



PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147 www.PagosaSUN.com VOLUME 117 — NO. 47, THURSDAY, AUGUST 21, 2025

Arrests made in connection with Oak Fire ignition

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

According to the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office (ACSO), on Sunday, Aug. 17, at 5:46 p.m., deputies arrested two male suspects in connection with the Oak Fire started by an illegal burn at 152 Oak Drive in Aspen Springs.

The fire began at approximately 1:15 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 10.

"The burn was in violation of the Second Amended and Restated Ordinance no. 18-2017 for the regulation



Alaniz **Heirigs**

of open burning in the unincorporated areas of Archuleta County," an ACSO press release states.

■ See Arrests A9

Archuleta County manager resigns

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

Archuleta County Manager Jack Harper's resignation was unanimously accepted during Tuesday's Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) meeting.

Following an executive session that was convened for legal advice and personnel matters, the board directed staff to hold a conversation and announced that the regular meeting would be recessed for about 15 minutes.

After calling the meeting back to order, Commissioner Veronica Medina explained that, according to staff, Harper would be resigning.

The board then voted unanimously to accept his resignation.

Harper was originally hired for the county manager position in August 2024, with current commissioners Medina and Warren Brown being involved in that decision.

Brown voted against the hiring of Harper, while Medina and then-commissioner Ronnie Maez voted in

■ See Resigns A19

'Step up your game': Area experiencing increased conflicts with bears



Photo courtesy Denise Hicks

A bear strolls through Aspen Springs on Sunday, Aug. 17. Wildlife officials are urging residents and visitors to avoid attracting bears, noting an uptick in human-bear conflict calls and bears desperate for food.

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

"If a State of Emergency for bear conflicts could be declared, it would be for southwest Colorado this year," said Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) Officer Doug Purcell. "Since the first week of July, we have been incredibly busy responding to human-bear conflict calls and dealing with bears desperate for food [looking] to residential communities and towns to find easy calories."

"It's been a tough summer for bears in southwest Colorado," CPW Southwest Region Public Information Officer John Livingston wrote in an email to The SUN. "It's been incredibly dry and natural forage has been spotty, at best. Acorns still are coming in for the year, and berries have been hit or miss."

And, Livingston indicates, bears will continue to look for easy calorie sources as they prepare for winter.

"As we soon get into hyperphagia (late summer-fall), the time of year when bears are eating as many as 20,000 calories a day and looking for food as many as 20 hours per day, bears are increasingly going to be looking for easy calorie sources," Livingston wrote, adding, "It's been a busy year already for human-bear conflict in southwest Colorado, and the traditional busiest months of conflict are just beginning."

Purcell indicated that people who have not had issues with bears before may have issues this year.

"If you've lived here for '40 years' and

■ See Bears A10



Photo courtesy Colorado Department of Transportation

Concrete paving takes place in front of Pagosa Springs Middle School on Wednesday, Aug. 20. Work in front of the school will likely continue through Labor Day weekend in anticipation of the first day of school.

Town council presented with opportunity to expand Reservoir Hill Park

By Derek Kutzer
Staff Writer

On Aug. 19, staff from the town's Parks and Recreation Department presented an opportunity to the Pagosa Springs Town Council for the expansion of Reservoir Hill Park.

The potential expansion would extend the park along the remainder of the hill to the south, toward County Road 119, also known as Light Plant Road.

Parks Director Darren Lewis and Recreation Supervisor Amanda Gadomski were on hand at the meeting to pitch the idea of expanding the park, describing it as an "opportunity to conserve Reservoir Hill" to protect "a community treasure for future generations."

Lewis and Gadomski explained the acquisition of land would come through grants and private donors, with Gadomski explaining that the conservation grants that the town

would be applying for would require most of the property to be delineated as a "conservation easement."

A slideshow presented at the meeting states that this type of conservation easement would prevent any future development on the property, preserve open space and protect wildlife.

It also states that it would improve outdoor opportunities by expanding hiking and biking trails, as well as the disc golf course and the cross-country skiing trail network.

It would also strengthen "community and the economy," enhancing the "quality of life" for residents and boosting tourism and local businesses, according to the slideshow.

Gadomski explained that the easement would "prevent both residential and commercial construction," adding that it "guarantees the community would always have access to this hill."

■ See Reservoir A10

School district's committee to hear preliminary analysis for potential new school sites

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

On Monday, Aug. 25, Archuleta School District's Master Plan Advisory Committee (MPAC) and members of the Board of Education (BOE) will hear preliminary site analysis regarding possible locations for a future school building.

The meeting is set to begin at 5:30 p.m. in the Pagosa Springs Middle School library at 309 Lewis St.

The BOE discussed the matter at

its Aug. 5 meeting, with Superintendent Rick Holt explaining the matter was on the agenda to give the board some time to discuss specific next steps and continue discussion on the matter.

He noted the board could choose to take action on going for a bond or could choose to continue to investigate and explore.

Holt noted that, since the matter was discussed in July, the district had engaged RTA Architects to begin looking at sites and traffic studies.

He noted RTA would not be able to finish those results until later in August, with the information set to be presented to the MPAC on Aug. 25, with that meeting noticed for the BOE to attend.

BOE president Bob Lynch then asked his fellow board members what they've thought about since leaving off in July and what they think about the prospects of a bond or a Building Excellent Schools Today (BEST) grant.

Butch Mackey was the first to

speak, stating his initial thoughts were that he was pleased with the results of the survey and that there is support to do something proactive about its facilities.

The BOE heard the results of a community poll on July 1. For more on those results, see <http://bit.ly/3JmJh9C>.

He indicated that, as much as he would like to try to be ready to go to the ballot this year, he doesn't think that is feasible.

■ See School A9

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Opinion

The Pagosa Springs SUN

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OUR VIEW

Moving forward

There's a lot going on in Pagosa Country right now.

We have multiple taxing entities seeking new leadership, school district board seats up for election, boards deciding when to bring major items before voters and more.

Each of the decisions has the potential to change the trajectory of our community, both in the short-term and long-term, fiscally and with respect to how our community functions.

And each of them is an opportunity for our community's leaders to show us how they operate, what's important to them and what they want for us.

Archuleta County has a number of large topics looming as it heads into budget season and beyond, including roads, lodgers' tax, facilities and more.

The county also has a number of important jobs up for hire right now, including its county manager and director of development.

Both jobs are very forward-facing and integral to business and development in our community, among other things.

Both vacancies also followed public resignations that have brought about questions and accusations, aimed both at the

county and the individuals involved.

We realize the full scope of both situations is known by only a few, and it's likely to stay that way. We're left to see what the county will change after the events leading up to the resignations, as well as the community feedback following both departures, and how that may affect the type of individuals they hire.

Regardless of how anyone feels about the recent departures, it's time for the county to move forward, and to make sure it does so in a respectable and open way.

We sincerely hope the commissioners take the time to carry out a transparent and thorough hiring process to find a professional, experienced manager who can set a positive, professional tone for the county on a daily basis.

The Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District is also looking to hire a new district manager and comptroller amid drought concerns, discussions about its role in the community and large projects on the horizon.

We implore the board to, like the county, focus on hiring a professional and experienced manager who can help the district navigate challenges with regulations, facil-

ity upgrades, community development and whatever else may come to fruition.

We also hope to see the school district continue to have open, thoughtful discussion about working to balance the need for a new school facility with giving the community members the necessary information to make an informed decision about investing in the district's facilities — a decision that will have a large impact on its staff and students, as well as the community as a whole.

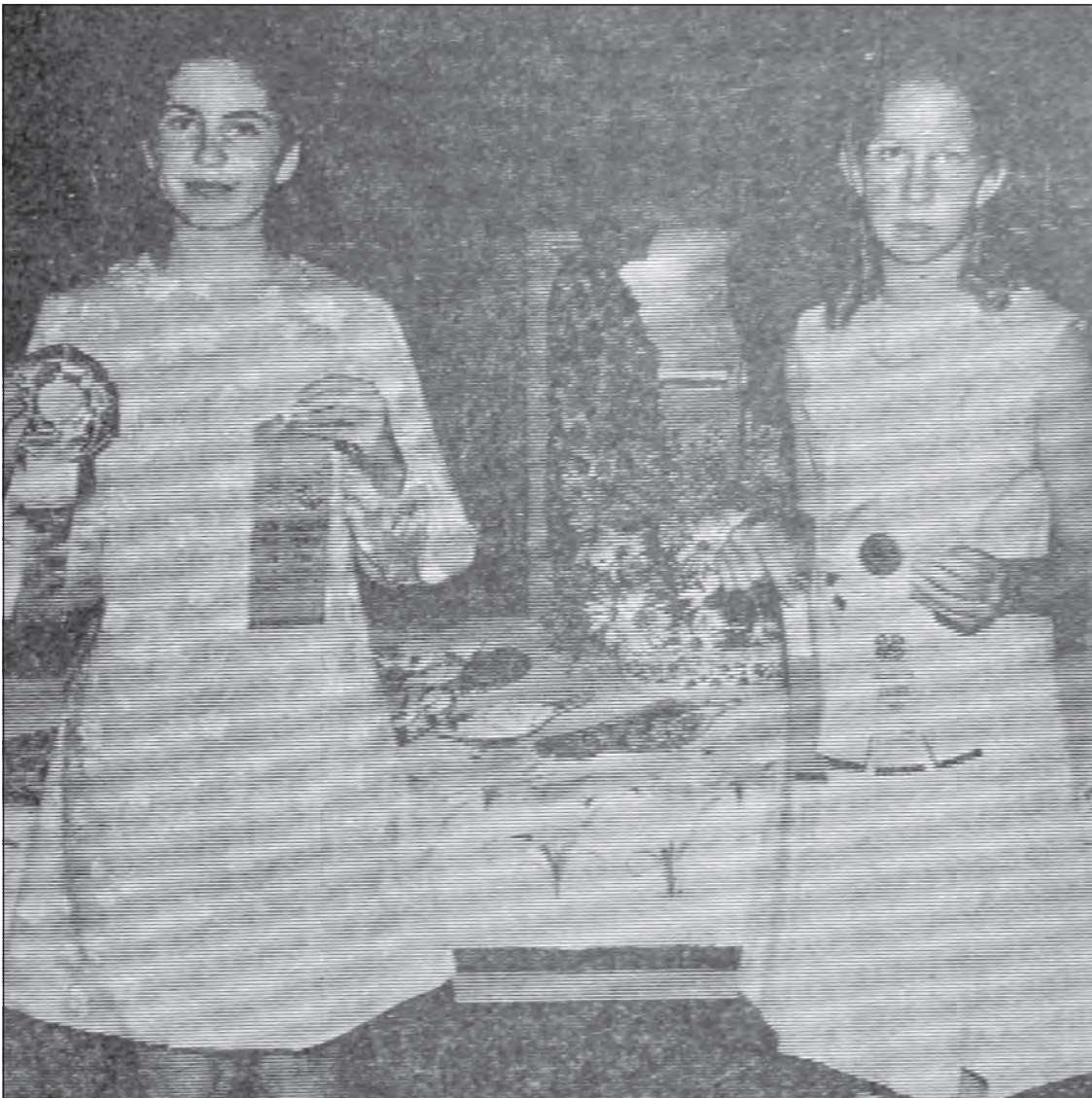
These decisions, as well as others, like a sales tax increase within the town boundaries to help fund wastewater system repairs and upgrades, have the potential to affect not only our wallets, but the pride we hold in our community and the way it functions.

Now is a key time for the elected and appointed leaders across our community to make strong, thoughtful decisions based on what is best for the community now and into the future, and to do so with transparency, integrity and community input.

Now is the time for them to show us why they've been chosen to lead our community.

Randi Pierce

LOOKING BACK



From the Aug. 20, 1970, **Pagosa SUN — DRESS REVUE — Beverly Martinez, left, was chosen as grand champion of the 4-H dress revue. Susan Nossaman, right, was named reserve champion.**

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LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

100 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
August 14, 1925

Thirty-five cans of rainbow and native trout, to the number of about 100,000, are expected here next Monday and will be placed in the San Juan river.

The Antonito Ledger accuses parties in Pagosa Springs and Durango of diverting travel from the Cumbres highway in favor of the Wolf Creek highway. We are unable to state whether the accusation is true or not, but do personally know that both are splendid mountain highways and provide a choice of two good routes to the San Luis valley from the San Juan.

Advertisers were begging for space in the Sun this week, and as a result we have had to cut short our reading matter.

W.R. Jones, superintendent of the Pagosa Springs schools the past two terms, was a Pagosa visitor the first of this week, coming to load out his effects, which he had left here last May. Mr. Jones has accepted the position of superintendent at Aspen, Colo., at an increase of salary and with a dwelling furnished by the school board. He departed Tuesday for Aspen.

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
August 11, 1950

The farmers are hustling around like bees. The second cutting of hay is ready to put up, the clover and other strains are ready to harvest. Since they have to cut the clover before sunrise, they are going to run a little short of sleep and most of them are already putting in 12 to 15 hours a day. Did someone say something about a "Fiesta"?

And by the way, school will begin on Sept. 4. Yes, on Labor Day! However, only the registration of students will take place at that time and all pupils, in order to try for perfect attendance records must be there on that day.

Bud Patterson of the Agricultural Extension office and Lee Cox, both of Pagosa were recent fishermen in the this [Arboles] area. As the story goes, one of them caught a terrific Colorado salmon out of the San Juan River. The fish was reported to weigh ten pounds and one ounce.

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
August 14, 1975

Solar heating is being considered in the planning of at least four new buildings in this area. Solar engineers believe that this part of the country would be an ideal place for solar heating. The percentage of days that have sunshiny hours is large and heat can be stored from solar heating plants. It is said that the cost isn't as large as many expect. These proposed solar heating plants will be watched with a great deal of interest by every resident in this area.

Ranchers and farmers are having the annual August difficulty haying. Rains have been fairly general this week each afternoon and that doesn't speed up haying. Days have been pleasant for most folks, though, and no one is asking for a real early frost.

Traffic at Stevens Field airport these days is very heavy. The number of planes on the ground is often large. The field also gets heavy use from planes that bring businessmen in, spend a few hours, and then depart. The RC&D and County project for leveling and landscaping has been completed and the airport will look very fine as soon as the new grass grows in.

25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
August 10, 2000

Would you like to see a four-lane highway with parallel bicycle path on U.S. 160 from 8th Street in Pagosa Springs west to the Pagosa Boulevard intersection?

The scenario is more than likely during this decade.

That was the major news for about 20 members of the public who attended a Colorado Department of Transportation hearing in Pagosa Sprigs Monday.

CDOT officials said reconstruction of the highway in that corridor is the number two ranking project in the Southwest Transportation Planning Region.

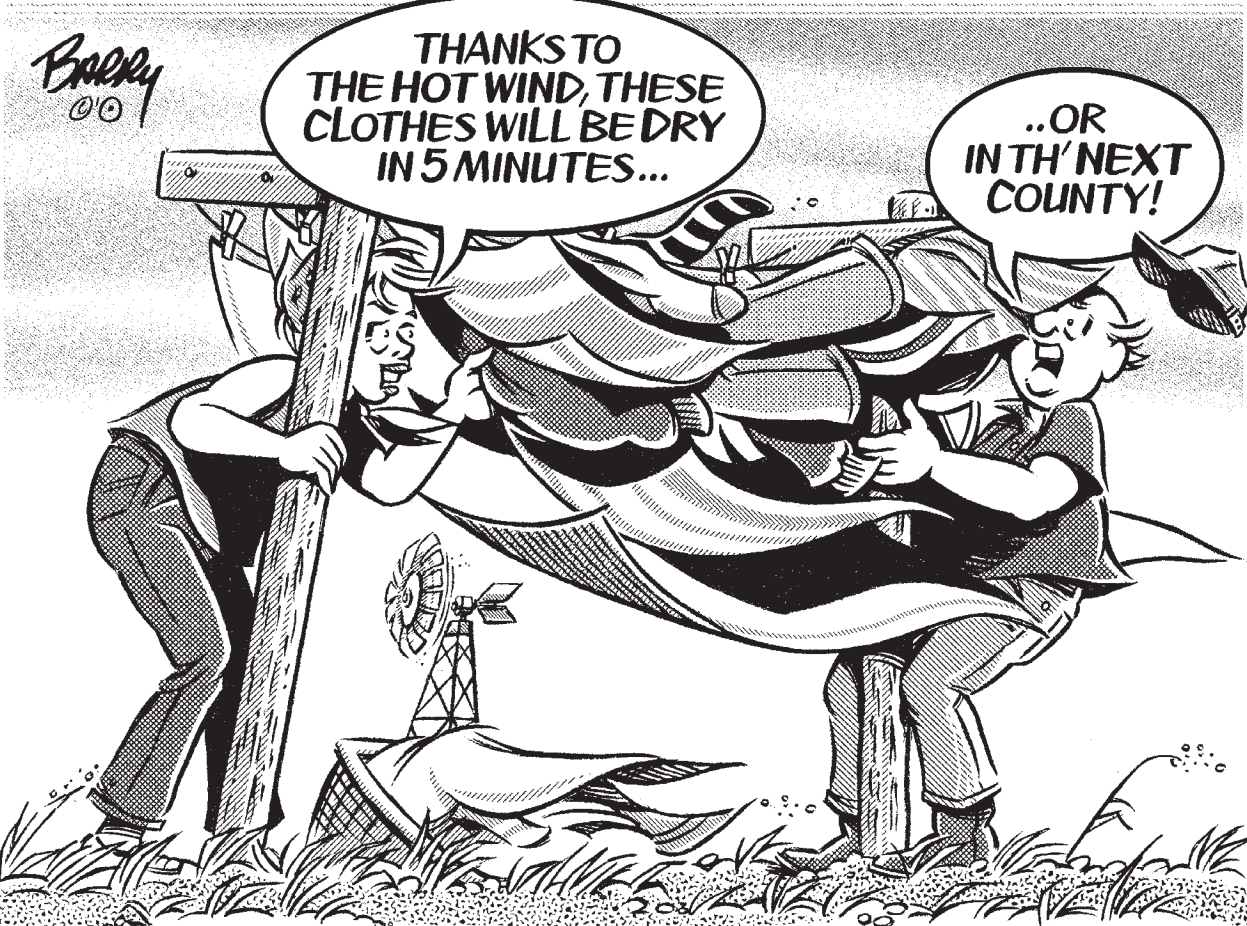
As such, it already had been allocated \$700,000 for fiscal year 2003 which begins July 1, 2002. An additional \$5.8 million is allotted for design and construction in the 2004-06 fiscal year period. Since overall cost of the project is estimated at \$10.6 million, CDOT aides pointed out, it is apparent additional funding will be necessary when the two-year updates of planning status are made.

While that is the major development for Archuleta County in the current statewide transportation plan, it isn't the only funding coming. The town of Pagosa Springs will receive \$200,000 each year from 2001 through 2003 for congestion, mitigation and air quality programs.



Weather data

Date	High	Low	Precipitation	Moisture	Type	Depth
8/12	84	47	0.00	NA	NA	NA
8/13	88	47	0.00	NA	NA	NA
8/14	87	52	0.00	NA	NA	NA
8/15	83	49	0.03	NA	NA	NA
8/16	80	49	0.02	NA	NA	NA
8/17	85	44	0.00	NA	NA	NA
8/18	88	48	0.00	NA	NA	NA





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

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

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

A few questions

Dear Editor:

I have a few questions about the Sun's August 9th story about the planning office. That and the earlier stories don't report whether any prior notice was given of the discussions outside of the August 5th private "briefing" received from the interim director or of the discussion held by 2 of 3 Commissioner in Commissioner mMedina absence. The partial Board then agreed to proceed with a Contract which had never been discussed or made public and with no prior notice to the public.

This was done against the background of Ms. Flower's very serious allegations against all of the Commissions and specifically that one commissioner permitted a person to live in a home for which a Certificate of Oppoupancy had been issued. This incident was not discussed in your story and no plans were discussed about an investigation of what I assume would be a criminal act.

Moreover Mr. Flower's allegations were not discussed and the two Commissions simply entered into a new contract for some of the department/s duties to the only applicant applying

Letters

on short notice. How could the commsioners make a serious decision (which it may not even had to funds to pay for these services) without some knowledge of the corruption Mr. Flower's alleged.

I know that eployment matters should not be discussed in public, but that doesn't mean that two of three commsions shoud simply throw money with no idea of the problem.

Jim Denvir

After the fire

Dear Editor:

The colors are changing from charred dark grey to golden brown tinged with pink. It is finally cooling, the heat radiated for days. Now the green spreads to gold as time shows how many trees died. The ground cover is gone. Immediately after the fire, insects buzzed, even as the land steamed and invisibly shook. The most eerie, though, was when the finger-like black trees, with too much space around them, emerged from the smoke. No more green leaves, just air and black dirt. The deer, like angels, all brown and white, stood frozen, not camouflaged in the black ash. They still stare at us just a little bit too long. The birds have not yet come back.

When we first were let back onto the land, my husband went to tend everything that was still alive. And I went to all that was dead. I guess we had both sides covered.

Kind of like Pagosa.

Everyone manned their stations; people trained in emergencies did what needed to be done. Neighbors called. Decisions were made quickly and we covered all sides. People prayed. Some had to watch. Some had to cry. Some got pissed. I am grateful for it all.

Our land has footprints everywhere, tiny trenches and lines held, holding the fire out. I still feel them here, the people who saved my house. I never got to say thank you or feed them, but they will stay with me always. I will always hope for them, wherever they are. We went to town to work right away in the days after the fire. And while we worked, even after we had returned to our home, they came back, invisible to us. They mended fences, they combed the land, they looked for fire still burning. They gave such care and love, I still feel my heart ache from receiving.

And I still feel Pagosa here. I feel such gratitude for all I have been given. This could have been a great tragedy with so much more death, but it wasn't. We held it together and we helped each other out. The first responders and firefighters are heroes. And people from outside of Pagosa also came to help; so quick, so skilled.

We all had to be ourselves. We all had to do what we did and it worked out, despite great loss for some of us. I am sorry for their loss.

I will always remember how much we truly helped each other. I hope we all do.

Christa Laos

Be prepared

Dear Editor:

The Sheriff's website has a download for evacuees from the Oak Fire. That document should have been sent out on the day folks evacuated. It is very well written with lots of information all residents of Colorado should know before an emergency occurs! Be informed and better prepared, Download, read it, and save it. You will find it very useful!

Norman Stark

Obituaries



Stephen Anderson

Resident of Pagosa Springs for 30 years and well-known as "Chef Anderson," Stephen Anderson passed away on Aug. 14, a peaceful passing in his sleep at 71 from heart failure.

In his early days in Pagosa, Stephen worked and consulted at several restaurants in town, including The Sports Page, Boss Hogs, Isbella's, The Cottage and others. He loved cooking for family and friends, and everyone looked forward to those meals, especially the Berry Bomb cake desserts.

He leaves behind is his longtime partner, Susan Spencer; a half-brother in Salt Lake City; and a half-sister in Nevada.

A celebration of life will be held next summer in honor of his life and memory. He touched many and he is terribly missed.

James Curtis Olsen

Jim was born at Mercy Hospital in Durango, Colo., on Feb. 17, 1955, to James Theodore Olsen and Genevieve (Johnson) Olsen. He spent his childhood getting frogs out of the creek and playing outdoors.

He attended school in the 50th school district, graduating in 1973. He learned welding from Worth Crouse in high school. His welding class constructed the cross on the east edge of Pagosa Springs that is lit during Christmas time. He enjoyed football and wrestling; he qualified for the state wrestling tournament in 1973. He considered it a real highlight to attend the 50th reunion of his class in July 2023. After high school, Jim worked as a welder at the sawmill until the mill closed.

Jim was a skilled carpenter, working for several contractors building custom homes around the state. In later years, Jim worked as a ranch helper and handyman. He loved to fish, and was happy to participate in

family and neighborhood activities. He was a very caring person, helping to care for his father and grandfather when he was in his teens and later helping to care for his mother toward the end of her life. He would help others in need whenever he knew they needed it.

Many people will remember Jim walking everywhere. When he was in high school, he would walk from town out to his grandparents' house to help care for his grandfather. As a young boy, he would walk all over the Bayles School neighborhood to visit his friend Vaughn Jacobson and then back home. He loved to hike up on Wolf Creek and had a sense of direction like no other. If you went with him, you had to walk fast to keep up with him because he had such long legs.

In the fall of 2022, Jim was diagnosed with colorectal cancer. He faced it bravely, undergoing chemotherapy, radiation and surgery. Jim passed Oct. 27, 2024, 13 years to the day from his mother's death. Following Jim's wishes, his ashes were spread on Wolf Creek Pass near his favorite fishing spot.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Jim and Genevieve Olsen;

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.

U.S. 160 reconstruction information

Week of Aug. 25-29

Work activity

Concrete paving operations underway

- Some smaller paving operations are anticipated to take place throughout the next few weeks, from 1st to 3rd streets, to tie into 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 could start rolling in around 6 p.m. and continue until mid-morning on the following day.
- Curb and gutter and sidewalk paving may occur day or night. Pedestrian detours should be expected.

