



Ski Area to open Saturday

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

Wolf Creek Ski Area (WCSA) will be opening for the season on Saturday, Nov. 22.

According to its website, “The Nova, beginner lift, will be operating from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm with both Susan’s and Nova runs open for skiing and snowboarding. We are still waiting for Mother Nature to help out so more terrain can open as we get closer to Thanksgiving.”

The website notes that the main day lodge will be open serving a limited menu, and the Pathfinder bar will also be open. Skis and snowboards are available to rent. Ski patrol and ski school will also be available.

Weather

As of press time Wednesday, WCSA had received a total of 9 inches of snow from recent storms with a settled base of 5 inches. The website notes a total of 12 inches received so

■ See Snow A9

On to state



Photo courtesy Pagosa Springs High School

The Pagosa Springs High School Unified bowling team — which appropriate sported “pinbusters” Halloween costumes this year — will compete at the state bowling championship Friday, Nov. 21 after taking second at regionals. For more on the team, see page B4.

Governor requests federal declaration to unlock FEMA support following flooding

State of Colorado, Sen. Michael Bennett’s Office

On Wednesday, Nov. 12, Gov. Jared Polis formally requested a major disaster declaration from President Donald Trump and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to support ongoing recovery efforts in La Plata, Archuleta and Mineral counties following the record-breaking western Colorado flooding that

occurred Oct. 10-14.

This declaration would unlock FEMA Public Assistance and Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funding to help communities recover from severe flooding, debris flows, infrastructure damage and long-term watershed impacts.

“Heavy rains unleashed historic flooding across southwestern Colorado, overwhelming rivers, destroying western Colorado flooding that

■ See FEMA A8

School district considers two sites for new school, Vista site emerges as more favorable

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

The Archuleta School District (ASD) Master Planning Advisory Committee (MPAC) heard a presentation from SGM, a civil engineering company, during its most recent meeting on Monday, Nov. 17.

The company was asked to per-

form site evaluations of the two locations that ASD is considering to build a new school on, the high school site and Vista site, which looked at variables such as slopes and wetlands, transportation needs, drainage, foundations and utility access.

SGM Senior Engineer Dianna Rooney explained that they came

■ See School A9

PAWSD board agrees to end affordable housing surcharges

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

At a Nov. 14 meeting, the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) Board of Directors agreed to end the district’s affordable housing surcharge, which had been used to support fee waivers for affordable housing.

PAWSD board member Glenn Walsh opened the discussion, noting that the only reason he could see for a water district to extend fee waivers for affordable housing was for projects that would not happen without the waiver.

He noted that there would be no actual losses in revenue for the district with projects that would not move forward without fee waivers.

Walsh added that not having the waivers would also encourage board discussion about whether projects would move forward without waivers or not.

“I don’t really think the waivers are necessary for us to consider true af-

fordable housing projects,” Walsh said, adding that such projects serve people at 80 percent of area median income (AMI) and below.

PAWSD board chairman Gene Tautges expressed agreement with Walsh’s concerns about the affordable housing surcharge being a barrier to evaluating affordable housing projects.

He added that, at the board’s last meeting it “pretty much decided” that the board would support “nothing” in 2026.

“If we don’t have any projects in the oven, we probably shouldn’t have surcharges,” Tautges said.

Walsh stated that he would potentially support voting for a waiver in 2026 for Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County for its housing projects if it could not move forward without a waiver, although he noted that Tautges might not.

After briefly discussing the differences in fee waiver spending and surcharge collection between the

■ See Surcharges A8



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Snow sits on the mountains surrounding Pagosa Springs on Wednesday morning. A taste of winter returned to the mountains this week, on the heels of Wolf Creek Ski Area announcing it will open for the season on Saturday, Nov. 22.

Town sanitation district board votes to maintain current sewer rates

By Derek Kutzer
Staff Writer

On Nov. 18, the board of the Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District (PSSGID), which also sits as the Pagosa Springs Town Council, passed a resolution to keep monthly sewer rates at the current level of \$71.25 as it explores options to lower rates in the future.

This comes after the board adopted the 2026 budget, which included a staff recommended \$5 increase to the rates.

Town Manager David Harris explained at that budget meeting that the actual fee schedule would be adopted at a future meeting, so if the council wanted to lower the recommended rate down the road, it could do so.

A rate study conducted by Roaring Fork Engineering recommended the \$5 increase, and town staff concurred with these findings, but the council subsequently showed unease raising rates on PSSGID customers after the passage of ballot measure 2A.

The ballot measure asked town voters to raise the town’s sales tax by 1 percent to pay for critical infrastructure to repair and maintain the PSSGID’s troubled uphill conveyance system, and the measure passed with about 76 percent of the vote.

Board member Brooks Lindner worried that raising rates on sewer customers after asking them to raise the sales tax in the election would be “a bad look” for the town.

During public comment, town resident Glenn Walsh asked the board not to raise rates, pleading to the board to “keep the trust of the voters and not increase rates,” suggesting that the board should “freeze” rates or offer discounts.

At the previous budget meeting, board member Leonard Martinez remarked that any increase would “be a hardship for some people.”

At the most recent meeting, Martinez noted that the feedback he had received by going door-to-door during the 2A campaign was that “an increase would be a slap in the face to

■ See Rates A9



Photo courtesy Navajo Nation Christmas Airlift

Krissy and Mark Guenin stand by their plane, surrounded by blankets and clothes they delivered to the Navajo Nation in Gallup, N.M., recently. For several years, several pilots from Pagosa Springs have participated in the Navajo Nation Christmas Airlift, which delivers donated household goods to the Navajo Nation for the needy in their community. The effort delivered approximately 18,000 pounds of donations over three days. The Navajo Nation Christmas Airlift is in its 41st year.



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Opinion

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OUR VIEW

Respecting Mother Nature

With any luck, the rain we've been having will soon turn to being just snow, Wolf Creek Ski Area will be able to open the entire mountain to snow enthusiasts, and Pagosa Country will welcome visitors from far and wide, giving our community a boost for the holidays.

We know we're not alone in looking forward to the winter season, the festive decor, the cozy feeling, the extra time with family, and all the other good and fun things the season brings.

But one thing we hope isn't in our future over the coming season is reporting on anyone being injured or killed in crashes on our roadways. Our community doesn't need any additional heartache now (or ever) because people weren't driving safely.

Whether you've been driving mountain roads in the winter for decades or this will be your first season needing to do so, it's important to remember we need to respect Mother Nature and the snow she delivers (with any luck) because it will affect our roads and, therefore, our driving.

State and local crews put in long days to keep our roads passable and as safe as pos-

sible throughout the winter season, and what they do can seem like pure magic at times. We thank them in advance for what they do. But, we also need to each do our part.

Make sure your vehicle is ready for the winter, and remind yourself of winter driving tips to keep safe.

The Colorado Department of Transportation offers the following winter driving tips:

"Take extra time to clear your car of snow and ice before leaving for your destination."

"There are three actions you do most when you drive: accelerate, turn and brake. In winter weather, you should only do one of those actions at a time. Attempting more than one of these actions at once can cause slide-outs, spin-outs and other harmful scenarios."

"When traveling downhill, if possible, switch to a lower gear and gently tap your brakes. This helps to avoid burning your brakes and it helps keep traction on icy roads."

"Keep momentum when traveling uphill

to avoid getting stuck."

"When driving at night, keep your headlights beams low. High beams can amplify the appearance of snow and lead to decreased visibility."

"Slow down — driving too fast for conditions causes most crashes."

"If you encounter a multi-car collision, stay in your car. You're safer in your car than outside of it."

"Follow Colorado's Left Lane Law. No matter the season, keep right except to pass."

"Signage is your best friend — look ahead and plan ahead for abrupt turns or stops."

"Always wear your seat belt."

"Never drive impaired."

We would add to also never drive distracted.

We're not going to call for snow dances since the rain dances seemed to work a bit too well in October (again, you have to respect Mother Nature), but let's hope for a good snow year. And let's be safe while we enjoy it.

Randi Pierce

LOOKING BACK



From the Nov. 21, 1996, Pagosa SUN — After being relocated, and remaining idle, at a site on the west side of U.S. 84 about 4 miles south of town, the former E.T Walker home was placed on wheels again Friday for what should be its final move. Originally a residence and office for the Walker family which once owned the former San Juan Lumber Company at the juncture of U.S. 160 and U.S. 84, the building is to be relocated on an entry lot at Holiday Acres and restored.

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LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

100 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
November 20, 1925

The American Legion post of Pagosa Springs will give the Thanksgiving dance at the Odd Fellows hall next Thursday night, Nov. 26. The Pagosa Orchestra will provide the music and everybody is invited.

W.J. Nossaman reports that substantial headway is being made on his coal lease prospect on Coal creek, and that from present indications the property will be ready to produce in about two weeks.

R.S. Sullivan, an examiner for the bureau of naturalization, was an official visitor here Wednesday, at which time he permitted William Skutvik and his wife, Elizabeth Skutvik, to file their petitions for prospective citizenship before Reef Egger, clerk of the district court. Mr. Skutvik is a native of Finland, while his wife, though a native of Ohio, lost her citizenship upon her marriage. S.H. Dickerson and Mrs. Hortense Goodman will act as witnesses for the petitioners.

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
November 24, 1950

We wish to take this opportunity to thank Mrs. Harry Smith for the box of new novels and mysteries she so generously presented to the Library. The Library is a busy place these cold days. It is cozy and warm, with plenty of magazines on the reading table and plenty of interesting books to take home with you.

Charles Knowlton won the prize, an electric heating pad, offered for the correct guess on the date of the first snow. He thought his father's birthday would be a good bet, so he said Nov. 15, which was lucky but it didn't happen to be his father's birth date. His hunch was O.K. though.

The local high school team lost their final football game of the season 13-0 Friday afternoon at the Red Ryder Round-Up grounds. The field was exceptionally muddy and made playing difficult. The visitors managed to score twice in the first half, but the locals held the line the last half. The Ignacio team outweighed the Pagosans and played a little better ball all through the game.

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
November 20, 1975

Snow finally arrived in town in sufficient quantities to leave the ground covered. It was wet and heavy and about three inches remained on the ground Wednesday evening. Some rain fell before the snow started falling. It continued until in the afternoon Wednesday. No particular travel problems have been reported because of the storm. Snowfall was not sufficient for Wolf Creek Ski Area to open this weekend.

Fines were heavy in County Court this week on both traffic and game and fish cases. Judge Bert Hyde fined Mrs. Ilene Moore \$100 on charges of leaving the scene of an accident and another \$100 on charges of failing to notify police of an accident. She pled guilty to the charges.

Troy W. Davis, of Aurora, was fined \$200 on charges of aiding and abetting the illegal possession of a doe deer. Richard D. Compton, of Broomfield, Colo., was fined a like amount on the same charges. Troy A. Davis was also fined \$200 and he was charged with the illegal possession.

Robert H. McNeely was also fined \$200. Charges against him were driving while under the influence. All fines were plus court costs.

25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
November 16, 2000

"It's a deal."

That was the summation Thursday by Walt Lukasik, Pagosa Lakes Property Association general manager reporting on a solution to a long-standing problem with a Great Outdoors Colorado grant for trail construction. The \$60,000 grant, approved by GOCO several months ago, hinged on Archuleta County, as the coordinating agency, advancing the funds and then recouping them at a later date from GOCO.

Lukasik said Larry Lynch, PLPOA's property and environment manager and Roxann Hays, county engineer, had worked out an alternative plan that was agreed to by all parties. Under the compromise, the contractor will apply for disbursement directly from GOCO. Lukasik said, "He (the contractor) agreed. GOCO agreed, and we have a done deal. The county will still serve as the project coordinator and the town of Pagosa Springs will remain involved.

Debbie Lucero was the first place winner among women and first place overall in the 10K walk portion of Saturday's Turkey Trot to benefit Ruby Sisson Library. Her husband, Leroy, was first in the men's division and second overall behind his wife. Leroy's effort was lauded by all participants since he suffered a heart attack just three months ago.

The following
weather information
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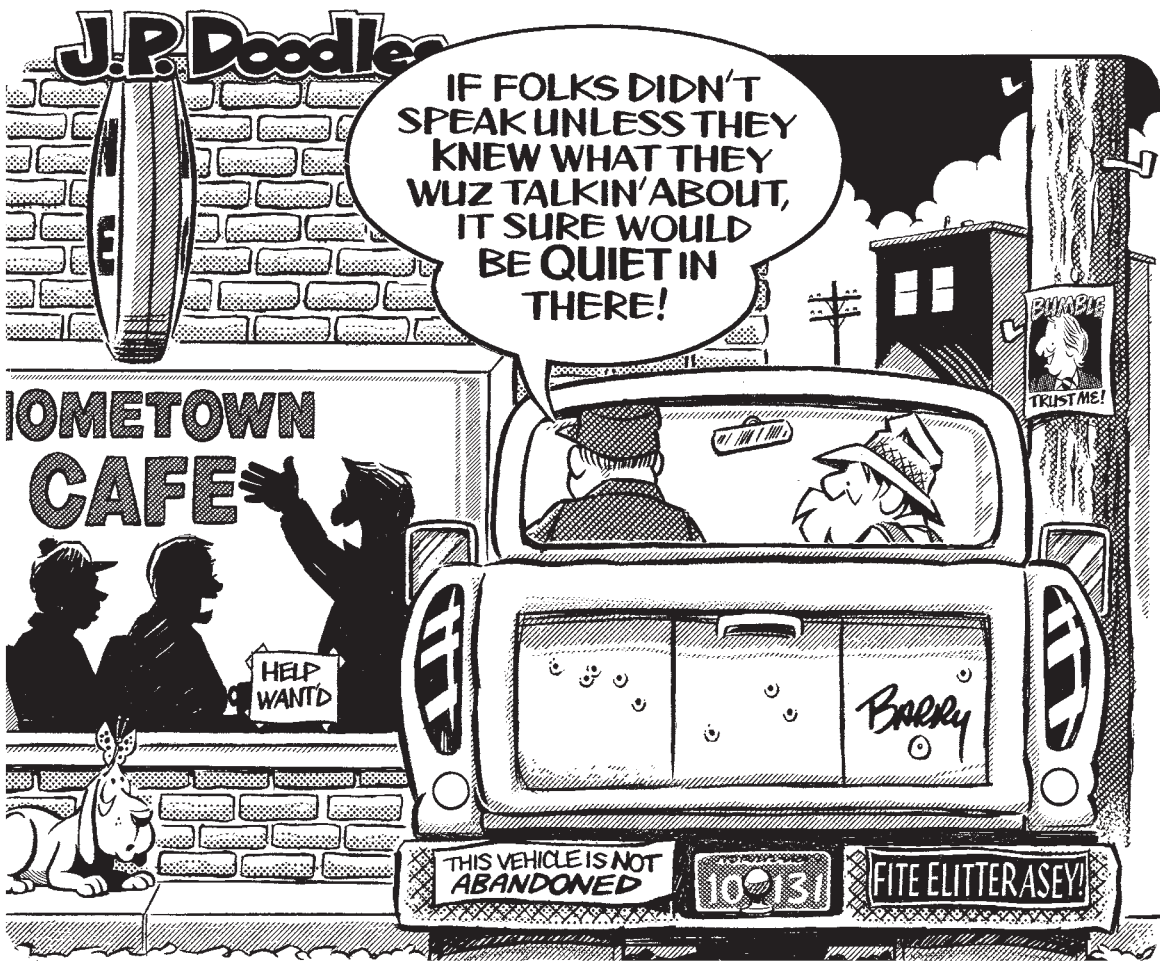


Weather data

Date	High	Low	Precipitation	Moisture	Type	Depth
11/11	61	24	0.00	NA	NA	
11/12	62	25	0.00	NA	NA	
11/13	62	26	0.00	NA	NA	
11/14	63	25	0.00	NA	NA	
11/15	66	26	0.00	NA	NA	
11/16	57	28	0.00	NA	NA	
11/17	41	28	0.44	NA	NA	

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Letters

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

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

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

Park name

Dear Editor:

Even before I finished reading the Sun article under Outdoors; Town council considers names for the new east San Juan Rivers edge/ 84 gateway acquisition I was strapping on armor, my straightforward tough-voice, man! 'I beg of no man' Robin of the hood declared of going cow towing to the south, like town council all demurred of al sissy la-la going asking permission to use a Ute word for our, dis towns own new bought acquisition. Our stuff is our stuff, E se! The past is past and we look for Heroes leading tings progressively forward not loaded down with someone else's old persuasions, leaving their past to their past and not giving away our power or giving credit to others who have nothing to do with Dis, our new river gateway name!

What old jargon dat, presented in THAT complicating things Decision. Dis SHOULD be a reflection of us here now! Present day reflect that 'Brand New' for all us here and now, leaving old trouble well enough alone ova dare, Ore. Let us Make this new parks name a reflection of dis community for just this community!

As for the town council ad; seeking volunteers supporting long range dark sky goals for this community, listen up you. You want dark sky you don't come to lit up town to view it. You find yourself some quiet spot back-country. Don't be bringing that stuff to our downtown, infringing on our well-lighted downtown privilege that needs to be that way to be at all safe locos. I myself like others also, like to clearly see where we're driving, having a well-lit path to do so, unencumbered by a scary dark shadows downtown at night. Poking around a dark downtown at night armed with only a flashlight like has been suggested of kids sitting the downtown sidewalks viewing the night sky downtown that when dimmed-down as it already is, is plenty eewwy stupid scary! And the starry night sky to the end of time will always be everywhere, trust in that E se!

May dis goofy language narrative today wake you from complacency to this Peligro! of a darkened downtown for all for the mere pleasure of adults/ like in the previously presented scenario in the paper/ of adults pushing the childish notion of toning down our downtown lights so they and those armed with flashlights can claim a darkened downtown to view dark sky and what, Get a star for it? With to Get their way Adults, -ghosting the narrative starring clueless to this kiddos. Shame-shame! And now like that's as important to Council also, all for getting a star rating for it. What good does that do this community? Does it Elevate town bring tourists here, No! A darkened town is scary. Light up the town so we can all feel safe see where we're going and that'll bring the night tourists out too, in hoards spending their glorious dollars here.

Carmen Ferguson

In their own eyes

Dear Editor:

"In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes" (ref. verses 17:6, 18:1, 19:1, 21:25, and Deuteronomy 12:8). The biblical book of Judges states this repeatedly. In Biblical scripture, when something is stated more than once, we should pay careful attention to it.

The stories that surround this statement are hideous, and sometimes gruesome. Chapter 19 of Judges explains one of the most outrageous stories in history. If you have not read this book, take the time to do so. How are the world's societies doing here and now? Are we more civilized than those thousands of years ago? Answer: No! Some may think we are, due to chronological snobbery. We keep making widgets to better our way of life, but we are drifting away from what matters most. Having material things is not why we are here. The Westminster Catechism, question 1, asks "What is the chief and highest end of man?" Answer: "...to glorify God, and to fully enjoy Him forever." This is not a flippant comment. The assembly consisted of 121 clergymen, debated and written in 1646-1647. It was adopted in 1648. Though these dates may make the statement seem antiquated, because we are so much more savvy today, it

still holds true.

Ironically, we continue to have "No kings" rallies everywhere. The protesters are claiming that President Trump is acting as a king. This falls flat, considering they are actually allowed to hold these protests. Peacefully, such protests are allowed per the Constitution of the United States of America. This is the longest standing constitution in recent history. The funny thing about this is how the countries with kings either don't have constitutions that endure the pressures of society (France, 16 since 1791), or just have pseudo writings as a place holder for a constitution (the British Empire). Our Constitution is still in place. It is well thought out, debated, amended when necessary, and robust.

Those that don't like the idea that they cannot "do what is right in their own eyes" are the ones that participate in the mindset of these "rallies". We can debate the number of these protesters that are paid to travel around to different locations at the beck and call of their puppet masters. But do you smell something fishy when in countries that actually have a monarchy, these protests are allowed to happen? Are some of the officials in these countries being paid off to allow these to continue? It could be that these protests are just against our Constitutional Republic, and not against the actual kings that reside over these countries. If these protests were legitimately against "kings", then wouldn't they be continual in all 43 countries that have kings? In a true monarchy, such protests would be shut down immediately.

The fact is, these protesters want to "do what is right in their own eyes". They don't want the rule of law.

Eric Fisk

No Kings protest

Dear Editor:

Durango and Pagosa citizens should be proud of their October No Kings Day participation. We did our part to exceed the 3.5% non-violent citizen participation threshold, which is an indicator that authoritarian assertion in America can be stopped without bloodshed. According to local news reports, 3,000 of 20,000 Durangoans (15%) and 550 of 1,900 Pagosans (30%) participated. Our citizenry is doing its part.

The import of No Kings Day participation is demonstrated through the lens of Erika Chenoweth's determination that non-violent civil resistance by 3.5% of the population results in regime change. Chenoweth, a Harvard researcher, studied civil resistance and social movements from 1900 to 2006 aimed at bringing about regime change. Chenoweth's results were published in "Why Civil Resistance Works: The Strategic Logic of Nonviolent Conflict." Notably, of the civil resistance efforts studied, "There weren't any campaigns that had failed after they had achieved 3.5% participation during a peak event," says Chenoweth - a phenomenon she has called the "3.5% rule."

There were about 5 million protesters at the first No King's protest. The October event grew to 7 million. The 3.5% threshold in America requires 12 million participants. With national

news estimating 20 million No Kings supporters, the threshold seems within reach. It is important to attend the next No Kings Day protests and to encourage friends and family who value American freedoms to rise up too. A culture of non-violent defiance is both an American tradition and path to preserving democratic freedoms for everyone.

Terry Mazura

Blatant profanity

Dear Editor:

A saying I often have to tell my children is, 'it's not what you say, it's how you say it'. This is usually in regards to their attitude and tone. This however, is not a saying I am used to having to remind adults of. Adults, in large part, know how to convey a message without being disrespectful (I know what you're thinking. True, this doesn't apply to everyone.)

I view Pagosa, and I think most that live here would agree that it is a great place to raise a family. It's a small wholesome town, spared in large part from the issues of our urban counterparts. People are polite, courteous, and generally want what's best for others.

For this reason, I am confused, and admittedly concerned. I am troubled that on any given Saturday, a drive across town exposes my children to blatant profanity. To the resident weekly protestors in front of the library, do you really think having profanity on your signs is the best way to share your message? Do you think it is appropriate that every child that travels down the road has to be exposed to a prominent F-bomb?

If your message is one that intends to make the world a better place, how can you expect to accomplish that task when you fundamentally fail the most basic of tasks - decency. As adults, we have a responsibility to protect and teach our children how to be good human beings. When children are exposed to tasteless, classless, and blatant disregard by those who say they are arguing for a better world, they are instead taught hypocrisy and disrespect.

