



PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147

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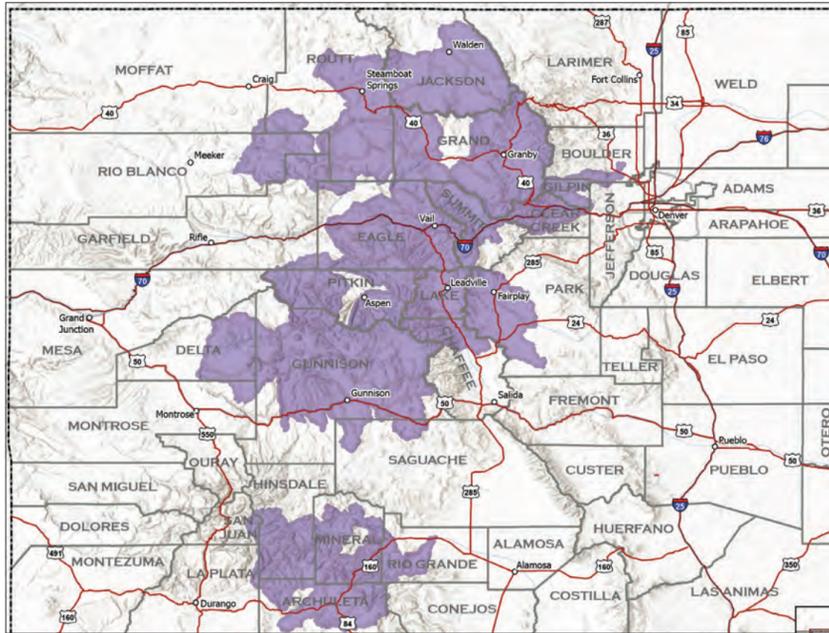
School district committee, board hear initial site analysis for potential new school building

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

The Archuleta School District (ASD) Master Planning Advisory Committee (MPAC) met for the first time on Monday, Aug. 25, after a four-month break. All members of the Board of Education (BOE) were present, as well.

The group heard polling results from a community poll that was conducted from June 18-28, which surveyed 300 ASD voters gauging the community's knowledge and perception of the district and its facility needs, along with testing potential ballot language for voters to decide on a future bond issue.

The group also was given initial site analysis information provided by RTA Architects that included potential design layouts, assessed access points, and weighed pros and cons of building a pre-kindergarten through eighth-grade (PK-8) building on either ASD's property located uptown along Vista Boulevard or downtown on the high school campus
■ See School A8



An Aug. 27 map highlights watersheds across Colorado where collared wolf activity was tracked between July 22 and Aug. 26. A lone female wolf made its way through a portion of Archuleta County during that time, according to officials. A watershed being highlighted does not mean that a wolf or wolves were present throughout the entire watershed.

Map courtesy Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Collared wolf activity again recorded in Archuleta County

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

A lone female wolf made her way into Archuleta County between July 22 and Aug. 26, according to Colorado Parks and Wildlife's (CPW's) most recent wolf activity map released on Aug. 27.

The map shows watersheds where collared wolf activity is tracked, with the map noting, "Simply because a watershed indicates wolf activity, it does not mean that a wolf or wolves are present throughout the entire watershed."

According to John Livingston, CPW Southwest Region public information officer, the wolf is a different lone female than the one previously tracked as entering northern Archuleta County as part of a large loop

shortly before Mother's Day. That lone female was the first confirmed collared wolf activity in Archuleta County.

"The activity seen on this month's map is from a different lone female, also one of the wolves released in January from British Columbia," Livingston explains in an email to The SUN. "She has spent a great deal of time this summer near the Upper Rio Grande watershed after coming down from the Saguache area as she trickled down from areas to the north. She spent some time near the headwaters of the Rio Grande and just west of there."

"After spending several weeks in that general area, she eventually worked her way toward the Upper and Middle Piedra watersheds, which is
■ See Wolf A8



Photos courtesy Pagosa Springs Middle School

With September came the start of a new school year for many of Pagosa Country's youth. Tuesday was the start of the new school year for the bulk of Archuleta School District students, with students and teachers alike digging into new routines, meeting new people and getting ready for a school year of learning, growth and fun.

Town council considers new special events permitting process, sparking questions about rights

By Derek Kutzer
Staff Writer

On Sept. 2, the Pagosa Springs Town Council considered an ordinance that would establish standards for the issuance and enforcement of special events permits.

The proposed ordinance attracted a crowd, with audience members critical of the current federal administration expressing that they were concerned that the ordinance would stifle First Amendment rights to assembly and free speech.

Members of the council also expressed concerns, citing vague language in the ordinance and how it defines a special event, also worrying that it may end up violating the constitutional rights to assembly and speech.

Ultimately, the council did not make a decision on the matter, deciding to go back to the drawing board to rewrite the ordinance so that it addresses these concerns.

Assistant Chief of Police Brooks Brown was on hand to present the ordinance to the council, explaining, "Currently, we do not have a standardized event permitting process."

Brown suggested that a permitting "process should be required" and that it would benefit the town "for a variety of regulatory, liability, legal and safety reasons."

He added, "It would establish a single point of contact for applicants to provide the guidelines and application process, and ensure that all the requirements are met and proper staffing is available within the town
■ See Permitting A7

Taylor, Mackey, Iverson deemed elected to school board

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The roster for the Archuleta School District Board of Education will stay the same, with no other people coming forward to run for the board in November's election.

The board held a special meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 2, to cancel the school board election and deem David Iverson, Butch Mackey and Tim Taylor elected by acclamation.

According to the resolution on the matter, no more than three individuals had nomination petitions with sufficient signatures to qualify as candidates, and the deadline for filing an affidavit of intent to be a write-in candidate has passed.

Taylor will serve a four-year term representing District 1. Mackey will serve a four-year term representing District 5. Iverson will serve a two-year term representing District 4.
randi@pagosasun.com

Water conservancy solicits bids for reservoir project engineering, design work

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

At an Aug. 29 special meeting, the San Juan Water Conservancy District (SJWCD) Board of Directors approved the distribution of a request for proposals (RFP) for engineering and other work on the district's reservoir project located on the Running Iron Ranch.

The RFP had previously been a subject of discussion at several SJWCD board meetings, and a subcommittee of the board composed of board members Charles Riehm and Randy Cooper worked on drafting the RFP as well as on consulting with a variety of engineering firms who might be interested in working with the SJWCD on the project about the proper format and approach to

the RFP. This engineering builds upon previous engineering work and feasibility analyses by Ehat Consulting and Yeh and Associates over the previous two years.

At the Aug. 29 meeting, Riehm explained that the form of the RFP before the board incorporated previous board feedback, feedback from discussions with the engineering

firms the subcommittee consulted and the issues discussed within the subcommittee.

He stated that the firms the RFP would be sent out to are already aware of the project and have previously received and reviewed information about it, including previous technical and engineering work commissioned by the SJWCD.
■ See Bids A7

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Opinion

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OUR VIEW

Kindness is free

"Carry out a random act of kindness, with no expectation of reward, safe in the knowledge that one day someone might do the same for you." — Princess Diana.

As our students and teachers go back to school, and as we continue to see increased attendance at local public meetings, politics remain divisive and so much more around us feels difficult, it seems like a good time to remind ourselves that kindness is free, but offers great rewards.

It can also be contagious and make the world a much more pleasant and healthy place, with better chances of accomplishing meaningful things.

According to an article by Steve Siegle, licensed professional counselor, on the Mayo Clinic Health System website, kindness is more than an action.

"Kindness is more than behavior," it states. "The art of kindness involves harboring a spirit of helpfulness, being generous and considerate, and doing so without expecting anything in return."

It adds, "Rather than viewing it exclusively as an action, think of kindness as a quality of being you can cultivate. Giving

kindness often is simple, free and health-enhancing."

"That sounds pretty good to us.

The article also touts that kindness is good for your body, helping to increase self-esteem, empathy and compassion, as well as improving mood. It can also decrease blood pressure and cortisol, which it explains is a hormone directly correlated with stress levels.

"People who give of themselves in a balanced way also tend to be healthier and live longer," it states.

It also notes that kindness can "increase your sense of connectivity with others, decrease loneliness, combat low mood and improve relationships. It also can be contagious, encouraging others to join in with their own generous deeds."

Kindness is also, unsurprisingly, good for your mind, and can help "positively change your brain by boosting levels of serotonin and dopamine. These neurotransmitters produce feelings of satisfaction and well-being, and cause the pleasure and reward centers in your brain to light up. Endorphins, your body's natural pain-

killer, also may be released when you show kindness."

Siegle also points out that kindness is more than how you treat other people.

He writes that "it's also about how you extend those same behaviors and intentions to yourself. I believe you can be kinder in your own self-talk and practice gratitude."

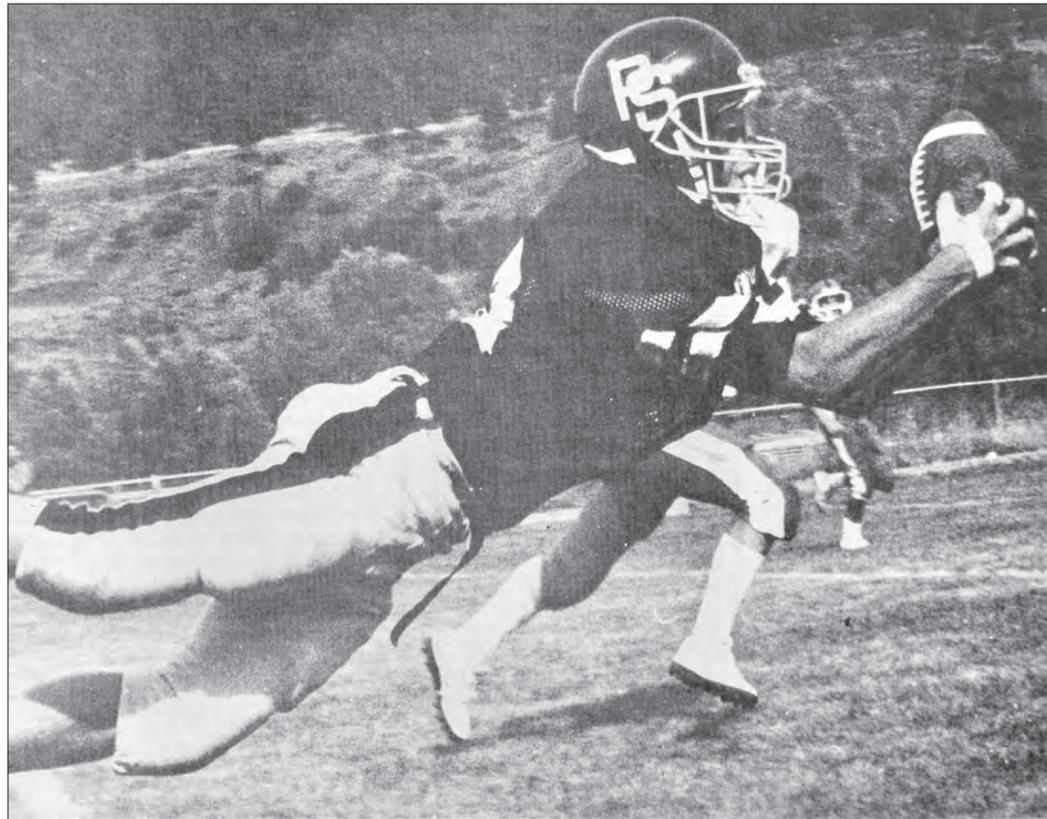
"People are good at verbally beating themselves up which does not work as a pep talk," the article states. "Rather, negativity often causes you to unravel and may even create a vicious cycle of regularly getting down on yourself. You wouldn't talk to your neighbor the way you sometimes speak to yourself. This is what I call the good neighbor policy, which can be helpful. If you wouldn't say it to your good neighbor, don't say it about yourself."

Few things in life are free, but taking advantage of kindness seems like a no-brainer.

"Finally," Siegle writes, "I'd like to leave you with this quote by the Dalai Lama: 'Be kind whenever possible. It is always possible.'"

Randi Pierce

LOOKING BACK



From the Sept. 17, 1987, Pagosa SUN — NAILED IT — Pagosa Pirate Dan Mitchell now knows why it is a good habit to not bite his fingernails. Thanks to a running dive and some tough fingernails, the young Pirate was able to hold onto this 23-yard pass last Saturday against Centauri.

| | | |
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LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

100 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
September 2, 1925

A deal is being completed today whereby Harry R. Sharp assumes part ownership in the San Juan Garage with H.D. Ford. The present quarters, adjoining the Sun office, will be closed as a garage, and instead they have rented the former Sparks Hdw. Co. store building, which will be opened as a garage in the near future. The new concern will be known as the Pagosa Springs Motor Co.

Alva Swain says the newspapers are one of the resources of the state. If so, they are also one of the resources of the nation, but there are very few of the citizens that realize that fact. This country could do without many seemingly necessary things rather than without the newspapers. — Hotchkiss Times.

Our informant vouches for the truth of the statement that one day last week the unusual sight of a she bear with four cubs was seen in O'Neal park — which to our knowledge breaks the birth record in the bruin family.

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
September 1, 1950

Rumor has it that the local telephone company has been made an offer of purchase by an outside company. The local company has been having financial difficulties for several years. Many people feel we would have better telephone service if we were part of a larger outfit.

Rct. Joe E. Cordova and Rct. Lonnie Lantz ages 18 and 19 have arrived at Fort Ord, Calif., and will immediately begin their basic training with the Famous Fighting Fourth Infantry Division. At the completion of 14 weeks basic training, they will be permanently assigned or selected for a specialist school. They both attended Pagosa Springs High and Joe is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Marion Cordova and Lonnie's parents are Mrs. and Mrs. Bud Noble.

Messers. White, Jenkins and Ellis are continuing their work on the recently discovered uranium claim and are making fair progress. The gentlemen state that the ore looks better every day and hold high hopes for the future of the uranium industry in the county. They plan extensive tests before further development work is finished.

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
September 4, 1975

Town Board members Tuesday night considered a variety of topics, ranging from street paving, to water extensions, to fencing the dump grounds. Also discussed was the position of street superintendent for the town.

Residents of the south section of town presented a petition to the board asking that water lines be extended to serve the area along the west side of the San Juan River. The matter was referred to the water commissioner for an estimate of costs and possible recommendations.

The use of the El Centro building was discussed at length. It has been requested by two groups, the Senior Citizens, and the Head Start program. At the present time the Head Start program is funded but does not have personnel to start. Registration of 40 pre-schoolers has been made, but no teacher has been hired.

The board suggested that dual use of the building might be possible and this is being investigated before any final decision is made.

25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
August 31, 2000

A costly geothermal water dispute that lasted 11 years was resolved this summer with the issuance of a document by the Colorado District Court, Water Division No. 7.

A "Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Decree" issued by the court June 14 ended a dispute concerning a 1989 application by the town of Pagosa Springs seeking diversion from town-owned geothermal water rights to wells used for the town geothermal heating system and the use of the water over and above the levels planned for the system.

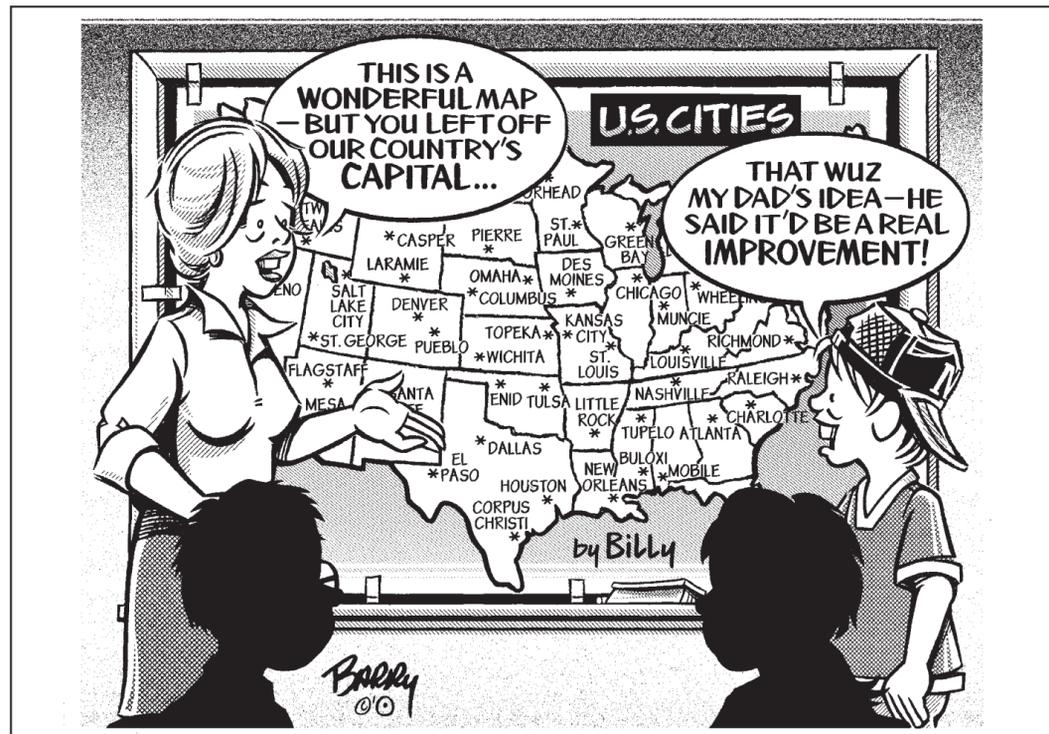
The town application asked that the point of diversion for water rights granted to the Pagosa Hot Water Well (once used to heat a building at the intersection of San Juan and Pagosa streets and currently used for the small geothermal fountain in the downtown parking lot on Pagosa Street) to "PS3" and "PS5", both located behind the Archuleta County Courthouse, supplying water to the town geothermal heating system.

Attendant to the request of changes in points of diversion was the idea that the town then be allowed to use more than the 450 gpm of geothermal water dedicated to the town geothermal system when it was formalized.



Weather data

| Date | High | Low | Precipitation | Moisture | Type | Depth |
|------|------|-----|---------------|----------|------|-------|
| 8/26 | 78 | 54 | 0.27 | NA | NA | NA |
| 8/27 | 73 | 53 | 0.28 | NA | NA | NA |
| 8/28 | 78 | 45 | 0.00 | NA | NA | NA |
| 8/29 | 69 | 50 | T | NA | NA | NA |
| 8/30 | 76 | 43 | 0.04 | NA | NA | NA |
| 8/31 | 80 | 47 | 0.00 | NA | NA | NA |
| 9/1 | 80 | 51 | 0.00 | NA | NA | NA |



Letters

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

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

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

Cultivated meat

Dear Editor: Most people aren't aware animal agriculture is one of the leading causes of climate change. In order to reduce our greenhouse-gas emissions, politicians at the state and federal level should support public funding for cultivated-meat research. For those who don't know, the revolutionary protein is grown from livestock cells, without raising and slaughtering animals.

Cultivated meat is currently too expensive to mass produce. This technological hurdle can be overcome with significant government investment in cellular-agriculture development. Politicians sincerely concerned about the environment must back the effort. Let's build cultivated-meat research facilities at agricultural colleges and universities across the country.

Jon Hochschartner
Granby, Conn.

Callous votes

Dear Editor: With Labor Day, an impossibly long, over-heated, and hate-filled summer unofficially comes to an end. Did American workers enjoy a well-earned, carefree holiday? Unlikely.

Laura Beck is an award-winning journalist recognized for her exceptional work in finance domains. Recently, she asked an ChatGPT to analyze the impact of the GOP's "Beautiful Bill" with its \$3.3 trillion debt load. AI is touted as factual, unemotional, accurate. Right?

Here's her conclusion: One of ChatGPT's most striking observations involved the human cost of the financial choices. "The CBO estimates that 11.8 million more Americans would lose health insurance ... largely due to spending cuts and repeal of certain ACA (Affordable Care Act) provisions."

Ms. Beck explained: "The AI wrote that this creates what it called a "double burden on low- and middle-income families" — the bill increases debt and reduces access to healthcare at the same time. This shows how fiscal policy decisions have direct impacts on Americans' daily lives."

Is this what Americans voted for? For billionaires to incur less taxes on the backs of the rest of the country, especially those least able to shoulder the burden? If so, then we're not a great nation. We're a people capable of willful blindness and callous indifference - like our benighted president.

May God forgive us. May Americans speak up in outrage and ask their GOP representatives to explain their callous votes.

Hurd: 202-225-4676.

Sincerely,
Kathy Muth

One Big Beautiful Bill

Dear Editor: Kelly Hegarty's letter about the "One Big Beautiful Bill" sounds impressive until you look at what it actually means for Archuleta County families. As Secretary of Colorado Liberty Republicans and a professional campaign consultant, Ms. Hegarty seems to be sharing party talking points rather than analyzing what this legislation does to our community.

Let's examine what she left out. Ms. Hegarty emphasizes the SALT deduction as helping "Colorado households." With our county's median income of \$76,524, fewer than 5% of our 6,000 households earn enough to benefit from this provision. The vast majority of our neighbors get nothing from her heavily promoted SALT expansion.

Meanwhile, she barely mentions the senior deduction. —which actually helps in a county where over 27% of residents are seniors. This suggests either a poor understanding of our community or a deliberate focus on provisions that benefit higher earners. This messaging may serve communities like Aspen or Denver, but not our county.