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 is complete from 1st to 3rd streets.
- Installation of light pole foundations and electrical work will take place from 3rd to 5th streets.
- The 2nd Street and 4th Street intersections on the north side of U.S. 160 will remain closed until utility work and paving are complete.
- Lighting conduit installation and light pole base construction is continuing near Pagosa Springs Middle School from 3rd Street to 4th Street. Work in front of the school will likely continue through Labor Day weekend in anticipation of the first day of school. Note: Sidewalk demolition and concrete pouring are underway 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 for the next few months.
- 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 are 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.

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.



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Business

A time for learning and a time for fun: Grillin’ and Distillin’ Saturday, learning opportunities available

By Sandy Douthey
Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce

August is a time for last-minute fun before the school year begins. The Chamber is here to support all the fun in August, as well as provide you with some fun learning through the fall. Grillin’ and Distillin’ is finally here. It is this Saturday at the Archuleta County Fairgrounds from noon until 5 p.m. We will have master grillers and backyard grillers; we just need you to come out and enjoy all the amazing and delicious BBQ. We will be having a People’s Choice winner, as well as winners in the categories of beans, chicken, ribs and brisket. So, with choices like that, a good time will surely be had. Our distillers are a competitive group, as well, and they will be vying

for the People’s Choice Award. We will have retail vendors present to add to the fun, along with some food for purchase from food trucks for those not wanting to have BBQ. Plenty of cold beverages will be there for sale so we can all stay hydrated and focused on having a good time. This event will be fun for the family with face painting and some great live music. Tylor Brandon will be there as well as SolOverLuna — knockout music for what is sure to be a knockout day. We really look forward to everyone coming out and enjoying themselves. I would be remiss to not remind everyone to not drink and drive. There will be spirits to enjoy and taste, but we care about the safety of you and others. If you find you can’t drive and need a ride, please find someone from the Chamber and we

will be happy to help arrange a safe way home, or plan ahead and arrange a designated driver. There is more fun to be had this year, and lots of memories to be made in each of our lives. Please come on out and join us at Grillin’ and Distillin’ Saturday from noon to 5 p.m. at the Archuleta County Fairgrounds. **Learning opportunities** The Chamber would also like to let everyone know about two great free learning opportunities. These are brought to us by Local First in Durango and the state of Colorado. From Sept. 16 to Nov. 11, local business institute coaches will guide a cohort of learners through “New Thinking for Greater Success.” This will be an interactive six-week virtual cohort open to only 12 participants

located in Southwest Colorado. There will be weekly 90-minute live sessions, a toolkit and optional personal coaching. Discover opportunities for growth, start-up or diversification, and record your journey in a customizable guidebook. Register online at local-first.org/new-thinking-for-greater-success. The second training available now is called “Small Business Talent Magnet Employees — one of the biggest components of your business.” Learn how to attract and retain employees, especially younger, value-driven people. Build inclusive, flexible and engaging workplace practices. It is an on-demand, self-paced course open to small businesses across Colorado. It includes video lessons, a toolkit and a customizable guidebook. Register online at <https://forms.gle/vLiNA955DrAiE4bt6>.

Sip, stroll and support local at Wednesday Wine Walks

Pagosa Springs Main Street Program

A simple evening out can make a big impact for small businesses during construction. With construction underway along U.S. 160, getting to and around downtown Pagosa Springs isn’t always easy. But while the detours and orange cones are temporary, the challenges for our small businesses are a daily reality. That’s why events like the Wednesday Wine Walks aren’t just about wine; they’re also a meaningful show of community support. The next Wine Walk is Wednesday, Aug. 27. Admission is free. Anyone 21 and older can buy a \$10 wine walk

pass (cash only) to enjoy three glasses and a chance to win prizes from local businesses. The fun will start at 4:30 p.m. on either end of the 400 block of Pagosa Street. Shops will be open into the evening along the historic block. The volunteers from Pagosa Spring Main Street will once again be giving away gift cards to local businesses — and this time, a day pass to the ski area. Look for the Main Street table to register. “The wine is great, but it’s the community support that really shines,” said Kathleen McFadden, Main Street Coordinator. “When people take the time to show up downtown, it sends a

powerful message that we care about what happens here.” This will be the third Wine Walk; attendance surged in July, up 57 percent, raising \$1,180 for the Main Street Business Assistance Fund. The money goes to downtown businesses working through construction disruptions. Even the giveaway prizes — gift cards to local businesses — are a way to keep those dollars circulating right here at home. These events are possible thanks to the generosity of sponsors and the commitment of our community. Past Wine Walks were supported by the Chamber of Commerce and Mountain Rotary Club. The upcoming Aug.

27 walk is sponsored by the Pagosa Springs Rotary Club, and the Sept. 24 finale will be hosted by Pagosa Springs Main Street. And the impact doesn’t stop there. The best way to support our local businesses is to keep showing up, whether there’s an event or not. Shop local. Dine local. Tell your friends. Every purchase helps keep the lights on, the doors open and the heart of Pagosa Springs strong. Come for the wine and the social scene. Stay for the businesses. And be part of the community effort that’s helping downtown survive and thrive through change. For more information, visit PagosaMainStreet.org.

Community Foundation supports Humane Society with \$10,500 grant, invites public to fundraising concert

By Kim Cassels
Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado

The Archuleta County Fund, held at the Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado, has awarded its 2025 grant to the Humane Society of Pagosa Springs. The organization will receive \$10,500 to help offset revenue lost during the main street reconstruction project. The Archuleta County Fund was established to grow permanent phil-

anthropic resources for the Pagosa Springs community. Each year, up to 5 percent of the fund balance is distributed through an unsolicited grant process where a local committee of community members selects the recipient. “The Archuleta County Fund is a unique way for locals to invest in the future of Pagosa Springs,” said Briggen Wrinkle, executive director of the Community Foundation. “By building this fund over time, we can ensure steady, meaningful support for nonprofits that make a real

difference right here in Archuleta County.” The Humane Society of Pagosa Springs will be recognized at the Labor Day Kickoff Concert on Thursday, Aug. 28, from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Pagosa Springs Golf Club. The event will feature live music from Soul Fire and serves as a fundraiser to grow the Archuleta County Fund. All dollars raised from the entrance fees, merchandise sales and silent auction go directly to the Archuleta County Fund. Community members are encour-

aged to attend, enjoy an evening of music, participate in the silent auction and contribute to the Archuleta County Fund that directly benefits local organizations. The entrance fee is \$10, and food and drinks will be available for purchase. For more information about the Archuleta County Fund and concert, visit www.swcommunityfoundation.org/labor-day-kickoff-concert/. The Community Foundation serves as the hub of philanthropy for Southwest Colorado, connecting people, ideas and resources to build a vibrant and resilient region. For more information on giving back and supporting community needs, visit swcommunityfoundation.org or call (970) 375-5807.

Archuleta County resident appointed to Region 9 loan committee

Region 9 Economic Development District of Southwest Colorado

The Region 9 Economic Development District of Southwest Colorado welcomes Shelly Cox to the Business Loan Fund Committee as an Archuleta County representative. Cox is an active community member of Pagosa Springs, co-owner of Riff Raff Brewery, and previously served on the board for

the Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce. “As a small business owner herself, Shelly understands the challenges of starting and growing a business,” said Jenny Stollar, business loan officer for Region 9. “Having that expertise is so helpful on the loan committee.” Cox was appointed to the committee by the Region 9 Executive Committee in April. The loan committee is composed

of two representatives from each of the five counties in Southwest Colorado, plus two at-large positions. The loan committee members review all applications and have experience in commercial lending, law, accounting and real estate, and several members are small business owners. The loan committee meets monthly. For more information about Region 9 and its programs, please visit www.region9eddd.org.

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.

Your source for community news:
The Pagosa Springs SUN

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Home of Pagosa’s Best Specialty Grilled Cheese Sandwiches!

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Parking at town park, access thru the alley It’s worth it!

SERVING f BEER & WINE!! @

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Labor Day Kickoff Concert

Featuring **Soul Fire**

Pagosa Springs Golf Club
August 28, 5 - 7 PM

\$10 ticket Silent Auction

Square Top Bar-B-Q & drinks for purchase. No outside food/drinks or pets allowed.

All proceeds go to the Archuleta County Fund that supports local nonprofits.

Scan the QR code for more info, silent auction items, or to make a donation!

INTER-MOUNTAIN REAL ESTATE
The Pagosa Springs SUN
Bank of Colorado
JANN C. PITCHER
PAGOSA SPRINGS GOLF CLUB

Discover Art at its Source!

Local artists invite the public into the creative spaces where their art comes to life in our community

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Pick up paper maps at:

- PJ’s Fine Bamboo Rods 262 Pagosa St #103
- Two Old Crows Gallery 468 Lewis St
- Pagosa Springs Visitor’s Center 105 Hot Springs Blvd
- Mountain & Meadows Real Estate 409 Lewis St
- Chad Haspels Sculpture 52 Trinity Ln
- The Springs Resort 323 Hot Springs Blvd

THANK YOU



Ashton Tully
Grand Champion Market Beef
Bank of Colorado



Madison DeClark
Grand Champion Market Swine
Terry & Ronnie Urbanczyk



Emma Carnley
Grand Champion Market Lamb
*The Springs Resort
Lionheart Ranch*



Lilyanne DeClark
Grand Champion Market Goat
Riff Raff Brewing Company



Nora Forrest
Grand Champion Market Turkey
The Springs Resort



Amaya Linhardt
Grand Champion Market Chickens
Porter Mountain Homes



Stanton Tully
Reserve Champion Market Beef
Vicki & Len Liszewski/ Tim & Linda Wightman/ Randy & Terry Guyll



Lilyanne DeClark
Reserve Champion Market Swine
Tim & Linda Wightman/ Vicki & Len Liszewski



Jayden Carnley
Reserve Champion Market Lamb
San Juan Veterinary Hospital Inc.



Taylor Cole
Reserve Champion Market Goat
Inter-Mountain Propane



Adelyn Hittle
Reserve Champion Market Turkey
Basin CO-OP



Katie Baker
Reserve Champion Market Chickens
Inter-Mountain Propane



Kylie Ketchum
1st place Market Beef - Show Class 1
Bred & Fed Champion
Strohecker Asphalt



Emma Carnley
1st place Market Swine - Show Class 3
*Southwest Ag
& Four Corners Trailers*



Jesse Ray
1st place Market Lamb - Show Class 2
Justin & Sandra Stone



Kolby Elliott
1st place Market Goat - Show Class 1
*Southwest Ag
& Four Corners Trailers*



Benjamin Stretton
1st place Market Hen - Show Class 2
La Plata Electric



Jenavieve Betts
1st place Chicken - Pen Pullets -
Show Class 1
NuWave Lending



Carlie Bridges
1st place Market Beef - Show Class 2
The Springs Resort & Spa



Sydney Plake
1st place Market Swine - Show Class 4
Cold Springs Ice Co.



Alivia Stretton
1st place Market Lamb - Show Class 3
Riff Raff Brewing Co.



Charlie Haymaker
1st place Market Goat - Show Class 3
Lobo Outfitters



Elijah Foss
1st place Hen - Show Class 3
Mike Bates



Brynn Looper
1st place Chicken Pen Cockerels -
Show Class 1
Strohecker Asphalt



Colter Carnley
1st place Market Beef - Show Class 3
Bred & Fed Reserve
Devo Capital



Adelyn Hittle
2nd place Market Swine - Show Class 2
*Scott Strategic Investments/
Alley House*



THANK YOU - 2025



Stetson Osborn
1st place Market Lamb - Show Class 5
Inter-Mountain Propane



Stanton Tully
1st place Market Goat - Show Class 5
Ravenwoods Garden



Stetson Osborn
1st place Hen - Show Class 4
Bank of Colorado



Colle Looper
3rd place Chicken - Pen Pullets -
Show Class 1
M&M Construction



Ethan Carnley
2nd place Market Beef - Show Class 3
Claudia Rosenbaum



Ember Bertram
2nd place Market Swine - Show Class 4
Base Camp Pagosa



Madisen Stretton
1st place Market Lamb - Show Class 6
Valissitie's Accounting



Carlie Bridges
1st place Market Goat - Show Class 7
Jann C Pitcher Real Estate



Noah Lee
1st place Tom - Show Class 1
Ponderosa Springs Ranch



Cora Linhardt
2nd place Chicken - Pen Cockerels -
Show Class 1
Porter Mountain Homes



Dekoklyn Fiorenza
3rd place Market Beef - Show Class 1
Angelina Waterman



Jeb Ketchum
2nd place Market Swine - Show Class 6
Archuleta County Ironworks



William Ray
1st place Market Lamb - Show Class 7
The Springs Resort & Spa



Jesse Ray
1st place Market Goat - Show Class 8
Justin & Sandra Stone



Elsy Wood
1st place Market Tom - Show Class 2
Bear Tooth Ranch



Winter Porter
2nd place Chicken - Pen Cockerels -
Show Class 2
M&M Construction



Jeb Ketchum
3rd place Market Beef - Show Class 2
*Echo It, LLC/ Bryan Looper,
Steward Right Financial*



Hannah Stretton
3rd place Market Swine - Show Class 2
Healing Waters Resort & Spa



Bella Adkisson
2nd place Market Lamb - Show Class 3
NuWave Lending



Garrett Elliott
2nd place Market Goat - Show Class 2
Inter-Mountain Propane



Madison DeClark
1st place Market Tom - Show Class 3
Lionheart Ranch



Sydney Plake
3rd place Chicken - Pen Cockerels -
Show Class 1
Les Schwab Tire Center



Jayden Carnley
3rd place Market Beef - Show Class 3
Strohecker Asphalt



Benjamin Stretton
3rd place Market Swine - Show Class 3
Kitzel & Derek Farrah



Hadley Adkisson
2nd place Market Lamb - Show Class 5
Jann C Pitcher Real Estate



Isabella Espinosa
2nd place Market Goat - Show Class 3
Archuleta County Ironworks



Ashton Tully
2nd place Market Hen -Show Class 3
Greg & Carla Elliott



Nicoletta Ibram
3rd place Chicken - Pen Pullets
- Show Class 2
Mike Bates



Duke Ketchum
3rd place Market Beef - Show Class 4
T.F.I.



Veda Deitemeyer
3rd place Market Swine - Show Class 4
Strohecker Asphalt



Isabella Espinosa
2nd place Market Lamb - Show Class 7
Flying B Ranch



Mark Ray
2nd place Market Goat - Show Class 5
Inter-Mountain Propane



Chase Osborn
2nd place Market Hen - Show Class 4
Les Schwab Tire Center



Ayla Ibram
3rd place Chicken - Pen Pullets -
Show Class 1
Inter-Mountain Propane



Tristan Espinosa
4th place Market Beef - Show Class 1
Flying B Ranch



THANK YOU - 2025



Duke Ketchum
3rd place Market Swine - Show Class 5
Ponderosa Springs Ranch



AnnaBeth Ray
4th place Market Lamb - Show Class 4
Rodney Nelson



AnnaBeth Ray
2nd place Market Goat - Show Class 6
Inter-Mountain Propane



Korban Lee
2nd place Market Tom - Show Class 1
Les Schwab Tire Center



William Ray
4th place Market Beef - Show Class 4
The Springs Resort & Spa



Ridge Adkisson
3rd place Market Swine - Show Class 6
Rodney Nelson



Chase Osborn
2nd place Market Lamb - Show Class 4
Scott Strategic Investments



Abigail Foss
2nd place Market Goat - Show Class 7
Lobo Outfitters



Merci Williams
2nd place Market Tom - Show Class 2
City Market



Kylie Ketchum
4th place Market Swine - Show Class 5
The Springs Resort & Spa



Elijah Foss
2nd place Market Goat - Show Class 8
Les Schwab Tire Center



Cora Linhardt
2nd place Market Tom - Show Class 3
M&M Construction



Bella Adkisson
4th place Market Swine - Show Class 6
The Springs Resort & Spa



Jenavieve Betts
3rd place Market Goat - Class 1
Inter-Mountain Propane



Colton Wattier
3rd place Market Hen - Show Class 2
Cold Springs Ice Co.



Hadley Adkisson
5th place Market Swine - Show Class 2
Jet Transport



Jori Wilson
3rd place Market Goat - Show Class 6
Kitzel & Derek Farrah



Faith Lee
3rd place Market Tom - Show Class 1
La Plata Electric



Corrina Galabota
5th place Market Swine - Show Class 5
Base Camp Pagosa



Claire Adkisson
4th place Market Goat - Show Class 4
Drew Dashner



Wyatt Osborn
3rd place Market Tom - Show Class 2
Inter-Mountain Propane



Carter Wattier
6th place Market Swine - Show Class 2
The Springs Resort & Spa



Ana Romero Gallegos
6th place Market Goat - Show Class 3
NSCO LLC



Colle Looper
3rd place Market Tom - Show Class 3
RMC Trucking



Alivia Stretton
7th place Market Swine - Show Class 2
The Springs Resort & Spa



Hannah Stretton
6th place Market Goat - Show Class 5
Inter-Mountain Propane



Abel Wood
4th place Market Hen - Show Class 3
Kelly Maestas - Edward Jones Financial Advisor



Claire Adkisson
7th place Market Swine - Show Class 3
Charlotte Williams



Abigail Foss
4th place Market Tom - Show Class 3
Devo Capital



Scarlett Roque-Ellis
8th place Market Swine - Show Class 2
Bear Foot Garage Doors



Riley Sanders
5th place Market Hen - Show Class 3
Valley View Ranch



Colter Carnley
10th place Market Swine - Show Class 2
Inter-Mountain Propane



Brynn Looper
5th place Market Tom - Show Class 3
Strohecker Asphalt



Ethan Carnley
11th place Market Swine - Show Class 2
The Springs Resort & Spa



Nina Wood
5th place Market Tom - Show Class 4
Back Country Outfitters

THANK YOU – 2025



4-H Livestock Auction Cake
Tim Brown and Stephanie Hill

The Auction Cake was kindly donated by
Pagosa Baking Company
The proceeds from the cake auction benefit
the Livestock Program and local youth scholarships.

Thank you **Bank of Colorado**
for Sponsoring our Buyer’s Reception Tent!
With your support, we are able to keep the tradition going!

Thank you **Rosie’s Pizzeria and Riff Raff Brewing Company**
for providing the food and beverages.

2025 ADD-ON CONTRIBUTORS

- Ace Appraisal - Jess & Casey Ketchum
Afay Enterprises
Alpine Components
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Archuleta County Ironworks
Authentic Solutions Consulting
Bank of Colorado
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BWD Construction
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Charlotte Williams
Chase Regester Memorial Fund
Clyde & Adelia Ketchum
Cold Springs Ice Co
Cole’s Meat Processing
Colorado Dream Homes
Crissy Lopez
Crossfire Aggregate Service
Custom Homes by Vernon Leslie
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Hair by Kandi
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Katie Jo Lorenzen
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La Plata Electric Association
Lee Riley I Sell Pagosa
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Linda Lattin
Lou Jean’s Salon
Lynn Watchmann
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Patty Brown
- Porter Mountain Homes
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Steer Superintendent Alvin Schaaf	Grand Champion Buckle Jim & Sandy Bramwell	Grand Champion Buckle Archuleta County Ironworks	Grand Champion Buckle Kitzel & Derek Farrah	Grand Champion Buckle C3 Impressions	Int. Master Showmanship Taylor Ranch
Swine Superintendent Ceth Carnley	Reserve Champion Knife La Plata County Cowbells	Reserve Champion Knife Ace Appraisal	Reserve Champion Knife The Last Resort on the River	Reserve Champion Knife Porter Mountain Homes	Senior Master Showman Spring Creek Ranch Fern Shahan
Lamb & Goat Superintendent Lindsay Candelaria	Bred and Fed Buckles Alvin & Terry Schaaf Banded Peak Ranch	Sheep Show sponsored by Inter-Mountain Propane	Turkey Show sponsored by Porter Mountain Homes		Overall Master Showman Cabes Collision and Customs
Poultry Superintendent Kendra Hittle	Reserve Bred and Fed Knives Porter Mountain Homes Crazy Horse Outfitters San Juan Outfitters	Grand Champion Buckle The Water Runner	Grand Champion Buckle C3 Impressions		Parent Showmanship Banded Peak Ranch
Rabbit Superintendent Lyndsay Bertram		Reserve Champion Knife StewardRight Leading Edge Financial Planning	Reserve Champion Knife Echo IT Consulting, LLC		

LIVESTOCK RING STEWARDS

Beef — Madisen Stretton, Bella Adkisson
Lamb — Kylie Ketchum, Madison DeClark
Goat — Colter Carnley
Swine — Karsyn Shahan, Stanton Tully
Turkey — Duke Ketchum
Chicken — Adelyn Hittle

CSU EXTENSION STAFF

Cindi Galabota — Director
Becky Jacobson — 4-H Coordinator
Terry Schaaf — Administrative Assistant

Horse Show Sponsors

Scott Strategic Investments
Denise McCabe
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Katie Sharp
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Dog Show Sponsors

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4-H CHUCKWAGON

Thank you to all of the 4-H members and their families who committed hours of their time to hang fliers, promote the dinner, sell tickets, set up, cook, serve and clean up for this traditional fair event.

We would like to send out a very special thank you to Matty Warren and family for leading the way! There are numerous volunteers that make the dinner a success. Thank you to each and every one of you!

Thank you to Lee Riley I Sell Pagosa.
Thank you to American Ag Credit for donating plates & cups.
Thank you to Durango-Farmington Coca-Cola and Aztec Pepsi for donating our beverages.
Thank you to our Chuckwagon Dinner Sponsor, Inter-Mountain Propane!
Thank you for helping us keep the tradition alive!

A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THESE PEOPLE WHO GAVE THEIR TIME OR A DONATION TO ENSURE THAT THE SHOW AND AUCTION HAPPENED

- Jim Hawkins, Facilities Manager
Ponderosa Lumber for donating lumber for poultry
Michael Derr with Just Click Printing for donating time for our new banners
Johanna Tully for announcing the Livestock Shows
Darren Lewis & Mary Jo Coulehan for announcing the Livestock Auction
Rosie’s Pizzeria, Kips Grill, The Junction, Riff Raff Brewing Company, Root House, Benny’s and The Rose Restaurant for providing meals for our Livestock Judges
The Springs Resort for donating the lodging for the auctioneer
Healing Waters for donating the lodging for our judges
Jim Bramwell for packer bids
- Western Heritage Committee, Hott Memorial Trust & Archuleta County
Archuleta County Commissioners: Veronica Medina, John Ranson & Warren Brown for their continued support of the Fair and 4-H program
Archuleta County Building & Grounds crew for helping us with EVERY little thing
Payton Shahan of PS Photos, our Livestock Photographer
Jeff Laydon with Pagosa Photography for the auction photos
Cole’s Meats for coming out to assist buyers with cut sheets
San Juan Veterinary Hospital and Kitzel Ferrah for our livestock health inspections
Bank of Colorado for hosting our Buyer’s Reception
Archuleta County Fair Royalty for serving the auction cake
- Brad Sumpter for setting up and maintaining the sound system
Elite for donating trash receptacles.
Vernon Christie for his Firearm Expertise!
Banded Peaks Ranch Outfitters for donating the .22 Henry Rifle!
Jim Bramwell, Wes Lewis, Ryan Montroy, Bob Kavli, Kyle Tator, William Wiggins and Tucker Jacobson for being our Auction spotters
Our Auction Cashiers, Elsa White, Kelly Maestas and Kirsten Derr
All of our wonderful 4-H parents and kids who help throughout our Fair & Livestock Auction
Echo IT for being there whenever we call
And to ALL of those who we missed that help out during the Fair and Livestock Auction, we THANK YOU!

ARCHULETA COUNTY FAIR BOARD					
Tonya Steadmon Emily Martinez	Jane Davison Sharon Jennings	Alexa Martinez Bobby McMeens	Tabitha Hart Lyn Varati	Ann Radford	Liaisons Mark Bergen
					Faye Troisi Archuleta County Maintenance Staff



THANK YOU

Thank you for joining us at the 2025 Archuleta County Livestock Show & Auction.
We hope to see you next year!

THANK YOU



Arrests

■ Continued from front

The press release notes both suspects, Sergio Alaniz Jr., 41, and Ross Heirigs, 60, were arrested on multiple accounts of fourth-degree arson.

The press release notes the fire originated from a burn barrel and “quickly spread through the subdivision, spotting approximately a half a mile into a neighboring subdivision.”

It adds that firefighting aerial resources and first responders managed to contain the fire at 75 acres the evening of Aug. 10, with Pagosa Fire Protection District Chief Robert Bertram explaining air resources were called in as soon as it was evident the fire was not a structure fire as it was originally paged out.

According to Bertram, the fire was deemed out on Saturday, Aug. 16 — the last day of state funding and having a Type 4 incident management team

assigned to the fire.

Bertram indicated a lot of things fell into place well in terms of management of the fire.

“For us, it was great to see the community support,” he said, adding several businesses stepped up to feed the firefighters assigned to the fire.

