword in the 1990s. The same word — “work together” — became popular in Paul’s letter to the Romans in AD 57. “And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God ...” (Romans 8:28a, NKJV).

My Sweet Al said, “You have prolonged this accident long enough, and it keeps going on and on. Will you ever be back to normal?”

My response: “Wow. Not sure, but I’m better for it. Every day means taking another baby step or two. I see the bigger picture. There are things I need to learn even at this time of life.”

Today, when I see someone limping in the parking lot of Walmart, I have a respect for them and what they are going through. I pray for them. I know they’re hurting just like I’m hurting. I didn’t do that before.

I asked the Lord, “Why didn’t I learn to have mercy and compassion years ago?”

The answer: It wasn’t time and you weren’t ready, and neither were others prepared to go through this ordeal. It’s been a state of synergy for everyone in your family. Whatever’s lacking has been gained.

A new respect for each other’s strengths and even for weaknesses came to the forefront. They have shown love toward Al and me as they have learned how to fit and work together with their siblings in this



new place.

God allowed this accident to happen because He loves us. It’s been a lesson for all of us. This trauma wasn’t a bad thing, which worked and is working for good in every aspect of our lives.

Our children were indirectly affected by this crash and, one year later, they are still stepping up to our needs. They changed their work schedules to be available for us — they’ve driven us to doctor’s appointments and physical therapy, shopped and cooked meals, washed and dried our clothes, picked up prescriptions, and rushed us to the emergency room several times.

We’ve all gained, but in different ways. Our family changed emotionally and spiritually with a new respect for each other.

When I read a statement saying “respect is love,” I immediately fastened my mind to the scripture that says, “So husbands ought to love their own wives ... and let the wife see that she respects her husband” (Ephesians 5:25, 33, NKJV).

I’ve always questioned those two words, respect and love, used together in a relationship. Shouldn’t it be love and be loved? But love and respect work together in a synergistic way. Each is used for the better of the whole.

We are all different and yet the same event was working in each of us for our individual purpose and for His purpose in us.

“...to those who are the called according to His purpose” — Romans 8:28b (NKJV).

Final brushstroke: When Al said this accident is going on and on, I know there is still much to learn among us. But, we are all being completed as we work together.

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

Views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN.

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The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Biblical tower
- 6 Lost traction
- 10 Farmiga of film
- 14 Smart speaker voice
- 15 Sushi staple
- 16 Apt anagram of vile
- 17 Exorbitant
- 18 List
- 20 Bully
- 22 Strike zones?
- 23 Doing a wall job
- 25 Vulnerability
- 28 "___ Game" (classic sci-fi novel)
- 31 Depression-era agcy.
- 32 A quarter of four
- 33 Masked man with a stick
- 34 Skateboarding tricks
- 37 Handwriting style
- 38 Farm cooperative
- 39 Mineo of movies
- 40 Nancy Drew's guy
- 41 Quixote pal Panza
- 42 Bounty hunters, e.g.
- 45 Rat Pack member
- 47 Some chessmen
- 49 Drove away
- 53 Pupil of Plato
- 55 Skirt
- 56 Word with arm or dish
- 57 Change direction
- 58 Use the on-ramp
- 59 Tribute poems
- 60 Tosses in
- 61 September bloom

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DOWN

- 1 Strong fiber
- 2 Choir voice
- 3 Keg contents
- 4 Not subject to, as taxes
- 5 Jacket parts
- 6 Western hats
- 7 Semicircular window
- 8 Accustom
- 9 Flow stopper
- 10 Open-air porches
- 11 Epic Longfellow poem
- 12 Bar mitzvah, for one
- 13 Pub potables
- 19 "Sense and Sensibility" sister
- 21 2023 Joaquin Phoenix title role
- 24 Manage
- 25 Drooping drapes

- 26 Puccini work
- 27 Just about everywhere
- 29 Amazon, e.g.
- 30 Sows a field
- 35 Infuriates
- 36 Shocked
- 37 Airlines, for instance
- 39 At a standstill
- 43 The film industry

- 44 Jacks in a deck
- 46 Paired up
- 47 El ___, Tex.
- 48 Parched
- 50 Pucker-producing
- 51 Place for a fringe
- 52 Big game
- 54 Eggs, in biology

Answers to Previous Crossword:

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

PagosaSUN.com

Preview Calendar

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

Thursday, Aug. 7

Ruby's Writers Guild. 9-11 a.m., Senior Center. Ruby's Writers Guild welcomes writers who are looking for opportunities, support and camaraderie with other writers. Members provide support, resources and guidance for each other.

'This Waterfall Rocks' Piedra Falls Geology Hike. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. The event is free, but registration is required at sjma.org/events.

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 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.

Archuleta County Public Health Back-to-School Clinic. 1-5 p.m., Archuleta County Public Health, 502 S. 8th St. Everything from routine childhood vaccines to affordable sports physicals and free heart screenings will be offered. Appointments are highly encouraged and can be made by calling (970) 264-2409. Walk-ins will be accepted as space allows. Sports physicals will be \$40 on a self-pay basis. Vaccines are free for children who are uninsured or enrolled in Medicaid.

Tai Chi. 1:30-2:30 p.m., Yamaguchi Park. Hosted by the Senior Center. Free for ages 55 and older.

San Juan Outdoor Club. 6 p.m., PLPOA Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Doug Coombs will present about Bosque del Apache and images he has taken over the years. The meeting will begin with a social half hour at 6 p.m., with the program beginning at 6:30 p.m.

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).

Friday, Aug. 8

Mysteries of Chimney Rock Tour. 8 a.m., Chimney Rock National

Monument. This tour provides an in-depth discussion along the Great House Trail about the connection of Chimney Rock to the greater Chacoan culture, the significance of the mesa-top Great House, and the day-to-day lives of the ancestral inhabitants of Chimney Rock. Tickets are \$20 for ages 13 and up and \$10 for ages 5-12, with those under 5 free. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Great House Tour. 10 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.

Bingo. 1:30-2:30 p.m., Senior Center.

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).

Saturday, Aug. 9

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.

Birding at Chimney Rock Tour. 8 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour is presented in partnership with the local chapter of the Audubon Society and affords a wonderful opportunity to observe and learn about birds that are native to the area. Tickets are \$20 for ages 13 and up and \$10 for ages 5-12, with those under 5 free. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

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.

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

Pagosa Peak Genealogical Society. 10 a.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Bring your "brick wall," laptop and a brief description of where you have

■ See Calendar on next page

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What to do immediately after a house fire**
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Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page
looked before.

Food Drive. 10 a.m.-1 p.m., City Market. Healthy Archuleta will hold a community food drive.

Archuleta County Republican Women Luncheon. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Erin Lee, a Colorado mom with a Supreme Court case, will speak. RSVP by Aug. 3 to Melinda at mrsatliff732@gmail.com or Beverly at acrwvp@pm.me for additional details.

Great House Tour. 10 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.

Pagosa Springs Scrapbook and Crafters Club. 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Senior Center dining room. Bring your creative and scrapbooking projects and share time with other crafters. Bring a dish to share for the potluck lunch.

Knights of Columbus 22nd Annual Duck Race. 11:30 a.m., Yamaguchi Park. There will be music, food, games and more, with the ducks hitting the water to race at 3 p.m. Prizes will be awarded for the winning ducks. Tickets for ducks are \$10 and are available at Pope John Paul II Catholic Church at 353 S. Pagosa Blvd., Silver Dollar Liquor, and at the park on race day. All proceeds help the Knights of Columbus support nonprofits within the community.

Full Moon Program and Early Tour. 5:30 p.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. Combine the Full Moon Program with an early, guided tour of the Mesa Village Trail to create a four-hour event. The cost is \$25. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

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).

Sunday, Aug. 10

Great House Tour. 10 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.

Thingamajig Theatre Company Presents ‘Something Rotten!’ 3 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).

Bingo. 5:45 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd. The doors will open at 5 p.m., with early-bird games starting at 5:45 p.m. and regular bingo games beginning at 6 p.m. No alcohol or outside and food and beverage are allowed. For more information, contact Mary Jo Coulehan at (970) 903-7815.

Monday, Aug. 11

Mysteries of Chimney Rock Tour. 8 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour provides an in-depth discussion along the Great House Trail about the connection of Chimney Rock to the greater Chacoan culture, the significance of the mesa-top Great House, and the day-to-day lives of the ancestral inhabitants of Chimney Rock. Tickets are \$20 for ages 13 and up and \$10 for ages 5-12, with those under 5 free. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Great House Tour. 10 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.

Conversational Spanish. 4-5 p.m., St. Patrick’s Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. A Sisson Library program. Practice your Spanish conversation skills in a group setting. No minimum skill level required.