Say what you want to say. Share your message. But be mindful of those that read your message. The profanity on protest signs must stop. With freedom comes responsibility. Remember, it's not what you say, but how you say it.

Caleb Monroe

U.S. 160 reconstruction information

Week of Nov. 24-29

Work activity

- U.S. 160: Striping operations were completed on the north side of U.S. 160 in preparation for shifting traffic to the concrete roadway sometime the week of Dec. 2. More details will be posted closer to the traffic shift. Crosswalk striping was also refreshed.
- 400 block: Crews completed the first part of the sidewalk concrete pour from the 4th Street intersection to the Footprints storefront. Downtown customers are encouraged to utilize identified pedestrian detours and access businesses with alternative entries where applicable. The project team is working closely with Visit Pagosa Springs to move pedestrian directional signage accordingly.
- 4th through 8th streets: Streetlight wiring and installation of push-button poles for pedestrians is beginning.
- 500 block: Remaining work includes sanitary sewer, water main line and storm sewer installation.
- 8th Street: Utility work continues across the 8th street intersection. This work will occur primarily at night to reduce impacts.
- The project team will break for the Thanksgiving holiday from Wednesday, Nov. 26, at noon through Sunday, Nov. 30.

Upcoming work

- 5th and Lewis Street: Utility work, grading and road base work will take place in advance of temporary asphalt paving operations between 5th and Lewis Street.
- 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 with potential for work, occasionally, on Sundays.

Watch where you walk and park

- Pedestrian crosswalks are open at 1st, 3rd and 4th streets. Mid-block crossings between 4th Street and 5th Street are closed, but the crosswalk at 5th Street will remain open.
- Parking lots are open at 323 Hot Springs Blvd. and 811 San Juan St. Other public parking is available throughout the downtown.

Mountain Express Transit bus stop information

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

Safety tips for pedestrians

- Watch where you are going. Do not enter the work zone or climb over work zone safety barriers. Construction work may be fascinating, but always prioritize navigating the work zone as safely as you can.
- Pay attention to posted signs in the project area and follow all workers' instructions. Cross streets only at open crosswalks or intersections; walk on sidewalks whenever they are available.
- Be alert for moving construction vehicles and other unexpected hazards, which often move suddenly and quickly. Stay off your phone when crossing the street or walking near the work zone.
- Look out for traffic before crossing the street make eye contact with drivers so you know they see you.

Safety tips for drivers

- Look out for pedestrians and bicyclists everywhere, at all times, and especially in areas near schools, parks, shopping areas and transit stops.
- Slow down as you approach the work zone. Give workers extra room and be prepared to stop.
- Stop before a crosswalk, not in it.
- Obey all traffic signals. All light signals are operational and must be obeyed.
- Put your cellphone down. Never drive distracted or impaired.

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

Traffic impacts

- Motorists could expect up to 15-minute delays at various times through the work zone as equipment may need to be moved.
- There will be two-way traffic flowing in the east-bound lanes of U.S. 160 through the first season of operations.
- A 10-foot width restriction will remain in place 24/7 through Dec. 1.
- During inclement weather, project engineers will assess the roadway and work location to make determinations on work continuing depending on safety concerns for workers and commuters.
- Working hours are Monday through Saturday, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., and subject to change.

Stay informed and connect with the project

- Call the project information line: (970) 335-9230.
- Email the project team: Pagosa160reconstruction@gmail.com.
- Visit the project website: www.codot.gov/projects/us160pagosasprings.

Information provided by Colorado Department of Transportation



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Photo courtesy Pagosa Springs Police Department

A pantry area in the Pagosa Springs High School vocational building is seen following an incident on Nov. 12.

Fire at high school’s vocational building determined to be arson

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

A fire at Pagosa Springs High School’s vocational education building last week has been determined to be arson, according to the Pagosa Springs Police Department Assistant Chief Brooks Brown.

Pagosa Fire Protection District

(PFPD) Deputy Chief Karn Macht explained the incident was paged out as a fire alarm at 3:31 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 12.

The first engine arrived at 3:46 p.m., he noted, and smoke was coming out of the roof.

He added the on-scene caption did a 360-degree look at the scene and saw smoke pushing from the west

side of the structure, and the PFPD started an offensive attack.

Personnel located the fire in the kitchen area and knocked it down, he noted.

He noted the building was confirmed to be evacuated.

PFPD units cleared the scene at 5:49 p.m., according to Macht.

Macht explained Fire Marshal Kelly Robertson and Inspector Mikaela Boehmer immediately pulled in the police department.

Brooks indicated the fire began in a small closet pantry in the kitchen located in the school’s vocation building.

He indicated the investigation and the location led to the arson conclusion.

“It appeared to be intentionally set,” Brooks said.

Brooks noted there is a suspect in the case and that the case has been

sent to the district attorney for review.

Macht reported that three engines, a ladder truck and three support vehicles were used, with nine paid staff members and 11 volunteers working the incident.

In a statement to The SUN, Archuleta School District Superintendent Rick Holt notes the district is “very grateful for the quick response” from the police department and emergency services.

“The routines, practices and procedures we have in place to respond to emergencies were effective in keeping all staff and students safe,” he wrote.

He adds the district is now in the process of “thoroughly cleaning up and repairing the limited damage so that we can get students back to learning valuable career and technical skills.”

randi@pagosasun.com

Obituary

Benjamin Paul Stymfal

Ben was born Dec. 5, 1981, in Steamboat Springs, Colo. He died Nov. 1, 2025, in Austin, Texas. Ben moved to Pagosa Springs with his family in 1995. He graduated PSHS in 2000. He was on the varsity soccer team all four years. He attended Colorado Mountain College in Steamboat Springs, Colo. Ben and Amanda lived in Denver from 2003-2014, then moved back to Pagosa.

Ben loved mountain biking, skateboarding, golf and snowboarding. He loved camping with his children. He loved music and his dog, Donkey. Most of all, he loved his children with all his heart. Everything he did was for

them. He had an amazing sense of humor. He always showed kindness and compassion to everyone he met. Everyone who knew him loved him. We will miss him everyday, and we’re blessed to have him in our lives.

He is survived by his mother, Katherine Johnson; father, Paul Stymfal; sisters, Emily Beach and husband Jake Beach, and Jennifer Stymfal; his four children, Shawn Parker (21), Katy Stymfal (18), Luke Stymfal (5) and Layla Stymfal (2); and mothers of his children, Amanda Parker and Jihae Fortin, his wife of three years; and uncles, aunts, nephews, nieces and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his beloved grandmother, Elzetta Stymfal; grandfathers Peter Stymfal and Arthur Johnson; grandmother Mildred Johnson; and uncle Steve Johnson.

Ben was a believer in Jesus Christ and he is home now in paradise, resting in the endless love of the Lord God. “Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God.” — Matthew 5:8.

Card of Thanks

Marine Corps birthday

The Marine Corps Birthday Committee expresses its appreciation to Mike and Shelly Martinez, who are the new owners of Boss Hogg’s, for providing the venue for the Nov 10th celebration of the 250th Birthday of the Marine Corps. Special thanks to waitstaff members Eliza and Andrea for their outstanding service.

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Business

A time to be thankful and upcoming events

By **Sandy Douthey**
Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce

It's hard to believe we are one week away from Thanksgiving. Where has the time gone? Even if we may feel like we are not quite where we want to be on any number of things, let us remember we get a fresh new start each day, and that there is a reason

to be thankful, even if some days we must search hard for that reason.

Festive and fun events on tap

Curtains Up Pagosa will present a Dr. Seuss favorite, "How the Grinch Stole Christmas: The Musical," with three evening shows at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Nov. 20, 21, 22, as well as an afternoon matinee

on Saturday, Nov. 22, at 2 p.m., all in the Pagosa Springs High School auditorium. Tickets are available at onsthestage.tickets/show/curtains-up-pagosa, with pricing at \$20 for adults, and \$15 for seniors and students. Tickets can also be purchased at the door.

Business Happy Hour is this Friday from 5 to 7 p.m. It will be held at 67 Durango Court, which is house 39 for Habitat for Humanity. Houses 37 and

38 will be open to tour during the happy hour as well. So, please make plans to join the Chamber for a fun event.

Small Business Saturday is Nov. 29. Please make sure we support our local Pagosa Springs businesses by shopping. The shop windows are decorated and ready for us to see what treasures await inside. We want to help our businesses make this a season to remember.

Archuleta County Enterprise Zone boundaries finalized

Region 9 Economic Development District of Southwest Colorado

New Enterprise Zone boundaries go into effect Jan. 1, 2026, and all of Archuleta County is included.

Colorado's Economic Development Commission approved the new boundary designations — which were last updated in 2016 — in October for the next 10 years.

An Enterprise Zone area is a geo-

graphic area that meets distress criteria defined in Colorado statute, which includes unemployment rates, per capita income and population growth rates as compared to the state average.

Designated Enterprise Zones are meant to encourage investment and assist businesses in these distressed areas, which means any business located in the new (or any existing) designated Enterprise Zone areas are eligible for a variety of state tax

credits.

Tax credits include equipment, job creation, job training, rehabilitation of vacant buildings and several other credits.

All information can be accessed at <https://oedit.colorado.gov/enterprise-zone-program> or by searching for Colorado Enterprise Zones.

Archuleta was found to be eligible at the county level, which is evaluated first. If the county had not been

eligible as a whole, individual census tracts and block groups would have been looked at.

In the last redesignation 20 years ago, two Archuleta census tracts were not eligible. They included the east side of U.S. 160 primarily.

To see maps and get more information on how your business or nonprofit organization can benefit, please go to www.region9edd.org/enterprise-zone.

County, tourism board discuss possibility of funding local lodgers' association

By **Clayton Chaney**
Staff Writer

The newly formed Pagosa Lodgers Association recently met with the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) during a work session, with the discussion centered around the possibility of the association receiving funds from the county and what the potential funds would be used for.

Discussions on the matter also took place at recent Pagosa Springs Area Tourism Board meetings, with Commissioner John Ranson asking if the association would be interested in receiving funds if the county were to be able to contribute funding and what it could do with said funds.

The Pagosa Springs Area Tourism Board is a citizen advisory committee to the Pagosa Springs Town Council and BoCC, tasked with the purpose of making specific recommendations relative to expenditures of the 4.9 percent town lodging tax and 1.9 percent county lodging tax, according to the town's website.

The board has nine members, including representatives of real estate, lodging, short-term rentals, recreation/hospitality and the Chamber of Commerce, along with a BoCC member and town council member.

During the Nov. 5 work session with the county, the lodgers' association was represented by Jesse Hensle, Anne-Marie Sukcik, Kelly Spence and John Harper.

"The association promotes strategies that drive overnight stays — heads in beds — and support tourism-driven economic growth," Hensle said, noting its goal is "to increase tourism to the area."

He went on to explain that there's been an ask to see if the association were able to get funds, what would it do with those funds.

Hensle noted his ideas as "merely thoughts," and that the association is in the very beginning stages of cornering what that might look like, though he indicated that the allocation of funds would be used as "purely supplemental."

He explained the association is not asking for funds because of de-

ficiencies or gaps, but sees it as an "opportunity to layer on" different messaging and advertising that the tourism board is doing through Visit Pagosa Springs — the official tourism organization — and potentially give the association more share of voice in position advertising for Visit Pagosa Springs.

Hensle stated that the funds would likely be used for public relations (PR) initiatives that would include things like bringing in media influencers into the community to "tell the story of Pagosa" by focusing on local businesses and requiring that a lodger be highlighted along with other local businesses like restaurants and excursion companies.

Ranson explained that he brought the idea up of funding the association, describing it as a "win-win," while noting there is a lodging representative on the tourism board.

Ranson commented that if the two groups could work together, "we all benefit," explaining the community would benefit from lodgers' and sales tax revenues increasing.

"If funding became available, we'd like to visit with you all," Ranson said.

Hensle also commented on the effects lodgers are seeing due to the flooding events that occurred in October.

"This flood has been devastating to the lodgers," he said, claiming that The Springs Resort and other lodgers have seen a "rash of cancellations" due to viral videos of the flooding events being shared online.

Hensle commented that the lodgers can help control and change the trajectory of bookings with their data, and noted that Visit Pagosa Springs has done "a lot of initiatives" but questioned what the next step is for them.

Hensle stated that The Springs Resort lost about 50 percent of businesses for December "because of the videos. People think that our entire resort has been ravished and the town is gone."

Hensle noted that there "could be a larger issue," but that even when expressing to potential guests that the resort is open, people are still choosing to cancel.

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

33 Fawn Court • \$949,000

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 wildlife 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>

120 Big Horn Court • \$535,000

Under Contract

1231 Ranchland Drive \$290,000
MLS # 829827
40 Acres qualifying for Forest Service Ag, has had significant fire mitigation done and property taxes are under \$200 per year. Borders Ute Indian Reservation and has multiple flat build areas close to power. Single car garage, 3-room insulated bunkhouse on a foundation with a 1200-gallon cistern, 2 wood burning stoves and 2 propane heaters. Solar panels power the 12-volt bunkhouse functions, pump and lights. Garage accommodates a 22' RV, you can live for 2 years on the property when you are building. Pricing does not include the well on the property because the well does not have potable water. The kitchen has refrigerator, stove and sink. This is a gated community close to the Tara Mandela Buddhist Retreat.

Under Contract

470 Terry Robinson Road \$649,000
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.

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109 Carol's Curves \$230,000
MLS # 824583
The mobile home portion of this residence is 500 square feet. 1304 square feet is stick built. There is also a small cabin built in 1993, 576 square feet with bath and studio kitchen. The 1.2 acres is partially fenced for dogs 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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Funding

■ **Continued from A5**
encers to come and stay at the resort this month.

“We’d like to see more of that going on as much as possible,” he said.

Commissioner Warren Brown indicated that he was interested in hearing more about the association’s plans on what it could do if it were to receive money from the county.

Brown commented that unlike the tourism board, “each of you have a specific business interest in making this work.”

He explained that the board might have diverse backgrounds, but all of its members do not necessarily “have a dog in the fight financially,” adding that anytime there is an opportunity to bring in different perspectives it helps the overall situation.

“From the county’s perspective, I do believe it’s a good investment because we’ll get the money back,” Ranson said. “I’m a big fan of this group. I think they can help us.”

Commissioner Veronica Medina asked what the financial ask would be in terms of an actual dollar amount.

Hensle responded explaining that the association has not put together a number yet, noting it was approached by the county with the idea.

He commented that trying to figure out that number would be part of a bigger conversation by “knowing what the piece of the pie could be,” which would lead to knowing what strategies and initiatives are possible.

Medina also asked if it would be a yearly ask if funding were available, or if the association would be able to become self-sufficient at some point.

Hensle indicated that it would likely be a yearly ask, noting that “membership fees, dues or anything like that would never come close to potential tax funds we could get.”

Medina described the situation as “convoluted,” explaining that the funds would not be coming out of the tourism board’s funds, but would rather be an additional line item in the BoCC’s budget.

Medina also questioned if there is a different possibility where funds would be directed from the tourism board to the lodgers association.

“I wouldn’t be opposed to that,” Ranson said, explaining there is a potential lodgers’ tax increase vote coming next year that could raise the county’s lodging tax rate up to 6 percent.

He added, “I could see how it could come out of tourism and justify it,” adding, “that’s not music to their ears, but I truly believe two groups can do so much more than just one.”

Ranson also noted that part of the current funds going toward the tourism board have to be used for marketing.

“I don’t have a concrete answer,” Ranson said, explaining the point is there is a difference in spending and investing and this will give “the whole community” a return on that investment, including businesses and people who own those businesses. “To me, that’s important.”

Medina commented that if it is the plan to pull funds from the tourism board, the BoCC would need to discuss it with the town council.

She went on to express she is glad

to hear the lodgers’ association is wanting to collaborate and that she doesn’t want to hinder it in any way, but her opinion is that “what you want to do, and what tourism is doing— it’s the same thing.”

Medina then questioned why working together hasn’t been an option “since you do have a representative on the board.”

“We’re only one voice,” Hensle replied, “so we don’t really have much of a say or input.”

He questioned how much weight that carries before the town council.

“This would allow us to have a greater share of voice and as part of the people who are contributing to the lodging funds it just seems an alignment to have a larger voice as to how those funds could be used,” Hensle said.

He commented that in trying to work together, there are issues encountered where certain channels can’t be activated, “or they get denied along that path.”

Sukcik commented that the lodgers’ association would be taking a different approach.

“We are looking at the experience in Archuleta, in Pagosa,” she said, explaining that could involve marketing efforts that show people staying in RVs, going to restaurants, going on hot air balloon rides and soaking at The Springs Resort.

She added, “Showing that whole experience to potential visitors” is what the lodgers’ association is thinking about, “which we don’t currently have.”

Hensle commented that there tends to be PR efforts lumped into Colorado as a whole and there aren’t as many stand-alone articles on Pagosa Springs.

“This effort would allow us to go directly after that,” he said.

In a later interview, Ranson explained that no one from the lodgers’ association made a formal request to the BoCC for funding, but that he initiated the conversation in a tourism board meeting “months ago.”

Ranson indicated that “it won’t be this year, but could be next year” as to when the association could receive funding.

Ranson also explained he has only one vote on the BoCC and he was unsure how his fellow commissioners felt on the matter.

Ranson described the situation as being in “just preliminary talks” and that there is “nothing imminent by any stretch.”

Ranson also explained that the funds would be used for more marketing initiatives, while acknowledging that there has been some “history” between the lodgers and the tourism board.

“What I care about is moving forward,” he said, explaining that both groups could coordinate to bring more people, and revenue into the community through lodgers’ and sales tax. “I’m just one of those that believes if we all work together we can do a lot more.”

Ranson added that he has “nothing but respect” for the tourism board and Visit Pagosa Springs Executive Director Jennifer Green’s work, and that he sees the lodgers’ association

helping, not hurting.

“Hopefully start thinking about working together,” Ranson said, explaining that it “works both ways.”

Ranson also discussed information the lodgers can bring to the table.

“They don’t really provide some data that would be extremely helpful,” Ranson said. “If we could get that kind of data it’d be huge.”

He added that, by working together, “that means you guys can help out, too.”

Ranson also explained that even though he believes more can be happening in the marketing realm, “I’m extremely happy and pleased we’re doing as well as we’re doing compared to the rest of the state,” noting that Pagosa has “kind of bucked the trend” positively this year.

“I’m not disappointed whatsoever at the success of the tourism board,” he said, “but I do know that there is room for the hotels to fill more than they are now.”

He added, “I do think that we could actually increase our tourism,” acknowledging that might not be the attitude of everyone in the community.

“But, if we’re gonna be honest with ourselves, we all need the revenue,” he said.

He explained that additional revenue generated from tourism could go toward things like roads and other infrastructure needs in the community.

“We all need more revenue, and that’s a good way to bring it into the community, in my opinion,” he said.

When asked about funds needed for other things in the community, Ranson stated, “I think the marketing will generate funds for those other needs.”

He also noted that one of the “fairly healthy” revenues the community has seen over the year has been on retail sales tax, noting that from the county’s perspective those funds go toward roads.

He also commented on the potential ballot question for 2026 of raising the county’s lodging tax, noting it can go up to 6 percent.

“The majority of that, in my hope, would go towards roads,” he said.

Ranson also commented that the public needs to be able to trust the county if the county wants to pass a ballot question such as raising the lodging tax.

“I truly believe that if we can increase the tourism side of things, that that will flow into areas where we all need funding,” Ranson said.

In regard to what kind of financial ask he anticipates from the lodgers’ association, Ranson indicated, “I think it’s gonna be reasonable.”

He explained he doesn’t anticipate it being anywhere near the amount the county is currently contributing to the tourism board.

“I would not be in favor of that kind of level,” he said, indicating he would be in favor of “a lot smaller amount.”

He added, “We certainly don’t need both of them spending that kind of money.”

According to Green, the county contributed \$570,686 in lodging tax revenues to the tourism board in

2024, and that \$575,000 was budgeted for 2025.

When asked about what type of marketing would be performed by the lodgers’ association, Ranson indicated that he predicts it will be “somewhat generic,” similar to the tourism board’s initiatives, but with a different perspective.

“They’re gonna have to lay out a generic plan,” he said, expressing he would not be in favor of marketing that highlights specific individuals or businesses.

Tourism board meeting

More information on current sales tax collections was shared later that day during the Nov. 5 tourism board meeting, with Green indicating that September lodging tax collections “ended up 4.19 percent up,” or \$3,272 over last year.

She noted the year-to-date collections are up slightly over 10 percent, or around \$66,000.

Green also explained that she attended a state conference on tourism recently, indicating that it was not the most encouraging conference, stating there is “turmoil and headwinds in tourism, and our numbers are one of the few in the state that are up right now.”

She added, “Perhaps some challenging times with tourism.”

The tourism board also heard a Chamber report, with a Chamber representative indicating that based on self-reports from businesses in the community, 43.3 percent of business reports were down more than 20 percent in September 2025 compared to September 2024.

The representative noted that 20 percent of businesses are reporting being down 10 to 20 percent in the same comparison, and 16.7 percent of businesses are reporting being down 5 to 10 percent.

“Again this is all self-reporting,” the representative stated.

A lodgers’ association report was also given during the tourism board meeting by board member Sarah Mashue, who expressed that the flooding events that occurred in October significantly affected lodgers.

She indicated that The Springs Resort reported more than 300 cancellations and that “December is looking soft.”

■ **See Funding A7**



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The Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs extends heartfelt thanks to all who made this year’s Jewels & Jeans Barn Dance a success—our attendees, sponsors, and generous silent auction donors. Your support and enthusiasm make a lasting difference in our community.

We are also deeply grateful to the individuals and businesses whose continued generosity fuels Rotary’s outreach programs and scholarships for 2025, ensuring we can keep serving where we are needed most. Together, you embody the true spirit of our motto, “Service Above Self.”

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State launches rebates to make home energy improvements more affordable for Colorado families

State of Colorado

The Colorado Energy Office (CEO) launched its first set of consumer-facing rebates through its federally funded Home Energy Rebate Program on Thursday, Nov. 13.

The rebates will provide up to \$14,000 in savings per qualified household to make eligible energy upgrades in single-family and manufactured/mobile homes.

Funding for these incentives comes from the Home Electrification and Appliance Rebate (HEAR) program established by the Inflation Reduction Act.

These rebates will help Colorado families save money on a number of upgrades from electric heating and appliances to insulation and air sealing to electric panels and wiring.