Initial court appearances

Both suspects appeared in court on Monday, Aug. 18, with District Court Judge Jeffrey Wilson setting bond for each at \$25,000 cash surety and issuing protection orders for both to not set or maintain outdoor fires.

Deputy District Attorney Mac Dudley sought for bond to be set at \$100,000 cash surety for both suspects, also asking that they not be allowed to set or maintain fires.

Alaniz appeared first in court, with Dudley noting Alaniz is facing hun-

dreds of potential charges.

Wilson later indicated he faced the potential of 169 counts of second- and third-degree felonies being filed.

Alaniz was represented by Deputy State Public Defender Derek Maitland.

Heirigs was not yet represented by an attorney, with Wilson noting one would be appointed for him.

During Heirigs’ hearing, Wilson stated, “It’s pretty serious in terms of what they’re charging you with.”

Both are slated to appear in front of Archuleta County Court Judge Justin Fay for a return filing of charges on Wednesday, Aug. 27.

As of Wednesday morning, Alaniz remained in the Archuleta County jail.

Fire danger remains

The press release further reminds that Archuleta County remains under Stage 1 fire restrictions, with Bertram

School

■ Continued from front

“Realistically, we have work that needs to be done to ensure that whatever we recommend is what’s in the best interest of the district and the taxpayers and the students and the staff and all those people that are involved,” he said. “I just think we need a little more time to work on that, personally.”

He noted he’s “all for” moving forward and doing analysis and design work to get ready to go for a BEST grant over the winter and be ready to make a decision about going to the ballot next year.

Board member Tim Taylor noted there was nothing final in his head, but that he was probably leaning the same way as Mackey.

He then noted he spent a lot of time reviewing the polling presentation and asked clarifying questions about the poll results before stating he was somewhat encouraged by the results, though he realized informing the community is more challenging than the way individuals were informed about the project during the poll.

Holt indicated part of the polling was about the site — at the high school campus or on the district’s property along Vista Boulevard — but that the location did not change the support of it.

He further indicated the district would be spending a big chunk of time informing the public about its reasoning for what location is chosen.

He later noted a preliminary traffic analysis would be done to look for glaring issues, then it would be up to the board if it wanted to spend the time and money for a full traffic study.

Taylor asked what the deadline to get a matter on the ballot would be.

Consultant Lynea Hansen stated Sept. 5 would be the final day to put a question on the ballot.

Taylor noted it would be tight to put something on the ballot after the meeting on Aug. 25, but that it would be possible.

He noted he was more pleased with the poll results after looking at them more, but that he understood where Mackey was coming from.

Board member Amanda Schick suggested the district has community support because of how strong its community awareness and engagement campaign has been, and the community understands the financial impact with and without the BEST grant.

“I think that the urgency piece is growing,” she said, speaking of the timeline for the ballot, as well as the timeline for meeting student and community needs.

Schick noted she thought the district could be intentional and strategic over the following month while deciding the location and if it should go on this year’s ballot or not.

“You know, the community, again, understands our needs and, no matter what, we’re gonna have people say that we have rushed this, we’re gonna have other people say we did this great or did this wrong, but I think that the cost of waiting is real for us,” she said.

She suggested that the board could potentially move its September meeting up to make a decision, noting she wasn’t sure how much additional information the board could receive in four weeks.

She added that if the location is the pivotal piece, the district could at least show it’s doing everything it can.

Lynch confirmed that Schick would like to “keep the decision alive a little bit here until closer until the final deadline,” particularly as additional information about the site

“Realistically, we have work that needs to be done to ensure that whatever we recommend is what’s in the best interest of the district and the taxpayers and the students and the staff and all those people that are involved,” he said. “I just think we need a little more time to work on that, personally.”

Butch Mackey

comes in.

Board member David Iverson suggested he’s closer to where Mackey is, noting he does large project development for work and he couldn’t take a project with the current level of detail the district has to his board for approval and that he would need more.

He noted it could be done, but it would be a lot to ask.

He also asked if they would put the dollar figure assuming receipt of a BEST grant or not on the ballot, noting the grant funding seems to move people in favor.

He stated he is not opposed to keeping the option open if the board wants.

Lynch noted he is pleased with the community support and awareness, but that he would worry about numbers being “a little close” on the polling.

He also acknowledged the MPAC’s split over the possible location.

He noted he would want to pick the location and have a defensible reason, as well as the look and cost of the building.

He suggested trying for a BEST grant before asking the community to “foot the whole bill.”

If the board “congeals” around something, it could go with it, he noted, but that he was not in favor of that at that point.

Taylor noted he is fiscally conservative and that they don’t know where bond rates will be, suggesting things could possibly increase by 8 percent per year if things continue

the way they are and that is his main concern with waiting another year or two.

Holt acknowledged building costs will increase and that has to be part of the board’s decision making.

He stated building supplies have been “highly impacted” by tariffs and if it takes a couple of years to get a BEST grant, the district would build a smaller school.

Iverson noted he doesn’t think the district would be losing a year, explaining that the BEST grant has to be submitted in February and indicated the district would be doing the same things if it went to the ballot or not because it would go for a BEST grant either way.

Schick expressed concern about delaying action and community support, with Hansen suggesting she didn’t think the district would see a drop in support if it were to say it wanted to try for a BEST grant first.

The board and Holt also discussed the amount of time there would be to run a campaign for an election this November, with Holt noting those who would help want time for one-on-one conversations with people and concerns about how many people they could reach in that short amount of time.

Taylor later asked the district’s maintenance and grounds personnel if a year delay in construction would mean anything that would be a \$5 million to \$10 million repair, with Josh Sanchez, who formerly served as the district’s chief operating officer reporting the biggest repair coming is the high school roof.

He also indicated work is ongoing with piping in the elementary school and that the district has worked hard the last four to five summers to get things in better shape.

Taylor asked if \$750,000 per year would be the anticipated level of continued expenditure, with that confirmed.

Sanchez also noted new lining in the sewer pipes at the middle school could buy some time.

Hansen suggested the district has a little bit of a chicken and egg problem, noting the district has voters ready, but not all of the information for them.

She added not having the location could be difficult, and it’s hard to guess dollar amounts.

She also suggested there could be sentiment of why should a BEST grant be awarded if the community approved funding the full amount.

She further noted the district would do better to at least have a location and suggested holding until 2026 to know the location and dollar amounts.

Lynch pointed out that in 10 months they would be campaigning with a concrete ask.

Iverson expressed agreement with waiting until 2026 to go for a bond measure.

randi@pagosasun.com

also noting that we are still experiencing the same dry conditions.

Archuleta County and the Town of Pagosa Springs remain under Stage 1 restrictions.

Public lands within Archuleta County that are managed by the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management are under Stage 2 restrictions.

On Wednesday, the San Juan National Forest listed the fire danger as extreme.

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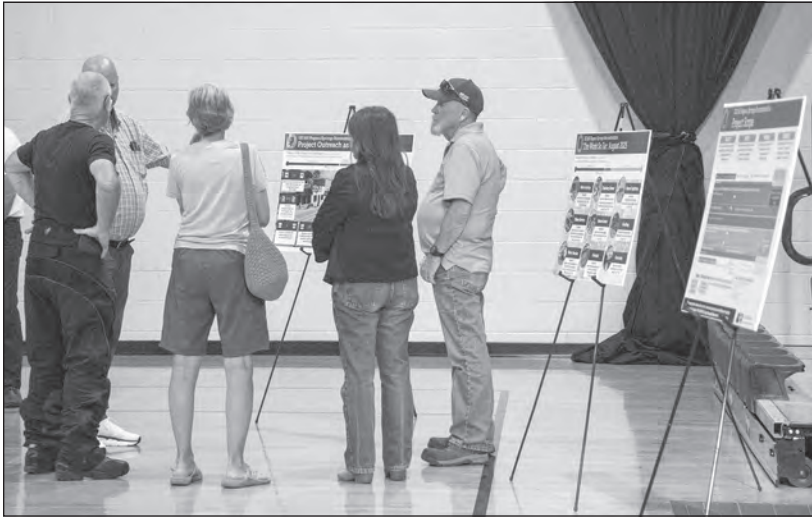
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Archuleta County is currently accepting resumes/applications for Interim County Manager.



Colorado Department of Transportation and Town of Pagosa Springs officials discuss the ongoing U.S. 160 reconstruction project with members of the community an Aug. 13 open house. As of that day, the project was 30 percent complete, with the goal being 50 percent completion by the end of 2025.

Bears

■ Continued from front

have never had a problem with bears, this year expect it and take measures to prevent it," he said.

He also encouraged people to be more diligent.

"Something else we hear a lot from people is, 'I've always used a bungee cord before and it has worked,'" Purcell said. "Well, not this year. If you have a weak link in how you are securing any of your human food sources a bear wants to tap into, bears will find it this year. Reassess everything and step up your game."

Livingston notes its common to see bears pass through from time to time.

"What is concerning is when the same bear is showing up multiple times a week or daily on the same streets and alleys or at the same homes," he wrote. "This means the bear has found a food reward and it is coming to continually check to see if it can continue to find food. Black bears are incredibly smart and will remember a food source for years if it has had success."

Livingston added that makes it even more important to haze away all bears, including mother bears with cubs.

"While they are cute and nobody wants to get in the way of a mother bear with cubs, a mother bear getting into human food sources such as trash, bird seed or worse - getting into cars and homes - can lead to a generational problem because she will teach her cubs the same behaviors," he wrote.

Reservoir

■ Continued from front

Lewis explained that, in total, around 490 additional acres of potential parkland are currently for sale and available on the hill.

Mayor Shari Pierce thanked the parks and recreation staff for bringing this before the council and "all the work you have done on this so far."

She had some questions about the conservation easement, with Gadomski explaining that "through some of those grants ... we're going to have to conserve it."

"There's not gonna be room for building any recreation center or anything like that. It's gonna have to be slated for conservation. Not all of it, but there will definitely be portions depending on the grant opportunities," she said.

Pierce also asked if "there was a minimum amount that we'd need to purchase" through the conservation grant opportunities.

Lewis explained that at least one of the grant opportunities has some flexibility to "downsize" from the 490 acres available to "possibly 300 ... so, yes, there are options to do that."

In an email to the SUN, Lewis adds that "the parcels outlined in red on the map [from the slideshow] represent the land currently for sale."

According to Archuleta County's mapping application, which includes a property records search, there are

Tips to avoid conflicts with bears

"It takes all of us to reduce human-bear conflict and keep our bears and communities safe," Livingston notes. "If seven people on your block are doing the right thing but one or two aren't, we are going to have conflict on the entire street. It truly needs to be a community effort."

Livingston provided numerous tips for avoiding conflicts with bears, including:

- Never keep trash outside unsecured except for the morning of trash collection.
- Make sure all bird feeders are taken down.
- Clean BBQ grills after every use.
- Never feed dogs or cats or other pets outside where a bear could access the food.
- When you see bears in residential areas, haze them away by yelling, banging pots and pans, setting off a car alarm or even using an air horn. Do your best to leave a bear with a negative association of humans and make it feel uncomfortable in human spaces.
- Lock doors, both on homes and vehicles.
- "Cars are especially important," Livingston explains. "Even if you think there's no food in your car, crumbs or scented items such as lotion, chapstick or sunscreen have all been known to attract bears to a vehicle. Bears are good at opening unlocked cars. If the door shuts behind them, they aren't so good at getting back out."
- Do not leave screen doors or dog

doors open and night, and close first-floor windows when possible.

"If possible, also close first-floor windows, at least when you're not home," he wrote. "We know it gets hot and many of our homes don't have AC, but if a bear smells something it wants inside, they are capable of opening doors and busting through screens to get what's inside."

• Give bears plenty of space and never try to get close to them.

For more tips on living with bears, go to <https://cpw.state.co.us/living-bears>.

When to report bear activity

"If you notice a bear showing up multiple times in a week or daily, definitely call the CPW office and let us know," Livingston suggests. "We might be able to give advice or get a better picture of what might be bringing that bear into town limits rather than staying outside of town. If you notice a bear getting into your garage, a neighbor's garage, hitting the same trash multiple days in a row, getting too close to front porches, etc., please call the CPW Durango office."

According to Livingston, even bear sightings should be reported to CPW.

He explained the office staff "can take reports of bear activity for things as simple as a sighting, and that helps with our data collection."

He adds, "We are never going to set a trap and relocate a bear just because people call in a sighting or ask for advice on trying to get a bear to move along. We also aren't going to trap a

bear just because it gets into trash once or twice. But we need to know about incidents before they begin to escalate to a bear being inside someone's home."

He indicated a lot of people don't call until it's too late.

"A lot of people don't call CPW until conflict rises to the point of a bear being in their home or killing their chickens, etc.," he said. "The earlier we get reports of bear activity, the more likely we can prevent conflict from rising to that level. Relocating bears is a tool CPW has, but that is a major life disturbance for the bear. Moving a bear from its home area and putting it in another bear's territory is difficult for both CPW staff and the bear. We'd rather know about bear activity before conflict rises to the level where a bear may have to be trapped and moved."

How to contact CPW

The Durango CPW office, located at 415 Turner Drive in Durango, can be reached by calling (970) 247-0855.

In an emergency, such as a bear in a house at night, call 911.

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County approves renewal permit for Project Sanctuary’s veteran retreat

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) unanimously approved the renewal of a board conditional use permit (CUP) for Project Sanctuary operating a wilderness lodge located at 1099 Blue Creek Road.

The decision followed a unanimous recommendation for approval from the Archuleta County Planning Commission, which heard the matter on July 24.

During the planning commission meeting, Interim Development Director Owen O'Dell explained that Heather Ehle, representing Project Sanctuary, applied for the renewal of a CUP "to operate a wilderness lodge as a sanctuary hosting therapeutic retreat for veterans and their families."

He noted the property currently being operated by Project Sanctuary is operating the lodge as Patriot Pines, which is on a parcel currently zoned as agricultural forestry, or AF.

According to O'Dell's staff report, Project Sanctuary received conditional approval of its request on Nov. 9, 2023, which included 16 conditions.

"Ehle, and her team, have been working closely with staff to meet the conditions presented. Conditions 14 and 15 were permit limitations that are operational standards that Project Sanctuary has complied with. Condition 16 is being complied with through this renewal process," the report states, also indicating that conditions 1-3, 6-9, 10, 12 and 13 have been met and addressed by the applicant.

It adds, "As noted in the narrative, the Applicant has submitted a Letter of Intent addressing conditions 4 and 5 and is in good standing with the Archuleta County Road and Bridge Department. The applicant noted in their Narrative that condition 11 has been met, however staff finds no evidence to support their claim, specifically pertaining to Code Enforcement. The applicant has made some remodeling adjustments to Echo Lodge, and those facilities must meet the Lodging Standards found in Section 5.5 of the Archuleta County Land Use Regulations."

O'Dell's report also mentions that in regard to the installation of more tiny homes later this year, the applicant "received approval via Conditional Use Amendment" on Jan. 24.

Multiple public comments were heard on the matter during both the planning commission meeting and the land use hearing conducted during the BoCC meeting on Aug. 5.

O'Dell's staff report also explains that staff has received several written comments against the project, with concerns falling into eight general categories, which O'Dell notes are: water availability, septic system adequacy and function, impacts to roads, wildlife impacts, new construction, intensity of use, traffic, and failings of the county regarding the prior (current) operator.

O'Dell's proposed motion included in the staff report presented to the planning commission is to recommend approval of rewind the CUP with findings "A & B," and conditions one through eight.

According to the report, finding "A" explains that the application meets the review criteria for a board CUP and finding "B" explains that the application meets the required findings for a board CUP.

As for the proposed conditions, condition one is that the applicant must allow the county planning and code enforcement to reinspect the property after completion of all remodeling and repair projects.

Condition two indicates that the current septic system, permitted under Archuleta County for a maximum capacity of 60 people, and dictates that, in order to increase capacity, the applicant must have a professional engineering study performed and apply for all necessary permits.

Condition three states that the application "should" conduct a level two traffic assessment on County Road 326 and U.S. 84.

Condition four states that the applicant must contact the Weed And Pest Department to receive a noxious weed management plan.

Conditions five through eight include language that the applicant "should" provide the sheriff's office with an emergency evacuation plan, have an evacuation plan posited on-site, mitigate for wildfire prevention and consider utilizing the basketball court as a helicopter pad in the event of an emergency.

Ehle explained she is now a full-time resident of Archuleta County

and in regard to the Project Sanctuary application, "We deeply value this property and its long-standing role and its place of healing, connection and retreat."

She explained that the property in question was originally built and operated as a hotel from 1991 until 2000, and the transition to a retreat center happened from 2005 through 2023.

"We bought a retreat facility," she stated, explaining Project Sanctuary purchased the property in 2023.

She also explained that Project Sanctuary is not introducing a new use.

She also expressed concerns about emergency service response capabilities, noting the road is too narrow for more than one vehicle to drive on.

"We're simply continuing the legacy," she said, claiming, "In fact, every neighbor on Blue Creek purchased their homes knowing that the commercial lodging, or retreat, existed at the end of the road."

Ehle also claimed that since the CUP was approved the property had not received any complaints up until two weeks ago.

She went on to state that the property has met all standards and complied with state and county regulations.

Ehle then mentioned that one of the concerns initially when purchasing the property was the road, explaining that Project Sanctuary paid approximately \$22,000 to fix the road, and indicated that this year the organization is planning a total of 12 retreats, with an average size of 38 people.

"I mean, that is not that many," she added.

She explained that the intent of stating a 120 max in the application was to show that recommendations from engineers suggested the water and sewer systems could handle up to 120 people.

"We didn't say we wanted to do 120 people," she said, explaining that a 60-person limit would "probably be fine," though since the land use hearing process has been started she'd like to "up it a little" to have a 65-person limit.

"Our perfect size for families is around eight to 10 families at a time," she said.

In response to a question from a planning commission member, Ehle explained that the water truck is only used as necessary "to keep everything full," explaining that if something were to happen, "we want to make sure we are completely full."

She explained that is not a new process and is something "we inherited," noting the water commission had performed an inspection and found no issues.

O'Dell provided clarification to the planning commission that Project Sanctuary was originally conditionally approved in 2023 for 20 guests, and at that time had to achieve a variance from the Board of Adjustments (BOA) to get to the 60-person limit.

"The original approval for the board [CUP], was not the 60 guests. They sought the variance to get that because of language in the land use regulations at that time. The language at that time read that wilderness lodges were limited to .5 guests per acre," he said, explaining that allowed them to have 20 guests.

O'Dell also noted that at that the BoCC acting as the BOA asked the planning staff to amend the land use regulations (LURs).

O'Dell also explained that the former lodge operated as a legally noncompliant use, as the use began prior to the introduction of the county's LURs.

"So, they were legally nonconforming because of that status prior to 2006 when things were implemented," he added.

O'Dell also indicated that Ehle originally requested a max occupancy of 120 because of his direction and the language in the LUR that states for wilderness lodging max capacity is limited "based on the capacity of infrastructure for supporting the facility."

Ehle used the example of the Vets for Vets wanting to host a dinner at the retreat site, which likely bring about 65 people to the property, but noted that "generally our retreat size is around 38, and that's gonna be consistent for what we do."

Ehle noted that the sewage system report does not indicate a maximum number of persons, but rather that it is based on the capacity of the designed sewage flow.

"There is no cap," she said, explaining the study was not based on the number of people.

Water Quality Manager Kevin Torres explained there have been no complaints of "smells" since Project Sanctuary has purchased the property.

Multiple public comments on the matter were heard during the planning commission meeting, with three being against the property from commenters stating they are neighbors or have property near Project Sanctuary.

"We have a lot invested in the area, and a lot of concerns," the first commenter said, explaining she owns 160 acres of land adjacent to Project Sanctuary.

She claimed that Ehle had previously provided a letter to surrounding neighbors that stated "there would be no plans to add additional buildings, no additional pits to the property, including no new dwellings, and now all of the sudden we have tiny homes."

She also expressed concerns about emergency service response capabilities, noting the road is too narrow for more than one vehicle to drive on.

The individual expressed more concerns about Project Sanctuary opening up the property for other "like-minded" organizations to run retreats, questioning what that really means.

She added that she knows Project Sanctuary will be there in some form, "but start following the rules and figure out this emergency road service and figure out these roads, because we're all in danger."

Another commenter stating that he is a resident of Blue Creek Road expressed that this is "absolutely not anything we want."

He praised the county for recent changes made to notification requirements, explaining that if the change had been made sooner there would be more than 15 neighbors showing up to voice their opinion.

He also explained he has a background in real estate and development, noting, "I would be embarrassed to even see this thing."

Another commenter expressed that a limit of 120 people at the property is too high, suggesting she'd be more comfortable with a 60-person limit.

Two public comments in favor of the project were given during the planning commission meeting, both by full-time residents at the Project Sanctuary project, with another

audience member, a graduate of the program, also supporting the project.

The final commenter heard at the planning commission meeting expressed concerns about water availability on the property, claiming her property that is "below" the wilderness lodge "ran out" of water this past summer.

"We're afraid of the changes that are proposed here," she added.

Ehle mentioned that she agrees with the road being narrow, "but the road widening is not my responsibility."

She added that Project Sanctuary takes fire mitigation very seriously.

She also explained that the tiny homes were included in the original proposal and that the sites were already there with water and sewer infrastructure in place.

Other concerns were mentioned about lighting being installed on the property, with O'Dell explaining that, according to the county's LURs, lodging establishments are required to have lighted walkways between buildings that are compliant with dark sky standards.

O'Dell also indicated that the county's Road and Bridge Department had no concerns over the road.

He explained that "work was done by Archuleta County Road and Bridge crews," with the approximately \$20,000 put up by Project Sanctuary for road improvements.

"So, the road is compliant with the Archuleta County Road and Bridge design standards," he said.

Planning commissioner Peter Beaudry suggested placing a condition to limit the number of retreats at the property to 20 per year, along with a condition to utilize carpooling methods as much as possible for off-site activities.

Beaudry also suggested having the applicant change the language from "like-minded" to specifically identify other groups such as former law enforcement or military police, and to have the wording changed in conditions three, five, six and seven by changing the word "should" to "shall."

O'Dell explained the reason for using the word "should" for condition three is that the Colorado Department of Transportation is saying it is a suggestion to have level two traffic study performed.

"So, I'm apprehensive to propose a requirement when the review agency said it was a suggestion," he added.

Planning commissioner Matt Nobles commented that the county can't legally say the property's re-

■ See Retreat A12

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MLS 825434

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About:

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Dispatch board continues discussion on terminating current agreement, upgrading radio systems

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

On Aug. 7, the Archuleta County Combined Dispatch Emergency Communications Executive Management Board continued its discussion in regard to a transition plan for terminating the current intergovernmental agreement (IGA) between the Town of Pagosa Springs, Archuleta County, Pagosa Springs Medical Center (PSMC) and Pagosa Fire Protection District (PPFD).

Board chair and PSMC Director of Emergency Medical Services Jason Webb explained that the board previously voted that it was “dis-satisfied” with the current IGA and that members of the dispatch board were to take that point back to their respective executive boards.

He also noted that the dispatch board began discussing a transition plan for if and when the board decides to move forward with terminating the IGA and having the Archuleta County Sheriff’s Office (ACSO) take over operational control of the dispatch center.

Sheriff Mike Le Roux explained that the “big-ticket items” in the transition plan deal with managing the dispatch center’s existing capital assets and what future agreements between the county and other user agencies would look like.

“Each one will have an individual IGA,” Le Roux said.

He went on to explain that some of the dispatch center’s equipment is approaching the end of its life cycle and will no longer be usable by 2029.

Le Roux mentioned that the equipment the dispatch center is currently using was new equipment that was nearing the end of its life cycle, and after four years it is now even closer to being obsolete.

He mentioned that he received a quote on the cost to replace all of the equipment that is approaching the end of its life cycle, which totaled at more than \$700,000.

He noted the original cost of the equipment purchased was approximately \$180,000.

“So, there’s a significant price difference in that,” he added.

Le Roux explained that he is not looking to replace things like computer screens or phone cables and that the

dispatch center currently has four consoles but is satisfied with using three, noting the fourth is never used.

He went on to mention that he received a revised quote that would replace only the equipment needing to be replaced by 2029, which came down to \$524,821.

“And that is for us to be totally operational again,” Le Roux said.

He mentioned that the state is looking to have dispatch centers upgrade necessary equipment by the end of 2028, noting again the equipment the dispatch center currently has will be at its end of life by 2029.

Sheriff Mike Le Roux explained that the “big-ticket items” in the transition plan deal with managing the dispatch center’s existing capital assets and what future agreements between the county and other user agencies would look like.

He explained that however the dispatch board decides to move forward, “we have to do this equipment upgrade soon.”

Le Roux also explained that if the board decides to go through with the transition, there is the potential opportunity to spend down the fund balance, which would “cover a large part of that.”

He noted there is a seven-year, five-year or four-year payment plan with that, and that the dispatch center recently made its final payment of a four-year plan on the current equipment, which totaled more than \$200,000 with interest.

