Wolf returns to Archuleta County

Lone female reported in watershed — B1

Daylight saving time ends

Fall back one hour Sunday



PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147

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VOLUME 118 — NO. 5, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2025

Damage now estimated at \$26 million as flood assessments continue

By Randi Pierce and **Clayton Chaney** Staff Writers

Assessments of the damages caused by and the impacts of the historic floods on Oct. 11 and Oct. 14 continue, with estimates of public infrastructure damage now nearing the \$26 million mark, up from a preliminary estimate of about \$13 million.

Pagosa Country experienced two historic floods in four days thanks to moisture from the remnants of a pair of tropical storms, Priscilla and Raymond.

The flooding for the San Juan River at Pagosa Springs peaked at 8,270 cubic feet per second (cfs) and 12.66 feet at 6 p.m. on Oct. 11 and again at 8,560 cfs and 12.82 feet at 5:15 a.m. on Oct. 14, putting the two events as the fourth and third highest on record, behind floods in October 1911 and

Other area river levels were also significantly impacted, including the Piedra and Blanco rivers.

During a work session held by the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners on Tuesday, Oct. 28, Commissioner Veronica Medina provided an update on the damage assessments being conducted throughout the county and the potential total cost of damage.

Medina explained that the county needs to follow its procurement process, suggesting it be sent out to staff as a reminder, noting, "we really need to follow that" when tracking repairs or other things being done that were caused by the floods.

That, she indicated, will help if and when the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) approves the area's application for aid.

■ See Flooding A7

Longinos Gonzalez Jr. hired as county manager

By Clayton Chaney Staff Writer

During a regular meeting held by the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) on Tuesday, Oct. 21, the BoCC unanimously voted to enter into an employment agreement with Longinos Gonzalez Jr. for the county manager position.

Gonzalez was named as the sole finalist for the position during a regular BoCC meeting held on Oct. 7, with Commissioner Warren Brown being appointed as the negotiator for Gonzalez's employment contract.

According to the Oct. 21 agenda, "After careful consideration of applicants, the Board wishes to employ Longinos Gonzalez Jr. as the Archuleta County Manager."

No employment agreement was attached in the Oct. 21 meeting agenda documents.

According to an employment agreement shared with The SUN on Wednesday, Oct. 22, Gonzalez will receive an annual salary of \$150,000 with the term of the agreement being

Also according to the agreement, Gonzalez will also receive 176 hours per year and 40 hours of flex time and will not receive a motor vehicle or cellphone allowance.

If employment is terminated without cause by the county, it will provide a severance payment equal to four months' salary.

In an email to The SUN, Commissioner Veronica Medina indicated ■ See Manager A8

On to state



Photo courtesy Bill Esterbrook

Rylan Ash runs en route to a 13th-place finish at the Oct. 23 regional meet. Ash, a freshman, qualified for the Nov. 1 state meet in Colorado Springs. For more information, see related

Town planning commission conditionally approves Pagosa West sketch subdivision application

By Derek Kutzer Staff Write

On Oct. 28, the Pagosa Springs Planning Commission approved a sketch subdivision application for the proposed multiuse development being called Pagosa West.

The major subdivision being proposed is on a 100-acre parcel within the municipal limits of the Town of Pagosa Springs, across the highway from City Market and near Pagosa Springs Medical Center, butting up against the Vista San Juan neighbor-

The approval came with a condition that the town's attorney review the legality of the application since the applicant, Arena Labs LLC, is not currently the owner of the land.

The question about the legality of the application was raised during public comment by Rachel Suh, who maintained that the application needed to have the notarized signature of the current owner, listed as KISCO LLC, attached to the original application.

In response, Development Director James Dickhoff presented a document with the owner's notarized signature, showing the owner authorizes the application, passing it around the room for the audience to review and reassuring the commissioners of the application's legality.

However, Suh maintained that the signed document was dated the same

Voted ballots must be returned by 7 p.m. on Nov. 4

By Randi Pierce

Staff Writer

Ballots for the Nov. 4 election must be returned no later than 7 p.m. on Election Day, Nov. 4, to be counted. Postmarks do not count.

According to an election notice from Archuleta County, mail-ballot packets were mailed to every active voter registered in Archuleta County beginning Oct. 10.

The following information is from the notice.

Returning voted ballots

Voted ballots can be returned via mail, polling locations, the county's se- 24/7 with video surveillance through cured drop boxes or drop-off locations.

Polling locations

The Archuleta County Election Office located at 305 Village Drive is serving as the official Voter Service and Polling Center (VSPC).

The VSPC hours will be Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., through Nov. 3; Nov. 1 from 8 a.m. until noon; and Election Day, Nov. 4, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

On Election Day only, there will be a polling location set up at the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association Clubhouse at 230 Port Ave.

Drop boxes

 $Secure\ ballot\ drop\ boxes\ are\ open$ ■ See Ballots A8

Colorado health insurance premiums to rise in 2026

Connect for Health Colorado

Health insurance premiums will increase for many people who buy health insurance through Colorado's official marketplace and fewer customers in 2026 will qualify for financial help to offset those costs, according to a new analysis from Connect for Health Colorado, the state's official health insurance marketplace.

Most of the cost increase is the result of Congress allowing federal enhanced Premium Tax Credits (ePTCs) to expire.

Connect for Health Colorado's analysis is based on the Colorado Division of Insurance's announcement of final health insurance premium rates for plan year 2026, and reflects

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Archuleta School District

Build Pagosa discuss regional workforce center update

A13

the expiration of ePTCs and the benefit of the introduction of Colorado Premium Assistance, which will reduce premiums for some customers.

Connect for Health Colorado's customer impact analysis shows net premiums will double on average for all customers who are receiving financial assistance, with larger net premium increases for people in rural counties and for older adults. It also shows the percentage of customers eligible for financial help could decrease from 81 percent in 2025 to 65 percent in 2026.

Among the key findings in Connect for Health Colorado's analysis:

• Marketplace customers who currently receive financial assistance

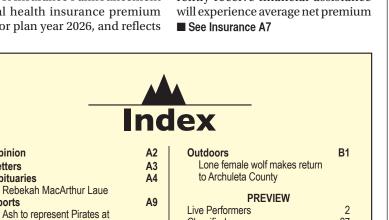








Saturday's Halloween Hootenanny offered the opportunity for folks of all ages to dress up for a day of festive Halloween fun. The day's events included hot air balloon rides, Witches on Water paddleboarding, trick-or-treating, music and more.



Opinion



The Pagosa Springs

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• •	Cu				utt	
Date	High I	Low	Pr	ecipita	ation	
		-	Moisture	Type	Depth	
10/21	64	27	0.00	NA	NA	
10/22	65	27	0.00	NA	NA	
10/23	56	34	0.00	NA	NA	
10/24	57	30	0.02	NA	NA	
10/25	58	27	0.06	NA	NA	
10/26	60	29	0.00	NA	NA	
10/27	59	28	0.00	NA	NA	
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Our View

Good humans

This week's sports section features some great storylines, like it does most weeks.

It includes student-athletes excelling and advancing to the playoffs (which also requires keeping their grades up in the classroom), others who are pushing to make it to the postseason, a man in the midst of his own huge challenge (running across the country) taking time out multiple weeks in a row to run with and mentor Pagosa Springs High School runners, and more.

It also includes a story we find noteworthy not because it showed who was the fastest, strongest or could score the most points, but because it shows the power of being a good human.

At last week's regional cross-country meet, Lady Pirate harrier Madisen Stretton was on her way to one of the best runs of her high school career when she came upon another runner who had fallen.

She could have easily continued running — like others probably had and would continue to do (after all, it was a competitive sporting event and everyone wanted to qualify for state) — but she didn't.

She stopped. She helped her fellow runner up. And she continued to jog with her at her pace, hand in hand, to the finish line, sacrificing her own personal record.

People like Madi are one reason we love to call this place home, and we are so proud of her actions on that day.

While coach Josh Kurz notes her actions embodied the spirit of cross-country, we think it embodies much more than that. It embodies what we should all strive to do — help each other out to help make this world a little better.

Thankfully, many in our community seek to do just that.

This is a community full of people who step up when needed and continually gives to ensure this community can move forward and invest in itself.

This year alone we've seen community members step up to help when neighbors and friends were evacuated due to fire and flood, hop in to volunteer with cleanup, and given to relief funds and organizations.

Now, we're seeing numerous groups, organizations and individuals stepping up to help make sure our area's food pantries

have enough food to help our neighbors affected by the government shutdown. In this week's PREVIEW, you'll find multiple food drives and other ways to donate if you're able to and would like to.

We also see the community step up in so many other ways, among them providing a fun and safe trick-or-treat experience for the area's kids Saturday at the Halloween Hootenanny, helping to fund the expansion of the Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library by naming extraordinary women, donating toys to the annual toy drive ahead of the holidays and items to Operation Christmas

This is a community that continues to give, year-round, to make our part of the world a better place, and we're encouraged at the idea of how much better it could be if more people gave back to their community.

But, even if you can't give money or items because you're facing challenges yourself, people like Madi are a great reminder that sometimes the best thing to give is our time, attention and care.

LOOKING BACK



From the Oct. 22, 1987, Pagosa SUN -THANKS NEIGHBORS Heart transplant patient Michael Wota says he will always appreciate the many people who offered encouragement and moral support to himself and his family during his recent operation. He wishes there was some way to thank each one of them.

Veronica Medina, Chair veronica.medina@archuletacounty.org • (970) 264-8305

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NO WONDER -CONSIDERING HOW EARLY SHE STILL CHRISTMAS STUFF SHOWS UPINTH'STORES! **GETS HER HOLIDAYS** CONFUSED - SHE THINKS SANTA COMES ON HALLOWEEN.

LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

100 years ago Taken from SUN files of

October 30, 1925

The radio bug has hit several Pagosa residents this fall and hit them hard. Among the victims are Wm. McComas, Geo. Alley, Ray Smith, Paul Day, Max Mickey, Elmer Dutton, A.W. Olson, W.E. Colton, S.H. Dickerson and the Joe Martinez sons. John Dyke of Dyke has also installed a set.

Preparations are being made at the New Light & Power Co. plant below town for the installation of the new auxiliary steam engine and generating unit which are expected daily from Silverton. Howard Hill is assisting in the work at the plant.

A Kansas City market report states as follows: "Newton of Pagosa Springs sold 147 steers averaging 828 pounds for \$7.25; 63 steers averaging 820 pounds for \$6.60.

Cattle shipments in the past week consisted of 19 cars Monday, 12 from Pagosa and 3 from Dyke, and 10 cars today, 7 from Pagosa and 3 from Dyke. Those shipping Monday from Pagosa were W.O. Dutton and John Toner, while the shipment today belongs to Jack Keane.

75 years ago Taken from SUN files of

November 3, 1950

The 1950 big game hunting season came to close in Archuleta County on Tuesday, after having witnessed a record number of hunters in the area. There were no reported fatal accidents in the county and no hunter was injured by gunshots. Elsewhere in the state several hunters lost their lives to rifle fire.

The past season was an exceptional one with the weather remaining clear and warm. This made for tough hunting but the majority of hunters were successful in their kill as attested by the figures from the checking station located in town. There was also a law enforcement check station located at Chromo.

The local checking station gives the following figures which are complete till noon on Tuesday. These figures show only the game checked through the station here and undoubtedly there were many more head that were killed on the other side of town or on roads that did not go by the check station.

The figures are as follows: Total deer checked — 1224. Total elk checked — 299. Total bear checked — 17.

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of November 6, 1975

The Town Board met with representative of the Archuleta Water Co. regarding the proposed enlargement of the water system owned by that company. Bill Laverty told the board that the funds now seem to be fairly well assured to extend the system east on Highway 160, south on U.S. 84, and possibly north along the Four Mile road.

He said that under the proposal as many as 100 residences and some business could be served. It was estimated by the engineer for the system that perhaps 500 people would be served by the system. This represents almost 15% of the total county population.

Considerable discussion was held as to whether or not the town had enough surplus water available, what type of contract and price could be negotiated, and when the system might be enlarged. While the water supply from the town seemed to be ample, the board decided that further study should be made on that subject.

25 years ago Taken from SUN files of

October 26, 2000

An apparent mistake in specifying the effective date for a 4 percent use tax proposed by the county on the Nov. 7 ballot will not affect the legality of the matter, according to Mary Weiss, the county attorney. Neither will issues concerning proper public notice.

If voters approve the county's Ballot Issue 1A, collection of the use tax will begin Jan. 1, 2001, according to Weiss.

The proposed use tax is identified as Archuleta County Ballot Issue 1A on the Nov. 7 ballot. In part, the ballot question asks "and shall such use tax commence January 1, 2000." An ordinance approved by the county commissioners placing the question on the ballot reads "The Use Tax provided herein shall commence January 1, 2000, and continue until repealed."

No matter what the ballot seems to say, the overall wording of the ordinance makes it clear that the intent is to begin collection of the use tax Jan. 1, 2001, according

"The January 1, 2000, date is probably an oversight," Weiss said. "I don't think it invalidates the intent of the ballot question. The text of the ordinance and ballot question make obvious what the intent is."



Letters

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

Letters to the Editor are opinions and information in them has not been verified for ac-

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

No Kings march

Dear Editor:

I want to share my experience from the No Kings march last Saturday in Pagosa Springs. I am a former resident of Pagosa Springs and now live in Bayfield. It was heartening to see 550 people come together for a peaceful protest against current government policies. The traffic going past the line of demonstrators at the hot springs was positive with waves and horns honking!

We are not haters; we are citizens standing up for our beliefs and exercising our rights. Thank you to everyone who participated with smiles and love for our country. Together we can make a difference!

Julie Blanchard Bayfield, Colo.

Take care of each other

Dear Editor:

Many of our neighbors are anxious about the federal shutdown and the loss of SNAP (food-stamp) benefits. The headlines sound hopeless, but I'm not in alignment with the "we're f---ed" mantra. Despair doesn't feed people — the community does.

Every crisis teaches us who we can depend on, and reminds us that we can depend on each other. That's the mantra now: we take care of each

When I served as Executive Director of Archuleta Seniors Inc. (ASI), we worked to transform a mealsonly program into a holistic, traumainformed, and age-friendly hub for wellness. Together with staff, elders, and volunteers, we increased wages, added a health stipend, and coordinated a community-led strategicplanning process to envision the future of aging in our county. Those lessons — about dignity, prevention, and belonging — guide me still.

I am a mestiza public-health advocate and the daughter of Alice Archuleta y Chavez, a proud 1959 graduate of Pagosa Springs High School, and Luis Chavez of Peralta, New Mexico. My maternal family hails from La Merced de Los Pueblos de Tierra Amarilla. I grew up here, earned my GED in 1996, and later pursued degrees in nutrition, sustainability, and public health because I wanted to understand how small towns like ours can thrive. For nearly twenty years I've worked across Colorado and New Mexico connecting food systems, health equity, and community resilience — always coming home to the belief that care is a shared practice.

We don't want Band-Aids on a broken system. We want a system that heals — one that values prevention, mental health, and community care as much as emergency rooms. Every flood, fire, or shutdown is a practice round for the next one — a chance to strengthen the web of relationships that keeps us standing.

Here are a few ways we can practice care right now:

1. Bring food, not judgment. Take a one-pan meal to a neighbor whether they "need" it or not.

2. Host a "Swap-luck." Share dishes, share stories, and everyone goes home nourished.

3. Use digital tools for good. Apps like Lasagna Love or a neighborhood post can connect cooks and families:

"Food is expensive and I don't believe in waste. I cook extra every week - DM me if you'd like a meal."

Yes, donate to food banks and volunteer - but this moment calls for more: a culture of care where we all step up so the load doesn't fall only on the same exhausted caregivers.

I helped co-create Pagosa Pride (2024 & 2025) to build a culture of safety and celebration for our LG-BTQ+ and Two-Spirit neighbors. I believe the same spirit of solidarity can feed us through hard times.

Start small. Knock on a door. Share a meal. Ask, How are you holding up?

That's how we build a safety net stronger than any policy — one dish, one conversation, one act of courage at a time.

Because none of us are self-made — we are community-made. And love — steady, brave, and reciprocal — is what will carry us forward together. Rose D. Chavez, MPH Danger zone

Dear Editor:

The intersection of Highway 160 and North and South Pagosa Boulevards is a DANGER ZONE. Accidents involving automobiles and/or pedestrians are common occurrences at this intersection.

The developer of "Pagosa West" is proposing a gas station be built on the corner of Highway 160 and South Pagosa Boulevard. There are already two gas stations on the corners of Highway 160 and North Pagosa Boulevard with another gas station less than two-tenths of a mile away. How many gas stations does one intersec-

In addition to the gas station the developer of "Pagosa West" is proposing an apartment complex of four, two and three-story apartment buildings (approximately 88 units) built next to the gas station and right across the street from the Pagosa Springs Medical Center.

The proposed plan does set forth streets to enter and exit the development - two from Highway 160 and one from South Pagosa Boulevard. The traffic congestion on both Highway 160 and South Pagosa Boulevard will increase with the amount of cars and trucks entering and exiting the development, gas station and the medical center. Just image if every apartment had two vehicles, the traffic congestion in the area has now increased by 176 vehicles

This is only Phase ONE of the proposed "Pagosa West"development. The traffic congestion will only increase with each phase.

If you think the intersection of Highway 160 and North and South Pagosa Boulevards is already a DAN-GER ZONE, it is only going to get

Patricia Cooney

Say no to data centers

Dear Editor:

Since the 1930's, America's rural electric co-ops have provided reliable and affordable power to places that investor owned utilities would never serve. The co-op model of member ownership has served rural Americans very well. But now, the rise of AI and its driving need for more data center capacity is turning the electricity supply situation upside down across the US. This issue has been mostly relegated to cities so far but now as they run out of power, a move to rural areas by the tech industry is

Traditionally, electric co-ops have operated as very fiscally conservative organizations and this is why we have seen very few go belly up. Our local Colorado Ute co-op was an exception back in 1990. Local board governance and a relentless focus on the best interests of co-op members has generally kept electric co-ops very financially strong with electric rates lower and more stable than those of investor owned utilities.

Now as the tech industry's data center developers go into overdrive to secure more processing capacity, electric co-ops need to be more vigi-

Letters

The SUN welcomes letters from readers.

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

All letters must:

• be 500 words or less

up due to a holiday)

• 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

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 high risk electric supply contracts with these entities. Supplying data centers, which can consume as much electricity and water as a medium sized city, can demand massive expansion of a utility's generation and transmission resources. This could

amount to hundreds of millions of

dollars of new capital expenditures

lant that ever about getting lured into

by the co-op. And, to complicate matters, many financial experts are vocally urging caution as the AI/Data Center business has all the ear marks of a massive bubble, which if it pops, could make the Dot Com meltdown of the early 2000's look like a minor blip. Such an event could leave a co-op holding the proverbial financial bag as the data

center clients fade away. So, this is the time for electric coops to be very fiscally conservative and to always put the interests of their members first. Avoiding high risk entanglements with volatile tech industry players is the smartest course of business. So, co-op members...say NO to data centers!

> John Gavan Paonia, Colo.

Not a king

Dear Editor:

President Trump says he is not a king, yet he says: "I have the Article II power, where I have the right to do whatever I want as President."

Someone needs to advise the President that "whatever I want" is the very definition of a king. The British monarchs said it well: "The King can do no wrong." Or as our own King Donald has said, "He who saves his country does not violate any law."

A king can do things like shoot live ordinance rounds over a California freeway to show how pissed off he is about protests on "No Kings" day. No matter that he delays weekend traffic for hours and that a live shell explodes prematurely landing shrapnel on a Highway Patrol cruiser. Californians deserve worse for being so liberal!

The White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt says, "The Democratic party's main constituency is made up of Hamas terrorists, illegal aliens, and violent criminals." But Ms. Leavitt, sweetie, that means there must be a hundred million of these crazies running around the country and how will you ever be able to im-

■ See Letters A4

U.S. 160 reconstruction information

Work activity

• Trick-or-treat: The project team, tirelessly working on the U.S. 160 reconstruction project, will knock off work early this Friday, Oct. 31, to make way for the downtown Halloween festivities. Crew members will put down their shovels and heavy equipment to hand out candy and treats to trick-or-treaters as the evening draws near.

All construction work on the CDOT project, which is currently reconfiguring the lanes of U.S. 160 in downtown Pagosa Springs, will stop for the day around 3 p.m. to ensure the safety of Halloween revelers in the downtown district. Please take it slow through the work zone and watch out for trick-

• 4th Street and Hot Springs Boulevard: Crews plan to open the crosswalk on the northeast corner of 4th Street and Hot Springs Boulevard early next week for pedestrian access. The current crosswalk in front of Goodman's will then close to allow paving operations to continue in the westerly direction. The project team will be working closely with Visit Pagosa to move pedestrian directional signage ac-

• The 400 block paving will continue this week.

• Pagosa Springs Middle School: The sidewalk is complete in front of the school. Work will continue on additional features (i.e. planters and lighting).

• 3rd Street: The project team is working on the foundations for the pedestrian push buttons at 3rd

Upcoming work

• 5th 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 5th Street and Lewis Street through the end of the month.

• The 4th Street intersection on the north side of U.S. 160 remains closed until utility work and paving

• Lewis Street and the sculpture garden: Excavation near the Tennyson Sculpture Park and Gardens is continuing 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

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

at 5th Street will remain open.

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

and 4th streets. Mid-block crossings between 4th

Street and 5th Street are closed, but the crosswalk

• 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

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, Pedestrian crosswalks will be open at 1st, 3rd 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., and subject to change.

Information provided by Colorado Department of Transportation







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Superintendent shares update with county, town on new school project

By Clayton Chaney Staff Writer

During a joint work session held by the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) and Pagosa Springs Town Council on Oct. 20, Archuleta School District (ASD) Superintendent Rick Holt provided information on the district's plans for potentially building a new school to replace the current elementary and middle schools, and the two sites being considered.

Holt explained there were two items he wanted to discuss, the first being the process in which ASD is using to identify a new building and location, while asking for feedback about if the district is being transparent enough.

Holt also indicated, "We may have a couple buildings that we are interested in sharing, or moving away from and finding some way to keep those buildings in our community and functional," indicating he wanted to have some discussion on possible joint projects.

Commissioner John Ranson explained that he attended multiple ASD Master Planning Advisory Committee (MPAC) meetings, and that he's received "very good" feedback from the community about the district's approach on the matter.

Holt explained the two sites the district is considering are the Vista site, located across from Veterans Memorial Park of Archuleta County, and the current high school site (on the southwest corner of the property).

Holt also indicated that the ASD board could make a decision at its next meeting scheduled for Nov. 11, in regard to which site the district will

build on, explaining that the chosen budget. architects for the project, RTA, are conducting in-depth site evaluations on the two locations.

"It's possible that the board will have gotten enough information at that point that they would say, if we choose to move forward, we would use site 'A' or site 'B," he said.

At the time, the next MPAC meeting was scheduled for Oct. 27.

On Oct. 24, the MPAC meeting originally scheduled for Oct. 27 was rescheduled for 5:30 p.m. on Nov. 17 in the middle school library located at 301 Lewis St.

Holt commented that, based on community surveys conducted over the summer, "people felt strongly one way or the other where that building

The MPAC and ASD Board of Education have previously discussed the option of building a kindergarten through eighth-grade building to replace the current elementary and middle schools.

"And one thing I'm trying to avoid is having a public opinion tell us where that should go instead of data," Holt said, explaining that he wants the decision to be based on facts that consider things like the traffic impact to the surrounding area.

Holt also mentioned the district will be planning to apply for a grant through the Building Excellent Schools today (BEST) program, noting that is the one "tool" the state has for providing assistance for major capital improvements for school

He mentioned the program used to be "very well funded," but over the years the state has pulled funds from the program in order to balance its

"So, we'll apply for a BEST grant," Holt said, indicating the district would know by May 2026 if it will be awarded and that there is a possibility of having slightly less than half of

that grant. Town council member Gary Williams urged Holt and the district to consider the impact of having schools downtown and it being a "center of

the district's project funded through

activity." Ranson asked if ASD is in a "somewhat unfavorable ranking" for the BEST grant.

"It's an extremely competitive grant," Holt replied, explaining that it would be "atypical" for the district to be fully awarded in its first application.

However, Holt mentioned that the district has explained its situation to the Colorado Department of Education, noting, "We have a very solid argument."

Holt also spoke about the importance of seeing the project through, and how he expressed to the ASD board that he wants them to finish the project.

"I think Pagosa's had a couple of cycles of the school district starting this and then abandoning it, and we're past being able to abandon it," he said, adding that the district needs to keep moving forward and "give the community what they're willing to pay for."

Commissioner Veronica Medina asked about enrollment numbers from Dulce, N.M., and if there has been a decline in recent years.

Holt explained that he recently met with Jicarilla Apache tribal council members, and that they are interested in transportation options between the two communities.

Holt indicated that this year, ASD has 131 kids identified as being from New Mexico, and 94 of those are from

He commented that enrollment from New Mexico "hasn't shifted that much since our transportation changed about two years ago" due to a lack of drivers and "a lot more need

Holt indicated that the Jicarilla Apache Nation is considering providing some sort of transportation resources to help supplement.

"We want to be good neighbors and we want to be good friends," Holt said. "I want every kid to get the very best education they can possibly have. If families think that's here, then, you know, that's great, but we are not required to provide transportation outside our immediate attendance area."

Holt added that until ASD gets to a point where its own needs are met, "I don't see expanding again."

Ranson commented on the pos-

sibility of pursuing some sort of joint venture with other entities to repurpose the current middle school and elementary school buildings.

"It sounds like there's money out there" to do something with building, Ranson said, adding, "I'd hate to see us not collaborate."

Holt mentioned that having a plan for the district's old buildings, other than bulldozing them, would help with its BEST grant application.

Medina mentioned that with one of the middle school buildings being a historic building, "grant funding could be available" to restore and repurpose it with historic preservation.

Holt explained that ASD has also considered moving its administration offices into the middle school building, or moving the San Juan Mountain School there, but that it is open to other options, as well.

"We're also interested in keeping Pagosa vibrant moving forward," Holt said.

Town council member Leonard Martinez commented that he likes the idea of diversifying the local economy and providing ways for more young people to stay in the community, noting there is a geothermal well on the middle school property.

"And the things we do for tourists that we don't do for ourselves," he added, indicating there are some real "exciting" possibilities with that building the community should be exploring.

Holt explained that the district acquired the water rights for the well after previously being advised to cap it due to leaks.

Holt commented that he thought capping the well would be a "terrible way to treat a valuable community asset," and when considering longterm, the thinking is that having the well on the property would increase the value of that place.

"We did that on purpose so that we could pass that along as an asset to our community rather than have it vanish," he said, noting that it could also be used as a geothermal source to heat buildings or even be developed into a community pool.

"I think we can be very creative," he added. Holt also commented that the

building has "served [its] purpose as a school building, and that time has gone," but that it could be used for other great things going forward. clayton@pagosasun.com

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Veteran's Appreciation Dinner

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November 10: Honoring Service

11:45 a.m. — The Honor Guard & Daughters of American Revolution collaborate to demonstrate a Flag Presentation & History for 5th, 6th, & 7th Graders at Pagosa Springs Jr.