“Coloradans want access to clean-energy technology to save money,

and these rebates will help accomplish that. These rebates can help more Coloradans make a variety of home upgrades that will bring down energy costs and provide more efficient home heating and cooling,” said Gov. Jared Polis.

Electrification and efficiency upgrades can not only save Coloradans money, but also improve indoor air quality, make homes safer and more comfortable, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and ease demand on the electric grid during critical stress periods.

“Burning fossil fuels in buildings, such as for heating and water heating, is among the leading sources of greenhouse gas emissions in Colorado,” said CEO Executive Director Will Toor. “These incentives will make innovative and efficient technologies that improve home health and safety more affordable, and will save people

money on their energy bills, while playing a key role in achieving our climate goals. These are the biggest home energy incentives the state has offered to date, and we’re excited to work with Colorado families to move closer toward net-zero emissions by 2050.”

Income-qualified Coloradans living in single-family homes and manufactured/mobile homes can currently access up to \$14,000 in rebates through the HEAR program.

Coloradans must work with a registered program contractor in order to get a rebate, ensuring households receive quality service from trained and certified professionals.

Registration is now open for contractors to participate in the program, and more than 55 contractors across Colorado have started the registration process. The contractor list, available at <https://bit.ly/49whezD>, will con-

tinue to expand over the next several weeks as contractors complete the required training, onboarding and registration.

Contractors interested in joining the Home Energy Rebate Program registered contractor network can learn more on the program’s contractor webpage at <https://energyoffice.colorado.gov/home-energy-rebates-contractors>.

Contractors will conduct a home assessment to help identify which improvements are right for each home. In the meantime, households can begin submitting an online application to verify eligibility and income-level at <https://bit.ly/4i6AVQL>.

The registered contractor will then get approval and install the upgrades, subtracting the approved rebate amount from the upfront project cost.

Both homeowners and renters can get rebates for eligible improvements. Renters applying for rebates will need their property owner to complete the “Landlord Authorization for Participation Form” in the online application.

In some cases, Coloradans may combine HEAR rebates with other incentive programs. Residents can explore other incentives using the Colorado Energy Savings Navigator at <https://puc.colorado.gov/energy-savings>. Registered contractors will be trained to help customers navigate combining multiple incentives.

Coloradans can learn more about the program, income qualification requirements, eligible upgrades and rebate amounts on the Home Energy Rebate Program webpage (<https://energyoffice.colorado.gov/home-energy-rebates>) and in the Frequently Asked Questions (<https://energyoffice.colorado.gov/ira-rebate-faq>), which are both available in English and Spanish.

HEAR rebates for small multifamily buildings will become available in 2026.

CEO also plans to launch a companion program, the Home Efficiency Rebate, which will provide an additional \$56 million to fund energy efficiency improvements in large multifamily buildings and mobile/manufactured homes, next year.



Photo courtesy Colorado Department of Transportation

Striping operations are complete on the north side of U.S. 160 on the east end of Pagosa Springs in preparation for a traffic shift sometime the week of Dec. 2.

Funding

■ Continued from A6

Mashue indicated that at least four other lodging properties had reported cancellations due to the flooding events.

Mashue also explained the lodgers’ association met with the BoCC to discuss potential funding and opportunities to work together.

Tourism board member Shane Prince asked how that would work with the lodgers’ association potentially being funded by the county.

Green explained that funds for the association could come from lodging tax collections, with Ranson explaining it could be that or an “alternative.”

“I believe strongly that two organizations marketing is a good thing for this community,” Ranson said.

Tourism board and town council member Gary Williams inquired as to how many rooms the lodgers’ as-

sociation represents, to which Green indicated it is a little over 400.

Williams then asked how many rooms Wyndham has, with Prince answering 463.

“So, could Wyndham ask the county for lodging tax also?” Williams asked.

Wyndham is not a current member of the newly formed lodgers’ association.

Tourism board member Rosanna Dufour indicated that nobody from the lodgers’ association asked for funds, but that they were approached with the idea by a county commissioner.

“They didn’t come asking for money,” Ranson said, explaining he was the one to first approach the lodgers’ association with the idea.

Prince described the situation as a “fascinating concept,” in that associations can request money from

public entities.

In response to a question from the board, Green indicated that Visit Pagosa Springs has “a lot of ads in place,” including extra paid Meta efforts showing the current situation of the town and the river.

Green indicated that the board has “well over \$100,000” of marketing dollars in action right now.

The board also discussed having a meeting with the lodgers’ association before the end of the year.

It was ultimately decided that the board would invite the lodgers’ association to a work session in conjunction with its next regular meeting, scheduled for Dec. 3 at 4 p.m.

Additional information on that meeting including the agenda and Zoom link can be found online on the town’s website, pagosasprings.co.gov.

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Canned Meats (tuna and chicken)	Dry Breakfast Cereal (such as cheerios or corn flakes)
Canned Pasta Sauce	Dry Milk Powder
Canned Soups (meat and vegetarian)	Jelly
Canned Tomatoes (all styles)	Oatmeal
Canned Vegetables (mixed veggies or individual such as green beans, carrots, or corn)	Pasta Noodles, dry
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FEMA

■ **Continued from front**

ing roads and bridges, and damaging critical water and wastewater infrastructure. Today, I am formally requesting federal FEMA support to supplement our ongoing recovery efforts. Damage from these floods has devastated families, local economies and essential public systems. Colorado is asking the federal government to join us in partnership so we can help La Plata, Archuleta and Mineral counties recover as quickly and safely as possible,” Polis said.

Polis verbally declared a disaster emergency on Oct. 12, activating the State Emergency Operations Plan and authorizing initial state support. This was later memorialized in Executive Order D 2025 021, which unlocked \$6 million in state funding for flood response and recovery.

The state sent field and emergency operations personnel to all three counties and led extensive damage assessments alongside local partners.

Local jurisdictions declared their own emergencies beginning Oct. 11 and requested state assistance as hundreds of homes were threatened or inundated, levees broke and roadways washed out across the region. Despite this damage, thankfully no fatalities or injuries were reported.

“Last month, Southwest Colorado experienced record-breaking and devastating flooding. I strongly support Governor Polis’ request for federal assistance in La Plata County, Archuleta County and Mineral County as they navigate this recovery. These communities are already facing the disastrous impacts of one of the worst fire seasons in our state’s history, and without additional support they could experience unsafe drinking water, difficulty accessing their homes and businesses, and ongoing hazards from the floods. I am urging the president to declare a Presidential Major Disaster Declaration immediately,” said U.S. Sen. Michael Bennet.

“October’s flooding reshaped entire communities in just a matter

of days. It’s now critical for the federal government to stand with the people of La Plata, Archuleta and Mineral counties as they rebuild. The president fulfilling this disaster declaration will deliver critical help at a moment when rural Colorado needs it most,” said U.S. Congressman Jeff Hurd.

“La Plata County is grateful for Governor Polis’ action seeking to unlock FEMA resources to help repair the public infrastructure affected by the October flooding events in Southwest Colorado. The storms caused significant damage to county roads and bridges that provide essential access to our communities and ensuring their safety going forward is of critical concern to the county. Gov. Polis’ request for FEMA support for this vital and unanticipated work is much needed and appreciated,” said Marsha Porter-Norton, chair of the La Plata County Board of County Commissioners.

“Archuleta County has been involved in two declared emergencies over the course of the last 90 days. On Oct. 11, Archuleta County sustained unprecedented flooding due to tropical storm Priscilla and 36 hours later, tropical storm Raymond. Individually each storm accounted for the third and fourth highest ever recorded events since 1911, with 1927 being the most recent prior highest flood event. As a resilient county with limited resources and funding available, we are truly grateful for the support that Governor Polis has shown us in the last few months. We strongly support the governor’s request for a Major Disaster Declaration to unlock FEMA support and federal assistance to augment Archuleta County’s recovery efforts,” said Archuleta County Sheriff Mike Le Roux.

FEMA has validated \$13,820,036 in damages to public infrastructure, with the vast majority impacting Category C: Roads and Bridges, where more than 60 miles of road and associated culverts, drainage structures,

and embankments were destroyed or severely compromised.

Additional verified damages include widespread debris removal needs; significant impacts to water control facilities such as the Big Meadows Reservoir; major sewer system failures in Pagosa Springs and the San Juan River Village Metro District; and severe damage to parks, riverwalks and recreation infrastructure that support local economies.

Damage totals are expected to rise as further assessments continue.

The western Colorado flooding destroyed or damaged essential drinking water and wastewater infrastructure, including near-total sewer system failures in the Pagosa Springs area. Floodwaters breached levees, triggered evacuations for nearly 400 homes, prompted multiple boil-water advisories and caused at least 11 high-water rescues by local first responders.

Rivers reached historic levels — including the San Juan River’s third-highest crest since 1911 — and debris flows, sediment deposits and rechanneling of waterways have created long-term risks for residents living along Vallecito Creek, the Piedra River and the San Juan River basin.

Due to these cascading and ongoing hazards, the state is also requesting activation of the HMGP, which would support slope stabilization, erosion control, debris basin construction, hardening of critical infrastructure and updated early-warning systems to protect communities from repeated flooding events.

Legislators urge president to make declaration

Colorado U.S. Sens. Bennet and John Hickenlooper, and Colorado U.S. Reps. Hurd, Lauren Boebert, Jeff Crank, Jason Crow, Diana DeGette, Gabe Evans, Joe Neguse and Brittany Pettersen sent a letter in support of Polis’ request to Trump for a presidential major disaster declaration

and activation of public assistance for La Plata County, Archuleta County and Mineral County in response to the historic and devastating flooding that began in mid-October.

“Communities throughout La Plata County, Archuleta County, and Mineral County have suffered significant damage and losses as a result of heavy rainfall and severe, record-breaking flooding, including debris and mud flows that occurred from October 11 through October 14, 2025. These events destroyed homes, businesses, and private property, and caused extensive damage to wastewater systems and miles of county roads,” wrote the lawmakers.

The letter continues, “Successful recovery is essential to restoring the County’s [sic] economy, which has already faced a devastating fire season in addition to the catastrophic effects of flooding on infrastructure and private property. Without additional support, residents could face drinking water disruptions, unsafe homes and businesses, and challenges accessing their property. In addition, residents are facing ongoing hazards from the flooding, including dangerous debris, and threats to water quality and drinking water infrastructure,” continued the lawmakers.

In the letter, the lawmakers stress that the historic flooding destroyed public and private property, in addition to causing extensive damage to wastewater systems and miles of county roads. They underscore that Southwest Colorado needs federal assistance to recover.

A presidential major disaster declaration unlocks additional loans, insurance relief and other critical assistance.

This is the second presidential major disaster declaration request from Polis that the full Congressional Colorado Delegation has supported. Trump has not yet responded to Polis’ major disaster declaration request for the Lee and Elk fires in Colorado during August.



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Surcharge

■ **Continued from front**

water and wastewater funds, Walsh commented that he would be more supportive of projects with larger amounts of community funding beyond PAWSD, such as where the “whole community” is contributing \$50,000 to \$60,000 in discounts to a \$325,000 home.

PAWSD board member Bill Hudson questioned if the board would need to hold a public hearing or post public notice to remove fees.

PAWSD Programs Manager Renee Lewis explained that the board would need to give 30 days public notice and vote to end the fees at a public meeting.

Walsh stated that the district should have an ordinance that it could read on the fee removals.

He added that PAWSD staff could also move forward with the budgeting process assuming that the surcharges would not be collected in 2026.

Hudson commented that he was “fine” with the surcharge ending.

PAWSD board member Bruce Jones commented that he is a proponent of ending the fees.

He explained that he feels not having the fees would allow the district to consider “individuals as individuals.”

“I think when we tell the community we’re taking something for a reason, we then have an obligation to provide that in some way, while as I think that maybe the current board’s focus isn’t necessarily not helping the community, but, at the same time, let’s not put ourselves in an obligatory state to have to do something,” Jones said.

PAWSD board member Alex Boehmer commented that he was strongly in favor of getting rid of the surcharge as he likes keeping rates low and the board rarely has an opportunity to cut something from its bills.

“Anything we can do to keep our bills as low as possible and provide good water and sewer, I’m for it, so I’d love to see those charges disap-

pear,” he said.

Taugtes commented that his wife and he benefited from a low-interest Colorado Housing and Finance Authority loan in the past, but that they would still be here without that loan and, at that point, there were no subsidies from any local government entity for affordable housing.

“To me, it all boils back down to, we’re a water and sanitation district, let’s get as good as we can at that and let the other people in the community ... with whatever their resources are get better, get bigger, whatever it is,” Taugtes said.

Walsh noted that the district is imposing high fees on small housing projects, meaning that there are issues that the district needs to address.

Taugtes commented that this is a good point, but a different issue, in his opinion.

He concluded the discussion by noting he feels it is “fair to assume” that PAWSD staff had direction to move forward with the 2026 budget-

ing process assuming that the affordable housing surcharges will be terminated in 2026.

josh@pagosasun.com

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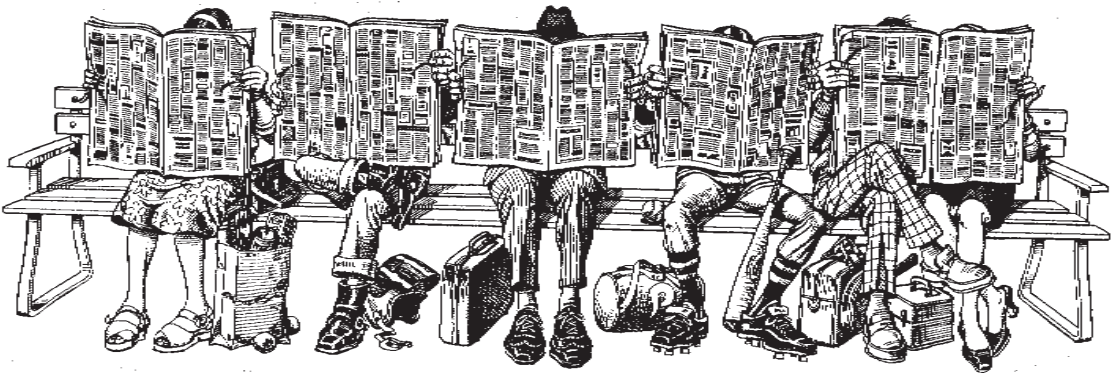
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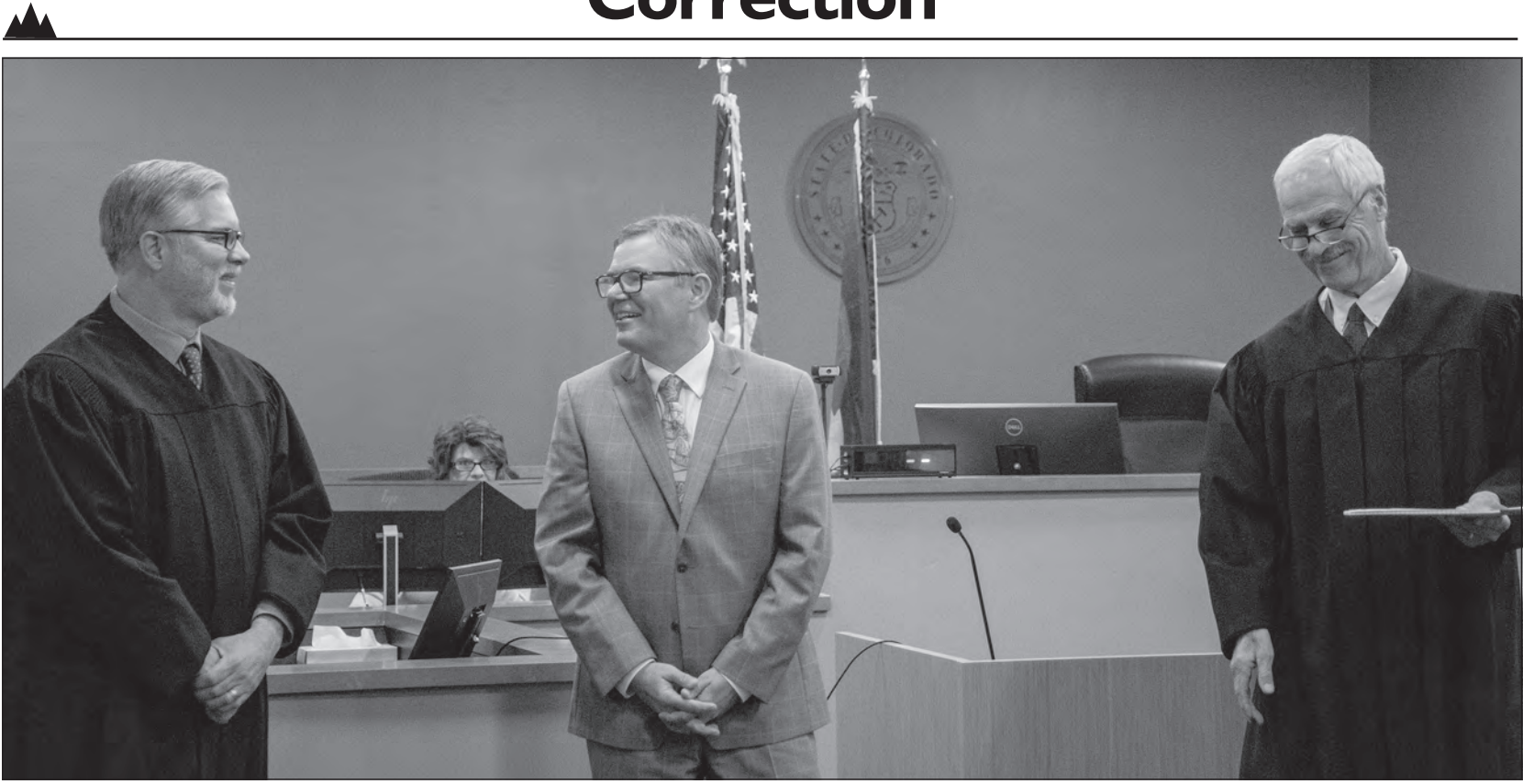
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SUN photo/Randi Pierce
Archuleta County’s new county court judge, Anthony Edwards, center, addresses the crowd after being sworn into his new role on Nov. 12. Edwards previously served as San Juan County Court judge since 2014. Edwards was sworn in by Sixth Judicial District Chief Judge Jeffrey R. Wilson, right. On the left is R. Reid Stewart, who will take a position on the district court docket in January following Wilson’s retirement.

2026 Pagosa Springs Medical Center budget predicts increased patient volume and costs

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

Pagosa Springs Medical Center (PSMC) anticipates increases in both patient volumes and costs in 2026, according to the approved budget for the facility.

The organization is also expecting the highest gross revenues in its history.

The Upper San Juan Health Service District Board of Directors, which oversees PSMC, approved the budget, appropriated funds and set mill levies at its Oct. 28 meeting.

In presenting the budget to the board, Chief Financial Officer Chelle Keplinger explained there’s not a lot of room for capital in the budget, but 2026 is anticipated to be the district’s first time going over \$100 million in gross revenue.

“In 2026, Pagosa Springs Medical Center (“PSMC”) will continue to offer hospital services, outpatient clinic services and EMS/ambulance services and an expansion of physical therapy, occupational therapy and pain management,” the budget’s overview states. “PSMC’s goals for 2026 are set forth in PSMC’s Strategic Plan last approved by the Board of Directors in January 2024. The proposed budget positions PSMC to carry out the Strategic Plan and to pivot to meet unplanned demands.”

The budget overview also looks at challenges and successes the district has and will face, including staffing, housing in the community and federal legislation.

“Preparing the budget for PSMC

always requires addressing a number of unknown variables,” it states. “In planning the 2026 budget, we are finally seeing some trending happening to revenue since the pandemic. As we look back at 2025, PSMC spent a significant amount of money on contract labor due to the lack of staff; we continue to work diligently to hire full-time employees to replace the contract labor. We have had some hiring success in 2025 and we look forward to additional successes in 2026. We know PSMC will face many challenges in 2026, but we anticipate the greatest challenges will continue to be the cost of staffing resulting from both a nationwide shortage of healthcare workers, a lack of economical housing in Archuleta County and the recently passed ‘Big Beautiful Bill.’”

During the meeting, Keplinger explained that due to the passage of the federal bill, they moved all of the expanded Medicare population to self-pay, noting there is belief those people will continue to seek care.

Board member Erik Foss noted he wants to be sure PSMC has the ability to adjust, stating he doesn’t believe people will seek care until they need the Emergency Department and PSMC will see its bad debt increase.

“I just want us to be prepared,” he said.

Keplinger responded that she didn’t disagree, adding she believes they will seek care through the Emergency Department or not and when they come in it could be bad.

She noted she figured in the budget

PSMC would collect 10 percent of the gross charges on those patients.

During discussion on the budget, board member Wayne Hooper also noted the importance of the property tax revenue the district receives, suggesting it moves them from floundering to being a productive hospital.

The district anticipates receiving \$2,326,268 in property tax revenue on 3.884 mills in 2026.

Budget assumptions

PSMC’s budget states several assumptions relating to revenue and expenses.

With respect to revenues, the budget lists the following 2026 budget assumptions:

- A foundation transfer to PSMC of \$300,000 which represents funds raised for the remodel of the Emergency Department, as well as additional capital requests.
- An average 13.59 percent increase in patient volume and an average 4 percent increase in prices.
- Anticipated increases in revenues in the Infusion Center due to steady growth, pain management due to expansion of the service line, surgery due to the increased staffing of an additional orthopedic surgeon and pain management, respiratory due to the addition pulmonary function test equipment and a full-time pulmonologist, cardiology due to having on-site cardiology twice a month, and expansion of therapy services due to the Medical Wellness Building being open.

scenario of combating an electric vehicle fire within its district.

“Right now, there’s still not a consistent method for attacking fires, those type of fires,” PFPD Chief Robert Bertram said.

PFPD Deputy Chief Karn Macht commented that the district has some training bulletins on dealing with electric vehicle fires.

“It seems like more and more, we’re getting a lot of [electric vehicles] in this town, and putting water on those isn’t a good thing,” PFPD board member Linda Lattin commented.

Bertram also explained, “Right

With respect to expenses, the budget lists the following assumptions:

- PSMC’s largest expense continues to be labor. The budget assumes a 3 percent increase in wages to employees without an employment agreement, including the primary care providers. The budget includes a net increase of 9.03 full-time equivalents.
- Increase (inflation) in costs for the following: 5 percent in medications, 4 percent for insurance, 4 percent for employee health insurance plan and 4 percent for utilities.
- PSMC will continue to see increased costs needed to enhance its facilities.
- Other expense increases are department specific based on what projects are expected to be completed in 2026.

By the numbers

The budget predicts a bottom line of \$65,401 for the district in 2026.