Tuesday, Aug. 12

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.

Veterans for Veterans of Archuleta County. 10 a.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. Veterans and family members are invited to share experiences with vets of all ages. Find out about the latest in vets benefits, vets news and community-focused events. Contact (970) 880-8387 for more details.

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

■ See Calendar on next page

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SUDOKU

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

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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!

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

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Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

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.

Ruby's Book Club. 2-3 p.m., Ross Aragon Community Center, 451 Hot Springs Blvd. A Sisson Library program. Join to discuss "The Only Woman in the Room" by Marie Benedict.

English as a Second Language. 4-7 p.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. A Sisson Library program. Your library offers English as a second language classes. These classes are free. Call (970) 264-2209 or email for more information.

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.

Pagosa Youth Soccer Movie Night Fundraiser. 6 p.m., Liberty Theatre. Join the Rangers to see the movie "Goal!" The doors will open at 5 p.m., and the fun begins at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door. Advance tickets are available now at pagosamovies.com/movies.

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.

Wednesday, Aug. 13

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 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.

Legal Clinic. 2-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Meet with a volunteer civil attorney via Zoom at the library. Registration required as space is limited. Registration opens on the first day of each month. Space is limited. Call (970) 264-2209.

Colorado Department of Transportation U.S. 160 Project Open House. 5-7 p.m., Ross Aragon Community Center, 451 Hot Springs Blvd. Get updates from the CDOT team and the Town of Pagosa Springs about their concur-

■ See Calendar on next page

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Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page**
rent work on U.S. 160. There will also be project renderings available for viewing and an opportunity to learn about project integrations.

Mysteries of Chimney Rock Tour. 5-7:15 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.

Pagosa Springs Photography Club. 6 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Socializing will begin at 6 p.m., followed by the meeting at 6:30 p.m. Enter through the side door next to the parking lot. Greg Holden will present on "How to See in Black and White."

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).

Order of the Eastern Star Peace and Harmony Chapter #158. 7 p.m., Masonic Lodge, 277 Lewis St. Call Donna at (970) 946-8201 for more information.

Thursday, Aug. 14

Ruby's Writers Guild. 9-11 a.m., Senior Center. Ruby's Writers Guild welcomes writers who are looking for opportunities, support and camaraderie with other writers. Members 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.

Great House Tour. 10 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.

Tai Chi. 1:30-2:30 p.m., Yamaguchi Park. Hosted by the Senior Center. Free for ages 55 and older.

Tech Time. 10 a.m. - noon, Sisson Library. Taylor will answer basic questions related to computers, smartphones, tablets, etc., and provide assistance with accessing any of the library's online resources. Bring your device charger and passwords.

Hora de Cuentos Bilingual Storytime. 5:30-6:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Join us for an educational hour of reading and singing in Spanish, as well as free play to build early literacy skills. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

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.

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).

Friday, Aug. 15

Mysteries of Chimney Rock Tour. 8 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour provides an in-depth discussion along the Great House Trail about the connection

of Chimney Rock to the greater Chacoan culture, the significance of the mesa-top Great House, and the day-to-day lives of the ancestral inhabitants of Chimney Rock. Tickets are \$20 for ages 13 and up and \$10 for ages 5-12, with those under 5 free. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Great House Tour. 10 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.

ComFest. 5:30-8:30 p.m., Yamaguchi Park. Enjoy live music.

Lecture: 'Chaco Canyon — Its Origins, People, and History.' 6 p.m., Community United Methodist Church fellowship hall. G.B. Cornucopia will present as part of the Chimney Rock Interpretive Association's lecture series on "The Chaco Phenomenon."

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).

Saturday, Aug. 16

Riverwalk Wetlands Tour. 8 a.m., Centennial Park. Participants should bring water, hats, sunscreen and bug spray. Meet at the

■ **See Calendar on next page**

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Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page**
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.

Garden Adventures. 9 a.m., Pagosa Springs Community Garden. Explore the garden and harvest artist tools.

Archuleta County Public Health Back-to-School Clinic. 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Archuleta County Public Health, 502 S. 8th St. Everything from routine childhood vaccines to affordable sports physicals and free heart screenings will be offered. Appointments are highly encouraged and can be made by calling (970) 264-2409. Walk-ins will be accepted as space allows. Sports physicals will be \$40 on a self-pay basis. Vaccines are free for children who are uninsured or enrolled in Medicaid.

Great House Tour. 10 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.

Dancing with the Pagosa Stars. 5:30 p.m., Ross Aragon Community Center. Six local celebrities will vie for the Mirror Ball Trophy. Tickets can be purchased at register.dwtps.org.

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).

Sunday, Aug. 17

Great House Tour. 10 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.

Thingamajig Theatre Company Presents 'Something Rotten!' 3 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).

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It may be time to step outside if you find yourself cooped up with tons of other people at your office, or even in your own home. Such close quarters exposes you to all sorts of germs. Plus, even a simple walk outside can raise your immune system.

“Exercise leads to an increase in natural killer cells, neutrophils and monocytes, which ultimately increases immune function,”

Ather Ali, ND, MPH, assistant director of Complementary/Alternative Medicine Research at the Yale-Griffin Prevention Research Center tells Health.com. Science shows that you really should stop and smell the roses, as the smell of them promotes relaxation.

Other flowers, like lavender and jasmine can also lower anxiety and up your mood. Research shows that the scent of pine trees decreases stress and increases relaxation.

Even walking through a park or your own backyard can help you feel calmer and happier when you catch a whiff of freshly cut grass.

And while rain may put a damper on your outdoor plans, we love nothing more than the scent of a downpour, according to Smithsonian magazine. The smell reminds us of the color green... and may be linked with the growth of ... the plants ... that we need to eat, which could explain why it smells so good to us.

Source: “Why Getting Fresh Air Is So Good For You.” By Abigail Wise.

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

“Awake, north wind, and come, south wind! Blow on my garden, that its fragrance may spread everywhere. Let my beloved come into his garden and taste its choice fruits.” Song of Solomon 4:16, ESV

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PAGOSA SCENE . . .

BROADWAY GALA FUNDRAISER

Photos courtesy Carole Howard

Scene ... actors and patrons gather at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts for an elegant Broadway Gala fundraiser to benefit Thingamajig Theatre Company on July 29. The actors served dinner, performed in a spectacular cabaret concert and were auctioned off in online and live auctions for unique private events with lucky winners. The award-winning live theater’s three musicals continue in rotation through August.



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 spotted sandpiper.

Among the shorebird group of birds that is often difficult to identify, the spotted sandpiper with its characteristic behaviors and plumage is one relatively easy to pick out. While most sandpipers breed only in far northern reaches, in summer this one raises young in more places in North America than any other one. They occur at rocky edges of streams, rivers, ponds, and lakes from low to high elevations throughout Canada and most of the United States.

A teetering gait with nearly constant bobbing of the rear end are distinctive movements of this bird. Soon after hatching, even chicks teeter and bob. Spotted sandpipers are active foragers, walking and pecking along the shoreline in search of small invertebrates or small fish. They probe into the sand or mud with long bills, lunge at moving prey, pick insects off plants and snap at airborne ones.

During breeding season, this medium-sized shorebird has dark spots on a bright white chest and an orange bill. As it molts out of breeding plumage, it gradually loses its dark spots. When disturbed, after calling a few high whistled notes, it flies off low over the water with bursts of fast wingbeats interspersed with brief glides.

In an uncommon reversal of roles between the sexes, females arrive first on the breeding grounds, establish a breeding territory and vigorously defend it against other females. Nesting territory must include a shoreline, a semi-open area for the nest and patches of dense vegetation for sheltering the chicks.

Females focus on egg laying and males on child rearing. Over the six- to seven-week breeding season, a female may court and mate with up to four males. At other times a monogamous relationship occurs. Males have more of the hormone that promotes parental care and they are the ones that incubate the eggs and care for the young.

Spotted sandpipers winter in extreme southern parts of the United States and throughout Central and South America. Although last year one was still around for the Christmas Bird Count, they are usually only found in our area from mid-April into early October. They are still common and widespread, but population numbers are experiencing steep declines.

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

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AMERICA'S MOST HISTORIC SCENIC RAILROAD

Library closed until Monday due to start of expansion construction

By Carole Howard
PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

This week we remain closed until Saturday, Aug. 9, to keep you safe as construction begins on our expansion project.

During this time, we will be constructing a new entrance and walkway from the new parking lot to the west and also building a temporary wall to separate our inside service area from construction activity.

We will welcome you back to our temporarily reduced library space via a new entryway next Monday, Aug. 11.

Construction will take place in phases.