6 p.m. — The Marines of Post #108 are hosting their annual Marine Celebration at Boss Hoggs

November 11: Veterans Day

7:30-10 a.m. — Veterans Breakfast Hosted by the Pagosa Springs 8th Grade Class held at the Community Center. Breakfast served.

9 a.m. — The Color Guard will have a Flag Presentation Ceremony

10 a.m. — The Honor Guard will have a formal ceremony at Veterans Memorial Park. The San Juan Squadron will begin our ceremony with the Missing Man Formation @ 10:00 SHARP.

4 p.m. — The Knights Of Columbus will be Hosting a free dinner to all Veterans at John Paul II

November 14: Veterans Dinner & Dance

5-9 p.m. — Vets4Vets is hosting a Dinner & Dance at the PLPOA Clubhouse. The Color Guard will Begin Opening Ceremony @ 5:00 p.m.

***IF TRANSPORTATION IS NEEDED, PLEASE MAKE ARRANGEMENTS WITH MOUNTAIN EXPRESS TRANSIT (MET) FROM NOVEMBER 3RD TO THE 7TH ***

Obituary

Rebekah MacArthur Laue

Rebekah MacArthur Laue crossed over Sunday morning, Oct. 26, 2025. She is now dancing with the angels.

Rebekah was born in Saginaw, Mich., on Memorial Day, May 30, 1936. She spent her growing-up years in Hawaii and witnessed the bombing of Pearl Harbor.



Rebekah passed over peacefully of natural causes. She saw a bright light as she crossed into the arms of her heavenly Father. She often pictured

herself in His arms before she passed

She lived with her husband, Peter, in a log cabin home on Lake Pagosa for 48 years. They birthed no physical children. They birthed spiritual children and two ministries, Crafts for Christ and Stretcher Bearers for Christ. They hosted many in the Upper Room guest apartment above their garage. Although they were married for 52 years, all the wounded souls that they hosted are their spiritual children. Only Father-God knows their names.

Rebekah was an artist. Carol Kimsey was her favorite teacher. Her paintings decorate many homes in Pagosa Springs and beyond. She will be sorely missed by many, but especially her husband, Peter.

Letters

■ Continued from A3 prison them all? Kimball Shinkoskey

Woods Cross, Utah

Government shutdown

Dear Editor:

Indifference in Washington: Leadership Cannot Be Served with a Side of Hypocrisy

As the federal government shutdown continues into its fourth devastating week, bringing anxiety and financial hardship to millions of American families, the image broadcast from the White House Rose Garden yesterday was astonishing.

While hundreds of thousands of essential government workers-from TSA agents keeping our airports safe to Border Patrol officers—are forced to work without pay, and non-essential personnel are fully furloughed, one political party was hosted for a televised, celebratory lunch of greasy cheeseburgers, fries, and chocolates. This contrast is not a sign of strong leadership; it is a stark portrait of profound indifference and a painful disconnect from reality.

The pain caused by this political stalemate is systemic and widespread. It affects the military families who rely on federal spouses' paychecks and the assistance that is now delayed. It hits the small business owners who cannot secure the government loans or contracts they need to stay afloat. It delays crucial health care services for our veterans and slows down the processing of Social Security claims for the elderly. For every furloughed worker, there is a mortgage payment that is now uncertain.

But the issue goes deeper than a

While the funding for federal agencies, public programs, and the paychecks of hundreds of thousands of public servants is intentionally cut off, our lawmakers—the very people engineering this crisis—continue to

collect their full salaries. Their pay is secured by permanent law, protecting them from the financial suffering

they inflict on the rest of the nation.

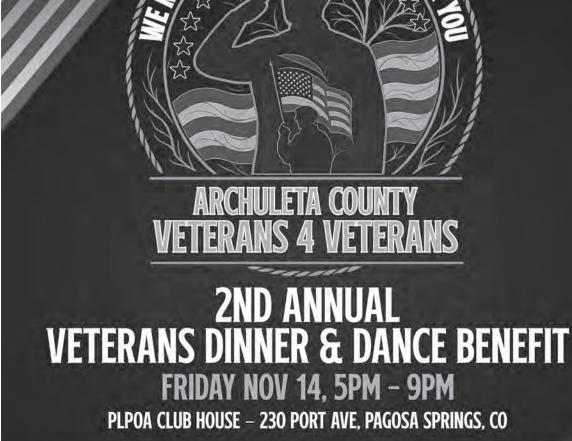
This is the ultimate expression of the "fat cat" problem: a leadership that shields itself from the consequences of its own political failures while turning off the financial spigot for the people they are sworn to serve. They are comfortable enjoying their guaranteed meals and secure paychecks while telling the American public to simply tighten their belts.

The core responsibility of those in power is to serve every American, regardless of their political affiliation or background. The blind hope is to remain a unified nation, with a leadership that works tirelessly for

the well-being of all people in this country, bridging divides and finding common ground. The current selfserving display is a betrayal of that sacred trust.

The American people are not Republicans or Democrats when the power is shut off, the paycheck is missed, or the social security claim is delayed; we are simply Americans who deserve a government that puts the welfare of every citizen first. If our leaders are truly committed to unity and fiscal responsibility, the first cut should be to the privileges—and the secured paychecks—of those who possess the power to end this crisis

Sincerely, Shawna Snarr



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Pagosa Springs Barbershop Hosts

Cade White, owner of the barbershop, is also a veteran. He notes that the event is expected to be a meaningful gathering for veterans and their families, offering a chance to reconnect with fellow service members while enjoying a range of complimentary services.

For more information, attendees and supporters are encouraged to visit the shop's website at www.pagosaspringsbarbershop.com or stop by the shop directly

Commissioners discuss possible changes to temporary use permits for RV living

By Clayton Chaney Staff Writer

The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) recently discussed making potential changes to the county's land use regulations (LUR) relating to temporary use permits (TUPs) that allow citizens to live in temporary structures or recreational vehicles (RVs).

During the BoCC's regular work session held on Tuesday, Oct. 21, Interim County Manager Mike Torres explained that "there has been an ongoing conversation about temporary and recreational vehicles being placed on parcels throughout the county," on privately owned land and the requirements the county has put in place.

Commissioner Veronica Medina shared a highlighted document with her suggestions of what could be changed in the county's LUR section concerning temporary structures and RVs.

Torres noted the county passed Resolution 2021-89, which allows residents to apply for a TUP in order to live in an RV for 120 consecutive days before having to renew the permit.

He explained the resolution was intended to help with the county's affordable housing crisis by providing another option for residents who may not be able to afford a traditional home at the moment.

"We did this resolution to help assist with that," he said.

Torres went on to explain that there are some cases in which people are living in an RV, or temporary structure, but have a proper septic system and other utilities, but who are still required to get a TUP every 120 days.

He noted that it is "just conversation" at this point, "but this does kind of become a hindrance on them" to have to keep coming back every 120 days to receive another TUP.

Medina explained that a resident had come forward stating they had a proper septic system in place, along with other utilities, and there was no reason to fine them, even though they're paying a permit fee and having staff go and inspect it.

Medina then asked how many TUPs have been issued, wondering how many residents are coming forward and self-reporting, and if that number has increased or decreased "because the ones that are, are kind of being hit over the head with permit fees."

Medina explained that her suggestion was to change the wording in the LUR from "permitted" to "allowed," and to remove wording defining the length in which an RV or temporary structure can be occupied.

She explained that there would still be health and safety requirements defining proper waste disposal, noting that, "health and safety are always first."

Medina then spoke about how the county handles campgrounds and RV parks, explaining that people do not pay a fee to the county when they choose to stay at a campground and that the county does not necessarily go out and check to see if the campground, or RV park, has proper septic systems put in place.

She explained that if someone is staying at a designated campground, the county assumes the business is taking care of ensuring proper utilities and waste disposal.

"So, why are we taxing our residents that have bought their own property, paying their taxes on their property?" Medina stated, explaining that in this one particular instance the resident has a proper septic system and everything is legal, but the county is still requiring them "to be monitored and pay a permit."

Commissioner John Ranson spoke in support of potentially altering the LUR, stating, "I'm all open to changing that," before commenting on what the county could do in regard to those not following the rules and not paying a permit fee every 120 days.

"Those people need to be reported," he said.

"I'm not worried so much about the fee; I'm worried about the health and safety," Medina said, "because the people that are self-reporting are probably not the problem."

Planning Manager Melissa Ryan indicated the county currently has 83 TUPs "at some level of progress."

Commissioner Warren Brown asked if the county has different zoning designations for RV parks and trailer parks

Ryan explained the county has RV parks in its LURs, which are allowed in various zoning districts.

Brown then explained that he is the only current BoCC member who was on the board at the time of the resolution being passed and that the board was seeing "numerous" people coming into the county and living in RVs on county, national forest and private lands, and that illegal RV, or trailer

parks, would "spring up."

Brown noted that the majority of the complaints being received had to do with improper sewage disposal, but the BoCC at that time adopted this resolution "that allowed for people to live in RV on their property," but wanted to make sure they had electricity and sewer, or some way to dispose of waste properly.

"I could see someone whose built a septic being a different animal altogether than this," Brown said, adding, "I think that if we remove these things, what we are going to see is an uptick back to the way it was."

Brown added that the intention of the resolution was to help, not hinder.

"I think if someone has a permanent septic, that's a different classification," he added, explaining he would consider making that a separate classification and that he would not want to alter the current wording in the LUR.

He continued, "I would not support removing these," explaining that is because of the issues the county saw at the time.

Ranson suggested that it could be a different special permit, with Brown agreeing, and suggesting it may be a onetime inspection sort of thing.

Brown mentioned that most people

are law-abiding citizens and follow the rules.

"The rules, in my experience, are

almost always made for the folks who do not follow the rules," he said.

Medina agreed with Brown that

Medina agreed with Brown that rules are generally made for those who don't follow them, but asked about the

83 residents who are, and how many potentially are not.

She also questioned if the county has enough staff to enforce the rules on those who are not following them.

"Is it really that important that we collect the \$50?" Medina asked, stating the county has had these rules in place long enough now to have enough data to showwhat trends may be occurring.

"I just feel like we're taxing the people who are actually following the rules" instead of looking at those who aren't, Medina said.

County Attorney Cathleen Giovannini commented that, from a legal standpoint, it would make sense to have a different classification system for those living in temporary structures, or RVs, but have proper septic systems and other essential utilities in place.

Ranson commented that he was being reminded of a recent conversation the BoCC had that dealt with the county's ability to, or lack of, enforcement, suggesting a work session with Planning Department staff.

Brown mentioned that he requested an item be put on the work session agenda, but while reviewing the resolution found that it "is perfectly clear, and perfectly fine," explaining the direction from the BoCC at that time was "that we not be active in violations" and only respond to complaints on properties made by neighbors.

"So, I think it's more of an attitude, or more of a direction from the board to staff that potentially we resume enforcement by the code as it is written," Brown said, explaining that he could

not find anything in the ordinance, or suggest a change to it, to enforce violations separately or differently.

"I think you're right," Ranson com-

"I can't find anything that would direct our staff not to look at something that may be a violation and contact," Brown stated.

Ranson suggested that may be a conversation the BoCC needs to have with county staff so that it is clear to staff what the board and public want.

Medina indicated that another work session is needed, mentioning, "Our code definitely needs to be updated" and that there are parts she does not agree with.

"Like having them pay a permit," she said, explaining there are little things that can be fixed.

She noted that people should self-report, "but I think there's a better way to do it without being so heavy handed, because safety and health, absolutely, but when we're starting to encumber people living on their property, I think that's a problem."

Medina noted that if residents have proper utilities, "that's where we need to take a step back" and focus on "true safety hazards," like illegal dumping.

She mentioned that it seems like staff got into the mode of being police, and should be more customer-service orientated and active in helping residents find solutions.

"We need to be able to help them, versus just pounding them over the head," she said.

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2025
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The Colorado Water Officials Association held their annual conference in Pagosa Springs on October 2-3.

The CWOA hosted over 100 Water Commissioners, Division Engineers, support staff, and consultants.

The event hosted a golf outing and water rodeo to raise money for the Chuck Lile Memorial Scholarship, which provides educational funds for a student studying engineering, water resources, or ag science.

The Colorado Water Officials Association would like to thank our proud sponsors for their generous gifts and contributions towards the conference and scholarship fund.

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Scott Hummer

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Four Corners Water Center Fort Lewis College















Ronnie & Terry Urbanczyk

Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District board hears draft 2026 budget

By Josh Pike Staff Writer

The Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) Board of Directors heard a presentation of the district's draft budget for 2026 at an Oct. 15 special meeting.

PAWSD Administrative Assistant Cyndi Foster presented the draft budget to the board, explaining that the documents she was presenting went from the broadest look at the budget to covering specific elements in greater detail.

She noted that the district's projected net revenue for 2026 exceeds its debt service obligations by about \$1.3 million.

Foster indicated that summaries of the budget compare the 2026 draft budget for specific line items with the anticipated spending or revenues for 2025, which is a composite of the district's current financial situation and any changes expected before the end of the year.

The budget information included in the board packet indicates that PAWSD's revenues for its general fund, which primarily include property taxes, are expected to grow by 6 percent to \$1,399,979 compared to the anticipated 2025 revenues, while expenditures are projected to grow by 10 percent to \$1,654,507 in 2026 compared to the anticipated 2025 expenditures.

The PAWSD water enterprise fund's revenue — including service charges, capital investment fees, loan proceeds and other fees - is expected to decline by 67 percent in 2026 to \$10,371,950 compared to the anticipated 2025 revenues.

The fund's expenditures are projected to decline by 62 percent to \$12,058,390 compared to the anticipated 2025 expenditures.

According to the budget information, both of these changes are primarily driven by sharp declines in the fund's loan proceeds and associated capital project costs connected to the completion of the Snowball water treatment plant expansion.

The PAWSD wastewater enterprise fund's revenues are projected to rise by 6 percent to \$6,600,092 in 2026 compared to the anticipated 2025 revenues, while expenditures are anticipated to fall by 23 percent to \$10,437,505 compared to anticipated 2025 expenditures.

The projected 2026 ending fund balance for the PAWSD general fund is \$1,249,852, down 17 percent from the anticipated balance at the end of 2025, while the fund balance for the water fund is projected to be \$3,182,439, down 35 percent from the anticipated 2025 ending balance. The wastewater fund balance is projected to be \$5,434,678, down 41 percent

balance.

Foster stated that the operating budget considerations for 2026 include that PAWSD will have 44 fulltime employees, that wages will grow between 3 percent and 6 percent depending on employee evaluations and merit increases for acquiring additional certifications, and that health insurance expenses will grow by an estimated 8.5 percent.

PAWSD board member Bill Hudson noted that the district had a large amount of training expenses for 2025 and asked if that would cost the district in the future if staff gains additional certifications.

PAWSD Operations Manager Andrew Connor explained that most of PAWSD's staff are fairly young and need additional training to build their skills.

He added that retaining staff is critical since it can take several years for staff to have enough experience to run PAWSD's plants and distribution system effectively without extensive supervision.

Hudson commented that these trainings would result in the district having to pay employees more, but commented that it is good for reten-

PAWSD District Manager/Engineer Justin Ramsey commented that having staff with appropriate certifications is critical for the district since certain roles require certain certifications, and PAWSD needs to have staff to fill them if the people occupying those roles leave.

PAWSD Programs Manager Renee Lewis added that employees also have to do large amounts of studying for certifications, which must be done outside of working hours.

Foster noted that capital expenditures would decrease for both PAWSD's water and wastewater funds due to the completion of upgrades to the Snowball water treatment plant and the Vista wastewater treatment plant.

However, she added that there would be some capital expenses for upgrades to the water distribution and wastewater collection systems.

Foster also noted that the district would be adding four vehicles in 2026 — two that would be used by the two distribution technicians PAWSD plans to add next year, one that would replace an existing damaged vehicle and one that would be added to the truck fleet for PAWSD's sewer opera-

Following further discussion of the details of PAWSD's truck replacements, Foster returned to the budget to explain that the assessed value from the Archuleta County Assessor for PAWSD District 1, which includes the areas in uptown Pagosa Springs where PAWSD provides water and

percent from 2025 to \$226,466,765 and the assessed value of PAWSD District 2, which includes downtown Pagosa Springs and outlying areas where PAWSD provides only water service, was up 16.45 percent from 2025 to \$206,361,000.

She noted that Colorado Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (TABOR) restrictions limited PAWSD's mill levy in District 1 to 4.326 mills, lower than the taxpayer-approved levy of 6.090 mills, and limited District 2 levy to 1.334 mills, lower than the taxpayerapproved levy of 1.949 mills.

PAWSD board member Glenn Walsh commented that he would want to know more about the differences in property valuations between the two districts and its impact on district tax revenues due to the substantial differences between districts and between the valuations and the mill levy changes.

Foster stated that the district would likely not need to do a budget amendment in 2025.

Connor explained that the district has relatively few projects remaining to do in 2025, although issues like water line breaks are always possible.

He added that water line breaks downtown will now be more expensive due to the Town of Pagosa Springs imposing a new fee on excavations of streets, with the fee scaling on its rating of how good of condition the street is in.

Walsh commented that such a fee makes sense from the perspective of the town government, but PAWSD should keep this and similar fees "in mind" when local governments request fee waivers from PAWSD and should request waivers of fees

Foster indicated that she had finished her presentation, but that she would welcome questions from the

Walsh commented that he had a significant number of questions, but that he would prefer to write them up and forward them to PAWSD staff for further discussion at a later date.

He proposed that other board members could also do this and that this would help refine the list of questions for staff at PAWSD's next meeting in November.

Walsh added that the district's recent large projects create a "new budget reality" and that the district needs to determine what this reality is and how to properly address it, which would be the focus of most of his questions.

Hudson stated that he would also send a list of questions to staff.

He noted that the district transferred money from the general fund to the wastewater fund in 2025 but was planning, according to the budget, to transfer money from the genfrom the projected 2025 ending fund wastewater service, was down 0.06 eral fund to the water fund in 2026.

He commented that the wastewater fund is the most problematic fund for the district and questioned why the district is not transferring fund-

Ramsey explained that this transfer was driven by the approximately \$1 million that PAWSD will owe the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) for water line replacements as part of its U.S. 160 reconstruction project and that the transfer was designed to "soften that blow."

Walsh commented that the district's projections for how much water rates needed to be increased in its 2024 rate study may be less than the increasing costs for water service.

Hudson added that real estate prices appear to be going down, which likely will mean that PAWSD's revenues will decline and reductions in its budget will be necessary in the

The board then contemplated a range of topics, including the inequalities of its arrangement to treat sewage from the Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District (PSSGID), the potential of raising wastewater fees to match the PSSGID's rates, which would result in an approximately 65 percent increase in PAWSD's fees; how treating sewage from the PSSGID may have contributed to PAWSD being required to perform expensive regulatory upgrades to its Vista wastewater treatment plant; how the situation might be different if this agreement had not been made; and if PAWSD had the right board members at the time.

Connor then spoke on the increases in operational costs that PAWSD is experiencing, including requirements from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment that PAWSD spend \$1 million per year on reducing inflow and infiltration of outside water into its collection system and rising costs of water treatment chemicals.

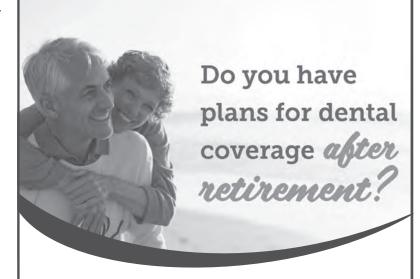
Ramsey commented that he feels "fixing the sewer lines is a good idea," but that he has difficulties with the new nutrient outflow standards and heavy metal testing requirements imposed by the state of Colorado.

The board then asked former PAWSD Business Manager Aaron Burns if he had any comments on the budget, which he helped develop.

Burns returned to the transfer of money from the general fund to the water fund, noting that PAWSD expects to get some grant funding for projects in the wastewater fund in 2026 and that the transfer of money to the water was partially intended to balance these grant revenues in addition to helping support the CDOT

The board then unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting josh@pagosasun.com





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Chamber board nominations to close Nov. 7

By Sandy Douthey

Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce

Happy Hallows Eve.

I can't believe the "ber" season is already here, and tomorrow is Halloween. Where has the time gone?

As a note of safety, please watch out for trick-or-treaters while you're driving, and if you have candy, please share.

Pagosa Springs is offering a few fun events to join in for fun. We have Halloween-themed activities today and tomorrow, whether it be a Beetlejuice play or a trunk or treat, a good time can be had by all.

Chamber board nominations

applied for a Chamber board posi-

Self-nominations are open until Nov. 7. Every year, six candidates are presented to the Chamber membership and, of those six candidates, three are chosen by the membership.

There is a board nomination process, and nominations are open to interested Chamber members who have had membership for one year.

The board commitment includes a three-year term. The Chamber holds monthly meetings whose date and time is determined every year at the annual board retreat. Board members are also needed to assist at the monthly Business Happy Hours and at events when possible.

If you would like to have a better business presence, please submit Thank you to everyone who has your application for the nomina-

tion process. Please contact Sandy Douthey, executive director, either by phone, (970) 264-2360, or email,

director@pagosachamber.com. The election will take place at the end of this year for the term starting

Small Business Saturday: Nov. 29

Yes, we are participating in this great event in 2025.

The Chamber and Pagosa Springs Main Street are teaming up together to help our retail community through this holiday season.

We are your Small Business Saturday Neighborhood Champion.

There is a little work on your part. Please contact Anna Deering, membership coordinator, at info@pagosachamber.com or (970) 264-2360.

Please support Pagosa and our economy. If you have any questions about Small Business Saturday, please contact the Chamber. In the meantime, make out your gift lists, and let the shopping season begin.

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Trent Sanders Ski and Bow Rack Lace & Lariat Jann Pitcher Crazy Horse Outfitters Mountain Eye Care Scott Simmons

Kevah Grande Rosie's Pizzeria Elaine Feeney Renner Mini Storage Wagner Rentals The Springs Resort and Spa Wolf Creek Ski Area Rainbow Gifts

Beny's Authentic Mexican Denver Stock Show Yeti Coolers Chavolos Taqueria Happy Trails Roadhouse Bliss Sweets & Treats Tim McCree Buckaroos Sleigh Ride

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American Red Cross encourages testing smoke alarms when turning clocks back this weekend

American Red Cross of Western Colorado

Daylight saving time ends on Sunday, Nov. 2, and the American Red Cross encourages everyone to test their smoke alarms as they turn their clocks back to make sure the devices are working.

"Working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in a home fire in half as you only have about two minutes to safely get out," said Christie Caster, executive director of the American Red Cross of Western Colorado. "Every second counts when there's a home fire, and the sooner an alarm alerts you to a fire, the sooner you can get to a safer place. When daylight saving time ends this weekend, test your smoke alarms to help prevent a tragedy in your home."

Over the past year, local Red Cross volunteers responded to help 275 people in Western Colorado affected by 82 home fires, which account for most

of the about 65,000 disasters that the Red Cross responds to annually across the country.

Smoke alarms: When turning your clocks back this weekend, test your smoke alarms and replace the batteries if needed. Visit redcross.org/fire for more information, including an escape plan to create and practice with your family, or download the free Red Cross Emergency app by searching "American Red Cross" in app stores.

• Install smoke alarms on every level of your home, including inside and outside bedrooms and sleeping areas.

• Replace smoke alarms that are 10 years or older. Components such as sensors can become less sensitive over time. Followyour alarm's manufacturer instructions.

• Practice your two-minute home fire escape plan. Make sure everyone in your household can get out in less than two minutes — the amount of time you

may have to escape a burning home before it's too late.

• Include at least two ways to get out of every room and select a meeting spot at a safe distance away from your home, such as your neighbor's home or landmark like a specific tree in your front yard, where everyone can meet.

If you need help: If you cannot afford to purchase smoke alarms or are physically unable to install one, the Red Cross may be able to help. Contact your local Red Cross for help.

Home fire campaign saves lives: Since October 2014, the Red Cross Home Fire Campaign, working with community partners, has saved at least 2,508 lives by educating families about fire safety, helping them create escape plans and installing free smoke alarms in high-risk areas across the country.

To learn more about the campaign and how you can get involved, visit redcross.org/homefires.

Flooding.

■ Continued from front

"Because if and when FEMA steps in, we're going to have to prove that we followed our procurement process," she said, noting that if the process is not followed correctly, "then they probably won't reimburse us."

She went on to indicate that, collectively across the county, the preliminary damage cost "is definitely way over the \$13 million that we had originally projected," and is actually closer to the \$26 million mark.

"FEMA feels really good about us being on the project lists," she said, explaining that when the county would receive funds and how "are all still unknown."

Medina explained that three crews composed of FEMA representatives, county and town representatives, and Colorado Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management personnel will be assessing damages in the San Juan River Village subdivision, in downtown Pagosa Springs and along County Road 500 toward Arboles this week.

She noted that FEMA will produce final damage assessment numbers "to see where we're really gonna fall," but that FEMA felt like "we've underestimated some of those costs, which is good," instead of overestimating.

"So, that number could definitely

be higher," she added.

Medina indicated that the county still needs to continue allocating costs like overtime and equipment rentals into the final damage assessment numbers.

"We're not done just because it's over. It's not over," Medina said.

Rapid assessment report

Separately from the effort to assess the damage done by the recent flooding, researchers from the Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences' (CIRES') Western Water Assessment (WWA) at the University of Colorado at Boulder assessed the flooding and produced a 14-page rapid assessment report.

A press release on the report notes it is "a scientific resource for town planners and emergency response teams to understand why the flood happened and how they can plan for the future"

"Our goal is to work with the people who can use this information," said Nels Bjarke, WWA research scientist who co-wrote the report with fellow WWA research scientist Seth Arens. "This report provides an assessment of what happened during this flood event and the flood's historical and local context."

The WWA's mission, according to the press release, is to help communities across Colorado, Wyoming and Utah "make the best use of science to manage for natural hazard impacts. Responding to the Pagosa Springs floods exemplifies the team's work, and the new report provides insight into rainfall data, historic flood context, and the probability of future floods."

The rapid assessment highlights precipitation measurements from National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA's) National Weather Service (NWS) and U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) watershed monitoring stations that measured rainfall leading up to the floods.

Bjarke notes that these systems support the NWS's ability to send flood watches and warnings across the western United States, and likely saved lives and possibly property in Pagosa Springs.

The team also combed through historic data to compare past flooding events, and found the October floods ranked third largest after the first in 1911 and the second in 1927.

"Working with rural communities like Pagosa Springs gives WWA insight into the unique challenges they face: they are exposed to a range of extreme weather events, typically they experience issues with aging infrastructure, and often have finite resources to respond or prepare," the press release states.

It explains, "WWA researchers use scientific expertise to help communities prepare for their unique local hazard risks ahead of time, through assessments, synthesis reports, and meetings. Weeks earlier, Bjarke and his team presented at the Mountain Towns 2030 conference about wild-fire risk, where they connected with local officials from Pagosa Springs to discuss how WWA can support the community in building resilience in the face of natural hazards."

The assessment notes Southwest Colorado has been in a drought for the better part of two decades.

"Nearly two decades of exposure to drought conditions, increasing wildfire activity, and now the recent flooding collectively highlight the geographically unique and increasingly frequent natural hazard risks that rural mountain communities face in southwest Colorado," the assessment states.