Here's what Ms. Hegarty didn't tell you about costs that wipe out those tax benefits:

Healthcare cuts hit working families hardest. The bill's \$1 trillion in Medicaid cuts will force thousands off health insurance, while Medicare

cuts mean our 3,750+ seniors face reduced doctor access and higher costs.

Food assistance disappears for working families. SNAP faces massive cuts while Colorado pays \$125 million annually to maintain current levels. Families earning low wages—exactly those getting tip and overtime tax breaks—will lose food benefits worth more than their tax savings.

Our state budget loses \$1.2 billion, forcing cuts to education and services while demanding higher state taxes to fill the gap.

The fiscal reality Ms. Hegarty ignores: This "meaningful relief" adds \$3.4 trillion to the national debt—over \$4 trillion with interest. That's roughly \$25,000 per Archuleta County resident in additional debt burden.

This isn't fiscal responsibility. It's borrowing to fund tax cuts that primarily benefit wealthy households while working families face net losses.

A close look reveals the math doesn't work for working families or seniors. While Ms. Hegarty celebrates tax breaks for tips and overtime, she ignores that the same workers getting these "benefits" are precisely those who rely on Medicaid, SNAP, and affordable healthcare. A restaurant worker might save \$2,000 in tip taxes but lose \$4,000 in combined health coverage and food assistance. Our seniors might save \$1,000 in taxes while facing thousands more in Medicare costs and reduced care access.

The bill essentially robs working families and seniors to pay for tax cuts that primarily benefit wealthy households who don't need Medicaid or SNAP in the first place.

Ms. Hegarty's letter serves her political role well, but it misleads our community about legislation that benefits the wealthy at the expense of everyone else. This is not honest analysis, this is campaign messaging disguised as local insight.

Ed Matlack

Poor timing

Dear Editor: Draining Pagosa Lake and removing the docks during a long holiday weekend PAWS, really? You couldn't have waited one more week. Talked with lots of disappointed visitors on my walks.

Patricia McMahon

Sales tax

Dear Editor: The commissioners have now approved the one cent sales tax. My question to them is. Does the entire county get to vote on it? I e-mailed Veronica Medina this question, but have not received a reply. Is this forgetfulness or lack of transparency? It seems logical to me that since the entire county is going to be hit with this increase everyone affected should get to vote. Maybe the commissioners don't want the entire county to vote. Our society seems to be heading in this direction, one entity gets the benefit and everyone else gets to pay for it. An excellent point was made by a previous letter writer who stated Why is there not a moratorium on new construction until the sewer problem is taken care of. The sales tax in general is a regressive tax and a bad idea.

Milton Friedman a, former federal reserve chairman stated "the sales tax bears most heavily on the persons who can least afford to pay". I wonder too how the original sewer was financed? Remember the "stamp act" levied on the colonies by Britain in 1765. This act was taxation without representation and caused a revolution.

John Meyer

Editor's note: The Archuleta County commissioners did not approve a one cent sales tax. The Pagosa Springs Town Council voted to take a proposed 1 percent sales tax increase within the town boundaries to the town's voters in November.

Land of Oz

Dear Editor: Welcome, folks, to the new and improved Land of Oz. Remember that age-old, priceless movie? This is not your grandmother's fairy tale. This film has been re-imagined as a documentary adventure, a sprawling epic that now includes more than just one cowardly lion, single brainless scarecrow, or squeaky tin man. Instead, we have a whole cast of characters and narcissists... and a passel of those who listen to their mindless drivel, half-truths, and brazen deceit.

The winged monkeys are no longer a myth; they are the endless distractions that swoop in to scatter our focus. The munchkins, once a harmonious choir, now represent a cacophony of narcissistic voices, each vying for attention with simplistic rhymes and empty promises.

The most significant change is the shift in the cast. The dimwits of this age-old tale were never meant to govern. They simply wandered down the yellow brick road. But in this documentary, these creatures have found a seat in the halls of power, not because they possessed any shred of competency or wisdom, but because we, the citizens, at some point, became complacent.

And there is no grand reveal behind the curtain. There is no humble wizard. We know who is there, pulling the strings. The reflection we see in the mirror is the consequence of looking away, of choosing comfort over clarity, and of believing that someone else will always stand guard at the gate. The road to the Emerald City is no longer paved with gold; it is built on the choices we've made, and the journey forward now depends on whether we are willing to reclaim our story.

Russell Widener

U.S. 160 reconstruction information

Week of Sept. 8-13

Work activity

Concrete paving operations continuing

- On Thursday, Sept. 4, asphalt preparation work will occur at North 2nd Street.

- Sidewalk removal will begin next week in the 100 block. The schedule will then move to the 200 block the following week, followed by the 300 block. The public information team will work to notify businesses when sidewalk work is scheduled in the front of their respective business. The crew is also planning, to the best of its ability, to pour sidewalk concrete on the days the businesses are scheduled to be closed to minimize disruptions.

- 3rd Street to 4th Street/Pagosa Middle School: Forming and pouring sidewalk continues.

- Curb and gutter and sidewalk paving may occur day or night. Pedestrian detours should be expected.

Work activity this week

- 1st to 3rd streets: Once curb and gutter construction is complete, hand pouring sidewalks begins.

- 4th and Lewis Street: Trenching and installation of conduit will take place. There will be utility work, grading and road base in advance of paving operations between 4th Street and Lewis Street through the month of September.

- 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.

- Lewis Street and the sculpture garden: Excavation near the Tennyson Sculpture Park and Gardens is beginning for geothermal utilities. Pedestrians need to plan for sidewalk detours around the work at this location for the next few months.

- 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>.

- 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

- 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 eastbound lanes of U.S. 160 through the first season of operations.

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

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

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

Stay informed and connect with the project

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

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

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

Information provided by Colorado Department of Transportation

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Letters

The SUN welcomes letters from readers.

Please submit your letter electronically in a format that can be copied and pasted to editor@pagosahun.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.



The Archuleta County Democrats host an event celebrating Women's Equality Day on Aug. 26. The event featured the showing of the film "Suffragettes."

Archuleta County Democrats hold sold-out Women's Equality Day event

By Leslie Cole
Archuleta County Democrats

A jubilant sold-out crowd gathered to celebrate Women's Equality Day on Tuesday, Aug. 26, at Liberty Theatre for a movie night and fund raiser benefiting the Archuleta County Democrats.

With many wearing white and draped with sashes reading "Votes for Women," the 130 ticket holders

watched the feature film "Suffragettes," depicting the struggle and sacrifices of working class women in England to achieve the right to vote.

Women's voting rights became law in 1920 with the ratification of the 19th Amendment, after decades of protest and organized demonstrations. Suffragists here and abroad endured violence, abuse and humiliation from both police and hostile crowds.

Voting rights for women today

can't be taken for granted, stated Archuleta Dems chair Shawna Seed in her opening remarks, referencing a social media post by Secretary of Defense Pete Hegseth that questioned women's right to vote.

Many people at the event wore white, the symbolic color of the 19th century women's suffrage protest movement. Suffragists wore white to symbolize purity and virtue and thus counter negative stereotypes that

they were unfeminine or rebellious.

The Archuleta Democrats hold monthly lunches that focus on community issues. In March, they sponsored a widely attended public meeting on the financial health of Pagosa Springs Medical Center. They also financially support a range of community groups, including Habitat for Humanity, the Pagosa Community Initiative, KSUT, Curtains Up, Pagosa Pride and Pagosa Springs High School's after-prom.

Registration open to compete at 17th Annual Patty Aragon Green Chile Classic

By Jacque Aragon
Mountain Chile Cha Cha

Do you make a mean pot of green chile? Here's your chance to prove it.

The 17th Annual Patty Aragon Green Chile Classic is now accepting entries for its highly anticipated cook-off, taking place on Sept. 27 at a new location, Yamaguchi Park. Rain or shine, the tradition continues as part of the 19th Annual Mountain Chile Cha Cha.

The competition features two divisions: Home Cooks and Professionals. Within each division, entrants may compete in one or both categories:

Chile with Meat and Meatless Chile.

All entries are judged blindly, ensuring a fair contest across the board. In addition, every entrant is automatically included in the People's Choice tasting, where festival-goers cast their votes. Winners in each division and category will take home cash prizes, trophies and — perhaps most importantly — bragging rights.

Beyond the competition itself, every entrant receives free admission to the Mountain Chile Cha Cha, along with a special thank-you gift. Volunteers will serve the chile during the

event, allowing contestants to enjoy the festivities without staying by their slow cookers all day.

This year's festival promises to be bigger than ever, with Yamaguchi Park providing more space, breathtaking mountain views and plenty of room to celebrate the chile harvest.

Admission to the festival is \$10 at the gate, with children 12 and under admitted free. Festival entry includes music, entertainment and cultural celebration, but please note that tasting trays and margarita tokens are sold separately.

The Patty Aragon Green Chile Classic is more than just a cook-off

— it is a cherished community event that celebrates Hispanic cultural heritage while raising funds for the Patty Aragon Memorial Fund.

Proceeds support scholarships and programs for local students and sports, ensuring the event's impact reaches far beyond a single day of fun.

Whether you are a seasoned chef, a first-time competitor or simply proud of a family recipe, this is your opportunity to showcase your green chile and be part of a beloved Pagosa Springs tradition.

Don't wait; entries are limited. Register today at ilovegreenchile.com.

Kids Kare returning for kids ages 3-5

By Connie Porter
Special to The SUN

Have your little ones ever wished they could go to school with big brother or sister? We have a program for them; it is called Kids Kare.

This program is designed for little kids ages 3-5 years old and takes place each Wednesday from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Sept. 10 through Dec. 10.

We meet at Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive (behind Wells Fargo Bank), each Wednesday unless there is a snow day.

The program includes Bible time

with interactive stories, songs with motions, memory verses and lots of other activities. The children also enjoy crafts, games and snacks. They meet new friends and a wonderful staff of screened adults who take great care of them.

There is no charge for the program, and all little kids are welcome to come, including kids who are home-schooled for kindergarten. Register your child for Kids Kare at <https://cef-colorado-431831.churchcenter.com/people/forms/1005987>.

We look forward to seeing your little ones at their special program.

Obituary

Lorenzo 'Ceto' Cardenas

Lorenzo "Ceto" Cardenas was called home to be with our Lord Aug. 11.

He was loved by many and will be deeply missed.

He lived his life for his family; he loved spending time in the outdoors, camping, hunting, fishing, riding RZR's and going on vacations in Mexico. He looked forward



to football season, a Raiders fan all his life he enjoyed watching games with his family and hosting football parties, especially Raiders vs. Broncos games.

Ceto loved to go all out; he lived life to the fullest.

He was a hard worker from an early age and taught his children the importance of work ethic and the meaning of hard work.

He had a big heart; he would always help anyone in need and never hesitated to help with anything.

He leaves behind his loving family and many, many friends. We are heart broken for our loss, but his memory will live on forever.

Card of Thanks

Cardenas family

We would like to express our sincere gratitude for the love, prayers and support we received during this difficult time. To our families, Father Sam, Guadalupe, Rivas Choir, The Springs Resort, everyone who donated on GoFundMe, for cards, donations, calls, texts, flowers, visits, the food.

We are beyond thankful for everyone's love and support.

Anjelica, Marcos, Alesandro and Olivia

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Archuleta County Republican Women to meet Sept. 10

By Karen Griggs
Archuleta County Republican Women

Join the Archuleta County Republican Women on Wednesday, Sept. 10.

The guest speaker will be Perry Schjolin, well-known Constitution coach in Pagosa Springs.

He will be speaking about why the

Constitution is just as important today as it was in 1787.

Women and men are welcome for this very informational meeting.

Social time and ordering from a special lunch menu will begin at 11:30 a.m., with the meeting from noon to 1 p.m. at Victor's Sushi, 118 N. Pagosa Blvd.

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Business

Region 9 launches new regional data sets to support local decision making

By Audrey Royem
Region 9 Economic Development District of Southwest Colorado

The Region 9 Economic Development District of Southwest Colorado is pleased to announce the release of new regional data sets, now available on the Region 9 website.

These data sets provide up-to date, easy-to-access information about key indicators that shape Southwest Colorado's economy, workforce, and communities across Archuleta, Dolores, La Plata, Montezuma, and San Juan counties.

- The data covers areas such as:
- Employment and industry trends: workforce numbers, wages and top industries by county.
 - Demographics and population: age, household and migration patterns across the five-county region.
 - Housing and affordability: hous-

ing costs, availability and income comparisons.

• Commuting and mobility: insights into where residents live, work and travel.

"These tools are designed to make credible, current data accessible to everyone — from local governments and businesses to nonprofits and grant writers," said Audrey Royem, economic development coordinator. "Having a trusted source of information means stronger decisions, more effective planning and greater opportunities for our communities."

From data to decisions: the DDD Framework

Region 9 sees these data sets not as an endpoint, but as the foundation for a more inclusive decision-making process.

Relying on numbers alone doesn't guarantee sustainable results — true

resilience comes when data is paired with dialogue and community voice.

That's why Region 9 is introducing the DDD Framework (Data + Discussion – Decisions):

• Data provides a reliable baseline, ensuring all stakeholders are working from the same facts.

• Discussion layers in lived experience, local realities and community values — creating understanding, trust and buy-in.

• Decisions become stronger, more equitable and longer lasting because they are informed by both facts and voices from the ground.

"Data alone can point us in a direction, but when we open it up to discussion — to the emotions, stories and perspectives of our communities — we get decisions that last," Royem added. "That's the goal of the DDD Framework: moving from information to action in a way that truly reflects the region and invites meaningful, sustained change."

The data is updated regularly and can be embedded by local governments or organizations on their own websites as a free resource, creating a consistent, shared baseline for decisions across the region.

The new data sets can be accessed at www.region9edd.org/dashboards.



Photo courtesy Colorado Department of Transportation

U.S. 160 reconstruction crew members work on concrete paving forms that will tie into the new curb and gutter.

Free and low-cost education opportunities available for businesses

By Sandy Douthey
Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce

As we prepare for the colder months, now may be a wonderful opportunity to investigate all the opportunities for education that are available to our business community.

Local First

Local First in Durango is offering two classes. The first class is the "New Thinking for Greater Success." It will run from Sept. 16 to Nov. 11. It is only available for 12 businesses located in Southwest Colorado. This class takes place over a six-week period through a weekly 90-minute virtual live session. It will equip leaders with powerful tools to rethink how they approach money, marketing, decision-making and long-term growth. The topics for the six-week session include: "About your Business," "Looking for New Business," "Identifying Customers and Value Propositions," "Understanding your Market Environment," "Revelations for your Journey" and "Actions to Grow Your Business." If you feel these topics would benefit your business, please sign up for free at <https://local-first.org/new-thinking-for-greater-success>.

The second class is open to everyone and is "Small Business Talent Magnet." It is a virtual, on-demand course designed to help employers attract and retain top talent in today's

evolving workplace. Participants will explore what modern employees truly value — like flexibility, purpose-driven culture and inclusive leadership — and gain practical tools to build policies and practices that foster high engagement across generations and backgrounds. If you feel you could benefit from this on-demand course, please sign up at <https://forms.gle/vLiNA955DrAIE4bt6>. There is no cost to participate thanks to a grant to Local First from the Colorado Community College System.

West Slope Startup Week

The next learning opportunity is from Startup Colorado, based out of Durango. This is a weeklong event called the West Slope Startup Week. It will be Oct. 6-10 in Durango.

You can attend for a day or a session, or the whole week — the choice is yours. This free, five-day event features hands-on workshops, expert-led panels and vibrant networking to support entrepreneurship in rural Colorado.

Whether you are starting your business or scaling your business, there is something for you.

Our very own Kelly Maestas will be speaking on Monday at 10 a.m. on the topic of "Start with the End in Mind: Exit Planning for Business Owners."

Check out the schedule, plan your week, and join us in Durango. Check out the schedule and register here at www.westslopestartupweek.com.

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210 Scenic Avenue • \$850,000

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

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

240 Glade Drive • \$1,225,000

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>

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

Price Reduced

471 Deer Trail
\$356,000

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

Price Reduced

109 Carol's Curves
\$284,000

MLS # 824583
The mobile home portion of this residence is 500 square feet. 1304 square feet is stick built. There is also a small cabin built in 1993, 576 square feet with bath and studio kitchen. The 1.2 acres is partially fenced for dog's and the acreage is all usable. The house has large picture windows with very nice views. There are 3 outbuildings, the septic has been inspected.

324/356/294 Sparrow Circle
\$325,000

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

NEW LISTING

1119 Hills Circle
\$500,000

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



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Education



Photo courtesy Pagosa Peak Open School

Muralist Jill Fives stands in the lobby of Pagosa Peak Open School. She spent the summer recreating the space with a four-season mural.



Photo courtesy Pagosa Peak Open School

Westin and Avery try out the new teeter-totter on the Pagosa Peak Open School's new playground.



Photo courtesy Pagosa Peak Open School

Scarlett and Harper spend their recess time on the swings at the new Pagosa Peak Open School playground. The playground will open to the public after school hours beginning the night of the ribbon cutting: Sept. 26 from 4 to 6 p.m.

Charter school expands programming, partnerships, playground

By Emily Murphy
Pagosa Peak Open School

More than 120 students flood the hallways, atrium and brand-new playground at Pagosa Peak Open School (PPOS) as the district's only tuition-free charter school begins the school year.

The Playground for the People passed its final inspection Aug. 21, allowing for students to access the space for the first time.

Students balanced on the Cliff Rider, raced down the side-by-side slides, pushed each other on the swings and dug in the sandpit.

"I really like it," said first-grader Otis. "I can't even choose a favorite part."

The playground will open to the community (after school hours) on Sept. 26 at 4 p.m. during the playground's ribbon cutting ceremony. The event will have live music, games, food and an opportunity to play in the newly renovated space.

Students also came back to a full floor and wall mural created by the

Pagosa Center for the Arts' set designer, Jill Fives.

"The downstairs is so beautiful," said first-grader Malakai.

The mural encompasses the four seasons and has hidden creatures, bridges, footprints and pathways. Students can hop from rock to rock down the painted river and meet under the different season trees.

The school is also expanding its after-school programming with a drama club run by PPOS Advisor Alison Beach and an orchestra club organized by Stillwater Music Company.

"These new programs allow for further enrichment for our students," said School Director Emily Murphy. "Students now have opportunities to not only stay for an arts and crafts club and Forge programming, but also additional high-quality programs to expand their education."

The school has also eliminated mixed-age classrooms for grades K-6, and pulled fifth grade into its elementary model as a stand-alone classroom. While mixed-age experiences still exist through the school's project-based learning model, single-grade classrooms allow for teachers to focus on the Colorado State Standards that align with their grade band.

The school has also added four new lead teachers, expanding the number of classrooms.

"It has been wonderful to watch our newest PPOS educators teach students with love, nurture and support while creating their classroom

families," said PPOS Instructional Coach Maggie Saunders. "As an instructional coach, I hope to do the same for our teachers by helping to guide and scaffold them as they grow as educators this year."

Families are excited for the new year, too.

"We're so excited," said Jessica Cox, a PPOS parent with students in second and fourth grade. "This year is bringing new adventures that the kids get to do with new and old friends. They are especially excited about all the fun they're having on the new playground, the projects they get to work on in groups — and on their own — and all the upcoming fieldwork opportunities."

Student programming includes a "Genius Hour" project time this year, allowing students to not only study topics classwide, but also individually. Every Friday, every student will be given time to study an area of interest of their own choosing. Genius Hour introduces students to another level of creativity, critical thinking, choice and product production as they find ways to engage in independent projects.

PPOS is a free, K-8 district charter school focused on implementing a project-based learning curriculum in a restorative practices environment.

Spots for students are still available. To learn more about PPOS, become a donor and to enroll your student for the 2025-2026 school year, visit pagosapeakopenschool.org.

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ATTENTION Builders & Developers be a part of the conversation.

The Board of County Commissioners wants to hear from you, the builders and developers in Archuleta County. We are looking at potentially revamping policies, regulations, and rules.

Come, see where we are and continue the conversation with us.

Join us to give us your thoughts
Wednesday, September 10th, at 5pm,
County Administration Building, meeting room
398 Lewis St.



PSMC Welcomes



Teresa Gross, MD

PSMC is proud to announce that Dr. Teresa Gross, board-certified general surgeon, is joining the PSMC surgery team and is now accepting appointments.

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Local

Calvin Newsome

Washburn University is pleased to announce Calvin Newsome, of Pagosa Springs, graduated with a postgraduate degree in PMH nursing as part of its summer 2025 graduating class.

Permitting

Continued from front and other departments.

It would help the town to "have coordination with different services, such as trash collection ... park staff, the police department ... and then we'd also be able to let EMS, fire, sheriff's office ... know as well as part of the permitting process," he said, adding that it would also "help minimize disruption" for businesses and residents.

He explained that a coordinated process would allow "EMS and fire to stage on either side of town, and that way if there was an incident, they'd be able to respond effectively."

The special event permit would help "define who is responsible if something goes wrong and there's injuries or property damage," he said.

One worry, expressed by audience members during public comment, had to do with the ordinance's requirement that event organizers would need to carry insurance, with the concern being that it would place a monetary burden on people expressing their right to free speech.