Phase one, which began this week, will build out the expansion. Then, during phase two, the library will move into the new space while the remodel of the existing space is completed. That work will update the inside of our existing building and create two new areas — a dedicated teen room and a makerspace lab.

Phase three will result in a beautiful garden for community gatherings and peaceful natural enjoyment.

Breaking ground now means we have one year to raise the last \$800,000 needed to fully fund the expansion and renovation of our beloved library. We are grateful for any contribution you can make to this important project.

Activity locations will change

Given that we will have much less space for our operations and no meeting rooms during construction, several of our regular activities and special events will happen in other locations.

For example, we are very grateful to St. Patrick's Episcopal Church for their generosity allowing our ESL, Conversational Spanish and Knitters Circle activities to take place on their premises at 225 S. Pagosa Blvd.

Please check the listings in this column and on your library's website, <https://pagosalibrary.org>, for location changes throughout the construction. If no other location is mentioned, the activity will stay at your library.

No more book donations, please

Regretfully, Director Barb Brattin has made the decision to cease accepting book donations for a year beginning immediately.

The reality of operating in a much smaller space while construction happens on the first phase of your library's long-awaited expansion has made the action a necessity.

Library staff are determined to minimize disruption to programs and patrons during construction.

Library News

Digging up the current parking lot will be the first step, signaling the start of the project on Monday, Aug. 4, which is expected to continue through June 2026.

Initial construction involves creating a new entrance to the library on the west side of the building where you'll enter through the community garden.

The new addition will feature a large program room that can accommodate 100 people or be divided in two for smaller groups, as well as a children's room and an adjacent children's garden.

Eagerly awaited improvements like these will happen only with some temporary dislocation to library operations as construction proceeds, according to Brattin.

"But, the good news is that we are staying in the building during construction," she said.

The circulation desk will remain in place with your dedicated, knowledgeable staff there to help you, but you'll enter the building by a different route. Parking will move to a new lot west of the library, which you'll enter off U.S. 160.

You'll have the same copy, fax and print services available, but fewer computers and no meeting

rooms during construction. Also, the free book and magazine shelves disappear.

Children's programs will move temporarily to the Turner Reading Room, and the Hershey and Chimney Rock Collections went into storage to make this happen. Inside bathrooms cannot be accessed, so porta-potties will have to do.

"We're determined to keep disruptions to a minimum as construction proceeds over the next two years," Brattin said. "We're excited because we know the end result will make the temporary interruptions more than worthwhile as the new building will provide so many of the facilities our patrons have requested for a very long time."

Brattin pointed out that the expansion is totally paid for by private donations and grants — not taxpayer money — that has raised \$4.2 million.

As an example, she cited a \$840,000 grant from the Colorado Department of Local Affairs. Fundraising continues for upgrades to the existing building.

"All of us on staff are already dreaming of the new and improved programs and services we'll be able to offer when the construction is complete," she said.

Conversational Spanish

The Conversational Spanish group will meet Monday, Aug. 11, from 4 to 5 p.m. This is a great opportunity to practice your Spanish in a free group setting. No minimum

■ See Library on next page

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Library

■ continued from previous page

skill level is needed. This activity is taking place at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church at 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. during construction.

Ruby's Book Club

Ruby's Book Club will meet from 2 to 3 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 12, to discuss "The Only Woman in the Room" by Marie Benedict. Copies are available at your library.

This free book club for adults is held the second Tuesday of each month, alternating between fiction and nonfiction titles. Anyone is welcome to attend.

It is taking place at the Ross Aragon Community Center at 451 Hot Springs Blvd. during August. Starting in September, while construction continues, the group will meet at the new Archuleta County Transit Center, 83 Harman Park Drive, next to the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office.

Virtual legal clinic

This month's free legal clinic is by appointment Wednesday, Aug. 13, from 2 to 3:40 p.m. Come to the library to meet privately via Zoom with our volunteer civil attorney. To schedule an appointment, phone (970) 264-2209. When you call, let us know if you need a translator.

Registration opens the first of the month and is required because space is limited.

Writers Guild

Thursdays 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.

Starting today, Aug. 7, the group will meet at the Senior Center, 451 Hot Springs Blvd. Enter through the left side of the building.

Family storytime

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

Bilingual storytime

Hora de Cuentos, a bilingual storytime for children, will take place Thursday, Aug. 14, from 5:30 to 6:30

p.m.

It is an educational hour of reading and singing in Spanish plus free play to build early literacy skills.

Tech Time

Free in-person slots are available from 2 to 4 p.m. on Thursdays. Taylor helps with basic questions relating to computers, smartphones and tablets and also provides assistance in accessing the library's online resources. No appointment is needed, but please bring your device's charger and passwords with you.

English as a second language

English as a second language (ESL) classes will take place from 4 to 7 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church beginning Aug. 12.

ESL classes are free and open to all ages and levels. Call (970) 264-2209 or email for more information.

Pagosa Adult Learning Services (PALS)

Join Mark or Sally for free individualized PALS sessions Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 to 8 p.m. to help with high school equivalency, GED, college prep, financial aid, tutoring and more. No appointment is necessary.

Downloadable books

CloudLibrary has a wide variety of downloadable e-books and audiobooks for all ages. To access this free digital collection, download the cloudLibrary app, answer a few simple questions, select AspenCat Union Catalog for the name of your library, then enter your library card number and four-digit PIN. Library staff are happy to help you set up your device if you need assistance.

How-to and self-help

"How to Open a Mobile Catering Business" by Jaylani Viotto is a guide to succeeding at turning your food skills into a successful business. "Food Truck Business for Starters" by Ember Thyme offers a blueprint on how to run a successful mobile truck business. "Exploring Colo-

rado with Kids" is a Falcon Guide by Jamie Siebrase and Debbie Mock that shows families how to explore some of the best Front Range destinations. "The Self-Reliant Kitchen" by Michelle Mullennix provides 80 cooking-from-scratch recipes to help you replace store-bought, processed

■ See Library on page 21



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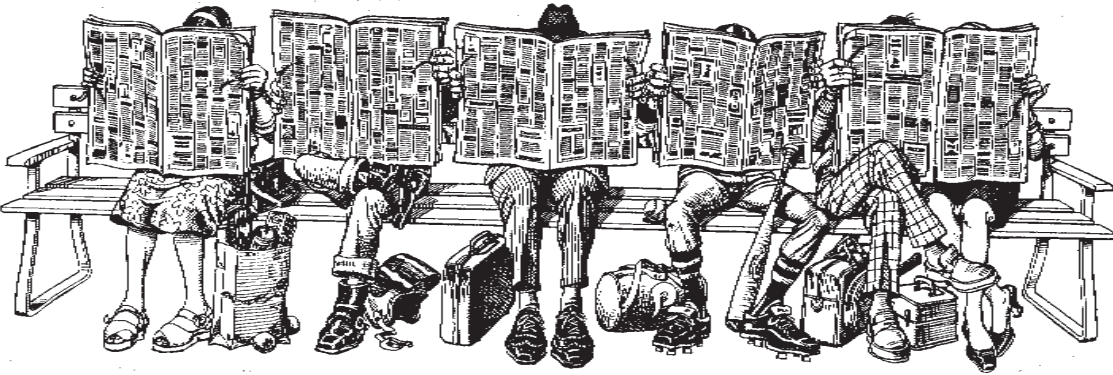
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New educational opportunity for nature enthusiasts available

By Cindi Galabota
PREVIEW Columnist

Colorado State University (CSU) Extension, in partnership with Colorado Parks and Wildlife, is proud to announce the launch of the Rocky Mountain Naturalist Certificate (RMN) — a unique, noncredit educational experience designed for those passionate about nature.

This self-paced, online training offers 40-60 hours of immersive learning, exploring the Southern Rocky Mountain Region's diverse ecosystems, wildlife and conservation practices. Participants will gain practical skills in ecology, land stewardship and environmental education, equipping them to become naturalists and stewards.

Who should enroll?

The program is designed for a wide range of learners, including:

- Environmental professionals and volunteers seeking continuing education and online training.

Extension Viewpoints

- Outdoor educators looking to enhance their teaching with nature-based knowledge.

- Nature enthusiasts eager to deepen their understanding of local ecosystems.

- Community members interested in conservation and stewardship opportunities.

Flexible, affordable and comprehensive training

RMN focuses on the Southern Rockies, providing insights into native species, land-use history and modern conservation challenges.

Learners will engage in self-led field activities, applying knowledge in real-world settings to gain firsthand

experience.

Enrollment is now open for individual courses or the Rocky Mountain Naturalist Mastery Bundle at a discounted rate of \$425 (through Aug. 31). Discover, protect and engage — become a steward of nature.