The press release adds that, this summer, the San Juan River flowed at 42 percent of its average. Beginning in August, the region experienced unusual and increased rainfall, which raised river levels to almost normal levels through October. These uncommon yet frequent rain events left soils saturated as rain began to fall on Oct. 9.

The assessment notes a total of 12.5 inches of precipitation fell at a

high-elevation observation site in the watershed over five days, saturating the watershed and driving the San Juan River to reach major flood stage twice during that period.

"With saturated soils, the rain had nowhere to go but directly into the San Juan River, an example of previous research led by Bjarke and CI-RES Fellow and WWA Director Ben Livneh," the press release explains.

The work found "precipitation intermittency" — how many days have passed between storms — can help predict flood risk.

"This rapid assessment provides context for the likelihood of future floods in the region," according to the press release. "Researchers estimate that this event is a 25 to 40-year flood, meaning in any given year, there is approximately a 2.5 to 4 percent chance that a flood of this magnitude might happen. WWA researchers can work with communities like Pagosa Springs to determine how to integrate this type of information into their plans for the future."

"Our goal for this and other reports is to provide scientific expertise in Colorado, Wyoming, and Utah to help communities like Pagosa Springs understand their local hazard risk and prepare," Bjarke said. "We hope that this report brings visibility to the potential future risks that communities in the region face."

The report — which delves into the historical context for fall flooding in Pagosa Springs, hydrological preconditions, hydrology of the flooding, regional impacts, antecedent moisture and flooding, attributing historical flood risk and more — can be found at bit.ly/4qwtbuW.

randi@pagosasun.com





PUC 16400, MCT 0021, DOT 2842985

Insurance.

■ Continued from front

increases of 100 percent, with some rural areas seeing increases of over 200 percent. Customers in Montrose County, for example, will see an average 246 percent increase in net premiums, while customers in Crowley County will see an average 223 percent increase, and customers in Garfield County will see an average 200 percent increase.

• Marketplace customers ages 55-64 who currently receive financial assistance will experience average net premium increases of 144 percent, or about \$235 more per month.

• Marketplace customers who currently do not receive financial assistance will see average gross premium increases of 27 percent, or about \$122 more per month.

• With the expiration of ePTCs, about 36,000 marketplace customers with incomes above 400 percent of the federal poverty level will lose financial assistance, leading to average net premium increases near 142 percent.

• Under H.R. 1, approximately 1,800 lawfully present immigrants who are ineligible for Medicaid due to immigration status will lose eligibility for financial help through the marketplace, resulting in average net premium increases exceeding 5,000 percent.

"Shopping for coverage is more critical than ever this year," said Kevin Patterson, CEO of Connect for Health Colorado. "Even with premium increases and the expiration of ePTCs, shopping and comparing plans during the annual open enrollment period (Nov. 1, 2025, through Jan. 15, 2026) may help customers find affordable options."

Patterson added, "While Connect for Health Colorado doesn't set health insurance rates, we know rising premiums and the expiration of enhanced Premium Tax Credits (ePTCs) will have a real impact on people in Colorado. Our priority is and has always been to help customers understand their options and find the best, most affordable coverage for them.

"We are encouraging everyone to shop and compare plans, and to rely on expert assistance," Patterson said. "Our free, statewide network of certified assisters and insurance brokers speak more than 22 languages. They can answer questions and help customers apply — at no cost."

Patterson also said Connect for Health Colorado is prepared to assist customers if Congress extends ePTCs before or during the annual open enrollment period.

"We're grateful to the Colorado Legislature for introducing Colorado Premium Assistance and recognizing the importance of affordable health insurance — but CPA alone can't fully replace the lost federal support," Patterson said. "It's not too late for Congress to extend enhanced Premium Tax Credits for our customers. We're ready to act and prepared to work as quickly as possible to ensure the customers we serve have reliable, high-quality and affordable health insurance."

About Connect for Health Colorado

Connect for Health Colorado is the state's official health insurance marketplace. Its mission is to increase access, affordability and choice for individuals, families and small employers purchasing health insurance in Colorado. It is the only place where residents can qualify for and receive financial help for their health insurance.

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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 https://pspixeltree.com/240-Glade-Dr

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. MLS # 822945

To tour this home go to: https://tinyurl. com/1001SoaringEagle-Court



This meticulously cared for full-round log cabin, uptown near Lake Forest, spans 2,732 square feet, featuring 4 bedrooms and 3.5 bathrooms. Relax on the covered deck or backyard patio while taking in stunning mountain views. Inside, the open floor plan connects the great room with a cozy fireplace to a modern kitchen boasting granite countertops, high end appliances, and an is-



land 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. MLS # 824532

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

Escape to your private sanctuary on this lovely 3-acre treed lot, complete with a convenient circular driveway. Nestled in a desirable neighborhood where all properties are at least 3 acres, this home offers unparalleled privacy and a serene setting. Abundant local wild-life provides a daily



connection to nature. Step inside from the covered front porch to a spacious kitchen featuring granite counters. Relax in the living room or formal dining room, where large windows frame breathtaking views of the East Range and Square Top. A partially covered deck off the dining room is perfect for enjoying the peaceful outdoors. Despite the quiet surroundings, you are only a quick five-minute drive from town via Highway 84. MLS #828583. https://pspixeltree.com/120-Big-Horn-Ct



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1.7 Acres without a property owners association and great views of Echo Lake and the East Range. 1 bedroom, 1 3/4 baths, an office, a large open loft and unfinished basement with a 2 car garage, 4 carports and RV parking, 3 covered decks, lots of storage and did I say it is only 4 miles from town. The circular driveway is large and the front porch is screened in. Close to shopping and dining and close to paved roads. Please note, the basement square footage has not been included with this listing as the basement is unfinished.



MLS # 826138

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



MLS # 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.





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Ballots

■ Continued from front

7 p.m. on Election Day, Nov. 4.

There are two locations: Pagosa Springs Town Hall, 551 Hot Springs Blvd. (located in front of the building to the left of the entry doors) and the TARA Community Center at 333 Milton Lane in Arboles.

Drop-off locations

You may also drop-off your voted ballot at the Election Office located at 305 Village Drive Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. through Nov. 3; Nov. 1 from 8 a.m. to noon; and Election Day, Nov. 4, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

What's on the ballot?

The following are the official offices and ballot measures that will be voted on in the Nov. 4 election.

Depending on your physical address, you may not be voting on all referred ballot issues.

State ballot measures

Ballot questions referred by the general assembly or any political subdivision are listed by letter, and ballot questions initiated by the people are listed numerically.

A ballot question listed as an "amendment" proposes a change to the Colorado constitution, and a ballot question listed as a "proposition" proposes a change to the Colorado Revised Statutes. A "yes/for" vote on

any ballot question is a vote in favor of changing current law or existing circumstances, and a "no/against" vote on any ballot question is a vote against changing current law or existing circumstances.

There are two state ballot measures on the ballot.

Proposition LL centers on keeping and spending all revenue generated by the 2022 voter-approved state tax deduction limits on individuals with incomes of \$300,000 or more, and maintaining those deduction limits, to continue the Healthy School Meals for All program.

The program pays public schools to offer free breakfast and lunch to all K-12 students.

Proposition MM centers on a proposed increase to state taxes of \$95 million for school meals and school assistance programs by increasing state taxable income for those who have a federal taxable income of \$300,000 or more by limiting itemized or standard state income deductions.

That, the question indicates, would be for the purposes of fully funding the Health School Meals for All program to provide free breakfast and lunch; increase wages for employees who prepare and serve school meals; help schools use "nutritious ingredients, instead of

processed products and ensure that Colorado-grown and raised products are part of school meals; and support the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP.

Municipal ballot measure

Town of Pagosa Springs voters will have the opportunity to vote on Ballot Issue 2A, which seeks a 1 percent sales tax rate increase for sewerage and wastewater reuse facilities beginning Jan. 1, 2026.

According to the ballot issue, taxes would be increased to "construct, reconstruct, improve, repair, better, extend, operate and maintain sewerage and wastewater reuse facilities to serve the town, including facilities of the Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District.

School district offices

Voters within Bayfield School District 10 JT-R will be voting to elect three candidates to four-year terms on the board of directors. Candidates include Rebecca Parnell, Gary Maestas, Matt Turner and Robert Coronado Jr.

Voters within Ignacio School District 11JT will vote for two candidates to serve four-year terms on the board of directors. Candidates include Christine Sage, Leila C. Baker and James P. Bulwan.

Special district ballot measures

Voters in Colorado's Timber Ridge Metropolitan District will be asked to vote on Ballot Question 6A, which concerns eliminating term limits for board members and allowing board members to serve an unlimited number of consecutive terms.

Upper Pine River Fire Protection District voters will see Ballot Issue 7B, asking voters within that district to approve a new 1 percent sales tax on transactions in that district.

The issue notes it would exclude sales of food for home consumption, prescription drugs, diapers, feminine hygiene products, farm equipment, machinery and machine tools, school-related activities, and "other categories exempt from state sales tax collection in the Colorado Revised Statutes.

It notes the revenue would go toward providing adequate staffing to address increasing emergency call volume, investing in training and staff retention, maintain fire and Emergency Medical Services equipment and vehicles to extend their useful lives and replace them when necessary, invest in updating firefighter safety gear and equipment, and improve and equip current and future fire stations to maintain response times.



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Town

■ Continued from front

day as the meeting, Oct. 28, and it needed to be in the original application packet when it was submitted.

A resident of the Vista San Juan neighborhood asked Dickhoff, "Is the applicant the owner of the 100-acres? Yes or no?"

Dickhoff answered, "The owner is not the applicant, and the applicant is not the [current] owner. The applicant has, I guess, an option to purchase this property."

Dickhoff added that the town has "a notarized authorization allowing the applicant to process the application with the Town of Pagosa Springs."

He maintained that the notarized document did not need to be in the original application packet, with Suh suggesting, "Yes, it does."

The legal question about the original application being submitted without the current owner's notarized signature led the planning commission to add a legal review of the process to its conditions of approval.

Planning commissioner Chad Hodges said, "I'm not a lawyer, but Mrs. Suh has brought up the fact that potentially there is a legal issue," asking his fellow commissioners and the town's planning staff, "How confident are we that that is not a legal issue?"

Planning commissioner Brian Reid then asked, "Would it be appropriate to add another condition to request that the town's legal council reviews this and is comfortable that we are not breaking any laws?"

Hodges responded, "It's totally appropriate."

Planning commissioner Julie Gurule indicated she wanted clarification on what the added condition would mean for the process, with the other commissioners stating that it would be a condition of approval.

This means that if the town's attorney finds that the application required the current owner's notarized authorization in the original application packet, then the decision

of the planning commission to approve it would be null and void, and the applicants would then need to resubmit the application and come back for sketch subdivision approval, planning commissioner Pitcher explained.

"I think we can certainly ask for the town's legal council to review what documents we have to ensure that they are legitimate for this decision to be valid, and if they are not, then the decision is not valid and we're back to hearing it again," he

Suh stated from the audience, "It's not valid. The application has to be complete when it's submitted. You can't have the document postsubmission."

Reid then asked Suh, "Are you a lawyer, by the way?"

She responded, "I'm a legal re-

clarified. "We are not attorneys up here," Pitcher replied, with Reid saying, "We're looking for our attorney's

"So, you're not an attorney," Reid

opinion on this." Suh retorted, again, "There is an

attorney stating that this is illegal." Hodges noted that he thought "this is definitely something we should look into," with the other commissioners agreeing to add it into the "verbiage" of the approval conditions.

Dickhoff added clarification, "It's the statement of authority" document that "we need the attorney to review."

When a motion was made to approve the sketch subdivision application, with the original 17 conditions made by town staff, in addition to the condition to have the town's attorney review the statement of authority for the application, it was seconded and passed unanimously.

Most of the staff's original 17 conditions for approval, including the requirements of the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD),

a drainage plan and the anticipated phasing of the development, among other things, would be addressed in the next phase of the development process (the preliminary plan review), Planning Manager Owen O'Dell explained.

The proposed Pagosa West subdivision, which would include both residential and mixed-use commercial development, has garnered public opposition, mostly from residents of the nearby Vista San Juan neighborhood.

Residents of the neighborhood attended the meeting on Tuesday night, expressing concerns and opposition that ranged from wanting to protect old-growth trees and wildlife, to preserving the rural charm of the area and upholding the intent language of the town's Land Use and Development Code (LUDC) and other governing documents.

Town staff recommended the approval of the sketch subdivision application, with the 17 conditions. citing that the application is in line with the LUDC.

The parcel in question encompasses three different zoning districts — Mixed-Use Residential (MU-R), Mixed-Use Corridor (MU-C) and Mixed-Use Town-Center (MU-TC) — and any new development would need to adhere to the codes for those specific districts, unless certain sections of the subdivision were rezoned.

The only concrete development plans, at this stage, include a 88-unit multifamily apartment complex that would be geared toward workforce housing for those in the so-called "missing middle" income brackets of the area's workforce, Dickhoff noted.

At a previous meeting, Dickhoff explained that the workforce housing project, being called Pagosa Peaks Apartments, would be part of phase two of developing the proposed subdivision.

On this front, the town received a \$1,989,000 Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) More Housing Now Grant award, with this grant aimed at helping with "the cost of public infrastructure associated with"

the workforce housing apartments, an agenda document states.

Any other commercial developments, such as a developer-mentioned gas station that received negative comments from the public would have to go through the public process of getting a conditional use permit, per the LUDC.

Town staff has informed the public and the neighbors in opposition that the time to oppose or support specific business operations is during the conditional use permit process.

As far as the LUDC is concerned, the uses being proposed by the developer are allowable in the LUDC boundary zones within the parcel, town staff indicated.

The Montrose-based developers, Arena Labs LLC, represented by David Dragoo at previous meetings, tote the public improvements for the community that would include "trail development and open space, a multi-modal transit stop, upgrades to Pinon Causeway intersection and a new interior road," being called Pagosa West Boulevard.

Town staff has stated that the project is compatible with many of the town's goals, including the Access Control Plan's goal to "create off-highway local road networks," the Town-to-Lakes nonmotorized trail system and the increase of workforce housing supply.

The developers would need to contribute to these town goals as a condition of the approval of the subdivision.

O'Dell said that the application was "consistent with town adopted plans," and that, in summary, the town staff believes it meets the code requirements and criteria for the sketch phase of the subdivision process and that it recommended approval.

Pitcher said at a previous meeting, "I think it's important to clarify that, during the sketch process, we're not approving a car wash or a day care or any of that. We're approving the subdivision of this larger parcel, and so those details will come in a separate process."

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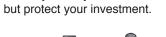
■ Continued from front

that Gonzalez's first official day was Oct. 24. "I am looking forward to working

with Mr. Gonzalez so we can continue moving forward and accomplish our county priorities," Medina adds. clayton@pagosasun.com

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CROSS-COUNTRY



Photo courtesy Josh Kurz

The Pirate harriers meet up with cross-country runner Jason Doyle on their way to the Oct. 23 regional meet in Colorado Springs. The Pirates had previously met Doyle the week before, when he was running through Pagosa Springs.



A Cut above

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Ash to represent Pirates at state championships

By Randi Pierce Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School (PSHS) Pirate cross-country team logged a number of highlights at the Oct. 23 regional meet, among them having a state qualifier, recording a number of personal records (PRs), a runner displaying sportsmanship and sacrifice, and catching back up with a cross-country runner.

"We had some awesome performances at regionals on Thursday," coach Josh Kurz wrote in the team's newsletter. "The biggest highlight was [Rylan Ash's] state-qualifying finish as a freshman! He's the first freshman boy we've ever taken to state as an individual!"

Ash finished 13th out of 95 runners with a time of 16 minutes, 54.24 seconds, with the top 15 individual

runners qualifying for state. "He was in 16th place with 800 meters to go, but he had an exceptional finish, passing 3 strong runners to finish 13th overall (only the top 15 individuals qualify for state)," Kurz wrote. "Rylan also had a 1s PR finishing in 16:54, which makes him the 3rd fastest freshman in 3A!'

Kurz adds, "After Rylan, we had a pack of three boys that finished within one second of each other!"

That pack was led by Merrick Tudor, who finished 45th with a time of 19:19.13 — a 20-second PR, according to the coach.

Weston Sweet followed in 47th in 19:20.09, with Kieran Kurz close behind in 48th with a time of 19:20.67 a nine-second PR.

Dylan Dempster was the team's final scoring runner with a time of 19:39.90, which put him in 54th with a three-second PR.

Jacen Easling followed in 55th with a time of 19:39.91.

"Jacen was a hundredth of a second behind Dylan, surprising us all with a whopping 56-second PR, earning him the male monster of the week," Josh Kurz wrote.

Eli Nehring, the coach noted, worked through illness to finish 60th with a time of 20:07.85.

Isaac Hanto finished 66th with a time of 20:42.12 — only five seconds off his PR.

Liam McKnight finished 72nd with a time of 21:03.55, with the coach noting he wrapped up "a solid freshman season."

The boys' team placed sixth overall out of 11 teams, with the coach highlighting that's one spot higher than the Pirates were seeded.

The Lady Pirates finished eighth out of 10 teams, with the coach noting, "all of our girls ran really well."

The Lady Pirates were led on the day by Lily DeClark, who finished 38th out of 79 runners with a time of 22:22.46.

"It was great to have Lily back after she took two weeks off to rehab her knee, which worked," Josh Kurz

Lucy Rivera finished less than a second later, taking 39th with a time

Josh Kurz explains Rivera's time"was a huge 30-second PR (our female monster of the week)!'

Kaiya Lyons, he adds, had her best race of the season, finishing 41st in 22:31.60.

Madisen Stretton finished 49th with a time of 23:51.37.

"Madi was leading the Lady Pirates when she decided to sacrifice a potential PR to help a Salida girl, who she found in the dirt with 1200m to go," the coach wrote. "Madi got the Salida girl moving again and encouraged her all the way to the finish."

A post on the team's Instagram post indicates the sacrifice "embodies

the spirit of cross country." The coach's Instagram post adds,

"I was strategically standing 800m from the finish and became concerned when Madi wasn't leading her pack of teammates. As Lily passed me, she told me that Madi was helping a girl who fell. About a minute later, Madi rounded the corner holding the Salida girl's hand and I looked in disbelief. Madi shouted at me, 'Sorry coach!'

"Her apology made her selfless act even sweeter. Madi is extremely competitive, but in that conflicted moment, she chose compassion over competition, but still felt the need to

■ See Cross-country A10



Lady Pirate Madisen Stretton encourages a fellow runner during the Oct. 23 regional meet. Stretton stopped to help the runner, who had fallen, then ran the rest of the race with her.



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Soccer



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

had multiple stepping-stone markers

to get to where they are now and "the

team's responded phenomenally to

success enjoyed throughout the

season has been great, but "we got

focusing on being mentally prepared

for their playoff match, not trying to

reinvent themselves, and controlling

prepared," Gian said, noting that the

be able to settle into the game.

"Really, just trying to get mentally

what they can through their effort.

Gian added that's exciting and the

Gian explained that the Pirates are

that message."

ing of the match.

counterattacks.

■ See Soccer A11

season.

counter," he added.

Ryder King rises up for a header attempt on goal during the Pirates' match against Lake County on Friday, Oct. 24. King contributed a hat trick, scoring three goals in the Pirates' 6-2 victory.

Senior-led Pirates head into playoffs as No. 23 team

By Clayton Chaney Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School (PSHS) Pirate boys' soccer team capped off its regular season with a 6-2 win over the Lake County Panthers at home on Friday, Oct. 24, bringing its overall record to 11-2-1, including a league mark of 5-0-1.

The Pirates ended the regular season as the 23rd-ranked team in the state's 3A division, earning a first-round playoff match against the 10th-ranked Atlas Preparatory School Gryphons out of Colorado Springs.

The Pirates traveled to Colorado Springs on Wednesday, Oct. 29, to take on the Gryphons in a match that started at 3:30 p.m.

The final score and stats were not available as of press time Wednesday.

For more immediate information on the outcome of that match, visit www.maxpreps.com/co/pagosasprings/pagosa-springs-pirates/ soccer/schedule or chsaanow.com/ news/2025/10/27/class-3a-boys-soccer-state-tournament-bracket-2025. aspx.

Lake County

The match against Lake County on Oct. 24 was senior night for the Pirates, with coach Trevor Gian explaining the Pirates had a "great" second-half response on the day.

"No moment's too big for us," Gian said, noting the Pirates have responded well to all kinds of situations throughout the season.

The match was played during an on-and-off rain/hail storm that slightly affected the field conditions, but Gian noted the Pirates also responded well to that.

The Pirates fell behind 1-0 in the 10th minute of the match, after con-

Cross-country —

■ Continued from A9

apologize. Madi saw a need and acted on it, the very definition of initiative. The choice was decisive, innate, selfless, and right."

The team's final scorer was Xyra Belarmino, who finished 77th with a time of 29:27.85 — a nine-second PR.

The day before the regional race in Colorado Springs, the Pirate teams also again caught up with Jason Doyle, who they'd met while he was running through Pagosa Springs the previous week as part of a crosscountry trek.

The coach notes in the newsletter he realized Doyle was still running U.S. 160 and texted him. When the team caught up to him, the harriers were about to jog with Doyle for 2 miles and ask him questions.

"His advice to the team was to 'surprise yourself!' Jason inspired us, and we were able to encourage him. The kids even made him a card, and he said it brought tears to his eyes! What a serendipitous encounter two weekends in a row," Josh Kurz wrote.

This weekend, on Saturday, Nov. 1, Ash will return to Colorado Springs for the state meet.

The championships will be held at the Norris-Penrose Event Center, with the 3A boys set to race at 1 p.m. randi@pagosasun.com

trolling much of the possession, and coached multiple Pirates for years, responded quickly with a goal by Ryder King in the 13th minute to tie the game at 1-1.

King was assisted by Gavin Carter, who played a through ball up the middle, allowing King to control the ball behind the Panthers' back line and get a quick shot off.

Each side had a few missed chances through the remainder of the first half, with Lake County striking the crossbar on a shot, and then the Pirates having a goal disallowed due to an offsides call just before halftime.

King doubled his tally shortly after halftime, scoring in the 46th minute with a low strike that beat the Panther goalie on the far post.

Ryder Davis added to the Pirate's score not long after in the 51st minute by following up a loose, bouncing ball in the Panther's penalty area for a tapin from a Pirate free kick.

King scored his third goal on the day, completing his hat trick, in the 56th minute, bringing the score to

Jacob Castaneda and Jorge Jurado also added to the Pirates' tally with one goal each later in the second half, with Gian describing both of their goals as a result of "good effort."

The Pirates gave up a late goal to the Panthers to bring the final score

Gian described the win over Lake County as a "good build up for the playoffs," commending the Pirates' performance and saying it "shows everything about who they are."

Gian explained the Pirates have "earned the right to be called strong and resilient" from their performances throughout the season.

He also spoke about the team's seniors, noting the last home game of the season was a "bittersweet mo-

Gian explained that he has

even before joining the high school team, and that he "couldn't be more proud of 'em" for their work on and off the field.

He commented that the resilience and toughness displayed by the team and its seniors "are such foundational pieces for quality individuals in this world," and they showed that in the match against Lake County, especially after falling behind 1-0 early on.

"We're strong now," Gian said, explaining that the team's playoff opportunity this season is largely due to the senior leadership on the team. "What they bring to the table goes far beyond the field."

This year's seniors include Jurado, Castaneda, Carter, Milo Deitemeyer, Chance Ramirez and Caden Plake.

Gian noted the Pirate seniors have worn a lot on their shoulders and are "leaving a huge legacy for this program and this community."

Gian also commented on Deitemeyer returning to the squad after serving a one-game suspension for a red card he received in the match against Bayfield on Oct. 21

"He's ready to roll," Gian said, noting the Pirates will need his leadership and play going into the playoffs.

Playoffs

"This is where we wanted to be," Gian said, in regard to securing a payoff spot and winning the Intermountain League (IML).

He noted the Pirates were pushing to be able to host a first-round playoff game, but that the team feels good about heading into Colorado Springs for its first-round match against Atlas Preparatory.

Gian mentioned that winning the IML for the second year in a row was a big deal, "but the goal was to see what we could do in the playoffs."

He mentioned the Pirates have



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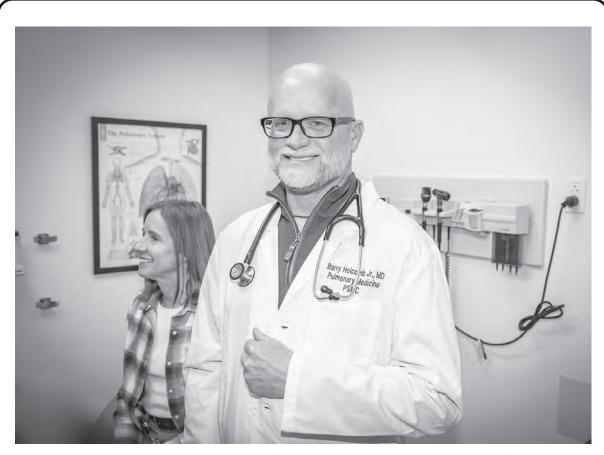
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Hudson Davis looks to pounce on a loose ball in the Panthers' penalty area. The Pirates defeated Lake County 6-2 in their final home game of the season.

FOOTBALL

Pirates take down Panthers, to host Alamosa for league title Friday

By Clayton Chaney Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate football team picked up another win on Friday, Oct. 24, taking down the Montezuma-Cortez Panthers 42-10 in Cortez.

With the win, the Pirates remain unbeaten in the Intermountain League (IML), boasting a league record of 4-0 and an overall record

According to stats entered into Max Preps and shared with The SUN, the Pirates were able to go up 21-0 in the first quarter thanks to Colton Lucero rushing for a 14-yard and a 24-yard touchdown, along with returning an interception 60 yards for a touchdown.

"It's always good to come out and play good and continue to do that for four quarters," coach Nathan Morales said.

The Pirates put up a total of 354 yards on offense, 339 rushing and

Lucero led the Pirates in rushing with a total 207 yards and four touchdowns on 16 carries.

Alex Pacheco racked up 91 yards on 10 carries, and Hudson Mazur tallied 41 yards on five carries.

"Colton's been making the most of his touches," Morales said, also pointing out that the Pirates are "fortunate" to have three or four other playmakers they like to get the ball to. "I think Alex, Hudson and Creede [Dozier] all do good things for us."

Morales added the Pirates' offensive line has also put in quality performances over the past few weeks.

After last week's performance, Lucero is now fifth in the state for most rushing yards on the season, racking up a total of 1,354 yards through eight games. Leading the state is Ethan Mangrum from Sand

their mistakes, he is confident "we'll

He added, "I got a lot of confidence in these kids, and I think

He noted that the Pirates intend to

He explained the Pirates have the

Gian added that he is excited for

the Pirates to be able to represent a

small mountain town in playoffs that

are typically dominated by private

schools around the Denver metro

the state's 3A division playoff, 15 are

public schools, with just two of those

schools being ranked in the top 10

the PSHS soccer program will become more recognizable around

clayton@pagosasun.com

Gian commented that he hopes

Of the 32 teams that qualified for

chance to lay it all out on the line, "and when we do that, I like our

show up and play with that "no-quit

attitude" the team has developed over the season, particularly being

the underdog in this match.

Soccer

be in this game."

they've proved it."

area

the state.

he said.

■ Continued from A10

Creek High School in Colorado Springs with a total of 1,861 yards through nine games.