“Ultimately, what we own is equipment that we can use only for three years before it becomes end of life and no longer repairable or usable,” Le Roux said, noting there may be “potential” for trading in the equipment to recoup some of those funds.

Le Roux commented that in the event the board does decide to move forward with terminating the current IGA and the county having separate agreements with each entity, “it would be nice, I think, to start that process with brand new equipment.”

Interim Communications Director Elizabeth Blizzard explained that the Federal Communications Commission is implementing a nationwide requirement and that 2028 will be the final notice that the dispatch center’s current equipment is obsolete, noting the equipment “we currently have will no longer be usable.”

She explained that what is going to be replaced is the conventional site controller and the conventional channel gateway.

“Those are the two big components of our radios,” she said, explaining those systems allow radios to communicate across the entire county.

Le Roux commented that a seven-year plan for the new equipment would end up costing more than \$800,000 and that a four-year plan would add an additional \$65,000 to the revised quote price of approximately \$524,000.

Webb explained that the assets have to be sorted out and a plan for the remaining fund balance needs to be established for the transition plan.

Board member Jack Harper, then the county manager, explained that he had met with the county’s finance director, Chad Eaton, and that they agreed that each of the four entities would be allowed to spend down the fund balance.

He noted that each entity would have to state in the resolution to terminate the IGA that it is OK with the remaining fund balances being spent.

Le Roux noted that Eaton indicated to him there is approximately \$460,000 that could be spent, or potentially more.

Harper commented that he needed to check on the possible requirement of maintaining operating revenue for a given number of months.

Le Roux commented that he did not see the need of having to maintain a minimal balance to cover operating expenses if the current IGA is terminated.

He encouraged the option of finding a way to purchase the new equipment outright, saving at least \$65,000 by avoiding interest payments.

Webb summarized the conversa-

tion by explaining that the ACSO is looking to operate the dispatch center with the proposal of using current fund balances to replace “almost out-of-date” radio systems, noting there aren’t many other assets other than furniture as the dispatch center currently leases its building and does not own any property.

Le Roux explained that the individual agreements would be standard dispatch contracts stating that the ACSO would provide around-the-clock service and that each of the four agencies would pay for the percentage of calls that its respective agency receives.

He noted those percentages could change year to year based on the amount of calls received.

PPFD chief and board member Robert Bertram expressed that he liked the idea of the capital assets plan, noting his biggest concern would be making sure each agency receives final numbers in time to be able to incorporate that into its budget process each year.

Le Roux explained the board could not make a decision on what to do for upgrading the dispatch centers radio systems during the meeting.

Board member and PSMC CEO Rhonda Webb suggested the dispatch board could possibly hold a special meeting in September to vote on what to do with the capital assets and fund balance after each user agency is able to update its respective executive board on the matter.

Town manager and board member David Harris commented, “I like the direction we’re heading,” while also noting concerns about being able to properly budget in time every year.

Harris commented that ideally he would like to have a number to plug into the annual budget.

The board decided to schedule a special meeting on Sept. 18 to decide on what to do about upgrading the dispatch center’s radio systems.

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Retreat

■ Continued from A11
treats are limited to certain groups of people.

“I think that’s a very slippery slope,” he said.

The planning commission opted to vote on each proposed condition prior to voting on recommending approval or not, with each proposed condition coming from Beaudry and being unanimously approved.

The application was then unanimously approved with 11 conditions, including changes to conditions five through eight.

BoCC meeting

During the land use hearing held during the BoCC meeting on Aug. 5, O'Dell presented the staff report to the BoCC, highlighting that the property in question is currently zoned as AF, and, according to the county’s LUR, that “allows a wilderness lodging establishment in the agricultural ranching zoning district with the approval of a board [CUP].”

O'Dell noted that multiple written comments against the project had been received, and that staff and the planning commission recommended approval of the application.

He explained that conditions five through eight were originally presented as recommendations from the sheriff’s office and that, “after much deliberation,” the planning commission opted to change the wording from “should” to “shall.”

He added that he has since re-

ceived written confirmation from the sheriff’s office that the conditions have been satisfied.

Ehle explained that the retreats are anywhere from three to six days long, with an average of 56 people. She noted that the property will be used for 116 days this year, hosting a total of 12 retreats.

“We’re proud to be a part of this community and respectfully ask for your approval,” she said.

Torres provided more information on the status of the septic system, explaining that the system is permitted for up to 1,750 gallons per day and that it is being monitored each day.

He noted that the property’s “biggest day” this year produced 422 gallons.

Commissioner Veronica Medina asked what that means in regard to the amount of people on the property, with Torres explaining that a specific study like that hasn’t been done and that the system is just being monitored.

More public comments on the matter were given during the hearing, with four being in favor of the project and one being against.

The commenter against the project also spoke during the planning commission with concerns about the road and emergency response services.

“Its a matter of a safety and concern of our neighborhood,” she said, explaining she is not against the mis-

sion of Project Sanctuary.

Other commenters in favor of the project expressed support, noting that Project Sanctuary’s approach to treating the entire family of a veteran can be extremely beneficial to everyone involved.

Commissioner Warren Brown commented that everyone seems to have good intentions, either being for or against the project.

“I think we can work things out,” he said, explaining his vote on the matter would be based on if all conditions have been met and how to be better neighbors with the county assisting in any way to improve the road conditions.

Commissioner John Ranson commented, “I am in favor,” explaining that it is a “great cause.”

He also expressed that he’d like to see “some effort ... if there is such a thing, slowing down growth out there” for the neighbors.

“This is a great project,” Medina commented, going on to explain that her concern “is for the neighborhood overall.”

She expressed that veterans and their families need to be taken care of, saying, “It’s not about the group of people that it’s servicing; it’s about the impacts to the neighborhood around it.”

Brown motioned to approve the application with the 11 proposed conditions, which was unanimously approved.

clayton@pagosasun.com

Thank you!

To All Our Heroes,

On behalf of the Elk Park Meadows Community, we extend our **deepest** and most **heartfelt gratitude** to every individual and organization who stood with us during the recent fire that threatened our homes, lives, animals, and land.

To our **brave** Pagosa Springs firefighters, **Sheriff Le Roux** and his **dedicated** team, **Roy Vega** and the staff at our Emergency Operations Center, **Chief Bertram** and the Pagosa Fire Protection District, local dispatchers, police officers, state troopers and surrounding fire stations, tanker and helicopter crews, and every responder on the ground and in the air—your **courage, selflessness, and relentless dedication** saved our community. **You put Your** lives on the line without hesitation, and for that, we are **Forever grateful**.

To **Archuleta County Road and Bridge**, the **water tank** providers, our **Forest and Wildlife** teams, and all those who worked **behind the scenes** to support the firefighting effort—**thank you for ensuring** that roads remained open, resources kept flowing, and help arrived where it was needed most.

To the **Red Cross**, **Walmart**, **Pagosa Springs Humane Society and Extension Office**, **La Plata Electric**, **Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation**, and all other **support organizations** — thank you for your **care, compassion, and the critical services** you provided to those impacted. In a time of fear and uncertainty, your efforts brought **comfort, stability, and hope**.

To **Governor Jared Polis** and our **County Commissioners**, thank you for your **leadership** and **swift support** when our community needed it most.

To our neighbors in Pagosa Springs, your **generosity, kindness, and solidarity** have shown us the true **strength of community**. Your actions reminded us that **we are never alone**.

And above all, we thank **God** for His divine **protection** and **guidance**—for watching over our first responders, our families, animals, and our land.

Though the fire was fierce, it **did not take** what matters most. Our homes still stand, and so does our faith—in our **Creator**, each other, in those who serve, and in the power of community.

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Education



Photo courtesy Aspire Medical Services and Education

Youngsters pose with a Pagosa Fire Protection District fire truck at Aspire Medical Services and Education on Monday, Aug. 18. The kids were reportedly happy with the visit.

ASD set to open preschool program Sept. 2

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

On Sept. 2, when the majority of Archuleta County students return to classrooms for the school year, Archuleta School District (ASD) will offer something new: a preschool program.

At the Aug. 5 meeting of the ASD Board of Education, ASD Superintendent Rick Holt told the board the district had its preliminary license and was on track to receive its final license.

He added he is fairly confident the district will fill the seats available in the program.

Board president Bob Lynch gave “kudos” to everyone involved with launching the program.

“We recognized that there was a shortage of available preschool seats in our community,” Holt explains in an email to The SUN. “Many school districts around the state run their own programs and felt it was time we did the same.”

Holt explains the district began the process last spring and began with the district offering space to local partners, with Head Start operating out of Pagosa Springs Elementary School (PSES) last school year.

“This year we worked with Seeds of Learning to see if they would want to expand into the space,” Holt wrote. “The timing was not ideal and ultimately Seeds opted not to use the space. We are continuing to look for opportunities to share resources like space and food programs with local partners.”

The superintendent added that ASD received its license over the summer and “have been completing the required background checks and inspections this August.”

He noted the program will launch Sept. 2 in the kindergarten wing of PSES and mirror the school year calendar.

Holt notes there will be 16 seats in the program.

He notes that could mean 16 full-time students Monday through Friday or more students who attend two or three days a week.

The program will serve 3- and 4-year-olds.

“One programming choice we made was to prioritize students of our full time staff members,” Holt wrote. “We see having a program in the school as a benefit to employees. We are offering free extended care and a 15% reduction on tuition for staff members.”

A chart provided by Holt shows the 2025-2026 preschool rates after Universal Preschool, or UPK, benefits for 4-year-olds and eligible 3-year-olds, as well as rates without UPK benefits.

It notes the tuition is billed over nine months from September to May.

For the pre-K standard day program, from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., five days a week is \$500 per month with the 10- to 15-hour UPK benefit or \$165 per month with the UPK 30-hour benefit. Without the UPK benefit, it is \$835 per month.

Four days a week for the 10- to 15-hour UPK benefit would be \$335 per month or \$670 per month without the UPK benefit.

For three days a week, it would be \$165 per month with the UPK benefit or \$335 per month without.

Two days a week would be \$335 per month with no UPK benefit.

For the pre-K extended and standard day program, from 7:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., five days a week would be \$723 per month under the 10- to 15-hour benefit, \$388 per month under the 30-hour benefit or \$1,058 per month without UPK benefit.

Four days a week would be \$511 with the UPK benefit or \$846 per month without it.

For three days a week, the cost would be \$300 per month with the UPK benefit or \$635 per month without it.

For two days a week, the cost with UPK benefit would be \$88 per month or \$423 per month without it.

For more information, Holt directs families to call PSES at (970) 264-2229.

“We are working on updating our Elementary Website but the most current information can be found by calling the school directly,” he states. randi@pagosasun.com

Pagosa Community Initiative launches school supply drive to help local students

By Carrie Blue-White
Pagosa Community Initiative

The Pagosa Community Initiative is honored to lead our town’s effort to equip local students for the new school year.

Our annual School Supply Drive kicked off Aug. 1 and runs through Sept. 8, giving families and students a vital head start as they prepare for classrooms, projects and new teachers.

This drive is about more than just backpacks and pencils. It’s a statement that our community stands with every student and family who works hard to meet the demands of a new school year. We’re focused on building confidence in our students by

making sure they have the essentials from day one.

The items we’re seeking include notebooks, pens and pencils, erasers, crayons and markers, rulers, backpacks, binders and folders, calculators, glue sticks, and scissors. No contribution is too small; every donation moves us closer to ensuring a strong start for a child.

To make participation easy, drop-off locations are spread throughout Pagosa Springs. You can bring supplies to The Pagosa Community Initiative Studios, Wyndham, Kip’s Grill and Cantina, Rosie’s Pizzeria, and Riff Raff Brewing.

For those who prefer to give from home, online donations are welcome at [See Supply A14](#)

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MLS #827474 \$850,000



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>



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>



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.



MLS # 823461

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

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



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.



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.



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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Outdoors



Photo courtesy Evan Barrientos

Each year, volunteers lead groups of students through the forests and bottomlands at the ranch, collectively hosting more than 800 regional students. Volunteers are needed and are invited to meet in the Ross Aragon Community Center east conference room from 9 a.m. to noon on Monday, Aug. 25, for a program orientation and from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day on-site at the Four Mile Ranch from Aug. 26-28 to learn the lessons and trails.

Audubon Rockies seeking volunteers for fall educational program

By Keith Bruno
Audubon Rockies

It is the commitment of volunteers that has made the Four Mile Ranch fall education program a success from its inception. Each year, volunteers lead groups of students through the forests and bottomlands at the ranch, collec-

tively hosting more than 800 regional students. We're in need of volunteers. Can you spare a few days to make a difference in the life of a child? Join our team of volunteer educators in helping to foster an appreciation of the natural world in area youth. An established program of ecology-focused lessons designed for

elementary students, we provide field trips for regional schools and home-schooled groups. Audubon Rockies and San Juan Mountains Association staff will provide a three-day training to become familiar with the trails and activities. We'll meet in the Ross Aragon Community Center east conference

room from 9 a.m. to noon on Monday, Aug. 25, for a program orientation and from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day on-site at the Four Mile Ranch from Aug. 26-28 to learn the lessons and trails. Programs run from early September through mid-October. Contact keith.bruno@audubon.org for more information.

Information on evacuating your horse during a fire

By Chris Boyd
San Juan Back Country Horsemen

During the recent Oak Fire on the west side of Pagosa Springs, members of San Juan Back Country Horsemen (BCH) were called upon by the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office to assist with the possible evacuation of horses. This request was made pursuant to a previous agreement as part of the sheriff's comprehensive emergency response plan that includes Federal Emergency Support Function #11, which incorporates animal evacuation and sheltering. While no horses were ultimately in need of evacuation by BCH (numerous horses had already been evacuated), the incident sparked a good discussion about educating the public regarding proper preparation for exigent evacuation of stock animals. This brief article is intended as a primer to stimulate everyone thinking about what they would do in a similar event. The first learning point is to ensure your horse loads well. If a horse is skittish about loading into a trailer under normal circumstances, it will most certainly be more difficult (and maybe impossible) to load in an emergency.

Even if you do not personally own a horse trailer, find someone willing to loan you their trailer for a week. Practice loading and unloading. There are many techniques that might work, but one way that has proven effective with stubborn horses is to park the trailer (attached to a truck or properly anchored so it won't move when a horse enters/exits) with the loading door pinned open. Limit the only access to any feed to that which you place inside the trailer. Your horse will likely learn quickly that the trailer is where he needs to go in order to eat. Once that method works, the next step is to continue practicing without feed as an incentive. While still on the topic of loading your horse into a trailer, this should be practiced during both daylight and complete darkness. It is also advisable to practice loading your horse while wearing bulky clothing and wearing a helmet and goggles- apparel you or others might don as protective gear. If time permits during a fire emergency, hosing your horse down with water prior to loading is a good idea, so build this into your practice. Another important lesson is to have a plan. During a crisis is not the time to try and figure out your escape route or

where you will take your stock. The horse community in general, and BCH members specifically, have a great existing network. That said, do you know right now where you would take your horses and how you would get them to that location? Many would elect to take their animals to a known/trusted friend's place. What if that location were in the evacuation zone or inaccessible? A good backup plan is essential to have. Archuleta County has previously designated the county fairgrounds/rodeo grounds as a place to house large animals. In the event that you live west of a traffic control checkpoint that disallowed eastbound travel, you might have to consider heading west toward La Plata County. What about equipment considerations for both you and your horse(s)? Personal protective equipment during a fire should include pants and long-sleeved shirt, a head covering, goggles/eye protection, gloves and boots. Consider clothing material that is as flame resistant as possible. For example, cotton is better than nylon or polyester, and wool is

even better. A flashlight or headlamp is also a good item to have. For your horse, an eye mask might be beneficial, but, again, practice putting it on and having your horse wear it for a short period. Another important piece of equipment is an equine first aid/trauma kit and any medication(s) your horse might need. In a worst-case scenario, you might be forced to turn your horse free to fend for itself. If you do, consider weaving or zip-tying to the mane or tail an identifying tag with your contact information on it. Some authorities suggest spray-painting your phone number on both sides of the animal to assist in later reunification. This article is not meant to be all-encompassing. If nothing else, hopefully it will stimulate a thought process and discussion to help prepare you for something we all hope never happens. However, as the saying goes, "It is better to have something (a piece of equipment, or a skill) and not need it, than to need it and not have it." If you have questions, or would like to learn more about BCH, please visit www.sjbch.org.

Supply

■ Continued from A13
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Commissioners review bids for design and engineering of new administration building

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

During a work session held by the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) on Tuesday, Aug. 19, Jack Harper, then the county manager, briefed the board on requests for proposal (RFPs) the county has received for the design and engineering of a new county administration building to be constructed at the 5.5 acre parcel located at 2901 Cornerstone Drive.

The BoCC approved purchasing the parcel for \$2,525,480 in May.

Harper explained the county had received three RFPs, and that a committee of himself, Finance Director Chad Eaton and Building and Grounds Manager Daniel Matyniak ranked the proposals.

Harper indicated that the first choice out of the three RFPs was from a company called Anderson Hallas Architects, based out of Golden. The second choice was from Vega Contractors and the third was from Davis Engineering Services.

Davis Engineering helped the county with designing the new courthouse and jail located in Harman Park, Harper noted.

Harper further explained that the reason for choosing Anderson Hallas as the first pick was due to its experience in designing municipal and town hall buildings, while the other two companies did not have the same experience.

Harper added that Anderson Hallas has familiarity working with multiple departments and has the ability to “go ahead and make things come together.”

He explained that, according to the specifications in the RFP, the proposals were simply being presented during the Aug. 19 work session, with the matter to be revisited and a decision to be made during the BoCC’s regular meeting scheduled for Sept. 2.

Harper also noted that each of the three RFPs came out with roughly the same cost for phase one of the project, at around \$295,000.

He mentioned that when the county moved monies around to handle the land acquisition and building preparation designs, “the dollars are there to at least go to the phase one component.”

The phase one component outlined by the RFP includes performing preliminary site work and engineering for water and drainage on the property, Harper explained, “which would then lead them to know what portion of the property would be used to do the actual construction.”

Harper noted that phase two includes the final design of the building.

He went on to explain that after the RFPs were received, Coroner Brad Hunt informed the county that the local mortuary is closing and that he may need space for a potential “morgue.”

That was not included in the original RFP, so if the county wanted that included in the design, a new RFP process would be needed, Harper explained.

Eaton also noted that all three RFPs received were “qualified” for the job, but noted that his concern is the ability to work with multiple departments, leading him to favor Anderson Hallas.

“I would be remiss if I didn’t say that obviously things have potentially changed a little bit with where we are at the old courthouse building and at the new Wyndham building, so potentially we’re no longer under that same kind of crunch or timeline,” Harper said.

Commissioner John Ranson asked if any of the RFPs indicated any potential cost and size of the new building.

Harper responded “no,” but explained that he has met with a few local contractors who expressed to him that the county should plan on spending about \$500 per square foot for the final building.

“That’s what it is to build,” Commissioner Veronica Medina commented, explaining that when builders proved a final cost per square

foot it is not necessarily the “true cost, because it’s all about your finishes, your upgrades.”

Harper confirmed that the final price would be dependent upon certain design options, explaining that in conversations with Interim Development Director Owen O’Dell and with Anderson Hallas, it was expressed that “this is in no way going to be any kind of a Taj Mahal. It’s not going to be anything fancy.”

He mentioned that the building will be more “purpose-driven” and that any specialty designs on the building would conform to the Aspen Village building specifications.

Commissioner Warren Brown noted those would deal more with the exterior design of the building.

Medina asked about the overall cost of the building, with Harper indicating that each of the RFPs projected the total cost to be around \$20 million.

Medina also inquired about an expected timeline, with Harper indicating that it would take about two years after phase two is completed, noting the whole process would take about two and half years.

“Wouldn’t we now go back out and do community input? ‘Cause that’s what we said we were gonna do,” Medina stated, noting the county did not have many details or information to really discuss at the last public meeting dedicated to the matter.

“Wouldn’t we now go back out and do community input? ‘Cause that’s what we said we were gonna do,” Medina stated, noting the county did not have many details or information to really discuss at the last public meeting dedicated to the matter.

Harper explained the county did not receive any RFPs for a facilitator to coordinate community meetings and gather community input, but that each of the three design and engineering companies indicated they could also assist in facilitating meetings and gathering public input.

Medina mentioned that county staff could organize meetings and gather input.

“I don’t think we should pick who we’re gonna go with before we have at least one community meeting,” Medina said, adding the county could have more meetings after, as well. “In my opinion, that’s what we said we were gonna do.”

Brown agreed with Medina’s comments, noting that he “meant it” when he said the county would continue gathering community input before making decisions, mentioning that, ultimately, it is the taxpayers that will have to “foot the bill.”

“I think what they have to say is important,” he added.

Ranson commented that he’d like to have a conversation about potentially buying the Wyndham property that the county recently approved entering a lease for county office space.

“I’m not real sure we need it if Wyndham works out, in the short-term. I know in the long-term we need it, no doubt,” Ranson said.

He noted that he does not want to “compete” with other entities in the community that may be going to the ballot for funding, such as the Archuleta School District or the Town of Pagosa Springs.

Ranson explained that he was not saying “that’s the way we need to go” in regard to purchasing the Wyndham property, but that it is “at least worth discussing.”

Ranson commented that the county’s need for a new administration building is not as high of a priority to him as the school district’s facility needs and the town’s wastewater sys-

tem needs.

Brown agreed with Ranson that discussing purchasing the Wyndham property would be a “worthy” conversation to have.

He expressed concerns about delaying the construction of a new administration building and possibly incurring higher costs later on.

“But, we do have some real needs here and I think we have to have some open conversations about what we do have as a priority and how we move forward,” he added.

Medina commented that if the thought is to not move as quickly as previously anticipated on a new building, “then I think we should have a real conversation about buying the Wyndham building versus paying the rent.”

She noted that the county is entering a two-year lease, expressing concerns about winding up in the same situation as before.

“The timeline hasn’t gone away,” she added.

Ranson noted that the county would not have any debt buying the Wyndham building.

Medina also commented on the coroner’s need for storage space, suggesting the Wyndham building could be the future location for the coroner’s office.

New receptionist position

During the same work session, the BoCC heard a request from Human Resource Director Mitzi Bowman for a new receptionist position to be added to help direct traffic at the county’s new office space in the Wyndham building located at the corner of Village Drive and Talisman Drive.

Bowman explained the building has a receptionist area at the main entrance, indicating that people may wander around the building not knowing where to go or just wait until someone comes out to help them.

Medina explained the idea for adding this position stemmed from conversations with the other elected officials about possible alterations that could be made to the building.

Medina noted the county agreed not to alter the structure of the building as part of its lease agreement with Wyndham.

“We are probably gonna need this same type of position, because they will be able to direct the traffic,” Medina said, adding, “Right now we don’t have the staff or the manpower to be able to direct anybody.”

She went on to comment that she is typically not in favor of adding positions, especially in the middle of the year.

“I’m not a fan at all of, one, adding positions and, two, doing it in the middle of the year,” Medina said, explaining that adding this receptionist position may “help everyone.”

Brown asked about the possibility of the county staff being able to share that responsibility between the different offices that will be housed in the building, which includes Human Resources, the treasurer, assessor and clerk and recorder.

Medina explained that was her first thought, but that “according to the electeds, they just don’t have the staff to put there.”

Bowman explained that a computer could be stationed in the receptionist area and that other staff could rotate and still be able to get work done while helping with receptionist duties.

Medina commented that she thought that was a “fabulous” idea, but reiterated that “the electeds didn’t think they had the bandwidth to do that.”

“I think we all have to give a little here,” Brown commented, mentioning that the BoCC has done that and he appreciates the work being done, “but everybody’s gotta give.”

Ranson indicated that he was “comfortable” with adding the position.

“I’m all for it,” he said.

During the regular meeting held later that, the BoCC unanimously approved adding a new receptionist at the Wyndham building.

According to the agenda, “This position is proposed as a temporary role through the remainder of the calendar year, with the intent to revisit and evaluate the need for continuation during the 2026 budget process. The pay range for this position is \$17.92-\$25.17.”

Governor appoints Justin P. Fay to 6th Judicial District Court

State of Colorado

On Wednesday, Aug. 20, Gov. Jared Polis appointed Justin P. Fay to the 6th Judicial District Court.

This vacancy is created by the retirement of the Honorable Suzanne F. Carlson and is effective Oct. 1.

Fay is an Archuleta County Court judge in the 6th Judicial District, a position he has held since 2016. His docket consists of criminal and civil matters.

Fay is also a District Court magistrate in Pagosa Springs (2019-present); municipal court judge in Pagosa Springs (2019-present); and solo practitioner at the Law Office of Justin P. Fay LLC (2017-present). Previously, he was a deputy district attorney in the 6th Judicial District (2006-2016).

Fay earned his B.S. from Colorado State University in 2003 and his J.D. from the University of Tulsa College of Law in 2005.

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'Annie JR'

SUN photos/Randi Pierce
Pagosa Springs Middle School and Pagosa Family School students present "Annie JR" on Friday, Aug. 19. More than 50 students presented four performances of the show for the community last week after only eight rehearsals.