Whether you're advancing your career, expanding your teaching capabilities or simply connecting more deeply with nature, the RMN is your gateway to a greater understanding of the world around you.

To learn more, visit <https://www.online.colostate.edu/certificates/naturalist/>.

CPR and first aid classes

CPR and first aid certification classes are offered every other month at the CSU Extension office, generally on the third Monday and Wednesday from 6 to 10 p.m. The cost for the classes is \$80 for combined CPR/first aid and \$55 for CPR, first aid or recertification. Call the Extension office at (970) 264-5931 to register.

Check out the online option on our website, <https://archuleta.extension.colostate.edu/>.

Library

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foods for your family and friends. "Quantum Ascension" and "Heal Yourself For God's Sake" are guides to looking to God for healing, health and wellness by Peter Colla.

Mysteries and thrillers

"Exposure" by Ramona Emerson follows a serial killer targeting Indigenous people in Gallup, N.M. "25 Alive" by James Patterson and Maxine Paetro is a Women's Murder Club mystery. "Broken Country" by Clare Leslie Hall is a love story that begins when a man shoots a dog going after their sheep.

Other novels

"Atmosphere" by Taylor Jenkins Reid follows a woman selected to train to go to space with an exceptional group of classmates in the 1980s space shuttle program. "Curse Carves in Bone" by Danielle L. Jensen is the conclusion to the Norse-inspired fantasy romance duology. "Martha's Vineyard Beach and Book Club" by Martha Hall Kelly is based on the true story of two sisters who start a wartime book club during World War II. "Brideshead Revisited" by Evelyn Waugh immerses readers in the glittering, seductive world of English aristocracy in the waning days of the British Empire.

"The Wanting Seed" by Anthony Burgess is a Malthusian near-future comedy about the strange world that overpopulation will produce. "Empire of the Sun" by J.G. Ballard is the classic story of a young boy's struggles to survive World War II

in China made famous by Stephen Spielberg's film. "The Good Terrorist" by Doris Lessing focuses on a woman who transforms her home into a headquarters for the IRA. "Martha's Quest," also by Lessing, is a classic coming-of-age story of a young woman on a farm in Africa.

"Howards End" by E.M. Forester is the classic that revolves around an English country house. "Room with a View," also by E.M. Forester, follows a young upper-class woman who travels to Florence in the Edwardian era. "At Play in the Fields of the Lord" by Peter Matthiessen is set in a malarial outpost in the South American rainforest. "Burr" by Gore Vidal is a fictionalized portrait of perhaps the most complex and misunderstood of the Founding Fathers. "Travels with My Aunt" by Graham Greene follows a retired bank manager who travels with his unorthodox aunt whom he met for the first time at his mother's funeral.

Quotable quote

"Pick something you enjoy and don't worry about being good at it. Nobody picks up a paintbrush and expects to create a masterpiece the first time." — Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, who won a record six NBA Most Valuable Player awards, with advice on how to reinvent yourself later in life.

Website

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ASI fueled by motivated staff, volunteers

By Joan Ward
PREVIEW Columnist

How does Archuleta Seniors Inc (ASI) provide lunches to our Meals on Wheels clients and check in seniors for our dine-in and Grab ‘N’ Go lunches? How does ASI have all of its classes and programs? You can guess how it’s done — with our many

Senior News

volunteers and our staff. The ASI kitchen staff, led by Chef Cynthia Sperry, prepare meals five days a week. Barbara Noriega, program and outreach support specialist, manages the registration for meals and the reporting required for our partial federal funding, along with much more. Janet Monks, senior program and administrative manager, along with many other responsibilities, manages the financials in coordination with the board treasurer.

Meals on Wheels volunteer drivers deliver lunches weekly on an in-town route and an out-of-town route that goes as far as the Vista neighborhood. Substitute drivers fill in when the regulars are unavailable.

Volunteers and substitutes staff the dining room desk to check in seniors for lunch and hand out the lunches to the Grab ‘N’ Go clients. All of the meal volunteers take part in an annual safe food handling class.

Senior conversations, stretching and mobility, emotional freedom and mindful drawing are all led by volunteers who generously donate their time for the benefit of seniors. This dedication is amazing. Thank them if you attend a class.

Volunteers, along with staff and board members, are involved in fundraising events and other activities. Hint: Keep an eye out for the announcement of a masquerade ball fundraiser at Keyah Grande on Oct. 24.

As you can see, this organization’s energy is fueled by the motivated staff and volunteers.

Senior Conversations

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

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

This is a unique opportunity to connect with others living within the Archuleta community, fostering friendship and togetherness. Snacks will be provided.

Afterward, stay for a get-together



Photo courtesy Archuleta Seniors Inc. Archuleta Seniors Inc. Meals on Wheels and dining room volunteers attended a food safety training on July 31. These volunteers give their time weekly to help make lunches available for seniors.

created for those who wish to continue the conversation. This opportunity is typically from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m., following Senior Conversations.

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

Stretching and mobility weekly class

Community members are invited to attend free weekly classes every Tuesday from 10 to 11 a.m. at the Pagosa Senior Center at 451 Hot Springs Blvd., in the back of the Ross Aragon Community 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.

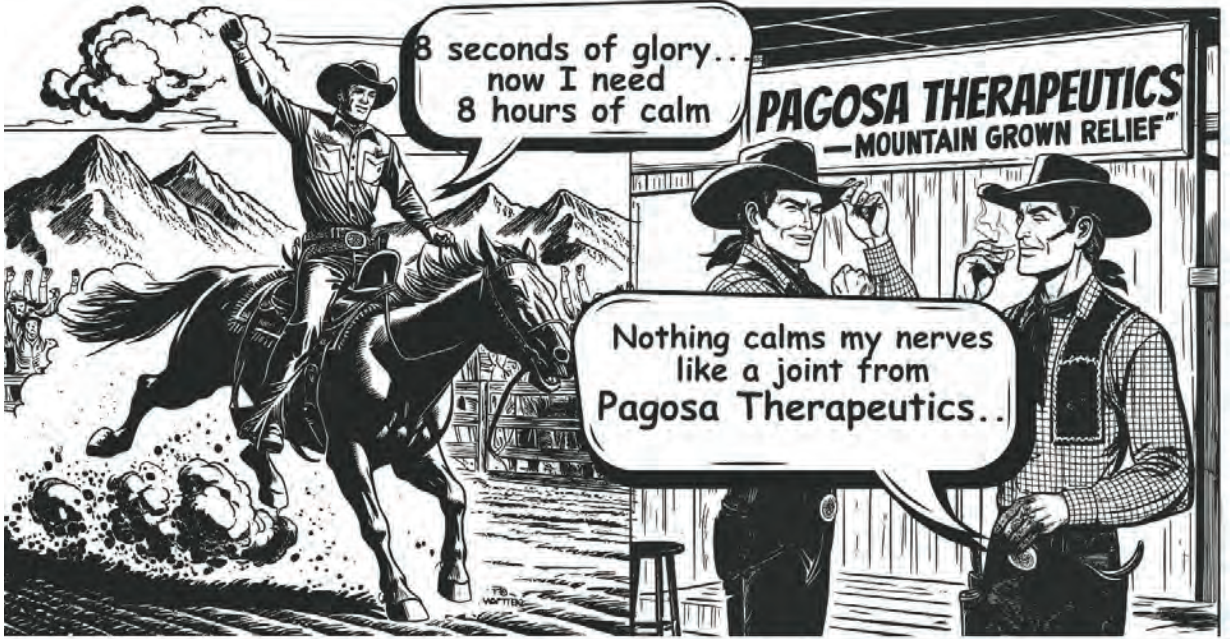
Though not necessary, a mat is recommended for this class.

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

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).

■ See Senior on next page



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Senior

■ continued from previous page

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 game of bridge is hosted on Tuesdays at 1:15 p.m. It has also been added on 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.

Emotional freedom

On the second Wednesday of the month, join the "Tappers," who practice a self-regulation technique to relieve symptoms of anxiety, depression, insomnia and more.

Come learn the technique on the second Wednesday of each month at 10 a.m. at the Senior Center. Everything you need to get started is included in this fun, engaging, supportive class taught by Judith Newman, LPC.

Mexican Train dominoes

A new group is forming and will meet on Wednesdays at 1:15 p.m. at the Senior Center.

Ruby's Writers Guild

The Ruby's Writers Guild meets on Thursdays from 9 to 11 a.m. The Guild is an informal group that meets to support writers of all genres and experiences. We support writers through friendly critique, resources, discussion, and literary and cultural activities. Bring your secret idea drafts or completed manuscripts. Come join us.

Tai chi

Tai chi classes are being held at Yamaguchi Park on Thursdays from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. through September.