Lucero also leads the Pirates in touchdowns, having scored 23 so far this season. He's followed by Pacheco, who has scored eight this season.

Dozier completed his one pass attempt on the night, connecting with Mazur for a gain of 15 yards.

Morales commented on the Pirates' ability in the passing game, mentioning receivers Kasen Limebrook and Johnny Baker.

"They can do big things for us in the pass game, too," Morales said.

In the second quarter, the Panthers were able to get on the board with a successful 40-yard field goal

The Pirates' only score in the second quarter came from a 16-yard rushing touchdown by Lucero.

In the third quarter, the Pirates were first on the board with an 82yard punt return by Lucero for a touchdown, bringing the score to

"We take special teams seriously," Morales said, noting the Pirates aim to have big plays on special teams every game and have "been fortunate

to get some the last few weeks." Mazur converted four out of four extra-point attempts, and Gavin Carter converted two out of two on the night.

The final scoring action of the night for the Pirates came on the following offensive possession with another rushing touchdown by Lucero, this time going for 53 yards.

The Pirates' defense was able to come up with four turnovers on the

In addition to Lucero's interception, Jimmy Elledge also recorded an interception off a tipped pass, Morales explained, noting the Pirates' linebackers read an attempted screen pass play by the Panthers and the ball "popped up in the air and Jimmy got it.'

Dozier also recorded an interception, and Mazur is credited with a fumble recovery.

Pacheco led the Pirates in solo tackles on the night, recording nine.

Elledge recorded five solo tackles, and Dozier, Limebrook and Zander Lefthandbull each recorded four on the night.

"I think everyone played pretty well," Morales said, noting that a bunch of guys are doing what they're supposed to. "They're just doing a good job of reading their keys and playing sound football on defense."

He added the Pirates "gotta continue to do that" as they prepare to host the Alamosa Mean Moose in the final regular game of the season tomorrow, Friday, Oct. 31, at Golden Peaks Stadium at 7 p.m.

This will also be senior night for the Pirates.

"These seniors have done an amazing job for us these last four years, and we hope to go out and play well for them," Morales said, noting the Pirates are focused on controlling what they can and having a solid week of practice.

"We just want to play sound football," he added.

The Pirates are currently ranked 15th in the state's 2A division, which would earn them a playoff spot, with the top 16 teams in the state getting a berth.

the IML title against the Mean Moose, who currently sit atop the IML with an overall record of 6-2, including a league mark of 4-0. The Mean Moose are ranked 13th in the state's 2A division.

The Pirates will also be playing for

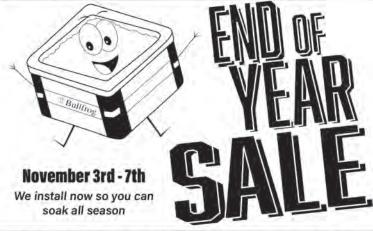
Morales commented more on the Pirate seniors, noting they've "done a great job."

This year's seniors include Baker, Dozier, Carter, Lucero, Jayton Ross, Lincoln Butler, Aidan Vega and Jeremiah Dean.

"The seniors have done a great job for us," Morales said, "We're gonna want to play well for those seniors. They've done a lot for us. It's time for us to give back to them, as well."

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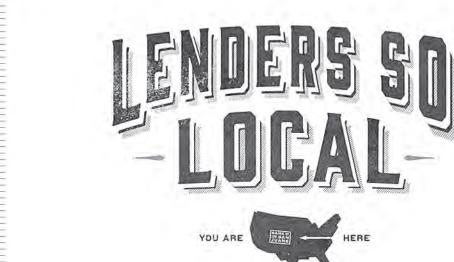
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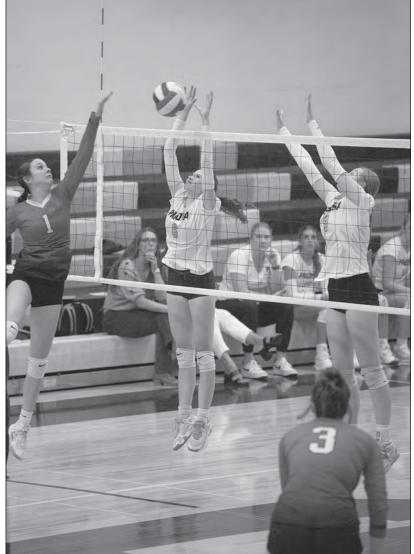
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Volleyball



Lady Pirate Kaila Limebrook fields the ball during the team's matchup with the Centauri Falcons on Thursday, Oct. 23. Limebrook ended the game with four kills, three total blocks, six digs, an assist and six serve receptions.



Lady Pirate Hayden Peterson goes up for a block against the Centauri Falcons on Thursday, Oct. 23. Peterson had two assisted blocks in the matchup, with the coach highlighting her part in the team's "power defense and big plays."

Lady Pirates 'on the fence' heading into regular season's final tournament

Public Notices

By Randi Pierce Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirate volleyball team faced off against two of the top teams in 3A Colorado volleyball over the last week, falling to the No. 8 Centauri Falcons and the No. 5 Bayfield Wolverines.

The Lady Pirate hosted the Falcons on Thursday, Oct. 23, for a back-andforth affair.

The Falcons took the extended first set 29-27 and the second set 25-17 before the Lady Pirates rebounded with a 25-22 win in the third set. The Falcons sealed the 3-1 win with a 25-16

"It was so fun watching the girls go toe-to-toe with Centauri. They're a part of the top-ranked teams, and I thought we competed really well," coach Chelsea Caler wrote in an email to The SUN.

The Lady Pirates had 31 kills in the matchup, led by Lexi Campbell's 17. Kaila Limebrook and Dawson Iverson each had four, Avea Bruce had three, Hayden Peterson picked up two, and

Amber Snarr logged one.

Campbell logged both of the team's serving aces against Centauri.

The team had six total blocks, led by Limebrook's two solo and one assisted. Campbell had a solo and an assisted block, and Peterson and Bruce each had two assisted blocks. Sydney Plake put up one assisted block.

The Lady Pirates picked up 71 digs in the game, with four Lady Pirates tallying double digits in digs: Campbell had 18, 12 from Peterson, and Charity Domingo and Tatiana Monterroso had 10.

Peterson had 16 of the teams 22 assists.

Monterroso led the team in serve receptions with 18 of the total 69, with Campbell logging 16 and Domingo receiving 15.

"Our serve receive was solid, and Lexi stood out with 17 kills and 18 digs for another double-double. We played great defense overall, with our block getting a ton of touches, and Hayden, Charity, and Tati kept us in it with some power defense and big plays," Caler

wrote. "Even though it ended in a loss, it was a fun senior night and showed that when we play hard and together, we can compete with anyone. We really kept Centauri on their toes."

The Falcons now hold a 15-8 record on the season.

On Tuesday, Oct. 28, the team traveled to take on the Bayfield Wolverines, but returned home with a 3-0 loss.

And, as Caler notes, the game was "a different story."

Bayfield defeated the Lady Pirates 25-17, 25-13 and 25-11.

"It wasn't our best outing, we struggled to find rhythm on offense and defense, and couldn't quite get over the scrambling and frustration once we fell behind," Caler wrote.

Stats for the match were not available by press time Wednesday.

The Wolverines are now 14-5 on the

The Lady Pirates are now 3-16 on the season and are the No. 38 team

This week, the Lady Pirates will face ■ See Vollevball A13

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

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

On August 14, 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 Original Grantor(s) Jennifer Lee

Original Beneficiary(ies) United States of America acting through the Rural Housing Service or successor agency, United States Department of Agriculture Current Holder of Evidence of Debt United States of America acting through the Rural Housing Service or successor agency, United States Department of Agri-

Date of Deed of Trust

County of Recording Archuleta Recording Date of Deed of Trust June 09, 1997 Recording Information (Reception No. and/or Book/

Page No.) 97003543 Original Principal Amount \$63,815.00

Outstanding Principal Balance \$49,010.25
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

Lot 11, Block 20, Lake Pagosa Park, according to the plat thereof recorded as Reception No. 72998
Purported common address: 22 Jubilee Court, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147.

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

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

THEREFORE, Notice Is Hereby Given that I will at public auction, at 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, 12/11/2025. at the Archuleta County Treasurer's Office at 449 San Juan St. Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property and all interest of the said Grantor(s), Grantor(s)' heirs and assigns therein, for the purpose of paying the indebtedness provided in said Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, plus attorneys' fees, the expenses of sale and other items allowed by law, and will issue to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as pro-

vided by law. First Publication 10/16/2025

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/s/ Elsa P. White By: Elsa P. White, Public Trustee

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Date Filed: January 5, 2024

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The name, address, business telephone number and bar registration number of the attorney(s) representing the legal holder of the indebtedness is: Amanda Ferguson #44893 Halliday, Watkins & Mann, P.C. 355 Union Blvd. Ste

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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 October 16, 23, 30, November 6 and 13, 2025 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN.* (271973) County Court

Case Number: 2001C134 Petitioner(s): Corey Stone, Dale Stone parent & next Respondent: Jason X Chavez, Betsy Chavez Parent &

MOTION TO DISMISS PERMANENT PROTECTION As the Restrained Person, I, Jason X Chavez, am requesting that the current Protection Order be modified/ dismissed for the following reasons:

I was never served and was incarcerated at the time. I

had no ability to show up to defend myself. My mothe who responded to the summons kept all information from me about it so I had no idea it had ever happened Corey Stone had instigated the situation and made threats of his own before our confrontation and ther attempted to play the victim. It has been 20 years and

The following must be complied with by the RE STRAINED PERSON for any action to be taken by the

The Permanent Protection Order was issued prior to July 1, 2014. As the Restrained Person, I verify that at least four years have passed since the permanent order was issued or the last modification has been ordered (§13-14-102(17.5)(a), C.R.S., as it existed prior to July

As the Restrained Person, I verify that a complete and current fingerprint-based criminal history record check has been conducted within 90 days prior to the filing of this motion and I have attached the results to this Motion. (§13-14-108(3)(a)(I), C.R.S.)

/s/Jason X Chavez jasonxchavez10@gmail.com

720-628-7239

Published October 16, 23, 30 and November 6 and 13, 2025 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (276157)

DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLO-Court Address

109 Harman Park Drive Pagosa Springs, Colorado 81147 Phone No.: (970) 264-8160 Plaintiff: Judith L. Talbot and Brian J. Lyons

Defendants: Estate of Hattie D. Lyons by David Vargas, Personal Representative and/or Decedent Hattie D. Lyons; Estate of John A. Lyons by Francis J. Lyons, Personal Representative and/or Decedent John A. Ly-

Richard P. Lyons by Janet K. Lyons, Personal Representative and/or Decedent Richard P. Lyons; Robert Stone: Charles Stone and any and All Unknown Persons and All Unknown Heirs Who Claim Any Interest in the Subject Matter of This

The Law Firm of Marla C. Underell, LLC Marla C. Underell, Esq., Reg. No. 31076 101 West 11th Street, Suite 104 Durango, Colorado 81301 Phone: 970-403-8090 Fax: 970-403-8091 Email: marla@underell-law.com

Case Number: 2025CV30041 SUMMONS TO QUIET TITLE BY PUBLICATION
PLAINTIFFS: JUDITH L. TALBOT AND BRIAN J.

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT ESTATES AND ALL OTHER DEFENDANTS:

You are hereby summoned and required to appear and defend against the claims of the First Amended Com-

plaint filed with the court in this action, by filing with the clerk of this court an answer or other response. You are required to file your answer or other response within 21 days after the service of this summons upon you in the State of Colorado or within 35 days after service of this summons upon you outside the State of Colorado. Service of this summons shall be complete on the day of the last publication. A copy of the First Amended Complaint may be obtained from the clerk of the court. If you fail to file your answer or other response to the First Amended Complaint in writing within 21 or 35 days after the date of the last publication, judgment by default may be rendered against you by the court for the

relief demanded in the complaint without further notice.
This is an action to quiet title to: A 20-acre patented mining claim, with a legal description of: The Picking Placer Mining Claim Tract described as the South half of the south half of the Southwest guarter of the Southeast quarter (S/2S/2SW/4SE/4), Sec: 26 Twn: 36 Rng: 5W and the North half of the North half of the Northwest quarter of the Northeast quarter (N/2N/2NW/4NE/4): Sec. 35, Twn. 36, Rng. 5W N.M.P.M. (mineral interest and 20-acre land under the claim); also known as X USFS Road 135 and by Archuleta County Assessor's Parcel Number 558926300002.

Dated this day of . 2025. bublished in the Pagosa Sun Newspaper Publication is to be made once each week for five First Publication: October 23, 2025. Last Publication: November 20, 2025. THE LAW FIRM OF MARLA C. UNDERELL, LLC /s/ Marla C. Underell Marla C. Underell, Attv. Reg. No. 31076

101 West 11th Street, Suite 104 Durango, Colorado 81301 Office Phone Number: 970-403-8093 Cell Phone Number: 970-317-0341 E-mail: marla@underell-law.com Published October 23, 30 and November 6, 13 and 20

2025 in The Pagosa Springs SUN. (276756) DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, STATE Archuleta District Court

109 Harman Park Drive
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
YOLANDA HYLTON, ERNESTO J. MORENO, MAR-GARITA DELAROSA, CECELIA PERDUE, EDU-ARDO MORENO, JOSEPH DOMINGUEZ, LINDA DURAZO, LOIS AARON, MARIA E. ALVARADO, MICHAEL HANSON, FRANCES HENDERSON, DALE HANSON, REBECCA THORPE.

THE CHAVEZ FAMILY TRUST; CHRISTOPHER CHAVEZ, as Personal Representative of THE ESTATE OF JOSE NEMENCIO CHAVEZ, as Personal CHAVEZ, and as an individual

JULIAN J. MORENO, MICHAEL MORENO, ANTONIO MORENO, MELVIN MORENO JR., DAVID MORENO MARTIN JAMES, SEDONDINO MORENO, ANITA MORENO, MONA CERVANTES, LOLA MORENO, LIZA MORENO, LAURA MORENO, FRANCES P AARON, and OTHER VARIOUS INTERESTED PAR-TIES HEREIN IDENTIFIED AS "JOHN DOES" OR "JANE DOES".

Attorneys for Plaintiffs: Joseph N. Harrell, #52695 Stephen T. Scheffel, #54050 Thomas N. Scheffel & Associates, P.C. 3801 E. Florida Ave., Suite 600 Denver, CO 80210 Phone: (303) 759-5937 Fax Number: (303) 759-9726

Email: jharrell@tnslaw.com DISTRICT COURT SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION DISTRICT COURT SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANT: CHRISTOPHER CHAVEZ, as Trustee of THE CHAVEZ TRUST, TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANT: CHRISTOPHER CHAVEZ, individually, and TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANT: CHRISTOPHER CHAVEZ, as Personal Representative of THE ESTATE OF JOSE NEMENCIO

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

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

This action concerns the ownership and distribution of certain real properties previously held by the Estates of Jose Nemencio Chavez and Aurelia Chavez. Plaintiffs assert that they hold valid and enforceable owner ship interests in the subject properties as heirs to the estates. Plaintiffs seek a declaratory judgment under Colorado Rule of Civil Procedure 57 to determine the validity and extent of their ownership interests in the properties. Additionally, Plaintiffs assert claims for unjust enrichment, alleging that Defendants have benefited from the use and sale of the properties without compensating Plaintiffs. Plaintiffs request an award of damages, interest, attorneys' fees, and any other relief deemed just and proper by the Court. Dated this 30th day of September, 2025.

Published in the: Pagosa Springs Sun First Publication: October 9, 2025. Last Publication: November 6, 2025. TNS ASSOCIATES, P.C. /s/Joseph N. Harrell Joseph N. Harrell, #52695 Stephen T. Scheffel, #54050 3801 E Florida Ave., Ste. 600 Denver, CO 80210 Phone: (303) 759-5937 Emails: jharrell@tnslaw.com sscheffel@tnslaw.com ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFFS

(This summons is issued pursuant to Rule 4(g), Colrado Rules of Civil Procedure. This form should not be used where personal service is desired.)

(TO THE CLERK: When this summons is issued by the clerk of the court, the signature block for the clerk or deputy should be provided by stamp, or typewriter, in space to the left of the attorney's name.) *Rule 12(a), C.R.C.P., allows-35 days for answer or response where service of process is by publication. However, under various statutes, a different response time is set forth; e.g., §38-6-104, C.R.S. (eminent domain); §38-36-121, C.R.S. (Torrens registration). Published October 16, 23, 30 and November 6, 2025 in

The Pagosa Springs SUN. (275870) FOR BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS HEARING ON November 4, 2025 LPEA has applied for a GENERAL VARIANCE on the tract of land within SEC 26,TWN 35N, RNG 2W, at 2140 County Road 500, Pagosa Springs, CO (PL-VAR-25-082). The property is zoned AGRICULTURAL RANCHING (AR).

Comments regarding this case may be submitted to Archuleta County Development Services-Planning Department, P.O. Box 1507, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147-1507, telephone: (970) 264-1390 or to Planning@ archuletacounty.gov prior to the public hearing by the Archuleta County Board of Adjustments on November 4, 2025, at 1:30 p.m. in the County Commissioners Meeting Room,398 Lewis Street, Pagosa Springs an-

dvia Zoom Link Published October 16 and 30, 2025 in The Pagosa Springs SUN. (275875)

FOR BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HEAR-ING ON November 4, 2025 LPEA has applied for a utility substation, BOARD CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT on the tract of land within SEC 26, TWN 35N, RNG 2W, at 2140 County Road 500, Pagosa Springs, CO (PLN-25-079). The property is zoned AGRICULTURAL

RANCHING (AR). Comments regarding this proposal may be submitted to Archuleta County Development Services-Planning Department, P.O. Box 1507, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147-1507, telephone: (970) 264-1390 or to Planning@ archuletacounty.gov prior to the public hearing by the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners on November 4, 2025, at 1:30 p.m. in the County Administration Office Meeting Room, 398 Lewis Street, Pagosa Springs. Public comment will be taken at the meeting.
Published October 16 and 30, 2025 in *The Pagosa* Springs SUN. (275874)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION FOR TREASURER'S 2025-003 R010320

To all current occupants, owners, parties of interest, and to all others listed on the mailing list on file at the You are hereby notified that on September 22,2025, the

Treasurer of Archuleta County, Colorado, sold a tax lien on the following property at public sale to: PATRICK H. DISNER ("COP HOLDER") LEGAL DESCRIPTION: SUBDIVISION: LAKEWOOD

Lot: 39 LWV Sec: 19 Twn: 35 Rng: 2W PROPERTY ADDRESS: 9 SANDLEWOOD DRIVE, PAGOSA SPRINGS, CO, 81147 A Certificate of Purchase was issued to the COP HOLD-

ER for unpaid property taxes for the year 2021-2024. The property was assessed in the name of: MEADPROP UNITS LLC ("PROPERTY OWNER"). On August 18,2025,PATRICK H. DISNER ("LAWFUL HOLDER"), the current certificate holder, filed an Ap plication for a Public Auction of a Certificate of Option for Treasurer's Deed (COO), under C.R.S. 39-11.5-101 NOTICE: The property will be sold at public auction to

held by the Lawful Holder, along with applicable fees costs, and legal charges.
You may track the Public Auction date on the Treasurer's website: Archuletacounty.gov
The property may be redeemed at any time before the actual public auction.

the highest bidder at 10:00 a.m. on January 28th,2026. The sale will include the real estate and all interests

ELSA P. WHITE, TREASURER of Archuleta County. Published October 23, 30 and November 6, 2025, in The Pagosa Springs SUN.

Dated: September 22, 2025

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION FOR TREASURER'S 2025-004 R004424 To all current occupants, owners, parties of interest, and to all others listed on the mailing list onfile at the Treasurer's Office: You are hereby notified that on Sep-

tember 22,2025, the Treasurer of Archuleta County

Colorado, sold a tax lien on the following property at

public sale to:

BRUCE A. HOFFMAN ("COP HOLDER") LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Subdivision: CMV 2 -CHRIS

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 41 East Crescent Court, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 A Certificate of Purchase was issued to the COP HOLD-ER for unpaid property taxes for the year 2009-2024 The property was assessed in the name of:

BURNICE HARRISON ("PROPERTY OWNER").
On August 25,2025, BRUCE A. HOFFMAN ("LAWFUL HOLDER") the current certificate holder filed an Apfor Treasurer's Deed (COO), under C.R.S. 39-11.5-101 **NOTICE:** The property will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder at 10:00A.M. on January 28th,2026 The sale will include the real estate and all interests held by the Lawful Holder, along with applicable fees, costs, and legal charges.

You may track the Public Auction date on the Treasurer's website: Archuletacounty.gov The property may be redeemed at any time before the

actual public auction. Dated: September 22, 2025 ELSA P. WHITE, TREASURER of Archuleta County,

Published October 23, 30 and November 6, 2025, in The Pagosa Springs SUN. (276707)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Estate of David Walker Stringer, Deceased

Case Number 2024PR0016 All persons having claims against the above-named estate are required to present them to the personal representative or to the District Court of Archuleta County, Colorado on or before December 13, 2025, or the claims may be forever barred. Jennifer Stringer 5238 Spruce Avenue

Castle Rock CO 80104 Published October 30, November 6 and 13, 2025 in The Pagosa Springs SUN. (277577)

Board of County Commissioners

Archuleta County, Colorado
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to CRS 30-28-204 that the Board of County Commissioners of Archuleta County, Colorado, will hold a public hearing to consider amendments to the Archuleta County Building

Code Section: 7 -Board of Review

The public hearing will be held on Tuesday, November 18, 2025, at 1:30 PM at the regularly scheduled Board of County Commissioner's meeting in the County Commissioner's meeting room, 398 Lewis Street, Pagosa Springs, Colorado, at which time all interested parties will be heard. The revisions will be available for review at the Archuleta County Administration Building, 398

Lewis Street, Pagosa Springs, Colorado.

Written comments may also be submitted to the Board of County Commissioners, P. O. Box 1507, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, at or prior to said public hearing.
Published October 30, 2025 in *The Pagosa Springs* SUN (277579)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of VERNON OURAY O'NEAL, also known as VERNON O. O'NEAL, also known as VERNON O'NEAL, Deceased; Archuleta County Probate Case Number: 2025 PR 30040. All persons having claims against the above-named estate are required to present them to the personal representative or to District Court of Archuleta County, Colorado on or before March 1 2026 or the claims may be forever barred. Amos L. Soi gnier, Esq., Soignier Law Firm, LLC, 2855 Main Ave. Suite B101, Durango, CO 81301. Published October 30, November 6 and 13, 2025 in *The* Pagosa Springs SUN. (277583)

The Pagosa Springs Urban Renewal Authority will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, November 18, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. at the Town Hall 551 Hot Springs Blvd to take public comment on the 2026 proposed budget for the Pagosa Springs Urban Renewal Authority. Copies of the proposed budget are available for public inspection in the office of the Town Clerk in the Town Hall. Published October 30, 2025, in The Pagosa Springs

THIS NOTICE IS TO INFORM MEREDITH TRUM-BLE, last known address: 38 Canyon Circle, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, that the items stored in unit A05 of Renner's Mini Storage located at 177 Bastille Drive, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 will be sold or disposed of due to lack of payment. This notice will be published in the Pagosa Springs Sun on both October 23, 2025, and October 30, 2025 with the sale or disposal of items tak ing place at a later date of our choosing. Published October 23 and 30, 2025, in The Pagosa Springs SUN. (276743)

PUBLIC NOTICES: YOUR RIGHT TO KNOW

The notices you see on this page include important information from local governmental bodies and attorneys that may be of interest to you. These notices can include information about public hearings, property assessments and changes in assessment, assumed names, name changes, claims notices, public meeting dates and financial statements.

Legal advertising

Deadline: Friday 4 p.m.*

Bring your legal advertisement or public notice to our offices at 457 Lewis Street, or email to legal@pagosasun.com

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

Education

Archuleta School District, Build Pagosa discuss regional workforce center update

By Ella Slade Staff Writer

The Archuleta School District Board of Education (BoE) saw a presentation at its Oct. 14 meeting from Build Pagosa's Executive Director Will Ridlehoover which outlined Build Pagosa's vision and ongoing planning efforts to develop a new regional workforce center (RWC) for career and technical education (CTE) programs and

The board also discussed the possible sale of district-owned property.

Build Pagosa update

The update detailed Build Pagosa's vision for the RWC, which would provide over 10,000 square feet of dedicated space for high school CTE courses on agriculture, health sciences, metal fabrication, auto, building trades, wood shop and business.

Ridlehoover explained it has been an exciting year for Build Pagosa, with lots of big changes underway.

"We're kind of at a turning point in the progress that we're making, and we want to make sure that we are really open with you guys as our main stakeholder and counterpart, and the main organization that we try to support," he added.

Build Pagosa saw an opportunity for growth within the CTE program with the addition of facilities, Ridlehoover explained, which would allow for the ability to expand existing classes into newly freed-up space in the current building. The RWC would also allow for each course to move into a dedicated workspace, with enough room for classes to be working on projects concurrently and the necessary equip-

Additionally, Ridlehoover shared that Build Pagosa and the Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation (PSCDC) have been in discussions about the RWC housing the PSCDC office, which would amplify the PSCDC apprenticeship program and tie economic development to education in a clear and intentional way.

"Over the last 10 years, the school district has committed significantly to expanding these programs and has gone from just a few teachers to now five that are delivering a litany of really important, really high-demand, popular, great courses that are extremely meaningful for an important demographic of high school students," he continued.

Ridlehoover noted that additional space and teacher retention are priorities identified across many community stakeholders, and the demand for these programs has outstripped available seats despite growth.

courses, and that demand maybe has always been there, but you guys as a school district have fostered that and grown that, and the community supports that significantly," he said.

Of the proposed \$6 million, Ridlehoover shared that Build Pagosa has raised \$4.3 million with significant community, philanthropic and federal support, but needs an additional \$1 million

He added that fundraising will continue aggressively through the winter, as Build Pagosa needs all the support it can get. Build Pagosa raised \$2.5 million in flexible dollars from local individuals and philanthropies, with \$1 million facilitated by Sen. John Hickenlooper via a CDS-USDA Rural Community Facilities Grant, and \$600,000 by the Town of Pagosa Springs via a DOLA Community Development Block Grant.

"We're having support from foundations, support from individuals and we're doing kind of last-mile fundraising now to get to the amount of money that we need to have to finish the building," he continued. "That said, we can't just sit on four and a half million dollars forever. People have generously given that money and it's not responsible or ethical to do that, so we are moving forward to keep the project going and to establish credibility to get that last amount of fundraising as well."

Ridlehoover also noted that the terms of the memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the BoE and Build Pagosa had lapsed, as the original agreement was somewhat informally made in 2023.

"You have demonstrated good faith by investing in those classes, [and] I think we have demonstrated good faith by fundraising hard and getting community engagement for this," he said.

He continued, "We need to think about what that agreement and kind of mutual support looks like in concrete terms moving forward, but we hope that the intention of mutually wanting to expand CTE programs and make those bigger and safer and better classes remains."

Ridlehoover added that both parties need to revisit the specificities of the MOU before any kind of progress happens moving forward.

The original MOU is a conversation that needs to be renewed in practical terms, Ridlehoover explained, now that an architectural firm has been selected and Build Pagosa has the necessary funding to move forward with this project.