When opened to questions, council member Madeline Bergon asked, "So, we currently don't require event organizers to have insurance?"

Brown replied, "I'm not aware of any requirement," adding that event organizers in the past have chosen to get insurance on their own, but it was not required.

Council member Gary Williams asked what the town's Parks and Recreation Department thought about the ordinance.

Parks and Recreation Department Director Darren Lewis replied that the town's current special event permit "actually" does require insurance, "but what it does not do is activate" notifications to the fire

district, police, EMS and the sheriff's department.

"There's nothing that really brings all that together," Lewis said, describing the current permitting process as "very basic."

"That's what this new event permitting process is gonna help," he said, adding that the Parks and Recreation Department is rolling out new software that will "hopefully" make the application procedure "a very easy process."

"You know, you check this box and it automatically sends information to the police department, to fire, to EMS. It notifies them that there's an event and then everything comes back to the event coordinator for final approval," he added.

Williams asked why an ordinance even needed to be passed since the new software would be alerting all the proper agencies that an event is happening and the current permit already requires insurance.

"Maybe we solved the problem without passing this ordinance," he said.

Lewis replied that "having an ordinance in place" would protect the town "in case anyone comes back on us ... and says, 'Well, I didn't know that I was supposed to notify this.'"

He added, "We are hoping that this new system works correctly, but if by chance it does not, we will then have to manually do some of these things."

He suggested that the ordinance would ensure that "all of our T's are crossed and our I's are dotted."

Williams then expressed that he had concerns about the ordinance's possible violation of "First Amendment rights."

He asked if a small group of "protestors" would need to "get a million dollar liability insurance policy and notify us 30 days in advance for six

people to stand on a corner and protest?"

Lewis replied, "You know, that's a great question. Personally, I would say no, but I believe, in regards to this," that the police chief "needs to know when things are going on in our town and he needs to know if there's gonna be a gathering of a certain amount of people."

He added, "All of these events that I've seen are very peaceful. I mean, there's been no problems and I've certainly had no problems with them, and I have no complaints about it."

He further stated, "Our attorney has looked this over and it's been approved by him."

Williams stated that he was for "streamlining things" and not putting more "unnecessary burden on the public," suggesting that the town should "get rid of some requirements that are kind of unnecessary and clog up the machinery of government."

He said, "I feel like this ordinance is an ordinance in search of a problem, instead of trying to solve a problem. ... I felt an instinctive resistance to it when I first read it."

He took issue with the First Amendment aspects of the ordinance, "and the right to protest, and the idea" that a small group of protestors would "be required to have a million dollar liability policy and apply 30 days in advance before they showed up on the street corner."

Mayor Shari Pierce clarified that the ordinance would only apply to crowds of 25 or more people, but Williams stated that his concerns were still applicable.

Many of the speakers during public comment expressed that most of the local protests are spontaneous reactions to current events and sometimes there's a few people and other times hundreds show up, so the

permitting process would place an unfair burden on organizing efforts.

Pierce said that "the piece" of the ordinance that "I like is the piece about notifying all the proper agencies that an event is happening for safety in our community."

Williams added that the new software system would do that without an ordinance.

Council Member Matt DeGuise shared Williams' concerns, adding that "there's a fundamental difference between a special event, like a parade or concert, and public protesting and peaceful assembly, and it's not defined in this to my satisfaction."

Pierce suggested that council members DeGuise and Williams "sit down with staff to revise" the ordinance "to address their concerns and then bring it back to us."

Williams replied that he's not in favor of the ordinance "at all, so the idea of massaging the words is not an approach that I'm interested in."

When Pierce asked DeGuise if he'd be interested in sitting down with staff to "redo the words," he answered, "Potentially."

"It wouldn't be so much about 'massaging' the words, it would need to be about specifically protecting peoples' First Amendment rights," he added.

Williams then chimed back in to say that he would "do it" after hearing DeGuise's suggestion to specifically word the ordinance to protect freedom of speech and assembly.

Pierce then said that the council would "move this off [of the agenda]. We're not gonna vote on this tonight. We're gonna massage it and bring it back, addressing some of your concerns, and then we'll listen to public concerns as well."

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Bids

Continued from front

He added that the firm selected would be the SJWCD's "primary partner" through to the completion of the dam project, although additional subcontractors might be retained as needed.

Riehm indicated that the RFP would be distributed on Sept. 2 and that there would be an approximately 45-day window for firms to submit final proposals to the SJWCD.

He stated that firms would be asked to notify the SJWCD that they intend to bid on the project by Sept. 9, which would be followed by a

bidder's conference around Sept. 16 and site visits scheduled as feasible for each firm.

A final response would be required by Oct. 15, Riehm stated, with additional interviews with bidders to be scheduled as needed.

He indicated that the SJWCD will have a board meeting on Oct. 20 and would potentially review bids and make a selection at the meeting, although this could also occur later if more negotiation or discussion with bidders is needed.

Riehm noted that this schedule is driven by the board's goal of applying

for funding from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Small Storage Program to support further reservoir development in February 2026.

The board then discussed the logistics and details of the RFP, including how to properly instruct bidders about what project design standards they would need to comply with to meet the district's goals and federal grant requirements and how specifically the RFP should stipulate what information firms should provide to the SJWCD.

After a lengthy discussion of the RFP's details and the addition of

some components, including language on the potential project standards for the reservoir, the board unanimously voted to approve the RFP as discussed and authorize Riehm and Cooper to distribute it to the interested firms on Sept. 2.

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The Blotter

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

Archuleta County Sheriff's Office

Aug. 25 — Motor vehicle theft, agency assist, Country Meadows Place.

Aug. 25 — Warrant arrest, Great West Avenue.

Aug. 26 — Warrant arrest, Harman Park Drive.

Aug. 26 — Failure to appear, Harman Park Drive.

Aug. 26 — Theft-\$750 to \$2,000 other (includes gas), information only, Snow Circle/Bastille Drive.

Aug. 26 — Warrant arrest, Meadow Drive.

Aug. 27 — Obstructing peace officer/police animal/fireman, warrant arrest, Ute Drive.

Aug. 27 — Assault in the third degree, Davis Cup Drive.

Aug. 27 — Warrant arrest, U.S. 160/South Pagosa Boulevard.

Aug. 27 — Information only, Badger Place.

Aug. 27 — Child abuse, driving under the influence of alcohol, Country Road 411.

Aug. 28 — Speeding 25 over maximum lawful speed limit, Eaton Drive.

Aug. 28 — Prohibited use of weapons, domestic violence, harassment-insults/taunts/challenges DV, West U.S. 160.

Aug. 29 — Warrant arrest, Ute Drive.

Aug. 29 — Information only, Country Road 500.

Aug. 30 — Warrant arrest, Panorama Place.

Aug. 30 — Second-degree assault-aggravated family-strangulation, domestic violence, harassment-strikes/shoves/kicks DV, Panorama Place.

South 8th Street.

Aug. 25 — Harassment-strikes/shoves/kicks a person, Aspen Village Drive.

Aug. 26 — Criminal mischief, U.S. 160.

Aug. 27 — Harassment/communicate by telephone or computer, Country Center Drive.

Aug. 27 — Information only, Country Road 411.

Aug. 29 — Lost/found property, Country Center Drive.

Aug. 29 — DUI, East Pagosa Street.

Aug. 29 — Death investigation, North 5th Street.

Aug. 30 — Expired registration, commercial vehicle-safety violation, fail obey traffic control device, East Pagosa Street/Great West Avenue.

Aug. 30 — Trespass warning, East Pagosa Street.

Aug. 30 — Suspicious activity/vehicle, North 7th Street.

Aug. 30 — Sets a loaded gun, trap or device unattended, Hermosa Street.

Aug. 31 — Agency assist, Lewis Street.

Aug. 31 — Criminal mischief \$300 to \$1,000 private, Trinity Lane.

Pagosa Springs Municipal Court: Judge Anthony D. Edwards
No report.

Archuleta County Court: Judge Justin P. Fay

Aug. 27 — Craig Alan Mitchell, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$190.

Aug. 27 — Andrew M. Davis, burning prohibited item, fines and costs — \$669.

Aug. 28 — Marcy E. Mevorach, speeding 5-9 over limit, fines and costs — \$139.50.

Aug. 28 — Dylan Brent Sanchez, disorderly conduct-offensive gesture, 10 days jail, fines and costs — \$36.

Aug. 29 — Alesia M. Chavez, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$225.

Aug. 29 — Lauren M. Dean, failed to stop at stop sign, fines and costs — \$140.

Aug. 29 — Phillip D. Gilleland, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs — \$233.50.

Aug. 29 — Jerry D. Hepworth, off-highway vehicle operated on street, fines and costs — \$118.50.

Aug. 29 — Billy W. Hunter Jr., seat belt not used, lane usage violation, fines and costs — \$244.50.

Aug. 29 — Luis C. Lopez-Moreno, registration-unregistered vehicle, fines and costs — \$161.50.

Aug. 29 — Lee Travis McIntire, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$190.

Aug. 29 — Jeremy L. Martin, license plates-expired, registration-unregistered vehicle, fines and costs — \$255.50.

Aug. 29 — Daniel J. Meeks, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs — \$198.50.

Aug. 29 — Noreen Krewer-Scott, speeding 5-9 over, fines and costs — \$125.

Sept. 2 — Joey Peter Rivas, speeding 5-9 over, fines and costs — \$125.

6th Judicial District Court: Judge Justin P. Fay

Aug. 28 — Daniel James Roeder, menacing, 12 months probation, 42 days jail, fines and costs — \$903.50.

6th Judicial District Court: Judge Jeffrey R. Wilson
No report.



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Wolf

■ Continued from front

why so much of the area is lit up on the map.”

Livingston noted that as the wolf made her way toward the Upper and Middle Piedra watersheds, CPW began making notifications to elected officials, local livestock producers and the La Plata-Archuleta Cattleman's Association.

“However,” he notes, “the wolf did not stay in that area long and continued moving east. She quickly was east of U.S. Highway 160 and out of Archuleta County. All of that movement took place in about a week's time frame.”

He adds the wolf “has briefly touched watersheds in Mineral and Rio Grande Counties and her most recent location was in Rio Grande County, as highlighted on the map.”

Livingston explained that, per CPW's memorandum of understanding with the Southern Ute Indian Tribe, CPW has also been providing regular reports to the tribe regarding this wolf's activity.

The CPW website notes that wolves continue to make broad movements across many western counties.

Other notable updates from CPW

regarding the wolves include:

- “A minimum count of six pups in the One Ear Pack was confirmed in Jackson County.”

- “CPW became aware of the mortality of female gray wolf 2304-OR in Wyoming and the Wyoming Game and Fish returned the wolf's tracking collar. 2304-OR was part of the group of wolves translocated to Colorado from Oregon.”

- “CPW and USDA, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service - Wildlife Services (WS) attempted to lethally remove a gray wolf in Rio Blanco County due to chronic depredation.”

The CPW website further states, “Our staff continues to monitor dens in Colorado and will include minimum counts of the entire wolf population in our annual biological year reports. Receiving reports of wolf sightings from the public, especially those accompanied by high-quality photos or videos, is extremely helpful to CPW as we monitor and track the movement of gray wolves. This will become increasingly important as the population of uncollared wolves grows through successful restoration and natural immigration into Colorado.”

“As always, we encourage anyone in the public that believes they have seen a wolf to report it to CPW through our wolf sightings page: <https://cpw.state.co.us/wolf-sightings>,” Livingston wrote.

The site also includes information on how to differentiate between wolves and coyotes.

Wolf reintroduction and living with wolves

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

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

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

Bill reallocates reintroduction funding

Senate Bill 25B-005, introduced

and passed during the recent extraordinary session of the Colorado General Assembly, reallocates Department of Natural Resources wolf funding to the Colorado health insurance enterprise.

The bill creates the health insurance affordability cash fund within the state treasury and directed the state treasurer to transfer \$264,268 from the general fund to the new fund on Sept. 1.

The bill also repeals the subsection creating the fund effective July 1, 2026.

The same bill adds a subsection regarding the reintroduction of gray wolves on designated lands west of the Continental Divide and states that the parks and wildlife division “shall not use money appropriated from the general fund for state fiscal year 2025-26 for the purpose of acquiring or reintroducing gray wolves.”

It notes the division “may use money appropriated for state fiscal year 2025-26 for the purposes listed” in the subsection.

According to the bill, the subsection is repealed effective July 1, 2026. Gov. Jared Polis signed the bill on Aug. 28.

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School

■ Continued from front

property.

The BOE heard initial results from the survey during its work session in July, which were presented by consultant Lynea Hansen, who worked with a company called New Bridge Strategy to perform the survey.

Doug Abernethy, representing RTA, explained that a civil engineering company out of Grand Junction called SGM will be performing a deeper dive into the two potential sites the district is considering building on, which will “gather some of the technical information” that the MPAC has requested, such as the availability and cost of utilities and a having a professional traffic study performed.

“We don't have all that data right now,” Abernethy said, explaining the goal is to have that information ready to present at the group's next meeting, scheduled for the end of October.

In response to a question from the audience asking if the district has decided on building one or two new buildings, Abernethy stated, “We are right now pursuing, based on our last meeting, looking primarily at a PK-8, as one building for the solution at this point.”

ASD Superintendent Rick Holt explained that the BOE developed a set of criteria that will be the guiding principles to help with important decisions, noting the BOE's decision will be “based on actual information, rather than opinion.”

He mentioned that the district needs to be “very careful this doesn't become an opinion conversation.”

Holt commented that two things became apparent from the polling results that need immediate attention, explaining the site location matters.

“Where the school goes changes how people vote,” he said.

Holt went on to explain that the district is considering two potential building sites, either on the high school campus west of the current bus barn, “wedged into the hillside,” or on the Vista property located across from Veterans Memorial Park on Vista Boulevard.

He also noted that 67 percent of the district's students live uptown, or west of Piedra Road, based on 2024 enrollment data.

“But, it became apparent to the board we really needed to do an analysis of both sites so we didn't just pick a site based on our opinion,” Holt said.

He also commented that both sites pose some traffic challenges, but that, instead of speculating, “let's invest the dollars into actually having a traffic evaluation.”

Holt mentioned that the MPAC will be making a recommendation to the BOE on which site the district should build on, similar to how it recommended building one PK-8 building.

“Ultimately, the board has to decide, but I think it's a good idea to listen to the community members before we make a decision,” Holt said.

Abernethy explained that the district is likely planning on applying for a Building Excellent Schools Today (BEST) grant, noting the district could go for a bond before or after applying for the grant.

He noted the district would apply in February 2026 and would be notified in May 2026.

Abernethy also mentioned the state is dealing with a \$900 million shortfall in its budget and that it had not been determined how that might affect funding for BEST.

“We know that there's a certain amount of money that's set aside right now from the state legislature to fund BEST,” he said, noting that is about \$80 million.

“Don't expect that program to go away,” he said, noting that it is uncertain what might happen to the program's funding.

He also noted that any BEST grant would be a 56 percent district match, meaning for every dollar the district gets from BEST, 56 cents will need to come from the community.

He explained that the MPAC is also recommending time to allow for proper planning and community education and engagement for a bond election, noting the district would plan to go for a bond in the November 2026 election.

Abernethy also noted that “construction on a \$100ish million project is probably 18 to 20 months” out, indicating that if all goes according to plan, ASD would have a new school ready for the start of the 2029-2030 school year.

Presenting results from the survey this time was Kathryn Hahne from New Bridge.

The presentation included highlights that 51 percent of voters, or the “bare majority,” indicated that they would “definitely yes” support some kind of ballot measure to support the district's project.

She noted that 25 percent of respondents indicated “definitely no” and 24 percent were undecided.

She also noted that, based on responses, the district has a high-level awareness in the community that its facilities need significant repairs and safety upgrades.

“There are safety concerns,” she said.

She also explained that voter turnouts in odd-number years often look different than voter turnouts in even-number years.

Hahne went on to explain that the survey tested language that presented the monthly financial impact on a household versus the annual financial impact, indicating that respondents were more likely to support a ballot measure when presented with language highlighting the monthly impact.

She also mentioned that respondents changed their minds when presented with information on the BEST grant opportunity that would help fund the project.

In response to a question from the audience directed to the BOE, Bob Lynch, BOE president, explained that there was not a “big decision” from the board to only pursue a ballot option that focuses on building a new school instead of fixing current facilities.

Lynch explained that based on the data the BOE has seen, “there wasn't any sense; the smart way to spend money would be to fix the problem,” adding the current facilities have “a lot of unfixable problems.”

Holt commented that the survey “pulled out a couple things,” explaining that whatever the district can do to bring down the total cost would benefit a lot of families.

He added that, for school districts in Colorado, the state “does not fund capital projects, it relies solely on communities to fund capital projects.”

Data was also provided that indicated that in 2024 ASD had 552 students in kindergarten through eighth grade who lived uptown and 197 students who lived downtown.

Abernethy provided a brief site

analysis of the high school site, explaining that it does not offer any “real good access points,” noting there are no possible access points on the south or west side of the property.

He also explained that when looking at pedestrian access, considering students who may walk or bike to school within a half-mile radius of the property, “we don't have very many pedestrian connections to the high school site.”

He also noted that traffic to the site as a whole would more than double, explaining a baseball field would likely be replaced with a parking lot and a soccer field could be constructed in the hillside above the schools.

When reviewing the Vista site, Abernethy explained it offers access points on all four sides of the property and although there is no sidewalk currently, there is a trail that connects to residential areas that could be a “good option” for students living within a half-mile radius to walk or bike to school.

He noted one of the main concerns with the Vista site would be the intersection of Vista Boulevard and U.S. 160.

Safety and security

Following the site analysis and polling results presentations, the group then heard another presentation on safety and security from Ericka Everett with RTA.

Everett explained the concept of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design, or CPTED, and that it is “a design philosophy that's focused on the built environment and how it impacts and influences safety and space in the urban environment, in our case the school.”

She explained it involves a balanced approach to safety and security by using natural passive security measures to create “safe space,” instead of prioritizing using physical hard security measures like metal detectors and cameras, noting there is a need for those things, but that they might come at a cost.

Everett also explained that CPTED uses a layered approach that begins with district-wide view narrowing down to the property boundary, semi-public areas, the building perimeter, interior zones and into classrooms.

Everett stated her belief is that schools have the ability to be designed and built in such a way that it creates a positive social and cultural space, noting the goal is not to make the school feel like an “institution,” but that it's meant to feel safe.

Everett's presentation explains that the goal of CPTED is for “proper design and effective use of the built environment that can lead to a reduction in the fear and incidence of crime, and an improvement in the quality of life.”

She noted that CPTED focuses on using natural surveillance, natural access control and natural territorial reinforcement.

Abernethy explained that the premise of crime prevention through environmental design started as an urban design issue that law enforcement, planners and architects collaborated on over the course of 50 years, which is now being applied to the design of schools.

“This information really comes out of a basis of sociology and psychology that's been around for 50 years,” he said.

Everett noted that the Vista site has a “buffer” of properties that could be developed in the future with either commercial or residential use, whereas the location of a PK-8 building on the high school site may be next to a future wastewater sanitation complex.

She then provided a grading scale of the two sites in eight different categories, which included: resource sharing, vehicular access, pedestrian access, adjacent property uses, topography, proximity to students, program accommodation and middle school exploratory opportunities.

Each property was given a score for each category that ranged from a quarter-circle to full circle, with the Vista site receiving a higher score in six of the categories. The high school site ranked higher in the resource sharing and middle school exploratory categories.

Abernethy added that RTA attempted to keep the comparison on the “simplistic side.”

The next MPAC meeting is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on Oct. 27 in the Pagosa Springs Middle School library.

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Sports

CROSS-COUNTRY



Photo courtesy Josh Kurz

From front to back, Pirates Eli Nehring, Jacen Easling and Kieran Kurz take part in the Durango XC Relay Carnival on Aug. 30 — the team's first official action of the season.

Pirate harriers open season at relay carnival

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate cross-country team kicked off its season at the Durango XC Relay Carnival on Aug. 30, with coach Josh Kurz indicating the team accomplished exactly what he was hoping it would.

Kurz explained prior to the meet that it would be unlike the team had done before, with coed relay teams each alternating running 1 mile until they've covered 8 miles collectively.

"So it's basically four, one-mile repeats and you get to rest while your partner is running their mile," he explained prior to the meet.

The top five coed relay teams for each school scored points for the team.

"The Relay Carnival was a great event, and it accomplished exactly what I was hoping for," Kurz wrote in an email following the event. "Today was our hardest workout of the week, thanks to the competition and spectators. We often do mile repeats during practice, but I think the race environment caused our athletes to run 20-30 seconds faster per mile than if we had done the workout alone. I'm super proud of everyone for pushing their boundaries!"

Kurz also notes some of the day's highlights for the Pirates, including that Rylan Ash's first mile "was incredible," coming in at five minutes, seven seconds, and that his overall time, 22:23 for the 4 miles, was "awesome."

Kurz also highlights that Eli Nehring "was solid and maintained the most consistent pace," with Nehring running a time of 24:17.

"Kieran [Kurz] nearly ran a [personal record, PR] on his first mile and toughed out the remaining miles," the coach wrote.

Kieran Kurz ran an overall time of 25:02, with his first mile being 6:01.

"Weston [Sweet] stepped up and showed his potential, and ran a really impressive last mile," the coach added.