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 one hour. No special clothing or equipment is required.

Bingo

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

Join the group on Aug. 8 and 22.

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.

Monthly birthday celebration

ASI celebrates seniors' birthdays once a month in the dining room. Join us on Friday, Aug. 15, for sweets and refreshments, and a little fun.

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).

For more information about participating, 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.

■ See Senior on next page

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Senior

■ continued from previous page

Share lunch Monday through Friday

Join local elders, their friends, family and community at the Silver Fox’s Den in person for delicious meals Mondays through Fridays at the Community Center between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Grab ‘N’ Go pickup via our convenient portico is also available all week.

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. Pickup via our convenient portico is also available all week.

Our dining hall is open to all ages and welcomes you all with kindness and warmth. We provide hot/cold meals for anyone in the community interested in a nutritious and delicious meal. For those 60 or older we request a suggested donation of \$6, but no one will be turned away. There is a \$10.50 charge for guests under the age of 60.

Meals include a main course, side dish, fruit/dessert, garden salad plus beverage.

Community Cafe menu

Please note that occasionally the menu must be changed at short notice.

Thursday, Aug. 7 — BBQ pork ribs, creamed corn, blueberry cobbler, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Friday, Aug. 8 — Moroccan stew, spinach artichoke dip, pita chips, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Monday, Aug. 11 — Potato leek soup, focaccia bread, garden salad, fruit, blondie and milk.

Tuesday, Aug. 12 — Beef chili and beans, wilted spinach, jalapeno cornbread, garden salad, fruit, and milk.

Wednesday, Aug. 13 — Greek chicken pita, lemon potatoes, garden salad, fruit, cottage cheese, baklava and milk.

Thursday, Aug. 14 — Tuna salad stuffed avocado, macaroni salad, dinner roll, garden salad, fruit, banana pudding and milk.

Friday, Aug. 15 — Spaghetti squash with Italian sausage marinara, garlic bread, garden salad, fruit, brownies and milk.

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. The meals are delivered by our wonderful volunteers. Call or text us at (970) 264-2167 for how to sign up for the program.

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.

Mountain Express Transit senior paratransit services

Seniors over the age of 60 can be verified to receive services through Mountain Express Transit’s (MET’s) discounted paratransit services, free bus rides and pick up at your home to bring you to the Senior Center for lunch. To become eligible, there is a form to complete.

Older adults needing a ride to a local food pantry can contact the MET to schedule a ride with its paratransit service.

Call the Archuleta County MET at (970) 264-2250 for information.

Medicare assistance 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 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.

New, starting in 2026, small donations can be deducted without itemizing on your tax return. It is the Permanent Universal Charitable Deduction.

For tax years beginning after Dec. 31, 2025, non-itemizers can deduct up to \$1,000 for individual tax filers and \$2,000 for married couples filing jointly.

The goal of this provision is to recognize and encourage charitable giving

across all income levels, potentially boosting donations from middle-income households who may not itemize their deductions. This change has the potential to significantly impact charitable giving patterns by incentivizing a broader base of donors.

We are located at 451 Hot Springs Blvd. For more information about ASI, please visit <http://www.psseniors.org/>.

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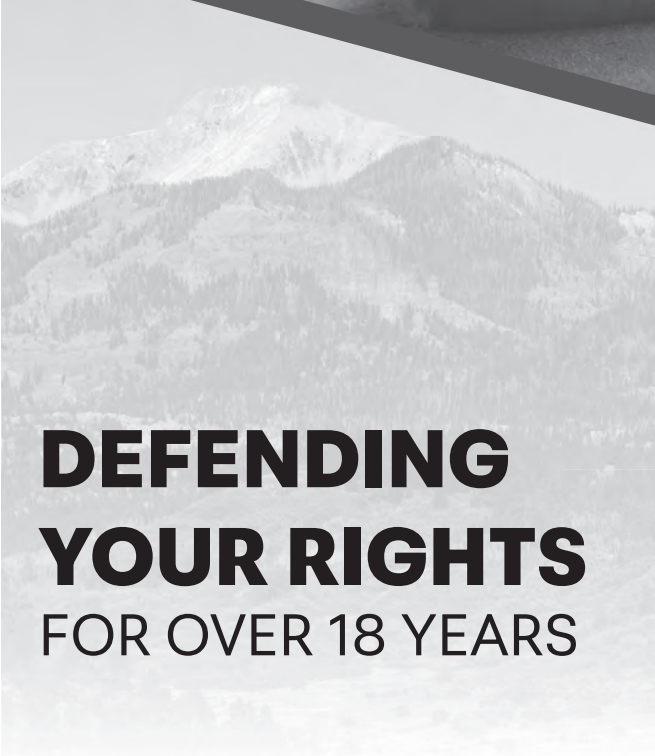


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Photo courtesy Katrina Thomas

The cast and crew from “Annie JR” pause at the end of their first long day of rehearsals. The show will run Aug. 14-16 in the Pagosa Springs High School auditorium.

‘Annie JR’ to be performed Aug. 14-16

By Katrina Thomas
Archuleta School District

Leaping lizards: Pagosa Springs will “stick up its chin and grin and sing ‘Tomorrow, tomorrow!’” when local students perform in “Annie JR” Aug. 14-16.

Based on the popular comic strip and adapted from the Tony Award-winning best musical by Tony Award-winners Thomas Meehan, Charles Strouse and Martin Charnin, “Annie JR.” tells the story of a spunky Depression-era orphan determined to find her parents.

The production, presented by Pagosa Family School and Pagosa Springs Middle School, will show in the Pagosa Springs High School auditorium on Thursday, Aug. 14, at 7 p.m.; Friday, Aug. 15, at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; and Saturday, Aug. 16, at 2 p.m.

Tickets are \$10 per adult and \$5 per student and can be purchased at the door or online at our.show/psmsmusical.

The fifth- through ninth-grade cast and crew includes 51 students from the community led by directors Katrina Thomas and Malinda Burnett.

The experienced production team is rounded out with Heather Rose on sets, costumes and stage managing; Leo Baughman as tech director; and Anika Borders as choreographer.

“Annie JR” will also feature a live pit orchestra — a rare occurrence for junior productions.

“It is very unusual for a junior production to have full orchestration available,” Burnett commented. “When we saw that ‘Annie JR’ had a pit orchestra option, we contacted our fabulous local community band

members. They were thrilled to volunteer their valuable time and skills to provide these students with the experience of performing with a live orchestra.”

“Annie JR.” follows the story of an orphan named Annie living a “hard-knock life” at The New York City Municipal Orphanage run by the cruel Miss Hannigan. Annie dreams of being reunited with her parents and takes action to find them. In adventure after fun-filled adventure, Annie foils Miss Hannigan’s evil machinations, befriends President Franklin Roosevelt and finds a new family in billionaire Oliver Warbucks, his personal secretary Grace Farrell and a lovable mutt named Sandy.

“These students are incredible. They arrived at the first rehearsal memorized and well-prepared to work hard. With only eight days of rehearsals before performing the show, it is essential that they maintain a strong focus. We set the bar very high — challenging vocals, demanding choreography, complicated sets and more. And, boy, do they deliver,” Thomas notes.

GriefShare support group to begin Aug. 30

By Holly Shook
Centerpoint Church

GriefShare is a network of thousands of small support groups meeting worldwide to provide a safe place for those experiencing the death of a loved one.

With GriefShare, you will learn how to walk through the journey of grief with others and learn together how to move from mourning to joy.

This is a 13-week program offering biblical concepts for healing from your grief. The support group meets weekly and provides a welcome environment for those grieving the death of a spouse, child, parent, or other family member or friend.

Centerpoint Church is offering this program from Aug. 30 through Nov. 22. The sessions are from 10 to 11:30 a.m.

There are three key elements that work together to assist you in the healing process: a video segment on grief-related topics from professionals as well as lay people, a discussion facilitated in a group setting and a personal handbook for you to use as you choose.

Regardless of how long it has been since your loved one passed, the grieving process is vital to healing.

Centerpoint Church is located at 2750 Cornerstone Drive. There is no cost, and all materials will be provided.

For more information, contact Marie Rascoe at (970) 946-9379 or Centerpoint Church at (970) 731-2205. You may also register and learn more about GriefShare by visiting the website www.griefshare.org. Click on “Find a Group,” and follow the prompts or register in person at any of the sessions.

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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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

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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We offer a competitive benefits package including a matching 401k Plan with opportunities to earn safety bonuses. Must be able to pass a pre-employment drug test.

We are committed to first-class service, where safety and people are our top priority!