Sports

GOLF



Photo courtesy Mark Faber

The Pirate golf team poses for a photo in Cortez on Tuesday, Aug. 19, where the team finished second out of 15 teams at the Panther Invitational.

Pirates tee off season with win in Alamosa

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate golf team teed off its 2025 season on Friday, Aug. 15, landing first place at the Alamosa Invitational.

The team then played two more tournaments over the course of the next week, taking second and third.

"I think we have a chance to be competitive this year as a team," coach Mark Faber said, adding he thinks the golfers also believe that. "We're in a good spot there, I think."

Faber noted there are 14 Pirates out for the program this year, noting, "it's grown a bunch, so that's a good deal."

The team is a mix of new and experienced golfers, Faber explained, noting there are five freshmen on the roster.

He added the coaches spent a lot of time on the course this summer with the golfers and getting to know them and "they seem like really good kids."

The team's two state qualifiers from last season — Johnathon Smith and Tyler Dimond — are also returning to the team.

Faber also indicated the Pirates are facing a new way to qualify for the state tournament this year.

Instead of playing in a regional tournament for a chance to advance, Faber explained golfers can compete in up to 12 tournaments, with their top five tournament scores averaged and the top 84 golfers in the classification making state.

The team's first tournament of the year was the Alamosa Invitational.

The Pirates logged a team score of 238 at the 13-team tournament, beating second-place Rye by 13 strokes.

Smith also logged his first win of the season at the event, shooting par with a score of 71.

Smith shot eagle on one hole, birdie on three holes and par on 11 holes.

"Jonathon, of course, played really well," Faber said, noting Smith almost "let it get away from him at the end, but he ended up winning it."

Dimond finished fifth at the tournament with an 81, which included

shooting birdie on three holes and par on four holes.

Dimond, the coach noted, picked up where he left off last year.

"I'm expecting ... some really good things out of Tyler," Faber said.

Chatwin Pickering tied for ninth with an 86, which included shooting par on six holes.

"I was impressed with Chatwin as a freshman," Faber said, adding Pickering played well in his first high school tournament.

Maximus Ibram tied for 22nd with a 92. He shot par on four holes.

Logan Lamoreaux finished as part of a four-way tie for 26th with a 96. He shot par on five holes.

Faber highlighted that Lamoreaux just started playing golf over the summer.

"I thought it was good," he said of Lamoreaux's play at the tournament.

Ty Richey shot a 108 to tie for 44th, with his effort including shooting birdie on one hole.

Faber noted this is Richey's first year playing golf, adding the senior is working hard and he wishes Richey had played more years.

The Pirates followed that effort with a third-place finish at the 21-team Durango Hillcrest Open on Monday, Aug. 18.

The team again scored 238.

Fruita Monument won with an overall score of 225, with Durango taking second with a 234.

"That was a very competitive tournament," the coach said, adding the team wasn't perfect by any means, but it was a good start for the team.

Smith ended in a three-way tie for sixth on the day with a 76 on the par-71 course, which included logging birdies on three holes and par on 10 holes.

Faber noted Smith struggled a little bit, but played well again.

Dimond finished 14th with a 79. He shot birdies on three holes and par on eight holes.

"Tyler played well," Faber said, adding he "had a really good round."

Pickering finished as part of a five-way tie for 23rd with an 83. His effort included shooting birdie on one hole and par on five holes.

Faber suggested he was again

pleased with Pickering's play.

Max Brown finished 94th with a 102, which included shooting par on three holes.

Lamoreaux finished 100th with a score of 113, with the Pirate shooting par on one hole.

Deaglan Denen finished 103rd with a score of 120.

The Pirates then competed in the Panther Invitational in Cortez on Tuesday, Aug. 19.

The Pirates took second at the 15-team Panther Invitational on Tuesday, Aug. 19, logging a score of 235.

Durango took first with a score of 226.

Smith tied for first on the day after shooting a 71 on the par-72 course, with Faber explaining Smith became the day's winner after a scorecard playoff.

Smith's effort included shooting birdie on five holes and par on nine holes.

Faber noted he had a "rough start, but a great finish" and played "really well" the last 13 or 14 holes.

Dimond tied for 13th with an 81, with his work including shooting par on 10 holes.

Pickering finished as part of a six-way tie for 16th with an 83. His effort included shooting birdie on two holes and par on eight holes.

"Tyler and Chatwin both stayed right there," Faber said, noting they each had a couple of holes that were hard on them.

Brown finished as part of a seven-way tie for 56th with a 95. He shot par on five holes.

Lamoreaux and Denen finished as part of a three-way tie for 66th with scores of 97.

Lamoreaux shot par on four holes, and Denen shot par on two holes.

Faber noted Brown and Denen played better at the tournament than they have previously, which he noted was nice to see.

Ibram finished 76th with a 103. He shot par on one hole.

Richey tied for 80th with a 106.

Now, the Pirates face a potential lull in action until early September, though Faber noted he's working to add in another tournament and give the kids the best chance of making

we can keep building as the season goes on."

Caler explains 40 athletes tried out for volleyball this season, which she notes "shows the excitement around the program right now."

The program, she states, has a number of varsity players returning, as well as younger athletes entering the mix.

"We return a handful of varsity players, who are stepping into bigger roles both positionally and as leaders," Caler wrote. "We also have
■ See Volleyball A18

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Lady Pirates set to open season at Demon Invitational

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirate volleyball team will open its 2025-2026 season at this week's Demon Invitational in Glenwood Springs under the helm of a new head coach, Chelsea Caler.

The Lady Pirates will play three games at this week's tournament, beginning with a 4 p.m. matchup with Meeker on Friday, Aug. 22.

Later that evening, at 6 p.m., the team will take on Roaring Fork.

VOLLEYBALL

The next day at 10 a.m. the Lady Pirates will take on the tournament's host, Glenwood Springs.

The team's focus at the tournament, Caler explains in an email to The SUN, will be "on executing the little things: serving with intention, staying consistent in serve receive and applying the speed work we've emphasized in our blocking. Most of all, we're excited to finally get out on the court and put what we've been practicing this week into action. This weekend is equally about figuring out what works well and what doesn't, so

CROSS-COUNTRY



Photo courtesy Josh Kurz

The Pirate cross-country team concludes its first official week of practice with its annual Alberta Peak trail run. The harriers climbed 1,000 feet along the challenging 3-mile high-altitude route. The team’s top runners reached the summit in just over 30 minutes.

Volleyball

■ Continued from A17
younger athletes earning their varsity opportunity, so it’s a strong mix. Our five seniors will be key in setting the tone for the program this season.”

Caler notes that, heading into the season, one of the team’s biggest strengths is its chemistry and the camaraderie among the athletes.

“They communicate well, support each other and bring a strong presence to the court,” she wrote.

The team, she explains, has been working to refine fundamentals and build confidence ahead of the season opening.

“The next step, and where we see the biggest opportunity for growth, is taking that foundation and implementing more advanced strategies and systems on both offense and defense,” she wrote. “That’s where the fun begins, and we’re excited to lean into it.”

Caler also indicates she’s lucky to kick off her head coaching with this year’s group.

“This group has [moxie] and they’re committed to putting in the

work,” she wrote. “At the same time, we’re learning how to enjoy the process. As a new head coach, I couldn’t ask for a better group to kick off this journey with! They’re hungry, they’re growing and they’re fun to coach.”

The team finished the 2024-2025 season with an 11-14 record and 2-6 record in the Intermountain League.

Schedule

The following schedule was accurate as of press time, but is subject to change.

Following this week’s tournament play in Glenwood Springs, the Lady Pirates will take to their home court on Aug. 30 for a 1 p.m. matchup with Sanford.

On Sept. 4, the Lady Pirates will be on the road to take on the Alamosa Mean Moose at 6 p.m.

The team will again hit the road on Sept. 6, this time to take on the Telluride Miners for a 3 p.m. affair.

The Lady Pirates will host the Del Norte Tigers at 6 p.m. on Sept. 11.

The team will travel for a 1 p.m. matchup with the Montezuma-

Cortez Panthers on Sept. 13.

The Lady Pirates will host the Bayfield Wolverines for a 6 p.m. game on Sept. 16.

The team will then be back on the road for a 1 p.m. matchup with the Centauri Falcons in La Jara on Sept. 20 and a 6 p.m. game against the Kirtland Central Broncos at 6 p.m. on Sept. 23 in Kirtland, N.M.

The team will return to its home court to take on the Panthers at 6 p.m. on Sept. 30, the Mean Moose at 6 p.m. on Oct. 2 and the Durango Demons at 6 p.m. on Oct. 7.

The Lady Pirates will then hit the road on Oct. 14 to take on the Wolverines in Bayfield at 6:15 p.m.

On Oct. 16, the Lady Pirates will host the Ignacio Bobcats at 6 p.m.

The team will travel to Monte Vista for a 6 p.m. matchup with the Monte Vista Pirates on Oct. 21.

The Lady Pirates will host the Falcons at 6 p.m. on Oct. 23.

The team will then travel to the Coal Ridge Tournament on Oct. 31 and Nov. 1 to close out the regular season.

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for the issue of Sept. 4

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Case Number 2025CV030034
Plaintiff:
MCCULLISS OIL AND GAS, INC. and C.O.T.A. RESOURCES, INC.
v.
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 within 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.
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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)

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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 Wicker, 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
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.: 2025CV00028
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)

DISTRICT COURT, Archuleta COUNTY. STATE OF COLORADO
CIVIL ACTION NO. 2024CV030063 DIVISION NO. 3
INITIAL COMBINED NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND RIGHT TO CURE AND REDEEM

Plaintiff, Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association v. Defendants, KAREN L. CLARK et al
Regarding: Subdivision: PAGOSA VISTA Lot: 592 AND: Lot 593 PV Sec: 19 Twn: 35 Rng: 2W PV DOES NOT INCLUDE MH #990012350892
DEED: Lot 592-593, Pagosa Vista, according to the plat filed in the office of the clerk and recorder, Archuleta County, Colorado.
Also known as: 506 Vista Blvd, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS, Please take notice:

You and each of you are hereby notified that a Sheriff's Sale of the referenced property is to be conducted by the Civil Division of the Sheriff's Office of Archuleta County, Colorado at 9 a.m., on the 8th day of October 2025, at 85 Harman Park Dr., Pagosa Springs, CO 81147; phone number 970-264-8430. At which sale, the above-described real property and improvements thereon will be sold to the highest bidder. Plaintiff makes no warranty relating to title, possession, or quiet enjoyment in and to said real property in connection with this sale.

****BIDDERS ARE REQUIRED TO HAVE CASH OR CERTIFIED FUNDS SUFFICIENT TO COVER THEIR HIGHEST BID AT TIME OF SALE. ****

Further, for the purpose of paying off, curing default or redemption, as provided by statute, intent must be directed to or conducted at the above address of the Civil Division of the Sheriff's Department of Archuleta County, Colorado.
PLEASE NOTE THAT THE LIEN BEING FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN ON THE SUBJECT PROPERTY.
First Publication:08/14/2025
Last Publication: 09/11/2025
Published In: The Pagosa Sun
NOTICE OF RIGHT TO CURE AND RIGHT TO REDEEM
RE: Sheriff's Sale of Real Property pursuant to Order and Decree of Foreclosure and C.R.S. 38-38-101 et seq.

This is to advise you that a Sheriff sale proceeding has been commenced through the office of the undersigned Sheriff pursuant to a Court Order and Decree dated March 31, 2025, and C.R.S. 38-38-101 et seq., by Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association, the current holder of a lien recorded on July 22, 2024 at Rec. No. 22402970, in the records of the Clerk and Recorder of the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado. The judicial foreclosure is based on a default under the Declaration of Restrictions Pagosa, recorded on June 24, 1970 at Reception No. 73297 in the records of the Clerk and Recorder of the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado. The Declaration and notices, as recorded, establish a lien for the benefit of Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association, **WHICH LIEN BEING FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN ON THE SUBJECT PROPERTY AND IMPROVEMENTS.**

You may have an interest in the real property being affected, or have certain rights or suffer certain liabilities or loss of your interest in the subject property as a result of said foreclosure. You may have the right to redeem the real property or you may have the right to cure a default under the instrument being foreclosed. Any Notice of Intent to Cure must be filed no later than fifteen (15) calendar days prior to the date of the foreclosure sale. **A notice of intent to cure filed pursuant to section 38-38-104 shall be filed with the officer at least fifteen (15) calendar days prior to the first scheduled sale date or any date to which the sale is continued. If the sale date is continued to a later date, the deadline to file a notice of intent to cure by those parties entitled to cure may also be extended.** **A notice of intent to redeem filed pursuant to section 38-38-302 shall be filed with the officer no later than eight (8) business days after the sale.**

In this regard, you may desire and are advised to consult with your own private attorney.
IF THE BORROWER BELIEVES THAT A LENDER OR SERVICER HAS VIOLATED THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT IN SECTION 38-38-103.1 OR THE PROHIBITION ON DUAL TRACKING IN SECTION 38-38-103.2, THE BORROWER MAY FILE A COMPLAINT WITH THE COLORADO ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE FEDERAL CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU (CFPB), OR BOTH. THE FILING OF A COMPLAINT WILL NOT STOP THE FORECLOSURE PROCESS.
Colorado Attorney General
1300 Broadway, 10th Floor
Denver, Colorado 80203
(855) 411-2372
www.coloradoattorneygeneral.gov
Federal Consumer Financial Protection Bureau
P.O. Box 4503
Iowa City, Iowa 52244
(855) 411-2372
www.consumerfinance.gov
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Iowa City, Iowa 52244
(855) 411-2372
www.consumerfinance.gov
Further, you are advised that the parties liable thereon, the owner of the property described above, or those with an interest in the subject property, may take appropriate and timely action under Colorado statutes, certain section of which are attached hereto. In order to be entitled to take advantage of any rights

provided for under Colorado law, you must strictly comply and adhere to the provisions of the law. Further, you are advised that the attached Colorado statutes merely set forth the applicable portions of Colorado statutory law relating to curative and redemption rights, therefore, you should read and review all the applicable statutes and laws in order to determine the requisite procedures and provisions which control your rights in the subject property.
DATED in Colorado this 6 day of August, 2025.
Sheriff of Archuleta County, Colorado
/s/ Mike Le Roux
Sheriff Mike Le Roux
ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF:
ORTEN CAVANAGH HOLMES & HUNT, LLC
1445 Market Street, Suite 350
Denver, CO 80202
Statutes attached: §§38-37-108, 38-38-103, 38-38-104, 38-38-301, 38-38-304, 38-38-305, and 38-38-306, C.R.S., as amended.
Published August 14, 21, 28 and September 4 and 11, 2025 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (270643)

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)

Invitation to Bid
Piedra Park Metro District Water Meter Replacement Project
Project Number: EIAF-25-165
The Piedra Park Metro District is seeking qualified contractors to provide services for the **replacement of the water plant SCADA system and installation of 209 water meters** within the district. This project is funded through the Energy & Mineral Impact Assistance Program and is subject to all applicable state and local regulations.
Scope of Work
1. **SCADA System Replacement:** Design, procurement, and installation of a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system for the water plant.
2. **Water Meter Replacement:** Supply and installation of 209 water meters across the district, this will include up to 20 pit replacements.
Bid Requirements
Contractors must be licensed and insured. Experience in similar water infrastructure projects is required.
Bids must include a detailed cost breakdown, timeline, and references.

Bond Requirements
Bid Bond: A bid bond equal to 5% of the **total bid amount** must be submitted with the bid to ensure the bidder's commitment to the project.
Performance Bond: The awarded contractor must provide a **performance bond equal to 100% of the contract amount** to guarantee satisfactory completion of the project.
Payment Bond: A payment bond equal to 100% of the contract amount is required to ensure payment to subcontractors, laborers, and suppliers.
If the contract price is less than \$50,000, the bonding requirements can be waived in favor of an irrevocable letter of credit.
Key Dates
Bid Opening Date: Aug 1, 2025
Bid Submission Deadline: Sept 1 2025
Project Start Date: SCADA System Dept 15, 2025 and Water Meter Replacement Oct 1 2025.
Project Completion Deadline: Nov 1 2026
Submission Instructions
Interested contractors must submit their bids to:
Piedra Park Metro District
PO Box 1609, Arboles, CO 81121
piedrapark@yahoo.com
Bids must be received no later than Sept 1 2025, 11:59pm. Late submissions will not be considered.
Additional Information
For questions or to request project documents, contact Justin Smith at 970-553-0621 or jcsmith1711@gmail.com.
The Piedra Park Metro District reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any informalities or irregularities therein.
Published August 14, 21 and 28, 2025 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (270653)

The *Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County* will submit an application to the Colorado Division of Housing (DOH). The purpose of this application is to request \$30,000 to develop four single family homes for purchase at 288 Domicile Cir., 100 Mansions Cir., 30 Mohawk Ct., 33 Mohawk Ct. The request of funding from DOH is to benefit persons with low and moderate incomes by increasing the availability of affordable housing in Archuleta County. It is not the intent to cause displacement from any existing housing; however, if persons are displaced from their existing residences reasonable housing alternatives shall be offered. All interested persons are encouraged to contact the applicant for further information. Written comments should be sent to PO Box 2827 Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 or director@habitatarchuleta.org and will be forwarded to DOH for consideration during the application process.
Members of the public may request a public meeting and should arrange a request with the Applicant. Applicant shall post notice of meeting March 9, 2026 at 703 San Juan Street, Suite 201 at 6PM to ensure other members of the public are aware of meeting. If reasonable accommodations are needed for persons attending the public meeting, please contact the Applicant. Published August 21, 2025 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (271691)

LEGAL ADVERTISING DEADLINE NOON FRIDAY

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County faces staffing shortage in development departments

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

The Archuleta County Development Services departments currently have a total of five vacant positions between the Building Department, Planning Department and Code Enforcement Department.

Interim Development Director Owen O'Dell provided the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) with a brief update on the departments during a work session held on Tuesday, Aug. 19.

"With the vacancies and backlog, and obviously the contract with AEC-West, I was asked to give an update on Development Services in its entirety," he said.

The BoCC previously approved a contract with AEC-West Consultants unanimously during its Aug. 5 regular meeting for the purpose of assisting the county with building inspections and plan review services.

During the Aug. 19 work session, O'Dell provided his update broken down by each department, beginning with the Planning Department, noting it has three vacancies. Those vacancies are for the development

director, planning manager and planner 1 positions.

O'Dell noted there are four applicants "in the queue" for the planning manager position, but that none of them are qualified.

He also noted that the planner 1 position has been offered to someone and is going through the hiring process with Human Resources.

He went on to explain that "as far as day-to-day process goes for the planning department," he estimates it is currently three weeks behind on projects.

Citizens are experiencing troubles with use-by-right permits being three to five weeks behind, O'Dell explained.

He mentioned that short-term rental permits are three weeks behind as well, with 108 outstanding permits.

"We're typically about 20 behind," he added.

O'Dell noted that addressing, lot consolidation and variance requests are all one to two weeks behind, with subdivision reviews currency three to four weeks behind.

He also mentioned that general inquiries are about one week behind and that "we're addressing those as

we can," noting he accumulated 22 voicemails in one day.

O'Dell then explained there is one vacancy in the Building Department, with that being the chief building official.

He mentioned there are currently five candidates for the position, one of whom has the appropriate qualifications.

He noted that, as of Aug. 18, a total of 17 plan reviews had been sent to AEC-West and that the county has yet to receive one completed review.

O'Dell mentioned that building permits used to get approved within three weeks of submission, but now, "we're now turning permits out in four to six weeks."

He commented that having a second building inspector/official would "definitely" be helpful.

O'Dell also provided information in regard to the county's insurance ratings.

"Additionally, staff identified that the Insurance Service Office rated Archuleta County's application of building code at nine out of 10, with 10 being the worst score," he said, explaining, "The building code effectiveness rating schedule assesses

the building code's effect in particular communities, as well as how well the community enforces that code.

"The importance of this grading schedule is this has a direct impact on the cost of insurance and disaster insurance for homeowners in Archuleta County."

The last vacancy that O'Dell highlighted was the code enforcement officer vacancy, explaining that there is one enforcement officer for the Building Department and one for the Planning Department.

He noted there are five candidates for the open position, all of whom could be trained.

O'Dell mentioned that the county had one enforcement officer begin at the end of June and that "his workload is heavy, and he's had to tap into a substantial amount of overtime that will soon hit the budgeted limit."

The Water Quality Department "is our only department that is not behind currently," O'Dell said, explaining, "They haven't lost any employees."

The BoCC did not have any questions in regard to O'Dell's update at the work session.

clayton@pagosasun.com

Resigns

■ Continued from front
favor of hiring Harper.

Since March 2019, Archuleta County has had three different county managers/administrators, including Harper.

Harper could not be reached for comment on the matter to The SUN following Tuesday's meeting.

The BoCC scheduled a special meeting for today, Aug. 21, at 8:30 a.m. at the administration building located at 398 Lewis St.

The meeting's agenda consists of two new business items: discussions regarding county manager vacancy, and consideration and designation of supervision of county departments.

Commissioner and staff comments

In an interview on Wednesday, Aug. 20, County Attorney Cathleen Giovannini explained that Harper's resignation was effective immediately.

She also explained that following the executive session held on Aug. 19, the BoCC directed staff to have a conversation with Harper while the regular meeting was recessed for 15 minutes.

She indicated that it was just herself and Harper involved in that conversation and "he kind of decided to go ahead and resign, and that's what he did."

In a separate interview, Commissioner John Ranson explained that the commissioners have "had some discussions about in the interim and also in the longer term, what we're gonna be looking for."

He explained that some of the

discussions have been about people in-house potentially taking on the interim county manager role.

"We have just such good managers in these various departments that we have," he said, adding that it's fair to say that "several of them have been very frustrated."

Ranson noted that having someone in-house serve as the interim county manager would likely only be a short-term solution as the county plans on doing a bigger search for a permanent candidate.

He noted there are some "really, really strong candidates" in the community that might also be a good fit for a short-term interim role.

As far as planning for the immediate short-term, Ranson explained there have been discussions about "potentially commissioners taking on different departments, which I'm not a big fan of."

He added, "We don't need to micromanage."

Ranson indicated that there should be more "solid information" after this morning's meeting to share.

Ranson also expressed that the commissioners, or at least himself, are wanting to find a county manager that is able to dedicate time to working with other department managers, the community and the commissioners.

"All three of us really want to find a manager that can devote time to working with the commissioners to do the objectives and goals that we've set forth, and that comes from the people," he said, explaining the BoCC will be reaching out to the community to see what improvements or changes can be made.

He added, "We just want to listen to the people and try to build this new county manager to hear some very clear-cut objectives ... and let that manager do his or her job."

Ranson explained that the county is going to be looking for someone who is very active in their role and with communicating to the commissioners, public and with other county staff.

"We want somebody that can really communicate in-house, 'cause we have phenomenal people ... but they need a manager that's really gonna be communicative with them," he said.

Ranson clarified that he is not wanting someone who will be "over managing or micromanaging," and that the department managers "just want to feel like they're part of the management team."

Ranson added that, "This isn't saying anything bad about [Harper], it's just we haven't had that to where, at least in my opinion, we've been spinning our [wheels]."

He went on to explain that he feels there are things that folks in the community are asking the commissioners to do, and look into.

He used the plan for a new county administration building as an example, noting there is stuff the county should already have decided, "and we're not."

He went on to mention the county will be looking for a "hands-on" manager, but is not looking to micromanage its departments.

"We just haven't had that kind of leadership," he said, adding, "We wish [Harper] the best, we really do."

Ranson also commented that moving forward over the next few weeks,

the direction the county is heading, "it's gonna be good for everybody."

He also explained that the county is prioritizing filling multiple vacancies in its building and planning departments.

"We definitely need to shore that up," he said, explaining he does not want to be delaying builders at this time of year.

In a separate interview, Brown, when asked about the county's multiple vacancies, explained that hiring employees is "always a challenge," in regard to time frames and finances.

"People come and go all the time. Unfortunately, we're at a point where we've had a number of key individuals who have chosen to go elsewhere," Brown said, also expressing that he wishes the best for those folks. "But, for Archuleta County, we just continue to do the best we can to serve the public."

Multiple attempts to reach Commissioner Veronica Medina Wednesday for comment were unsuccessful.

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PAWSD board discusses waiver options with drought restrictions

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) Board of Directors discussed the potential for granting waivers for irrigation in certain circumstances as drought conditions worsen at its Aug. 14 meeting.

PAWSD District Engineer/Manager Justin Ramsey explained that, now that the district is in stage two drought, he was both hearing complaints about the drought management plan being overly "draconian" and about it being too lax, which he stated might be an indicator that the district is "doing all right."

However, he added that the district might want to consider adding a process for granting waivers to the restrictions in the drought management plan in the future.

He stated that he drafted a waiver request form that would allow waivers of most aspects of the drought-related water restrictions except for increased fees.

Ramsey also stated that he believes that approval of waivers should occur at staff level due to the potential for the board to have to meet an excessive amount if it must approve all waivers.