Sweet ran an overall time of 25:11.

Dylan Dempster ran a time of 25:25. "Dylan ran a fast first mile and maintained a consistent pace for the rest of the workout," Josh Kurz wrote.

Sweet's first mile came in at 6:05.

Stetson Osborn ran a total time of 26:25, with the coach noting, "Stetson was the only person whose last mile was their fastest mile (that's tough to do)."

Osborn's first mile was 6:36, while his last was 6:29.

"Jacen [Easling] may have set a PR on his first mile, which impacted his middle miles, but he had a strong finish on his last mile," the coach wrote.

Easling logged an overall time of 26:39.

Liam McKnight ran an overall time of 26:59.

"Liam was hardly sweating on miles 1-3 but finished with a solid last mile, which tells me he has a lot more potential," Josh Kurz points out.

Lily DeClark ran a time of 27:57, with the coach stating, "Lily got in shape in a hurry and finished with a solid last mile and great overall time."

Kaiya Lyons and Madi Stretton both ran times of 28:32, with the coach high-



Photo courtesy Josh Kurz

Rylan Ash and Kaiya Lyons open the season by teaming up at the Durango XC Relay Carnival on Aug. 30.

lighting, "Kaiya and Madi continue to be in lock-step, both running fast first miles and holding tough till the end."

Lyons' first mile was 6:51, with Stretton's coming in at 6:47.

The coach noted Mile Miller battled pain throughout the day, but held out long enough for her partner, Dempster, to finish his fourth mile.

She ended the day with a time of 25:34 with 3 miles completed.

Josh Kurz also notes the team missed having several members at the meet, and that the team is looking forward to running with a full squad

this weekend.

"We're especially excited about the pack of boys that we have," he notes. "We have a lot of depth, and this group will push each other to new heights."

This weekend, the Pirate squads will head to Alamosa for the Joe Vigil Invitational on Sept. 6, where the Lady Pirates are set to run at 9:40 a.m., followed by the Pirates at 10:15 a.m.

Kurz notes the meet, held at Cattails Golf Course, will be the team's "largest, fastest, and most competitive meet till regionals."

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SOCCER

Pirates to host Aztec Saturday in home opener

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate boys' soccer team will host its home opener on Saturday, Sept. 6, at 11 a.m., when they'll host the Aztec Tigers from Aztec, N.M.

The Pirates participated in a tournament in Aztec, N.M., held on Aug. 21-23, losing their opening match against Farmington, N.M., by a score of 3-1.

The Pirates then defeated Grants, N.M., by a score of 6-0 and Portales, N.M., by a score of 2-1.

Coach Trevor Gian explained the loss to Farmington was a tough one, noting the Pirates were struggling to be first to the ball on the day.

Gian mentioned that the Farmington Scorpions were "clean" with their passing and had purpose behind their play, but expressed that the Pirates could've walked away with a different result on a different day.

The Pirates' lone goal was provided by Gavin Carter, who had a total of three shots on the day.

Angelo Medina and Ryder King each recorded one shot on the day as well.

Ethan Bracken and Taylor Wells each played 40 minutes in goal for the Pirates and recorded two and eight saves, respectively.

In the match against Grants, the Pirates put up a total of 22 shots, with King recording two goals. Carter tallied three assists and Xavi Sanchez recorded one assist.

Chance Ramirez, Milo Deitemeyer, Edgar Castillo and Caden Plake each bagged one goal on the day.

"It was a good game to kind of get back on our feet there," Gian said, adding, "We definitely dictated the pace of play in that one and what we wanted to do."

Bracken recorded two saves on the day.

The match against Portales turned into an "ugly game," Gian noted, add-

ing that it became a little "chippy," with Portales receiving a red card and the Pirates receiving a yellow card.

King and Carter each recorded one goal, with Deitemeyer and Hudson Davis providing one assist each.

Bracken made five saves, while Wells recorded one save, allowing one goal.

Gian explained that the Pirates were able to maintain possession and create dynamic plays in the attacking third.

He noted the Pirates gave up a goal late and that the game turned into a "survive and get out of there" situation in trying to avoid any more cards or injuries.

Gian also noted the Pirates looked better defensively with their shape in the match against Portales.

He commented that going forward, the Pirates were able to switch the point of attack and created numerous scoring opportunities, adding it "just comes down to finishing them."

When looking at the season ahead, Gian explained that some younger players are stepping into roles in the midfield, which is allowing some more experienced older players to move into positions where they can be more creative and play with a bit more freedom compared to last year.

Gian mentioned that the Pirates were heavily focused on their defensive shape and presence much of last season, indicating the plan is to be able to do some things differently this year.

Gian noted that he is looking for the Pirates to develop a strong midfield presence to maintain possession and have solid build-up play leading to quality scoring chances.

He noted the Pirates were able to capitalize on counter attacks a lot last season, "and that worked for us at times."

He mentioned the Pirates definitely have the ability to counterattack this season as well, but "we're

really looking to have some shape in that middle."

"I think we found what we're looking to do," he added.

He noted that by the end of the tournament in Aztec, "the play style looked really good" for the Pirates, and that it "fit our personnel."

Gian went on to mention the Pirates are eager to get the regular season underway and that between the varsity and junior varsity lineups, the program has about 35 players this season.

"It is just a really, really good vibe, and that tournament solidified that," he added.

Gian indicated that he is hopeful the Pirates will be able to come away with a positive result against Aztec and hopes to use that to maintain momentum as the team prepares for a "gauntlet" of games over the next two months.

Following the match against Aztec, the Pirates will host the Montezuma-Cortez Panthers on Tuesday, Sept. 9, at 5:30 p.m. in their first league matchup of the season.

The Panthers are 1-2 on the season.

"We're just looking forward to getting on the field and playing," Gian said.

Schedule

The following schedule was accurate as of press time Wednesday, but is subject to change. For additional scheduling information, visit <http://bit.ly/4p3t3Cw>.

Following the matches against Aztec on Sept. 6 and against Montezuma-Cortez on Sept. 9, the Pirates will continue regular season play on Saturday, Sept. 13, with another home game at Golden Peaks Stadium, as the team is set to host Manitou Springs at 11 a.m.

On Thursday, Sept. 18, the Pirates will host Grand Junction Central at 4 p.m.

The Pirates will then travel to Ala-

mosa for a league matchup with the Mean Moose on Sept. 19. Kickoff is scheduled for 5:30 p.m.

The Pirates will have another away league match on Sept. 27 as the team heads to Bayfield to take on the Wolverines at 11 a.m.

The Pirates will then head to Cortez on Oct. 3 to take on the Panthers in another league matchup starting at 5:30 p.m.

The Pirates will return home on Oct. 10, hosting the Mean Moose at 5:30 p.m., followed by another home game on Oct. 11, with the Pirates hosting Crested Butte at 3 p.m.

On Oct. 14, the Pirates will host the Bayfield Wolverines at 5:30 p.m. in the team's last league matchup of the year.

On Oct. 16, the Pirates will host the Lake County Panthers at 5:30 p.m.

The last home game of the regular season is set for Oct. 17, with the Pirates hosting Fruita Monument at 2 p.m.

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GOLF

Pirates set to return to action in pair of tournaments

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate golf team will return to action with a pair of tournaments over the next week, including the team's home tournament.

The Pirates were last in action at the Aug. 19 Panther Invitational in Cortez.

Coach Mark Faber indicated it's exciting for the team to get to play again after practicing over the last couple of weeks.

"It's been good," he said of the

practices. "I mean, they've worked at it. Hopefully it shows up in a tournament this week, but they've worked hard on what they needed to work on."

He added a tournament gives you an idea if what you're working on is making a difference.

"At this point," he said, "they need to play, absolutely. We need to get some tournaments and get in that mode so hopefully we get some kids headed to state."

First up for the Pirates over the next week will be a meet at the Monte Vista Country Club in Monte Vista on

Friday, Sept. 5.

Faber indicated he hopes to have a few more golfers travel to that tournament based on the space available.

Action is set to begin at 9 a.m.

Then, on Tuesday, Sept. 9, the Pirates will host the Pagosa Springs Invite at Pagosa Springs Golf Club, with action again set to begin at 9 a.m.

Faber added hopefully everybody who wants to will have a chance to play.

"It's always nice to get to play on your home course," he said.

randi@pagosahun.com

Wolf Creek Ski Team joins 2025 Colorado Youth Sports Giving Day

By Jason Watt
Wolf Creek Ski Team

The Wolf Creek Ski Team is excited to announce its participation in the second annual Colorado Youth Sports Giving Day, a two-week giving campaign that kicked off on Wednesday, Sept. 3.

Organized by the Daniels Fund and Project Play Colorado, this statewide initiative unites hundreds of nonprofits to break down barriers and expand access to sports for Colorado's youth.

Last year's inaugural event raised an incredible \$3.7 million for 175 local nonprofits, enabling organizations like ours to support vital training for our staff and assist in retaining and recruiting coaches.

Opportunities for giving include our scholarship funds and Guide Star. We are committed to ensuring that every athlete has equal opportunities, regardless of their financial status. Consider making a significant donation today to help us back these athletes in pursuit of their dreams.

This year, Wolf Creek Ski Team is joining the movement again to con-

tinue inspiring young athletes and our community.

From Sept. 3-17, donations for the Wolf Creek Ski Team can be made directly through our Colorado Gives platform giving page at <https://www.coloradogives.org/organization/Wolf-Creek-Ski-Team>, ensuring simple, secure and impactful contributions.

Your generosity will help strengthen our programs and give every child the opportunity to play, grow and thrive through sports.

How to get involved

Help us champion youth sports and create opportunities for kids in the Pagosa Springs, Bayfield, South Fork, and San Luis Valley areas!

Here's how:

1. Visit <https://www.coloradogives.org/organization/Wolf-Creek-Ski-Team> between Sept. 3 and 17 to donate.

2. Spread the word with friends, family and colleagues using the hashtag #youthsportsgivingday.

To learn more about our organization or Colorado Youth Sports Giving Day, visit our page at <https://www.wolfcreekskiteam.com/> and youths-

portsgivingday.org.

About the Wolf Creek Ski Team

We are an organization dedicated to youth development, empowering our athletes to recognize and celebrate their individual achievements.

About Colorado Youth Sports Giving Day

Launched in 2024, Colorado Youth Sports Giving Day is a collaborative effort between Project Play Colorado, Daniels Fund and hundreds of local nonprofit organizations supporting youth sports across Colorado.

Through this campaign, nonprofits offering organized sports for Colorado youth ages 18 and younger raise essential funds to get more kids playing sports.

Each year, Coloradans will be asked to give generously to ensure all children in our state can enjoy the many benefits of athletics.

To learn more, to register as a participating nonprofit or to make a donation and support our State of Play, visit www.youthsportsgivingday.org.

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PAGOSA SPRINGS PIRATES

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FOOTBALL



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Hudson Mazur breaks away from Kirtland Central defenders while rushing the ball. Mazur racked up 63 rushing yards and one touchdown on two carries in the Pirates season-opening win against the Broncos on Friday, Aug. 29.

Pirates open season with win, take on Centauri tonight

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate football team shut out Kirtland Central, N.M., by a score of 51-0 last Friday, Aug. 29, in the team's season opener at Golden Peaks Stadium.

Coach Nathan Morales commented that he was pleased with the Pirates' defensive performance on the night in maintaining a shutout.

"Our defense did well," he said, adding that going forward this season he wants the Pirates to "shore up" the edges more and not let the opponents' ball carries get to the outside.

"I was pleased with the way we were flying to the football," he added, explaining there was a good effort in group tackling.

According to stats on MaxPreps, the Pirates recorded a total of 32 tackles on the night, with Zander LeftHandBull leading the team, racking up 12 tackles. Jayton Ross recorded five tackles, while 12 other Pirates recorded one or two tackles each on the night.

Aidan Vega recorded the team's only sack, which resulted in a 6-yard loss for the Broncos.

Hudson Mazur came up with one interception, returning it for 37 yards. Braylon Landry and Ross each recorded one fumble recovery, and Jeremiah Dean blocked a punt.

The Pirates racked up a total of eight touchdowns on the night, with seven coming in the first half.

The Pirates tallied a total of 336

offensive yards on the night, putting up 324 rushing yards and 12 passing yards.

Pirate quarterback Creede Dozier completed one of three pass attempts for a total of 12 yards, and rushed for a total of 2 yards on two carries.

Morales also noted there is a decent amount of familiarity between Centauri and Pagosa Springs, adding that he hopes the team can continue using the home-field crowd to build momentum.

Morales commented that, offensively, the Pirates are "pretty athletic and fast," noting he hopes to be able to use that to their advantage throughout the season. "I think we're a fast team, we're an athletic team ... and we're a tough team. We're a physical football team, so we're gonna ride that."

Colton Lucero led the Pirates in rushing on the night, putting up a total of 138 yards and three touchdowns on seven carries.

Alex Pacheco racked up 99 rush-

ing yards on five carries, also recording three touchdowns on the night. Pacheco also returned a kickoff 80 yards for a touchdown.

Dean and Mazur each had two carries, putting up 22 and 63 yards, respectively. Mazur also recorded one touchdown.

Kasen Limebrook pulled in the Pirates' only reception on the night for a gain of 12 yards.

Morales commented on the Pirates' special teams, noting a former player is assisting with special teams coaching this year.

"We want a big play from special teams every week," he said. "That was huge for us."

The Pirates will be back in action today, Thursday, Sept. 4, hosting the Centauri Falcons at Golden Peaks Stadium at 7 p.m.

The Falcons are 1-0 on the season and ranked second in the state's 1A division.

Morales explained the Falcons are consistently a top-five team in the state's 1A division.

He noted that with a short week for preparation, the Pirates simply need to keep doing what they've been doing, and look "shore up" some things from the game against Kirtland.

Reflecting on last week's matchup and going forward in the season, Morales commented, "I think we ran the ball well ... we just gotta be physical upfront and swarm the ball on defense and I think we'll be OK."

He explained the Pirates have five

or six playmakers they are confident can be impactful, but that the offensive line needs to be able to finish off its blocks.

"All they need is a little space," Morales said in regard to the Pirates' playmakers.

Morales also noted there is a decent amount of familiarity between Centauri and Pagosa Springs, adding that he hopes the team can continue using the home-field crowd to build momentum.

"We love having the big crowd," he said.

clayton@pagosasun.com



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

A group of Pirates swarm to take down a Kirtland Central Bronco during the Pirates' season-opening win on Aug. 29 at Golden Peaks Stadium. The Pirates shut out the Broncos 51-0 in the matchup.

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VOLLEYBALL

Lady Pirates fall to Mustangs 3-2, to open league play in Alamosa

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirate volleyball team stretched its first home matchup of the season to five sets on Saturday, Aug. 30, ultimately dropping the affair to the 2A Sanford Mustangs.

"We came out excited and ready to play, especially in front of our home crowd," coach Chelsea Caler wrote in an email to The SUN. "The girls brought great energy, and the match was competitive and fun to both coach and watch."

The Lady Pirates won the first set 25-19 before dropping a close second set 26-24. Sanford also claimed the third set 25-19 before the Lady Pirates rebounded 25-19 in the fourth set to push the affair to a fifth set. Sanford took the final set 15-11, giving the Mustangs the 3-2 win on the day.

"What stood out most to me was the presence and confidence we showed on the court," Caler wrote. "Losing is never fun, but I'm really proud of how we battled and all the good things we accomplished."

Some of those good things, Caler indicates, are that the team "looked cohesive and locked in."

She adds, "Our blockers did a great job getting touches at the net, and that helped us stay in long rallies."

Offensively, she notes, Dawson Iverson led the Lady Pirates with 11 kills, and Lexi Campbell added nine.

"Our setters, Hayden Peterson and Charity Domingo, are really stepping up and starting to run the offense with confidence, which will be key in the coming weeks," Caler adds.

The coach also highlights that, on defense, "Lexi led the team with 21

digs and Tatiana [Monterroso] was close behind with 18, along with Hayden and Amber Snarr with many digs and saves. That kind of hustle kept us in the match."

The Lady Pirates now own a 1-4 record.

Caler explains the matchup was "a good place to start the season, but now it's about fine-tuning. We need to work on our out-of-system communication — how we respond when the pass or play doesn't go as planned. Getting our hitters into a better rhythm so they can swing with more confidence, and variety is another focus. We also want to cut down on errors that are within our control. With some of our younger players, it's about helping them settle into their roles so they can make a bigger impact."

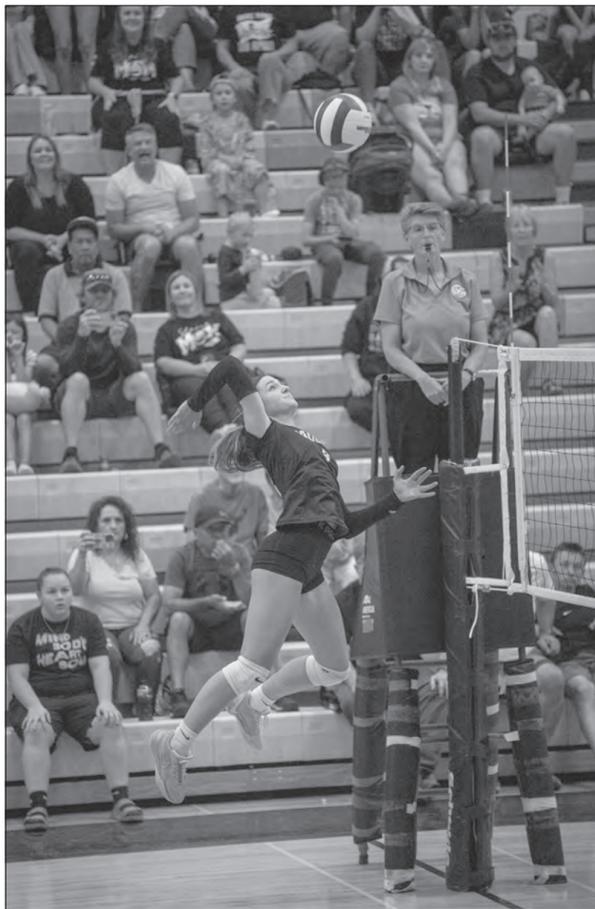
The Lady Pirates will work on fine-tuning as they open league play this evening, Thursday, Sept. 4, against the Alamosa Mean Moose.

The Mean Moose are 5-1 on the season and sit as the No. 11 team in the rankings. They entered the season as the No. 3 team in the coaches' poll.

Following that matchup, which will begin at 6:30 p.m. in Alamosa, the team will travel to Telluride on Saturday, Sept. 6, for a 1 p.m. matchup with the Miners.

The 2A Miners are 3-1 on the season.

"This week our focus is on continuing to improve our blocking and defense and speeding up our reaction time," Caler wrote. "Offensively, we want to find more ways to score points and become more consistent. Overall, it's about discipline on the little things and developing better court awareness so we can make smarter choices in key moments."



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Lady Pirate Lexi Campbell goes for the kill against the Sanford Mustangs on Saturday, Aug. 30. Campbell logged nine kills in the matchup, which the Mustangs won 3-2.

Public Meetings

The following meetings are subject to change.

Friday, Sept. 5

Upper San Juan Library District Board of Trustees special meeting. 10 a.m., Zoom. The Zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83398449146> and meeting ID: 833 9844 9146.

Tuesday, Sept. 9

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

Pagosa Springs Planning Commission meeting. 5:30 p.m., Town Hall, 551 Hot Springs Blvd. See town website for participation information: <https://pagosasprings.civicweb.net/portal/>.

Archuleta School District Board of Education meeting. 6 p.m., Pagosa Springs Middle School library, 309 Lewis St. For information, visit <https://www.mypagosaschools.com/>.

Wednesday, Sept. 10

Archuleta County builders and developers meeting. 5 p.m. Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St. For more information, visit <https://archuletacounty.gov/archuleta-county-co-official-website/agendas-and-minutes/>.

ta-county-co-official-website/agendas-and-minutes/.

Town of Pagosa Springs east gateway river park public comment meeting. 5:30 p.m., Community Center, 451 Hot Springs Blvd. For more information, visit mypagosa.org/east-gateway-river-park-public-meeting.

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

Thursday, Sept. 11

Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District Board of Directors meeting. 5 p.m., 100 Lyn Ave. or via Zoom. View on Zoom using meet-

ing ID 886 0969 7683 and passcode 223708. For more information, visit pawsd.org.

Monday, Sept. 15

San Juan Water Conservancy District special meeting. 4 p.m., 45 Eaton Drive Suite 6. For more information, visit www.sjwcd.org. *Public meeting information should be sent to editor@pagosasun.com with "Public Meeting" in the subject line. The deadline is noon Monday each week prior to publication for that week's issue.*

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Public Notices

COMBINED NOTICE - PUBLICATION CRS §38-38-103 FORECLOSURE SALE NO. 2025-006

To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with regard to the following described Deed of Trust: On June 26, 2025, the undersigned Public Trustee caused the Notice of Election and Demand relating to the Deed of Trust described below to be recorded in the County of Archuleta records. Original Grantor(s) June J Balizan and James A Pacheco Original Beneficiary(ies) Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as beneficiary, as nominee for The Central Trust Bank Current Holder of Evidence of Debt PennyMac Loan Services, LLC Date of Deed of Trust September 09, 2019 County of Recording Archuleta Recording Date of Deed of Trust September 09, 2019 Recording Information (Reception No. and/or Book/Page No.) 21905117 Book: N/A Page: N/A Original Principal Amount \$250,381.00 Outstanding Principal Balance \$228,364.28 Pursuant to CRS §38-38-101(4)(i), you are hereby notified that the covenants of the deed of trust have been violated as follows: Failure to pay principal and interest when due together with all other payments provided for in the evidence of debt secured by the deed of trust and other violations thereof.