Applications can be picked up at 250 Industrial Circle in Pagosa Springs, Colorado or call our office at (970) 731-2012 or email ctanner@elite-recycling.com to request one.

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

BANK OF COLORADO is seeking to hire a full-time teller. Performs regular teller duties, answering phones to assist customers with transactions, balances, transfers, and various account needs. Bank of Colorado offers PTO, health, vision, and dental insurance, as well as a 401K plan. Must be willing to work rotating Saturdays and have a flexible schedule to either open or close. To apply visit www.bankofcolorado.com/careers.

WINTER WORK!

Full & Part-Time/Holiday Positions:
Winter Seasonal: November - April

Lift Department
Base Operations/Parking
Ski School
Food & Beverage - Baker - Barista
Retail - Ticket Office
Snow Removal - Grooming
Custodial & Building Maintenance
Ski Patrol
Onsite Call Center/
Customer Service

ALL POSITIONS OFFER SKIING PRIVILEGES
STARTING WAGE OF \$19/HOUR
Merit increases based on performance & experience

Applications at

WolfCreekSki.com/employment

Send applications and resumes to:
WolfCreekSki@WolfCreekSki.com
P.O. Box 2800 Pagosa Springs, CO
81147



WOLF CREEK
THE MOST SNOW IN COLORADO

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES. Front office administrative assistant or chair side procedural assistant positions available for immediate hire. Will train if necessary for these valuable positions. Flexible hours, full time or part time available. Great pay with room for advancement. Please send your resume today to pdimplants@yahoo.com.

CDL DRIVER. Ponderosa Lumber is hiring a CDL Driver. This is a full-time position. Duties include deliveries, loading /unloading trucks, and helping customers. Requires the ability to drive a stick shift and have a Class B endorsement. We offer paid time off, medical, dental, vision, prescription, 401(k) and Profit Sharing. Please apply at Ponderosa Lumber 2435 Eagle Dr. (970) 731-4111.

CITY HALL CAFE/B> now taking applications for servers. Apply in person.

CLARKS CUSTOM LANDSCAPING IS HIRING. If you are reliable and love to work outside, we want you on our crew! Competitive pay, willing to train the right person. Call (505) 709-8579 or email clarkscustomlandscape@gmail.com.

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.

DENTAL ASSISTANT WANTED. We will train you. We work hard and make a great living serving our patients. We are blessed to have weekends and holidays off. beautiful facility, modern equipment, excellent pay, 401k, Get the satisfaction of helping people! E-mail resume to office@pagosasmiles.com.

ELI STEPHENS LANDSCAPING LLC. is hiring. Looking for someone who knows or is willing to learn all forms of landscaping. Call (970) 946-0268.

GENERAL LABORER NEEDED Full time. Assorted Duties. Please send resume or work history to frontdesk@pagosalandcompany.com. Phone (970) 264-5000.

HIRING BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TECHNICIAN — Work with youth. Make a difference. Paid RBT training. \$18-24 /hour. Part -time. Flexible hours. Must have reliable transportation. Email resume to AngelinaJWLLC@gmail.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.

JANN C. PITCHER REAL ESTATE is hiring an office support position. Must be friendly and dynamic. Tech skills helpful, people skills crucial. Part time to possibly full time. Contact Blue Pitcher Lindner at (970) 946-1877 or (970) 731-4065.

JOIN OUR TEAM and help support our mission to provide a safe haven for animals in need, promote adoptions, humanely reduce pet overpopulation through spay/neuter programs, support lifelong pet ownership, and to educate the community. The Humane Society of Pagosa Springs Thrift Store is looking for a donation receiving team member to help cover our new uptown donation drop off center and work shifts at the downtown location. Hours and pay will be negotiable according to what responsibilities and experience candidates bring. This can be a fast pace job with a lot of movement throughout the day. It requires repeatedly lifting heavy boxes and furniture. The ideal candidates will also assist with furniture pickups and drive a box truck. PT and Full Time Opportunities for shifts available. \$16.00-\$17.50 per hour DOE and on availability. Please email resume to hsjobs@pagosahumane.org, complete an application on our website <https://pagosahumane.org>, or stop by 279 Pagosa St 10a.m. -4p.m. Tuesday -Sunday.

Retractable
Awnings
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#1 in Painting
Interior & exterior
Staining & more
35 years in Pagosa Springs
Call Gary
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Maintenance
High Meadows Properties, LLC
Call today (970) 403-2263

WE HAUL. WE WILL haul off anything but your marijuana or your mother-in-law. No job too big or too small. We also move buildings. We don't haul pigs. Dan Snow (719) 849-8873.

(970) 264-2100

Classifieds

(970) 264-2100

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

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

Now Hiring.

Archuleta County is hiring for multiple positions.

Benefits package, paid time off, 401K match.

Apply today.

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 Apply Now


Individually
strong,
collectively
mighty.
Join us and
become a part of
the bigger
picture.

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE

The Pagosa Springs SUN is recruiting for a dynamic, versatile customer service representative. This position is required to work at our office at 457 Lewis Street, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. Hours 8am to 4:30pm, Monday through Friday.

Job Responsibilities

Account Management: Support the Advertising Department with account management activity that's associated with customers running ads in The SUN, PREVIEW, special publications and on our digital platforms.
Administrative: Handle postal paperwork, insertion order processing and payment processing for advertising and subscriptions.
Service: Provide personable, friendly customer service answering phones and interacting in person with customers that visit the office.
Communication: Serve as a point of contact for internal and external communications. Answer phones, respond to emails and direct inquiries to the appropriate team members.
Project assistance: Assist with special projects and initiatives as needed.

Requirements

3-5 years of experience working in an office.
Excellent attention to detail and accuracy in data entry.
Strong organizational and time management skills to meet payroll deadlines.
Excellent communication skills on the phone and through all communication channels.
High level of proficiency in MS Excel and other Microsoft Office applications.

Compensation Range/Benefits

\$17-\$20/hour depending on experience level.
Eligible for medical, dental and vision benefits on the 1st of the month after 30 days of employment.
Eligible to enroll in the company's 401 (k) retirement savings on the 1st of the month after 90 days. The company matches 50% of your contribution up to 2.5% of total compensation.
16 days of PTO plus 4-5 paid holidays.
Opportunity for advancement and career growth within the company.

About the Company

O'Rourke Media Group is a fast-growing company that owns and operates hyper-local, community newspapers, websites, niche publications and a full-service digital agency. We are family-owned and mission-driven to save newspapers and local media companies by investing in the people, resources and technology needed to thrive for many years to come. O'Rourke Media Group now operates in eight states and 28 markets with 41 publications and hyper-local websites.

Send your email or letter of interest directly to
CEO Jim O'Rourke at jorourke@orourkemediagroup.com

The Pagosa Springs SUN

an O'Rourke Media Group company

KITCHEN ASSISTANT. Entry level food preparation and packaging for Archuleta Seniors Inc, Pagosa Springs Senior Center Community Café. Join our positive professional team in a commercial kitchen dedicated to serving the seniors in our community. Hours 7a.m. to 3p.m., part time with weekends off, PTO and health stipend. Competitive pay and daily meal provided. Potential for advancement though in-house training. Call (970)264-2167 or stop by to pick up an application.

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 \$16/ hour, part-time. Stop by in person at 635 San Juan St.

LINE COOK POSITION Hiring a **part-time line cook** starting August 15th. Experience preferred. \$20 /hour. Send resume to: theguesthouse@keyahgrande.com or call (970)731-1162.

NEWSPAPER REPORTER — We are searching for a talented reporter to fill a full-time position in Pagosa Springs, Colorado, at The Pagosa Springs SUN. Our journalists are driven to find stories that matter to our community and are dedicated to fairness, accuracy, and ethics. The successful candidate for this position is someone who knows how to cover hard news but also loves to write about people and their passions. They know that a good interview is often a good conversation and know when to ask the tough questions, but also when to listen. The ideal candidate has exceptional writing skills and is willing to put in the extra effort and research to deliver an engaging story. Preferred qualifications for this position include: Degree or diploma in journalism, or a related field; At least 1-3 years of experience as a reporter with experience covering hard news and feature stories or experience at a college newspaper; The ability to meet tight deadlines and report the news as it happens; Superior language, writing and editing skills; Strong photography skills; Able to work a variety of schedules, including evenings, nights and weekends; Excellent critical thinking and problem-solving skills; Ability to work in a fast-paced environment; A valid driver's license and a reliable vehicle; Willingness to live in or near Pagosa Springs, Colorado. If this sounds like the perfect position for you, we would love to hear from you! To apply, please send your resume, letter of interest and relevant samples of your work to Chad Richardson, Vice President of News, crichardson@orourkemediagroup.com. Company Benefits: We offer competitive compensation plans and employees are eligible for medical, dental, vision, life insurance benefits, paid time off and our 401 (k) savings plan. This is an excellent opportunity for career development and growth within the company O'Rourke Media Group is a fast-growing company that owns and operates hyper-local, community newspapers, websites, niche publications and a full-service digital agency. We are family-owned and mission-driven to save newspapers and local media companies by investing in the people, resources and technology needed to thrive for many years to come. We believe that every community can benefit from a well-run, properly resourced, local newspaper and website. Our News teams produce hyper-local, high interest local news and accurate and trustworthy reporting. Our Sales and Digital Fulfillment teams bring omnichannel advertising solutions to local businesses in the communities we serve. O'Rourke Media Group now operates in nine states and 38 markets with 51 publications and hyper-local websites. We started from ground zero in December 2018, totally bootstrapped, confident and with an entrepreneurial mindset.