He noted that waiver decisions

could be taken to the board if the applicant receives a decision they do not like from staff.

PAWSD board member Bill Hudson noted that he received a call from Pagosa Peak Open School (PPOS) which expressed concerns that the trees the school recently planted for its playground will all die if they are not watered every day.

Hudson serves as a board member for PPOS.

Hudson commented that he believes that properties where landscaping has just been installed should potentially receive a waiver from the irrigation restrictions, an issue which he stated he hoped the waiver process would address.

Ramsey stated that he would likely approve the PPOS waiver request, but would generally attempt to be "pretty tough on it."

PAWSD board member Glenn Walsh noted that drought restrictions in stage three drought will be significantly more severe and objections might be raised about waivers in stage three for perceived inequalities.

PAWSD board member Bruce Jones commented that he liked staff controlling the waivers since there may be specific differences in circumstances, such as the differences in water use between watering trees and watering large areas of grass.

Ramsey stated that, given current drought conditions, the district might enter into stage three drought in the next few weeks.

He added that the additional fees for water use during drought should not be waived in order to incentivize reduced water use by increasing costs.

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Photos courtesy Darren Lewis



On Aug. 16, the Town of Pagosa Springs welcomed the newest additions to the Weeminchue Meadows art installation located at 211 Aspen Village Drive on the Town-to-Lakes Trail adjacent to Pagosa Peak Open School and Walmart.

Public art additions unveiled

By Amanda Gadomski
Town of Pagosa Springs

On Saturday, the Town of Pagosa Springs welcomed the newest additions to the Weeminchue Meadows — a public art installation that blends history, culture and community partnerships.

The project came to life through collaboration between the Town of Pagosa Springs, Archuleta County, the Public Arts Committee and the Pagosa Springs Arts Council, with additional support from Colorado Creative Industries and other partners.

Artist Chad Haspels created the bronze sheep featured in the installation, while Ryan Curley designed the aspen tree displays that showcase local amateur historian Peggy Bergon’s arborglyph collection.

These pieces complement Haspels’ Weeminchue Meadows sheep herder statue, which was unveiled last year.

Cultural connections and representation were provided by Pagosa Springs Town Council member Leonard Martinez and Lillyan Vega, who, together with the Spanish Fiesta royalty, honored the cultural importance of the sculpture and its ties to the community’s diverse heritage.

This installation location is within proximity of one of the previous train stations of the Denver and Rio Grande Western Railroad.

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preview

ARTS & LIFE

Wings in the Wild

8 a.m. to 1 p.m. • Saturday, Aug. 23 • PLPOA Clubhouse



Photo courtesy Donna Mosher

August 21, 2025



Photos courtesy Donna Mosher

Members of the High Country Remote Control Club of Pagosa Springs will demonstrate their airplanes and helicopters at the Wings in the Wild fundraiser Saturday.

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: Vincent Koehl, 7 p.m.
Liberty Theatre: New Orleans Junko Beat, 7 p.m.
Meltdown on Main: Smoke and Honey, 5 p.m
- Saturday**
Coyote Moon Lounge: Escape the Badlands, 7 p.m.
Liberty Theatre: Johnny Nicholas, 7 p.m.
- Sunday**
Coyote Moon Lounge: Naked Dawn, 5 p.m.
- Monday**
Coyote Moon Lounge: Sean Harrison, 5 p.m.

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High-flying fun: Remote control airplane exhibition to benefit Wings in the Wild

By Donna Mosher
Wings Early Childhood Center

Airplanes will be flying high early Saturday morning at the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association (PLPOA) Clubhouse.

Remote control planes, that is. Members of the High Country Remote Control Club of Pagosa Springs will show off their planes and helicopters at the Wings in the Wild fundraiser benefiting Wings Early Childhood Center.

Club members have been preparing for a few weeks to exhibit their planes, and they are looking forward to delighting kids and grownups alike this weekend.

A short walk from the clubhouse, the club has a dedicated itty-bitty airstrip designed for these grown men to fly their big-boy toys. If you have never seen these complicated (and pricey) contraptions in the air, you are in for a real treat. The miniature aircraft, controlled from a distance using a transmitter, fly fast and high using the same aerodynamic principles as full-size aircraft.

WHIPS luncheon set for Aug. 26

By Nancy Ford
Women Helping in Pagosa Springs

WHIPS, Women Helping in Pagosa Springs, will have their monthly luncheon Tuesday, Aug. 26, at 11:30 a.m. at Patria Brunch + Lunch at 920 San Juan St.

The cost is \$20. All women are welcome. We must have you RSVP to (970) 946-1895.

Flying them requires dexterity, quick reflexes and an understanding of aerodynamic principles. It also demands intricate coordination between pilots to keep their planes out of another's flight path. Enthusiasts say flying these planes is the next best experience to being a pilot.

Mark Saturday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on your calendar and meet us at the PLPOA Clubhouse, 230 Port

Ave. Enjoy a morning filled with family fun, including tethered hot air balloon rides, a root beer float stand, face painting, food, family games and more. Bid on special storytime book baskets at WingsEarlyChildhood.org and at the event.

The Wings end-of-summer fundraiser helps Wings Early Childhood Center provide high-quality child care and tuition subsidies.



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Photo courtesy Thingamajig Theatre Company

Caught in the middle: Monty Navarro (Trevor Brown) juggles the affections of Sibella (Cassandra Brooks) and Phoebe (Samantha Luck) in the riotous second-act trio “I’ve Decided to Marry You” in “A Gentleman’s Guide to Love and Murder.” Thingamajig Theatre Company’s summer repertory season ends Aug. 30.

Final curtain call for Thingamajig Theatre Company’s summer season nearing

By Tim Moore
Thingamajig Theatre Company

Summer in Pagosa Springs has been anything but sleepy. At Thingamajig Theatre Company, the stage has pulsed with irreverence, glamour and a gleeful sense of theatrical mischief. Now, with just two weeks remaining, the repertory season is barreling toward its final bow on Aug. 30, leaving audiences one last chance to revel in three productions that have defined the summer. “Something Rotten!” has played like a backstage vaudeville fever dream, with Nostradamus’ visions teetering somewhere between divine prophecy and comic delirium. “The Wild Party” has unleashed its bruising jazz-age rhythms with the force

of a brass band careening down a narrow alley, while “A Gentleman’s Guide to Love and Murder” has served up charm and homicide in equal measure, its devilish wit slicing through the summer air. This has been a season not merely of shows, but of gratitude. Volunteers, patrons and community supporters have been the quiet chorus behind the curtain, sustaining the theater’s artistry with their presence and generosity. The company has also opened its doors to first responders as a gesture of thanks during a grueling wildfire season — an acknowledgment that the theater’s role in the community extends well beyond the footlights. There is, of course, the lingering sweetness of anticipation. While the repertory closes on Aug. 30, the

theater’s fall and winter season will be announced very shortly, promising new stories, new voices and new reasons to gather in the dark. For now, the message is simple: The stage is lit, the players are ready and the final ovations of summer are waiting to be claimed. In the here-and-gone thrill of live theater, there are no encores once the curtain falls.

Pagosa Community Initiative to host free summer party Aug. 21

By Carrie Blue-White
Pagosa Community Initiative

The Pagosa Community Initiative (PCI) invites residents to kick back and connect at its Summer Party, a free community gathering designed to celebrate the end of summer and meet the people who make Pagosa Springs special. The event is set for Thursday, Aug. 21, from 3 to 6 p.m. at the Yamaguchi Park pavilion, located at 684 S. 5th St. No RSVP is needed, and the party is open to everyone in the community.

We are thrilled to host an afternoon where neighbors can come together in a relaxed, welcoming setting. This is a simple, joyful way to strengthen our community ties and enjoy each other’s company before school and fall activities begin. There will be music, game, and a lot of good conversation along with a tasty incentive — free food for attendees. Measuring success isn’t just about numbers; it’s about people connecting. We want everyone to feel welcome, to meet a neighbor they’ve never spoken to and to leave with

■ See Party on next page

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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.

Film screening and fundraiser to feature renowned Chaco researcher Anna Sofaer

By Ana L. Murray
Chimney Rock Interpretive Association

The Chimney Rock Interpretive Association (CRIA) is honored to present a special fundraising evening with acclaimed filmmaker, researcher and Chaco Canyon expert Anna Sofaer, whose pioneering discoveries have reshaped our understanding of ancient Puebloan cosmology.

This unique event will be held on Sept. 11 from 5 to 9 p.m. at the Liberty Theatre, located at 418 Pagosa St. The evening will include drinks (cash bar) and appetizers, a silent auction, a film screening and a Q-and-A session with Sofaer.

From 5 to 6:30 p.m., light appetizers (included with ticket) and drinks (cash bar) will be available, as will silent auction bidding.

From 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. will be the screening of "Written on the Landscape: Mysteries Beyond Chaco

Canyon."

From 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. there will be a Sun Dagger Explorer demonstration and Q-and-A with Sofaer.

At 8:30 p.m., the silent auction results will be announced.

Tickets are available at PagosaMovies.com and are \$30 per individual or \$50 per couple.

All proceeds support CRIA's educational and preservation programs.

In 1977, Sofaer rediscovered the Sun Dagger site atop Fajada Butte in Chaco Canyon, revealing an extraordinary ancient solar and lunar calendar—a spiral rock carving marked by light and shadow at the solstices and lunar standstills.

For more than four decades, Sofaer has led interdisciplinary research through the Solstice Project, publishing widely and producing landmark PBS documentaries including "The Sun Dagger" and "The Mystery of Chaco Canyon." See solsti-

ceproject.org for more information.

Her latest film, "Written on the Landscape," offers a sweeping view of the vast Chaco cultural region—nearly twice the size of Ireland—highlighting ritual architecture, celestial alignments and sacred landscapes through powerful imagery and Indigenous perspectives.

Attendees will also have the rare opportunity to explore the Sun Dagger Explorer, an interactive 3-D computer model recreating the fragile Fajada Butte site using advanced laser scanning and archival imaging.

This is a can't-miss evening for anyone interested in the rich cultural and astronomical legacy of Chacoan Indigenous history and efforts to preserve sacred sites for future generations.

CRIA is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that offers interpretive programs at Chimney Rock National Monument in partnership with the USDA Forest Service and the San Juan National Forest.

For more information, see the CRIA website at www.chimneyrock-co.org or call (970) 731-7133.

Humane Society of Pagosa Springs to host 30th annual Auction for the Animals

Humane Society of Pagosa Springs

The Humane Society of Pagosa Springs invites the community to celebrate its 30th annual Auction for the Animals on Sept. 6 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts.

This is the nonprofit's biggest fundraiser of the year, and money raised will directly support lifesaving care for homeless and abandoned animals in Archuleta County.

Guests will enjoy a fun and unforgettable evening featuring an adorable pet fashion show, a delicious variety of hearty small plates, one complimentary drink (with a cash bar available), live music by Maxwell Miller, and exciting live and silent auctions offering adventurous and relaxing travel experiences, gift certificates, unique artwork and more. The evening will also showcase heartwarming animal success stories made possible by the community.

This year's celebration comes at a time when the organization faces

unprecedented financial challenges due to ongoing construction along U.S. 160. The Humane Society's Thrift Store is the backbone of the shelter's funding and has seen a significant drop in sales this year, affecting nearly half of the animal shelter's operating budget.

"Our Auction for the Animals is one of the most important lifelines for animals in need," said Executive Director Elizabeth Kirwin. "With Thrift Store sales down, the animals need the community's support more than ever. Every ticket purchased and every auction bid will help provide shelter, nutritious food and emergency veterinary care for homeless and abandoned animals. We truly cannot do this without you."

Tickets are \$110. Attendees are encouraged to purchase tickets early to guarantee their spot at this fun and meaningful event.

For tickets, sponsorship opportunities, or to donate an auction item, visit PagosaHumane.org or call (970) 264-5549.

Party

■ continued from previous page
a little more sense of belonging in Pagosa.

Questions about the Summer Party can be directed to info@pagosacommunityinitiative.org.

For those seeking more information or wishing to arrange larger contributions to PCI, please check our website, www.pagosacommunityinitiative.org.

We are eager to engage with community members, and we hope you'll join us for an afternoon of music, games and community—an end-of-summer celebration that reinforces why Pagosa is a place people are proud to call home.

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Photo courtesy Jeff Laydon

Model Sienna Rose from the 2024 Runway for Rise models her recycled outfit of a thrifted skirt and top, and hard cover books. This year’s event is set for Oct. 4.

Runway for Rise Recycled Fashion Gala to support victims of violence

By Annie Gian
Rise Above Violence

Get ready for an evening of creativity and fun-raising at the annual Runway for Rise Recycled Fashion Gala.

This unique event, scheduled for Oct. 4 at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, promises to be a night of frugal yet fabulous fashion, all in support of Rise Above Violence.

Ten creative teams will showcase their talents by designing outfits using recycled materials, natural items and thrifted goods.

The gala not only highlights the ingenuity of these teams and designers, but also raises crucial funds for Rise Above Violence.

Rise is a change-maker for survivors of domestic and sexual violence. Rise stands with survivors while creating community actions to end violence, and believes in justice and the power of possibilities.

Tickets on sale Aug. 25

Tickets for this highly anticipated event go on sale Aug. 25 and are expected to sell out quickly.

Attendees can choose from four tiers of ticket prices based on proximity to the runway:

- \$50.
- \$75.
- \$125 (on the floor next to the runway).
- \$150 VIP seats on stage (only 20 available).

All seats are reserved, and attendees can select their seats when purchasing tickets online at www.riseaboveviolence.org. For groups wishing to sit together, it is recommended that one person book all seats.

VIP ticket holders will enjoy exclusive benefits, including entrance to a special Back Stage Party during happy hour and intermission, where models will provide sneak peeks of

■ See Runway on next page

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Registration open for Oct. 4 Archuleta Health Fair and Expo

Healthy Archuleta

Although summer is still in full swing, the Archuleta Health Fair and Expo is right around the corner.

This year, the Archuleta Health Fair and Expo will be held Oct. 4 at Pagosa Springs High School from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Registration is open, and we encourage you to register today for your labs to secure the time slot that works best for you. Labs will be held from 7 to 10 a.m. You can choose the half-hour time block that works best for you when you register.

Additionally, the always-delicious farm-to-table lunch will be back again this year, so make sure you sign up for lunch when you complete your registration.

In 2024, there were more than 320 registrants for the health fair, so we encourage you to register early. You can register online at <http://bit.ly/4mwhodp> or click on the "2025 Health Fair & Expo" button on Healthy Archuleta's website.

We appreciate everyone who participated in the 2024 health fair and look forward to seeing you again this year.

In 2024, 228 individuals participated in the labs, 71 vaccines were provided, along with 33 hearing screenings and 25 oral health screenings. Additionally, 10 organizations offered health-related information booths.

Registration is open, and we encourage you to register today for your labs to secure the time slot that works best for you.

Participants at last year's health fair listed lab services, food connection and wellness connection as the most helpful elements of the health fair, all of which will be returning this year.

Of those who completed the

evaluation form at the end of the health fair last year, 100 percent said they would recommend the health fair to their friends and family, and 100 percent said they are planning on returning to next year's health fair.

This event couldn't happen without community support. In 2024, there were 11 sponsors, six food vendors, five wellness vendors, six health care organizations and 10 community-based organizations that shared information and offered services.

If your organization would like to sponsor the 2025 Health Fair or have a booth, please check out our website at <https://www.foodcoalition4archuleta.org/archuleta-health-fair-and-expo.html> to sign up today.

Finally, the 2024 event was supported by 59 community volunteers and team members from Healthy Archuleta and the Archuleta County Public Health Department.

This event can not happen without our wonderful community volunteers. To volunteer at this year's event, please complete the volunteer sign-up form at <https://www.foodcoalition4archuleta.org/archuleta-health-fair-and-expo.html>.

Runway

■ continued from previous page
their outfits and pose for photos. An exclusive cash bar and food will be available, ensuring VIPs don't have to wait in long lines.

Support your favorite teams and more

In addition to the fashion show, the evening will feature heavy appetizers, entertainment and a wine pull. New this year, there will be a raffle. Local businesses and community

members have generously donated items for the raffle, with all proceeds directly supporting Rise's mission.

Votes for your favorite teams can be cast online starting now at www.riseaboveviolence.org, with each vote costing \$1. Future articles in The Pagosa SUN will spotlight each participating team and provide more details on how to support them.

For those interested in partnering with Rise for this fundraiser, sponsorship opportunities are available.

Businesses, families and individuals can contact Annie Gian, event coordinator, at annie@riseaboveviolence.org for more information.

Join us for a night of fashion, fun and philanthropy, and help Rise continue its vital work in our community.

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Photo courtesy Jeff Laydon

The Pagosa stars and their coaches celebrate at the end of the final Dancing with the Pagosa Stars event on Aug. 16.

Final Dancing with the Pagosa Stars a huge success

By Cory Henderson
Seeds of Learning

Last Saturday, Aug. 16, six Pagosa stars and their coaches took the stage to dance for Seeds of Learning’s fundraiser, Dancing with the Pagosa Stars (DWTPS). All the costumes have been put away and the final votes tallied, and we are blown away by the results.

Through local community support, ticket sales, and votes from friends and family from around the country, DWTPS successfully raised more than \$214,000 to provide quality and affordable early childhood education to our neighbors throughout Pagosa Springs.

The families, teachers, administration and Seeds Board of Directors are filled with gratitude for this amazing outpouring of support for Pagosa’s future in our children. With your help, Seeds continues providing

high-quality early childhood education at an affordable cost to families throughout Archuleta County.

Now, for those who haven’t already heard, Saturday night’s winners were:

- Mirror Ball Trophy winner: Nicole Pitcher and coach Gus Palma.
- Best Male Dancer: Matt Kossler and coach Jamie Anderson.
- Best Female Dancer: Pitcher and Palma.
- Best Showmanship: Ernesto Renteria and coach Sharina Ramsey-Adams.
- Most Original Performance: Ben Lawrence and coach Ashley Butcher.
- Vogue Award (Best Costume): Callie Skinner and coach Markus Hughes.
- Red Hot Performance: Cindi Galabota and coach Jason Chapman.

This year’s success would not have been possible without the amazing dance production team, our incred-

ible stars and coaches, volunteers, and support from the Pagosa community. Seeds of Learning would like to thank everyone who attended and voted for your favorite Pagosa dancing duo this year.



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The Archuleta County Fair Board

*thanks our local businesses, ranches, and individuals
for financial contributions, for services provided and
for ongoing support in continuing the timeless tradition
of the 74th Archuleta County Fair.*

*Once again, the community united for a
fun and informative, event-filled weekend!*



Abba Eye Care
Alpine Medical
Alpine Septic
Alysha Ranson, Galles Properties
Archuleta County Ironworks
Area Best Heating & Cooling
Ashley Springer
Ashley Wilson
Bank of the San Juans
Basin Coop
Bayfield Belles
Bearfoot Garage Doors
Beau Been
Becky Ziminsky
Ben Gallegos/Gallegos Ranch
Black Barts Brunch
Brady Ziminsky
Brandon Edwards
Bruce Spruce Ranch
Buckaroos Horse Drawn Rides
Club Wyndham Pagosa
Cold Springs Ice Company
Colorado Dream Homes
Colorado Rock & Dirt Excavation,
Inc.
Custom Homes By Vernon
Leslie/4L Ranches
Darren Lewis
Design A Sign
Donna Formwalt
Durango Dermatology
Durango Motor Company
Elite Recycling & Disposal
Ethan Hart
Fair Volunteers
Family of Ruben G. Gomez
First Due Gear
First Southwest Bank
Fox Fire Farms

Galles Properties
Gavan Hart
Goodman's Department Store
Greg Schick/Sunset Ranch
Gregg Fulfer/GAK Farm, LLC
Growing Spaces
Ian Adams
Intermountain Health Classic Air
Medical
Jim & Karen Hawkins
Jodi Scarpa
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JR Ford
Judith Betts
Kathy Fulmer
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LaPlata Electric Association
Mark & Madeline Bergon
Mike McDonald
Mill Creek Ranch
Mountain & Meadow Real Estate
Mountain Home Security
Mountain Peak Rentals
Natalie Steadmon
Nicole Holt
Oxford CPA, LLC
Pagosa Electrical Services, LLC
Pagosa Land & Cattle Co, Inc.
Pagosa Peak Family Dentistry
Pagosa Riverside Campground
Pagosa Smiles
Pagosa Springs High School
Football Team & Coaches
Pagosa Springs High School Girls
Basketball Team & Coaches
Pagosa Springs High School
Volleyball Team & Coaches
Pagosa Springs High School
Wrestling Team & Coaches

Pagosa Springs Medical Center
Pagosa Springs Rotary Club
Pat Love
Pagosa Piece Makers Quilt Guild
Pine Valley Rentals
RG Bank
Riff Raff Brewing
RMC Trucking
Scott Simmons/Simmons Land
CO, LLC
Scott Strategic Investments
Shane Burris/Burris & Son's
Rodeo
Sky Ute Casino Resort
SOS Drain Opening
Southwest Ag, Inc
Sun Glass Pagosa
Sundown Outfitters/Ash & Trish
Tully
Sunset Ranch Veterinary Service
TA Rodeo/Tammy & Arlin Lepp
Terry's Ace & Home Supply Store
The Durango Herald
The Pagosa Springs Sun
The Rose Restaurant
The Springs Resort
Tim & Lisa Vail
Town of Pagosa Springs
Troy & Loretta Ross
Ty Hart
Uncles Bar & Social Club/Shane
Lucero
Val's VIP Cleaning, LLC
Wednesday Bouquet
Wilderness Journeys Pagosa
WW Ranch/Charlotte Williams

Recognition also extended to:

Archuleta County Building &
Grounds
Archuleta County Commissioners
Archuleta County Finance
Archuleta County IT Dept.
Archuleta County Public Health
Dept.
Archuleta County Road & Bridge
Archuleta County Sheriff's
Archuleta County Solid Waste
Archuleta County Treasurer's
Office
Colorado St. Univ. Extension Staff
Educational Exhibitor
Organizations
Exhibit Hall Judges
Exhibit Hall Superintendents
Fair Contractors & Suppliers
Fair Musicians & Entertainers
Livestock Committee
Livestock Superintendents
Pagosa Fire Protection District
PSMC EMS
Ranch Brand Supporters
Rodeo Grounds Management
Committee
San Juan Conservation District
San Juan Rangers
Spanish Fiesta Organization
Super Superintendent Lisa Vail
Super Volunteer Ashley Torres
Town of Pagosa Springs Police
Department
Vendors
Western Heritage Event Center
Committee

See you next year for our 75th anniversary fair!

Free online resource helps you prepare for driver’s tests

By Carole Howard
PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

We have a free online resource that will be a huge asset to anyone who is about to take a car, motorcycle or commercial driver’s test.

The site includes hundreds of practice questions arranged into useful tests, from easy to hard, for the different licenses. More of a visual learner? There’s also a 360-degree road situation simulator that gives you a chance to see exactly what is described in each of the questions.

As well, there’s an exam simulator that mimics a DMV exam, with new questions every time you take it. The site also includes manuals and frequently asked questions about the tests.

To access the site, go to your library’s website, <https://pagosalibrary.org>, and click on the tab that says “Online Resources.” Scroll down to “Driving Tests.”

You do not need a library card to access this material, but we’d love to take this opportunity to give you a card so you can take advantage of all our programs, activities and resources.

Construction update

Here’s the latest news on your library’s construction project from Barb Brattin, library director:

“The walls are coming down inside the east wing of the old library in preparation for the new entrance hall, and roof demolition begins the week of the 18th. Our contractor will start to lay the foundation for the new wing the first week of September. We’re right on schedule to complete the entire project next summer.

“You’ll be delighted to know that we have salvaged the beautiful stained glass from the old entrance and the ceiling stained glass remains part of the new library. The large pine and aspen trees in our garden area will be saved as well. Our local master gardeners will salvage perennials and we’ll be offering them for free outside the library’s main entrance to anyone who would like to use them in their own landscapes.

“Library hours have returned to normal. There is plenty of parking available in the public lot west of the library (enter off Highway 160) for easy access through the garden door. Feel free to sit for a while in our garden and enjoy the beautiful summer day.”

Activity locations are changed

Now that we 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.

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, 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.

Online author talks

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

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

Thursday, Aug. 28, at noon will showcase organizational psychologist Dr. Tasha Eurich discussing how to thrive in a world of constant chaos.

Paws to Read tomorrow

Friday, Aug. 22, from 2 to 3 p.m., youngsters are invited to share their favorite books with Maple, a therapy dog who loves stories, at a free Paws to Read session.

Adult knitting Saturday

Join new and experienced knitters Saturday, Aug. 23, for our free Knitters Circle from 1 to 3 p.m. in the Natural Grocers back room.

It is aimed at anyone over the age of 18 who would like to knit together or get some help if you are stuck on your project.