Moving forward has looked like procuring an architectural firm, Ridlehoover told the board, as one mutual

"There's a wait list for lots of those intention written in the original MOU stated that after 50 percent of the funds were raised, Build Pagosa would move forward with the district and find an appropriate architectural firm.

Working with five committee members representing the school district, members of Build Pagosa followed a system and developed a rubric to independently rank architects who responded to their request for qualifications. Ridlehoover explained that Oz, the firm selected by the committee, has a team that does specifically CTE education buildings around the region, and sent four or five ideas of how the flow of a building could work in their proposal.

"They've put quite a lot of thought into their proposal, and this was one that stood out as kind of a nice option, because we think that really what the community could need is potentially a \$12 million facility, and the way this is built is you could add on to it in a kind of clean way," Ridlehoover said.

On behalf of Build Pagosa, Ridlehoover proposed that the school district contribute the cost of the building design quoted by the architectural firm, around \$420,000, with flexibility for reimbursement options.

"Our request and proposal would be that the funds that are allocated for this in your budget are released quite immediately, because they're there, and they're here for this," he said. "But Build Pagosa has funds available to move this project forward, and so if you guys were in a position to support this project by covering the architectural fees, we could make reimbursement an option whenever it was convenient and appropriate for you guys in the budget."

An immediate release of \$177,000 from Hughes Grant funding was agreed upon by both parties to be used for the architectural fees, with the remainder to be provided after reviewing the business plan.

Following the presentation, the board also discussed the importance of advancing the RWC project and aligning CTE offerings with community workforce needs.

There was also consensus on the need to take advantage of future grant opportunities that would ensure the project is moving forward.

BoE president Bob Lynch asked Ridlehoover when he anticipates the architectural project would break ground, with Ridlehoover responding that Build Pagosa is aiming for late spring or early summer of 2026.

Board members also discussed the total project timeline, agreeing with Build Pagosa that around 18 months would be realistic.

"One of the things we heard in our design trip when we did this was that students want to feel proud of being in CTE classes, so making this building look nice and be right at the front of the high school is important, I think, in changing the narrative on those classes a little bit," Ridlehoover

The BoE concluded with the recommendation to approve moving forward with the Build Pagosa partnership, and authorize the administration to allocate the necessary funds to support the initiative.

Property sale discussion

The BoE also discussed the possible sale of a plot of land owned by the school district adjacent to the elementary school.

Superintendent Rick Holt presented visuals describing the property's location and functional limits, noting that it is mostly used for parking during events.

Holt said an individual was curious about purchasing the land to be used for personal property access, and he thought it best that the board first discuss an interest in selling the small parcel of land before starting a larger investigation into it.

Holt posed the question as to whether or not it would be acceptable and advisable to pursue selling off this fraction of the property.

He added that the interested party proposed splitting the cost of exploring the sale, including things such as a property assessor, but that may be negotiable as well.

"If we were to sell the property, those dollars have to be deposited into either a capital reserve or be put towards buying down the bond into our bond project, if we were to pursue a bond," Holt said.

The property in question ends at the base of the hill on 10th Street.

Holt explained he did not know the details of the property agreement between the town and the school district, but that would be something to explore and figure out.

Some board members expressed reluctance to dispose of district land while a master planning project is

"I am absolutely going to agree that I don't think that we should engage in any conversation about this. We have other properties and things that we're focused on at this time," board member Amanda Schick said.

Lynch expressed agreement, adding that he, too, feels reluctant to dispose of any property, as it would be a premature decision.

"What I hear from the board is that I should relate to the individual 'not yet," Holt said. "Maybe later, but, right now, we're still in the thick of the master planning process."

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Deadline approaching to apply for new multiyear school grants

Nathan Yip Foundation

On Tuesday, the Nathan Yip Foundation announced that rural Colorado school districts can apply for a new multiyear grant for up to \$75,000 paid out over three years.

Grant applications must be submitted by Nov. 21. Awarded grants will be announced Feb. 1, 2026, with year one disbursement no later than May 1, 2026.

"For 10 years we've been champi-

oning rural education in Colorado. and we are proud to launch a bold new multiyear grant opportunity for rural K-12 school districts," Nathan Yip Foundation Executive Director Stacey Vanhoy said. "This initiative is grounded in the belief that teachers are the heart of innovation and vision in rural schools. We invite districts to build their proposals by partnering with their educators who see what's possible, while district leaders provide the structure, stewardship and

sustainability needed to bring these ideas to life."

This new grant philosophy represents an evolution of the Nathan Yip Foundation's funding approach and will replace the individual school, district and teacher grants the foundation has supported in the past.

Grant reviewers are seeking teacher-driven, district-supported proposals that reflect shared aspirations for student success. Superintendents must formally submit the applica-

tion with a lead teacher and a team of committed educators who will collaborate to design and carry out the work.

Districts are encouraged to empower their teams to dream big and lead the creation of strategic, studentcentered plans that respond to local needs and build lasting impact across their schools and communities.

Grants should fit in to one or more of the following areas:

• Career Exploration and Workforce Pathways: Create hands-on, career-connected learning aligned with local industries, helping students see a future in their communities.

■ See Grants A14

Volleyball

■ Continued from A12

a trio of 4A teams at the Coal Ridge Tournament and will be looking to surprise with consistency and confidence.

On Friday, Oct. 31, at 12:15 p.m., the

team will face the Palisade Bulldogs at The Bulldogs are 8-11 on the season

and are the No. 31 team in Colorado 4A

volleyball Later that day, at about 5:15 p.m., the Lady Pirates are scheduled to take on the Rifle Bears, who are 1-17 on the season and are the No. 64 team

The following morning, the Lady Pirates will take on the Glenwood Springs Demons.

in 4A and own a 17-2 record. The fourth match will be deter-

The Demons are the No. 10 team

mined by tournament play. "Heading into the Coal Ridge Tournament, we've got 4 tough matches against 4A schools, but I'm hopeful we'll show up ready to compete," Caler wrote. "We're right on the fence

for regionals, and if we can find our consistency and play with confidence, I believe we can surprise some teams and finish the season strong."

The top 36 teams will advance to

regional action, which will be seeded

on Monday, Nov. 3, with the remain-

der of the Intermountain League set to advance based on Wednesday's standings.

Alamosa was the division's top team on Wednesday, with Montezuma-Cortez sitting as the No. 23 team. randi@pagosasun.com

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Photo courtesy Colorado Department of Transportation

One of the new light standards on the U.S. 160 reconstruction project is pictured. When complete, the project will have replaced 70 of these lights.

Grants

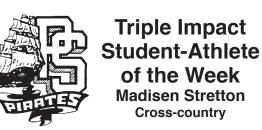
■ Continued from A13

• Early Literacy: Strengthen reading instruction and family engagement in literacy, ensuring all students build strong foundations in the early

- Equitable Academic Access: Increase opportunities for rural students to participate in advanced coursework, concurrent enrollment and inclusive learning experiences.
 - Family and Community Partner-

ships: Foster collaboration with families and local partners to boost student attendance, engagement and success.

• STEAM Education and Creative Expression: Expand access to integrated science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics learning experiences that foster creativity, critical thinking and student identity through hands-on, interdisciplinary exploration.





Comments from coach Josh Kurz: "Madi was one of three athletes on the cross-country team who ran 150 miles over the summer. Her dedication this summer, along with her work ethic and competitiveness, has contributed to significant imishes this year. During the regional

race, Madi chose compassion over competition. With 1200 meters to go, Madi saw a Salida girl fall on the course. She picked her up and got her moving again and stayed with her all the way to the finish. Madi's inspiring act of kindness embodprovements and several top-10 finies the encouraging spirit of cross country!

• Student Mental Health and Belonging: Expand mental health supports, social-emotional learning and relationship-building

"We're seeking bold, thoughtful, and strategic proposals with a clear three-year vision for improving student outcomes," Vanhoy added. "Proposals should respond to local challenges and outline sustainable, relationshipcentered strategies that will leave a lasting impact on students, families and communities. We expect to fund five to seven rural school district proposals in this initial grant cycle."

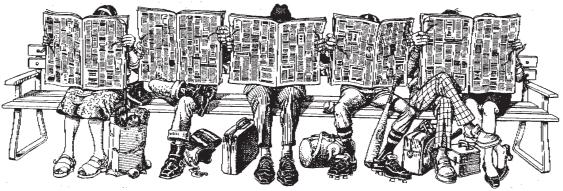
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To qualify, the district must be in a rural Colorado school district as designated by the Colorado Department of Education.

Learn more about the grant opportunity and the Nathan Yip Foundation at nathanyipfoundation. org, or call or email Vanhoy at (720) 703-4427 or stacey@nathanyipfoun-

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A recent engineering study revealed 5.8 miles of failing sewer lines in downtown Pagosa Springs. The Town is also struggling with pump failures connected with our seven-mile sewer pipeline.



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If the sales tax measure is not approved by the voters, the Town might need to increase monthly sewer fees from \$71 a month to over \$200 a month, to generate the same needed revenue.

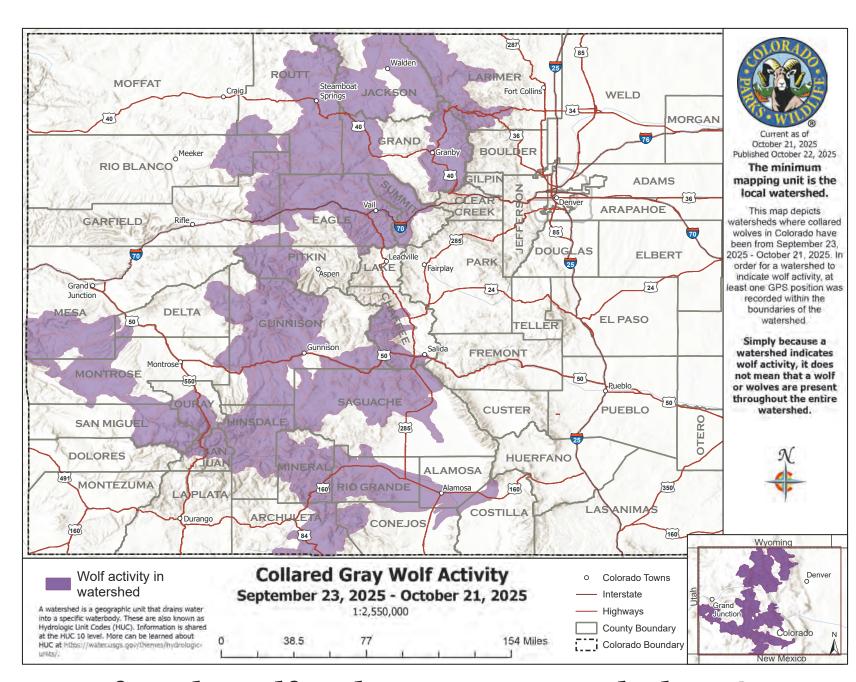
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The Pagosa Springs SUN — Thursday, October 30, 2025







Lone female wolf makes return to Archuleta County

By Randi Pierce Staff Writer

A lone female wolf made her way back into Archuleta County in October, according to Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW).

Wolf activity maps released by CPW show the wolf made it into fewer

Archuleta County watersheds than previously.

The maps indicated the female, which was released in January, made her way through portions of Archuleta County between July 22 and Aug. 26, with no collared wolf activity reported in Archuleta County between Aug. 26 and Sept. 23.

According to the latest map, which covers collared wolf activity by watershed, covers activity between Sept. 23 and Oct. 21.

The CPW website explains, "A highlighted watershed indicates that at least one wolf location was within that watershed during the month. It does not mean that wolves are pres-

ent throughout the watershed or occupied the entire watershed."

"The wolf activity we saw down here this month was the long-traveling lone female once again," CPW Southwest Region Public Information Officer John Livingston explains in an email to The SUN. "She returned from

■ See Wolf B2

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An elk herd feeds in a valley near U.S. 160 the morning of Friday, Oct. 24. Drivers are encourage to continue to look for animals crossing roadways as winter approaches and they move to lower altitudes.

Wolf

■ Continued from B1

a brief journey into Utah and headed back toward our country, covering a lot of ground."

Livingston noted the wolf has been "very unpredictable and has covered more than 3,500 miles since being released.

"Most recently, she got pretty close down to New Mexico southeast of Pagosa before turning around and heading back toward Wolf Creek Pass and crossing back north of U.S. 160 again," Livingston wrote, adding, "She never got into any areas where there were concerns with livestock. She did light up a few watersheds, particularly the East Fork. No reported conflicts

The CPW website notes that the released wolves continue to make broad movements across western

It also notes CPW has a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Utah, New Mexico and Arizona "that agrees that any Colorado wolves that cross into those states can be saiely recaptured and returned to Colorado. However, this has not yet been put into practice."

The website further explains that

CPW also has an MOU with the Southern Ute Indian Tribe that "addresses the potential effects of wolf restoration on the Tribe's Reservation and the Brunot Treaty Area in Southwestern Colorado."

According to CPW, two lone females have entered watersheds in Archuleta County, with a separate lone female — the first confirmed collared wolf activity in Archuleta County — entering northern Archuleta County as part of a large loop shortly before Mother's Day.

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.

10 wolves and has continued, with 15 transport, and/or release one or wolves that were translocated from the central interior of British Columbia, Canada, to Colorado earlier this year, according to CPW.

For information on living with

wolves, visit https://cpw.state.co.us/ living-wolves.

Federal letter

On Oct. 10, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Director Brian Nesvik sent a letter to CPW Director Jeff Davis stating Colorado must translocate wolves obtained from certain parts of the United States.

Wolves released earlier this year were obtained from British Columbia, Canada, with CPW signing an agreement to translocate more from the area this winter and stating that agreement was based on consultation with the federal agency.

The letter states that the 10(j) rule allows gray wolves to be obtained from the delisted northern Rocky Mountain (NRM) population areas of Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, the eastern third of Oregon, the eastern third of Washington, and north-central Utah.

"We have reason to believe that Reintroduction began in 2023 with CPW may be seeking to capture, more woives from areas outside of the specified NRM Areas outlined in the 10(j) rule. To the extent that these reports are true, such actions are violative of the 10(j) rule. If CPW is

currently engaged in such activities, CPW must immediately cease and desist any and all efforts related to the capture, transport and/or release of gray wolves not obtained from to [sic] the NRM Areas," it states.

CPW issued the following statement following the federal letter:

"CPW continues to evaluate all options to support this year's gray wolf releases in alignment with the approved Colorado Wolf Restoration and Management Plan and the 10(j). CPW is currently evaluating recent U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) communication regarding available sources for gray wolves from the delisted Northern Rocky Mountain population areas.

"CPW has a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and a recently signed contract with British Columbia's Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship. Before this agreement was paused, it allowed CPW to translocate 10-15 wolves this winter in partnership with British Columbia. This MOU, as well as last year's partnership, were based on consultations with USFWS and were signed before the letter from USFWS was received."

randi@pagosasun.com

HUD **Publisher's Notice**



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WE'RE CELEBRATING OUR VETERANS!

We're running special photo pages in our November 6 edition for Veteran's Day to honor those who are serving, and have served, in our nation's military.

Please send your service picture along with your name, branch of service, rank and hometown to:

shari@pagosasun.com or our office at P.O. Box 9, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

If you were in last year's veteran's pages, we will use the same information unless you email to update before October 31.

> **DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION:** FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31



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U.S. Small Business Administration offering disaster loans for businesses, private nonprofits affected by drought

U.S. Small Business Administration

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is reminding eligible small businesses and private nonprofit organizations in Colorado of the Nov. 25 deadline to apply for lowinterest federal disaster loans to offset economic losses caused by drought beginning Nov. 1, 2024.

The disaster declaration covers the Colorado counties of Adams, Alamosa, Archuleta, Boulder, Broomfield, Clear Creek, Conejos, Costilla, Eagle, Gilpin, Grand, Hinsdale, Jackson, Jefferson, La Plata, Larimer, Logan, Mineral, Morgan, Park, Phillips, Rio Grande, Routt, Saguache, Sedgwick, Summit, Washington, Weld and Yuma; as well as the Nebraska counties of Cheyenne and Kimball; the New Mexico counties of Rio Arriba, San Juan and Taos; and the Wyoming counties of Albany, Carbon and Laramie.

Under this declaration, the SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) program is available to small businesses, small agricultural coop-

eratives, nurseries and private nonprofit organizations including faithbased organizations with financial losses directly related to the disaster.

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

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

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

The loan amount can be up to \$2 million with interest rates as low as 4 percent for small businesses

and 3.625 percent for private nonprofit organizations, with terms up to 30 years. Interest does not accrue, and payments are not due until 12 months from the date of the first loan disbursement. The SBA sets loan amounts and terms based on each

applicant's financial condition. To apply online, visit sba.gov/ disaster. Applicants may also call the SBA's Customer Service Center at (800) 659-2955 or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov for more information on SBA disaster assistance. For people who are deaf, hard of hearing or have a speech disability, please dial 7-1-1 to access telecommunications relay services.

Submit completed loan applications to the SBA no later than Nov. 25.

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The **Pagosa Springs SUN**

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Photo courtesy Dave Cuyler, Archuleta County Republican Women

Members of the Archuleta County Republican Women clean up along County Road 500 recently. Pictured, from left to right, are Melinda Ratliff, Kim Eaton, Michele Turney, Beverly Cuyler and Denise Fisk. Not pictured but also helping was Dave Cuyler.

San Juan National Forest safety alert: Dangerous conditions persist on roads, bridges and trails damaged and destroyed by flooding

U.S. Forest Service

Visitors to the USDA San Juan National Forest are encouraged to exercise caution following historic flood events in early October, which left roads, trails and major infrastructure damaged and destroyed.

Access is closed or limited to some roads and bridges.

The Columbine and Pagosa ranger districts are assessing the extent of the damage — a process that will

extent of the flooding on millions of acres of forest.

Multiple major roads suffered complete washouts, and some vehicle bridges were damaged. Major trail bridges are also completely washed away.

Please visit the San Juan National Forest conditions page for the most up-to-date information on road conditions. Please note, this list changes frequently as engineers and crews carefully assess conditions. Trails

extend into summer 2026 due to the conditions will be assessed as staffing it to the information line voicemail levels permit. Individual trails and campgrounds will be updated on the San Juan National Forest Recreation

Critical safety reminders:

- It is imperative that visitors do not try to ford water crossings on roads and trails, a practice that can easily prove deadly.
- If infrastructure such as bridges or culverts appear damaged and are not noted on the conditions or recreation webpages, please report

at (970) 501-5830 and do not attempt to cross.

- Do not try to drive around damaged areas — a practice that is illegal, destructive and dangerous.
- Please respect closure signage to reduce the need for rescue and to reduce additional damage when resources are extremely limited.

For information on the San Juan National Forest, call (970) 247-4874 or visit the forest website at www. fs.usda.gov/r02/sanjuan.





New Avalanche Aware online program makes avalanche safety education accessible to all

Colorado Avalanche Information Center

On Tuesday, the Colorado Avalanche Information Center (CAIC), in collaboration with the American Institute for Avalanche Research and Education (AIARE) and the Northwest Avalanche Center (NWAC), announced the launch of Avalanche Aware, a free online program designed to introduce essential avalanche safety concepts to winter backcountry travelers.

Avalanche Aware first launched in 2023 with in-person trainings at schools, community events and gear shops; the latest addition is a free online program people can take anytime, anywhere.

Avalanche Aware is a self-paced online course developed by AIARE in

collaboration with CAIC and NWAC as part of a shared commitment to lanche Aware in partnership with improving public safety in avalanche AIARE and NWAC, allowing us to

The one-hour course uses video, expert insights and real-world examples to help participants build a solid foundation before heading into the mountains. Avalanche Aware features five

modules covering core topics. Participants learn how to find and interpret the local avalanche forecast, recognize warning signs of hazardous snow, and identify areas where avalanches are most likely to occur.

Upon completion, users are directed to local events, entry-level field courses and additional training opportunities to continue their avalanche education.

"We're excited to launch Avabring avalanche safety basics to more people," said Ethan Greene, CAIC director. "Avalanche Aware is a straightforward first step for anyone heading into the backcountry. By taking the curriculum launched in 2023 and putting it online this season, we're extending a program that reached Coloradans at more than 100 events last year and making it easier to start learning at home and then build skills in the field."

The course is free and available now at avalancheaware.com. CAIC encourages all winter recreationists, regardless of their experience level, to take advantage of this resource in preparation for the upcoming season.

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Do you know that Downtown Pagosa has 8 parks and Uptown has none, even though 85% of the population lives outside of downtown?

Let's work to save the trees within the proposed Pagosa West development across from the hospital and City Market for a nature park all can enjoy rather than a crowded commercial development that is not needed.

If you agree a park is a better use of this gorgeous property, then please sign our petition to encourage the town, the owner, and the developer to take a land conservancy approach to this development.

SIGN THE PETITION: https://c.org/sgsVK7MLz9

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Happy Halloween



Final weekend for 'Beetlejuice Jr.' at **Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts**

Thingamajig Theatre Program

The strange and unusual are taking one last bow at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts (PSCA) as the Thingamajig Teen Program's "Beetlejuice Jr." enters its final weekend of performances.

Audiences have three more chances to catch this delightfully spooky and laugh-out-loud musical on Thursday, Oct. 30, at 7 p.m.; Friday, Oct. 31 at 8:30 p.m.; and Sunday, Nov. 2 at 3 p.m.

Directed by Laura Moore, "Beetlejuice Jr." brings Tim Burton's beloved 1988 film and the hit Broadway musical to vibrant life on the PSCA stage.

The story follows Lydia Deetz, a darkly curious teen whose fascination with the afterlife takes a turn when she meets a mischievous ghost named Beetlejuice. Together, they hatch a plan to scare away the living and reclaim the home she's lost — only to discover that family, friendship and acceptance may be the most powerful magic of all.

Under the mentorship of local theater professionals including Trevor Brown, Samantha Luck, Ellie O'Hara and Sophia Raymond; and with original props by Tanya Quinn; lighting design by Madelyn Krause; and scenic design by Jill Fives, the production showcases the immense creativity and dedication of Pagosa's young performers.

Audiences have praised "Beetlejuice Jr." for its humor, energy and surprising polish. The teen cast led by Finlay Moore as the delightfully unhinged Beetlejuice and Olive ■ See Beetlejuice on next page



Photo courtesy Samantha Luck, Thingamajig Theatre Company

Finlay Moore as the title character Beetlejuice steps into the final weekend of shows at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts.

Live **Performers**

Thursday

Coyote Moon Lounge: Open mic with Eric Wade, 6:30

The Pagosa Bar: Karaoke, 8 p.m.

Saturday

Coyote Moon Lounge: Retro Cats, 7 p.m.

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Pagosa Bible Church 209 Harman Park Dr. (behind Wells Fargo)

Archuleta County Democrats to host food drive, fundraiser

By Lynn R. Frederick

Archuleta County Democratic Club

The Archuleta County Democrats will hold a food drive/fundraiser and social hour on Nov. 1 on the patio at Uncle's Social Club from 4 to 6 p.m.

Please come and bring nonperishable food or your checkbook.

The community needs to make up the deficit caused by the suspension of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance

Pagosa Peak Genealogical Society to meet Nov. 1

By Carolyn Paschal

Pagosa Peak Genealogical Society

The Pagosa Peak Genealogical Society will hold its next monthly meeting on Saturday, Nov. 1, at the Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St.

The meeting will begin at 10 a.m. We will begin with a short business meeting where you can learn about the upcoming activities of our society and the topic of future programs.

This will be a casual time for us to get to know something about each other's family members. If you have an interesting story or two about a relative, bring it to share at this meeting.

Visitors are encouraged to attend our meetings, so please join us this Saturday to learn more about the hidden gems that we have uncovered about our ancestors.

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

Beetlejuice_

■ continued from previous page

Fladwood as the soulful Lydia Deetz — has earned standing ovations and glowing community response throughout the run.

With its final performances approaching, "Beetlejuice Jr." marks a spirited close to another successful season for the Thingamajig Teen Program, proving once again that the next generation of artists in Pagosa Springs is already making its mark.

Tickets are available at pagosacenter.org or by calling (970) 731-SHOW (7469). Don't miss your last chance to say his name three times before the curtain.

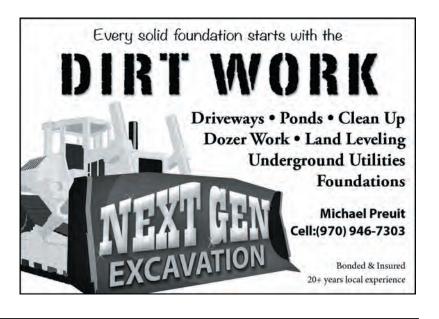
Program, or SNAP, benefits, commonly known as food stamps.

The need for food for local families exists during the government shutdown. In times when the government is open, many families still come up short at the end of their pay period.

Those of us lucky enough to not

worry having enough to eat still recognize that the increased cost of food takes a bite out of budgets. Imagine what it is like for those who were already struggling.

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San Juan Stargazers to hear about area water situation

By Joan Mieritz

San Juan Stargazers

Water will be the star on Thursday, Nov. 6, when the San Juan Stargazers hold a special monthly educational meeting that we are inviting all of Pagosa Springs to attend about the water situation in Southwest Colorado and the San Juan headwaters.

The San Juan Stargazers have three who are also on the San Juan Water Conservancy District (SJWCD) board. They include Randy Cooper, a geologist; Rob Hagberg, a retired emergency room doctor; and Chuck Riehm, the "project manager" who helped with the start of the internet.

Riehm presented a talk for a different group that included a brief history of the water situation in Southwest Colorado and a projection for the next 50 years. I asked if he would share it with the Stargazers.

I have attended several water meetings, but felt I was missing some basic background which he had included.

I have often found that when I have a question, other people do also. Therefore, I wanted to open our meeting to others in Pagosa.

Riehm will present an update from the 2023 Colorado River Plan and the Colorado River Basin Water Rights Report that must be completed by 2026 or the federal government will take it over.

The upper and lower basin states must be coordinated. Riehm also found a significant report of the Top 10 Deepest Snow Winters in the US West and how Wolf Creek fits in. There will be time for your questions.

The San Juan Water Conservancy District Board is moving closer to its big goal of getting an additional reservoir in Archuleta County which Riehm can tell you more about.

Our next meeting, on Thursday, Nov. 6, will start at 6 p.m. with our social hour for visiting and sharing delicious snacks.

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

At 7 p.m., we will begin our educational program, which will include more than a talk from Riehm, also having excerpts from a number of films that give a descriptive tour of the water situation in Southwest Colorado and the Upper San Juan headwaters.

This should be interesting, educational and provide an opportunity to ask questions. Astronomy people are fascinated with the entire universe, and realize that we also need to preserve and promote the precious planet that we live on and its water, which we need to survive.

On Nov. 6, we will have our 2026 Space Mysteries calendars for sale, which include fabulous photos of the most interesting space discoveries of

■ See Stargazers on next page



Veteran's Appreciation Dinner

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The Mullins-Nickerson American Legion Post #108

Would like to <u>INVITE ALL VETERANS</u> to Our Community's Annual

NOVEMBER Veterans Day Appreciation Events & Ceremonies

November 10: Honoring Service

11:45 a.m. — The Honor Guard & Daughters of American Revolution collaborate to demonstrate a Flag Presentation & History for 5th, 6th, & 7th Graders at Pagosa Springs Jr. High

6 p.m. — The Marines of Post #108 are hosting their annual Marine Celebration at Boss Hoggs

November 11: Veterans Day

7:30-10 a.m. — Veterans Breakfast Hosted by the Pagosa Springs 8th Grade Class held at the Community Center. Breakfast served.