PSMC’s budget anticipates the organization receiving \$49,399,566 in net patient revenues, \$1,472,900 in other operating income and \$229,594 in operating grants for total net revenues of \$51,102,060.

The budget anticipates \$54,262,927 in total expenses, leaving an operating loss of \$3,160,867.

Nonoperating revenues — including property taxes, investment income and capital grants and contributions — are anticipated to total \$3,226,268, helping the district to its bottom line of \$65,401.

randi@pagosasun.com

now, there’s still not a consistent method for attacking fires, those types of fires.”

He added different theories are being used and noted that the fire district for Albuquerque, N.M., uses a roll-off dumpster the vehicle is placed in and fills it with water.

Bertram noted that other methods consist of burying the vehicle, or letting it burn, while estimating that anywhere from 30,000 to 40,000 gallons of water is needed to put out an electric vehicle fire.

“We don’t have that water supply,” he said.



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Outdoors

San Juan National Forest begins pile burning

U.S. Forest Service

The San Juan National Forest is planning to ignite slash piles as early as the week of Nov. 17, pending all required approvals and when there is sufficient snow or rain present to prevent fire spread.

Pile burning will continue as long as conditions allow, possibly through April 2026.

Slash piles are generated from forest thinning and timber sales. Thinning projects improve forest health and wildlife habitat and reduce the risk of wildfire near private residences and other infrastructure. Thinning slash is piled and burned to remove the debris that would fuel wildfire.

Pile burns planned for the Pagosa Ranger District include:

- Buckles Lake Road, 13 acres. Piles from the Coyote Park Timber Sale adjacent to U.S. 84 and National Forest System Road (NFSR) 663.
- Kenny Flat, 128 acres. Piles from

Halfway Kenny Timber Sale adjacent to U.S. 84 and NFSR 006.

- Valle Seco, 26 acres. Hand piles from thinning operations in Valle Seco. Boles of thinned trees were harvested for firewood by local residents. Adjacent to U.S. 84 and NFSR 653.
- Mariposa, 439 acres. Piles from the Mariposa Timber Sale, adjacent to NFSR 024, Porcupine Road.
- Gobbler, 178 acres. Piles from the Gobbler Timber Sale, adjacent to NFSR 919 and Forest Service trails 307 and 303.
- Lower Turkey, 12 acres. Hand piles from thinning operations NFSR 628. Boles of thinned trees were harvested for firewood by local residents. Adjacent to Forest Service Road 628.
- Huerto, 183 acres. Piles from Huerto Creek Timber Sale, adjacent to NFSR 631.

Pile burns planned for the Columbine Ranger District include:

- Animas Overlook, 160 piles, 7.5

acres. Near Animas Overlook on Junction Creek Road (NFSR 171).

- Junction Creek Road, 32 piles, 15 acres. Mile marker 3 on Junction Creek Road (NFSR 171).
- Ellington Lane, 100 piles, 4 acres. Near Old Timers' Day Use area, southeast corner of Vallecito Reservoir (NFSR 603).
- Falls Creek, 380 piles, 34 acres. South of Falls Creek Ranch subdivision (CR 205).
- High Meadows, 30 piles, 26 acres. Northeast of Falls Creek Ranch subdivision (CR 205).
- North Fosset Gulch, 100 piles, 32 acres. Near mile marker 1 on Fosset Gulch Road (NFSR 613).
- South Fosset Gulch, 15 piles, 1 acre. Near mile marker 5.5 on Fosset Gulch Road (NFSR 613).

No pile burning activities should affect public access or use of the forest. Watch for warning signs along roads near prescribed fire areas before and during burns.

Residents may experience smoke

during the prescribed burns. When driving, slow down and turn on your headlights when you encounter smoke on the road. Burning will only occur when all conditions of the state-issued smoke permit are met.

Learn how smoke from wildfires, prescribed burns and pile burns may affect your health by visiting the Colorado Department of Public Health website: www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/wood-smoke-and-health. For more detailed information about air quality, go to AirNow online or download the app.

The Forest Service will evaluate weather conditions in the hours before a burn begins. If conditions warrant, scheduled prescribed fire activities may be canceled.

Stay informed about the scheduled prescribed fires through Inci-Web and the San Juan National Forest Facebook page. The agency will notify county emergency management officials when burning begins.

CPW seeking public input on draft Beaver Conservation and Management Strategy through Dec. 17

Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) has released its draft Beaver Conservation and Management Strategy and is seeking public input through Dec. 17.

The draft strategy is now available for review on EngageCPW.org.

Beavers occupy a broad range across North America, including Colorado. Today, a major wildlife conservation movement is emerging to prioritize the ecosystem benefits from this species and increase occu-

pation in appropriate habitats.

As Colorado's wildlife management agency, CPW has managed beavers for decades, and staff, stakeholders and the public have increasingly called for a more proactive and coordinated approach.

The purpose of the Beaver Conservation and Management Strategy is to increase and sustain beaver and beaver-influenced wetlands in suitable habitats across the state. These wetlands support healthy stream systems and wetland ecosystems and a wide range of wildlife species that

rely on them.

The draft beaver strategy provides a framework for greater leadership, coordination and resources to support beaver conservation and management on key topics, including:

- Population and habitat status and monitoring.
- Beaver harvest management.
- Beaver restoration opportunities.
- Living with beaver and nonlethal conflict resolution.
- Translocation policy and protocol.

Colorado Backcountry Search and Rescue surcharge fee increases

Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) is increasing the Colorado Backcountry Search and Rescue Program (BSAR) fee on wildlife licenses and boat, snowmobile and off-highway vehicle (OHV) registrations to \$1.25 to increase funding support for county search-and-rescue teams and local volunteers.

The previous BSAR fee was set at 25 cents and has not changed since 1987. The newly increased fee, now adjusted to \$1.25, is a necessary step to reflect the current customer price index, taking into account inflation, as well as the increase in search-and-rescue incident responses and the number of highly challenging and risky rescues over the last 15 years.

In response to significantly more calls for help, the cost of search-and-rescue administration, training

and equipment has also increased over the years, necessitating this fee increase.

Current law dictates that CPW has one opportunity to increase the BSAR fee to a base level, after which point this fee may only be increased by the Consumer Price Index.

Colorado is home to around 50 search-and-rescue organizations, which are 100 percent volunteer-based and provide search-and-rescue services free of charge to individuals lost, injured or stranded in the backcountry. While these organizations are county-based and coordinated through county sheriffs or county governments, CPW provides support and funding from the statewide level.

CPW sells products that incorporate funding for search-and-rescue teams, including the Colorado Outdoor Recreation Search and Rescue

Card and the Keep Colorado Wild Pass.

These are crucial as the demand for outdoor recreation increases in Colorado, directly impacting the need for search-and-rescue services. Outdoor enthusiasts from various recreational communities, who hunt, fish, boat, hike, snowmobile and drive OHVs in Colorado, all contribute to the Colorado BSAR fund.

"We're constantly amazed by the dedicated volunteer search-and-rescue professionals across Colorado who are ready to mobilize and help people in a time of need when they become stranded, lost or injured in the backcountry," said CPW BSAR Manager Perry Boydston. "These types of outdoor rescues often require a specific type of training and gear, so it's really important that our statewide BSAR program accurately provides our local teams with funding

Public input opportunities

Members of the public are invited to review the draft and provide feedback through EngageCPW.org from now through Dec. 17.

Input received will be considered by CPW staff to help inform the final version of the Beaver Conservation and Management Strategy.

CPW expects to release the final strategy in February 2026.

To learn more and provide input, visit EngageCPW.org.



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Five ways to get your vehicle ready for winter

Colorado State Patrol

Predictions for Colorado's winter forecast have ranged from a "classic winter wonderland" with very cold and snowy conditions to a "mostly mild, with pockets of wild" featuring fluctuating snow and temperatures depending upon the region of the state.

Whether sustained or sudden, all Coloradans will likely experience some cold, wet and icy conditions over the next six months.

"The first few snow and ice events of every season seem to create a bit of havoc on our roadways," stated Col. Matthew C. Packard, chief of the Colorado State Patrol (CSP). "In fact, November was our peak 'winter-weather' month for crashes last year, with troopers responding to over 2,030 crashes. It's time for drivers to change their mindset and driving behaviors to match the road conditions."

Most of the crashes investigated by the CSP last November were property damage (84 percent), causing thousands of drivers headaches with the insurance process, costs, parts availability and repair shop workload.

"This is also the time of the year when we begin seeing more vehicles stuck or stopped on the side of the road unnecessarily," explained Packard. "If drivers don't take care of their vehicles and prepare them for winter, this is when it shows."

Five ways to get your vehicle winter ready

- Maintain your tires: The quality of your tires is paramount. All vehicles in Colorado are required to have

adequate traction. Colorado defines acceptable tires as those with a tread depth of at least three-sixteenths of an inch, and which are rated for either "All weather" or "mud and snow." Remember, as the air temperature drops, tire pressure can decrease. Keep an eye on your tire pressure and fill them to reduce the risk of punctures, blow-outs and reduced handling.

- Maintain your battery: Cold weather can strain your battery, so keep your battery fully charged. When possible, park in a warm or protected location (e.g., garage or sheltered spot), use a battery blanket and avoid short trips that don't allow enough time for your battery to charge fully.

- Check your fluids: Every fluid in your vehicle will help it perform better during colder months. Change your oil and filters, flush and refill

coolant/antifreeze, and refill your windshield wiper fluid.

- Visibility is key: Don't wait until the first snowfall to get a snow brush and scraper for your car. And now is the time to put on a fresh set of windshield wipers.

- Pack an emergency kit: Getting caught in a snowstorm doesn't just happen when traveling in the mountains. Whether sitting in a line due to a crash, waiting due to a road closed due to conditions, or sliding off and getting stuck, your kit may save your life. Be sure to have a first-aid kit, shovel, thermal blanket and snacks.

Winter is beautiful and a bit unpredictable in Colorado, but making sure your vehicle is ready ahead of the storm can go a long way.

The CSP wants residents and visitors to be winter ready during our cold, snow and ice season.



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A Cut above



Southwest Conservation Corps crews clears flood debris. The crews cleared nearly four acres of flood debris along the San Juan River.

Photo courtesy Christi Bode

Community Foundation commits \$15,000 dollar-for-dollar match to assist with flood recovery

By Rachel Rosenthal
Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado

The Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado has committed \$15,000 to go toward a dollar-for-dollar match for new donations made to the Archuleta Community Emergency Relief Fund (CERF) to assist the Town of Pagosa Springs in procuring FEMA funding to clean and repair town parks damaged by unprecedented flooding in October. The Archuleta CERF fund previously raised \$21,000, which was used to support two crews from the Southwest Conservation Corps (SCC), who cleared nearly four acres of flood debris along the San Juan River in Pagosa Springs.

“When the Community Foundation ... asked if SCC had the capacity to support cleanup efforts, we immediately went to work moving our schedule around to make it happen,” said Teresa DiTore, Four Corners Regional Director of the SCC. “Funding from the Archuleta CERF provided the flexibility for SCC to shift and respond to the cleanup effort in Pagosa Springs.” Additional debris removal and repairs need to happen in town parks to stay ahead of impacts from additional debris during spring melt off. “We have put in a request with FEMA for \$950,928 for the parks cleanup and restoration alone,” said Kyle Rickert, project manager for the Town of Pagosa Springs.

If funding comes through, the Town of Pagosa Springs will need to provide a mandatory 25 percent match totaling \$237,732 to receive FEMA funding. While the Colorado Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management has discussed providing half of the match, there would still be a shortfall of approximately \$119,000 for The Town of Pagosa Springs to come up with. “Funding raised from the Archuleta CERF will help bridge the gap in remaining funding for that other 12.5 percent,” said Rickert. Clean up will take place at the following locations: the Riverwalk, Town Park, Mary Fisher Park, River Center Park, Centennial Park, Cotton Hole Park and Yamaguchi Park.

Online donations can be made through the Community Foundation’s website, swcommunityfoundation.org, by clicking on the “Donate” button on the home page, then selecting “Archuleta CERF.” Checks made out to the Community Foundation — Memo: Archuleta CERF — can be mailed to the P.O. Box 1673, Durango, CO 81302. The Community Foundation inspires hope, leadership and generosity in the community by bringing economic stability, professional development and collaboration to the nonprofit sector. As a community facilitator, the Community Foundation works to increase efficiency, sustainability and success for nonprofits, while maximizing effective grant-making for philanthropists.

The Blotter

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

Archuleta County Sheriff’s Office
Nov. 10 — Marijuana-under 21-possess/consumption-second offense, Croton Court.
Nov. 12 — Domestic violence, harassment-strikes-shoves-kicks, West U.S. 160.
Nov. 12 — Warrant arrest, West U.S. 160.
Nov. 12 — Vicious dog with injury to person, information only, County Road 326.
Nov. 13 — Lost/found property, Harman Park Drive.
Nov. 13 — Violation of protection order, Peninsula Place.
Nov. 14 — Information only, Wilderness Drive.
Nov. 14 — Vicious dog with injury to person, Settler Drive.
Nov. 15 — Driving under restraint, lane usage violation, driving under the influence of alcohol, alcohol-open container/drink in vehicle, reckless driving, U.S. 160/Eagle Drive.
Nov. 16 — Information only, U.S. 160.
Nov. 16 — Agency assist, U.S. 160.
Nov. 16 — Warrant arrest, U.S. 84.
Nov. 16 — Assault in the third degree, harassment-strikes/shoves/kicks, Spruce Circle.

Pagosa Springs Police Department
Nov. 12 — Assault, South 8th Street.
Nov. 12 — First-degree arson-other building or occupied structure, South 8th Street.
Nov. 13 — Warrant arrest, Eagle Drive.
Nov. 13 — Assault in the third degree, domestic violence, North 5th Street.

Nov. 13 — Lost/found property, Hot Springs Boulevard.
Nov. 13 — Obstructing peace officer or fireperson, Country Center Drive.

Pagosa Springs Municipal Court: Judge Anthony D. Edwards
Nov. 10 — Shawn Burnett, failed to yield when proceeding from a stop sign, three points off, fine and surcharge — \$81.
Nov. 10 — Juvenile, unsafe backing, two points off, fine, surcharge and costs — \$72.
Nov. 10 — Anthony Poma Sr., unsafe backing, two points off, fine, surcharge and costs — \$72.
Nov. 10 — Francisco Soto Paredes, speeding 20-24 mph over prima facie limit, six points off, fine, surcharge and costs — \$278.
Nov. 10 — Adia Garth, careless driving, four points off, fine, surcharge and costs — \$202.
Nov. 10 — Akeem Brown, speeding 10-19 mph over prima facie limit, four points off, fine, surcharge and costs — \$197.
Nov. 10 — Dustin Caldwell, shoplifting, fine, costs and restitution — \$255.03.
Nov. 12 — Yolanda Salas, two counts animal at large, fine and costs — \$235.

Archuleta County Court: Judge Douglas S. Walker
Nov. 5 — Daniel Paul McAdam, parks/rec violate park rule, fines and costs — \$136.
Nov. 5 — Daniel Paul McAdam, parks/rec violate park rule, fines and costs — \$136.
Nov. 5 — Richard Lawrence Carrier, speeding 5-9 over, fines and costs — \$125.
Nov. 5 — Taiwo C. Adejobi, careless driving, fines and costs — \$238.50.

Archuleta County Court: Judge Julie Sandra H. Gardner
Nov. 7 — Emily A. Huber, speeding 5-9 over, fines and costs — \$125.

Nov. 7 — Tyler Michael Willie, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$225.
Nov. 7 — Gregory Charles Wellman, driver’s license-driving without, registration-unregistered vehicle, fines and costs — \$207.50.
Nov. 7 — Louis J. Villegas, use of multiple beam lights, fines and costs — \$81.
Nov. 7 — Aubin Antonio Torres-Santafe, speeding 5-9 over, fines and costs — \$125.
Nov. 7 — Brittainy Leann Shaw, speeding 20-24 over, fines and costs — \$290.
Nov. 7 — Blaine Roquemore, license plates-expired, stop lamps-defective, headlamps-failure to dim, fines and costs — \$199.50.
Nov. 7 — Dayatra Teresa Myers, driver’s license-driving without, registration-unregistered vehicle, fines and costs — \$207.50.
Nov. 7 — Shawn A. Read, obedience to official traffic control device, fines and costs — \$170.
Nov. 7 — Daniel Barborich, speeding 5-9 over, fines and costs — \$160.
Nov. 7 — Dale J. Blackmountain, speeding 20-24 over, fines and costs — \$290.
Nov. 7 — Parker A. Bolton, speeding 20-24 over limit, fines and costs — \$314.50.

Nov. 7 — Lorina Chavez, speeding 20-24 over limit, fines and costs — \$314.50.
Nov. 7 — Ryan A. Condon, obedience to official traffic control device, fines and costs — \$170.
Nov. 7 — Christopher Dragan, fail to yield pedestrian in crosswalk, fines and costs — \$78.
Nov. 7 — Ariel Vento Echevarria, weaving from traffic lane, fines and costs — \$170.
Nov. 7 — Philip Faur, speeding 5-9 over, fines and costs — \$160.
Nov. 7 — Daniel Martinez, driving under restraint, fines and costs — \$142.50.
Nov. 7 — Jason A. Okash, license plates-expired, fines and costs — \$120.50.
Nov. 7 — Brian Taylor Gomez, driver’s license-driving without, registration-unregistered vehicle, fines and costs — \$107.50.
Nov. 7 — Juan A. Macias-Martinez, speeding 1-4 over limit, fines and costs — \$118.50.
Nov. 7 — Shawn Martinez, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$225.

6th Judicial District Court: Judge Justin P. Fay
Nov. 7 — David Eugene Chavez, assault 2-strangulation, two years Department of Correction, fines and costs — \$456.50.



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- Astronomers
- Ecologists
- Science teachers
- Night sky enthusiasts or hobbyists

Ideal volunteers

- Passionate about protecting the night sky
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- Committed to supporting long range dark sky goals for the community.

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Build Pagosa welcomes new building trades teacher

Build Pagosa

Build Pagosa and the career and technical education (CTE) program at Pagosa Springs High School are proud to announce the appointment of Shandon Carter as the new building trades teacher, stepping into the role previously held by Tor Hessman.

With a strong background in construction and hands-on industry experience, Carter brings valuable expertise and enthusiasm to the classroom.

Carter is also no stranger to the school community. For the past four and a half years, he worked in the school's maintenance department, where he developed a strong connection with students.

"I enjoyed working with the students so much that when the opportunity came up, it was an easy yes," Carter said.

The classroom is equipped with an impressive array of tools — both large and small — that empower students to learn the safest and most efficient techniques. It's a hands-on learning space where curiosity meets craftsmanship, and students are clearly thriving.

This semester, Carter is teaching Building Trades 1 and 2 as well as Woodworking 1, with each class limited to 12 students to ensure hands-on learning. Each class currently includes two female students — a promising sign of growing diversity in the skilled trades.

The first assignment for students was learning how to properly use a hammer and drive 16 penny nails.

Next semester, the course offerings will expand to include AutoCAD Computer Systems, Woodworking 1 and Woodworking 2.

Carter is especially enthusiastic about the upcoming regional work-

force center, which will be built adjacent to the high school.

The new facility will provide upgraded space, modern tools and increased capacity, allowing more students to participate in CTE programs. Importantly, the center will also be open to the community after school hours, offering opportunities for adult education and community engagement.

Students are already seeing the benefits, gaining more than just technical skills—they're building confidence, career readiness, and a strong sense of purpose.

When asked why they chose the class:

- Eric, one of his current Building Trades students, said the class has inspired him to pursue a career in construction. He now has an internship with a local business and said, "There's not a day I don't want to go to class."
 - Haden shared it's an "easy way to make extra money," highlighting the practical value of the skills learned.
 - Jacen said, "My dad does it and I help him," showing how the class connects to real-life experience and family traditions.
 - Edith appreciated the collaborative environment, noting how "they cooperate with ways to fix mistakes," which fosters teamwork and problem-solving.
 - Another student, Hannah, who previously excelled in auto mechanics, is now thriving in building trades as well. She shares that what she loves most is the collaborative environment: "Students are here to help each other, share tools and sometimes even combine work across all the CTE classes."
- Their journeys reflect the program's mission to foster hands-on

learning, teamwork and cross-disciplinary growth.

CTE continues to open doors for students, preparing students not just for careers, but for real-world problem solving and skills, providing motivation and pathways to success.

With Carter's leadership and a new facility on the horizon, the future of skilled trades education in Pagosa Springs looks brighter than ever.

Every dollar makes a difference

The more funds we raise, the more resources, programs and opportunities we can provide to our community. Your support directly fuels our mission to build a thriving regional center.

More information

If you're interested in learning more or would like to donate to help us build our new regional center, please visit our website at www.buildpagosa.org.

You can also contact Marie at marie@buildpagosa.org or Cindy at officemanager@buildpagosa.org.



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Pagosa Springs Middle School releases first-quarter honor roll

By Anjelica Gallegos
Pagosa Springs Middle School

Pagosa Springs Middle School has released its honor roll for the first quarter.

The following fifth-grade students made the honor roll with a 3.5 to 3.99 cumulative GPA: Camden Ash, Adalyn Burkett, Everly Campbell, Morgan Cole, Connor Coleman, Owen Fitzgerald, Harper Flanagan, Amarah Forrest, Jaymes Gonzales, Henley Heckmann, Seton Hensle, Reed Hewitt, Kaleb Hudler, Wynter Kirby, Shiloh Kossler, Lillie Lemley, Keelan Lindahl, Wilma Miller, Addison Newsome, Everly Olliffe, Ryker Powell, Abigail Rohwer, Aubree Straway, Alice Tuten, Anthony Villareal, Colton Wattier, Xander White and Elias Zappone.

The following fifth-grade students made the A honor roll with a 4.0 GPA: Logan Bristow, Logan Candelaria, Liam Edwards Salmeron, Xavier Es-

calante, Lane Maestas and Aspen Perez.

The following sixth-grade students made honor roll with a 3.5 to 3.99 cumulative GPA: Costanzo Allione, Ainsley Bracken, Lily Burk, Louis Carroll, Henry Cesary, Steele Forrest, Juniper Hertzke, Lorretta Hinojosa, Violet Hutcherson, Kaden Karas, Ziva Logacz, Lucy Lyons, Sadie Matyniak, Evelyn Mendoza, Kenzie Miller, LeAnna Miller, Zaen Mitchell, Kaci Moeller, Tanner Mote, Jaxen Nielsen, Vanessa Parker, Darla Renner, Sierra Rich, Bianca Rivera, David Rivera, Paige Rogacki, Eleanor Samu, Grant Saylor, David Smith, Elise Tlachac, Max Witt and Sedona Zissman.