Conversational Spanish

The Conversational Spanish group will meet Monday, Aug. 25, from 4 to 5 p.m. This is a great opportunity to practice your Spanish in a free group setting. No minimum skill level is needed. This activity is taking place at St. Patrick’s Episcopal Church at 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. during construction.

Family storytime

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

Writers Guild

Thursdays from 9 to 11 a.m., Ruby’s Writers Guild welcomes writers looking for support, guidance, resources and camaraderie with other

■ See Library on next page

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Battery contents
- 5 Bullets, briefly
- 9 Cashless deal
- 14 Source of misery
- 15 Crazy as a ____
- 16 Gymnast Comaneci
- 17 Stein fillers
- 18 Pastimes
- 20 Underwood product
- 22 It may be soft or sweet
- 23 Over the top
- 24 Money in the bank, say
- 26 Windsor, for one
- 27 Self-serving acts
- 30 Wash up, old-style
- 33 Part of F.D.R.
- 35 Engine need
- 36 Flaming
- 38 ____ Lanka
- 39 Tube-shaped pasta
- 41 Kind of wheels
- 42 Slot-machine fruits
- 45 Like many Ebay items
- 46 Supermodel Christie
- 48 Type of roof
- 50 Optical device
- 51 Maybe
- 55 Inbox clogger
- 57 French wars in the early 1800's
- 59 Wood-finishing liquid
- 61 Nevada city
- 62 ____-violet
- 63 Ready to serve
- 64 A big fan of
- 65 Gaggles group
- 66 Bohemian
- 67 On the peak of

DOWN

- 1 Taper off

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

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- 2 Flower part
- 3 Lacking the knack
- 4 Military runaway
- 5 More than worried
- 6 Sundance entry
- 7 Not worth debating
- 8 "I repeat ..."
- 9 Explosive initials
- 10 Poker player, at times
- 11 Some kennel pickups
- 12 Bedrock pet
- 13 Dawn direction
- 19 Torch job
- 21 Chinese dynasty
- 25 Word before gap or sign
- 27 Judy Jetson's brother
- 28 Lodgepole, for one
- 29 "Call of the Wild" vehicle
- 30 Follower of Mary

- 31 Way off
- 32 Self-appointed lawman
- 34 Quasimodo's love
- 37 Lodge fellows
- 40 Sheer bliss
- 43 Justice appointed after Sonia
- 44 "Frankenstein" author

- 47 Finger-pointers
- 49 Wrath
- 51 Sharp end
- 52 Regarding
- 53 Spotted horse
- 54 Ice cream unit
- 55 Full of oneself
- 56 Carpet feature
- 58 Indigent
- 60 Actress Charlotte

Answers to Previous Crossword:

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

Library

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writers at this free gathering.

During construction the group will meet at the Pagosa Senior Center, 451 Hot Springs Blvd. Enter through the left side of the building.

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

Free in-person evening classes happen on Tuesdays and Thursdays, with 4 to 5 p.m. reserved for beginners, 5 to 6 p.m. for intermediate and 6 to 7 p.m. for advanced students at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd.. Please help us pass the word about these classes.

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.

Spanish-language novel

"Mi Nombre es Emilia del Valle" by Isabel Allende is a historical novel about a young writer who travels to South America to uncover the truth about her father.

Large print

"How to Menopause" by Tamsen Fadal provides actionable steps and tools as well as answers to questions from experts to help women deal with menopause.

Mysteries and thrillers

"The Death Mask" by Iris Johansen is an Eve Duncan thriller. "The Expat Affair" by Kimberly Belle takes place in Amsterdam's diamond industry. "The Missing Half" by Ashley Flowers tells of two women haunted by their sister's disappearance. "Nightshade" by Michael Connelly features a detective exiled to Catlina Island. "Proof" by Jon Cowan is a legal thriller. "Our Last Resort" by Clemence Michal-

■ See Library on next page

Live Your Colorado Dream!

NEW LISTING



3 bedroom, 2 3/4 bath, 2 car garage , 5 + Acres with a large barn & amazing views of the North and East ranges of the San Juan Mountains. The unfinished basement was finished in 2016 and the 2,376 Square foot barn was also built in 2016. The house has new stain, the garage has new paint and the roof was replaced in 2018. The floors are porcelain upstairs and natural stone downstairs. The deck is 3/4 wrap around and the views of the San Juan Mountain Range are stunning. Large kitchen with a separate dining area.
MLS #827474 \$850,000



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>



Price Reduced

109 Carol's Curves
\$294,000

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.

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



Under Contract

65 Caballero Drive
\$695,000

MLS # 823461

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

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



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.



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.



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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Library

■ continued from previous page

lon follows two people escaping a cult. “Where Secrets Lie” by Colleen Coble and Rick Acker is a legal thriller. “History Lessons” by Zoe B. Wallbrook features a professor turned detective. “The Lost Masterpiece” by B.A. Shapiro embeds readers in a circle of Impressionist painters. “Fox” by Joyce Carol Oates is a literary and psychological suspense story.

“The Cliffs” by J. Courtney Sullivan explores the secrets of a Victorian house in Maine. “We Live Here Now” by Sarah Pinborough is a modern Gothic tale set in England. “Hungerstone” by Kat Dunn begins with a carriage accident on the English moors during the Industrial Revolution. “Mob Queen” by Erin Bledsoe tells of a woman searching for the truth of a friend’s disappearance. “The Housemaid” by Freida McFadden and “Meet Me at the Crossroads” by Megan Giddings are psychological thrillers.

Other novels

“The Listeners” by Maggie Stiefvater is set in an elegant hotel and spa forced to house Nazi diplomats. “Where the Rivers Merge” by Mary Alice Monroe follows the life of a free-spirited woman over decades as she lives in a grand estate in South Carolina that has been in her family for generations. “Gabriele” by Anne and Claire Berest tells the story of one of France’s most remarkable women and an affair that triggered a revolution. “A Mother’s Love” by Danielle Steel is about a woman’s complicated life after her daughters leave home. “The Peculiar Gift of July” by Ashley Ream begins when an orphaned girl comes to a small town. “Six Wild Crowns” by Holly Race is a Tutot-inspired fantasy.

“The Teacher of Auschwitz” by Wendy Holden is inspired by a true story. “In the Family Way” by Laney Katz Becker tells of 1960s housewives dealing with pregnancies. “The Wren in the Holly Library” by K.A. Linde is a romantic fantasy. “Kindred” by Octavia E. Butler is a time travel story about a young Black woman. “Waiting for the Long Night Moon” by Amanda Peters explores the Indigenous experience over time. “A Family Matter” by Claire Lynch is a lesbian love story.

“Vera, of Faith” by Gary Shteyngart is a complex family story told by the 10-year-old daughter. “Wearing the Lion” by John Wiswell is a mythological fantasy about Hercules.

“The Black Birds of St. Giles” by Lila Cain is set in the Black community of Georgian England. “Every Precious and Fragile Thing” by Barbara Davis features a woman who retreats to her family home after a tragedy. “These Summer Storms” by Sarah MacLean is a story of a wealthy New England family after the father’s death. “The Uproar” by Karim Dimechkie explores the life of a mixed race couple. “Small Things Like These” by Claire Keegan features a family man in a small Irish town confronting church silence. “Old School Indian” by Aaron John Curtis tells of an ill Mohawk Indian returning to his family on the Rez.

Books on CD

“The View from Lake Como” by Adriana Trigiani features a woman who leaves her New Jersey life for Italy, where she hones her artistic skills and discovers family secrets.

Nonfiction

“Andy Warhol: A Retrospective” is the catalogue for the Museum of Modern Art exhibition. “Quilt-Lovers Favorites” is a Better Homes and Gardens guide. “Holy Bible” is a large print edition. “The Traumatized and At-Risk Youth Toolbox” by Jeanette Yoffe provides more than 160 interventions. “Buried City” by Gabriel Zuchtriegel is look at new archaeological finds in Pompei. “Yoga Anatomy” by Leslie Kaminoff and Amy Matthews is an illustrated guide. “Adorable Mini Animals to Crochet” by Marie Clesse features 23 patterns. “Guilty Creatures” by Mikita Bottman explores a murder among two close couples.

DVDs

“Thunderbolts: The New Avengers” is a Marvel movie. We have series one, two and three of the “Harry Wild” detective show. “All We Imagine as Light” follows three women working in a Mumbai hospital. “Venom” is a three-movie collection. “Have Gun Will Travel” is the complete series with

225 episodes.

Quotable quote

“Don’t go through life, grow through life.” — Eric Butterworth, minister and author of books with inspiring messages of personal renewal and positive prayer.

Website

For more information on library books, services and programs — and to reserve books, e-books, books on CD and DVDs from the comfort of your home — please visit our website at <https://pagosalibrary.org>.

HUD Publisher's Notice



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SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

Fun By The Numbers

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

Here’s How It Works:

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

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

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Artisan Auto

artisanautopdr.com

Just an ordinary cross

By Betty Slade
PREVIEW Columnist

On the way to the writers' group, my daughter pointed to the east side of the road. "Mother, look."

Perched on a hill on U.S. 84 stood a wooden cross. Two pieces of wood nailed together, standing like a sentinel, guarding the valley. I don't know who planted it, but it captured my heart, and I love it.

It's a quiet reminder that Jesus is watching over us. That he died and gave His life for us. That cross gives us courage and encouragement as we face trouble throughout the day.

What thoughtful soul took the time to remind me to embrace the promises of Jesus? Another Christian shining his light? I hope to meet him one day and thank him.

When I come off the Lower Blanco and drive north, the mountains around our little town embrace me and remind me that before the mountains were, God said, "I am." As I marvel at these beautiful, majestic mountains, no matter how they loom over me, the Psalmist David reminds me to look to the One who made it all.

"Before the mountains were brought forth, Or ever You had formed the earth and the world, Even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God" — Psalms 90:2 (NKJV).

Now, in the shadow of the Rocky Mountains where we live, is an ordinary cross, to call our attention to what is really important, that the cross stands between us and heaven, and is our salvation.

It was not Christmas, nor Easter. It was an ordinary day, on an ordinary road, going to an ordinary place, that I looked away to see that someone had thought of Jesus. It filled my heart with hope and good will. Hopefully, we do that for each other.

I read this week about another cross, a lesser-known one that stands near the Hollywood sign in Southern California. Did you know about this other cross? I didn't. This cross is not listed in the top 10 attractions of Hollywood. This cross stands in the shadow of the gigantic bold letters

Artist's Lane

Now, in the shadow of the Rocky Mountains where we live, is an ordinary cross, to call our attention to what is really important, that the cross stands between us and heaven, and is our salvation.

that spell "Hollywood."

The Hollywood sign boasts of itself, of palm trees and dazzling lights. Everyone is familiar with that signage. The steel cross stands 32 feet tall and is overlooked.

This ordinary cross is known as the Hollywood Pilgrimage Memorial Monument and is situated above the John Anson Ford Amphitheatre in the Hollywood Hills neighborhood of Los Angeles, Calif.

It was planted in 1920, over 100 years ago, on that hill in memory of Christine Wetherill Stevenson, a wealthy heiress who established the Pilgrimage Theatre. This theater was the venue for "The Pilgrimage Play," a drama about Christ.

I have heard and quoted this many times, "People stumble over a lot of grace to go to hell."

It is so true. We constantly see God's handiwork in nature and in His people, reminding us that God is

here. He came in the person of Jesus and is the one rooted in history. The knowledge of Him has been handed down to each generation for more than 2,000 years.

Paul reminds us, "But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world" Galatians 6:14 NKJV).

Final brushstroke: For that person who took the time and effort to plant a cross by U.S. 84, know that when I look that way on my journey to town, I'll say a prayer for you.

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

Views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN.

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PRICE IMPROVEMENT



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Property features:

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Marketing Improvement! Lovely home located in Lake Forest Estates, bordering greenbelt and short walk to the National Forest. This home features a kitchen with custom cherry cabinets, coffee bar. An open dining / living area with updated bathrooms, family room with pool table, large decks, including one covered deck fire ring below and overlooking the greenbelt. Located in Pagosa Lakes and only a couple miles north of City Market shopping area and restaurants.



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Photos courtesy St. Patrick's Episcopal Church

Tracy Wiebeck will be the featured artist at Sunday's rendition of Sunday Night Unplugged at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church.

Sunday Night Unplugged to feature artist Tracy Wiebeck this Sunday, Aug. 24

By Anthony Aldwell
St. Patrick's Episcopal Church

Summer can take on a hectic pace, and in the midst of all there is to do, St. Patrick's Episcopal Church opens our quiet space for all who seek renewal, rest or reflection as we celebrate the musical gifts of those in our community.

With this in mind, St. Patrick's is pleased to host the next rendition of Sunday Night Unplugged this coming Sunday, Aug. 24, at 5 p.m., which will feature guitarist and vocalist Tracy Wiebeck.

Wiebeck has been a working musician all of his adult life. His performances are a mix of Americana music and what he likes to call "vintage variety." A typical set may

include songs by artists as diverse as Bob Dylan, John Prine, Neil Young, Van Morrison, Keb Mo, the Eagles, Johnny Cash or Hank Williams. Wiebeck is also an accomplished songwriter and he interjects his performances with several of his own compositions.

His warm vocals and relaxed style will invite you to sit back and enjoy an evening of engaging music.

Members of our community, as well as visitors to Pagosa Springs, are very welcome to attend this hour-long event at St. Patrick's, just south of the hospital on South Pagosa Boulevard, during which we will share the gift of music, silent reflection, poetry and contemplative prayer.

Our outdoor labyrinth is also open to all before and after this event.

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HEALTHY SELF

READING WILL IMPROVE YOUR MEMORY

This thing that you are doing now...reading...it's better for you than you thought. As you have been working out your body, you've also been working out your mind with each day's reading. Read the excerpt below to see how you have been helping yourself.

Just like muscles, the brain benefits from a good workout. And reading is more neurobiologically demanding than processing images or speech. As you're absorbing, say, this article, "parts of the brain that have evolved for other functions—such as vision, language, and associative learning—connect in a specific neural circuit for reading, which is very challenging," says Ken Pugh, PhD, president and director of research of Haskins Laboratories, which is devoted to the science of language and affiliated with Yale.



"A sentence is shorthand for a lot of information that must be inferred by the brain." In general, your intelligence is called to action, as is greater concentration. "We are forced to construct, to produce narrative, to imagine," says Maryanne Wolf, director of the Center for Reading and Language Research at Tufts University and author of Proust and the Squid: The Story and Science of the Reading Brain.

"Typically, when you read, you have more time to think. Reading gives you a unique pause button for comprehension and insight. By and large, with oral language—when you watch a film or listen to a tape—you don't press pause." The benefits of all this mental activity include keeping your memory sharp, your learning capacity nimble, and your mind basically hardier as you age. No one's advising that you toss the DVD player—or books on tape, which, Pugh says, provide more work for your brain than seeing a movie—but print should take up part of your life too.

A literate mind is a more complex one. "There's a richness that reading gives you," Wolf says, "an opportunity to probe more than any other medium I know of. Reading is about not being content with the surface." Even when it is superficial (what's a plane ride without a little celebrity gossip?), indulging in a tabloid beats watching TV—just processing the words boosts the brain. "If you had your druthers," Pugh says, "you'd rather be reading."

Source: "Watch This. No. Read It!" By Lauren Duzbow.

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

"Your words were found and I ate them, And Your words became for me a joy and the delight of my heart; For I have been called by Your name, O LORD God of hosts." Jeremiah 15:16 ESV

A public service from your Adventist friends & neighbors at Pagosa Springs Seventh Day Adventist Church.

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for the issue of Sept. 4

Display Advertising: Noon, Friday, Aug. 29

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Classified Advertising: Tuesday, Sept. 2, 10 a.m.

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The Pagosa Springs SUN will be closed
Monday, Sept. 1, in observance of Labor Day

The Pagosa Springs SUN

PAGOSA SCENE . . .

DANCING WITH THE PAGOSA STARS

Photos courtesy Jeff Laydon

Scene ... raising funds for Seeds of Learning at the final Dancing with the Pagosa Stars. The event raised more than \$214,000 for the early childhood education center.



Bird of the Week



Photo courtesy Jeffrey Reichel

This week’s Bird of the Week, compliments of the Weminuche Audubon Society and Audubon Rockies, is the yellow warbler.

Several superlatives are attached to the description of this bird. In Colorado it is the most widespread warbler, it has the greatest geographical range of warblers, it is the yellowest of wood warblers in North America, and is one of the most commonly heard warblers in spring and summer.

Black, beady eyes and a stout bill are prominent features of this small, round-headed, bright yellow bird. Males are distinguished by chestnut-colored breast streaks which are not present in females. Both have green-yellow backs.

Despite being common and bright, it can be a difficult bird to spot. Rarely staying still for long, it actively forages along the slender branches of trees and shrubs. It plucks insects from foliage, makes short flights to nab an insect flying by or hovers among leaves to pick insects from the undersides. It may eat a few berries, but it is not a feeder bird.

In the dry western part of their range, they are most often associated with wet woods and found in streamside willow thickets. They are long-distance migrants that nest throughout Canada, Alaska and the northern two-thirds of the United States. They winter in Central and South America.

Many hear the recognizable song of the male yellow warbler as a version of “sweet, sweet, sweet, sweeter than sweet.” A singing male perches near the tops of bushes or trees to announce his territory. To attract a mate, a male may sing his short song more than 3,000 times in a day.

These birds also communicate in a variety of calls with short, chip notes. A particular one, the “seet” call, is specifically made as a brown-headed cowbird alert. Upon hearing it, a female rushes back to her nest to prevent the parasitic cowbird from depositing an egg. Red-winged blackbirds also recognize this warbler call as a nest danger alarm and respond to protect their own nest.

These warblers begin fall migration relatively early and many move south during August. Here their numbers start dropping in early September and most are gone by the end of the month, leaving us to wonder where summer has gone.

For information on events, visit www.weminucheaudubon.org and www.facebook.com/weminucheaudubon/.

Thank you for reading
The Pagosa Springs SUN

A cartoon illustration of a dog's head wearing a plaid hat and holding a newspaper. The text "STAY ON TOP OF IT ALL!" is written in large, bold, black letters. Below it, in smaller text, is "Subscribe Today!".

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ON TOP
OF IT
ALL!
Subscribe Today!

A circular logo with the text "HOITY TOITY" at the top, "FunkyTRUNK" in the center, and "CONSIGNMENT" at the bottom. To the right is a photo of three women shopping. Below the logo is a list of items and a social media link.

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A circular logo with a rainbow border. Inside, it says "LABOR DAY WEEKEND", "CHAMA VALLEY ART FESTIVAL", and "AND STUDIO TOUR". At the bottom, it says "CHAMA, NEW MEXICO".

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Discover the diverse artistry at the 18th Annual Art Fest in historic downtown Chama.



Photo courtesy Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership

The Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership will bring back its Breakfast with Balloons event as part of September’s ColorFest activities. Tickets are available at pagosagreen.org.

Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership to resume colorful Breakfast with Balloons event

By Pauline Benetti
Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership

In September of 2016, the Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership (GGP) held its first Breakfast with Balloons and thus began a yearly fall tradition until 2023. This year we resume our cherished tradition as once again balloons will rise from mid-downtown as part of ColorFest.

Again our nonprofit invites the community to join us along the San Juan River in Centennial Park for a delicious, locally sourced breakfast with bubbly mimosas and live music as we watch the event unfold with bright colorful balloons against the early morning sky.

And it will be early on Sept. 20; join us from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. at the amphitheater on the GGP site.

Tickets are available now online at pagosagreen.org. Until Sept. 10 they are \$50 each. After that date, they will be \$55. Act now, save some money and be assured of a ticket. Seating is limited and tickets will go fast.

Sponsorship of the event is also available, offering local businesses and individuals the opportunity

to provide an extra boost. Please consider joining as one of our event sponsors with a choice of levels, each with its own increasing benefits: Ground Crew Support at \$100; Lift-Off Partners Support at \$250; High Flyer Sponsor at \$500. Details regarding the different levels are on available at pagosagreen.org

The year 2016 marked another important event: the groundbreaking for our first dome, followed in the next two years by domes two and three. That’s seven to nine years of Colorado extreme weather, and the domes have done well, but now it is time for some extensive and costly maintenance estimated at \$20,000.

A crew is busy now replacing screws, fans, motors, insulation, panels that have suffered hail damage and the aircraft tape that seals the polycarbonate sections. Cones and yellow tape will signal work in progress.

The three domes and their embodiment of our mission — to educate the community in sustainable agricultural practices by producing food year-round using local renewable energy — located on the Riverwalk in Centennial Park are a huge

draw to our community and our natural resource. Tourists stop by, ask questions and take information back to their communities.

National media are also drawn to feature our project. Subscribers to the Washington Post could recently read the article of July 19 titled “Geothermal Greenhouse Growing tomatoes through cold winters.” The recent RMPBS news video “Turning heat into vegetables: the geothermal gardens of Pagosa Springs” is currently on our website. Take a look.

Breakfast with Balloons is a critical fundraiser for the GGP, and the income from ticket sales and sponsorship will support the maintenance work that is now under way. A small grant from the Ballantine Family Fund of Durango and the income from last year’s film festival will also help.

Now Breakfast with Balloons is an opportunity for the community to contribute to a thriving all-volunteer endeavor that speaks well of Pagosa Springs.

For more information, see pagosagreen.org, email info@pagosaspringsggp.org or call (719) 641-0255.

Adult Bible study to focus on James

By Brenda Hash
Special to The PREVIEW

Precept Ministry will be holding an adult Bible study on “James: A Faith That’s Real.”

Join us at Centerpoint Church, 2750

Cornerstone Drive, for this 10-week, in-depth study of the book of James.

The study will be Thursdays from Sept. 11 to Nov. 13 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. in the Centerpoint Church library.

There is a \$25 workbook fee (fi-

nancial aid available).

The leaders are Brenda and Richard Hash.

Contact us with any questions and to order your workbook by Aug. 29: brenda.hash@gmail.com or (970) 398-1251.

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ArchuletaCounty.org



Preview Calendar

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

Thursday, Aug. 21

Ruby's Writers Guild. 9-10:30 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. 2-4 p.m., 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.

Pagosa Community Initiative Summer Party. 3-6 p.m., Yamaguchi Park pavilion. Residents are invited to kick back and connect at a community gathering to celebrate the end of summer and the people of Pagosa Springs.

English as a Second Language. 4-7 p.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Your library offers English as a second language classes. These classes are free. Call (970) 264-2209 or email for more information. Beginning students are encouraged to attend from 4-5 p.m., intermediate students from 5-6 p.m. and advanced students from 6-7 p.m.

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

Pagosa Springs Art Studio Tour Artist Meet and Greet. 6-8 p.m., The Springs Resort, 323 Hot Springs Blvd. Meet the artists participating in the open studio tour and preview the artwork. Visit www.studiotour-pagosa.com 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 pagosa-center.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Friday, Aug. 22

Pagosa Springs Art Studio Tour. Local artists will open their studios to share their creative process during this self-guided tour. Visit www.studiotourpagosa.com for more information.

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.

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.

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

Lecture: 'The Chaco Culture — Its Influence, Outliers, and Decline.' 6 p.m., Community United Methodist Church fellowship hall. Tori Myers will present as part of the Chimney Rock Interpretive As-

sociation's lecture series on "The Chaco Phenomenon."

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).

Summer Constellation Tour. 8:45-9:30 p.m., Yamaguchi Park near the pickleball courts. Join the Pagosa Sidewalk Astronomers for stargazing and storytelling. There will be a guided tour of the summer constellations read from a storybook of constellation myths from around the world. This even is dependent on the weather.

Saturday, Aug. 23

Pagosa Springs Art Studio Tour. Local artists will open their studios
■ See Calendar on page 21

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Thank you!

To All Our Heroes,

On behalf of the Elk Park Meadows Community, we extend our **deepest** and most **heartfelt gratitude** to every individual and organization who stood with us during the recent fire that threatened our homes, lives, animals, and land.

To our **brave** Pagosa Springs firefighters, **Sheriff Le Roux** and his **dedicated** team, **Roy Vega** and the staff at our Emergency Operations Center, **Chief Bertram** and the Pagosa Fire Protection District, local dispatchers, police officers, state troopers and surrounding fire stations, tanker and helicopter crews, and every responder on the ground and in the air—your **courage, selflessness, and relentless dedication** saved our community. **You** put **Your** lives on the line without hesitation, and for that, we are **Forever grateful**.

To **Archuleta County Road and Bridge**, the **water tank** providers, our **Forest and Wildlife** teams, and all those who worked **behind the scenes** to support the firefighting effort—**thank you for ensuring** that roads remained open, resources kept flowing, and help arrived where it was needed most.

To the **Red Cross, Walmart, Pagosa Springs Humane Society and Extension Office, La Plata Electric, Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation, and all other support organizations** — thank you for your **care, compassion, and the critical services** you provided to those impacted. In a time of fear and uncertainty, your efforts brought **comfort, stability, and hope**.

To **Governor Jared Polis** and our **County Commissioners**, thank you for your **leadership** and **swift support** when our community needed it most.