9 a.m. — The Color Guard will have a Flag Presentation Ceremony

10 a.m. — The Honor Guard will have a formal ceremony at Veterans Memorial Park. The San Juan Squadron will begin our ceremony with the Missing Man Formation @ 10:00 SHARP.

4 p.m. — The Knights Of Columbus will be Hosting a free dinner to all Veterans at John Paul II

November 14: Veterans Dinner & Dance

5-9 p.m. — Vets4Vets is hosting a Dinner & Dance at the PLPOA Clubhouse. The Color Guard will Begin Opening Ceremony @ 5:00 p.m.

***IF TRANSPORTATION IS NEEDED, PLEASE MAKE ARRANGEMENTS WITH MOUNTAIN EXPRESS TRANSIT (MET) FROM NOVEMBER $3^{\rm RD}$ TO THE $7^{\rm TH}$ ***



250th Marine Corps birthday celebration planned for Nov. 10

By Ed Robinson

Marine Corps Birthday Committee

On Monday, Nov. 10, Pagosa-area Marines are invited to gather together and celebrate the 250th birthday of the United States Marine Corps.

It was 250 years ago, and even before our nation declared an independence, that a small group of men gathered in Philadelphia's Tun Tavern and formed a Corps of Marines.

As in recent years, Marines and their guests will celebrate at Boss Hogg's Restaurant and Saloon, 157 Navajo Trail Drive, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Wilderness Room on the restaurant's main floor.

The traditional cake-cutting by sword and a video birthday greeting from the Marine Corps headquarters will be featured. The oldest and youngest Marine present will be honored. In addition, the first 25 Marines attending will receive a 250th birthday commemorative gift.

Food and drink may be ordered from the menu and paid for by each attendee, with a 20 percent gratuity added. Complementary birthday cake will be served.

Other service members, especially U.S. Navy Corpsmen, are welcome. Dress is casual; however, uniforms are always welcome. Contact Ed Robinson, (970) 731-0718, with any questions.

Semper fidelis.

Stargazers _

■ continued from previous page

the past year.

We have these calendars every year because of their magnificent pictures and all of the other important night sky information. It is a great holiday gift that is easy to mail. I always sent them to my grandchildren so we could talk about them on phone calls. The calendar is an absolute treasure.

If you just want a calendar, come from 6 to 7 p.m.

If you would like to join the San Juan Stargazers, you will also receive Reflector Magazine (again with hard copies), which is the publication of the National Astronomical League of which you automatically become a member.

To join both groups and get an excellent astronomy magazine, annual membership is only \$25 per individual or family. You can join the club at any of our meetings or on our website. Check out our continuously changing website, sanjuanstargazers.org, with new information and spectacular photos.

We can be your special connection to our extraordinary universe.

Live Your Colorado Dream!

an exceptional single-level home 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 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 https://pspixeltree.com/240-Glade-Dr

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. MLS # 822945

To tour this home go to: https://tinyurl. com/1001SoaringEagle-Court



This meticulously cared for full-round log cabin, uptown near Lake Forest, spans 2,732 square feet, featuring 4 bedrooms and 3.5 bathrooms. Relax on the covered deck or backyard patio while taking in stunning mountain views. Inside, the open floor plan connects the great room with a cozy fireplace to a modern kitchen boasting granite countertops, high end appliances, and an is-



land 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. MLS # 824532

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

Escape to your private sanctuary on this lovely 3-acre treed lot, complete with a convenient circular driveway. Nestled in a desirable neighborhood where all properties are at least 3 acres, this home offers unparalleled privacy and a serene setting. Abundant local wild-life provides a daily



connection to nature. Step inside from the covered front porch to a spacious kitchen featuring granite counters. Relax in the living room or formal dining room, where large windows frame breathtaking views of the East Range and Square Top. A partially covered deck off the dining room is perfect for enjoying the peaceful outdoors. Despite the quiet surroundings, you are only a quick five-minute drive from town via Highway 84. MLS #828583. https://pspixeltree.com/120-Big-Horn-Ct



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30 High Drive MLS # 794628 — \$55,900



MLS # 828394

1.7 Acres without a property owners association and great views of Echo Lake and the East Range. 1 bedroom, 1 3/4 baths, an office, a large open loft and unfinished basement with a 2 car garage, 4 carports and RV parking, 3 covered decks, lots of storage and did I say it is only 4 miles from town. The circular driveway is large and the front porch is screened in. Close to shopping and dining and close to paved roads. Please note, the basement square footage has not been included with this listing as the basement is unfinished.



MLS # 826138

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



MLS # 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.





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C: 303.618.7423
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Photo courtesy Guiseppe Margiotta

The Patriotic Order of the Knights of Columbus, Father John Bowe Assembly, invite all veterans to a free spaghetti dinner on Veterans Day, Nov. 11, at Pope John Paul Catholic Church located at 353 S. Pagosa Blvd. Dinner will be served from 4 to 6 p.m. Dinner will include spaghetti, meatballs, bread, salad, lemonade, water and dessert. Non-veterans are welcome for a \$10 donation. There will be a military service video presentation by Brother Knight Gene Tautges.

Pagosa Springs Barbershop Hosts 7th Annual Veterans Day Celebration

> November 11 •10 a.m. to 5 p.m. 510 San Juan Drive

FREE to veterans:

Complimentary haircut and beer Free massage from Pagosa Springs Massage Center Free pizza from Rosie's Pizzeria

No appointment required, first come, first served

Cade White, owner of the barbershop, is also a veteran. He notes that the event is expected to be a meaningful gathering for veterans and their families, offering a chance to reconnect with fellow service members while enjoying a range of complimentary services.

For more information, attendees and supporters are encouraged to visit the shop's website at www.pagosaspringsbarbershop.com or stop by the shop directly

Surviving the Holdays session to be held Nov. 9

By Marie Rascoe

Special to The PREVIEW

The holiday season can be challenging when you're grieving the loss of a

Please join us for this two-hour seminar providing encouragement, support and valuable tools for navigating the season.

It will be held on Sunday, Nov. 9, from 5 to 7 p.m. at Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive.

There is no charge and you can register at the door.

Contact Marie Rascoe, (970) 946-9379, for more information.



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Thank You for a successful conference!

2025 Division 7 - Pagosa Springs

The Colorado Water Officials Association held their annual conference in Pagosa Springs on October 2-3.

The CWOA hosted over 100 Water Commissioners, Division Engineers, support staff, and consultants.

The event hosted a golf outing and water rodeo to raise money for the Chuck Lile Memorial Scholarship, which provides educational funds for a student studying engineering, water resources, or ag science.

The Colorado Water Officials Association would like to thank our proud sponsors for their generous gifts and contributions towards the conference and scholarship fund.

James Heath/ Division 5 Engineer

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Make a difference with Operation Christmas Child

By Linda George

Operation Christmas Child

Today millions of children around the world don't have a toothbrush to even brush their teeth. They have never received a Christmas present or ever cuddled with a stuffed animal. But, with the help of Operation Christmas Child, a project of Samaritan's Purse that will reach 11 million children in 150 different countries, you can participate by filling a box of love here in Pagosa.

Red and green shoe boxes are waiting for you to take home and fill at Ace Hardware, Dollar General, OK Nails, United Parcel Post and Wild Flower Salon. You can also find boxes in 12 local churches. Youth clubs like 4-H and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes are busy collecting items and filling shoe box gifts, too.

Pick a boy or girl ages 2-4, 5-9 or $10\text{-}14\,and\,go\,shopping\,\bar{f}or\,basic\,items$ like a toothbrush, washcloth, a comb or brush, flashlight, sunglasses, crayons, a coloring book, or a pencil and small notebook. Add a wow toy like a small stuffed animal, a doll, small matchbox cars or a bag of marbles. The children love personal notes and pictures from you, too.

Don't include candy, toothpaste



Photo courtesy Operation Christmas Child

Red and green shoe boxes are now available around town to fill for Operation Christmas Child. Collection week for the filled boxes will be Nov. 17-24.

or soap so it can pass customs. Sticker labels are included in each box along with an envelope for postage, and the return dates and location.

Please help our little mountain town touch lives of needy children around the world this Christmas and help us reach our goal of 3,100 boxes.

Our collection week is Nov. 17-

24. The drop-off location is Grace in Pagosa, 1044 Park Ave., next door to the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association Recreation Center. Please return you filled shoe boxes during the following times below and bring joy to a child this Christmas:

- Nov. 17-23, 1-3 p.m.
- Nov. 24, 8-10 a.m.

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Vets 4 Vets to host annual fundraising dinner and dance

By Rick Walker

Vets 4 Vets

As autumn's chill settles into Pagosa Springs, one of November's most meaningful traditions returns — a special evening dedicated to honoring our local veterans.

Every year in November, our community gathers to recognize our veterans at a special breakfast, flag ceremonies and recognition programs that celebrate those who have served.

This year, the Archuleta County Veterans 4 Veterans organization invites the entire community to join in a truly special event — the second annual Veterans Dinner and Dance Benefit, an evening that directly supports local veterans and their families.

The event will take place on Nov. 14, at the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association Clubhouse (230 Port Ave.), from 5 to 9 p.m.

Guests can look forward to an inspiring evening filled with:

- Recognition and fellowship to honor those who serve.
- Delicious catering featuring BBQ brisket and all the trimmings.
 - Live and silent auctions.
- Dance music by the band Smoke and Honey.

Tickets are \$49 per person and may be purchased online or at the door. All proceeds benefit local veteran support services.

This evening is designed not only as a fundraiser, but as a heartfelt tribute to the men and women who have served our nation.

How to participate or support

- Buy tickets early at http://bit. lv/47teIHo.
- Donate auction items or sponsor a portion of the event.
- Volunteer to help with setup, decorations or guest check-in.
- Spread the word share with friends, family and local businesses.

To donate auction items, be a

sponsor or volunteer to help at the event, please contact Rick Walker at (713) 385-7873 or oldmarine23@ yahoo.com.

Why this matters

For veterans returning home and those still carrying the weight of their service — events like this help build connection, provide community support and remind them that their sacrifices are never forgotten.

It's an evening for everyone families, neighbors and friends — to come together in gratitude, reflection and celebration.

We look forward to seeing you

Vets 4 Vets is a registered Colorado nonprofit 501(c)(3). All proceeds support our mission to provide direct aide to local veterans.

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Aspen House/Aspen Services receives grants to expand, strengthen services for community members with developmental disabilities

By Pattie Copenhaver

A Safe Place in Pagosa Inc.

Aspen Services is honored to announce the receipt of several generous grants that will enhance and expand its ability to serve children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) in Archuleta County.

These grants will provide critical support for training, respite care, direct services and operational sustainability during a time of significant funding challenges.

The EasterSeals Foundation/Respite Coalition has awarded \$10,000 to Aspen Services to support respite care provider training and respite services for families caring for loved ones with developmental disabilities. This funding will help ensure that local families have access to qualified, compassionate providers who can give caregivers the essential rest and relief they need.

The Denver Foundation's Care Fund awarded \$15,000 to strengthen Aspen Services' programs that assist families with the application and evaluation process required to access Medicaid waiver benefits — a vital step toward long-term supportive care and housing options for their loved ones.

In addition, the TBK Triumph Fund granted \$5,000 to expand Aspen Services' capacity by supporting the em-

ployment of additional direct service providers, allowing the organization to meet the growing needs of clients and their families.

"These grants come at a truly pivotal time for Aspen Services," said Pattie Copenhaver, executive director. "Funding for organizations like ours has declined dramatically over the past year, even as the demand for our services continues to grow. These awards are a lifeline — helping us continue to train staff, support families and prepare for the future of Aspen House."

Aspen Services' primary mission is to guide families through the oftencomplex process of accessing Medicaid waiver benefits and establishing a framework of lifetime support for adults with I/DD.

This foundation of care ensures that as parents age or face health challenges, their loved ones will continue to receive the services and stability they need. With this framework in place, Aspen Services can provide individualized programs that empower clients to live meaningful, independent lives.

When Aspen House is built, residents will have access to full wraparound supportive services and a safe, enriching home environment right here in Pagosa Springs.

"These grants represent more than funding — they represent hope,"

added Copenhaver. "They bring us one step closer to realizing the vision of a community where adults with developmental disabilities can live, learn and thrive."



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Pagosa Community Initiative financial literacy class wraps up

By Carrie Blue-White

Pagosa Community Initiative

Pagosa Springs residents gathered for the latest installment of the community's financial education series on Oct. 22, and the event proved to be a resounding success.

Thirteen attendees joined the session, which focused on practical budgeting, debt management, saving strategies and the path to homeownership — topics designed to empower residents to take control of their finances and futures.

Organizers report a strong sense of engagement throughout the evening, with participants actively sharing questions, success stories and practical tactics they could apply immediately.

The program's facilitator, Carrie Blue, emphasized actionable steps—small, repeatable habits that build toward longer-term financial stability—leaving attendees with concrete takeaways rather than theoretical concepts.

A highlight of the evening was the candid feedback from participants, who expressed appreciation for the supportive and realistic approach of the class. One attendee sent a heartfelt note after the session to Blue, recognizing the value of the discussion and the encouragement provided:

"Carrie, thank you for taking the time to chat with me at the financial class. Honestly, I needed that reality check. I've let myself get really down and stressed out about finances and my careers. Talking to you really helped and just need to keep putting myself out there. Really appreciated you taking the time."

This message underscored the program's impact beyond numbers and budgeting — bolstering attendees' confidence and motivating them to pursue proactive financial and professional steps.

The event also featured practical workshop components, including:

Hands-on budgeting exercises

that helped participants map income, expenses and savings goals.

- Tips for reducing debt and building an emergency fund, tailored to varying income levels.
 - Credit building and repair.
 - Resources for more learning.

Planning committee members noted that the turnout exceeded expectations for a late-October session and thanked volunteers and sponsors for making the event possible. They also highlighted the importance of continued community support to sustain momentum in financial education programming.

Upcoming sessions are in the planning stages, with organizers aiming to offer a broader range of topics, including retirement planning, investing basics and small business budgeting.

Community members who benefited from the Oct. 22 class expressed gratitude for a program that feels approachable, practical and inclusive. The organizers reaffirm their commitment to providing free, accessible financial education and to creating a supportive environment where people can learn, grow and share their experiences.

For more information about upcoming sessions or to volunteer as a facilitator or mentor, contact the Pagosa Community Initiative at familysupport@pagosacommunityinitiative.org or by calling (970) 585-6461.

Thank you for supporting our advertisers!

The Pagosa Springs

SUN



The Weekly Crossword

17

20

26

30

36

40

52

57

60

ACROSS

- 1 Heavenly strings
- **5** Calcutta attire
- **9** Waves of grain color
- **14** Pitcher in a still life
- 15 Tree of life site
- **16** Anchor rope hole
- 17 Additionally
- **18** Deprive of vital parts
- 20 Coastal disaster
- 22 White weasels
- 23 Painter Henri, but not Matisse
- **25** Cut with a light beam
- **26** 100-eyed giant of myth
- 28 III will
- 30 Goes in again
- 32 Detection device
- 36 Quaint lodging
- 37 Makes certain of
- **39** Org. in 2025's "The Amateur"
- 40 Senile sort
- **42** Maintain the guitar
- 44 Upcycles, say
- **46** Air-show maneuvers
- **47** Pirate's drink
- **50** Hard on the ears
- **52** One who proves false
- 54 Lathering up
- **57** Cuts in (on)
- 59 Direction at sea
- 60 Tractor name
- 61 Ran off with
- 62 Scot's family
- 63 Pick up on
- 64 Peppy
- 65 Salad green

DOWN

- 1 Police, slangily
- 2 Cobblers' tools
- 3 Coming back strong

- 4 You or me
- **5** Appears to be
- **6** Cabinet members, e.g.
- 7 Camping gear chain
- 8 Trousers measurement
- **9** Start of a break-in
- 10 Monroe of "Some Like It Hot"
- 11 Swahili master
- **12** Park, Colo.
- **13** Baseballer Pee Wee
- **19** Carnival offerings
- **21** Like monastery life
- **24** Guarantor
- 26 Very dry
- 27 Gambling town
- 29 Proving ground
- **31** Software buyer, usually
- 33 Tiny trace

34 Sty cry

58

61

64

15

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21

41

- **35** Threads in shreds
- **38** Circuit board part
- **41** Ones in a debate
- 43 Plunder
- **45** Walks like a rooster

47 Power networks

by Margie E. Burke

34

35

56

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16

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43

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62

65

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46

- **48** Rapp of 2024's "Mean Girls"
- 49 Many times
- 51 Somewhat dark
- 53 Locust or larch
- **55** "Hud" Best Actress Patricia
- **56** Trait carrier
- 58 Cork sound

Answers to Previous Crossword:



PagosaSUN.com

PCI calls for community support as SNAP delays loom

By Carrie Blue-White

Pagosa Community Initiative

Archuleta County faces a looming hunger challenge this November as a federal funding lapse delays the distribution of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has not released funds due to the ongoing federal government shutdown, leaving Colorado unable to issue approximately \$120 million in November SNAP benefits until federal funding is restored.

Impact on families and local services

Experts warn that the gap could push more households to rely on local food banks, with Archuleta County communities bracing for a surge in demand throughout the month.

Local leaders estimate that families who depend on SNAP to feed their households may experience increased financial strain, increasing the pressure on area food pantries and community meal programs.

"Food security is a community issue," said Steven Viola, the Pagosa Community Initiative's (PCI's) family development coordinator. "When SNAP benefits are delayed, our neighbors — neighbors who already juggle tight budgets — must turn to charitable resources. PCI and partner organizations are stepping up to help, but we can't do it alone."

Community calls to action

Charitable organizations across the region, including PCI, are inviting residents to support in three key ways:

- Donate food: Nonperishable items can be dropped off at PCI's food shelf program or any partner food bank location, including those operated by local churches and nonprofit groups.
- Give funds: Financial contributions enable food pantries to purchase perishable items and stretch limited resources during high-demand periods.
- Volunteer time: Volunteers are needed to sort, stock and distribute food; assist with intake at distribution sites; and help coordinate drives.

PCI's food shelf program and partners

PCI operates a hunger-relief food shelf program that serves Archuleta County and collaborates with local churches and other nonprofit agencies to meet need.

The coming month will test the resilience and capacity of these networks, underscoring the importance of community participation.

Voices from the community

"When SNAP is delayed, every

extra donation makes a real difference in a family's meal plan," said a PCI volunteer. "We're mobilizing to ensure that no one in Archuleta County goes hungry this November."

A representative from a partnering church food pantry added, "We've seen demand rise in past shortages. We're prepared, but we need the community's support to

What's next and how to aet involved

- Short-term focus: PCI and partner networks will ramp up distribution capacity, coordinate with schools and supplement food banks to cover the anticipated increase in need.
- How to participate: Visit PCI's website or contact the PCI office to learn how to donate, volunteer or host a food drive. Community members can also connect with local food banks directly for immediate needs and intake information.
- Stay informed: The following organizations are providing support to affected families:

Our Community Eats, 197 Navajo Trail Drive, (970) 902-0130, ourcommunityeats.com, weekly food distribution and donation site.

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church Food Pantry, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd., Thursdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to noon, stpatrickspagosa.org/foodpantry. Offers food boxes and fresh/ frozen items.

Pope John Paul II Catholic Church Food Pantry, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd., Wednesdays from 9 to 11 a.m., ihmjp2.org/food-pantry. Weekly food distribution for families and indi-

Healthy Archuleta/Food System and Food Equity Coalition, 80 County Road 600, (401) 206-4579, foodcoalition4archuleta.org. Coordinates the countywide Food Pantry Network and mobile food pantry.

Archuleta County Department of Human Services (DHS), 550 Hot Springs Blvd., archuletacounty. org/230/Medical-Food-and-Financial-Assistance. Manages SNAP and food assistance benefits.

PCI, 550 B Hot Springs Blvd. (under DHS), Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., (970) 585-6521, familysupport@pagosacommunityinitiative.org. Small emergency shelf to supplement families who can't make food bank hours.

About PCI

PCI unites neighbors to address local needs through volunteerism, collaboration and transparent stewardship. The organization mobilizes volunteers, partners with local institutions and channels resources to expand access to essential services, including hunger relief, throughout Archuleta County.

Call to action

Every contribution — no matter how small — helps ensure that no one in Archuleta County goes hungry this November. If you can lend a hand, start with a food or funds donation, or volunteer your time.

Your involvement strengthens the whole community.

Contact information

You can contact PCI at (970) 585-6521, Familysupport@pagosacommunityinitiative.org or www. pagosacommunityinitiative.org.

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November's Educational information is

5 Signs You Have a Hidden Mold Problem.

Mold is one of the most common and costly issues homeowners face—and it often thrives out of sight. Just because you don't see black patches on your walls doesn't mean mold isn't there. In fact, hidden mold can be even more dangerous because it quietly damages your home and affects your health before you even know it's there.





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Preview Calendar

All events listed in The PREVIEW

Calendar are free of charge unless
otherwise noted.

Thursday, Oct. 30

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.

Tai Chi Chih. 1:30-2:30 p.m., Senior Center.

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.

ThingamaWHO Teen Program Presents 'Beetlejuice Jr.' 8 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, 2313 Eagle Drive. For tickets and more information, visit pagosacenter.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Friday, Oct. 31

Trick-or-Treat at the Library. 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Sisson Library. Visit any time while the library is open.

Halloween Costume Party. 12:30-1:30 p.m., Senior Center. There will be a costume contest at 1 p.m., as well as pumpkin pie and prizes. Call ahead or by 9 a.m. on Oct. 31 to make a lunch reservation if you want lunch.

Pumpking Decorating Contest Party. 4 p.m., Sisson Library. Return decorated pumpkins by noon to enter the contest.

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

ThingamaWHO Teen Program Presents 'Beetlejuice Jr.' 8:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, 2313 Eagle Drive. For tickets and more information, visit pagosacenter.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Saturday, Nov. 1

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.

LEGO Play. 11 a.m.-noon, Sisson Library. For kids 8-11 years old. Bring your own or use the library's LEGOs to free build. Contact the library at (970) 264-2209 for further information.

Pagosa Peak Genealogical Society.
10 a.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. For more information, contact Carolyn Paschal, carolynpaschal@gmail.com or visit pagosapeakgs.org.

Healthy Archuleta Community Food
Drive. 10 a.m.-1 p.m., City Market.

Food Drive/Fundraiser/Social Hour.
4-6 p.m., Uncle's Social Club.
Hosted by the Archuleta County
Democrats. Bring nonperishable
food or your checkbook and enjoy
socializing with others while helping
those in need.

Sunday, Nov. 2

ThingamaWHO Teen Program

■ See Calendar on next page

HUD Publisher's Notice

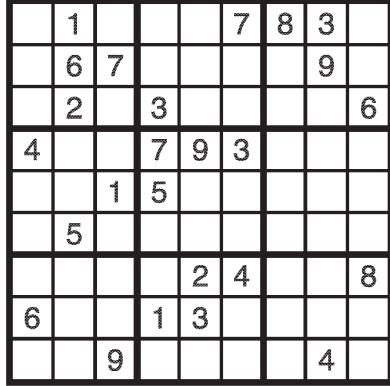


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2016 & 2018 Spirit Award, 2019 Realtor of the Year

Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

Presents 'Beetlejuice Jr.' 3 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, 2313 Eagle Drive. For tickets and more information, visit pagosacenter.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Monday, Nov. 3

Women's Fellowship. 9-11 a.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd.

Line Dancing. 9:30-11 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.

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

Conversational Spanish. 4-5 p.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Practice your Spanish conversation skills in a group setting. No minimum skill level required. A Sisson Library program.

DivorceCare/DivorceCare for Kids. 6-7:30 p.m., Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. A 13week 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, Nov. 4

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

Coffee and Kiddos Playgroup. 10-11 a.m., Aspire Medical Services and Education, 602 S. 8th St. For those with kids ages birth to 3 years old.

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

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

Good News Club. 3:15-4:45 p.m., Pagosa Springs Elementary School. A weekly club for kids in kindergarten through the fourth grade where the Bible is taught with songs, stories, object lessons, games and more. To register, visit https://cefcolorado-431831.churchcenter. com/people/forms/1006150.

Tween Baddie Buddies Book Club. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. Join to adventure into the world of books. For ages 11-14. Snacks will be provided.

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.

Men's Fellowship. 6 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd.

Wednesday, Nov. 5

Kids Kare. 9:30-11:30 a.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. A weekly club for 3- to 5-yearolds where the Bible is taught with songs, stories, object lessons, games and more.

Family Storytime. 10-11 a.m., Sisson Library. Join us for an educational hour of reading, singing and free play while building early literacy skills together. For all ages. Call (970) 264-2209 for more informa-

Online Author Talk. Noon, virtual. Watch nationally renowned authors give hourlong presentations live via Zoom, or watch the recording later. "Community, Power and the Search for Indigenous Identity" with

■ See Calendar on next page

Trinity Anglican Church



"Give thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ; submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God." Join us for the Eucharist (the giving of thanks) this Sunday at 10am.

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Preview Calendar

continued from previous page award-winning journalist Joseph Lee. For details and to register, go to https://libraryc.org/pagosalibrary/ upcoming.

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

Mindful Drawing. 1:15 p.m., Senior
Center.

Mexican Train Dominoes. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

Notary Drop-in. 3-4 p.m., Sisson Library. Colorado documents can be notarized with proper identification.

Elementary Tutoring. 3:30-4:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs Elementary School, 141 S. 10th St. For grades 1-3. Elementary school children are tutored in reading and math. Registration required. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information. A Sisson Library program.

Junior Youth Challenge. 3:30-4:45 p.m., Pagosa Springs Middle School music room. A weekly club for kids in fifth and sixth grade where the Bible is taught with songs, stories, object lessons, games and more. To register, visit https://cefcolorado-431831.churchcenter.com/people/forms/1006150.

Thursday, Nov. 6

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.

Nonprofit Tips, Tricks and Treats:
Ballantine Grant Best Practices
with Rachel Rosenthal. 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.

Tai Chi Chih. 1:30-2:30 p.m., Senior Center.

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.

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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.

Friday, Nov. 7

Notary Drop-in. 1-2 p.m., Sisson Library. Colorado documents can be notarized with proper identification.

Saturday, Nov. 8

Emergency Response Training. 8
a.m.-4 p.m., Community United
Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. A
training led by the United Methodist Committee on Relief to prepare
participants to respond in times
of disaster. For more information
and to register, email communications@cumcps.org.

Be Prepared for an Emergency Workshop-Winter Edition. 10 a.m., CSU Extension building, 344 U.S. 84. The workshop will cover the best practices for preparing for and recovery from an emergency.

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.

Pagosa Springs Scrapbook and Crafters Club. 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Senior Center dining room. Bring your creative and scrapbooking projects and share time with other crafters. Bring a dish to share for the potluck lunch.

Knitters Circle. 1-3 p.m., Natural Grocers back room, 775 San Juan St. Any type and experience level of needleworker is welcome. A Sisson Library program.