THE LIEN FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.
Lot 2 of Block 2 in ASPEN SPRINGS SUBDIVISION NO. 4, according to the plat thereof filed for record August 20, 1971 as Reception No. 74785.
Purported common address: 511 Blue Jay Cir, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147.

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

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

DATE: 06/26/2025
Elsa P. White, Public Trustee in and for the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado
By: Elsa P. White, Public Trustee
The name, address, business telephone number and bar registration number of the attorney(s) representing the legal holder of the indebtedness is: Aricyn J. Dall #51467
Randall S. Miller & Associates PC 216 16th St, Ste 1210, Denver, CO 80202 (720) 259-9053 Attorney File # 23C000165-4
The Attorney above is acting as a debt collector and is attempting to collect a debt. Any information provided may be used for that purpose.
Published August 28, September 4, 11, 18 and 25, 2025 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (268417)

**COMBINED NOTICE - PUBLICATION
CRS §38-38-103 FORECLOSURE SALE NO. 2025-007**

To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with regard to the following described Deed of Trust: On July 3, 2025, the undersigned Public Trustee caused the Notice of Election and Demand relating to the Deed of Trust described below to be recorded in the County of Archuleta records. Original Grantor(s) Carol K Kelly AND Ricky G Kelly Original Beneficiary(ies) MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC. AS NOMINEE FOR OPEN MORTGAGE, LLC, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS
Current Holder of Evidence of Debt CARRINGTON MORTGAGE SERVICES LLC
Date of Deed of Trust September 18, 2015
County of Recording Archuleta
Recording Date of Deed of Trust September 24, 2015
Recording Information (Reception No. and/or Book/Page No.) 21507076
Original Principal Amount \$938,250.00
Outstanding Principal Balance \$310,108.36
Pursuant to CRS §38-38-101(4)(i), you are hereby notified that the covenants of the deed of trust have been violated as follows: Failure to pay principal and interest when due together with all other payments provided for in the evidence of debt secured by the deed of trust and other violations thereof.

THE LIEN FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.
THE PROPERTY IS LOCATED IN THE COUNTY OF ARCHULETA, STATE OF COLORADO, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: LOTS 15 AND 16, BLOCK 5, AMENDED ASPEN SPRINGS SUBDIVISION NO. 1, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF FILED FOR RECORD MARCH 22, 1971 AS RECEPTION NO. 74229.
Purported common address: 1074 Simmons Drive, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147.

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

DATE: 07/03/2025
Elsa P. White, Public Trustee in and for the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado
By: Elsa P. White, Public Trustee
The name, address, business telephone number and bar registration number of the attorney(s) representing the legal holder of the indebtedness is: David R Doughty #40042
Janeway Law Firm, P.C. 9540 Maroon Circle, Suite 320, Englewood, CO 80112 (855) 263-9295
Attorney File # 25-035005
The Attorney above is acting as a debt collector and is attempting to collect a debt. Any information provided may be used for that purpose.
Published September 4, 11, 18, 25 and October 2, 2025 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (268416)

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

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

DEFENDANTS: PAGLAND INVESTORS, INC., ARCHULETA COUNTY PUBLIC TRUSTEE, PAGOSA LAKES PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION and All Unknown Persons Who Claim Any Interest in The Subject Matter Of This Action
**SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION
PLAINTIFF: MCCULLISS OIL AND GAS, INC. and C.O.T.A. RESOURCES, INC.**
TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS AND ALL UNKNOWN PERSONS WHO CLAIM ANY INTEREST IN THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THIS ACTION YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to appear and defend against the claims of the Complaint to Quiet Title Pursuant to Rule 105 filed with the Archuleta County District Court in this action, by filing with the clerk of this Court an Answer or other response. You are required to file your answer or other response within 35 days after service of this summons upon you. Service of this summons shall be complete on the last day of publication. A copy of the Complaint may be obtained from the clerk of the court.
If you fail to file your Answer or other response to the Complaint in writing with 35 days after the date of the last publication, judgment by default may be entered against you by the Court for the relief demanded in the Complaint without further notice.
This is an action to quiet the title of the Plaintiff in and to the real property situate in Archuleta County, Colorado more particular described as follows:
SUBDIVISION: PAGOSA HIGHLANDS EST Lot: 73 PHE Sec: 25 Twn: 36 Rng 2.5W
Respectfully submitted this 28th day of July, 2025.
By: Daniel L. Fiedler
Daniel L. Fiedler
First publication: August 7, 2025
Last publication: September 4, 2025
Published August 7, 14, 21, 28, and September 4, 2025 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (269753)

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 REDEMPTION
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: 2W PV DOES NOT INCLUDE M/H #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 Sher-

iffs 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 REDEMPTION
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
(800) 222-4444
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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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)

LEGAL ADVERTISING DEADLINE NOON FRIDAY

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

Outdoors



Photo courtesy Wolf Creek Gun and Bow Association

The Wolf Creek Gun and Bow Association (WCGBA) hosts the WCGBA Archery Shoot at the Fisher Archery Range, with 49 competitors taking part.

Wolf Creek Gun and Bow Association hosts archery shoot

By Greg Dykstra
Wolf Creek Gun and Bow Association

The Wolf Creek Gun and Bow Association (WCGBA) hosted its first annual WCGBA Archery Shoot at the Fisher Archery Range.

Forty-nine competitors faced off for a fun-in-the-woods walk-around 3-D animal shoot that challenged even the most accomplished archers.

Eight categories of competitors tested their skills in the Men's Open,

Women's Open, Men's Bowhunter, Women's Bowhunter, Men's Traditional, Women's Traditional, Youth, and Cubs. Cash prizes were awarded to the top shooters.

A grilled hamburger/hot dog lunch was then hosted by the WCGBA staff for all those who participated or attended the event.

The 3-D targets ranged in size from raccoons to the mighty *Tyrannosaurus rex*, which is rare to see in the woods these days.

After the competition, a long-

range shot was attempted by most of the competitors. David Archuleta mastered this event by shooting the 3-D target in the bullseye at over 100 yards with one shot, making Robin Hood envious.

This was the first event held after the merger of the Pagosa Bow Club with the Wolf Creek Gun and Bow Association.

If you would like to engage in future archery events or have annual access to the Fisher Archery Range, go to wolfcreekgunandbow.org and

sign up as a member.

The Wolf Creek Gun and Bow Association is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that promotes firearms and archery programs for the community.

We are looking for landowners who wish to donate or lease property for a firearms range in the Pagosa area. Donations may be tax deductible. If you or someone you know is willing to donate/lease land for a firearms range, please contact us at contact@wolfcreekgunandbow.org.

Two major lunar standstill events planned for Chimney Rock National Monument

By Ana Murray
Chimney Rock Interpretive Association

Chimney Rock National Monument will take center stage this September as the Chimney Rock Interpretive Association (CRIA) hosts two unforgettable evenings celebrating a celestial event rarely seen in a lifetime: the major lunar standstill.

Taking place on the nights of Saturday, Sept. 13, and Sunday, Sept. 14, these late-night events will offer visitors a rare chance to witness one of the most visually striking astronomical alignments on earth — the moon rising dramatically between Chimney Rock's impressive rock pinnacles.

While most people are familiar with the moon's cycle and how its shape changes from crescent to full, and its rising position fluctuates along the horizon, far fewer know about the longer, 18.6-year lunar cycle known as the major lunar standstill.

During this time, the moon's orbit tilts to its extreme, causing it to rise and set at its most northerly and southerly points. At Chimney Rock, this rare alignment causes the moon to rise between the prominent formations of Chimney Rock and Companion Rock — a phenomenon believed to have been observed and honored by the Ancient Puebloan people more than a thousand years ago.

To mark the final months of this rare alignment's visibility, CRIA will host two consecutive night programs in the monument's outdoor amphitheater, located near the Visitor Center.

These events will feature cultural and astronomical presentations by leading experts, Native American music, telescope viewing and a live-streamed broadcast of the moonrise from a restricted vantage point on the high mesa. Though visitors won't be allowed on the upper site due to safety concerns, they will experience the moment in real-time, surrounded by the natural beauty and stillness of the ancient site.

On Saturday, Sept. 13, check-in will take place between 9:30 and 10:30 p.m. at the Visitor Center kiosk. The evening's program will begin at 10:45 p.m., with the moon expected to rise between the pinnacles at 11:30 p.m. The event will conclude shortly after the moonrise. Note: This event is sold out.

On Sunday, Sept. 14, check-in will occur from 10:30 to 11:30 p.m., with the program beginning at 11:45 p.m., and the moon making its appearance at approximately 12:30 a.m.

Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$12 for children ages 5 to 12. Children under 5 attend for free. Due to limited seating, reservations are strongly recommended and can be made exclusively through Recreation.gov

or by calling (877) 444-6777. A non-refundable \$1 reservation fee applies. Reservations will be cut off 12 hours prior to the start of the program.

Walk-ins will be accommodated on a space-available basis, but only those with reservations are guaranteed admission. Dogs are not permitted at this event, with the exception of certified service animals.

Guests are encouraged to dress warmly for the cool nighttime temperatures and to bring blankets or cushions for added comfort on the stone seating. Smoking, vaping, alcohol and drugs are strictly prohibited.

These events may be modified or canceled due to weather or conditions outside of our control. If the event is modified, but not canceled, no refunds will be issued. If the entire event is canceled, refunds can only be issued by contacting Recreation.gov, which issued the reservation. No refunds will be issued for no-shows.

This is one of the last opportunities to experience the major lunar standstill at Chimney Rock National Monument before the cycle ends in late 2025. The next opportunity won't occur again until 2043. Visitors are invited to come be part of this awe-inspiring moment, connecting sky, stone and spirit in a sacred place that has drawn human wonder for more

■ See Events A14

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Photo courtesy Chama Peak Land Alliance

The Chama Peak Land Alliance, Quivira Coalition, Upper San Juan Watershed Enhancement Partnership and the San Juan Water Conservancy District will host a free screening of "Thinking Like Water" on Sept. 9.

Film screening to focus on watershed restoration

By Monica Nigon

San Juan Water Conservancy District

Tickets are going fast for the cost-free film screening of "Thinking Like Water," hosted at the Liberty Theater on Sept. 9.

The film is hosted by the Chama Peak Land Alliance, Quivira Coalition, Upper San Juan Watershed Enhancement Partnership and San Juan Water Conservancy District

(SJWCD).

The doors will open at 5:30 p.m., and the screening will begin at 6:15 p.m. Please reserve tickets at pagosamovies.com beforehand to ensure you get a seat.

"Thinking Like Water" follows watershed restoration expert Bill Zeedyk and his collaborators as they restore integral wet meadow systems throughout the American Southwest.

Their efforts have resulted in restored watersheds, increased biodiversity, decreased erosion, and flood and drought resilience.

Stick around after the screening to hear from a panel of local restoration experts, where you can ask questions and learn more about restoring and enhancing watersheds in the Upper San Juan River Basin.

If you're inspired by the film and our local experts, you'll have the

opportunity to get your hands dirty by joining SJWCD Education and Outreach Intern Monica Nigon at a wet meadow restoration event on Sept. 13.

We'll put Zeedyk's methods into practice from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Turkey Springs Trailhead at the Piedra Road entrance.

Email Monica at mnigon.sjwcd@gmail.com to learn more or to sign up to volunteer.

Town announces east gateway river park public comment meeting on Sept. 10

By Kyle Rickert

Town of Pagosa Springs

In May 2025, the Town of Pagosa Springs purchased 1040 E. U.S.160, formerly known as Bob's LP.

This strategic acquisition has provided an opportunity to expand public river access, lengthen our

Riverwalk Trail corridor, provide additional wetland and park space, and establish a unique and defining recreation location for visitors and locals to see and use as they enter town.

The town has awarded the contract for a multiphase conceptual design and phase one build to South-

west River Engineering, a local engineer and contractor that has partnered with the town on many other successful river projects.

One of the first components of this project will be holding a public meeting Sept. 10 at 5:30 p.m. in the South Conference Room at the Ross Aragon Community Center.

The project details will be reviewed and there will be an opportunity for the public to ask questions and provide input on the design of the project.

Visit mypagosa.org/east-gateway-river-park-public-meeting for more information. Please join us for this informational session.

Events

Continued from A13

partment of Agriculture, are working in partnership to preserve and develop educational opportunities about the significant archaeological, cultural,

geological and biological resources at Chimney Rock National Monument.

CRIA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit volunteer association and receives no funding from the U.S. government. For more information, see the CRIA website at www.chimneyrockco.org or call (970) 731-7133.

CRIA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit volunteer association and receives no

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Keep Colorado Wild Pass raises \$41 million for state parks, search and rescue volunteers, and avalanche safety

State of Colorado

More than 1.5 million Coloradans opted to buy a Keep Colorado Wild Pass during its second year of being on sale, which generated \$41 million to support Colorado state parks, local search and rescue volunteers and the Colorado Avalanche Information Center (CAIC).

Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) set a goal to raise \$36 million annually from pass sales. The first \$32.5 million goes toward state park maintenance and development; the next \$2.5 million goes toward search and rescue teams, and \$1 million to the CAIC. Any revenue beyond that will go to wildlife projects and outdoor educational programs.

"We're proud to see so many Coloradans saving money by taking advantage of the low-cost Keep Colorado Wild pass, and we expect these numbers to continue growing as the popularity of our iconic state parks only increases. With these passes, Coloradans are investing back into the lands they love while exploring all our great state has to offer," said Gov. Jared Polis.

CPW and the Division of Motor Vehicles launched the new \$29 Keep Colorado Wild Pass in January 2023. The first fiscal year of Keep Colorado Wild Pass sales ended on June 30, 2024, with revenue reaching \$39.7 million.

"We're excited to report on the Keep Colorado Wild Pass's success during its second year of operations," said CPW Chief Financial Officer Justin Rutter. "This is a meaningful increase in revenue for our agency compared to previous years, which is an important source for our state parks, wildlife, search and rescue vol-

unteers, and avalanche forecasters."

The Keep Colorado Wild Pass offers a 60 percent savings compared to a traditional \$80 annual state park pass and provides car, bike and foot entry into all Colorado state parks.

Coloradans can opt in or opt out of the pass annually when registering a passenger vehicle, light truck, motorcycle or recreational vehicle with the DMV. When a resident buys a Keep Colorado Wild Pass, the park pass is a CPW logo printed on the DMV-issued vehicle registration card.

State park maintenance projects

CPW will use funding to improve existing parks across the state, including updating facilities like boat decks, bathrooms and parking lots, picnic areas and shade shelters. CPW also has plans to make Americans with Disability Act, or ADA, improvements at state parks.

Search and rescue funding

Revenue from Keep Colorado Wild Pass sales allocates \$2.5 million for local backcountry search and rescue teams to help fund rescuer training, mental health programs and team equipment.

CPW also divides \$1.5 million into county allocations, which are grants for eligible counties to be used over a two-year period to purchase items based on a county-designed project.

Support for the CAIC

Funding from the Keep Colorado Wild Pass enables the CAIC to provide better avalanche safety information to the public.

Some of the specific improve-

ments to the state's public avalanche safety program that this funding has supported include a new forecaster staffing model, adding specialized support roles in communications and technology, and replacing outdated infrastructure with a modern forecasting platform built in partnership with Avalanche Canada. These efforts have greatly improved the consistency, reach and quality of avalanche safety information available to Colorado's backcountry users, search and rescue teams, and local communities.

Outdoor learning

CPW hosts a variety of outdoor educational programs, events and learning opportunities at state parks and in local communities. The Keep Colorado Wild Pass helps support and fund more outdoor learning opportunities in Colorado so educational facilitators have what they need to keep the programs accessible and available to all Coloradans.

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Pagosa Family School classes are held at Pagosa Springs Middle School on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:45-4pm.

Reserve your student's space in this dynamic program TODAY! Find an enrollment form online at family.mypagosaschools.com. September 9th is the first day of class!

Contact Sara Blakemore for more info:
sblakemore@pagosa.k12.co.us or call 970-264-2228 x5475





Enroll now for the 2025-2026 school year. Course offerings for the upcoming school year will include Art, Music, Movement & Cooperative Games, Nature Studies, Choir, as well as fun and interesting Exploratory classes.



preview

ARTS & LIFE

Habitat for Humanity Community Picnic

Noon to 4 p.m. • Sept. 13 • Yamaguchi Park



Photo courtesy Justin Treptow

September 4, 2025



Photo courtesy Justin Treptow

Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County Construction Supervisor Jeff Bouwer leads the 2024 house dedication ceremony. Prior to selling a Habitat House, staff and volunteers meet to celebrate the close of a successful build season, and dedicate the house to the family who helped build it.

Community Picnic to celebrate 30 years of Habitat for Humanity in Archuleta County

By Jenny Highum

Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County

This September, the community will come together to celebrate a milestone — 30 years of Habitat for Humanity building homes in Archuleta County for families in need.

The Community Picnic will be held on Saturday, Sept. 13, from noon to 4 p.m. at Yamaguchi Park, offering a fun-filled afternoon for families and neighbors.

The event is a perfect way to enjoy a day out in the park while supporting a cause that has made a significant impact on the local community.

Entrance is \$10 for adults (kids under 18 are free), and your ticket includes a delicious lunch featuring hamburgers and hot dogs provided by Habitat for Humanity. Des-

sert vendors will also be on-site, offering sweet treats to round out the meal.

A highlight of the picnic will be live music from the local band Soul Fire, providing a soundtrack for dancing and socializing. For those looking to relax with a drink in hand, a cash bar offering beer and wine will be available.

As a special bonus, attendees can enter to win exciting door prizes, with several local businesses generously donating gift cards. The kids will also be entertained with a variety of fun games and prizes designed just for them.

In addition to the food, music and activities, the event will feature a “Doors for Opportunity” live auction. Local artists including Donna Merchant Crook, Markus Hughes, Donna Bouwer, Chris Haas, Jared and

■ See Habitat on next page

Live Performers

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

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Pagosa Peak Genealogical Society to meet Sept. 6

By Dan Senjem
Pagosa Peak Genealogical Society

The Pagosa Peak Genealogical Society (PPGS) will hold its monthly meeting on Saturday, Sept. 6.

We will meet at 10 a.m. at the CSU Extension office on U.S. 84. Guests are always welcome.

After a short business meeting, PPGS member Dan Senjem will present lessons learned on his second ancestry trip to Norway and France. His first tour was in 2012; the second was completed last fall.

Senjem first stayed at the old farm home of his paternal second great grandparents near Drammen, Norway. There he received additional information about his family (originally Sonju) from the current (unrelated) owners of the farm.

He then proceeded to France, where he has cousins still living. His mother was born and raised in Chauny, an hour northeast of Paris by train. She and her brothers were active in the French Resistance. She met his father after France was liberated from the Nazis during World War II.

Senjem took a side trip to the D-Day beaches, his father having landed on Omaha beach in July 1944. He will show photos from the American military cemetery above that beach.

Senjem has been researching his

family history for more than 40 years, beginning with his paternal great-grandfather who served four years in the Civil War in a Minnesota regiment. A second great-grandfather was a Minnesota state representative in the early 1870s. To this day, he has family holding local political offices in Minnesota.

Senjem has lived in Colorado for more than 50 years and in Pagosa Springs since 1997. He has been a member and sometimes officer of

the PPGS for more than 20 years. This will be his fourth presentation to the society.

The presentation will be followed by a potluck to celebrate long time members AnneMarie and Rex Kemp, who will be moving to Wisconsin to be closer to family.

For more information on the PPGS, please attend a monthly meeting, contact Carolyn Paschal at carolynpaschal@gmail.com or visit our website at pagosapeaks.org.

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Habitat

■ continued from previous page

Miranda Omas, Laurie Brinkmann, Rebecca Tenpenny and the Pagosa Community Initiative have created stunning works of art on doors which will be auctioned off to raise funds for Habitat for Humanity's ongoing work.

Attendees will also have the chance to hear from three Habitat Archuleta homeowners from the past 30 years. Staff and board will interview Jini, who received a critical repair on her home in 2020; Brandy, who built alongside our volunteers in 2019; and Kelly, who partnered to build in 2006 and is now just days away from paying off her mortgage.

This Community Picnic is a day for families to enjoy, so be sure to bring picnic blankets, chairs and your loved ones to this family-friendly celebration. Whether you're new to the area or a long-time resident, this is a wonderful opportunity to come together, show support and enjoy some fun in the sun. This event will be rain or shine with a large tent for sun or rain coverage.

Mark your calendars for Sept. 13 — you won't want to miss this community celebration of Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County's hard work and incredible spirit.

To purchase tickets in advance, or if you need more information or want to volunteer, email volunteer@habitatarchuleta.org.

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Photo courtesy Heidi Tanner

Dan and Venita Burch work with the Pagosa Springs Community Choir. The choir will begin rehearsals for its 2025 Christmas concerts on Tuesday, Sept. 9, with the concerts slated for Dec. 12-14.