To our neighbors in Pagosa Springs, your **generosity, kindness, and solidarity** have shown us the true **strength of community**. Your actions reminded us that **we are never alone**.

And above all, we thank **God** for His divine **protection** and **guidance**—for watching over our first responders, our families, animals, and our land.

Though the fire was fierce, it **did not take** what matters most. Our homes still stand, and so does our faith—in our **Creator**, each other, in those who serve, and in the power of community.

With heartfelt appreciation,
The Elk Park Meadows Board
and Community

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WORD  SEARCH

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R	S	K	S	J	Y	G	L	B	R	S	F	D	N	M	H	C	O	M	S

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

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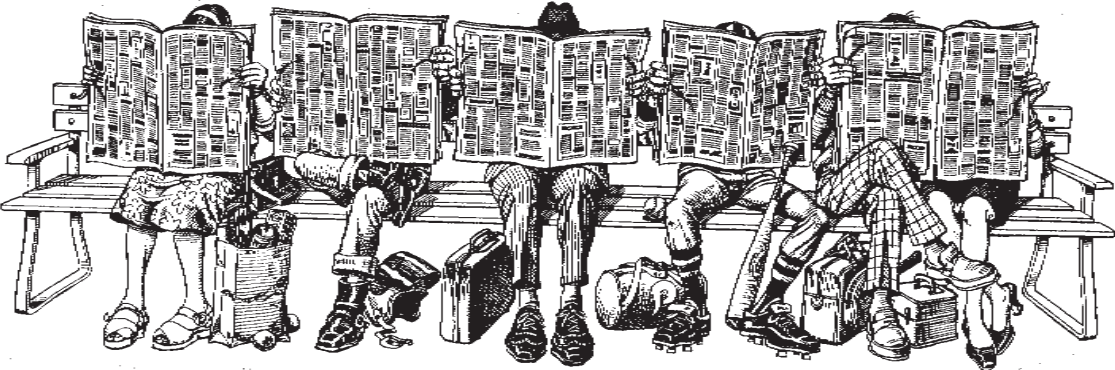
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Preview Calendar

■ continued from page 19

to share their creative process during this self-guided tour. Visit www.studiotourpagosa.com for more information.

Riverwalk Wetlands Tour. 8 a.m., Centennial Park. Participants should bring water, hats, sunscreen and bug spray. Meet at the native plants garden next to the geothermal domes. Leave dogs at home. Tours will not occur during inclement weather.

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour. 8-10:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour explores both the natural and cultural history of the area through geologic time and incorporates the anthropology and archaeology of the Puebloan people. Tickets are \$20 for ages 13 and up and \$10 for ages 5-12, with those under 5 free. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Wings in the Wild Fundraiser. 8 a.m.-1 p.m., PLPOA Clubhouse. Bring the family to enjoy end-of-summer treats and funds, including tethered hot air balloon rides, a basket auction and more.

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

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.

Knitters Circle. 1-3 p.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Join new or experienced knitters to get help with your project, or sit and knit. A Sisson Library program.

Flute Music at Twilight Program. 6 p.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This program begins with a guided, short walk through a mesa village followed by live Native American flute music accompanied by a deepening night sky to reveal celestial bodies. Tickets are \$20 for ages 13 and up and \$10 for ages 5-12, with those under 5 free. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Thingamajig Theatre Company Presents '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. 24

Pagosa Springs Art Studio Tour. Local artists will open their studios to share their creative process during this self-guided tour. Visit www.studiotourpagosa.com for more information.

ing this self-guided tour. Visit www.studiotourpagosa.com 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.

Thingamajig Theatre Company Presents 'The Wild Party.' 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).

Sunday Night Unplugged. 5 p.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Vintage Americana music coupled with reflective narratives. Open to all community members and visitors.

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. 25

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.

Audubon Rockies Four Mile Ranch Education Program Orientation. 9 a.m.-noon, Ross Aragon Community Center east conference room. Each year, approximately 20-25 volunteers lead groups of students through the forests and bottomlands at the ranch. Programs run from early September through mid-October.

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

Great House Tour. 10 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

■ See Calendar on next page



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August's Educational information is Top 5 Hidden Dangers after a House Fire

Please see our blog for a comprehensive guide
on why structural fires are worse than they seem



See Our Blog

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Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

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. Practice your Spanish conversation skills in a group setting. No minimum skill level required. A Sisson Library program.

DivorceCare/DivorceCare for Kids. 6-7:30 p.m., Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. A 13-week program that provides a safe environment for people who are experiencing the hardship of divorce or separation. It features experts on divorce and recovery topics. DivorceCare for Kids is for kids 5-12, with topics mirroring the adult sessions. For more information, email Jim Shook at jshookup@gmail.com or call the church at (970) 731-2205. You can register online at www.divorcecare.org.

Tuesday, Aug. 26

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 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.

WHIPS (Women Helping in Pagosa Springs). 11:30 a.m., Patria Brunch + Lunch, 920 San Juan St. The cost is \$20. All women are welcome. An RSVP to (970) 946-1895 is required.

Bridge. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.
English as a Second Language. 4-7 p.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Your library offers English as a second

language classes. These classes are free. Call (970) 264-2209 or email for more information. Beginning students are encouraged to attend from 4-5 p.m., intermediate students from 5-6 p.m. and advanced students from 6-7 p.m.

Pagosa Panhellenic Gathering. 4-5:30 p.m., Alley House Grille. Women affiliated with a collegiate sorority are invited to attend a gathering of sisters. For more information and reservations, call or text Sherry Spears at (940) 887-9208 or sherrykayspears@sbcglobal.net. A \$10 donation at the event is requested to assist in covering the cost of the appetizer and beverage service.

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour. 5-7:30 p.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour explores both the natural and cultural history of the area through geologic time and incorporates the anthropology and archaeology of the Puebloan people. Tickets are \$20 for ages 13 and up and \$10 for ages 5-12, with those under 5 free. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

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

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

Votes for Women: A Celebration of the 19th Amendment. 6 p.m., Liberty Theatre. Celebrate women making history at a benefit for Archuleta County Democrats. Enjoy a screening of "Suffragette" and a short documentary, door prizes and more. The film screening will begin at 7 p.m. Guests are encouraged to wear white to honor the original suffragettes. For information and tickets, visit <https://www.simpletix.com/e/suffragette-archuleta-county-democratic-mo-tickets-227448>.

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. 27

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.

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.

Thingamajig Theatre Company

■ See Calendar on next page



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Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page**
Presents 'Something Rotten!' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, 2313 Eagle Drive. For tickets and more information, visit pagosacenter.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Thursday, Aug. 28

Ruby's Writers Guild. 9-10:30 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. 2-4 p.m., 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.

English as a Second Language. 4-7 p.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Your library offers English as a second language classes. These classes are free. Call (970) 264-2209 or email for more information. Beginning students are encouraged to attend from 4-5 p.m., intermediate students from 5-6 p.m. and advanced students from 6-7 p.m.

Labor Day Kickoff Concert. 5-7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Golf Club. Soul-Fire will play classic rock, blues, soul and country. The \$10 ticket supports the Archuleta County Fund of the Community Foundation Serving Southwest Colorado. There will also be a silent auction, and food and drink for purchase. No outside food/drink or pets allowed. For more information, visit www.swcommunityfoundation.org/labor-day-kickoff-concert/.

PALS Adult Education. 5:30-8 p.m., Sisson Library. Pagosa Adult Learning Services, or PALS, can help you with high school equivalent

lency, 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 pagosa-center.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Friday, Aug. 29

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.

Lecture: 'The Chimney Rock Great House and Chaco Regional System.' 6 p.m., Community United Methodist Church fellowship hall. Dr. Susan Ryan will present as part of the Chimney Rock Interpretive Association's lecture series on "The Chaco Phenomenon."

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).

Saturday, Aug. 30

Riverwalk Wetlands Tour. 8 a.m., Centennial Park. Participants should bring water, hats, sunscreen and bug spray. Meet at the native plants garden next to the geothermal domes. Leave dogs at

home. Tours will not occur during inclement weather.

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour. 8-10:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour explores both the natural and

■ **See Calendar on next page**

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Be prepared for wildfires and other emergencies

By Joan Ward
PREVIEW Columnist

How can you show appreciation to our first responders, such as the example of the Oak Fire last week in Aspen Springs, when all of the emergency preparedness agencies quickly moved into action? Evacuations and pre-evacuations were ordered. Were you ready?

Seniors can show their gratitude by being prepared for wildfires and other emergencies. There can be some special preparations for those of us in this age group that need to be considered.

There have been classes in Archuleta County with the sheriff's department and the Office of Emergency Management about being prepared.

"Ready, Set, Go, Disaster Preparedness Guide for Older Adults" from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, available at <https://csfs.colostate.edu/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/Ready-Set-Go-Wildland-Fire-Action-Plan>), gives three steps:

- Step one: "This section guides you through a self-assessment process to identify your specific needs so that you can create a personalized

Senior News

emergency plan."

- Step two: "Make a plan and build a kit."

- Step three: "Engage Your Support Network."

In step one, questions include: "Do I have any medical conditions or dietary requirements that require specific care or medication? What mobility challenges or disabilities do I need to plan for? How will I ensure the safety and well-being of my pet or service animal? Have I established communication strategies with neighbors and local emergency services? Will I need help to transport my emergency supplies?"

Step two: "Create a support network of family, friends, caregivers, and others who can assist you during an emergency. Make an emergency plan and practice it with them. Make sure at least one person in your support network has an extra key to your home, knows where you keep your

emergency supplies, and knows how to use lifesaving equipment or administer medicine."

Your emergency kit must include your medications, identification papers, Social Security and Medicare cards, and other documents.

Step three: Engage your support network and review what to do in an emergency. Be prepared.

For emergency notifications from Archuleta County, use Nixle, a community alert system. You can sign up at <https://local.nixle.com/register/>.

Watch Duty is a cellphone app that you can download that gives alerts and information on wildfires.

Being ready in an emergency is the best way to help our first responders.

Stretching and mobility weekly class

Community members are invited to attend free weekly classes every Tuesday from 10 to 11 a.m. at the 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

■ See Senior on next page

Preview Calendar

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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. Make a stained "glass" windows using nature and craft supplies.

GriefShare. 10-11:30 a.m., Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. A 13-week program to assist with the healing process, regardless of how long it is since your loved one passed. For more information, call Marie Rascoe at (970) 946-9379 or Centerpoint Church at (970) 731-2205. You can also register and learn more at www.griefshare.org.

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.

LEGO Play. 11 a.m.-noon, Sisson Library. For kids 6-11 years old.

Bring your own or use the library's LEGOs to free build. Contact the library at (970) 264-2209 for further information.

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

Tour of the Night Sky Program. 8:15-10:15 p.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This program focuses on the Ancient Puebloans who once lived here and studied the night skies along with interactive talks about the life cycle of a star, categories of galaxies, telescopes and other topics.

Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$10 for kids 5-12, and free for those under 5. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Sunday, Aug. 31

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.

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Senior

■ **continued from previous page**
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). 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, with the final round reached sometime between two and 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 10:30 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 cul-

tural 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 aged 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. 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.

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.

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. Please say whether it is dine-in or Grab ‘N’ Go.

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

PAGOSA AA: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 5:30p.m. Mens' meeting Tuesday 5:30p.m. Saturday and Sunday 10a.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 12 noon. 315 N. 2nd St., County Road 200 (.2 miles off 160). Women's Friday 12 noon at Yamaguchi Park. Zoom Sunday 10a.m. Zoom Thursday noon women only; Zoom ID 858319763, password 754234. Call Kathi (970)946-1482 or Central Office (888)333-9649.

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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ANIMAL SHELTER MANAGER. 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. **Overview** This is not your average desk job — it's a dynamic, hands-on leadership opportunity to manage a dedicated team, ensure the highest standard of care for our animals, and innovate strategies that increase adoptions, reduce length of stay, and grow our foster program. If you're ready to lead with purpose, we want to hear from you. **Please see our website for position details** <https://pagosahumane.org/join-our-team/> Ready to Make a Difference? Submit your resume and a short cover letter telling us why you're the right fit for HSPS. Help us continue to raise the bar in animal welfare — and be part of something extraordinary. Job Type: Full-time. Pay: \$55,000.00 - \$65,000.00 per year DOE.

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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.

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Excellent communication skills on the phone and through all communication channels.

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\$17-\$20/hour depending on experience level.

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NEWSPAPER REPORTER — We are searching for a talented reporter to fill a full-time position in Pagosa Springs, Colorado, at The Pagosa Springs SUN. Our journalists are driven to find stories that matter to our community and are dedicated to fairness, accuracy, and ethics. The successful candidate for this position is someone who knows how to cover hard news but also loves to write about people and their passions. They know that a good interview is often a good conversation and know when to ask the tough questions, but also when to listen. The ideal candidate has exceptional writing skills and is willing to put in the extra effort and research to deliver an engaging story. Preferred qualifications for this position include: Degree or diploma in journalism, or a related field; At least 1-3 years of experience as a reporter with experience covering hard news and feature stories or experience at a college newspaper; The ability to meet tight deadlines and report the news as it happens; Superior language, writing and editing skills; Strong photography skills; Able to work a variety of schedules, including evenings, nights and weekends; Excellent critical thinking and problem-solving skills; Ability to work in a fast-paced environment; A valid driver's license and a reliable vehicle; Willingness to live in or near Pagosa Springs, Colorado. If this sounds like the perfect position for you, we would love to hear from you! To apply, please send your resume, letter of interest and relevant samples of your work to Chad Richardson, Vice President of News, crichardson@orourkemediagroup.com. Company Benefits: We offer competitive compensation plans and employees are eligible for medical, dental, vision, life insurance benefits, paid time off and our 401 (k) savings plan. This is an excellent opportunity for career development and growth within the company O'Rourke Media Group is a fast-growing company that owns and operates hyper-local, community newspapers, websites, niche publications and a full-service digital agency. We are family-owned and mission-driven to save newspapers and local media companies by investing in the people, resources and technology needed to thrive for many years to come. We believe that every community can benefit from a well-run, properly resourced, local newspaper and website. Our News teams produce hyper-local, high interest local news and accurate and trustworthy reporting. Our Sales and Digital Fulfillment teams bring omnichannel advertising solutions to local businesses in the communities we serve. O'Rourke Media Group now operates in nine states and 38 markets with 51 publications and hyper-local websites. We started from ground zero in December 2018, totally bootstrapped, confident and with an entrepreneurial mindset.

NORTH PAGOSA MARATHON is hiring a full-time cashier nights and weekends. Competitive wages. Please apply in person at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

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.

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL is hiring a morning and afternoon aid for our Preschool class. Please contact Molly Sprowle at (970)398-0064.

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN SCHOOL is hiring an Upper Grades Part-time Teacher/Aid, and Substitute teachers. Please contact our Headmaster, Mr. Aaron Longmire, for position details at (920)585-6494.

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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.

SEEKING CONSTRUCTION MANAGER for our new Pagosa home. Lot is in Town, utilities in. Send qualifications: ikenlaz@gmail.com.

SOCIAL MEDIA SPECIALIST — Video-Forward Storyteller Wanted. The Springs Resort is searching for a creative Social Media Specialist to capture and share the magic of our hot springs and resort culture. This is an on-site, video-forward role: you'll concept, shoot, and edit, post, and promote social content that stops thumbs mid-scroll while engaging with our online community. If you have 2+ years of hands-on experience creating high-performing social content, know your way around Meta and TikTok, and thrive in fast-moving environments, we want to see your work. Send your resume plus portfolio to marketing@pagosahotspings.com.

THRIFT STORE ASSOCIATE. 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. Pagosa Springs Thrift Store. This role is crucial in ensuring a positive experience for donors and customers, which in turn supports our mission of helping animals in need. **Highlights of Position: Please see our website for position details** <https://pagosahumane.org/join-our-team/>. Join us in making a difference in the lives of animals and their people by leveraging your customer service and organizational skills. Apply today to become part of our dedicated team! Job Type: Full-time. Pay: \$16.00 - \$16.50 DOE per hour. Expected hours: 32 –40 per week.

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.

WEST END LODGE front desk person. Looking for a friendly, service-oriented person. This position entails taking reservations, checking in guests, and light cleaning of the lobby area. Full time position. Must be able to work weekends and holidays. Please come fill out an application.

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.

DRY FIREWOOD- PINE. Pick up \$255 a cord. Delivery available. Call for prices. Bayfield. Gabe (970)403-2784.

Email us at
classads@pagosasun.com
to submit your classified.
PagosaSUN.com

**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!

(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.

FOR SALE

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.

GAS -POWERED HUSQVARNA BRUSH SAW and Stihl pole pruner. Both in good condition. \$100 each OBO. Good for restoration /fire mitigation work. Text (970)903-9897.

MOUNTAIN MEADOW GRASS HAY. \$8 in the field, \$10 in the stack. Call (970)946-1581.

NEED FIREWOOD? Get a HUGE dump truck load split and delivered for \$600. 1 cord loads \$300. Pine/Fir mix. Contact Dan with FIRE&ICE at (970)582-0006.

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).

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.

RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

2014 KTM 690 ENDURO. 2,934 miles, \$5,500, great condition. 1995 Arctic Cat 580 EXT, 429 miles, \$500. (817)896-3284.

AUTOS

2010 SUBARU FORESTER XT. New dealer engine, new turbo, struts, tires, radiator, battery, etc, \$8750. (970)946-1700.

2013 TOYOTA RAV4 XLE. Runs and drives perfectly, 180,000 miles. \$9,500. Text (970)946-6446.

GUARANTEED CREDIT APPROVAL! 4X4 Auto Sales, 21698 Hwy. 160 West, Durango. (970)385-7940.

JEEP SAFARI '03, 6 cylinder, 4WD, automatic, 134K miles, mint condition, \$8,500 OBO, (281)389-2167.

YARD SALES

BARNDOMINIUM ENTERTAINMENT ES-TATE SALE. August 23 and 24, 8a.m. -3p.m. 25 JJ Junction. Ranch art, bar ware, bar stools, bunk bed, vintage desk, custom chairs, antique oak dining set and miscellaneous household furniture. Klipsch speakers, horse stall panels and more.

ESTATE SALE. Saturday, Aug. 23, 9a.m. -2p.m. Inside 21 Pike Dr. Furniture, new reclining leather sofas, new items, home decor, vintage guitars.

YARD SALES

MOVING SALE Saturday, Sunday, August 23, 24. 8a.m. to 2p.m. 65 Caballero Dr. Pagosa Springs. Reclining couch and loveseat. 2 queen bedroom sets. Wall art, wine rack, flower pots, miscellaneous cement tools. Hunting, camping items. 2 sets snowshoes.

MOVING SALE. Entire house contents. Sunday, August 24 and Saturday, August 30, 8:30a.m. -3:30p.m. 81 Laguna Place (off Saturn). Text: (505)501-1771.

YARD SALE. 611 S. 5th St., Friday, Aug. 22 and Sat., Aug. 23, 7:30a.m. -2p.m.

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.

FLEX -INDUSTRIAL WAREHOUSE Space Available. Flexible commercial /industrial 1,000 sf space on the western side of Pagosa Springs available September 15. Comes with overhead garage door, side door, and bathroom. It will be delivered as a shell space ready to be customized. Tenants in compound include building trades, UPS, light manufacturing, and artists. Rent is \$850/mo. Please contact Jessica at raswheeler@gmail.com.

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.

THREE UNITS IN UPTOWN 419, 364, and 1477 sq. ft. Available now. \$900 -\$2400. Utilities included. Call Gina (970)880-0910 for more info.

COMMERCIAL FOR RENT

WINTER STORAGE AVAILABLE in large 3200 space. Vehicles and household goods. You pick the size \$1.20 a sq. ft. (720)470-2653.

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.

3 BEDROOM, 2 FULL BATH condo, very nice, great uptown location, one or three month lease. \$2,400 per month plus deposits, utilities included. Available immediately. Call Gary, (970)585-4415.

BASEMENT STUDIO APARTMENT. Downtown, river view, furnished. \$1000 rent, \$1000 deposit. Utilities included. No smokers. No pets. (970)264-6797.

BEAUTIFUL 3 BEDROOM /2 bath home for rent on acreage with amazing mountain views, sunsets and direct National Forest access and only 5 miles down Hwy. 84 from Pagosa. Two story home with lots of room for the family and space to work remotely. Hike or bike right from the front porch. Available September 1. \$3,000 per month and includes utilities except propane. Don't miss this opportunity to rent an amazing Pagosa property which includes an unoccupied chicken coop and greenhouse. Call or text (970)398-0573 for more details.

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

DOWNTOWN OLDER 3 BEDROOM 3 bath home. One small dog allowed. Available for viewing with appointment. Call (970)731-8599 or visit teampagosa.com to view home. Available around September 10.

DOWNTOWN UNITS FOR RENT. New 3 bedroom, 2 bath unit. Granite countertops, all appliances and utilities included. Porch and patio. \$2000/ month. (318)347-6100.

FOR RENT. 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.

LARGE 3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH doublewide MOBILE HOME, 800 Prospect Blvd. Covered deck and double carport. \$1,850/month. No pets. Call/text (970)585-6494.

LONG TERM RENTALS AVAILABLE. Call Team Pagosa (970)731-8599, 117 Navajo Trail Dr., pagosaspringsrealty.com.

MONTH TO MONTH studio apartment.1 bath, Unfurnished but with a Murphy bed . Washer dryer. Unit is for sale and must be available for showings. Utilities included. Call (970)731-8599 or visit the website teampagosa.com. Available now.

PANORAMIC VIEWS. OFF-GRID, one bedroom cabin in Cabezon Canyon near Chimney Rock National Monument. AWD required in winter, full bath. \$895 per month plus utilities. (970)883-2600.

QUIET, RESPONSIBLE FEMALE plus small dog looking for long -term housing alone. (970)902-3145.

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.

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>> Place Your Classified Ad

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Regular categories deadline: Tues., 10 a.m.

Holidays will have alternate deadlines.

(970) 264-2100

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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

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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."

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Property Owners Served
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Real Estate Exp
FULL LT TENANT SCREENING
NATIONWIDE ADVERTISING
ON CALL 24 HR 7 DAYS



RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

STUDIO /CABIN ON HERMOSA STREET in old downtown. \$750 per month includes some utilities. See by appointment. (970)946-4755.

TWO BEDROOM OLDER HOME on popular Hermosa Street in downtown. \$1,300 per month. Includes some utilities. See by appointment. (970)946-4755.

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.

2 BEDROOM, 2 BATHROOM, new construction, workforce housing homes starting at \$339,000. Down payment assistance and financing available. Call (970)585-4984.

HOMES FOR SALE

REAL ESTATE SERVICES

*Whether
Buying or Selling*



Call Marcie Lewis
(970) 759-8672



MarcieLewis.com

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. \$299,000. 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.

HOMES FOR SALE

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.

OPEN HOUSES

OPEN HOUSE this Saturday, August 23, 10a.m.-1p.m. 1015 E. Stollsteimer Rd. 2bd /1ba /600 sq ft cabin with well on one acre — new price. Listed by Sherpa Real Estate. 1015EStollsteimer.com. Refreshments provided.

RANCHES

64 ACRES, 46 SHARES OF IRRIGATION. 3 bedroom, 2 bath home. 2 garages and shed, 3-3 phase electric outlets. Brand new Generac Generator, Pastures with beautiful views, too many extras to name them all. \$928,000. AP-10. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

LAND/ BUILDING SITES

1.1 ACRE WITH RV GENERATOR and system tank, circular drive in, tall cool pines. NO HOA! \$75k. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

LAND/ BUILDING SITES

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.

LAND/ BUILDING SITES

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.

Email us at
classads@pagosasun.com
to submit your classified.
PagosaSUN.com



EQUAL HOUSING
OPPORTUNITY

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.

Senior

■ continued from page 25

Meals include a main course, side dish, fruit/dessert, garden salad plus beverage.

Community Cafe menu

Call before 9 a.m. Please note that occasionally the menu must be changed at short notice.

Thursday, Aug. 21 — Cajun shrimp and grits, zucchini saute, garden salad, fruit, vanilla yogurt, mango-coconut bread pudding, and milk.

Friday, Aug. 22 — Pork tortilla soup with crispy tortillas, roasted cauliflower, garden salad, fruit, flan and milk.

Monday, Aug. 25 — Caribbean chicken tacos, tortilla, black beans, rice, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Tuesday, Aug. 26 — Butternut squash ravioli with sage butter, wilted spinach, garlic bread, garden salad, fruit, strawberry angel cake and milk.

Wednesday, Aug. 27 — Thai chicken with peanut sauce, brown rice, sauteed snap peas, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Thursday, Aug. 28 — New Orleans sausage and corn chowder, southern biscuit, beets, garden salad, fruit, Mississippi mud pie, and milk.

Friday, Aug. 29 — Cod Florentine, sweet potato, dinner roll, garden salad, fruit, cottage cheese 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 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 Mountain Express Transit (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.

Informative.
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- Cellulose
- INSULATION REMOVAL

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OWNER STAN MADDUX . (970) 749-5711
LICENSED & INSURED

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.