The following sixth-grade students made the A honor roll with a 4.0 GPA: Felix Crandall, Ivy Fort, Rafe Haltermann, Beatrice Iverson, Jeri Moeller, Penelope Peck, Jariah Portnell and Kimberly Taylor.

The following seventh-grade students made honor roll with a 3.5 to

3.99 cumulative GPA: Hazel Blue, Kiley Braun, Emmary Brewer, Mayley Evans, Dekklyn Fiorenza, Seamus Flanagan, Jose Granados-Gurule, Mia Gutierrez-Calvillo, Molly Hart, Houston Hoerth, Russell Hudler, Colle Looper, Sebastian Lujan-Parra, Christopher Martinez, Kai Mathews-Davey, Jose Moreno Echavarria, Chase Osborn, Gabriella Pahe, Hannah Richards, Samuel Roukema, Samuel Sanchez, Riley Sanders, Haddassah Trujillo, Lillian Vega, Hazel West and Maheylla Witting.

The following seventh-grade students made the A honor roll with a 4.0 GPA: Jacob Adams, Brooke Anderson, Ariah Archuleta, Grant Bliss, Wyatt Buck, Taylor Cole, Chauncey Forster, Merick Haltermann, Cora Jackson, Felix Long, Dylan Luna, Sage Merrill-Exton, Kiara Patel, Delilah Powell, Rystle Ross, Tyson Sewell, Damien Turk and Kadence Zander.

The following eighth-grade students made honor roll with 3.5

to 3.99 cumulative GPA: Camellia Bellina, Breland Bridges, Carlie Bridges, Adam Candelaria, Callie Carothers, Shiloh Degelman, Gavino Dozal-Nevarez, Jacob Freeman, Adelaide Graham, Esperanza Gutierrez-Calvillo, Miles Harris, Kadence Inez, Cooper Laner, Avitt Lee-Shaw, Davyn Leiker, Scarlett Lovier, Mia Lucero, Ari Martinez, Jazmine Martinez, Ty Mitchell, Pia Papanai, Eloise Ridley, Karlie Rose, Sofia Sauzameda, Neitzey Shepherd, Jaxon Sherman, Trent Tator, Colten Ulibarri, Angel Villareal and Jackson Werby.

The following eighth-grade students made the A honor roll with a 4.0 GPA: Elias Becker Sweeden, Kiana Bennett, BayLee Bishop, Kyleah Coss, Miles Dempster, Olivia Diffey, Elijah Hanto, Eduardo Marinelarena, Oliver Mendoza, Lucy Modern, Finley Renner, Asher Smith, Livia Souza, Harlee Taylor, Tuff Terrazas, Micah Tyler, Michael Wells, Francis Witting and Tevey Zissman.

Record Safe2Tell reports reveal both progress and pain among Colorado youth

Colorado Attorney General's Office

The Colorado Attorney General's Office recently released the Safe2Tell 2024-2025 Annual Report, revealing that Colorado students made a record 31,177 reports last school year, the highest number in the program's history.

The surge in reporting reflects both the growing trust students place in Safe2Tell and the serious mental health and safety challenges they continue to face.

"This report tells two stories at once," Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser said. "It shows incredible courage and compassion. Students are stepping up to protect one another in record numbers. But it's also a reminder that our kids are not OK. These reports reflect real distress, and our collective responsibility is to meet that reality with care, resources and connection."

The 2024-2025 school year saw suicide threats as the most frequently reported concern, followed by bullying, drugs, welfare and school safety concerns related to staff. Nearly 4,000 duplicate reports were filed, showing that multiple students or staff often speak up about the same concern — an indicator of a healthy reporting culture. "Safe2Tell exists so that no student has to carry a safety concern alone," said Stacey Scardino, Safe2Tell director. "Every report represents a moment when someone decided to do something helpful. That culture of care is what keeps Colorado schools

safer, and it shows that students trust Safe2Tell when something doesn't feel right."

Behind the data are real stories of intervention.

In one case, a student's social media post about explosives prompted a swift response from law enforcement, preventing potential harm. In another, a report about a student being abused at home led to a welfare check and counseling support. Students also used Safe2Tell to alert schools about self-harm, substance use and bullying, leading to timely connections to care.

The 2024-2025 report also marks the first full year of a new reporting structure that groups 52 types of reports into 10 broader categories, including mental health, school safety, bullying and harassment, and substance use. The updated approach revealed that school safety was the leading theme statewide, while mental health remains one of the most persistent concerns among students.

"By looking beyond just the top categories, we can see more clearly what's really happening in schools," Weiser said. "This broader view helps educators, families and communities understand not only what students are reporting, but why they're reaching out. Safe2Tell isn't just a safety tool — it's a window into the well-being of our kids."

Valid reports accounted for 96.6 percent of all submissions, while false reports remained low at 2.2 percent,

among the lowest in program history.

Reports were routed to schools, law enforcement, and mental health professionals in 1.7 minutes on average, ensuring that help reached students quickly.

A full break down of data for the 2024-2025 school year is available in the latest Safe2Tell Annual Report, which is available at <https://bit.ly/48czhZo>.

October 2025 report also released

The October 2025 Safe2Tell Monthly Report, also recently released, shows continued strong engagement from Colorado students and school communities.

Safe2Tell received 3,340 reports in October, the fourth-highest monthly total in program history, bringing the total to 8,975 reports so far in the 2025-2026 school year.

The leading reporting categories for October were school safety (17.3 percent), bullying (15.1 percent), mental health (14.5 percent) and substance use (11.3 percent). Duplicate reports stayed high at 15.2 percent, while false reports remained even lower than last year's historically low rate at 1.4 percent so far this school year.

Recent examples demonstrate the impact of Safe2Tell's quick response system.

In one case, a report about a student vaping, missing class and possibly self-harming led to intervention

and connection with a counselor and outside support. Another report about potential alcohol and drug use prompted parental engagement, ongoing therapy and school-based follow-up.

A full breakdown of all categorical data is available in the Safe2Tell October 2025 Monthly Report, available at <https://bit.ly/47YMpRC>.

Definitions for each category can be found in the Safe2Tell Report Categorization Guide at <https://bit.ly/4ignAFC>.

About Safe2Tell

Safe2Tell is a violence intervention and prevention program for students to anonymously report threats to their own and others' safety.

Safe2Tell is not an emergency response unit nor mental health counseling service provider; it is an information pathway for distributing anonymous reports to local law enforcement and school officials required by state law.

How to submit a report

Reports can be made 24/7 by calling (877) 542-7233, visiting Safe2Tell.org, texting "S2TCO" to 738477 or using the Safe2Tell mobile app, available on the Apple App Store and Google Play.

Informative.

The Pagosa Springs SUN
970-264-2100

Public Notices

DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO
Court Address: 109 Harman Park Drive
Pagosa Springs, Colorado 81147
Phone No.: (970) 264-8160
Plaintiff: Judith L. Talbot and Brian J. Lyons
v.
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. Lyons; Estate of 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 Action
Attorney for Plaintiffs:
The Law Firm of Marla C. Underrell, LLC
Marla C. Underrell, Esq., Reg. No. 31076
101 West 11th Street, Suite 104
Durango, Colorado 81301
Phone: 970-403-8090
Fax: 970-403-8091
Email: marla@underrell-law.com
Case Number: 2025CV30041

SUMMONS TO QUIET TITLE BY PUBLICATION
PLAINTIFFS: JUDITH L. TALBOT AND BRIAN J. LYONS
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 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 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 complaint in writing within 35 days after the date of the last publication, judgment by default may be rendered against you by the court for the relief demanded in the complaint without further notice. This is an 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 quarter 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 5589265002.
Dated this day of, 2025.

Published in the Pagosa Sun Newspaper:
Publication is to be made once each week for five successive weeks.
First Publication: October 23, 2025.
Last Publication: November 20, 2025.
THE LAW FIRM OF MARLA C. UNDERRELL, LLC
Attorney for Plaintiffs:
Marla C. Underrell, Atty. Reg. No. 31076
101 West 11th Street, Suite 104
Durango, Colorado 81301
Office Phone Number: 970-403-8093
Cell Phone Number: 970-317-0341
FAX Number: 970-403-8091
E-mail: marla@underrell-law.com
Published October 23, 30 and November 6, 13 and 20, 2025 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (276756)

DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO
Court Address: 109 Harman Park Drive
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Tel.: 970.264.8160
Plaintiff:
Peregrine Property Owners Association, Inc. v.

Defendants: **Otis Relyea, et al.**
Case No.: 2025CV30048
Attorney for Plaintiff:
Christopher B. Conley (51651)
Eck, Conley & Richardson, PLLC
200 South 21st Street, Fort Smith, AR 72901
Tel. 479.242.5906
Email: ir@eclegal.com
SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION
TO THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO TO THE FOLLOWING DEFENDANT(S): Bonnie B McCafferty, Valery R Shrimbel, Geraldine A Anderson, Pam J Myers
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to appear and defend against the claims of the complaint filed with the court in this action, by filing with the clerk of this court an answer or other response. You are required to file your answer or other response within 35 days after the service of this summons upon you. Service of this summons shall be complete on the day of the last publication. A copy of the complaint may be obtained from the clerk of the court. If you fail to file your answer or other response to the complaint in writing within 35 days after the date of the last publication, judgment by default may be rendered against you by the court for the relief demanded in the complaint without further notice. This is an in rem action of judicial foreclosure on your timeshare interest(s) located at Peregrine Townhouses for failure to pay assessments to Peregrine Property Owners Association, Inc.
Published in the *Pagosa Springs Sun*
First Publication: November 6, 2025
Last Publication: December 4, 2025
/s/ Christopher B. Conley
Christopher B. Conley
Published November 6, 13, 20, 27 and December 4, 2025 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (278005)

DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO
Court Address: 109 Harman Park Drive
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Tel.: 970.264.8160
Case No.: 2025CV30007
Plaintiff:
Peregrine Property Owners Association, Inc. v.
Defendants:
James M Kaufmann, et al.
COMBINED NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE OF TIMESHARE INTEREST AND RIGHTS TO CURE AND REDEEM
This Notice of Public Judicial Foreclosure Sale is given pursuant to the specific assessment lien in the Declaration of Protective Covenants and Internal Ownership for Peregrine Townhouses, recorded on August 2, 1990, at Book 303, Page 104, as amended and supplemented from time-to-time, in the office of the County Clerk and Recorder for Archuleta County, Colorado.
Under a Judgment and Decree of Foreclosure entered July 8, 2025, in the above entitled action, I am ordered to sell certain real property, improvements and personal property secured by the Declaration, including without limitation the real property described as follows:
See Exhibit "A" attached hereto and made apart hereof
Owner(s):
JAMES M KAUFMANN; NORMA K KAUFMANN; DENNIS M PATERSON; JAMES H CAID and DONNA J CAID, TRUSTEES OF THE JAMES AND DONNA CAID REVOCABLE TRUST, DATED JANUARY 23, 1996; LINSLEY DENNING; JAMES B WILEY, JR., SURVIVING JOINT TENANT WITH RIGHT OF SURVIVORSHIP OF SHARON D WILEY, DECEASED; PANDORA ARMSTRONG; GENEVA ROBINSON, SURVIVING JOINT TENANT WITH RIGHT OF SURVIVORSHIP OF C GEORGE ROBINSON, DECEASED; CLIFFORD MAGE; ARLAN ROBERT GREENING; G OWEN CLARK, SURVIVING JOINT TENANT WITH RIGHT OF SURVIVORSHIP OF MARIA L CLARK, DECEASED; CHARLES S WATTS; ERNEST JARAMILLO; JANE JARAMILLO; JULIANNE MICHAELS; PAUL A JORDAN; BROOKE A JORDAN; MEYLER R ANDERSON; JOYCE M MCCULLOUGH; ISABEL M PACHECO, SURVIVING JOINT TENANT WITH

RIGHT OF SURVIVORSHIP OF H PAUL PACHECO, DECEASED; SANDRA E KENNEDY, SURVIVING JOINT TENANT WITH RIGHT OF SURVIVORSHIP OF JESS SCOTT KENNEDY, DECEASED; FRANK GRANDINETTI; KRISTINA ANNE LARSON WILLARD A DUNN; ULRIKE DUNN; BILLY H THOMPSON; JANE LEE ARKUSH; WARREN W MCCANE; MAXINE V MCCANE; DONALD G BOMER; DIANA CHAVEZ KETTERMAN; LUCILLE MARIE AIKEN; MARK KETTERMAN BROCKETT; TARA CHRISTINA BROCKETT JONES; REX L HICKMAN; HONEY HICKMAN; PATRICIA C EWEN; WILLIAM E EWEN; ADITHA CHERT AYLOO; JACK J TAYLOR III; EDWIN L PUTNAM; HELEN D PUTNAM; RICHARD N MILLS; JUDI G MILLS; THE TERRY J LUTZ LIVING TRUST-DATED JANUARY 10, 2012, AND ANY AMENDMENTS THERETO
Evidence of Debt: Declaration of Protective Covenants and Internal Ownership for Peregrine Townhouses, recorded on August 2, 1990, at Book 303, Page 104, as amended and supplemented from time-to-time, in the office of the County Clerk and Recorder for Archuleta County, Colorado.
Current Holder of evidence of debt
Peregrine Property Owners Association, Inc.
secured by the Declaration:
Obligations Secured: The Declaration provides that it secures the payment of the Debt and obligations therein described including, but not limited to, the payment of attorneys' fees and costs.
Agent: Christopher B. Conley, Reg. No. 51651, 700 South 21st Street, Ft. Smith, Arkansas 72901
Association Assessments Due to: Peregrine Property Owners Association, Inc.
Debtor(s) & Amount Due: See attached Exhibit "A"
Amount of Judgment: See attached Exhibit "A"
Type of Sale: Judicial Foreclosure Sale of Timeshare Interest being conducted pursuant to the power of sale granted by the Declaration, the Colorado Property Code, and the Colorado Common Ownership Act
THE PROPERTY TO BE SOLD AND DESCIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCUMBERED BY THE LIEN PURSUANT TO THE DECLARATION.
The covenants of said Declaration have been violated as follows: failure to make payments for assessments when the indebtedness was due and owing and the legal holder of the indebtedness has accelerated the same and declared the same immediately fully due and payable.
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE OF TIMESHARE INTEREST
THEREFORE, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT I will, at 8 o'clock A.M., on January, 7th, 2026 Sale Number 2025-06 in the Office of the Archuleta County Sheriff, Civil Division, 85 Harman Park Drive, Pagosa Springs, Colorado, 81147 sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property described above, and all interest of said Grantor and their heirs and assigns of said Grantor therein, subject to the provisions of the Declaration permitting the Association thereunder to have the bid credited to the Debt up to the amount of the unpaid Debt secured by the Declaration at the time of sale, for the purpose of paying the judgment amount entered herein, and will deliver to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.
First Publication: 11/20/2025
Last Publication: 12/18/2025
Name of Publication: The Pagosa Springs Sun

NOTICE OF RIGHTS
YOU MAY HAVE AN INTEREST IN THE REAL PROPERTY BEING FORECLOSED, OR HAVE CERTAIN RIGHTS OR SUFFER CERTAIN LIABILITIES PURSUANT TO COLORADO STATUTES AS A RESULT OF SAID FORECLOSURE. YOU MAY HAVE THE RIGHT TO REDEEM SAID REAL PROPERTY OR YOU MAY HAVE THE RIGHT TO CURE A DEFAULT UNDER THE DEED OF TRUST BEING FORECLOSED. A COPY OF THE STATUTES WHICH MAY AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS IS ATTACHED HERETO.
A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE PURSUANT TO §38-38-104 C.R.S., SHALL BE FILED WITH THE OFFICER AT LEAST FIFTEEN (15) CALENDAR DAYS PRIOR TO THE FIRST SCHEDULED SALE DATE OR ANY DATE TO WHICH THE SALE IS CONTINUED.
IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF IN-

TENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED.
A NOTICE OF INTENT TO REDEEM FILED PURSUANT TO §38-38-302 C.R.S. SHALL BE FILED WITH THE SHERIFF NO LATER THAN EIGHT (8) BUSINESS DAYS AFTER THE SALE.
THE LIEN BEING FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.
IF YOU BELIEVE THAT A LENDER OR SERVICER HAS VIOLATED THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT IN §38-38-103.1 OR THE PROHIBITION ON DUAL TRACKING IN §38-38-103.2, YOU MAY FILE A COMPLAINT WITH THE COLORADO ATTORNEY GENERAL (1-800-222-4444). THE CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU (1-855-411-2372), OR BOTH, BUT THE FILING OF A COMPLAINT WILL NOT STOP THE FORECLOSURE PROCESS.
The name, address, and business telephone number of each of the attorneys representing the holder of the evidence of debt are as follows:
Christopher B. Conley, Reg. No. 51651, 700 South 21st Street, Ft. Smith, Arkansas 72901
INTENT TO CURE OR REDEEM, as provided by the aforementioned laws, must be directed to or conducted at the Sheriff's Department for Archuleta County, Civil Division, 85 Harman Park Drive, Pagosa Springs, Colorado, 81147, 970-264-8434.
THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED MAY BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
This Sheriff's Notice of Sale is signed November 14, 2025.

By: /s/ Mike Le Roux
Mike Le Roux, Sheriff
Archuleta County, Colorado
EXHIBIT "A"
Peregrine Townhouses Matter Amount
JAMES M KAUFMANN and NORMA K KAUFMAN (C#170210678) A 126,000 / 35,486,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7807-7810 in Building Number(s) 4 and 5.
Unpaid Assessments: \$901.40
Costs: \$238.84
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Judgment Amount: \$2,140.24
DENNIS M PATERSON (C#130001001) A 175,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7837-7838 in Building Number(s) 19.
Unpaid Assessments: \$887.49
Costs: \$238.84
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Judgment Amount: \$2,126.33
PAUL A JORDAN (C#139903819) A 105,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7843-7844 in Building Number(s) 22.
Unpaid Assessments: \$751.15
Costs: \$238.84
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Judgment Amount: \$1,989.99
LINSLEY DENNING (C#171008980) A 64,000 / 35,486,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7808-7808 in Building Number(s) 2 and 3.
Unpaid Assessments: \$934.81
Costs: \$238.84
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Judgment Amount: \$2,173.65
JAMES H WILEY, JR., SURVIVING JOINT TENANT WITH RIGHT OF SURVIVORSHIP OF SHARON D WILEY, DECEASED (C#179506910) A 84,000 / 35,486,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7808-7808 in Building Number(s) 2 and 3.
Unpaid Assessments: \$1,007.65
Costs: \$238.84
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00



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- Lot Clearing & Fire Mitigation
- Cabling and Bracing

Local reporting that matters.

Judgment Amount: \$2,246.49
PANDORA ARMSTRONG (C#170014013) A 105,000 / 35,486,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7807-7810 in Building Number(s) 4 and 5.
Unpaid Assessments: \$2,030.91
Costs: \$238.84
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Judgment Amount: \$3,269.75
GENEVA ROBINSON, SURVIVING JOINT TENANT WITH RIGHT OF SURVIVORSHIP OF C GEORGE ROBINSON, DECEASED (C#170409728) A 126,000 / 35,486,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7807-7810 in Building Number(s) 4 and 5.
Unpaid Assessments: \$1,511.40
Costs: \$238.84
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Judgment Amount: \$2,750.24
CLIFFORD MAGIE (C#170906226) A 77,000 / 35,486,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7807-7810 in Building Number(s) 4 and 5.
Unpaid Assessments: \$611.86
Costs: \$1,000.00
Attorney's Fees: \$238.84
Judgment Amount: \$1,850.70
ARLAN ROBERT GREENING (C#171304884) A 154,000 / 35,486,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7837-7810 in Building Number(s) 4 and 5.
Unpaid Assessments: \$3,596.50
Costs: \$238.84
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Judgment Amount: \$4,835.34
G OWEN CLARK, SURVIVING JOINT TENANT WITH RIGHT OF SURVIVORSHIP OF MARIA L CLARK, DECEASED (C#179604954) A 105,000 / 35,486,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7807-7810 in Building Number(s) 4 and 5.
Unpaid Assessments: \$2,771.84

Costs: \$238.84
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Judgment Amount: \$4,010.68
CHARLES S WATTS (C#179605456) A 77,000 / 35,486,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7807-7810 in Building Number(s) 4 and 5.
Costs: \$238.84
Unpaid Assessments: \$1,224.40
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Judgment Amount: \$2,463.24
ERNEST JARAMILLO and JANE JARAMILLO (C#179605571) A 105,000 / 35,486,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7807-7810 in Building Number(s) 4 and 5.
Costs: \$238.84
Unpaid Assessments: \$1,825.87
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Judgment Amount: \$3,064.71
JULIANNE MICHAELS (C#179608835) A 49,000 / 35,486,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7807-7810 in Building Number(s) 4 and 5.
Unpaid Assessments: \$825.65
Costs: \$238.84
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Judgment Amount: \$2,064.49
PAUL A JORDAN and BROOKE A JORDAN (C#179607171) A 77,000 / 35,486,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7807-7810 in Building Number(s) 4 and 5.
Unpaid Assessments: \$2,292.55
Costs: \$238.84
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Judgment Amount: \$3,531.39
MEYLER R ANDERSON and JOYCE M MCCULLOUGH (C#179607650) A 105,000 / 35,486,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7807-7810 in Building Number(s) 4 and 5.
■ Continued on B3

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.