Pagosa Springs Community Choir's 2025 Christmas Concert rehearsals to begin Sept. 9

By Heidi Tanner
Pagosa Springs Community Choir

The Pagosa Springs Community Choir will begin rehearsals for our 2025 Christmas concerts on Tuesday, Sept. 9.

Rehearsals are held in the band room at Pagosa Springs High School weekly on Tuesdays from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

The Community Choir has been operating for more than 20 years, and the group's Christmas concerts are beloved by the community and are a landmark of Pagosa Springs Christmas festivities.

This year's concerts will be on Dec. 12 and 13 at 7 p.m. and on Dec. 14 at 4 p.m.

If you enjoy singing, please join us. It is helpful, but not necessary to read music to participate in the choir.

Our music director, Dan Burch, is a wonderful vocal coach and we provide learning tracks which you can use to practice at home.

Venita Burch, our accomplished accompanist, also assists us in learn-

ing our parts and we have plenty of rehearsals to help us prepare.

Rehearsals are fun and challenging, leading up to our series of three concerts, which are rewarding to present to the community.

Registration for this year's Community Choir will begin at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 9.

There is a registration fee of \$20 that is used for the purchase of new music and the operating expenses of the choir. Additionally, there are reasonable fees charged for our concert attire, which can be purchased or rented. Financial assistance is also available for registration and wardrobe if needed. Lastly, students can participate free of charge. Registration and wardrobe fees are payable with cash or check.

Our theme for the 2025 season is "We Need a Little Christmas," and Dan Burch has chosen some wonderful music for us to sing. Look forward to singing Christmas favorites such as "Silver Bells," "The Little Drummer Boy" and the "Hallelujah Chorus," along with some lesser-known

and new pieces such as "Even in a Manger."

To get a taste of what you can expect when joining the Pagosa Springs Community Choir, check out our website, singpagosa.org.

We look forward to welcoming you at registration on Tuesday, Sept. 9, starting at 6 p.m. in the band room of Pagosa Springs High School. Our first rehearsal of the 2025 concert season will begin at 7 p.m. sharp. We're hoping to see you there.

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Photo courtesy Andy Butler

Dark skies in the Pagosa Springs area enable photography of the Milky Way, constellations, and unique events such as Comet C/2023 A3 Tsuchinshan-ATLAS, shown here in the sky above Pagosa Springs in October 2024.

September Pagosa Springs Photography Club meeting to focus on dark skies

By Andy Butler
Pagosa Springs Photography Club

The September meeting of the Pagosa Springs Photography Club will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 10, 2025, at 6 p.m.

The club meets in the Community United Methodist Church at 434 Lewis St.

The program will start at 6:30 p.m., but feel free to arrive anytime after 6 p.m. to socialize. Photography Club meetings are open to the public and visitors are welcome. Please use the side door near the church parking lot to enter.

Our speaker this month will be Dena Laterza from the Pagosa Sidewalk Astronomers. She will speak on "Protecting Pagosa's Dark Skies."

As photographers, many of us prize the dark skies near Pagosa Springs for capturing nightscape images featuring starry skies over our Rocky Mountain landscapes.

Laterza will discuss why it is important to preserve our night skies and what is being done to protect dark skies for future generations.

Laterza will also provide information on how each person in our community can make a difference.

Photography Club presentations are also available on Zoom for those

who can't attend a meeting in person. For the Zoom link to this meeting, please contact abutler@mac.com.

Following Laterza's presentation, we will hold our monthly Image Share session. Club members may bring up to five recent images to show and discuss with the group during this portion of our meeting.

Club membership

Are you looking for ways to improve your photography? Do you want to hang out with other photography enthusiasts?

Then consider joining the Pagosa Springs Photography Club. We welcome anyone who enjoys making and appreciating great photographs.

Club meetings and outings provide valuable insights into composition, light and technique from experienced photographers and speakers.

Regardless of the type of camera you use, club membership can help you take better photos.

Membership benefits include educational programs, image sharing and review, photo outings and contests to foster improvement in photography.

The annual membership fee is just \$25. You can apply for membership on our website, <https://pagosapingsphotoclub.org/about>, or at one of our meetings.

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Photo courtesy Lisa Scott

Women affiliated with a collegiate sorority gathered at the Alley House Grille to welcome friends and share the bonds of sisterhood across badges. Nineteen women representing seven Panhellenic sororities and 16 universities attended. To join our list of future events, contact Sherry Spears at (940) 887-9208.

Film screening and fundraiser to feature renowned Chaco Canyon researcher

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 Thursday, 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 solsticeproject.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. You can view a three-minute preview of the film at <http://bit.ly/4mE3whR>.

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.



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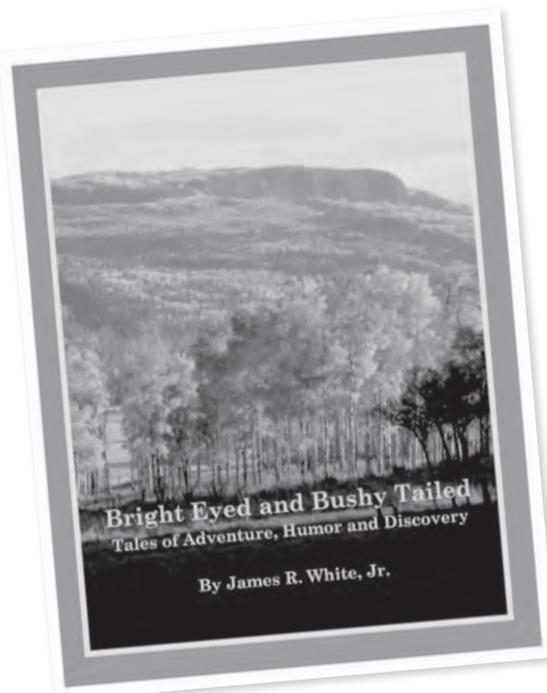
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Pagosa Sidewalk Astronomers extend photo contest

By Dena Laterza
Pagosa Sidewalk Astronomers

Due to many cloudy, smoky days in August, we have decided to extend the astrotourism photo contest allowing submissions through September.

The awards will now be announced at the November meeting of the Pagosa Springs Photography Club on Nov. 12.

We have received some wonderful submissions, but are hoping for more clear skies during the moonless nights of September.

Submissions will be accepted through Sept. 30th.

Winners will be announced in The Pagosa Springs SUN newspaper and cash prizes awarded on Nov. 12.

The Pagosa Sidewalk Astronomers are sponsoring the contest to promote astrotourism and to raise awareness about the need to protect the night sky against light pollution. We are requesting photos of the stars or the Milky Way with something that represents Pagosa Springs in the foreground.

Let's show off Pagosa's dark skies. Photos of people participating in night sky events hosted by the Pagosa Sidewalk Astronomers will also be considered. We have three BYOBinoculars events in September. Photos of people/telescopes should be illuminated with red lights only.

Three winners will win cash: first prize of \$50, second prize of \$30 and third prize of \$20.

See the rules and more details at PagosaSidewalkAstronomers.org/photo-contest.

DarkSky International's Advocates Network is a global community united in its efforts to protect the night from light pollution. The Pagosa Sidewalk Astronomers are local advocates working to preserve the night sky as an important natural resource. More advocates are needed; please contact us to join the effort. We also organize free, educational public events using telescopes and binoculars. Together, we can preserve our dark sky for ourselves and future generations.

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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>



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=q0khZeKE-G0



471 Deer Trail
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MLS # 826138

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



109 Carol's Curves
\$284,000

MLS # 824583

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



324/356/294 Sparrow Circle
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MLS # 821243

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



1119 Hills Circle
\$500,000

MLS # 827227

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



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Photo courtesy Jeff Laydon

Pat Love, Renee Vanover, Kirk Geer and Susan Geer are team Recycled Rotarians, part of the 2025 Runway for Rise fundraiser for Rise Above Violence.

Committed teams returning for Runway for Rise fashion fundraiser

By Annie Gian
Rise Above Violence

Team Recycled Rotarians and Team W.I.B. (Women in Black) are among the returning teams preparing to strut the runway at Pagosa Springs' highly anticipated charity event. Runway for Rise, A Recycled Fashion Gala, will return to the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts on Oct. 4.

Now in its third year, this innovative fundraiser for Rise Above Violence challenges teams to create fashion masterpieces using recycled and natural materials, showcasing creativity while supporting domestic and sexual violence survivors in the community.

Among the 10 competing teams are two returning favorites who are already preparing their sustainable couture for the big night.

Team Recycled Rotarians is back for its third consecutive year representing the Pagosa Springs Rotary Club. The team embodies the motto of "Service Above Self" through its participation.

"Rotary Club is proud to partici-

pate in this Runway for Rise event as part of our club's continued commitment to 'Service Above Self,'" a team spokesperson said. "Rotarians are dedicated to helping others, uplifting victims of domestic violence and strengthening our community through compassion, awareness and action. We believe that, working together with others, we can make a meaningful difference where it's needed most — right here at home and around the world."

Also returning to the catwalk is Team W.I.B. (Women in Black), making its second appearance at the event.

Their commitment to the cause is evident in their mission statement.

"We walk the Runway for Rise to further the mission of Rise Above Violence and the powerful impact this organization has in our community," the team shared. "Each step is a step for healing, a step for safety and a step for hope. Each step is a celebration of the lives that have been transformed, and we are truly honored to participate."

Supporters can donate now toward their favorite team, helping

them win the coveted Pagosa Prada Award, presented to the team that raises the most funds for the organization.

Tickets for this highly anticipated event are also on sale now. Attendees can choose from four ticket tiers based on proximity to the runway: \$50, \$75, \$125 (floor seats next to the runway) and \$150 for VIP seats on stage (limited to just 20 available).

New this year, VIP ticket holders will enjoy exclusive benefits which include access to a special backstage party during happy hour and intermission. This exclusive area will allow VIPs to get sneak peeks of the outfits and pose for photos with models. You also enjoy food service and a dedicated cash bar with no waiting in lines. There will also be an opportunity to be a part of the show for VIPs willing

■ See Rise on next page



Photo courtesy Kim Buscaglia

Team W.I.B (Women in Black), part of Rise Above Violence's upcoming Runway for Rise event, includes Donna Muir, Meagan Zimpher and Kim Buscaglia.



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Community groups plan to attend Archuleta Health Fair and Expo

Healthy Archuleta

The upcoming Archuleta Health Fair and Expo will be on Oct. 4 and will again be held at Pagosa Springs High School.

There will be representative members from our health care community, as well as a number of local and community-based organizations participating at the fair that will have booths displaying their particular services and information.

One of our local community based organizations is the Pagosa Community Initiative (PCI).

According to Rebecca Tenpenny, the director of PCI, the organization will have a table at the health fair.

The PCI representatives are looking forward to the event and are excited to present what PCI has to offer residents of Archuleta County.

This will be their first time participating at the health fair, and they plan to have information on their organization's resources such as family services and after-school programming for elementary- and middle school-age youth.

Established in 2022, PCI was created to offer interactive opportunities that honor culture and diversity to provide Archuleta residents services that elevate wellness.

On its Facebook page, its goal is a "one stop shop for families to gather and gain resources and thrive while supporting each other. Inclusion, education, advocacy, and fun with a sense of place. Serving Archuleta County with high-quality programming for all."

PCI offers many activities and events which families may partici-

pate in, such as its summer camps with hiking and swimming. PCI also holds fundraising events that help to support the organization, making many of its activities and events free to families.

In the fall, they will hold a toy drive. You can learn more about PCI by visiting www.pagosacommunity-initiative.org.

If you plan to be at the health fair, be sure to stop by their booth and meet Tenpenny and her staff.

Our community is fortunate to have access to a number of community-based organizations that provide a wide range of services not only to families with children, but also our senior population, those with disabilities, addiction issues, mental health, food insecurity, language barriers, and access to our local health network.

This is the intention of the Archuleta Health Fair and Expo — to connect the community with the wonderful organizations who offer their services to help with a variety of needs.

The health fair not only focuses on health and wellness, but also on safety, sharing connections, sustainability, inclusion and outreach. Many residents who attend the fair also spend some of their time giving back to the community through volunteering with these community-based organizations.

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.

If you plan to attend the health

fair, take advantage of the services being offered. To sign up for the farm-to-table lunch, please register online at <http://bit.ly/4mwhodp> or click on the "2025 Health Fair & Expo" button on Healthy Archuleta's website.

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Edge AI give you an even bigger edge when paired with our easy-to-use My Starkey app.

A control center for your hearing aids

Change programs and adjust volume easily on either your smartphone or, now ALL-NEW, Apple Watch.



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Thanks to the industry's longest lasting rechargeable hearing aids, up to 51 hours of battery life.

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Call 970-731-4554 to schedule your appointment

coloradohearingaid.com

Gennette Erickson
Owner,

Hearing Aid Specialist



Rise

continued from previous page to have some fun on stage.

Donate toward Team Recycled Rotarians or W.I.B. (Women in Black) by visiting www.riseaboveviolence.org.

Through this unique fashion-forward fundraiser, together we can Rise Above Violence.

Event questions? Contact Annie Gian, event coordinator, at annie@riseaboveviolence.org.

Join us for Fall Fest!

Saturday, September 13th
10:00 AM - 2:30 PM
1868 Majestic Dr.



Growing Dome® tours, workshops, crafts, and gardening inspiration!

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New onetime location for book donations to Friends of the Library next weekend

By Carole Howard
PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff



The Friends of the Library are planning ahead for future book sales to benefit the library by arranging a pop-up book donation location on Saturday, Sept. 13, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Ramon's Mexican Restaurant, 56 Talisman Drive.

This action is necessary because we cannot accept book donations for a year at our building now that we are operating in a much smaller space while construction happens on the first phase of our long-awaited expansion.

Thanks to Ramon's generosity, the Friends will be setting up tables in front of its space to collect books that will be sold at the Friends book sales in 2026. If they get a good response, they plan to set up more donation sites in the future.

Please follow these guidelines for your donations:

Books on time-sensitive topics that can quickly become out of date are wanted only if they have been published within the last five years. These subjects include politics/current events, health and medicine, sports/exercise, business, technology, science, education and travel guides. Not accepted are reference materials, textbooks and non-print material like CDs, DVDs, Blu-ray, VHS or cassette tapes because they do not sell at Friends of the Library sales.

We hope you'll take this opportunity to bring your new or lightly used books to the Friends on Sept. 13. Proceeds from their book sales are vital to the ongoing health of your library.

Construction update: your green mountain library

Here's the latest news on your library's construction project from Barb Brattin, library director:

"Living in a mountain town, we prize our clean water and clean air, and cringe at the idea of filling up a landfill with waste that could otherwise be reused. Ruby Sisson Library has long been proud of our sustainable geothermal heating system and we recycle everything we can. Our old books go to Book Barns throughout the county for reuse. And when space allows (not right now) we gladly accept your donations of almost new books to add to the collection.

"Now that we are under construction, we have new concerns: Where is all this construction debris ending up? Is there a way we can have less

negative impact on the environment in our new building?

"I thought you might have the same questions, so here are some of the ways we are making our project and the new library more sustainable:

"1. All the construction debris is collected in dumpsters headed for Phoenix Construction Recycling. They sort through the materials and sell what can be reused.

"2. Our geothermal system will be expanded into the new addition, keeping the whole building on geothermal heating.

"3. The building is being built for solar panels and we are pursuing grants that would add a 45 kw system supplying most of our electric needs throughout the year and maybe even sending some extra into the grid.

"4. The building plans provide electrical conduit to the parking area for the purpose of adding electric vehicle (EV) charging stations. We are pursuing grants to add two EV charging stations among the parking spaces, both accessible to people of all abilities.

"5. We're using natural mineral wool insulation in lieu of more toxic fibers.

"6. We're donating the beautiful front doors on the old library to Habitat for Humanity for use in their future projects.

"7. We're framing the stained glass panels that were positioned above the old entryway doors. We'll use them as artwork in the new library where they will catch all the light from the new windows and continue to bring us joy for many years.

"8. We're keeping all the old woodwork in place. It's in great shape and won't need refinishing.

"I hope these green initiatives make you proud of your library. We invite you to share any additional ideas you might have about how we can do even better to keep our mountain town pristine."

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

■ See Library on next page

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Cleopatra's love ___ Antony
- 5 Zebra feature
- 9 Rose essence
- 14 Mixed dish
- 15 Lena of Hollywood
- 16 Like Erik the Red
- 17 Shaker contents
- 19 Wide open
- 20 Guarantees
- 21 Musical intervals
- 23 Request starter
- 24 "Hahaha," in a text
- 25 NY to RI direction
- 26 File menu option
- 29 Male turkey
- 31 Calling for backup, e.g.
- 33 Landlord, eg.
- 36 Prophetic sign
- 37 Hotel upgrade
- 39 Type of palm tree
- 40 Reacts to pain
- 42 Rocker Elvis
- 44 High-speed road
- 46 Earliest stage
- 47 Greek letter
- 49 Ground grain
- 50 Maze runner
- 51 Political liberal
- 53 In addition
- 57 Electrolysis particle
- 58 Card game for one
- 60 Singer Cara
- 61 Wilson of "Marley & Me"
- 62 Anagram for "nail"
- 63 They roll in
- 64 Notable events
- 65 Musher's transport

DOWN

- 1 Tiny bit

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- 2 Alda or Hale
- 3 Barbecue fare
- 4 Newspaper ad unit
- 5 Saunter along
- 6 Woe is me!
- 7 Not a thing
- 8 Place in a crypt
- 9 Fictional mouse
- 10 Roman robe
- 11 Crossings
- 12 White-barked tree
- 13 "The Morning Show" actress
- 18 Muse of poetry
- 22 Bridge supports
- 24 Like Vulcans, notably
- 26 Front of a ship
- 27 Oscar-winning Malek
- 28 Picked from a lineup
- 29 African antelope
- 30 Food, shelter, etc.
- 32 Magazine editions
- 34 Lascivious look
- 35 Tooth part
- 38 Diminutive dog
- 41 Fine furs
- 43 Cereal go-with
- 45 Holmes' companion
- 47 Fold
- 48 Painter Matisse
- 50 Bridle parts
- 52 ___ of voice
- 53 Squandered
- 54 Clock face
- 55 Lake near Niagara Falls
- 56 Mail or ship
- 59 "I ___ you one"

Answers to Previous Crossword:

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| R | E | S | T | | | T | O | O | T | | S | E | E | M | S |

Library

■ **continued from previous page** 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.

Online author talks

Our free online author talks with New York Times bestselling authors continue in September with two more 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>.

Wednesday, Sept. 10, at noon will feature communication expert Jefferson Fisher on "Argue Less and Talk More."

Wednesday, Sept. 17, at noon will showcase Gabe Henry discussing "Our Failed Attempt to Make English Ezzier to Spell."

LEGO play Saturday

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

Conversational Spanish

The Conversational Spanish group will meet Monday, Sept. 8, from 4 to 5 p.m. at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church at 225 South Pagosa Blvd. This is a great opportunity to practice your Spanish in a free group setting. No minimum skill level is needed.

Ruby's Book Club

Ruby's Book Club will meet from 2 to 3 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 9, to discuss "The Devil in the White City" by Erik Larson. Copies are available at your library.

This free book club for adults is held the second Tuesday of each month, alternating between fiction and nonfiction titles. Anyone is welcome to attend.

During construction it takes place at the new Archuleta County Transit Center, 83 Harman Park Drive, next to the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office.

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 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.

Virtual legal clinic

Registration opened Tuesday, Sept. 2, for this month's free legal clinic. Participation is by appointment for Wednesday, Sept. 10, from 2 to 3:40 p.m. for you to meet with a volunteer civil attorney by phone.

To schedule an appointment, phone (970) 264-2209. When you call, let us know if you need a translator. Registration is required because space is limited.

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.

Large print

"The Perfect Son" by Freida McFadden tests a mother's faith after a murder. "Outlaw Country" by William W. and J.A. Johnson is a Smoke Jensen western. "Robert Ludlum's The Bourne Escape" by Brian Freeman is a Jason Bourne adventure. "The Rise and Fall of Miss Fannie's Biscuits" by Wanda E. Brunstetter and Martha Bolton is a Cozy Amish mystery. "Killer on the Road"/"The Babysitter Lives" by Stephen Graham Jones is a Saga Double mystery book.

Poetry

"Bitter Creek" is a powerful epic poem by Teow Lim Goh about the Rock Creek Massacre in a Wyoming coal town. It is an ode told through the eyes of struggling Chinese coal miners, their families and the corporation working them to the bone.

Nonfiction

"Yet Here I Am" by Jonathan Capehart is a memoir by this Pulit-

zer Prize-winning Black TV host. "A Swim in a Pond in the Rain" by university professor George Saunders with seven essays and four Russian short stories explores how fiction works. "Road Atlas & National Park Guide" is a Rand McNally book with large maps. "The Italian Way" is a DK guide celebrating the food, culture and beauty of Italy. "Pack Light" by Shilletha Curtis is a memoir by a woman who decides to confront the roots of her childhood by hiking the Appalachian Trail. "Deep Creek" by Pam Houston contains essays exploring the importance of caring for the land and its creatures from a 120-acre Colorado Rockies homestead. "How Countries Go Broke" by renowned investor Ray Dalio offers solutions for dealing with the debt problems in the U.S., Europe, Japan and China. "Man's Search for Meaning" by Victor E. Frankl describes life in the Nazi death camps and its lessons for spiritual survival.