NORTH PAGOSA MARATHON is hiring a full-time cashier nights and weekends. Competitive wages. Please apply in person at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

NOW HIRING — Multi-skilled carpenters and laborers for high-end custom builds. Year-round work and top pay for top performers. Call Eric at Porter Mountain Homes: (970)844-0330.

ON-CALL SERVER WANTED. Seeking an on-call server for a fine dining restaurant. Experience in upscale service preferred. \$14.42/ hour. Send resume to: theguesthouse@keyahgrande.com or call (970) 731-1162.



We are hiring:

Small Engine Service Tech

Full time, weekends and holidays required

We are looking for reliable, organized, motivated, team-oriented applicants that enjoy a fast-paced environment.

Start at \$22/hr. depending on experience

Benefits include health insurance, paid time off, profit share, discounts and more.

Must have experience with outdoor power equipment, problem solving, self-starting and customer service oriented.

Apply in person Monday-Friday

Applications on terrysace.com

Join us in serving our Pagosa community!



ELITE RECYCLING AND DISPOSAL, a division of Bruin Waste Management, LLC is a rapidly growing organization with services expanding the Western Slope of Colorado.

We currently have a **Route Truck Helper/Tipper** position open. The starting rate for this position is \$19/hour. Helpers ride on the trucks and empty trash carts and dumpsters. A valid driver's license is a plus, as helpers do a variety of tasks including cart delivery, shop cleaning, light mechanical and washing trucks and carts.

We offer a competitive benefits package including a matching 401k Plan with opportunities to earn safety bonuses.

We are committed to first-class service, where safety and people are our top priority!

Applications can be picked up at 250 Industrial Circle in Pagosa Springs, Colorado or call our office at (970)731-2012 or email ctanner@elite-recycling.com to request one.

We are looking for reliable,
motivated additions to our team!



Full-time and Seasonal

MULTIPLE POSITIONS MULTIPLE DEPARTMENTS

Starting at \$17 per hour, dependent on experience.

Benefits include discounts, paid time off, profit sharing and more!

Weekends and holidays required.

Apply in person. Applications available on www.terrysace.com

Terry's ACE
525 Navajo Trail Dr.

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

(970) 264-2100

Classifieds

(970) 264-2100

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

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HELP WANTED

OWNERS, THERE IS A LONG TERM RENTAL SHORTAGE IN PAGOSA SPRINGS. We have a waiting list for approved tenants. Need all types of rentals. Call us today for lowest commission and highest customer service. All you have to do is wait for your rent check to come in. We do the rest! Rocky Mountain Realty & Rentals (970)507-1192.

PAGOSA LIQUOR IS HIRING a full-time cashier. Please come and apply in person at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

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.

PHYSICAL THERAPY TECH — Rocky Mountain Physical Therapy has an opening for a full time Physical Therapy Tech. We are looking for a dependable, energetic multitasker who will enjoy helping people recover to join our team. No prior experience necessary. Benefits include paid holidays, paid sick leave, 401 k plan, and a profit-sharing program. Please submit resume to RMPT 117 Navajo Trail Dr, Ste T or email to rockymountainpt@yahoo.com.

POSITION AVAILABLE for Service Department Assistant. Computer skills a must. Monday – Thursday 7a.m. to 6p.m. Apply in person at Piedra Automotive, 505 County Road 600, Pagosa Springs.

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

THE HUMANE SOCIETY SHELTER animals need you. Do you dream of a career working with animals who need you? The Humane Society of Pagosa Springs has an opening for a full -time Animal Care Specialist. Must love to work with weather, and get a lot of exercise throughout the day. Previous dog and cat handling experience is a plus. PTO, additional sick time, and great shelter and thrift store discounts as benefits. Hourly rate \$15.50- 16.50 DOE. Apply online <https://pagosahumane.org/> or stop in the Shelter and complete an application. Come join our team caring for the homeless pets of Pagosa Springs.

WINGS EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER is seeking an Executive Director to lead 10+ teachers and 70+ children ages infant to 5 in an enriching, nature-based program that offers quality, child-led education with love and respect. We especially appreciate an early childhood education degree with childhood development and administrative experience. Find a full job description at WingsEarlyChildhood.org. Salary \$60-75K. Email resume to Director@wingsearlychildhood.org.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

OWN YOUR OWN BUSINESS IN 2025! Four year-old profitable Side-by-Side rental business with extremely high reviews on Google. 1 to 8 Polaris Rzrs, LLC, website, reservation site, customer list, insured, bonded, licensed, maintenance and safety gear included. Better location than any of our competition. Operates May- Nov. Call or text Ryan (970)946-2409.

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

FOR SALE

ASPEN AND PINE DRY FIREWOOD for sale. (719)937-8707.

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 — GUARANTEED FULL CORDS. Aspen, spruce, pine and fir available. Call Red, (719)588-4346.

FIREWOOD DELIVERED. Doug Fir /Pine mix. \$250 per cord or \$1400 for 6 cords. Call Kathie, (303)358-6218.

MOUNTAIN MEADOW GRASS HAY. \$8 in the field, \$10 in the stack. Call (970)946-1581.

NEW 20' CONTAINERS FOR SALE or rent. We deliver to homes or businesses. Pagosa Springs Storage (970)731-0007.

NEW GARAGE CONTAINER, \$6,200. New single doors, starting at \$4,500, delivered. Cash or rent to own. Pagosa Springs Storage, (970)731-0007.

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.

AKC FRENCH BULLDOG PUPPIES. Ready Aug 14. Health tested parents, chipped, wormed, shots, lifetime support. \$3,500. (719)640-6404. www.DuneViewFrenchies.com

PETS

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.

AUTOS



2006 LINCOLN XL PICKUP TRUCK
4x4, black, 86,000 miles, new Toyo tires, sunroof, heated seats, four door, short wheel base, tow package, \$14,000.
(970)946-1780

GET READY FOR WINTER. Best snow tires. 4 Nokian Hakkepelta factory studded tires, 275-55R20 off Ford F150. Used 2 seasons. \$400 for all. (970)946-2684.

GUARANTEED CREDIT APPROVAL! 4X4 Auto Sales, 21698 Hwy. 160 West, Durango. (970)385-7940.

YARD SALES

323 HIDDEN DRIVE YARD SALE. Dollar deals, treasures and savings. Saturday, August 9 and Sunday, August 10, 8:30a.m. -2:30p.m.

BIG YARD SALE! Saturday, August 9 only 8a.m. - 1p.m. 137 Gully Place. Dishes, household items, kids clothes, toys, outdoor gear, free stuff, free electric range.

GIGANTIC NES ESTATE SALE coming Thursday August 7th -9th. 8a.m. to 3p.m. Thousands of items for sale. Full bedroom sets, fine art, outdoor furniture and gear, decor. antiques and collectibles, garden, hunting, fishing, tools ... Something for everyone! Come see us and find something fun at 122 Lighthouse Dr.

MULTI FAMILY GARAGE SALE! Skis /poles /boots, ski clothes, golf bags, household items, small appliances, dishes, fire pit, oil-less fryer, tools, clothing and much much more. Saturday August 9th, 8a.m. to 3p.m., 1432 Carino Place. Please no early birds.

MULTI FAMILY YARD SALE. August 9, 263 Beucler Lane. 8a.m. -2p.m. No early birds please. Furniture, tools, women's, men's, and kid's clothes.

SALE, 144 WILDWOOD DRIVE. 9a.m. -4p.m. this weekend. Log furniture and more. Water heater, dishwasher, firewood, oven, lots of household items.

YARD SALES

TIMBER RIDGE 1ST ANNUAL Community Yard Sale, Saturday, August 16, 2025, from 8a.m. to 1p.m. at the Timber Ridge Clubhouse, 31 Shooting Star Drive. Come explore a wide variety of treasures from Timber Ridge homeowners all in one convenient location! You'll find everything from home goods and tools to furniture, toys, outdoor gear, and more—there's something for everyone.