■ Continued from B2

Unpaid Assessments: \$1,259.55
Costs: \$238.84
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Judgment Amount: \$2,498.39
ISABEL M. PACHECO, SURVIVING JOINT TENANT WITH RIGHT OF SURVIVORSHIP OF H. PAUL PACHECO, DECEASED (C#179700497) A 84,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7811-7812 in Building Number(s) 6, Unpaid Assessments: \$1,073.24
Costs: \$238.84
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Judgment Amount: \$2,312.08
SANDRA E. KENNEDY, SURVIVING JOINT TENANT WITH RIGHT OF SURVIVORSHIP OF JESS SCOTT KENNEDY, DECEASED (C#179701511) A 154,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7811-7812 in Building Number(s) 6, Unpaid Assessments: \$2,802.42
Costs: \$238.84
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Judgment Amount: \$4,041.26
FRANK GRANDINETTI (C#179705991) A 49,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7811-7812 in Building Number(s) 6/ Unpaid Assessments: \$927.80
Costs: \$238.84
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Judgment Amount: \$2,166.64
KRISTINA ANNE LARSON (C#430001750) A 105,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7811-7812 in Building Number(s) 6, Unpaid Assessments: \$1,059.33
Costs: \$238.84
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Judgment Amount: \$2,298.17
WILLARD A. DUNN and ULRIKE DUNN (C#179702634) A 105,000 / 35,486,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7813-7816 in Building Number(s) 2 and 8, Unpaid Assessments: \$1,194.04
Costs: \$238.84
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Judgment Amount: \$2,432.88
BILLY H. THOMPSON (C#179704309) A 300,000 / 35,486,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7813-7816 in Building Number(s) 2 and 8, Unpaid Assessments: \$5,680.50
Costs: \$238.84
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Judgment Amount: \$6,919.34
JANE LEE ARKUSH (C#179704382) A 105,000 / 35,486,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7813-7816 in Building Number(s) 2 and 8, Unpaid Assessments: \$6,779.70
Costs: \$238.84
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Judgment Amount: \$6,916.19
WARREN W. MCCANE and MAXINE V. MCCANE (C#179705025) A 84,000 / 35,486,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7813-7816 in Building Number(s) 2 and 8, Unpaid Assessments: \$6,779.70
Costs: \$238.84
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Judgment Amount: \$1,918.54
WARREN W. MCCANE and MAXINE V. MCCANE (C#170011498) A 154,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7817-7878 in Building Number(s) 39, Unpaid Assessments: \$1,246.10
Costs: \$238.84
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Judgment Amount: \$2,484.94
DONALD G. BOMER (C#179710645) A 105,000 / 35,486,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7813-7816 in Building Number(s) 1 and 8, Unpaid Assessments: \$3,053.20
Costs: \$238.84
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Judgment Amount: \$4,292.04
DIANA CHAVEZ KETTERMAN and LUCILLE MARIE AIKEN and MARK KETTERMAN BROCKETT and TARA CHRISTINA KETTERMAN absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7817-7820 in Building Number(s) 9 and 10, Unpaid Assessments: \$1,284.53
Costs: \$238.84
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Judgment Amount: \$5,548.97
PATRICIA C. EWEN and WILLIAM E. EWEN (C#179707674) A 126,000 / 35,486,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7817-7820 in Building Number(s) 9 and 10, Unpaid Assessments: \$1,117.88
Costs: \$238.84
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Judgment Amount: \$2,356.72
ADITHA CHER TAYLOR and JACK J. TAYLOR III and EDWIN L. PUTNAM and HELEN D. PUTNAM (C#179709035) A 94,500 / 35,486,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7817-7820 in Building Number(s) 9 and 10, Unpaid Assessments: \$1,059.86
Costs: \$238.84
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Judgment Amount: \$2,298.70
RICHARD N. MILLS and JUDI G. MILLS (C#179708571) A 105,000 / 35,486,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7817-7820 in Building Number(s) 9 and 10, Unpaid Assessments: \$2,599.37
Costs: \$238.84
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Judgment Amount: \$3,838.21
THE TERRY J. LUTZ LIVING TRUST DATED JANUARY 10, 2012, AND ANY AMENDMENTS THERETO (C#170017158) A 77,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7821-7822 in Building Number(s) 11, Unpaid Assessments: \$2,149.84
Costs: \$238.84
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Judgment Amount: \$3,388.68
 In Peregrine Townhouses, All as tenants in common with the other undivided interest owners of said buildings as depicted on the Plats recorded in Reception Numbers 173553-173555, 98002629, 99006555, 99011974, 20005495, 20010666, and subject to Declaration of Protective Covenants and Interval Ownership for Peregrine Townhouses recorded as Reception Number 173556, as has been amended, supplemented, and/or restated, all in the Office of the County Clerk and Recorder in and for Archuleta County, Colorado.
 Published November 20 and 27, and December 4, 11, and 18, 2025, in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (273935)

DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO
 Court Address: 109 Harman Park Drive
 Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
 Tel.: 970.264.8160
 Case No.: 2025CV30011
 Plaintiff:

Teal Landing Vacation Owners Association, Inc.
 V.
 Defendants:

James E Sawyer, et al.
COMBINED NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE OF TIMESHARE INTEREST AND RIGHTS TO CURE AND REDEEM

This Notice of Public Judicial Foreclosure Sale is given pursuant to the specific assessment lien in the Declaration of Condominium for Teal Landing Condominium, recorded on August 1 0, 2000, Reception Number 20007580, as amended and supplemented from time to-time, in the office of the County Clerk and Recorder for Archuleta County, Colorado.

Under a Judgment and Decree of Foreclosure entered July 8, 2025, in the above entitled action, I am ordered to sell certain real property, improvements and personal property secured by the Declaration, including without limitation the real property described as follows:

See Exhibit "A" attached hereto and made apart hereof

James E Sawyer; Kalamie McIntosh, surviving joint tenant with right of survivorship of Steven E McIntosh, deceased; Debbie Cox; Daniel E Metcalf, surviving joint tenant with right of survivorship of Linda L Metcalf, deceased; Marolyn R Wood, Trustee of the Marolyn R Wood and Donald Wood Revocable Living Trust, dated December 16, 1996; Resorts International Access Network, LLC; P. Carol Kyle-Cooper, surviving joint tenant with right of survivorship of Jon H Cooper, deceased; Bettina E Basanow; James E Bradley; Judith A Bradley John Andrew Dewett; Oliver Harlow; Zona Harlow; Jessica Cantu Garza; Gladys R Rhodes, surviving joint tenant with right of survivorship of Sylvia P Rhodes, deceased; James L Woodfield Jr, surviving joint tenant with right of survivorship of Deanna R Woodfield, deceased; Marie A Garcia-Cravens; James Johnson; Paula Johnson; Paul Belvly; Robert Belvly
 Evidence of Debt:
 Declaration of Condominium for Teal Landing Condominium, recorded on August 10, 2000, Reception Number 20007580, as amended and supplemented from time-to-time, in the office of the County Clerk and Recorder for Archuleta County, Colorado.
 Current Holder of evidence of debt secured by the Declaration:

Teal Landing Vacation Owners Association, Inc. Obligations Secured:
 The Declaration provides that it secures the payment of the Debt and obligations therein described including, but not limited to, the payment of attorneys' fees and costs.
 Agent: Christopher B. Conley, Reg. No. 51651, 700 South 21st Street, Ft. Smith, Arkansas 72901
 Association Assessments Due to:
 Teal Landing Vacation Owners Association, Inc.
 Debtor(s) & Amount Due:
 See attached Exhibit "A"
 Amount of Judgment:
 See attached Exhibit "A"
 Type of Sale:
 Judicial Foreclosure Sale of Timeshare Interest being conducted pursuant to the power of sale granted by the Declaration, the Colorado Property Code, and the Colorado Common Ownership Act
 THE PROPERTY TO BE SOLD AND DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCUMBERED BY THE LIEN PURSUANT TO THE DECLARATION.

The covenants of said Declaration have been violated as follows: failure to make payments for assessments when the indebtedness was due and owing and the legal holder of the indebtedness has accelerated the same and declared the same immediately fully due and payable.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE OF TIMESHARE INTEREST

THEREFORE, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that I will, at 10 o'clock A.M., on **Wednesday January 7th, 2026 Sale Number 2025-06** in the Office of the Archuleta County Sheriff, Civil Division, 85 Harman Park Drive, Pagosa Springs, Colorado, 81 147 sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property described above, and all interest of said Grantor and the heirs and assigns of said Grantor therein, subject to the provisions of the Declaration permitting the Association thereunder to have the bid credited to the Debt up to the amount of the unpaid Debt secured by the Declaration at the time of sale, for the purpose of paying the judgment amount entered herein, and will deliver to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.
 First Publication: 11/20/2025
 Last Publication: 12/18/2025
 Name of Publication: The Pagosa Springs Sun

NOTICE OF RIGHTS
 YOU MAY HAVE AN INTEREST IN THE REAL PROPERTY BEING FORECLOSED, OR HAVE CERTAIN RIGHTS OR SUFFER CERTAIN LIABILITIES PURSUANT TO COLORADO STATUTES AS A RESULT OF SAID FORECLOSURE. YOU MAY HAVE THE RIGHT TO REDEEM SAID REAL PROPERTY OR YOU MAY HAVE THE RIGHT TO CURE A DEFAULT UNDER THE DEED OF TRUST BEING FORECLOSED. A COPY OF THE STATUTES WHICH MAY AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS IS ATTACHED HERETO.
 A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE PURSUANT TO §38-38-104 C.R.S., SHALL BE FILED WITH THE OFFICER AT LEAST FIFTEEN (15) CALENDAR DAYS PRIOR TO THE FIRST SCHEDULED SALE DATE OR ANY DATE TO WHICH THE SALE IS CONTINUED.
IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED.

A NOTICE OF INTENT TO REDEEM FILED PURSUANT TO §38-38-302 C.R.S. SHALL BE FILED WITH THE SHERIFF NO LATER THAN EIGHT (8) BUSINESS DAYS AFTER THE SALE.
 THE LIEN BEING FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.
 IF YOU BELIEVE THAT A LENDER OR SERVICER HAS VIOLATED THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT IN §38-38-103.1 OR THE PROHIBITION ON DUAL TRACKING IN §38-38-103.2, YOU MAY FILE A COMPLAINT WITH THE COLORADO ATTORNEY GENERAL (1-800-222-4444), THE CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU (1-855-411-2372), OR BOTH, BUT THE FILING OF A COMPLAINT WILL NOT STOP THE FORECLOSURE PROCESS.

The name, address, and business telephone number of each of the attorneys representing the holder of the evidence of debt are as follows:

Christopher B. Conley, Reg. No. 51651, 700 South 21st Street, Ft. Smith, Arkansas 72901
 INTENT TO CURE OR REDEEM, as provided by the aforementioned laws, must be directed to or conducted at the Sheriffs Department for Archuleta County, Civil Division, 85 Harman Park Drive, Pagosa Springs, Colorado, 8114 7, 970-264-8434.
THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED MAY BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
 This Sheriff's Notice of Sale is signed November 14, 2025.
 By: /s/ Mike Le Roux
 Mike Le Roux, Sheriff
 Archuleta County, Colorado
EXHIBIT "A"

Teal Landing Condominiums Matter Amount
JAMES E. SAWYER (C#170209621) A 63,000 / 62,896,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1411, 1412, 1413, 1415, 1416, 1421, 1422, 1423, 1424, 1425, and 1426 in Building Number(s) H. 14, Unpaid Assessments: \$1,314.86
Costs: \$256.26
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$2,571.12
KALAMIE MCINTOSH, SURVIVING JOINT TENANT WITH RIGHT OF SURVIVORSHIP OF STEVEN E MCINTOSH, DECEASED (C#170502937) A 300,000 / 63,185,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1411, 1412, 1413, 1415, 1416, 1421, 1422, 1423, 1424, 1425, and 1426 in Building Number(s) H. 14, Unpaid Assessments: \$3,852.50
Costs: \$256.26
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$5,108.77
DEBBIE COX (C#4252300358) A 105,000 / 63,185,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1411, 1412, 1413, 1415, 1416, 1421, 1422, 1423, 1424, 1425, and 1426 in Building Number(s) H. 14, Unpaid Assessments: \$1,467.67
Costs: \$256.26
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$2,723.93
DANIEL E. METCALF, SURVIVING JOINT TENANT WITH RIGHT OF SURVIVORSHIP OF LINDA L METCALF, DECEASED (C#170213904) A 63,000 / 63,185,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1511, 1512, 1513, 1514, 1515, 1516, 1521, 1522, 1523, 1525 and 1526 in Building Number(s)15, Unpaid Assessments: \$1,190.93
Costs: \$256.26
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$2,447.19
MAROLYN R. WOOD, TRUSTEE OF THE MAROLYN R. WOOD AND DONALD WOOD REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST, DATED DECEMBER 16, 1996 (C#170213920) A 77,000 / 63,185,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1511, 1512, 1513, 1514, 1515, 1516, 1521, 1522, 1523, 1525 and 1526 in Building Number(s) 15, Unpaid Assessments: \$1,455.51
Costs: \$256.26
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$2,711.77
RESORTS INTERNATIONAL ACCESS NETWORK, LLC (C#170303754) A 126,000 / 62,896,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1611, 1612, 1613, 1614, 1615, 1616, 1621, 1622, 1623, 1624, 1625 and 1626 in Building Number(s) 16, Unpaid Assessments: \$2,709.39
Costs: \$256.26
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$3,965.65
P. CAROL KYLE-COOPER, SURVIVING JOINT TENANT WITH RIGHT OF SURVIVORSHIP OF JON H COOPER, DECEASED (C#170304174) A 154,000 / 62,896,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1611, 1612, 1613, 1614, 1615, 1616, 1621, 1622, 1623, 1624, 1625 and 1626 in Building Number(s) 16, Unpaid Assessments: \$2,276.54
Costs: \$256.26
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$3,532.80
JAMES E. BRADLEY and JUDITH A. BRADLEY (C#170304315) A 63,000 / 62,896,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1612, 1613, 1614, 1615, 1616, 1621, 1622, 1623, 1624, 1625 and 1626 in Building Number(s) 16, Unpaid Assessments: \$1,792.10
Costs: \$256.26
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$3,048.36
JOHN ANDREW DEWETT (C#170304562) A 154,000 / 62,896,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1611, 1612, 1613, 1614, 1615, 1616, 1621, 1622, 1623, 1624, 1625 and 1626 in Building Number(s) 12, Unpaid Assessments: \$3,999.53
Costs: \$256.26
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$5,255.79
OLIVER HARLOW and ZONA HARLOW (C#170509244) A 34,000 / 62,896,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1611, 1612, 1613, 1614, 1615, 1616, 1621, 1622, 1623, 1624, 1625 and 1626 in Building Number(s) 12, Unpaid Assessments: \$1,792.10
Costs: \$256.26
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$3,048.36
JOHN ANDREW DEWETT (C#170304562) A 154,000 / 62,896,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1611, 1612, 1613, 1614, 1615, 1616, 1621, 1622, 1623, 1624, 1625 and 1626 in Building Number(s) 12, Unpaid Assessments: \$3,999.53
Costs: \$256.26
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$5,255.79
OLIVER HARLOW and ZONA HARLOW (C#170509244) A 34,000 / 62,896,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1611, 1612, 1613, 1614, 1615, 1616, 1621, 1622, 1623, 1624, 1625 and 1626 in Building Number(s) 12, Unpaid Assessments: \$1,792.10
Costs: \$256.26
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$3,048.36
JOHN ANDREW DEWETT (C#170304562) A 154,000 / 62,896,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1611, 1612, 1613, 1614, 1615, 1616, 1621, 1622, 1623, 1624, 1625 and 1626 in Building Number(s) 12, Unpaid Assessments: \$3,999.53
Costs: \$256.26
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$5,255.79
OLIVER HARLOW and ZONA HARLOW (C#170509244) A 34,000 / 62,896,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1611, 1612, 1613, 1614, 1615, 1616, 1621, 1622, 1623, 1624, 1625 and 1626 in Building Number(s) 12, Unpaid Assessments: \$1,792.10
Costs: \$256.26
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$3,048.36
JOHN ANDREW DEWETT (C#170304562) A 154,000 / 62,896,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1611, 1612, 1613, 1614, 1615, 1616, 1621, 1622, 1623, 1624, 1625 and 1626 in Building Number(s) 12, Unpaid Assessments: \$3,999.53
Costs: \$256.26
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$5,255.79
OLIVER HARLOW and ZONA HARLOW (C#170509244) A 34,000 / 62,896,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1611, 1612, 1613, 1614, 1615, 1616, 1621, 1622, 1623, 1624, 1625 and 1626 in Building Number(s) 12, Unpaid Assessments: \$1,792.10
Costs: \$256.26
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$3,048.36
JOHN ANDREW DEWETT (C#170304562) A 154,000 / 62,896,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1611, 1612, 1613, 1614, 1615, 1616, 1621, 1622, 1623, 1624, 1625 and 1626 in Building Number(s) 12, Unpaid Assessments: \$3,999.53
Costs: \$256.26
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$5,255.79
OLIVER HARLOW and ZONA HARLOW (C#170509244) A 34,000 / 62,896,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1611, 1612, 1613, 1614, 1615, 1616, 1621, 1622, 1623, 1624, 1625 and 1626 in Building Number(s) 12, Unpaid Assessments: \$1,792.10
Costs: \$256.26
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$3,048.36
JOHN ANDREW DEWETT (C#170304562) A 154,000 / 62,896,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1611, 1612, 1613, 1614, 1615, 1616, 1621, 1622, 1623, 1624, 1625 and 1626 in Building Number(s) 12, Unpaid Assessments: \$3,999.53
Costs: \$256.26
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$5,255.79
OLIVER HARLOW and ZONA HARLOW (C#170509244) A 34,000 / 62,896,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1611, 1612, 1613, 1614, 1615, 1616, 1621, 1622, 1623, 1624, 1625 and 1626 in Building Number(s) 12, Unpaid Assessments: \$1,792.10
Costs: \$256.26
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$3,048.36
JOHN ANDREW DEWETT (C#170304562) A 154,000 / 62,896,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1611, 1612, 1613, 1614, 1615, 1616, 1621, 1622, 1623, 1624, 1625 and 1626 in Building Number(s) 12, Unpaid Assessments: \$3,999.53
Costs: \$256.26
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$5,255.79
OLIVER HARLOW and ZONA HARLOW (C#170509244) A 34,000 / 62,896,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1611, 1612, 1613, 1614, 1615, 1616, 1621, 1622, 1623, 1624, 1625 and 1626 in Building Number(s) 12, Unpaid Assessments: \$1,792.10
Costs: \$256.26
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$3,048.36
JOHN ANDREW DEWETT (C#170304562) A 154,000 / 62,896,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1611, 1612, 1613, 1614, 1615, 1616, 1621, 1622, 1623, 1624, 1625 and 1626 in Building Number(s) 12, Unpaid Assessments: \$3,999.53
Costs: \$256.26
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$5,255.79
OLIVER HARLOW and ZONA HARLOW (C#170509244) A 34,000 / 62,896,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1611, 1612, 1613, 1614, 1615, 1616, 1621, 1622, 1623, 1624, 1625 and 1626 in Building Number(s) 12, Unpaid Assessments: \$1,792.10
Costs: \$256.26
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$3,048.36
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Costs: \$256.26
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$5,255.79
OLIVER HARLOW and ZONA HARLOW (C#170509244) A 34,000 / 62,896,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1611, 1612, 1613, 1614, 1615, 1616, 1621, 1622, 1623, 1624, 1625 and 1626 in Building Number(s) 12, Unpaid Assessments: \$1,792.10
Costs: \$256.26
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
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Costs: \$256.26
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$5,255.79
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Costs: \$256.26
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$5,255.79
OLIVER HARLOW and ZONA HARLOW (C#170509244) A 34,

Sports



FOOTBALL



SUN photo/Clayton Chaney

Multiple Pirate football players received Intermountain League all-conference awards for their performances during the fall season. Pictured left to right are Jimmy Elledge (first team), Alex Pacheco (first team), Hudson Mazur (first team), Aki'Chita Lefthandbull (second team), Jonathon Baker (second team), Jeremiah Dean (second team), Lincoln Butler (second team), Jayton Ross (first team and Offensive lineman of the Year), Creede Dozier (first team), Colton Lucero (first team, League Most Valuable Player and Running Back of the Year) and Kasen Limebrook (second team). Not pictured are Aidan Vega (first team) and Noah Bellina (second team).

UNIFIED BOWLING

Pirates heading to state championships after taking second at regionals

By Randi Pierce

Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate Unified bowling team is again state bound after taking second at regionals in Ignacio on Friday, Nov. 14.

It will be the team's fourth consecutive trip to state. The team took 19th at state last year, 11th the year before that and 12th its first year at state.

Special Education Teacher Nicky Schneider notes in an email to The SUN that this will be the seniors' fourth year in a row going to state.

"They leave behind a great legacy," she wrote.

The team took second at regionals with a pinfall of 479 over five games, landing the Pirates in second behind Bayfield and ahead of Grand Junction Central.

"During regionals everyone on the team scored at least one strike," Schneider wrote.

Schneider also highlights the growth of the team in the email, writing, "after a great year of bowling Justus and Juriah Carter have come a long way. Justus is our top scorer and Juriah is the only one on the team with a turkey."

She adds, "Emile and Koen our helper bowlers have been challenging themselves all year to be better bowlers."

This year's varsity squad includes Juriah Carter, Justus Carter, Samuel Kelly, Kaillen Taylor and Felise Valdez, according to Schneider.

This year's JV team is Carson Pilgrim, Reece Hammer, Levi Denton, Brielle Hinger, Emile Schneider and Koen Pitcher, she adds.

The team is coached by Ben Vaughn, Schneider and assistant coach Lily Fernandez.

"All in all everyone has put in hard work and dedication to make the season a great success," Schneider wrote.

On to state

The state championships will take place on Friday, Nov. 21, at the Bowlero at Lone Tree, with action kicking off at 10:45 a.m.

Twenty-eight teams (the top two to three teams from each of the state's 10 regions) will take part in the tournament.

As the Colorado High School Activities Association (CHSAA) explains, the championships will be tournament play, where each team will bowl five three-player coed/modified Baker Games with the top-three teams being determined by total pinfall through those five games.

All teams will play in an open format; there will be no bracket. The top two scores (based on total pinfall) will determine the state champion and runner up.

A Baker Game, CHSAA notes, "is when team members rotate between the three players with each partici-

pant rolling one ball before a teammate rolls the next. Regardless of a spare or strike, the next participant will always roll the next ball. This format gives equal playing time for each member, creating meaningful participation that is essential to the Unified Sports® model."

"There are five participating at state and all the other JV players are going to be supporting along the way and it's been so hard to choose the five players because everyone is so close at skill level," Schneider highlights.

Schneider adds the team is happy it will competing alongside Bayfield, the region's winner, at state.

"Each week at practice we would be right next to Bayfield, and we are so pleased that it is the two of us going to state together," she wrote.

What is Unified bowling?

Unified bowling became a sanctioned sport under CHSAA in 2019, with play beginning during the 2020-2021 season. It is in partnership with Special Olympics Colorado.

Special Olympics Unified sports combine students with intellectual disabilities and Unified partners without intellectual disabilities on bowling teams for training and competition.

The Archuleta School District Board of Education added Unified bowling as a sport at PSHS in the fall of 2021.

randi@pagosasun.com

Expressions competitive dance team starts season strong at Arizona event

By Suzy Halterman

Pagosa Springs Dance Academy

Dancers from the Expressions dance team at the Pagosa Springs Dance Academy kicked off their season with their first competition of the year at Dupree in Phoenix, Ariz., held Oct. 31–Nov. 2.