"Retirement 101" by Michelle Gagan, CPA, is a new second edition explaining how retirement rules have changed. "Tracing Time" by Craig Childs explores the rock art of the Colorado Plateau. "The Hiroshima

■ See Library on next page



BUILDING PERMIT **BUILDING REGULATIONS** **BUILDING SAFETY**

ATTENTION Builders & Developers be a part of the conversation.

The Board of County Commissioners wants to hear from you, the builders and developers in Archuleta County. We are looking at potentially revamping policies, regulations, and rules.

Come, see where we are and continue the conversation with us.

Join us to give us your thoughts
Wednesday, September 10th, at 5pm,
 County Administration Building, meeting room
 398 Lewis St.



Local reporting that matters.

PSMC Welcomes



Teresa Gross, MD

PSMC is proud to announce that Dr. Teresa Gross, board-certified general surgeon, is joining the PSMC surgery team and is now accepting appointments.

Pagosa Springs History Museum seeking board members

Pagosa Springs History Museum

The Pagosa Springs History Museum completed the summer season on Aug. 30, and efforts are underway to provide new exhibits and conduct another successful season in 2026.

The museum board of directors overcame a two-year construction-related closure and not only brought

the museum back to form this year, but oversaw the initial phase of a project to add an additional exhibit space to the building.

With the next season in the planning stage — for a year that celebrates the founding of the nation (250 years ago) and Colorado statehood (150 years) — there is additional historical significance attached to what lies

ahead.

With this in mind, and considering continued efforts to procure funding, further develop the new space and create additional exhibits, volunteers are being sought for positions on the board.

Directors attend monthly board meetings, assist with yearly facility maintenance, and provide input regarding improvements to the museum and its operation.

If you have an interest in local history and wish to participate, please email info@pagosamuseum.org.

HUD Publisher's Notice



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or an intention, to make such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

Library

■ continued from previous page
Men" by Iain MacGregor elucidates the fateful decision to drop the atomic bomb. "Plant Dyes" by Camille Binet-Dezert explains how to make your own natural fabric and yarn dyes. "Wilderness Survival Skills for Beginners" by Jason Marsteiner is a step-by-step guide to survive the great outdoors. "The Everyday Naturalist" by Rebecca Lexa show you how to use field guides, apps and other resources to identify animals, plants and fungi. "Insects of North America" by John C. and Kendra K. Abbott is a photographic field guide.

Mysteries and thrillers

"The Unraveling of Julia" by Lisa Scottoline is a psychological thriller about a young widow who inherits a Tuscan estate. "An Inside Job" by Daniel Silva is a Gabriel Allon crime story. "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. "The President's Shadow" by James Patterson and Richard DiLallo is a new Shadow thriller series book. "The Rabbit Club" by Christopher J. Yates explores strange events in an Oxford secret society. "Kiss Her Goodbye" by Lisa Gardner is a missing person story set in Tucson.

Other novels

"Parable of the Sower" by Octavia

E. Butler is a dystopian novel about the future. "The Aeneid of Virgil" is the classic masterpiece about the hero fleeing the ruins of Troy to find safety for himself and his people presented in accessible prose. "The Crucible" by Arthur Miller is the classic play about witch-hunts and trials in 17th century Salem.

Quotable quote

"I used to have a fun in the swamp playing leapfrog. It was our favorite game Except for my cousin, Albert. He never actually leapt. He just stepped on your back and used your head like a lily pad. Sure he got ahead, but it was only by stepping on you. We've been told that that's how you succeed. And some choose to believe it. But I know they're wrong. So, as you prepare to take this big leap into real life, here's a little advice, if you're willing to listen to a frog. Rather than jumping over someone to get what you want, consider reaching out your hand and taking the leap side by side. Because, life is better when we leap together." — Kermit the Frog's commencement speech at the University of Maryland on May 21.

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>.

SUDOKU

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| | 3 | 7 | | | | | 8 | |
| | | 8 | 1 | | | 3 | 2 | |

Level: Advanced

Fun By The Numbers

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

Here's How It Works:

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

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

ANSWER:

Your Dream Wedding Venue

ELKWOOD MANOR

10 years of making dreams come true!

Located on Hwy 84 - 2.5 miles from downtown Pagosa Springs

Weddings and Elopements with breathtaking views



Our packages include:

- 2 nights lodging for the wedding party
- In-house gourmet catering
- Officiant
- Open bar
- All rentals
- Cocktail hour and seated dinner
- Decorations
- Planning and day-of coordination

It's your wedding, we do it your way!

Pricing at elkwoodmanor.com
Contact us at 970-264-9166

Preview Calendar

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

Thursday, Sept. 4

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.

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.

Nonprofit Tips, Tricks and Treats: Board Recruitment and Orientation with Briggen Wrinkle. Noon-1 p.m., Community Center, 451 Hot Springs Blvd. Join the Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado for sessions to get nonprofits together for networking, idea sharing and helpful tools for organizations. Feel free to bring lunch; dessert will be provided.

Senior Conversations. 1:30 p.m., Senior Center.

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.

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.

San Juan Stargazers. 6 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Social time will begin at 6 p.m., followed by an educational presentation at 7 p.m.

Pagosa Springs Varsity Football. 7 p.m., Golden Peaks Stadium. Pagosa Springs High School vs. Centauri.

Friday, Sept. 5

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.

Saturday, Sept. 6

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.

Free Community Pancake Breakfast. 8-11 a.m., Stevens Field Airport. Enjoy food, fun and community spirit. A fundraiser for Veterans for Veterans of Archuleta County and the Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs.

Pagosa Peak Genealogical Society. 10 a.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Dan Senjem will present lessons learned on an ancestry trip to Norway and France.

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 Roscoe 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

■ See Calendar on next page

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Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

along the way to learn about ancient Puebloan structures. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$6 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Pagosa Springs Varsity Boys' Soccer. 11 a.m., Golden Peaks Stadium. Pagosa Springs High School vs. Aztec.

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.

Pi Beta Phi San Juan Alumnae Club Luncheon. 11:30 a.m., home of Lisa Scott. Celebrate the beginning of the 2025-2026 academic year. Bring your checkbook to pay your annual dues or pay online. RSVP to Lisa.

30th Annual Auction for the Animals. 5:30-8:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, 2313 Eagle Drive. The evening will include a pet fashion show, food, drink, live music, silent and live auctions, and more. Tickets are \$110 and are available at Pagosa-Humane.org.

Sunday, Sept. 7

Free Community Pancake Breakfast. 8-11 a.m., Stevens Field Airport. Enjoy food, fun and community spirit. A fundraiser for Veterans of Archuleta County and the Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs.

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.

Full Moon Program. 7:30 p.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. Combine the Full Moon Program with an early, guided tour of the Mesa Village Trail to create a four-hour event. The cost is \$25. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Monday, Sept. 8

Mysteries of Chimney Rock Tour. 8 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour provides an in-depth discussion along the Great House Trail about the connection of Chimney Rock to the greater Chacoan culture, the significance of the mesa-top Great House, and the day-to-day lives of the ancestral inhabitants of Chimney Rock. Tickets are \$20 for ages 13 and up and \$10 for ages 5-12, with those under

5 free. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

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 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.

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

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, Sept. 9

Pagosa Springs Varsity Golf. 9 a.m., Pagosa Springs Golf Club. Pagosa Springs High School vs. multiple opponents.

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.

HR Power Hour. Noon-1 p.m., Zoom. The Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado's HR experts will cover everything non-profits need to know to update and optimize their HR practices, including employment law, successful onboarding, preventing conflict in the workplace, required HR policies, staff contracts and building a culture of feedback. The cost is \$10 per session or \$50 for all the session. For more information and to register, visit www.swcommunityfoundation.org/hr-power-hour/.

Bridge. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center. **English as a Second Language.** 4-7 p.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal

■ See Calendar on next page

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■ continued from previous page

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.

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.

Pagosa Springs Varsity Boys' Soccer.

5:30 p.m., Golden Peaks Stadium. Pagosa Springs High School vs. Montezuma-Cortez.

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, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd.

Wednesday, Sept. 10

Southwest Colorado Gives: Covering Your Bases.

9-10:30 a.m., Zoom. A workshop for nonprofits new to Southwest Colorado Gives and those who want a refresh on the basics. The Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado will cover all the bases of what nonprofits need to know to use the platform and optimize campaigns. For more information and to register, visit www.swcommunityfoundation.org/2025-swcogives-workshops/.

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.

Southwest Colorado Gives: Covering Your Bases.

2-3:30 p.m., Zoom. A workshop for nonprofits new to Southwest Colorado Gives and those who want a refresh on the basics. The Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado will cover all the bases of what nonprofits need to know to use the platform and optimize campaigns. For more information and to register, visit www.swcommunityfoundation.org/2025-swcogives-workshops/.

Mysteries of Chimney Rock Tour.

5-7:15 p.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour provides an in-depth discussion along the Great House Trail about the connection of Chimney Rock to the greater Chacoan culture, the significance of the mesa-top Great House, and the day-to-day lives of the ancestral inhabitants of Chimney Rock. Tickets are \$20 for ages 13 and up and \$10 for ages 5-12, with those under 5 free. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Pagosa Springs Photography Club.

6 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Socializing will begin at 6 p.m., followed by the meeting at 6:30 p.m. Enter through the side door next to the parking lot. Dena Laterza will speak about protecting Pagosa's dark skies.

Order of the Eastern Star Peace and Harmony Chapter #158.

7 p.m., Masonic Lodge, 277 Lewis St. Call Donna at (970) 946-8201 for more information.

Thursday, Sept. 11

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.

'Fissuring Out the Past' Ice Caves Loop Geology Hike.

9 a.m.-1 p.m. The event is free, but registration is required at sjma.org/events.

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

■ See Calendar on page 17

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PAGOSA SCENE . . .

WEDNESDAY WINE WALK

Photos courtesy Shellie Peterson
Scene ... coming together to sip, stroll and support local businesses at the Wednesday Wine Walk sponsored by the Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs on Aug. 27. Funds raised from the event will benefit the Main Street Business Assistance Fund.



Preview Calendar

■ continued from page 15

language classes. These classes are free. Call (970) 264-2209 or email for more information. Beginning students are encouraged to attend from 4-5 p.m., intermediate students from 5-6 p.m. and advanced students from 6-7 p.m.

Chimney Rock Interpretive Association Film Screening: 'Written on the Landscape: Mysteries Beyond Chaco Canyon.' 5 p.m., Liberty Theatre, 418 Pagosa St. The evening will include drinks (cash bar) and appetizers, a silent auction, the film screening and a Q-and-A with Chaco Canyon expert Anna Sofaer.

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 Varsity Volleyball. 6 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Pagosa Springs High School vs. Del Norte.

Friday, Sept. 12

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.

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tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Submit your calendar items to editor@pagosasun.com; mail them to The Pagosa Springs SUN, P.O. Box 9, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147; or deliver them to The SUN office by noon Monday.

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HEALTHY SELF

READING LOWERS STRESS

There are a number of ways to reduce stress. You can read, listen to music, or even play video games. However, according to today's excerpt...

Reading worked best, reducing stress levels by 68 per cent, said cognitive neuropsychologist Dr David Lewis. Subjects only needed to read, silently, for six minutes to slow down the heart rate and ease tension in the muscles, he found. In fact it got subjects to stress levels lower than before they started.

Listening to music reduced the levels by 61 per cent, have a cup of tea or coffee lowered them by 54 per cent and taking a walk by 42 per cent.

Playing video games brought them down by 21 per cent from their highest level but still left the volunteers with heart rates above their starting point.

Dr Lewis, who conducted the test, said: "Losing yourself in a book is the ultimate relaxation. "This is particularly poignant in uncertain economic times when we are all craving a certain amount of escapism. "It really doesn't matter what book you read, by losing yourself in a thoroughly engrossing book you can escape from the worries and stresses of the everyday world and spend a while exploring the domain of the author's imagination.

"This is more than merely a distraction but an active engaging of the imagination as the words on the printed page stimulate your creativity and cause you to enter what is essentially an altered state of consciousness."

Source: "Reading 'can help reduce stress' .<http://www.telegraph.co.uk>

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

"I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well." Psalm 139:14

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- 11:00 am Why Does God Allow Suffering?
- 12:30 pm Vegetarian Meal
- 2:00 pm Mini-concert by Vonda
- 2:30 pm Count it All Joy?



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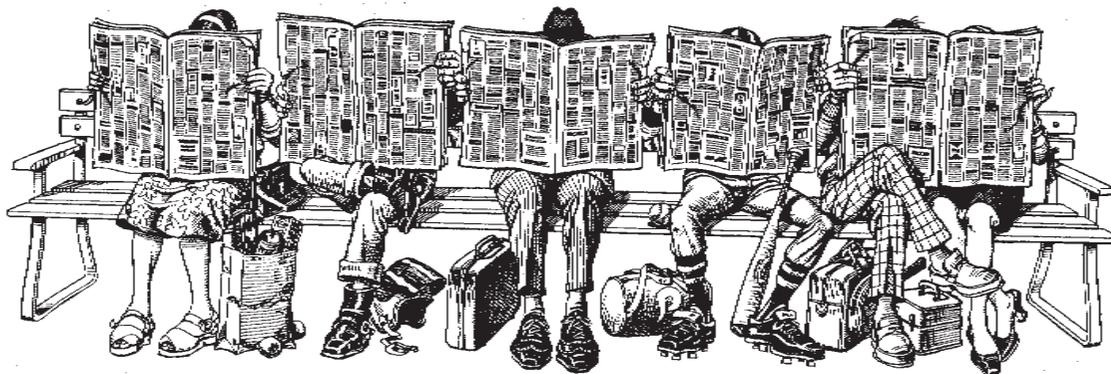
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Unitarian Universalists to hold water communion Sept. 7

By De Anna Hoyle
Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

We find ourselves at the beginning of another month, and the Pagosa Unitarian Universalist (UU) Fellowship shares our monthly calendar below with an invitation to join us — a small but vibrant group.

We gather most Sundays for services and other programs that guide us on a journey to “Make Friends, Grow Your Spirit, Do Good.”

September services and programs

- Sept. 7: Sunday service, 10:30 a.m. Water communion ritual and storytelling — “What the River Says,” a medicine story, told by Libby Krause.

Along with the wisdom story, we will honor the precious element of water with a short ritual. All are invited to bring a small amount of water from places or activities you enjoyed during the summer. This can be actual water you collected at some magical place, or symbolic — like from your kitchen sink. This uniquely UU tradition was born 45 years ago from UU women who got tired of being told how to worship and decided to create their own ceremony. Just as rivers flow creating their own path, we can imagine water as a metaphor for our own path-making. We will mingle our waters as a symbol of our shared community.

Our presenter of the story message, Krause, offers storytelling with an artist’s perspective. Pagosa Spring held her heart as a young adult when first visiting, and she now resides here with her spouse in a place of her heart.

- Sept. 14: Going Deeper Sharing Circle, 10:30 a.m. to noon.

This facilitated, small-group setting is where we invite sharing and deep-listening practice. We will in-

roduce ideas from the popular program “On Being” to explore themes of hope. For the next few months, we will explore resource material and journaling activities to deepen with ourselves and with one another. We allow space for reflection and for whatever else is on our hearts. Come make friends and practice the art of listening with others.

- Sept. 21: Sunday service, 10:30 a.m. Seasonal harvest gathering — “Stone Soup and the Meaning of Mabon.”

Mabon, the Pagan holiday of the second harvest, is a time of reflection with a focus on gratitude. We honor and celebrate the turning of the wheel at the time of the autumnal equinox and celebrate our community. Through a ritual telling of the old tale, “Stone Soup,” and in the spirit of sharing the bounty of the season, we will create a soup to share after the service.

- Sept. 28: Rest Sunday, a time for rest and renewal.

“Hope is the deepest orientation of the human soul that can be held at the darkest times.” — Vaclav Havel.

Join us for any of our programs, which includes a weekly meditation practice. The Tara Pagosa Meditation Group will resume on Sunday, Sept. 7, at 7 p.m.

Sessions will include meditation instruction, practice and study of the “Heart Sutra” and “Diamond Sutra,” led by our own certified meditation instructor and authorized dharma teacher. Beginners are welcome anytime. The practice continues each Sunday from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

For more information about this and other current programs, visit PagosaUU.org. Once there, you can email to be added to our mailing list or the meditation email list to receive notices about the schedule. We welcome all of who you are.

You can find us at Unit B-15 of the Greenbriar Plaza, 301 N. Pagosa Blvd., on the north side facing the Pagosa Peak. We offer Zoom streaming of our service each first and third Sunday, and a link to join online can be found at PagosaUU.org. You will find our current newsletter with information about all of our programs and to learn more about this progressive faith community.

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Pagosa Catholic Community Women’s Fellowship to begin new study Sept. 15

By Shanna Robb
Pagosa Springs Catholic Community

Who is God? Why does it matter? These two questions are the backbone of Bishop Robert Barron’s Word on Fire guided study and video series titled, “The Mystery of God - Who God Is and Why He Matters.”

Barron’s engaging and highly regarded theological style are two of many reasons he is a No. 1 bestselling author, Emmy nominee, international keynote speaker and Christian influencer. His Word on Fire ministry (WordOnFire.org) reaches millions of people every year, as do his YouTube videos that have been viewed over 187 million times.

In addition to his groundbreaking documentaries, daily email reflections and weekly homilies, Barron is a prolific writer and is known for his award-winning video content. “The Mystery of God” is a six-part video series accompanied by an easy-to-follow study guide. The study guide

is optional and may be purchased online.

Barron’s thought-provoking commentary provides a platform for understanding and reflecting on God. Per the publisher, “... you’ll not only discover the answers yourself, but also how to share them with others, especially those who no longer believe.”

The Pagosa Catholic Community Women’s Fellowship will be hosting a study of Barron’s Word on Fire video series starting on Monday, Sept. 15. It will run six consecutive Mondays at Pope John Paul II Catholic Church, located at 353 S. Pagosa Blvd.

All women desiring a better understanding of God and His divine role in their day-to-day lives are encouraged to attend. Rosary and prayers will be at 9 a.m., followed by study and fellowship from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. Come for both or as you wish.

For more information, visit ih-mjp2.org.



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Math Blocks

Fill in the missing blocks with numbers between 0-20.
The numbers in each row add up to the totals on the right.
The numbers in each column add up to the totals on the bottom.

| | | | |
|----|----|----|----|
| 9 | | 20 | 31 |
| | 10 | | 22 |
| 3 | | 15 | 36 |
| 17 | 30 | 42 | |

| | | |
|----|----|---|
| 15 | 81 | 3 |
| 7 | 10 | 5 |
| 20 | 2 | 9 |

Solution

THIS DAY IN HISTORY



1781: Los Angeles is founded as El Pueblo de Nuestra Señora La Reina de los Ángeles.

1812: The Siege of Fort Harrison begins during the War of 1812.

1972: "The Price is Right" premieres. It is the longest-running game show on American television.

Body FACT:



This item should only weigh about 10 to 15 percent of a child's body weight.

Answer: Backpack

Get Scrambled

Unscramble the words to determine the phrase.

AKCB OT HSLOOC

Answer: Back to school

NEW WORD

LOAD

a heavy or bulky thing being carried

How they say that in...

- English:** Carry
- Spanish:** Llevar
- Italian:** Portare
- French:** Porter
- German:** Tragen

Did You Know?

Backpacks aren't just for school. They are important gear when hiking or camping, and should be packed so they are not too heavy.



Get the PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

Answer: Backpack

Archuleta Seniors Inc. shares its numbers

By Joan Ward
PREVIEW Columnist

Archuleta Seniors Inc. (ASI) provides meals, services and activities for town and county residents.

From January to July, 2025, ASI has served 9,993 meals for dining room, Grab'N'Go and Meals on Wheels participants. Many of these are repeat participants and we are glad to have them with us.

For classes, programs and social activities, the participation just in July was 414, which includes many "frequent flyers." Thank you for making use of the Pagosa Senior Center.

ASI couldn't do this without the support of Archuleta County, the Town of Pagosa Springs, the San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging, the various grants ASI applies for, donations for meals and the many donors who support ASI. Thank you if you donate to ASI to support our seniors.

September program: 'The Gift Of Aging'

ASI will have a guest speaker on Sept. 25 at 1:30 p.m. at the Pagosa Senior Center.

Marcy Houle will present the topic of "The Gift of Aging."

She will discuss frontline science and the insights of aging with health, joy and purpose.

More details will follow in future articles. It is free to attend, just like all our other programs and activities.

Senior Conversations

With the Labor Day holiday, Senior Conversations with local Bill Salmonsohn will move to Thursday, Sept. 4, at 1:30 p.m. at the Pagosa Senior Center.

It will return to Mondays the following week.

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

This is a unique opportunity to connect with others in the Archuleta community, fostering sharing and friendships.

Snacks will be provided.

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

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

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 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.

Mindful drawing

Mindful drawing is an easy-to-learn, relaxing and fun way to create beautiful images by drawing structured patterns. Join our friendly instructor, Roberta Strickland.

Classes are every Wednesday at 1:15 p.m. in the Senior Center. This activity is open to all ages. Help us create an intergenerational community. For those under 18 and/or with disabilities, you are welcome to join us, but we kindly ask you to please bring an adult chaperone with you.