YARD SALE, SATURDAY, 9A.M -2P.M. 83 Woodridge Circle. Tools, building materials, camping, grow lights, much more.

YARD SALE. 108 Gala Place, Saturday, August 9, 8a.m. -2p.m. Outdoor gear, bicycle, Total Gym, exercise bike, massage table, bows, tools, household goods.

YARD SALE. 145 Hermosa Street, Pagosa Springs. Saturday, August 9th. 8a.m. -2p.m. Household, Furniture, Decorations, Clothing.

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.

LARGE FORMAT INDOOR STORAGE UNITS — RV /Camper /Toy storage. 16' wide, 14' tall, 50' deep. Single overhead door, annual lease. Insulated space. Contact at (970)903-0520.

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.

PROFESSIONAL PRIVATE OFFICE for rent \$431 /month, 12' x 13-1/2'. 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.

VACATION RENTALS

OWNERS, WE ARE BOOKED UP AND NEED MORE VACATION RENTAL PROPERTIES! Call us today for lowest commission and highest customer service. All you have to do is wait for your rent check to come in. We do the rest! Rocky Mountain Realty & Rentals (970)507-1192.

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, 2 car garage home in Lake Forest. Mostly unfurnished.1 pet approved w/ \$25 monthly pet rent. Call 970-731-8599 or visit the website teampagosa.com. Available 8/5/25.

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

ALTAVISTA TOWNHOME with mountain /lake views by Village Lake and Rec Center. 4 bed /3 bath /2.5 garage \$2,750 /month Info: www.homeinpagosa.com (PW: Pagosa).

BASEMENT STUDIO APARTMENT. Downtown, river view, furnished. \$1000 rent, \$1000 deposit. Utilities included. No smokers. No pets. (970)264-6797.

BEAUTIFUL DOWNTOWN FURNISHED 3 bed, 2.5 bath, 2 car garage home. Large fenced yard. Convenient to all downtown amenities. 1 dog allowed. Call (970)731-8599 for more info or visit the website: teampagosa.com Available July 23, 2025.

DOWNTOWN PAGOSA RENTAL — one bedroom and bath, \$1350. Walking distance shops and restaurants in old downtown. (720)470-2653.

FOR RENT. 2 bedroom, 2 bath duplex. 558 E. Golf Unit B. With patio, on golf course, one car garage, washer and dryer included. Long term rental. \$1700 /month. Call Deborah Kerns, (970)749-0986.

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

ROOM FOR RENT. \$500 per month includes utilities. (970)398-0990.

RURAL 3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, 1 car garage. Call (970)731-8599 or visit the website: team-pagosa.com. Available NOW!

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.

APARTMENT/CONDO FOR SALE

TWO BEDROOM, 1-1/2 BATH. Westwind I, first floor, new windows, granite kitchen counter, tiled bathroom and kitchen floors. 961 sq. ft., beautiful mountain views. \$277,500. (970)844-4929, call /text for appointment.

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.

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.

(970) 264-2100

Classifieds

(970) 264-2100

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

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

"We owned a condominium in the Pagosa Springs area which was a rental property. For many years the firm provided property management services for us and we always found them to be very professional and responsive. If you are in need of a competent, professional property management firm or realtor, we would strongly recommend them. ~ Michael Gamba"



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Rocky Mountain
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970.731.5515

Info@rmrealtyandrentals.com

117 Navajo Trail Dr. Ste E, Pagosa Springs

Largest Local Property Management Co.



150+ SW Colorado
Property Owners Served
19+ Years. Mortgage &
Real Estate Exp
FULL LT TENANT SCREENING
NATIONWIDE ADVERTISING
ON CALL 24 HR 7 DAYS



HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

RANCHES

LAND/ BUILDING SITES

LAND/ BUILDING SITES

REAL ESTATE SERVICES

*Whether
Buying or Selling*



Call Marcie Lewis
(970) 759-8672



MarcieLewis.com

2 BEDROOM, 2 BATHROOM, new construction, workforce housing homes starting at \$339,000. Down payment assistance and financing available. Call (970)585-4984.

3% FINANCING AVAILABLE for qualified buyers on this 2 BR home on 1.9 acres, plus a guest house, mature gardens and greenhouse. Home has power, permitted septic, cistern, and well. All appliances and furnishings included. Call Peggy Andrews, Independent Broker (970)946-0473 for more information. \$319,000. MLS# 824849.

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.

GREAT STARTER HOME. Two bedroom, 2 bath mobile home. Fenced yard. \$320,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

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.

SUMMER SALE! NO HOA: Tiny Home (\$100s): 1 Bedroom, 1 Bath (3-Bath Septic), Electric, Pole Barn, 1.17 Acres. Contractor or Horse Property: (\$400s) 2-3 Bedrooms, 2,072 SF, 2 Baths, 1.14 Acres, 30x60 Steel Building, 20x30 Shed, 24x20 Carport. Cabin: (\$100s) 1 Bedroom, Bath, Solar (Off-Grid). PLPOA: (\$200s) 3 Bedroom, 2 Baths, 1152 SF, Backs Canyon. Wen Saunders (970)903-0038. Keller Williams Realty Southwest Associates.

MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE

PRIVATE ACRE, 10 min. to town, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, manufactured home. Large deck looking over a meadow /trees and small log studio /shed. \$299,000. Afternoon/evenings only. (970)731-3814.

OPEN HOUSES

OPEN HOUSE. 353 Pompa Drive, Friday, August 8, 10a.m. -1p.m. Hosted by Stephanie Yates, Sherpa Real Estate.

PagosaSUN.com

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.

12.6 ACRES WITH VIEWS. HOA, Meadows 4 with water tap, tall pines, multiple building sites. Call or text (303)263-9366.

.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.

BACKS TO GREENBELT with mountain views. Motivated seller, .28 acre, all utilities available. \$50,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

BUILD READY BARGAINS! City Water, Sewer, Electric, Recreation Center Available: ¼ -Acre Lots: Lake \$30s, Fireside -40s, Seller Finance: Paradise \$40s. ¼ -Arce Golf Course Lots: Caddy, Greenside-\$50s. Wen Saunders, Land Specialist (970)903-0038. Keller Williams Realty Southwest Associates.

ESCAPE THE HEAT SALE! NO HOA. Off-Grid Parcels For RVing: Waynes: 2.5+ Acres-\$30s. Rock Point: 1+ Acres -30s. Crooked: Seller Finance, 6+ Acres, 4 Parcels, Build Tiny Homes -\$70s. Electric Available: Hurt: 1 Acre, Storage Tack -Barn -\$60s. Alcazar: 1.43 -Acres, backs ranch, mountain view s-\$50s. HWY. 160: 2 -Acres, 2 lots, backs creek -\$60s. Wen Saunders, Land Specialist (970)903-0038. Keller Williams Realty Southwest Associates.

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

NATIONAL FOREST ACCESS. .21 acres, buildable lot, tap available, motivated seller. \$40,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

TWO ADJACENT 5 ACRES LOTS. Available Separately. Meadows 4. Details at www.BLANCA257.com. Scott (970)731-4421 or fscott409@outlook.com.

PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED AD ONLINE!

Go to: **PagosaSUN.com** >> Shop Local
>> Place Your Classified Ad

All classified line ads appear on PagosaSUN.com

Regular categories deadline: Tues., 10 a.m.

Holidays will have alternate deadlines.



All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, or national origin, or an intention, to make such preference, limitation or discrimination." This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.



Photo courtesy Lisa Scott

Women affiliated with a collegiate sorority gather to catch up with old friends while enjoying new friends and sharing the bond of sisterhood across badges. Fifteen women from 15 different universities and nine sorority groups attended. Panhellenic sisters are gathering again on Tuesday, Aug. 26, from 4 to 5:30 p.m. at the Alley House Grille. We look forward to welcoming the traditional attendees, as well as new faces, to this special event, so please help us by spreading the word and finding the sorority sisters in your neighborhoods and friend circles. The event will feature appetizers and a cash bar. A \$10 donation at the event is requested to assist in covering the cost of the appetizer and beverage service. For more information and reservations, call or text Sherry Spears at (940) 887-9208 or sherrykayspears@sbcglobal.net.

FREE ADMISSION

Jaime JORGE

In Concert

HERE I AM
TO WORSHIP

CONCERT TOUR

 JAIMÉ JORGE

Healing Music

SATURDAY, AUGUST 16 • 7 PM

Pagosa Springs Seventh-day Adventist Church
40 Oren Road • Pagosa Springs

38 years of incredible music

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



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.