This event was a combined competition and convention, where dancers not only performed their routines for a panel of judges, but also took classes in a wide range of styles taught by professional dancers.

Because dance competition season typically occurs in late winter and spring, this early-season event required an accelerated period of learning choreography and polishing routines.

The Expressions team chose this Arizona event because it is known for its high level of competition, providing an excellent opportunity for growth. Few competitions also include a full weekend convention, making this a particularly valuable learning experience for these small-town dancers.

Expressions Company Director Lesley Peck commented on the challenge of the event, sharing, "The competition at Dupree is on a whole different level from what we usually experience, but our Expressions Company dancers stepped up with courage, excitement and unstoppable effort. I'm extremely proud of how hard they worked and the heart they brought to every performance."

Team members performed solos, duets, trios and group routines, receiving feedback to help them refine their technique and artistry.

Scores ranged from gold and platinum to diamond, and several dancers earned special recognition awards.

In the solo division, Paige Rogacki, Penny Peck and Sophie Martinez each received platinum for their jazz solos, while Cassidy Luke earned gold for her jazz solo along with a special "Make It Work" award. Merick Halterman received gold for her lyrical solo, and Lily Peck earned platinum and a special "Broadway Bound" award for her musical theater solo.



Photo courtesy Pagosa Springs Dance Academy

Dancers from Expressions dance team compete with a tap number in Phoenix, Ariz., at the Dupree Dance Competition.

Performing contemporary solos, Lily Rogacki and Ember Liverett both earned platinum, and Leela Simpson received gold for her contemporary solo. Avonlea Thomas received a platinum rating and a special "Versatility" award for her Irish dance solo.

In the duo and trio categories, the musical theater trio of Paige Rogacki, Luke and Halterman earned platinum, and Paige Rogacki and Luke also received gold for their hip-hop duo. Sisters Lily and Penny Peck performed a musical theater duo that earned a platinum rating and placed fourth overall in their division — the only Pagosa dancers to place this year. Considering that no dancers placed at this competition last year due to its high level, this marks a significant achievement and reflects the team's dedication and growth. Two contemporary duos also received gold: one performed by Martinez and Penny Peck, and another by Simpson and Liverett.

In the group division, the tap piece performed by Thomas, Simpson, Lily Peck, Halterman, Penny Peck, Paige Rogacki and Luke earned a platinum rating along with a special "Great Use of Props" award.

In addition to their competition awards, several dancers also received recognition for their work in the con-

vention classes, with Luke, Halterman and Lily Rogacki each receiving half-scholarship awards.

It was an exhausting but rewarding weekend for the dancers, who gave full effort in both the competition and the intensive convention classes. Because the event took place on Halloween, dancers also participated in a special Halloween-night master class, complete with costumes, which added a fun memory to the busy weekend.

Pagosa Springs Dance Academy Executive Director Katrina Thomas shared, "The main goal of participating in this event was educational. Expressions team members spent two intensive days learning under true masters in the dance field. They also held their own in the extremely competitive early-season competition, gaining valuable experience performing their pieces and receiving excellent, constructive feedback that has set them up for a great season. We are very happy with their growth from this experience and look forward to building upon that strong base."

Expressions dancers will have their next competition in Grand Junction in February, followed by two competitions in Farmington, N.M., and their final competition of the season in Denver in March.

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Thursday, November 27, and Friday, November 28
in observance of Thanksgiving

The Pagosa Springs SUN

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preview

ARTS & LIFE

‘How the Grinch Stole Christmas’

Nov. 20-22 • Pagosa Springs High School



Photo courtesy Curtains Up Pagosa

November 20, 2025



Photo courtesy Curtains Up Pagosa
Harison Jacobs as the Grinch, Ben Lawrence as Old Max, Andrew Borders as Young Max and Paizley Clark as Cindy-Lou Who headline the cast for “How the Grinch Stole Christmas, the Musical,” which hits the stage this week.

Live Performers

- Thursday**
Coyote Moon Lounge: San Juan Mountain Boys, 6 p.m.
The Pagosa Bar: Karaoke, 8 p.m.
- Friday**
Coyote Moon Lounge: Out of Work Release, 6 p.m.
- Saturday**
Coyote Moon Lounge: Jackson Mountain Ramblers, 7 p.m.
- Sunday**
Coyote Moon Lounge: Dustin Burley, 5 p.m.
- Monday**
Coyote Moon Lounge: Jonny Keys, 5 p.m.

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Experience the joy of Christmas with 'How the Grinch Stole Christmas' Nov. 20-22

By Anthony Aldwell
Curtains Up Pagosa

Based on one of Dr. Seuss' most favorite stories, this musical is based on the joy Christmas brings to the residents of Whoville, a joy that is threatened by a cranky Grinch who plots to stop Whoville's celebration of Christmas by stealing all of the village's trappings of the holiday.

What he doesn't foresee is Cindy-Lou Who's affection for him, as well as Whoville's appreciation for the greater meaning of Christmas.

Want to see how this story unfolds in music, dance, and Seussical language? The answer will be provided on stage this weekend in the Pagosa Springs High School's auditorium.

Our community theater, Curtains Up Pagosa (CUP), is pleased to present "How the Grinch Stole Christmas, the Musical" tonight and this weekend with three evening shows at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday — Nov. 20, 21 and 22 — as well as an afternoon matinee on Saturday, Nov. 22, at 2 p.m.

CUP taps into the considerable theatrical, musical and staging talent resident in Pagosa Country, and this production highlights these skills.

As director, Jeannie Abbas utilizes her extensive professional theater background to coach actors from ages 7 to 75 to transform themselves into characters very different from their normal selves.

Anika Borders, a recent graduate of Colorado Christian University, has ably assumed the role of CUP's musical director, meticulously guiding the cast through the wide variety of "Grinch" songs, as well as conducting the show's pit orchestra, comprised of members of Pagosa Springs Community Band.

The choreography is the product of talented dancer Sophie Martinez,

■ See Grinch on next page



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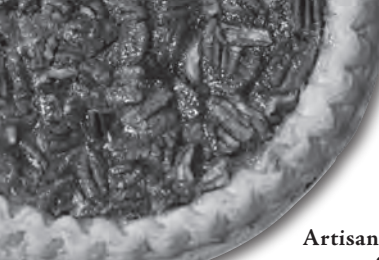
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Grinch

■ continued from previous page

who has designed thematic movements that capture the joy Whoville residents feel as Christmas approaches.

The village of Whoville comes alive on stage through the collective efforts of the Berndt family — Michael, Michele and Rachel — as well as stage manager Chris Wyland.

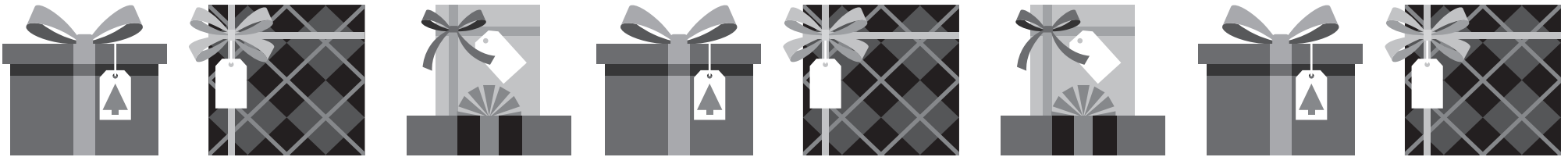
Of course, a musical of this nature must be accompanied by captivating and colorful costumes, a feat well

accomplished through the designs of Elizabeth Baldwin.

If still unsure whether this is a show worth attending, Abbas sums up why she enjoys the long hours and multitasking necessary to produce such a show: “When Papa Who bemoans, ‘Christmas shopping can get a little overwhelming,’ it highlights how all of us can get caught up in the artificial trappings of Christmas. As the show progresses, two meaningful themes emerge through song: ‘It’s

not the gifts we give, it’s the thought that counts,’ coupled with ‘Cherish Christmas, family and friends to the last.’ Bringing these messages to the stage, and transferring them to our community, is what makes this show special and worth seeing”.

Tickets are available online at <https://www.onthestage.tickets/show/curtains-up-pagosa>, with pricing at \$20, and \$15 for seniors and students. Tickets can also be purchased at the door.





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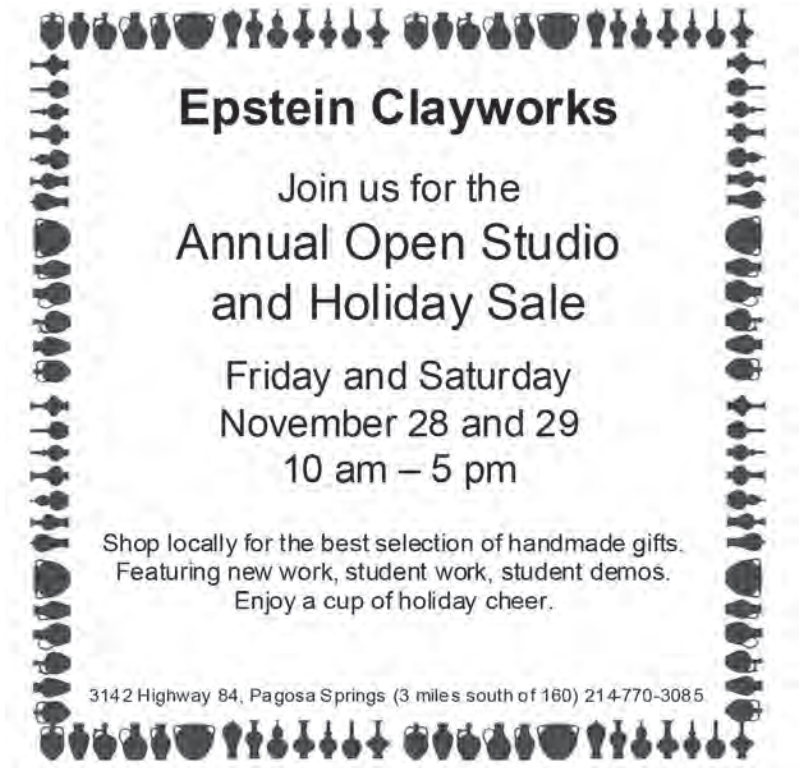


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By Peggy Duggan
TARA Community Center

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Chrystal Snow Memorial Toy Drive: A community call to rally for Archuleta County kids

By Carrie Blue-White
Pagosa Community Initiative

The Pagosa Community Initiative (PCI) is inviting every neighbor, business and classroom to rally behind the Chrystal Snow Memorial Holiday Toy Drive, a community-wide effort to ensure every child experiences a joyful holiday season.

Why this matters now

As the holidays approach, local families face extra hurdles in gift-giving.

The toy drive is designed to lift that burden by providing new, unwrapped toys for children of all ages, with special attention to teens, who are often left out of similar drives.

The program partners with schools and community groups to reach those most in need, turning generosity into real smiles.

What to expect this season

• The mission: Collect and distribute new toys to Archuleta County

kids in need.

• When and where: Ongoing throughout the holiday season with multiple drop-off points at familiar local spots, plus a prominent collection outside Walmart from Nov. 29 to Dec. 11.

• How to participate: Donate toys, volunteer your time, join in-store drives with local partners or sponsor the effort.

Where to drop off

You can drop off at a growing list of trusted locations, including Ace Hardware, Rosie's Pizza, Walmart, Wyndham, Kip's, Riff Raff, Pagosa Springs Barbershop, the Community United Methodist Church, Bank of the San Juans, Bliss Scoops and Sweets, Uncles, FroYo, and Pagosa Baking Company. Boxes are ready and waiting for generosity.

Supporting families in need

If your family could use a boost this season, PCI is ready to help. Reach out at (970) 585-6253 or visit the PCI website for more information for help.

tion for help.

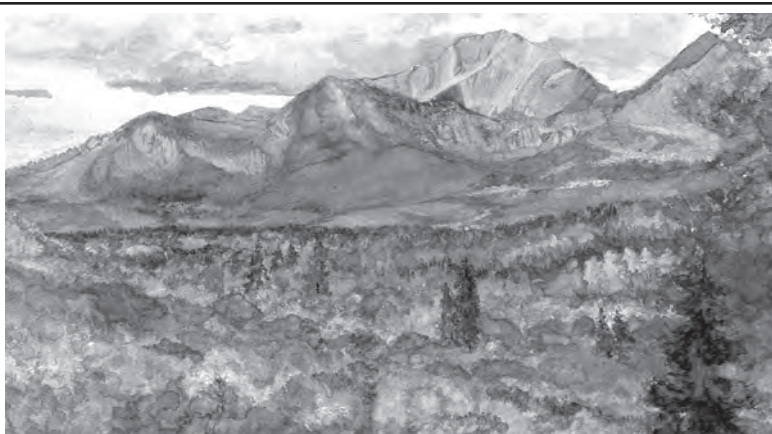
Volunteers can also sign up at www.pagosacommunityinitiative.org by selecting "volunteer" to help us man the Walmart collections.

A ripple of impact

Last year's toy drive touched the lives of more than 200 children and families, affirming that small acts of giving can create big moments of joy. This year, organizers aim to expand reach and ensure every age group, including teens, benefits from the season of giving.

How you can get involved today

- Donate: New, unwrapped toys suitable for children of all ages.
 - Volunteer: Help with collecting, sorting and distributing toys to families.
 - Spread the word: Tell friends, co-workers, schools and faith communities about the drive.
 - Sponsor: Local businesses can provide financial support or assist with events and logistics.
- See Toy on next page



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Southwest Colorado 250/150

The Power of Place has been released for distribution throughout Southwest Colorado.

The Power of Place is a noteworthy publication, written by local authors, that highlights the unique history of the two tribes and eight counties that make up the Southwest Colorado region.

The magazine features memorable stories celebrating the 150-year anniversary of Colorado statehood through the culture, the people and the landscape that define our communities.

Copies of The Power of Place are free and can be obtained by submitting a request via the contact us form on the Southwest Colorado 150 website. Copies are also available at local libraries, museums and visitor centers in the Southwest Colorado area.

For more information, to request a magazine or to subscribe to the newsletter, visit www.colorado150southwest.org.

The Southwest Colorado 250/150 Local Organizing Committee is comprised of eight counties (Archuleta, Dolores, Hinsdale, La Plata, Montezuma, Ouray, San Miguel and San Juan) and two tribes (Southern Ute and Ute Mountain). The mission of the organization is to highlight the culture and heritage of our communities while celebrating and honoring the unique anniversaries of the state of Colorado and the United States of America.

Toy

■ continued from previous page Important details

An additional drop-off is at the PCI Center, 550 B Hot Springs Blvd., open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, call (970) 585-6253 or visit the PCI website.

Join the Chrystal Snow Memorial Toy Drive and turn this season into a movement of care. Your toy, your time or your shout-out can light up a child's holiday and strengthen the fabric of our community.

Community news.

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



240 Glade Drive • \$1,075,000

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/1001SoaringEagleCourt>



1001 Soaring Eagle Court \$899,000

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 island for extra prep space. The primary bedroom and bathroom are conveniently located on the main floor. A 2-car garage connects through the laundry area. Upstairs has two bedrooms and a full bathroom, while the lower level offers versatile space for entertainment or an office, plus a fourth bedroom set up as a bunk room with a full bath nearby. MLS # 824532

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



33 Fawn Court • \$949,000

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>



120 Big Horn Court • \$535,000



1231 Ranchland Drive
\$290,000

MLS #829827

40 Acres qualifying for Forest Service Ag, has had significant fire mitigation done and property taxes are under \$200 per year. Borders Ute Indian Reservation and has multiple flat build areas close to power. Single car garage, 3-room insulated bunkhouse on a foundation with a 1200-gallon cistern, 2 wood burning stoves and 2 propane heaters. Solar panels power the 12-volt bunkhouse functions, pump and lights. Garage accommodates a 22' RV, you can live for 2 years on the property when you are building. Pricing does not include the well on the property because the well does not have potable water. The kitchen has refrigerator, stove and sink. This is a gated community close to the Tara Mandela Buddhist Retreat.



470 Terry Robinson Road
\$649,000

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.



471 Deer Trail
\$339,108

MLS # 826138

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



109 Carol's Curves
\$230,000

MLS # 824583

The mobile home portion of this residence is 500 square feet. 1304 square feet is stick built. There is also a small cabin built in 1993, 576 square feet with bath and studio kitchen. The 1.2 acres is partially fenced for dogs 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.

Own Your Own Colorado Land!

30 High Drive, MLS # 794628, \$55,900



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Montezuma Orchard Restoration Project featured at Growers and Producers Forum

Healthy Archuleta

Last week, Healthy Archuleta sponsored the Growers and Producers Forum meeting at the Community United Methodist Church, welcoming speakers from the Montezuma Orchard Restoration Project located in Montezuma County.

Jude Schuenemeyer enlightened those attending the forum with a little history about how fruit trees and fruit production came to Southern Colorado, specifically the western corner of the state.

Going back to the 1800s, settlers in the southern region faced times of hunger due to the lack of agriculture. However, several families that trekked over the San Juans brought seeds of heirloom fruit trees along with other types of fruits and vegetables.

Many varieties of apple trees were planted in orchards along Hermosa Creek in La Plata County. This became one of many locations where orchards popped up on homesteads throughout the area.

Reliance on these orchards was a staple for feeding families and communities, while maintaining self-sufficiency, as obtaining supplies, particularly in winter, was difficult. A trip to get supplies meant a six-week wagon ride.

Today, many of the varieties of apples brought to our region are now extinct, long forgotten in abandoned

orchards.

This is where the Montezuma Orchard Restoration Project comes in. Its work revolves around the revitalization of these abandoned orchards, taking tissue samples from old trees to document specific cultivars and provide grafting materials for growing new trees.

At its nursery located in Mancos, the project offer classes in tree pruning and also classes in grafting scions for home cultivation.

What Schuenemeyer shared is that these cultivars have been around for decades and are proven to be hardy to our climate and growing conditions, making growing these heritage apple trees a great option for home and commercial orchards alike.

To learn more about what the Montezuma Orchard Restoration Project is doing, you can visit its website at www.montezumaorchard.org. There, you can read more about the history of Colorado orchards, the many varieties of apples from the past and other educational information about the project. You can also check out the class schedules, and read about its mobile juicing operations and harvesting schedules.

The next Growers and Producers Forum is scheduled for January 2026. To learn more about Healthy Archuleta and the upcoming Growers and Producers Forums, please visit our website at www.foodcoalition4archuleta.org.

Ruby Sisson Library Foundation and Friends joins Colorado Gives Day

By Katie Dobbins

Ruby Sisson Library Foundation and Friends

The Ruby Sisson Library Foundation and Friends is excited to announce its participation in Colorado Gives Day.

Last year, more than 95,000 donors donated \$54.8 million for Colorado Gives Day, creating a powerful wave of generosity across the state benefiting nonprofits, proving Colorado Gives Day as one of the largest giving events in the nation and Colorado's biggest day of giving.

Giving for Colorado Gives Day runs Nov. 1 to Dec. 9. During this period, every donation is boosted by a \$1 million+ Incentive Fund and gives nonprofits the chance to win part of \$100,000 in prizes made possible by Colorado Gives Foundation and its presenting sponsor.

The existing Ruby Sisson Library building was built in 1989 with a small addition in 2004. The population of Pagosa Springs has increased approximately four times in size since then. In addition, Pagosa Springs has transformed into a tourist center and

the library has been reclassified as a tourist community library. In order to deliver the services our growing county deserves, we need an expanded space.

The Foundation and Friends began our Mountains of Opportunity campaign to expand and renovate the library in 2021.

The Huddleston Group was retained to conduct a campaign planning and feasibility study. This study clearly demonstrated the need in the community for the current expansion proposal.

Thus far, we have raised \$4,300,000 of our \$5,300,000 goal. In August we broke ground on phase one of the expansion and hope to complete the full project by summer of 2026. Your donation through Colorado Gives will help us to complete this project.

Support the Ruby Sisson Library Foundation and Friends with a donation now through Dec. 9 at www.coloradogives.org/organization/RubySissonLibraryFoundation.

For more information about Colorado Gives Day, visit ColoradoGives-Day.org.

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 'Bohemian Rhapsody' addressee
5 Brusque
9 ___ in a blue moon
13 Desktop symbols
15 Come from ___
16 Actress Miles
17 "Tootsie" Oscar winner
18 Scented splash
20 Compared
22 Cheer up
23 Mystery writer ___ Jackson Braun
25 Jockey's wear
26 Unerasable, as ink
29 "Happy Gilmore" prop
30 Sets free
31 Places a value on
35 Barrister's field
36 "Steppenwolf" writer Hermann
38 Fertility clinic supply
39 Boating hazard
42 Main ideas
45 ___ Paulo, Brazil
46 Clips and clasps
48 Out of bed
50 Keys in, as data
51 Sara Gilbert role
53 Marked down
57 Needless
59 Whittle away
60 Finger jab
61 Delight
62 Avoid cancellation
63 Ocho minus cinco
64 Escape slowly
65 Disavow
- ## DOWN
- 1 Grain grinder

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51					52			53				54	55
57							58			59			
60					61					62			
63					64					65			

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- 2 Exotic berry
3 Jazz great
4 Part of U.C.L.A.
5 "Bodak Yellow" rapper
6 Roswell craft
7 Undue haste
8 Grove growth
9 Egg-making organs
10 Annoying
11 Battle ___, Michigan
12 Brings in
14 Declining, in a way
19 Fritter away
21 Actress
24 Nome native
26 Woes
27 U.S. weather agcy.
28 Piston movement
32 Sofa's cousin
33 Who follower
34 Mouth off
37 Weaken
40 Newsstand spread
41 Far from interested
43 Border collie, by nature
44 Made certain
47 "The Iron Lady" Oscar winner
48 Get used to
49 Enjoy
52 Old horses
54 Traffic director
55 Genesis locale
56 Like morning grass
58 Majors in acting

Answers to Previous Crossword:

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

Pagosa Springs Friends of the Wild announces official launch, conservation partnership invitation

By Rachel Suh

Pagosa Springs Friends of the Wild

Pagosa Springs Friends of the Wild (PSFOTW) is pleased to announce its official formation as a community-driven nonprofit created by local residents committed to a shared goal: keep Pagosa wild.

With the help of our mascot, Tillard the Pagosa Tree Farmer, we are stepping forward to protect the wildlife, open spaces and dark-sky landscapes that define the spirit of Pagosa Springs.

As Pagosa continues to grow, neighbors throughout the community have expressed a desire for balanced development — growth that respects the land, preserves habitat and reduces wildlife-resident conflict. PSFOTW is launching to help build that balance.