Mexican train dominoes

Mexican train dominoes meets 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 cultural activities. Bring your secret idea

■ See Senior on next page

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24

Hour

TOWING & EMERGENCY ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE

Senior

■ **continued from previous page**
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 Sept. 26.

Participation is free, and all we ask is you bring yourself and a friend for an hour of joyful fellowship. We will provide prizes for all winners, and snacks will also be provided.

No RSVP is required.

All ages are welcome, but we ask those 18 and younger to come with an adult chaperone. Seats are first come, first served.

Monthly birthday celebration

ASI celebrates seniors' birthdays once a month in the dining room. Join us on Friday, Sept. 12, for sweets and refreshments, and a little fun.

Scrapbooking and crafters club

The Pagosa Springs Scrapbooking and Crafters Club continues to hold monthly meetings the second Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Community Center, 451 Hot Springs Blvd., within the dining hall in the Senior Center.

This creative tradition has been happening since 2005, and we invite all creative individuals to come and share ideas, connect with new and old friends, learn/share creative techniques, share supplies and indulge in a potluck lunch together. Bring your scrapbooking projects — or any crafting project that you may want to work on with the group.

Help us create an intergenerational community. Those ages 18 and older are welcome. For those youth age 17 and younger, we kindly request an adult chaperone accompany them.

If you would like to be added to the mailing list, please send your request to copenhavercreative@gmail.com and you will receive notification each month of the upcoming meeting, along with handy tips and tricks for scrapbooking and more.

Brain fitness program

The Ageless Grace Brain Fitness

Program will not be held during the summer.

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.

Our dining hall is open to all ages and welcomes you all with kindness and warmth. We provide hot/cold meals for anyone in the community interested in a nutritious and delicious meal. For those 60 or older we request a suggested donation of \$6, but no one will be turned away. There is a \$10.50 charge for guests under the age of 60.

Meals include a main course, side dish, fruit/dessert, garden salad plus beverage.

Community Cafe menu

Call before 9 a.m. Please note that occasionally the menu must be changed at short notice.

Thursday, Sept. 4 — Sliced ham with cherry sauce, scalloped pota-

■ **See Senior on next page**

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KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

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- 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.

Tips to maximize closet space

Special to The PREVIEW

Who couldn't use a little more closet space at home? As individuals accumulate more belongings, they need places to store all of these items.

While modern homes may be built with extra storage in mind, older homes often place a premium on closet space. Homes built earlier than the 1980s may have small closets in bedrooms and only one or two additional closets around the home for linens and other items.

The most obvious solution to a lack of closet space is to build more closets. But too often home floor plans cannot accommodate new closets. Therefore, homeowners may have to get creative to maximize their space.

Sort and discard

Individuals can take some time to empty closets and assess what is in them. Sometimes more space can come from simply thinning out belongings that are no longer used. Take

off the plastic coverings on dry cleaning and discard bulky shoe boxes.

Invest in thinner hangers

Clothes hangers come in all types, but the thinnest and most durable ones tend to be the no-slip velvet variety. Such hangers keep garments from slipping off and feature an ultra-thin design, says Real Simple magazine.

Use storage containers

Grouping items together and condensing them can free up space. Tuck belts, handbags and other items into storage bins that can be labeled and stacked. Loose items can look more cluttered and even take up more space when spread out.

Pair shelves with rods

For those with enough space, hanging a few shelves in unused areas in the closet can provide more storage space. If there is sufficient space above the rod, install a shelf and place seldom-used items up high.

Get a closet system

A customized closet system will certainly provide the best chances to maximize closet space. These companies will measure the closet and assess the contents to draw up a design that will give homeowners what they need. Closet systems also can adjust and grow with lifestyle changes.

Choose other storage solutions

In addition to closets, people can identify other spaces to store items. This can include bins under beds, storage benches or ottomans, the back sides of doors, or in furniture with built-in drawers. Individuals also can purchase free-standing closets or armoires that can fill in when rooms do not have enough closet space or no closet at all.

Maximizing closet space comes down to some creativity, de-cluttering and utilizing additional furniture to meet needs.

Senior

■ continued from previous page

toes, garden salad, fruit, brownies and milk.

Friday, Sept. 5 — Philly cheesesteak on hoagie with peppers and onions, garden salad, fruit, vanilla yogurt, and milk.

Monday, Sept. 8 — Codfish piccata, brown rice, broccoli, garden salad, fruit, carrot cake and milk.

Tuesday, Sept. 9 — Chicken tortilla soup with lime, Cotija cheese, tortilla strips, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Wednesday, Sept. 10 — Beef spaghetti, squash casserole, garlic bread, garden salad, cottage cheese, fruit and milk.

Thursday, Sept. 11 — BBQ pork sandwich, coleslaw, mixed vegetables, garden salad, fruit, blueberry cobbler and milk.

Friday, Sept. 12 — Herb roasted chicken, broccoli hollandaise, dinner roll, garden salad, fruit, bread pudding with raisins 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.

Support the Senior

Center

Please support our ongoing operations and programming that provide critical services to some of the most vulnerable in Archuleta County.

You may mail your donation to P.O. Box 3444, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, or please visit our website: <http://www.pseniors.org/> (donation button).

Donation checks can be written to: Archuleta Seniors Inc.

Another way to donate: Are you 70.5 years old or better? Do you have an IRA from which you need to take a distribution? Did you know you can make charitable donations directly from your IRA without paying taxes on the distribution, up to \$100,000 per year? The donation from the account would be payable to Archuleta Seniors Inc. and sent to the address above. This gift option is called the IRA charitable rollover or qualified charitable distribution.

New, starting in 2026, small donations can be deducted without itemizing on your tax return. It is the Permanent Universal Charitable Deduction.

For tax years beginning after Dec. 31, 2025, non-itemizers can deduct up to \$1,000 for individual tax filers and \$2,000 for married couples filing jointly.

The goal of this provision is to recognize and encourage charitable giving across all income levels, potentially boosting donations from middle-income households who may not itemize their deductions. This change has the potential to significantly impact charitable giving patterns by incentivizing a broader base of donors.

We are located at 451 Hot Springs Blvd. For more information about ASI, please visit <http://www.pseniors.org/>.



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A look at teens and AI attachment

By Gregg Heid
Special to The PREVIEW

When we finished high school football practice, my teammates and I would relax on the lawn before the next practice playing Risk — a board game based on chance and probability in order to take over the world. Our family got together on holidays to play Monopoly. My sons loved to say, “pay-up, Dad,” when I landed on one of their properties. In college we gathered in a dorm room for poker games or outside in the field to play ultimate Frisbee.

Popular with boys in today’s digital world are online games like Fortnite and Call of Duty — fast-paced battle/action games. Or, Minecraft — a creative survival game. Video games are played by 97 percent of U.S. teen boys compared to about 75 percent of teen girls (Pew Research). Among them, 62 percent of boys identify as “gamers” (vs. 17 percent of girls), who play daily, with 36 percent playing multiple times per day.

Some of these games are competitive; others are social or creative with up to 100 players who can be next door or in different countries. Bottom line: They are rarely together face-to-face, even though 50 percent say they gain problem-solving and teamwork skills; plus, nearly half make online friends. On the other hand, 41 percent encounter in-game harassment where toxic cultures persist.

Heavy gaming is also linked to poor sleep, loneliness and problematic addiction-like patterns.

A new survey by AI News reveals how teenagers today are also using AI for friendship, support and social rehearsal. Nowadays around 33 percent of teens spend more time with AI generated platforms than face-to-face.

For example, the use of AI companions — see the emotional connection. Unlike traditional voice assistants or homework helpers, these “companions” are chatbots designed for more personal or emotional conversations, including those built

Writer’s Circle

by companies like Character.AI or Replika, as well as general purpose models like ChatGPT and Claude when used in a conversational or emotional context.

Among U.S. teens (13-17), 72 percent have tried an AI companion at least once, and 52 percent interact with them regularly (a few times per month or more); 13 percent of teenagers chat with them daily and 21 percent engage a few times a week; 39 percent say they use AI to practice real-world social skills like starting conversations, emotional expression and giving advice. Here’s the kicker: One in three teens said conversations with AI companions were more satisfying than those with friends.

Experts warn this can lead to emotional substitution, where teens avoid complex real-life relationships in favor of predictable, agreeable digital ones. Even though a higher percentage still spend more time with real friends than bots, overreliance may limit emotional resilience and social growth — especially if teens begin confiding more in AI than parents, friends or counselors. Some teens reported developing romantic feelings or strong attachments to AI bots.

In conclusion, AI companions are now a mainstream part of teen life, but they come with real trade-offs.

While some teens discover emotional support and opportunities to build confidence, significant risks exist around emotional substitution, trust, privacy and developmental impact. This shift raises important questions about how digital relationships will shape the next generation’s sense of self and connection.

For now, most teens seem to be using AI companions as supplements

— not substitutes — for real-life friendships. Experts emphasize moderation, awareness and maintaining strong real-world connections. But as these tools become more responsive, realistic and emotionally attuned, that boundary may become harder to define.

Information was used from Alicia Shapiro on AInews.com.

From my perspective, I will say giving a teen under the age of 16 a smartphone is like giving them a stick of dynamite. Yes, the phone is a great tool for many reasons, but it is also a gateway into the WWW, which allows more than friends to obtain their information. Plus, there are sites we don’t want our younger children to see. Nuff said.

AI is also a very useful tool. In itself it is neither good or bad, like a knife can spread butter or kill a person — it depends on the user and their intentions. AI is in the developmental stages and what is coming is going to change the world is another story. We must keep up on AI’s abilities. It’s changing fast. Don’t fear it; get to know it and use it — or not — for your purposes.

This column may include both fiction and nonfiction, and views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN. Submissions can be sent to editor@pagosasun.com.

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Closing time will come for all of us

By Betty Slade
PREVIEW Columnist

Closing time will come for all of us. I said to my youngest daughter, "Jeannie Seeley died yesterday."

My daughter said, "I'm sorry. Your friend was so young."

"No, she was my age. You know, she was a friend, not personal, but a western singer on the 'Old Gospel Hour' with Bill Anderson."

My daughter laughed, "Mother, you were so matter-of-fact, I thought she was your friend from the past. You've got to get out more. You need a life."

I have a life. I have a wonderful life. Getting older is not so painful. I live through my writings and my good friends and family who have ended up with me on the last pages before the closing of this old book.

Through my "Artist's Lane" articles, I've made many new friends in this community. They have been so kind to me and are faithful readers. I don't understand why; maybe we have the same conflicts. We understand each other; our lives are books written in many genres, some thrillers, dramas and even adventures.

Because of 50 years of painting and creating, I now write spiritual lessons about my paintings in my monthly newsletters. I send them to the creative hearts who have honored their artistic gifts. They are some of my most treasured long-time friends.

Through many years of honing my crafts, marathons of writing courses, taking an idea and writing about it, rewriting, editing and more editing, finally a story evolves with a satisfying end.

My days have been like a book. I have sweated, lost sleep, and prayed about problems and unresolved situations, all to end with a good story. I've turned over riveting words, sucked out the delicious nectar of a delightful phrase, lived through my painted pictures with few words and kept my focus on the things most important to me.

I'm amazed when I read some of my writings. I ask myself, "Are those my words? Did I really write them?" I have a good editor, Helene Smith, who does a deep dive. She helps me out of the woods, maintains my voice and understands deadlines.

That's what my good friends have done for me in my daily life. A lot of prayers and editing has gone into this living story of mine.

My favorite way to write is through metaphors, a play on words, a way of saying a nuance of subtle meaning that will bring a laugh, inform or shine a light.

All my words are getting prettier at closing time. I'd like to think they are beginning to look like Hemingway's. Change takes place in that final edit, when there's a glow on every phrase and those fallen cuts have ended on the floor, and words worthy of print are left to tell the story. Namely, 70,000 words gathered on 350 pages

Artist's Lane

Through many years of honing my crafts, marathons of writing courses, taking an idea and writing about it, rewriting, editing and more editing, finally a story evolves with a satisfying end.

and combed through with a fine tooth comb.

So many words I spoke in haste, thoughtlessness and out of character of the One I promised to worship. I now bring my thoughts to a resolution — I am who I am, and how God made me and loves me. I have to own up to the harsh, critical and judging words that fall from my lips.

From Mickey Gilley's lyrics, "If I could rate 'em on a scale from one to ten, and when tomorrow mornin' comes, I wake up with a number one, I swear I'll never do it anymore."

Gilley has it right. At closing time, the bags under the eyes start to show, the wrinkles deepen on the once pretty face and the bust needs to be cinched up a little higher. The balance is a little tipsy and needs a tighter grip on the dance floor, but, all in all, we're all getting closer to closing time and looks aren't so important any more. Only God will think I'm getting prettier.

God, the Master Author, knew what he was doing. My Sweet Al and I have danced through this life together, changed music and lyrics when life called for it. When the last dance is called, I have saved the last waltz for my Sweet Al, the hero of my story.

Final brushstroke: Each night, I close the curtains, tuck my Sweet Al

Informative.
The Pagosa Springs SUN
264-2100

into bed and listen to my television friend, Seeley, on the "Old Gospel Hour." Songs of Jesus bring a good day to an end and makes for another page-turner in the book.

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

Views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN.



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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.

THE PAGOSA SPRINGS CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S RETREAT at Sunlight Camp. Love Speaks —Speakers from Monte Vista. September 26-28. Register at pcwomenretreat.org.

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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DONATIONS RECEIVING SPECIALIST. Job Highlights Please see our website for position details <https://pagosahumane.org/join-our-team/>. The Humane Society of Pagosa Springs Thrift Store is looking for a donation receiving team member to help cover our new uptown donation drop off center and work shifts at the downtown location. Hours and pay will be flexible according to what responsibilities and experience candidates bring. This can be a fast pace job with a lot of movement throughout the day. It requires repeatedly lifting heavy boxes and furniture. The ideal candidates will also assist with furniture pickups and drive a box truck. Clean Driving record for a minimum of 5 year is required. Job Types: Full -time, Part -time. Pay: \$16.00-\$17.50 per hour.

HOMETOWN INSURANCE is looking to fill a full-time receptionist /administrative assistant position to add to our existing team. Prior experience is required. Must be detail oriented, able to multi -task and proficient in Google Docs, Sheets, Excel, Word and Adobe. Phone and typing skills are a must. Our ideal candidate will have a friendly and warm personality while being professional, responsible and motivated. A customer -oriented approach is essential. Send resumes with references to info@hippsllc.com.

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Administrative: Handle postal paperwork, insertion order processing and payment processing for advertising and subscriptions.

Service: Provide personable, friendly customer service answering phones and interacting in person with customers that visit the office.

Communication: Serve as a point of contact for internal and external communications. Answer phones, respond to emails and direct inquiries to the appropriate team members.

Project assistance: Assist with special projects and initiatives as needed.

Requirements

3-5 years of experience working in an office.
Excellent attention to detail and accuracy in data entry.
Strong organizational and time management skills to meet payroll deadlines.
Excellent communication skills on the phone and through all communication channels.
High level of proficiency in MS Excel and other Microsoft Office applications.

Compensation Range/Benefits

\$17-\$20/hour depending on experience level.
Eligible for medical, dental and vision benefits on the 1st of the month after 30 days of employment.
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16 days of PTO plus 4-5 paid holidays.
Opportunity for advancement and career growth within the company.

About the Company

O'Rourke Media Group is a fast-growing company that owns and operates hyper-local, community newspapers, websites, niche publications and a full-service digital agency. We are family-owned and mission-driven to save newspapers and local media companies by investing in the people, resources and technology needed to thrive for many years to come. O'Rourke Media Group now operates in eight states and 28 markets with 41 publications and hyper-local websites.

*Bonus paid \$500 after 90 days and \$500 after 6 months.

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SALESPERSON WANTED. Local radio station looking for a self-motivated, friendly individual to join our team. If you enjoy working with people, building relationships, and helping businesses grow, we'd love to hear from you. Contact Christie at christie@kwf.com for more details.

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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.

WINGS EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER seeks an Assistant 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 experience in curriculum development, teacher training, coaching, and more to support the executive director. Find a full job description at WingsEarlyChildhood.org. Email resume to Director@WingsEarlyChildhood.org.

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Ponderosa Lumber

2435 Eagle Drive or call (970) 731-4111

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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.

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.

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YARD SALE SATURDAY SEP. 6 at 18710 U.S. Hwy. 160 Chimney Rock from 9a.m. -4p.m.

YARD SALE: Friday, September 5, Saturday, September 6, 8a.m. 'til. 569 Stevens Circle (Lake Forest — PLPOA). Tools and many other various items. Don't miss this one. Early birds welcome.

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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.

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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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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.

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100 years ago this month: Historical events from September 1925

Special to The PREVIEW

The month of September has been home to many historical events over the years.

Here's a look at some that helped to shape the world in September 1925:

- Global commerce continues to be disrupted when Danish seamen go on strike over their wages on Sept. 1. The Danish seamen's decision to go on strike follows similar moves by seamen in China and throughout the British Empire.

- Hermann Göring is hospitalized in the psychiatric ward of a Swedish

hospital after assaulting a nurse on Sept. 1. Göring, who was in Sweden to overcome a morphine addiction, would later serve as chief advisor to Adolf Hitler and commander of the Luftwaffe during World War II.

- The Second International Conference on the Standardization of Medicine is held in Geneva, Switzerland, on Sept. 3. The conference aims to standardize drug formulas across the globe.

- Comintern leader Grigory Zinoviev, Deputy Premier Finance Commissar Grigory Sokolnikov and Lev Kamenev are among those to sign a joint protest against Soviet Communist

Party Secretary Joseph Stalin on Sept. 5. All three men would eventually be executed during Stalin's Great Purge.

- Striking sailors are barricaded aboard the SS Sophocles before it pulls out of Cape Town, South Africa, en route to Australia on Sept. 5. The ship is ultimately forced to return to Cape Town when the sailors refuse to work.

- British police fire on a crowd of 2,000 demonstrators in Shanghai on Sept. 7. The crowd was protesting unequal treaties.

- A deal between the Italian government and explorer Roald Amundsen is announced on Sept. 8. The deal entails Amundsen using the dirigible N-1 in an attempt to fly to the North Pole in 1926.

- A white mob estimated at 5,000 people gathers in Detroit in an effort to intimidate Dr. Ossian Sweet on Sept. 9. Sweet, who was Black, had purchased a home in an all-white neighborhood, and the mob aimed to force him to vacate the property.

- Xavier University of Louisiana opens on Sept. 13. It is the world's first Catholic University for African Americans.

- Riley B. King is born near Berclair, Miss., on Sept. 16. The boy grows up to become a legendary blues musician known the world over as B.B. King.

- Eighteen-year-old Frida Kahlo is nearly killed in an auto accident in Mexico City on Sept. 17. Though Kahlo sustains multiple injuries in the accident, including a fractured spinal column, it's during her bedridden two-year recovery period that she first begins to paint.

Bird of the Week



Photo courtesy Charles Martinez

This week's Bird of the Week, compliments of the Weminuche Audubon Society and Audubon Rockies, is the evening grosbeak.

It's hard to predict when these nomadic birds might show up, but it's easy to tell when they are around. Except during breeding season, these social birds travel in flocks. They don't sing like other songbirds, but they keep up a constant chatter of cheeping calls that makes the trees come alive.

Adult males are colored mustard yellow below, have a yellow eyebrow and large patches of white and black on the wings. Females and immatures are gray with white and black on their wings. Both sexes are heavyset birds with a thick neck and a large, ivory-colored bill which turns green during breeding season.

The word grosbeak, meaning large bill, is derived from French. Five different grosbeaks spend some time here, but not all are closely related. Grosbeaks in the cardinal family, including the blue, black-headed and rose-breasted, are seen only in spring or summer. Pine and evening grosbeaks, members of the finch family, are resident birds.

Evening grosbeaks use their enormous bills and strong jaw muscles to crush seeds too large or tough for smaller seed eaters. They consume a variety of seeds, including those of pine and other trees. Seeds from last winter's bumper crop of ponderosa pine cones fed them well. They also feed on chokecherries and other small fruits like cherries, crab apples, snowberries, hawthorn fruits, Russian olive fruits and juniper berries.

Anyone who hosts these birds at backyard feeders knows what voracious appetites they have. A flock can consume hundreds of pounds of sunflower seeds over the winter. After grabbing a seed, the grosbeak rolls it over in its bill until the seed lies along the bill's sharp edge with the peaked end pointing inside the mouth. In quick motion, it cracks the shell, spits out the hull and swallows the seed. They are regulars at the birdbath.

In summer they also consume caterpillars, aphids and the tiny destructive spruce budworm forest pest. In winter they are often irruptive migrants, traveling outside their normal ranges in search of food. Sadly, since 1970 their numbers have plummeted by over 90 percent, the most dramatic decline of any North American songbird.

For information on events, visit www.weminucheaudubon.org and www.facebook.com/weminucheaudubon/.

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Pagosa Family School classes are held at Pagosa Springs Middle School on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:45-4pm.

Reserve your student's space in this dynamic program TODAY! Find an enrollment form online at family.mypagosaschools.com. September 9th is the first day of class!



Contact Sara Blakemore for more info:
sblakemore@pagosa.k12.co.us or call 970-264-2228
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