Band-O-Rama. 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. The concert will feature the Pagosa Springs Community Band, Pagosa Springs Middle School Band and Pagosa Springs High School band.

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

Sunday, Nov. 9

Thingamajig Theatre Company Presents 'Master Class.' 3 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, 2313 Eagle Drive. For tickets and more information, visit pagosacenter.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Surviving the Holidays. 5-7 p.m., Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. Please join us for this two-hour seminar providing encouragement, support and valuable tools for navigating the season when grieving the loss of a loved one. Contact Marie Rascoe, (970) 946-9379, for more information.

Sunday Night Unplugged. 5 p.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. An exploration of music and prayer in the meditative style of the Taize Community in France.

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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Ways to support food access in Archuleta County

Healthy Archuleta

In October, more than 1,400 people in Archuleta County relied on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to help purchase food, with more than \$266,000 in benefits distributed locally.

With November benefits currently on hold due to the federal government shutdown, many families are facing an immediate gap in food access.

Even in ordinary times, SNAP benefits often fall short of covering the full cost of a meal. In Archuleta County, the average meal costs about \$4.16, while SNAP benefits provide only about \$2.83 per meal — leaving a 47 percent gap that families must cover in other ways. This pause in benefits deepens the challenge, making community support more important than ever.

Healthy Archuleta is calling on residents to come together to help ensure no one goes without food during this difficult time.

Community members can play a vital role by donating nonperishable foods to the Archuleta Food Pantry Network, which accepts drop-offs at the UPS Store in Pagosa Springs, or by volunteering with local partner pantries to assist with food distribution. Financial contributions are especially impactful, as they allow pantries to purchase high-priority items such as meat, milk, eggs, fresh produce and culturally preferred foods.

By working with Healthy Archuleta, individuals also help strengthen a local, community-based food system where everyone has the opportunity to contribute and benefit.

The Archuleta Food Pantry Network has long served as a backbone of food access in Archuleta County. Partner pantries are located throughout the county, including Community United Methodist Church and Socorro Senior Housing in downtown Pagosa; Amazing Grace Food Pantry in Aspen Springs; Pope John Paul II Catholic Church, St. Patrick's

PUC 55878

The

friendly

Episcopal Church, and Our Community Eats in uptown Pagosa; and the TARA Community Center in Arboles.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, these pantries expanded operations rapidly to meet surging demand, and they remain ready today to support families, seniors and individuals during this period of benefit disruption. The network thrives on community support, inviting residents to volunteer, donate food, or contribute funds that sustain this countywide effort.

In addition to pantry services, families can rely on school meals, which continue to be available at no cost to all students. These meals provide steady nutrition for children while SNAP benefits are on hold, ensuring students have the energy they need to focus on learning.

Other local programs are also working to meet needs.

Archuleta Seniors Inc. provides weekday meals through its Community Café at the Ross Aragon Community Center, with both dine-in (by reservation) and take-out options available. Its Meals on Wheels program delivers hot meals, plus sides, five days a week — and seven days a week upon request — to homebound adults aged 60 and older. Community members may call or text (970) 264-2167 to reserve meals or learn about volunteer opportunities.

Meanwhile, the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program continues to operate locally through the Archuleta County Public Health Department. WIC provides nutritious foods, breastfeeding support and nutrition education for pregnant women, new mothers, infants and children under 5. Families who qualify can continue to access WIC benefits during this period of SNAP disruption by calling (970) 264-2409 or visiting the Archuleta County Public Health Department website.

The Archuleta Food Pantry Network is prepared to meet increased demand, but community donations of food, funds and volunteer time are essential to filling the gap. Healthy

Why

pay

more?

Archuleta invites community organizations, groups and clubs to host food drives with their networks to support the Archuleta Food Pantry Network.

Healthy Archuleta maintains a list of most needed nonperishable items and can support your food drive with marketing, providing the shopping list and distributing the food through the Food Pantry Network. Please contact Healthy Archuleta at fsfearchuleta@gmail.com for support with hosting a food drive to support our neighbors in accessing food.

Healthy Archuleta will be hosting a community food drive on Saturday, Nov. 1, at City Market. The food drive will take place from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Please stop by to support our neighbors and make a donation during the food drive.

Every act of generosity makes a difference in ensuring that no one in Archuleta County goes without access to healthy meals. Healthy Archuleta encourages residents to share this information widely and to stand together in support of neighbors during this temporary disruption.

To learn more about the efforts of Healthy Archuleta, please visit our website at www.foodcoalition4archuleta.org.

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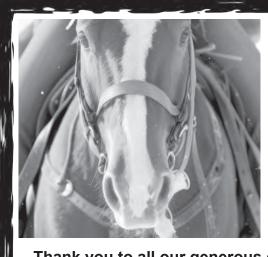
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Bird of the Week



Photo courtesy Charles Martinez

This week's Bird of the Week, compliments of the Weminuche Audubon Society and Audubon Rockies, is the white-crowned sparrow.

The distinct field marks of this sparrow make it possible to identify it with confidence. For a sparrow, it is relatively large and has a plain gray breast and long tail. What signals "white-crowned" is the pattern of bold black and white stripes on the peaked-shaped head of an adult. In immature birds, the head stripes are rusty brown and gray.

This widespread and common sparrow is a winter bird across most of the United States. Outside of breeding season, they are often seen feeding in flocks in brushy fields, agricultural areas and roadsides, and show up in backyards searching the ground under feeders. They eat the seeds of weeds and grasses, grains and small fruits, supplementing with insects in summer.

This bird's wide distribution, geographic variations and adaptability have made it a popular scientific study subject. Its song has been one of the most studied sounds in animal behavior. Young males learn the song of neighboring adult males during the first two to three months of life. The variation sung by a male links him to a particular place, much like regional accents do for people.

During the pandemic period in 2020 when reduced traffic made cities quieter, white-crowned sparrows in San Francisco were observed to respond by modifying the volume and quality of their song. This and other studies suggest that reducing the level of street noise in urban areas could result in higher species diversity.

As we head into winter months, keep in mind suggestions of ways to make survival easier for the birds that visit our yards. Leave those dead flower heads and ornamental grasses rich with seeds standing to provide winter food for birds. Protect over-wintering insects by raking leaves into tree and shrub beds or into small piles in your yard for winter insulation. If practical, provide a small brush pile. And plan for spring additions of native plants to your living space by checking out Habitat Hero resources on audubon.org/rockies.

For information on events, visit www.weminucheaudubon.org and www.facebook.com/weminucheaudubon/.



VOTE YES ON BALLOT MEASURE 2A

A 1% Sales Tax, paid by locals and visitors alike, can provide the \$80-100 million needed for a comprehensive upgrade to the Town's sanitation system.



A well-functioning sanitation system is crucial to our families, our businesses, and our environment.

A recent engineering study revealed 5.8 miles of failing sewer lines in downtown Pagosa Springs. The Town is also struggling with pump failures connected with our seven-mile sewer pipeline.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

A summer 2025 survey by the Town of Pagosa Springs showed overwhelming support for a 1% sales tax as the best way to fund necessary repairs and upgrades to the Town Sanitation System.

A COMPREHENSIVE SOLUTION

In addition to failing sewer pipes, the Town has experienced repeated pump failures on its uphill sewer pipeline. The Town needs to replace that failing and expensive system with a dedicated downtown treatment plant.

THE ALTERNATIVE?

If the sales tax measure is not approved by the voters, the Town might need to increase monthly sewer fees from \$71 a month to over \$200 a month, to generate the same needed revenue.

Please VOTE YES ON MEASURE 2A

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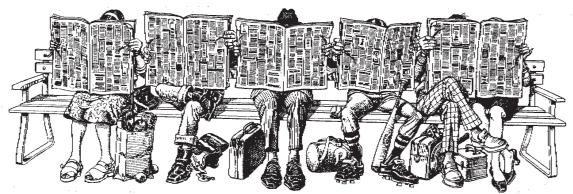
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All Saints Day, All Souls Day, Dia de Los Muertos and bereavement ministries

By J. Leonard Martinez Special to The PREVIEW

Bereavement is defined as the state of sorrow, grief and mourning experienced after the loss of a loved

And while our faith teaches us there is glory beyond all our expectations once our time on earth has come to an end, there is no denying the experience of the loss of someone we love.

El Día de Los Muertos is two days that coincide with All Saints Day on Nov. 1 in that the first day of El Día de Los Muertos commemorates the loss of all children. Nov. 2, All Souls Day, celebrates the memory and loss of our adult elders.

Those who serve in bereavement ministry have a special affinity for these first days in November.

The customs around supporting the bereaved vary by culture and traditions. Many share in the custom of providing food to the bereaved family prior to the internment. These are special, intimate activities, often defined by the relationship of the families involved. It often falls to the bereaved family to provide a meal to all the guests who share in the sorrow, grief and mourning experienced by the loss of the loved one.

Bereavement ministry provided by our clerical teams is based on their deep understanding of their unique role in this process. All Saints and All Souls Day provide a bridge to the memories of the loved ones we have lost and the role of our faith in this process.

So, how does bereavement ministry work for the rest of us? In the case of Las Guadalupanas at Immaculate Heart of Mary/Pope John Paul II Catholic Church and those that help Las Guadalupanas, their mission is to provide bereavement ministry to families who have few or no resources.

Specifically, it is to help the bereaved family with providing part of and serving the meal after Mass/ internment in the hope of lessening the burden on the bereaved family. and to show the respect the family has for their guests who share in their grief. This ministry is enabled by donations — donations provided by those that can and whose donation may also provide for those that cannot. The model clearly depends on making room for the Holy Spirit.

A Matter of Faith

ministry as their ministry to serve our friends and neighbors in need.

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.



El Día de Los Muertos is two days that coincide with All Saints Day on Nov. 1 in that the first day of El Día de Los Muertos commemorates the loss of all children. Nov. 2, All Souls Day, celebrates the memory and loss of our adult elders.

Speaking of the Holy Spirit, the question for anyone providing bereavement ministry is: Am I worthy? At the time when a bereaved family is so deep in sorrow or grieving deeply because of their loss, can bereavement ministry be provided humbly? Can the family be shown dignity and respect regardless of their faith status? Can the service be provided in honor of the bereaved family?

In addition to praying for all our beloved and dearly departed, this Nov. 1 and 2 is also a time to pray for all involved in supporting the bereaved.

Most of us, if not all, have supported a friend or neighbor who is experiencing the loss of a loved one without being a part of a formal

These prayers apply to all of us. These prayers also apply to those who have chosen bereavement



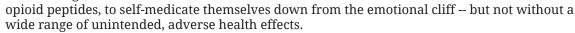
ESSENTIAL OILS AND THEIR EFFECT ON YOUR STRESS (Part 2)

(continued from last week)

For example, back in 2002, an amazing discovery was reported in the Japanese Journal of Pharmacology. Researchers found that the simple inhalation of patchouli and rose oil reduced sympathetic nervous activity by 40%, with rose oil reducing adrenaline concentrations by 30%.

Such a profound reduction in fight-or-flight associated hormones is hard to accomplish through other non-toxic means.

In fact, many folks use alcohol, tobacco and harder drugs, and even foods that contain



All the more reason to appreciate the power of therapeutic fragrances. It turns out that many flowers are well-suited to calm the human body and soul, bringing them back into greater

Lavender oil, for instance, has also been studied for the ability to reduce stress, anxiety, aggression, and cortisol levels, among two dozen other potential therapeutic properties.

Aromatherapy, of course, works primarily through the nose, but can also act through the lung and the skin. When inhaled, volatile aroma compounds from plants are capable of exerting direct-to-brain actions, primarily through the limbic and olfactory systems.

As opposed to the oral ingestion or topical application of a drug or herbal substance, aromatherapy usually offers a far higher margin of safety because the active compounds are small molecule.

Source: Evidence-Based Aromatherapy: Stress Relief and Much More. By Sayer Ji. GreenMedInfo | Alternative Medicine | Vitamin Research | Natural

Bonus Tip: Visit http://www.AmazingFacts.org for spiritual refreshment every week! "and the fruit thereof shall be for meat, and the leaf thereof for medicine." Ezekiel 47:12

 $A \ public \ service \ from \ your \ Adventist \ friends \ & \ neighbors \ at \ Pagosa \ Springs \ Seventh \ Day \ Adventist \ Church.$ Disclaimer: This and all our Nature's Remedies are for health information purposes only. The Seventh Day Adventist Church is not responsible for results.



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Photo courtesy Daughters of the American Revolution

Local Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) members post with Pagosa Fire Protection District personnel as the DAR members deliver cookies.

Local Daughters of the American Revolution chapter takes part in national day of service

By CiCi Stuart

Sarah Platt Decker Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution

The local Sarah Platt Decker chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) provide service in many ways throughout the year. Oct. 23 was nationally designated by DAR as a day to support projects in unique, local and impactful ways.

Since the Sarah Platt Decker chapter spans Archuleta and La Plata counties, the members decided to deliver cookies to first responders who have helped the communities. This year, it is especially impactful because of the weather-related issues in the past few weeks. However, the chapter has done this for several years.

Pagosa and Durango members baked and delivered more than 10,700 cookies to 18 first respond-



er locations in Durango, Pagosa Springs, Bayfield and Ignacio. This included multiple fire departments, police departments and sheriff's departments, as well as the Archuleta County Emergency Operations Center, Emergency Medical Services, state troopers, the Humane Society and animal control

DAR is an international women's service organization of women from diverse backgrounds. It is nonprofit and nonpolitical with objectives to preserve the memory and spirit of the men and women who achieved American independence.





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Unitarian Universalists announce November schedule

Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

As a Unitarian Universalist (UU) fellowship with a history of honoring many paths to the sacred and encouragement to spiritual growth, the Pagosa UU Fellowship holds Sunday services and programs that support individuals do just that.

Our Sunday services are fairly traditional, with readings, music and singing, and time for meditation and prayer. Throughout the year, we host guest ministers who offer sermons, and have lay leaders share reflections. We hold all of this with love and care with open hearts for people to discover a deeper meaning in their lives.

As a covenantal faith tradition, we hold no creed or set of beliefs that one must embrace. We are a community grounded in shared values with love at the center.

All our Sunday mornings begin at 10:30 a.m., with a fellowship hour afterward. We invite all in to explore with us.

As a Welcoming Congregation we strive for radical inclusion and creating spaces that honor every part of our identities, backgrounds and experiences. Our gay, bisexual, transgender and queer family are not only welcome, but full members of our faith communities. We continue to learn and grow in areas of diversity,

equity and inclusion within our walls and the world.

This month brings a variety of programs listed here:

• Nov 2: Sunday service, "Remembrance."

We take time to honor the cultural meanings of this liminal season and share our memories of loved ones who have passed. Samhain, the ancient pagan festival of summer's end, marks the midpoint between the fall equinox and winter solstice.

Along with the honoring of ancestors of All Souls and All Saints Day in the Christian calendar, and the familiar elements from the Mexican culture, Dia de los Muertos, we gather to honor and share with one another. You are invited to bring photos or mementos of loved ones who have died, or for those you want to honor on the altar we create.

• Nov 9: Going Deeper Sharing Circle.

The focus this week will be through a recorded conversation with poet Naomi Shihab Nye from the "On Being" podcast. With space for reflection and sharing, we practice the art of listening with others.

• Nov 16: Sunday service, "Gratitude and Breaking Bread."

Julie Loar, award winning author, will be offering a reflection on the ancient tradition of breaking bread. We will also honor this time with a

UU-style bread communion. At the time of year when we set aside a day for conscious giving of thanks, it seems a powerful reminder to share this ancient ritual in a conscious way. Join Loar to explore the topic and experience this ancient practice.

• Nov 23: Action Sunday. Our newly formed book group and study begin continues.

"Social Change Now: A Guide for Reflection and Connection" by Deepa Iyer, is held on the fourth Sunday of the month. There is still space to join us for those interested in diving deep into personal ways to make a difference in the wider world. Scholarships to cover book cost are available — simply email info@pagosauu.org.

• Nov 30: Rest Sunday (no Sunday service).

The Pagosa UU Fellowship is located at Unit B-15 of the Greenbriar Plaza, 301 N. Pagosa Blvd., on the north side facing the Pagosa Peak.

We offer Zoom services the first and third Sundays of the month. See the current newsletter at PagosaUU. org for the link to join. Check the website to find more information about additional programs offered through our Community Hub, hosting various groups during the week, such as meditation and the upcoming Dances of Universal Peace Nov. 9 from 2 to 4 p.m.

Sign up now for Holiday Lighting Contest

By Jennifer Green

Visit Pagosa Springs

Once again, the Pagosa Springs area will be bright with holiday cheer this season.

The Pagosa Springs Area Tourism Board and The Pagosa Springs SUN are sponsoring a lighting contest this holiday season. The lighting contest will make the holiday season shine. It includes enhanced lighting in downtown Pagosa Springs, as well as many other festive events taking place in and around the Pagosa Springs area through the end of December.

Participating addresses will be promoted to locals and visitors. Voting will be conducted online between Nov. 28 and Dec. 17.

Residential lighting contest

The holiday residential lighting competition will award cash prizes for first (\$1,000), second (\$500) and third (\$250).

Participating residential properties must be decorated by Nov. 28. Winners will be announced in The Pagosa Springs SUN on Dec. 25.

We ask residential properties to

turn on their lights every evening from 6 to 8 p.m. between Nov. 28 and the end of the year.

Business lighting contest

The business lighting contest is open to any Pagosa Springs area business with a property to decorate. Participating businesses must decorate by Nov. 28.

We ask business properties to turn on their lights every evening from 6 to 8 p.m. between Nov. 28 and the end of the year.

Winners will be announced in The Pagosa Springs SUN on Dec. 25. Business prizes of first (\$1,000), second (\$500) and third (\$250) will be awarded as advertising in The Pagosa Springs SUN.

Storefront window contest

The storefront window contest is open to any Pagosa Springs area business with a storefront window to decorate.

Participating businesses must decorate by Nov. 28. We ask business properties to turn on their lights every evening from 6 to 8 p.m. between Nov. 28 and the end of the year.

Winners will be announced in The Pagosa Springs SUN on Dec. 25. Storefront window prizes of first (\$500), second (\$250) and third (\$125) will be awarded as advertising in The Pagosa Springs SUN.

How to enter

To enter the contest, please complete the following form by end of day on Nov. 19: https://bit.ly/2025HolidayLightingContest.

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PAGOSA SCENE...

ARCHULETA SENIOR INC.'S MASQUERADE FUNDRAISER

Photos courtesy Jeff Laydon

Scene ... Guests don masks and elegant attire to have a good time at Archuleta Senior Inc.'s masquerade fundraiser on Oct. 24 at Keyah Grande. The event raised funds to support the organization's mission of serving local seniors.













Last chance to honor an extraordinary woman in your life

By Barbara Brattin

PREVIEW Columnist

When I was in first grade, I had a remarkable teacher who believed in the importance of reading so much that she built a small library in the back of our classroom when the school library closed.

With some plywood and a collection of paperbacks from her personal collection, she provided her students with their own little library where we could borrow books to read in our free time. Then she assigned the curious kid who always seemed to have her nose in a book to keep it organized. Thus began my long career in libraries.

Needless to say, I have never forgotten Rita Thrasher and her incredible influence on me. So it was an easy choice for me to honor her memory with a gift to Ruby Sisson Library Foundation's 100 Extraordinary Women campaign in support of our library expansion.

Each \$1,000 gift made to the campaign places one honoree's name on our donor wall for the whole community to see for generations to come. Anyone can participate. Gifts can be paid in full or promised over time for as little as \$18 per month.

I know each of you have your own story to share about an extraordinary woman who believed in you, nurtured you or simply inspired you.

In true Pagosa fashion, the library's 100 Extraordinary Women campaign to fund the new library has exceeded expectations. More than 225 people have donated to honor an extraordinary woman in their life by adding their name to the donor wall planned for our new library addition. Please consider doing the same. The campaign ends on Oct. 31 and we're aiming high. Won't you join us at the summit?

Get started at https://www.pago-salibrary.org/donate-to-the-library-foundation.

New teen advisory group

We're excited to revive our teen advisory group (TAG) under the capable leadership of Judy.

Teens can get together and talk, snack, do crafts and provide us with suggestions on how the library can best serve young people.

Stay tuned for details on our new grant award to fund teen dialogue sessions. Our next TAG meeting takes place at the library on Oct. 28 from 4 to 5 p.m. All teens are welcome.

Notary public services, legal counsel available by appointment

Ruby Sisson Library provides access to many services you might not know about. We have a notary public on staff, and we offer virtual

Library News

appointments with attorneys by appointment. Our tech-savvy staff will sit down with you for technical instruction on your device or get you started using our e-books. Give us a call to reserve a time with experts.

New York Times Sunday edition now available in print

Come spread out with the New York Times (NYT) Sunday edition, then indulge in the NYT Magazine and shop your next great read via the NYT Book Review. Weekly editions arrive on Wednesday afternoons through the U.S. mail. Need more time? Check out last week's paper and enjoy it at home.

Don't forget, your library card gives you access to the daily edition of the New York Times through our digital library.

Construction update

We're going vertical. The steel is starting to go up and framing begins in a few weeks. Barring any more natural disasters, we will have a roof on the new addition by Thanksgiving. May the sun shine until then.

Activity locations

Now that we have much less space for our operations and no meeting rooms during construction, several of our regular activities and special events are happening 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.

Activities calendars

Pick up monthly calendars at the library so you don't miss any of the free programs, events and activities available to you and your family.

Conversational Spanish

The Conversational Spanish group will meet Monday, Oct. 27, from 4 to 5 p.m. at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church at 225 S. 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 Nov. 11 to discuss "Astor: The Rise and Fall of an American Fortune" by Anderson Cooper. 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 is taking place at the new Harman Park 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.

Elementary school tutoring

Free after-school tutoring for kids in first through third grade takes place on Wednesdays from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Registration is required because of limited space, so call your library now at (970) 264-2209 to enroll your child.

This invaluable tutoring involves one-on-one and small-group help for math, literacy, writing and spelling.

Note that because of construction at the library these sessions will take place at the elementary school.

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.

■ See Library on next page



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Do you know that Downtown Pagosa has 8 parks and Uptown has none, even though 85% of the population lives outside of downtown?

Let's work to save the trees within the proposed Pagosa West development across from the hospital and City Market for a nature park all can enjoy rather than a crowded commercial development that is not needed.

If you agree a park is a better use of this gorgeous property, then please sign our petition to encourage the town, the owner, and the developer to take a land conservancy approach to this development.

SIGN THE PETITION: https://c.org/sgsVK7MLz9

Sponsored by the Committee to Keep Pagosa Authentic

Masquerade fundraiser for Archuleta seniors a spirited success

By Ricardo Martinez

PREVIEW Columnist

The first masquerade fundraiser for Archuleta Seniors Inc. (ASI) was a lively success on Friday, Oct. 24, at the beautiful Keyah Grande.

Guests arrived in elegant masquerade ball attire, filling the evening with color, laughter and community spirit. The event featured live music, a costume contest, and both live and silent auctions that kept the crowd engaged and entertained throughout the night.

The celebration not only brought joy to attendees, but also raised important funds to support the organization's mission of serving local seniors

Organizers expressed deep gratitude to the sponsors who made the event possible. Thanks were also extended to the dedicated board members, staff and volunteers who helped bring the evening to life.

The proceeds from the fundraiser will directly benefit the health and well-being of Archuleta County's senior community. ASI looks forward

Senior News

to building on this year's success and making next year's masquerade an even more memorable celebration.

Autumn match campaign

We depend on donations as part of our funding to provide our programs and 20,000 lunches a year, including the home-bound using Meals on Wheels. Our other sources of funding are not enough.

You can make a difference. An ASI supporter will donate up to \$5,000 if matched between now and Dec. 31. Your donation of \$10 becomes \$20, \$20 becomes \$40, \$50 becomes \$100, or whatever amount you give will be doubled in value.

You can donate to the matching campaign in many ways:

• Call ASI at (970) 264-2167 or stop

in and use your credit card, saying it's for the matching campaign. We are located at 451 Hot Springs Blvd., in the Ross Aragon Community Center (the riverside entrance at the portico).

• You can send a check to ASI, P.O. Box 3444, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, with "Match" on the memo line, or use this link: https://www.coloradogives.org/organization/ArchuletaSeniors.

November holiday closures

ASI will be closed on Tuesday, Nov. 11, for Veterans Day, and Nov. 27 and 28 for Thanksgiving. No programs or lunch service will be provided those days.

Upcoming events

Put us on your schedule. We have several events coming up, including a fun lunchtime Halloween party on Oct. 31 (see below), our nonalcoholic drinks bar at the holiday market at the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association Clubhouse on Nov. 1 and 2, and our tree at the Festival of Trees on Dec. 5 and 6.

■ See Senior on next page

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Library

■ continued from previous page **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 classes

Free in-person evening classes happen on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4 to 5 p.m. for students of all levels 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.

New to collection

Readers are invited to place a hold on any of these new titles in advance of their availability. A full list of new titles as well as reading recommendations can be found under the Quick Links section of our website, www. pagosalibrary.org.

New in large print

Elizabeth Gilbert's "All the Way to at pagosalibrary.org.

the River," "Assistant to the Villain" by Hannah Nicole Maehrer, "Dark Horse" by Felix Francis, "In the Time of Five Pumpkins" by Alexander Mc-Call Smith, "Grave Artist" by Jeffrey Deaver and "A Slowly Dying Cause" by Elizabeth George.

New nonfiction

"The Last Lions" by Don Pinnock; "Kids These Days: Understanding and Supporting Mental Health" by Will Dobud, Ph.D; "Replaceable You: Adventures in Human Anatomy" by Mary Roach; "We The People: A History of the U.S. Constitution" by Jill Lepore; "Chasing Evil: Shocking Crimes, Supernatural Forces, and an FBI Agent's Search for Hope and Justice"; "When Everyone Knows that Everyone Knows" by Steven Pinkner; "Super Natural: How Life Thrives in Impossible Places" by Alex Riley; "McNamara at War: A New History by Philip Taubman"; "Tomorrow is Yesterday: Life, Death and the Pursuit of Peace in Israel/Palestine" by Hussein Agha; and "Tame Your Thoughts: Three Tools to Renew Your Mind and Transform Your Life" by Max Lucado.

Other novels

Clive Cussler's "The Iron Storm," "Listen for the Life" by Amy Tinter and "World Pacific" by Peter Mann.

Website

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Senior

■ continued from previous page

Halloween costume party

Come in costume to the Pagosa Senior Center dining room on Friday, Oct. 31, for a Halloween party from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., with a costume contest at 1 p.m. There will be pumpkin pie and prizes. If you want lunch, please call ahead or by 9 a.m. on Friday, Oct. 31, to make a reservation at (970) 264-2167.

Senior Conversations

The very popular Senior Conversations with local Bill Salmansohn takes place on Mondays at 1:30 p.m. at the Pagosa Senior Center.

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 held on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 1:15

Bridge is a four-player card game with partners sitting opposite each other around a table. It is a tricktaking 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.

Ruby's Writers Guild

The Ruby's Writers Guild now meets on Thursdays from 8:45 to 10:30 a.m. The Guild is an informal group that meets to support writers of all genres and experiences. It supports writers through friendly critique, resources, discussion, and literary and cultural activities. Bring your secret idea drafts or completed manuscripts. Come join the group.

Tai chi chih

Come on Thursdays from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. for tai chi chih classes at the Senior Center.

Tai chi chih is not a martial art, but rather a tool for self-healing. Softness, flow and effortlessness are the guiding principles in this meditative

The 19 movements and one pose are designed to stimulate, circulate and balance the vital energy which is inherent in all of us.

Bingo

The Senior Center hosts free community bingo twice a month on Friday afternoons from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Join the group on Oct. 31 right after the Halloween party. In November, bingo will be on Nov. 14.

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; just show up.

All ages are welcome, but we ask those 18 and younger to come with an adult chaperone. Seats are first come, first served.

Share lunch Monday through Friday

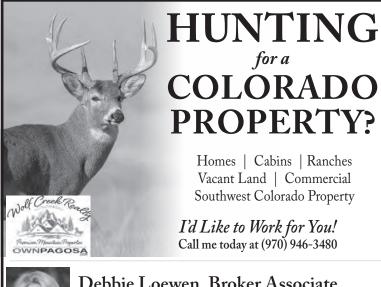
Join local elders, their friends, family and community at the Silver Fox's Den in person for delicious meals Mondays through Fridays at the Community Center between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Grab 'N' Go pickup via our convenient portico is also available all week.

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

■ See Senior on next page







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WE'RE CELEBRATING OUR VETERANS!

We're running special photo pages in our November 6 edition for Veteran's Day to honor those who are serving, and have served, in our nation's military.

Please send your service picture along with your name, branch of service, rank and hometown to:

shari@pagosasun.com or our office at P.O. Box 9, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

If you were in last year's veteran's pages, we will use the same information unless you email to update before October 31.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31



(970) 264-2100 • pagosasun.com 457 LEWIS STREET • P.O. BOX 9 PAGOSA SPRINGS, COLORADO 81147

Senior

■ continued from previous page

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 on short notice.

Thursday, Oct. 30 — Tarragon chicken, creamed spinach, blueberry crisp, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Friday, Oct. 31 — Pork posole with hominy, cabbage-radish-onions, tortilla, garden salad, fruit, pumpkin pie and milk.

Monday, Nov. 3 — Crispy cod with tartar sauce, green beans, dinner roll. garden salad, fruit, chocolate cake and milk.

Tuesday, Nov. 4 — Butternut squash and white bean soup, focaccia bread, garden salad, fruit, dessert bar and milk.

Wednesday, Nov. 5 - Pork Tenderloin with blackberry balsamic glaze, baby baked potatoes, garden salad, fruit, cottage cheese and milk.

Thursday, Nov. 6 — Beef lasagna, broccoli, garlic bread, garden salad, fruit, brownies and milk.

Friday, Nov. 7 — Chicken and smoked sausage gumbo, roasted cauliflower, garden salad, fruit, banana bread 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.

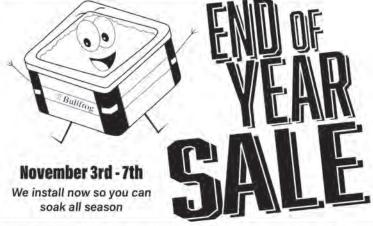
Board vacancies

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 or visit www.psseniors.org for more information.





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JOIN OUR TEAM

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIV



O'Rourke Media Group is recruiting for an Advertising Account Executive. We're seeking a proven sales professional that has a demonstrated track record of driving growth and new business development. Great opportunity for an experienced media sales rep, recent college grad or those looking to make a career change from outside of the media business. We offer an excellent compensation plan ranging from \$50K to \$100K+, great support and training, a fun work environment and lots of autonomy.

OMG is a family-owned, diversified media company that was formed in 2018. Originally just a holding company that owned a few newspapers, O'Rourke Media Group (OMG) has established itself as an industry-leading, digital media company comprising a cutting edge digital agency and an impressive group of award-winning, hyper-local print newspapers and niche magazines. OMG now operates in eight states, 36 markets with over 50 publications and hyper-local websites. For more company information, please go to our website at www.orourkemediagroup.com.

POSITION OVERVIEW

The Advertising Account Executive is responsible for managing client relationships, developing advertising strategies, and ensuring client satisfaction. This role requires a blend of sales, marketing, and communication skills.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Client Management:

- Act as the primary point of contact for assigned clients.
- Build and maintain strong, long-lasting client relationships.
- Understand clients' business objectives and advertising needs.

Strategy Development:

- Collaborate with internal teams to develop effective advertising
- Present campaign proposals to

- campaigns.
- 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.

OUALIFICATIONS

- 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.

Classifieds

(970) 264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Thursday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., Friday 8 a.m. - noon

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

MISCELLANEOUS



20' WIND AND WATER TIGHT cargo containers. Rent, rent to own, buy. Call for specials. Pagosa Springs Storage, (970)731-0007.

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THE CHRISTMAS SHOPPE opens Monday, November 3 at the CUMC Thrift Store.

PERSONALS

FREE. CONFIDENTIAL. HELP. 24-hour domestic violence and sexual assault helpline. (970) 264-9075.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONCERNED ABOUT ANOTHER'S DRINK-**ING?** Pagosa Springs Al-anon Family Group meets Tuesdays 6-7p.m., Pagosa Bible Church. Questions? Call/text (303)815-8569. www.al-anon.org.

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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).

SERVICES

ASPENGLOW LANDSCAPING/ YARD MAINTENANCE/ YARD CLEANUP. Mowing, trimming, raking and tree trimming. Tractor available for planting and landscaping. (970)946-2061

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Let Western Colorado construction and services restore your property or structures right. We don't just clean up - we rebuild. Call (970)698-1362.

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NEED HELP DECLUTTERING OR ORGA-NIZING? Help moving in, moving out, whatever's on your list. Marlene, (719)850-3055.

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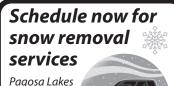
RIVERSTONE CARPET CLEANING. 25 cents/sq. ft. and \$3 per stair. No hidden charges. Owner/operator 20 years experience. Professional, trustworthy and punctual. 100% eco-friendly. Call Mike at (970)403-9222. Credit cards accepted with no fee. Hallways and closets always free.

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WE HAUL. WE WILL haul off anything but your marijuana or your mother- in- law. No job too big or too small. We also move buildings We don't haul pigs. Dan Snow (719)849-8873.

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EXPERIENCED CAREGIVER (8 YEARS) looking for another client to serve. Trained in most lower level medical procedures. Excellent food preparation and proficient in all household tasks. Please call Rick at (303)601-2390 to schedule an in -person interview.

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ALPINE APPLIANCE NOW HIRING for all positions. Delivery Drivers starting at \$25 an hour. Sales starting at \$20 plus bonuses. Please bring resume by 2800 Cornerstone Drive STE A1 or email to sales@alpineappliancepagosa.com.

ARCHULETA SENIORS now hiring a Kitchen Assistant. Entry level food preparation and packaging. Hours 8a.m. to 3p.m., part -time, no weekends. Paid Time Off and a Health Stipend after 90 days. Pick up an application in person at the Pagosa Springs Senior Center, 451 Hot Springs Blvd, 1 -3p.m. weekdays.

ASSISTANT BOOKKEEPER needed to fulfill accounting responsibilities for Ponderosa Lumber. Accounting, computer and credit / collection knowledge preferred. We offer a competitive wage, paid time off, 401(K), profit sharing and medical /dental benefits for being a full -time associate. Please apply in person at Ponderosa Lumber, 2435 Eagle Drive, Pagosa Springs or call (970)731-4111 and ask for Jim.

Classifieds

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Office Hours: Monday — Thursday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., Friday 8 a.m. - noon

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AUTOMOTIVE LEAD TECHNICIAN WANT-ED. Join a shop that values expertise, integrity, and relationships. At CT's Automotive, we're looking for an experienced technician ready to lead a team in our 16 year customer trusted repair shop! Electrical Diagnostic Skills/Experience preferred. Competitive Pay: \$28-\$45/hr+ hybrid (hrly base + flat rate) - earn \$55K -\$100K+ annually (depending on experience, performance and skills). No Weekends! Monday -Friday schedule. Benefits: Paid holidays, PTO, IRA with / match, health and wellness perks, uniforms provided, work boot allowance, quarterly tool allowance. Training and Growth: Paid ASE training and career development. Award-winning, family-oriented, 4.9 star rated — Start "Building relationships one vehicle at a time" with us! Apply today: 163 Goldmine Dr. Unit B.

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COLORADO ROCK & DIRT EXCAVATION

is expanding our team. We are looking for experienced Class A CDL Drivers -local driving only. This is a full -time position, offering competitive pay, health insurance, 401K and PTO. Please email resume to coloradorock08@ amail.com.

EXPERIENCED HEAVY EQUIPMENT OP-**ERATOR:** We are currently seeking skilled and experienced Heavy Equipment Operators to join the Colorado Rock & Dirt Excavation team. This is a full -time position that offers competitive pay, health insurance, a 401(k) plan and paid time off (PTO). Please submit your resume to coloradorock08@gmail.com or stop by the office at 2039 E. HWY 160, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147.

FRAMERS HELP NEEDED. Part time or full. Year round work. Pay based on experience. Apply in person at 172 Goldmine Dr. or call (970)585-1021.

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

2 part-time driving positions available

- · Must be able to drive in the snow
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FT-BUSINESS ASSISTANT — Join our team and help us stay organized and efficient. We are a growing business that values collaboration and a positive work environment. You will play an essential role in supporting our team across departments. If you are a detail oriented individual who is a team player and is eager to make a positive impact we would like to hear from you. Proven admin experience is recommended. Pay DOE. Send your resume to redshop@timberlineframers.com.

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\$1,000 SIGN-ON BONUS*

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE

The Pagosa Springs SUN is recruiting for a dynamic, versatile customer service representative. This position is required to work at our office at 457 Lewis Street, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. Hours 8am to 4:30pm, Monday through Friday.

Job Responsibilities

Account Management: Support the Advertising Department with account management activity that's associated with customers running ads in The SUN, PREVIEW, special publications and on our digital platforms. Administrative: Handle postal paperwork, insertion order processing and

payment processing for advertising and subscriptions.

Service: Provide personable, friendly customer service answering phones and interacting in person with customers that visit the office.

Communication: Serve as a point of contact for internal and external communications. Answer phones, respond to emails and direct inquiries to the appropriate team members.

Project assistance: Assist with special projects and initiatives as needed.

Requirements

3-5 years of experience working in an office.

Excellent attention to detail and accuracy in data entry.

Strong organizational and time management skills to meet payroll deadlines. Excellent communication skills on the phone and through all communication

High level of proficiency in MS Excel and other Microsoft Office applications.

Compensation Range/Benefits

\$17-\$20/hour depending on experience level.

Eligible for medical, dental and vision benefits on the 1st of the month after 30 days of employment.

Eligible to enroll in the company's 401 (k) retirement savings on the 1st of the month after 90 days.

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.

Send your email or letter of interest directly to CEO Jim O'Rourke at jorourke@orourkemediagroup.com

The Pagosa Springs

an O'Rourke Media Group company

Place your classified ad online!

Go to: PagosaSUN.com >> Shop Local >> Place Your Classified Ad

All classified line ads appear on PagosaSUN.com Regular categories deadline: Tues., 10 a.m.

Holidays will have alternate deadlines.

oriented.

We are hiring:

Small Engine Service Tech Full time, weekends and holidays required

We are looking for reliable, organized, motivated, team-oriented applicants that enjoy a fast-paced

Must have experience with outdoor power equipment, problem solving, self-starting and customer service

Start at \$22/hr. depending on experience

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Apply in person Monday-Friday

Applications on terrysace.com

Join us in serving our Pagosa community!

Classifieds

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NEWSPAPER REPORTER — We are

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HELP WANTED

JAND J ENTERPRISES is looking for friendly and enthusiastic people who are eager to help customers navigate the wide world of cannabis. We offer paid sick leave, product sampling, employee discounts, sales bonuses and comprehensive on-site training! Must be 21 years of age. A Marijuana Enforcement Division badge is required to start work. E-mail your resume to employment@jandjinc.net or check us out on Indeed com.

LIKE GUNS OR GUITARS? Come sell them for us. The San Juan Trading Post is looking for a sales person. Computer literacy and ability to lift 45 lbs. is required. Starting at \$16/ hour, part-time. Stop by in person at 635 San Juan St.

LOOKING FOR PART-TIME maintenance help. 20 hours per week. Please email hickoryridge@pagosacreek.com.

MOUNTAIN MAMA MASSAGE is looking for dependable LMTs to join our team. Utilize your healing gifts. TOP PAY \$55/ hour +tips. Email racheldevloo@gmail.com.

MOUNTAIN SPIRITS IS SEEKING customer service associates. Must be available nights and weekends. We offer accrued vacation/personal time, performance -based bonuses twice a year, and employee discounts. Please apply in person.

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com

HELP WANTED

searching for a talented reporter to fill a fulltime position in Pagosa Springs, Colorado, at The Pagosa Springs SUN. Our journalists are driven to find stories that matter to our community and are dedicated to fairness, accuracy, and ethics. The successful candidate for this position is someone who knows how to cover hard news but also loves to write about people and their passions. They know that a good interview is often a good conversation and know when to ask the tough questions, but also when to listen. The ideal candidate has exceptional writing skills and is willing to put in the extra effort and research to deliver an engaging story. Preferred qualifications for this position include: Degree or diploma in journalism, or a related field; At least 1-3 years of experience as a reporter with experience covering hard news and feature stories or experience at a college newspaper; The ability to meet tight deadlines and report the news as it happens: Superior language, writing and editing skills; Strong photography skills; Able to work a variety of schedules, including evenings, nights and weekends; Excellent critical thinking and problem-solving skills; Ability to work in a fast-paced environment: A valid driver's license and a reliable vehicle; Willingness to live in or near Pagosa Springs, Colorado. If this sounds like the perfect position for you, we would love to hear from you! To apply, please send your resume, letter of interest and relevant samples of your work to Chad Richardson, Vice President of News, crichardson@orourkemediagroup.com. Company Benefits: We offer competitive compensation plans and employees are eligible for medical, dental, vision, life insurance benefits, paid time off and our 401 (k) savings plan. This is an excellent opportunity for career development and growth within the company O'Rourke Media Group is a fast-growing company that owns and operates hyper-local, community newspapers, websites, niche publications and a full-service digital agency. We are family-owned and mission-driven to save newspapers and local media companies by investing in the people, resources and technology needed to thrive for many years to come. We believe that every community can benefit from a well-run, properly resourced, local newspaper and website. Our News teams produce hyper-local, high interest local news and accurate and trustworthy reporting. Our Sales and Digital Fulfillment teams bring omnichannel advertising solutions to local businesses in the communities we serve. O'Rourke Media Group now operates in nine states and 38 markets with 51 publications and hyper-local websites. We started from ground zero in December 2018, totally bootstrapped, confident and with an entrepreneurial mindset.

NORTH PAGOSA MARATHON is hiring a full-time cashier nights and weekends. Competitive wages. Please apply in person at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL is hiring a morning and afternoon aid for our Preschool class. Please contact Molly Sprowle at (970)398-0064.

HELP WANTED

OWNERS, THERE IS A LONG TERM RENT-AL SHORTAGE IN PAGOSA SPRINGS. We have a waiting list for approved tenants. Need all types of rentals. Call us today for lowest commission and highest customer service. All you have to do is wait for your rent check to come in. We do the rest! Rocky Mountain Realty & Rentals (970)507-1192.

PAGOSA LIQUOR IS HIRING a full-time cashier. Please come and apply in person at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

ROOF LABORER NEEDED with some construction experience. Will train. \$20-\$25/ hour to start. (970)749-0830.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

ESTABLISHED ACCOUNTING and Tax Practice located in Durango CO. Great Opportunity. Call Christy Hudson, (866)260-2793.

OWN YOUR OWN BUSINESS IN 2025! Four year-old profitable Side-by-Side rental business with extremely high reviews on Google. 1 to 8 Polaris Rzrs, LLC, website, reservation site, customer list, insured, bonded, licensed, maintenance and safety gear included. Better location than any of our competition. Operates May- Nov. Call or text Ryan (970)946-2409.

SMALL CRANE BUSINESS FOR SALE. National Crane truck, business, client list, and all attachments come with business. Inquire at (970)903-2381.

FOR SALE

2016 KUBOTA B2673 Quick attach, 6' snow blade for sale. Manual angle. \$1300 OBO. (970)903-3405.

BRAND NEW 27" HUSQUVARNA snow thrower with 2 steel loading ramps. Only used 3 hours. Asking \$1,350. Call Rick, (970)946-1737.

CRAFTSMAN 30" PROFESSIONAL SNOW BLOWER. Electric start. Seldom used. \$500. (970)731-0869.

CRAFTSMAN SNOW BLOWER. 26 -inch clearing width, electric start, one owner, well maintained. \$400. Call Ron at (575)937-0743, could deliver.

DRY FIREWOOD- PINE. Pick up \$255 a cord. Delivery available. Call for prices. Bayfield. Gabe (970)403-2784.

FIREWOOD DELIVERED. Douglas Fir/Pine mix, \$250 per cord, 12 cords left, 2 cord minimum order, Call Kathie, (303)358-6218.

FIREWOOD. Tired of not getting a full cord? 4'x4'x8', \$265 full cord, pine or aspen or mix. Delivery extra. Just off Piedra and 160. (970)398-1928.

FRIGIDAIRE REFRIGERATOR, 18.3 cu. ft., \$100. Whirlpool refrigerator, 9.7 cu. ft., \$50. GE chest freezer, 5 cu. ft. \$75. (970)731-0869.

NEED FIREWOOD? Get a HUGE dump truck load split and delivered for \$600. 1 cord loads \$300. Pine/Fir mix. Contact Dan with FIRE&ICE at (970)582-0006.

FOR SALE

PROTECT YOUR BELONGINGS. Specials on 20 foot cargo containers. Rent or buy. We deliver. Pagosa Springs Storage, (970)731-0007.

SELL OR TRADE YOUR GUNS. We buy for cash or trade it. No hassle. Licensed, bonded, insured. San Juan Trading Post, 635 San Juan St. (970)731-PAWN (7296).

SPLIT AND SEASONEDPonderosa Pine firewood, \$220/ cord. *Free delivery to Pagosa Springs. Call /text Jessica at (970)403-9563. *Stacking is available for an additional fee.

WERNER 24' ALUMINUM extension ladder, \$100. (970)731-0869.

PETS

ADOPT FROM THE Humane Society. Stop by or call (970)731-4771. You'll be amazed at what we have to offer, www.PagosaHumane.org.

CKC YORKIES, 8 WEEKS OLD from the Yorkshire Inn. Boys, \$1,000. Girls, \$1,200. (970)317-5859.

DOBERDOODLE PUPPIES FOR SALE. 8 weeks old. Have first shots. 3 boys, 2 girls. Intelligent, loyal, athletic, hypoallergenic, strong and protective. Call (970)507-1089 to see them and for an interview. Serious inquiries only. \$300 firm.

DOGGY DAY CARE 81147.COM. Open 365 days of the year! Full day and half day doggy day care and overnight boarding. Conveniently located just 1 mile from downtown Pagosa. Call (970)264-9111.

YOUR DOG AND GROOMER not seeing eye to eye? Call Barb, mobile groomer, (970)903-1290.

AUTOS

1998 DODGE RAM 1500 Quad Cab Truck. Five -speed 4x4 w/creeper gear. Second owner. Runs great. Super in snow. Garaged, has 200 K miles. \$4,499. (970)903-2492. Leave message.

2013 TOYOTA RAV4 Limited. Runs and drives perfectly, 180,000 miles. \$9,500. Text (970)946-6446.

GUARANTEED CREDIT APPROVAL! 4X4 Auto Sales, 21698 Hwy. 160 West, Durango. (970)385-7940.

YARD SALES

GARAGE SALE. Furniture, tools, doors, houseware items and sports equipment. Everything must go, come make an offer. 279 River Run Drive, Aspen Springs, near blue windmill. Saturday and Sunday, 9a.m. -4p.m.

MOVING SALE. Saturday, November 1 only, 8a.m. to 3p.m. 102 Valley View Drive, first floor apartment number 3162.

MOVING SALE. Saturday, November 1, 9a.m. -3p.m., 21 Pike Drive. Furniture, Elna sewing machine, lawn mower, doors, miscellaneous tools, 20x20 tent never used.

YARD SALES

TUPPERWARE CLEAR OUT SALE. October30th -November 1st, 12:30 -3:00p.m. 47 Edinburgh Circle. Vintage and new items. View new "Volia Tuppewrare Glass" products. \$2 -\$40 bagged sale items.

COMMERCIAL FOR RENT

COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS FOR LEASE. 1501 W. Hwy 160 #1 and #2. (970)398-5290.

COMMERCIAL STORAGE. Flex/ Hobby Garage. Two units available. Approximately 1800 sq. ft., 1 full bathroom, 14 ft. x 10 ft. door, 15 ft. ceiling. Radiant floor heat. Finished drywall interior. \$2,100 a month. 218 Hopi Drive, Pagosa Springs. Call or text (903)327-3345.

DOWNTOWN OFFICE — \$350 /MONTH. Utilities included, Internet plus \$50, at the Pagosa Hotel — available November, 1 -year lease, call Jacque, (970)946-7636.

LARGE INDUSTRIAL COMMERCIAL LOT in Cloman Park. 1.12 acre lot zoned industrial. Ideal for contractor, storage etc. Utilities are located in the street. Tenant to verify approved end use with Archuleta County. Please call Team Pagosa (970)731-8599.

PAGOSA VALLEY PROPERTIES: Offering "Aspen Plaza ProSuites" These are Professional Office Suites available for Long Term rental from 135 SF to 205 SF, priced from \$465-\$669/ month. Also, Large Conference/ Event Room Available. Call (970)889-2022 for more information

SECURE AUTOMOBILE STORAGE this winter. • Flexible Plans: Short-term and long-term storage options available.• Easy Access: Access your vehicle whenever you need. Call us at (720)470-2653 or visit www. rowfmanagement.com for more information.

THREE UNITS IN UPTOWN 419, 364, and 1477 sq. ft. Available now. \$900 -\$2400. Utilities included. Call Gina (970)880-0910 for more info

VACATION RENTALS

OWNERS, WE ARE BOOKED UP AND NEED MORE VACATION RENTAL PROP-ERTIES! Call us today for lowest commission and highest customer service. All you have to do is wait for your rent check to come in. We do the rest! Rocky Mountain Realty & Rentals (970)507-1192.

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

3 BED, 2 BATH HOME in Holiday Acres. Freshly painted inside. Call (208)582-8440. Owner maintains land. Avail now.

3 BEDROOM, 1 BATH, downtown, great views, washer, dryer, 1,250 sq. ft. \$2,100. (970)946-6962.

BEAUTIFULLY FURNISHED 2 BEDROOM, 2 bath, 1 car garage townhome. All utilities included This is an 8 month rental which runs October through May of 2026.Call Team Pagosa (970)731-8599 or visit teampagosa.

Classifieds

(970) 264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Thursday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., Friday 8 a.m. - noon

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

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HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

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RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

DOWNTOWN PAGOSA SPRINGS APART-MENT for Rent. Modern 2 -bedroom, Energy Star Efficient – Brand new build. Available now – 7 month lease \$1,800. No smokers, no pets. (720)470-2653.

DOWNTOWN UNITS FOR RENT. New 3 bedroom, 2 bath unit. Granite countertops, all appliances and utilities included. Porch and patio. \$2000/ month. (318)347-6100.

HOMES AND RENTALS AVAILABLE for immediate move in. Lake Forest: 3 Bedroom /2 Bathroom Home —\$2,500/month. Duplex: 3 Bedroom /2 Bathroom —\$2,200/month. Lake Hatcher: 3 Bedroom /2 Bathroom Home —\$2,500/month. Storage Units: 10x10 —\$90/month. 10x15 —\$100/month. Call Sunrise Property Management today at (970)731-4344 to schedule a tour.

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

HOUSE FOR RENT. 2 bedroom, 1 bath on 3 acres. Must be able to haul your own water. \$2,400, partially furnished, fenced yard. If interested, please contact Ava, (719)937-8383 or Tianna, (970)946-9331.

LONG TERM RENTALS AVAILABLE. Call Team Pagosa (970)731-8599, 117 Navajo Trail Dr., pagosaspringsrealty.com.

NEWLY REMODELED 3 BEDROOM, 2 bath home, 1 car garage located uptown. One dog allowed under 50 lbs. with monthly pet rent. Nice wooded lot on a cul -de -sac. \$2,150/month. Available now. Call Team Pagosa, (970)731-8599, or visit teampagosa.com to take a look.

ONE OR TWO ROOMMATES wanted for furnished two bedroom home. Owner lives in California, rarely on property except in summer. One roommate \$1,500, two \$2,100, all utilities paid. No children, no pets. \$1,200 deposit. (619)992-0700.

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

PANORAMIC VIEWS. OFF-GRID, one bedroom cabin in Cabezon Canyon near Chimney Rock National Monument. AWD required in winter, full bath. \$760 per month plus utilities. (970)883-2600.

QUIET 1 PLUS BEDROOM, simply furnished cabin, 7 miles west of City Market. Water -hauling vehicle needed. \$900 per month plus utilities plus (first, last, security deposits). No smoking /pets. (970)731-5098.

THREE BEDROOM, TWO BATH CONDO on Lake Hatcher. \$2,650 per month plus utilities, available January. (720)333-1622.

UNFURNISHED SWEET 3 BEDROOM, 2 bath, 2 car garage home located in Pagosa Lakes. Just up the street from the Rec. Center and all up -town amenities. Sorry no pets. \$2,400 /month. Available October 10th. Call Team Pagosa, (970)731-8599, or visit teampagosa.com to take a look.

HOMES FOR SALE

REAL ESTATE SERVICES Buying or Selling?



Call Marcie Lewis (970) 759-8672



MarcieLewis.com

3% FINANCING AVAILABLE for qualified buyers on this 2 BR home on 1.9 acres, plus a guest house, mature gardens and greenhouse. Home has power, permitted septic, cistern, and well. All appliances and furnishings included. Call Peggy Andrews, Independent Broker (970)946-0473 for more information. \$299.000. MLS# 824849.

HOMES FOR SALE

FULLY FURNISHED 2/2 CONDO beautifully remodeled and appointed in quiet area, huge mountain and lake views, STRs allowed. \$349,900 Peggy Andrews Independent Broker, (970)946-0473.

NEW LISTING. FSBO. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 -car garage. Mature landscaping in fenced yard in Trails. Abuts greenbelt on 2 sides. Oversized lot. \$559,000. (970)903-3049.

LAND/ BUILDING SITES

MOUNTAIN VIEWS, MEADOWS. Unique high elevation and complete privacy. 5.6 acres bordering national forest, (970)769-3588 blancoretreat@gmail.com. \$450K.

TWO ADJACENT 5 ACRES LOTS. Available Separately. Meadows 4. Details at www. BLANCA257.com. Scott (970)731-4421 or fscott409@outlook.com.

Place your classified ad online!

Go to: PagosaSUN.com >> Shop Local >> Place Your Classified Ad

All classified line ads appear on PagosaSUN.com Regular categories deadline: Tues., 10 a.m.

Holidays will have alternate deadlines.

PagosaSUN.com



All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, or national origin, or an intention, to make such preference, limitation or discrimination."

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.



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