At the center of our announcement is a collaborative conservation partnership invitation to the owners and developers of the Pagosa West parcels. We are inviting them to work with us to create a community nature park, protect elk migration routes, and establish a long-term open-space buffer within urban de-

velopment for residents and visitors to enjoy.

This work is supported by information we received regarding matching-fund grant opportunities for urban migration corridors designed to reduce wildlife conflict.

We believe this partnership can preserve safe migration pathways, reduce wildlife-resident conflict, enhance long-term property values and create a signature nature park that remains accessible to the public year-round.

Our organization is focused on cooperation, not confrontation — because when conservation and development partner early, the whole community benefits.

To support this effort, PSFOTW has established a restricted land acquisition fund dedicated solely to securing key open-space parcels for wildlife habitat, buffering and community nature access. Through this fund, the organization will pursue conservation partnerships, land purchases, stewardship agreements, open-space preservation and the development of the Pagosa Springs Walking Trails and Nature Park.

Tillard the Pagosa Tree Farmer serves as our official ambassador and embodies our mission: “Planting Seeds. Protecting Trees. Keeping Pagosa Wild.”

Residents will see Tillard throughout town as we launch donor campaigns, community events and the Pagosa Tree Farmer merchandise line — all supporting the land acquisition fund.

Community members can support our efforts by donating, volunteering, becoming a Pagosa Tree Farmer (www.bonfire.com/store/keep-pagosa-wild), sharing our mission or partnering with us on conservation-first planning.

To become a Friend of the Wild, donate, sponsor or discuss partnership opportunities, please email conserve@keeppagosawild.org or contact us at keeppagosawild.org.

PSFOTW is a registered Colorado nonprofit and charitable organization in good standing, dedicated to preserving wildlife habitat, migration corridors, dark-sky open space and the ecological identity of Pagosa Springs. Our federal 501(c)(3) status has been applied for and is pending approval.

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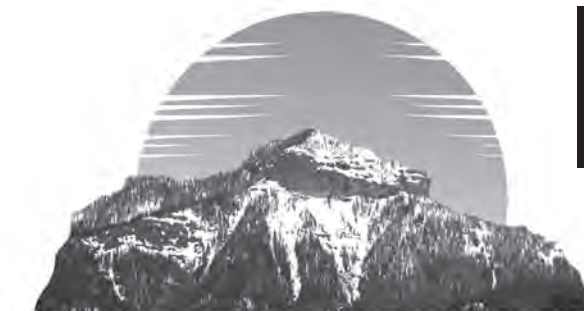
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Available Sides

Available for purchase in 8 oz or 1-Quart Size
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Place your orders by 6pm on November 23rd and pick up Thanksgiving morning

Subscribe to The SUN

A Safe Place in Pagosa Inc./Aspen House receives \$25,000 donation, introduces challenge matching program

By Pattie Copenhaver
A Safe Place in Pagosa Inc.

A Safe Place in Pagosa Inc. (ASPiP) is deeply honored to announce a generous \$25,000 donation from Ross Cameron of Warrior Trading, made in memory of Wayne Walls.

This remarkable contribution resulted from a unique stock trading challenge initiated by Cameron and inspired by Ted Walls, Wayne's son, who works alongside Cameron.

Cameron began with a \$2,000 trade and set out to see how much he could turn it into within one month — with the full amount to be donated to A Safe Place in Pagosa. At the end of the challenge, the total had grown to an incredible \$25,000, all of which was gifted to help build Aspen House.

"We are truly humbled by this extraordinary act of generosity," said Pattie Copenhaver, executive director of ASPiP. "This donation not only honors the memory of Wayne Walls, but also demonstrates the power of compassion and creativity in supporting our community's most vulnerable adults."

We are launching our Aspen House Warriors Challenge to double the impact of Cameron's donation. Our community truly has a warrior's heart and matching the \$25,000 will help us reach our next construction milestone — completing the dry-in phase of Aspen House so our future residents can have safe and supportive housing

right here in Pagosa Springs.

All funds from this donation and all matching donations received will go directly toward the restricted building fund for Aspen House, a supportive home being built in Pagosa Springs for adults with developmental disabilities.

ASPiP has already raised the funds to install utilities infrastructure and complete the initial foundation pour. This new gift brings the organization significantly closer to its next milestone — raising \$850,000 to complete the dry-in phase of construction.

Aspen House will provide a safe, permanent home for adults with developmental disabilities in Archuleta County, along with on-site services and supports to help residents live full, meaningful lives.

"This incredible gift brings us one step closer to making Aspen House a reality," Copenhaver added. "We're so grateful to Ross, Ted and the entire Warrior Trading community for believing in our mission."

For more information about ASPiP, or to contribute to the Aspen House project, visit www.asafeplacepagosa.org.

About ASPiP

Founded in 2015 by two mothers of sons with developmental disabilities, ASPiP is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing safe, supportive housing and services for adults

with developmental disabilities in Archuleta County.

Aspen House will be located at 2079 Vista Blvd. and will offer residents independence, stability, and access to daily living supports, vocational opportunities and community inclusion.

For more information and to learn about upcoming opportunities to support Aspen House, please call Copenhaver at (970) 398-1636 or visit www.aspenhousepagosa.org.

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

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SUDOKU

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

Level: Advanced

Fun By The Numbers

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

Help Protect Pagosa's Night Sky Join the Dark Sky Steering Committee

The Town of Pagosa Springs is seeking motivated volunteers to help guide our effort toward International Dark Sky Community certification by 2026. Committee members will assist with lighting inventories, sky quality measurements, community outreach, education, and the promotion of responsible night lighting throughout the Town of Pagosa Springs.

Preferred backgrounds

- Astronomers
- Ecologists
- Science teachers
- Night sky enthusiasts or hobbyists

Ideal volunteers

- Passionate about protecting the night sky
- Strong communicators with creative problem solving skills
- Ready to attend meetings, participate in events, and collaborate with Town staff
- Committed to supporting long range dark sky goals for the community.

For more information, please visit www.mypagosa.org or contact oodell@pagosasprings.co.gov or 970-585-8610.

Here's How It Works:

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

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

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Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship book club to meet Sunday

Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

As we settle in anticipating the first snow this season, being part of a book group makes sense.

As a faith tradition that embraces life-long learning, the Pagosa Unitarian Universalist (UU) Fellowship offers a newly formed book group for the fourth Sunday each month.

We have spent the year engaging in ways to live our values in the world with our Action Sunday. This Sunday morning, Nov. 23, at 10:30 a.m., we will continue with “Social Change Now: A Guide for Reflection and Connection” by Deepa Iyer, which tells us, “The framework of the book embodies an ecosystem approach, which means that when we play our roles, deepen our connections and nurture relationships, we can more effectively and quickly reach our common goals.”

It is not too late to join us in this workbook-style learning. If you’re interested, show up. We even have a book for loan. Nov. 30 is a fifth Sunday, which our fellowship has

designated as an opportunity for rest as a spiritual practice.

We are honored to be a part of the Pagosa Pride community, and will hold space this coming Thursday, Nov. 20, to host a gathering for Trans Day of Remembrance, at 6 p.m. All are welcome to join in the spirit of education and connection as we build a welcoming place for all.

The UU Community Hub offers space for on-going programs and events. Check out PagosaUU.org for updated information.

The Wise and Wakeful Circle meets the second and fourth Saturdays of the month at 10 a.m. Facilitated by Elaine Harding and Sam Johnson, this group welcomes all who are interested in authentic connection with self and others.

Meditation and Qigong practices are offered most weeks, and more information can be found in the current newsletter, also found on the website.

The Pagosa UU Fellowship is located at Greenbriar Plaza, Unit B-15, 301 N. Pagosa Blvd., on the north side facing Pagosa Peak.

We are grateful for the many community organizations that have provided services to the wider community. If you’re looking for a spiritual home with a close connection to justice work, visit or find us online. You are welcome here.



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*Ask for Taylor Elliott for these specials!

SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center announces upcoming events

By Shayla McClure
SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center

The Sunday service on Nov. 23 at 11 a.m. will be the Thanksgiving service around the fireplace at the Xanadu Retreat Fairy Home.

A \$40 love donation will be collected. Contact (970) 510-0309 for more information.

Upcoming events

- Nov. 20, 5:30 p.m.: New Moon Drumming Circle with Shayla Azriel by the fireplace at Xanadu. A \$10 love donation will be collected. Contact (970) 510-0309 for more information.
- Nov. 23, 11 a.m.: Thanksgiving service around the fireplace at the Xanadu Retreat Fairy Home. A \$40 love donation will be collected.

Contact (970) 510-0309 for more information.

- Dec. 19, 5 to 7 p.m.: Christmas party at the Pagosa Springs Visitor Center. A Christmas celebration with music by Smoke and Honey, giveaways and more.
- Dec. 24, 7 p.m.: Christmas candlelight Zoom service. Call/text (970) 510-0309 for the Zoom link.
- Dec. 31: Burning Bowl Ceremony and potluck. “Manifesting Your New Chapter in New Life Possibilities” with Azriel. A love donation will be collected.
- Jan. 11, 2026, 11 a.m.: “Who is Writing Your Life Script?” Welcome a new year, a new chapter and a new part of you. A love donation will be collected.



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Thank You

The Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs extends heartfelt thanks to all who made this year's Jewels & Jeans Barn Dance a success—our attendees, sponsors, and generous silent auction donors. Your support and enthusiasm make a lasting difference in our community.

We are also deeply grateful to the individuals and businesses whose continued generosity fuels Rotary's outreach programs and scholarships for 2025, ensuring we can keep serving where we are needed most. Together, you embody the true spirit of our motto, "Service Above Self."

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Shelley Low - Exit Realty • Subway Pagosa • The Tile & Carpet Store • Village Interiors Carpet One

Rotary

Club of Pagosa Springs
pagosaspringsrotary.org





Photo courtesy Aubrie Limebrook

Members of the 4-H Wolf Creek Wonders pose after packing 70 Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes at the group’s November meeting. Members brought in donations to fill each box with necessary and special items for children in need and added special notes to fill them with love, as well.

Preview Calendar

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

Thursday, Nov. 20

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.
Early Community Thanksgiving Dinner. 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., pick up at 445 Lewis St. All are welcome to partake of this takeaway turkey and trimmings dinner.
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.
Teen Advisory Board. 4-5 p.m.,
■ See Calendar on next page



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Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

Sisson Library. Be a voice at your library. Build leadership skills, mentor others and plan programs that interest you. Snacks will be provided. For ages 12-18.

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.

Curtains Up Pagosa Presents 'How the Grinch Stole Christmas.'

7 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium. Tickets are available at www.onthestage.tickets/show/curtains-up-pagosa.

Friday, Nov. 21

Notary Drop-in. 1-2 p.m., Sisson Library. Colorado documents can be notarized with proper identification.

Curtains Up Pagosa Presents 'How the Grinch Stole Christmas.'

7 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium. Tickets are available at www.onthestage.tickets/show/curtains-up-pagosa.

Saturday, Nov. 22

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.

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.

Curtains Up Pagosa Presents 'How the Grinch Stole Christmas.'

2 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium. Tickets are available at www.onthestage.tickets/show/curtains-up-pagosa.

Curtains Up Pagosa Presents 'How the Grinch Stole Christmas.'

7 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium. Tickets are available at www.onthestage.tickets/show/curtains-up-pagosa.

Monday, Nov. 24

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.

American Sign Language Class.

4-5 p.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. Learn and practice ASL skills in a group setting. No minimum skill level is required. Drop-ins are welcome.

Tuesday, Nov. 25

Coffee and Kiddos Playgroup. 10-11 a.m., Aspire Medical Services and Education, 602 S. 8th St. For those with kids ages birth to 3 years old.

Pagosa Springs Stitchers. 10 a.m.-noon, Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Bring your current stitching project and a snack/drink if you wish, and enjoy the fellowship of other stitchers. All are welcome.

Veterans for Veterans of Archuleta County.

10 a.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. Veterans and family members are invited to share experiences with vets of all ages. Find out about the latest in vets benefits, vets news and community-focused events. Contact (970) 880-8387 for more details.

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

English as a Second Language.

4-7 p.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Your library offers English as a second language classes. These classes are free. Call (970) 264-2209 or email for more information. Beginning students are encouraged to attend from 4-5 p.m., intermediate students from 5-6 p.m. and advanced students from 6-7 p.m.

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. 26

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 information.

tion.

Bridge. 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.

■ See Calendar on next page



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TIME IN NATURE A TIMELESS SECRET TO LOWERING STRESS

Traffic, social media, TV drama, real-life drama, issues and burdens all contribute to our stress levels.

Rather than putting kids in 'time-out', perhaps adults need time out.

Actually, we do.

Time out in nature or even passively watching nature scenes helps de-stress in marked ways.

Note today's excerpted study for further information. In a recent study, Roger Ulrich, an associate dean in the College of Architecture at Texas A & M University, found that even the briefest exposure to nature can reduce stress. Even more surprising to Ulrich--how quickly brief bursts of nature work.

In some cases, stressed-out subjects relaxed after only three minutes of nature viewing. In their study, Ulrich and his colleague, University of Delaware psychologist Robert Simons, showed 120 students a graphic, 10-minute accident film. Before and after the film, viewers' stress levels were evaluated, using such standard measures as blood pressure, muscle tension and heart rate, along with a self-rating of stress.

Next, students viewed a videotape of a nature or urban scene for 10 minutes. One nature scene showed a peaceful river, the other a forest. The urban scenes depicted a street with heavy traffic, a street with light traffic, an outdoor mall with many pedestrians and an outdoor mall with few pedestrians. Viewers' stress levels were again evaluated. "Participants recovered more quickly and more completely from stress when exposed to either of the nature settings than to the urban settings," Ulrich says.

"By the end of 10 minutes, people who viewed the nature scenes were as relaxed or sometimes even more relaxed than before viewing the accident film."

Source: "Nature Has Charms That Can Reduce Stress". By Kathleen Doheny <http://articles.latimes.com>

Bonus Tip: Visit <http://www.AmazingFacts.org> for spiritual refreshment every week!

"Thou, even thou, art Lord alone; thou hast made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth, and all things that are therein, the seas, and all that is therein, and thou preservest them all; and the host of heaven worshippeth thee." Nehemiah 9:6

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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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Bird of the Week



Photo courtesy Jeffrey Reichel

This week's Bird of the Week, compliments of the Weminuche Audubon Society and Audubon Rockies, is the Lewis's woodpecker.

This western woodpecker utilizes five main habitat types for breeding, open ponderosa pine forests, oak woodlands, oak-pine forests, riparian cottonwood galleries and naturally burned forests. Loss or degradation of these habitat types is the likely cause of the population decline which has placed the Lewis's woodpecker in the category of birds in need of continued conservation efforts for recovery.

The patchy distribution of this species extends from southern New Mexico to the middle reaches of British Columbia and from California to eastern Colorado. Pagosa Springs has attracted birders looking to find these birds in summer.

In the past, naturally occurring, slow-burning wildfires had increased habitat for the Lewis's woodpecker by opening up the forest canopy. This in turn promoted an increased shrub layer and a subsequent increase in insect food. Lewis's depend on the softer wood of dead or decaying trees and snags, or the abandoned cavities of other species for nesting.

The Lewis's brilliant coloration is unusual in a woodpecker. Its back is a dark, glossy green and its belly is pinkish. It wears a broad, gray breastband and collar, and its face is colored deep red. Lewis's employ feeding methods that are also unusual for a woodpecker. In summer, using wide, rounded wings that give them buoyant flight, they feed primarily on flying insects. Like a flycatcher, they watch from high perches and dart out to snag an insect, or they feed while circling high in the air like a swallow. They aren't designed to excavate wood-boring insects, but will glean them from bark. They are the rufous hummingbirds of suet feeders, guarding this food source and aggressively chasing other birds off.

In fall, Lewis's woodpeckers switch to harvesting nuts, fruits and grains, which they cache in bark crevices for winter. When the acorn crop is poor, like ours was this year, they must leave in search of food. In 2023, we counted more than 100 Lewis's woodpeckers on our Pagosa Christmas Bird Count, an unusually high winter count of these birds. They seemed to be everywhere. This year, despite reports of numerous sightings in the summer, it will be interesting to see if we find any in December.

For information on events, visit www.weminucheaudubon.org and www.facebook.com/weminucheaudubon/.

Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

Thursday, Nov. 27

TARAgiving Community Potluck.

TARA Community Center, 333 Milton Lane, Arboles. Turkey, ham and dressing will be provided. Bring a side dish or dessert to celebrate gratitude and giving together. Sign up in advance if possible by calling (970) 585-6380 or emailing taracommunitycenter101@gmail.com with the number of people and what you plan to bring.

Monday, Dec. 1

Women's Fellowship. 9-11 a.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd.

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

American Sign Language Class. 4-5 p.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. Learn and practice ASL skills in a group setting. No minimum skill level is required. Drop-ins are welcome.

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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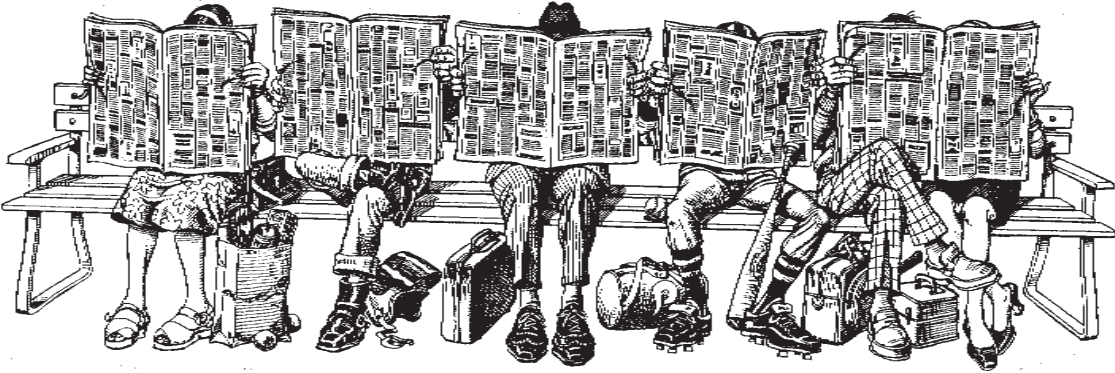
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Thrive through the cold with expert advice

By Barbara Brattin
PREVIEW Columnist

Here comes winter. Those words make most of us in the mountains smile, but despite the glorious year-round Colorado sunshine, shorter days and more time inside away from our abundant fresh air are inevitable.

Health professionals know winter is a time when we are more likely to catch a cold or fight a bout of flu. It's also a time when our moods can swing low. But there are ways we can ward off sickness and remain joyful even as those dark, Arctic-like nights set in.

Three areas of focus can help us stay healthy year-round, but especially during the winter months: boosting the immune system, improving mental well-being and staying physically active despite the colder weather.

Living where we do, most of us have the third strategy pretty well wrapped up, even if it's just a daily walk through the neighborhood. Boosting the immune system and improving mental health may not be as easy to do.

We have new nonfiction titles to help:

- "Age Stronger: Prevent Pain. Preserve Mobility. Age Resiliently" by Dr. Matt Weist provides a plan for incremental steps that boost your overall physical strength to build lasting resilience and mobility. No quick fixes, just a prescription to fortify your body against the aging process.

- "The Dharma of Healing: The Path of Liberation from Stress, Pain, and Trauma" from spiritual teacher Justin Michelson offers techniques on managing the personal trauma inflicted by a world in crisis.

- "Doing Small Things with Great Love: How Everyday Humanitarians Are Changing the World" by Sharon Eubank is filled with stories of people who have chosen to make a difference and identifies the 12 principles of change that you can manifest in your own corner of the world.

- "The Longevity Formula: Ayurvedic Principles to Reduce Inflammation, Increase Cellular Repair, and Live with Vitality" by Dr. Avanti Kumar-Singh provides a blueprint for boosting longevity by reducing inflammation and increasing cellular repair.

- "The Pleasures of Wintering: Winter-Inspired Rituals for Rejuvenation, Serenity, and Joy" by Erin Niimi Longhurst. Indulge in rest alongside the earth to refresh your body and spirit.

Construction update

The exterior walls are up around our new addition and you can clearly see the tall clerestory that will bring abundant natural light into our new spaces. The view from the west outlines the main entry doors below the clerestory and the new program rooms to the south. From the south you will see the outline of the new

Library News

children's room and the adjoining children's garden near 8th Street.

We're having fun selecting all the wonderful new features in the children's room and building beautiful collections to fill our new spaces.

Your donations go a long way toward making this new library exceptional. The Colorado Gives campaign is underway and your donations are matched through Dec. 9. Thanks from all of us. You can donate at <https://www.coloradogives.org/organization/RubySissonLibrary-Foundation>.

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.

Online author talks

Our free online author talks with

New York Times bestselling authors continue in November with more talks scheduled for you to watch live on Zoom or via a recording later in the month.

For details and to register, go to <https://libraryc.org/pagosalibrary/upcoming>.

Novelist Amanda Peters ("The Berry Pickers"), Pulitzer Prize winning journalist Charles Duhagg ("The Power of Habit") and memoirist Joseph Lee ("Nothing More of This Land") highlight this month's offerings.

Conversational Spanish

The Conversational Spanish group will meet Mondays in November 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.

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.

■ See Library on next page

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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.



See Our Blog

Mountain Men



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

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CSU programs and resources to welcome winter season

By Cindi Galabota
PREVIEW Columnist

The holidays are upon us, and Colorado State University (CSU) Extension is excited to celebrate the snowy season with our community. We are offering holiday-themed programs and we have resources to prepare you for the winter season.

Have you ever wondered why cranberries float or what health benefits they offer? Join CSU Extension staff for our Can your own Cranberry Sauce workshop on Friday, Nov. 21, from 5:30 to 9 p.m. at the CSU Extension building. Terry Schaaf and Cindi Galabota will lead you through safe, research-based techniques for effective food preservation methods at our altitude. You also will learn about the natural history of cranberries, discover other fun facts and take home your own jar of delicious, homemade cranberry sauce. The cost to attend is \$25 and preregistration is required. Call today. Please call (970) 264-5931 or visit www.archuleta.extension.colostate.edu to register.

Galabota and Judy Brennan (adult and teen services coordinator with the Ruby Sisson Library) are thrilled to join forces to offer a free tree and wreath-making workshop on Dec. 6

Library

■ continued from previous page

Writers Guild

Thursdays from 9 to 11 a.m., Ruby's Writers Guild welcomes writers looking for support, guidance, resources and camaraderie with other writers at this free gathering.

During construction the group will meet at the Pagosa Senior Center, 451 Hot Springs Blvd. Enter through the left side of the building.

Tech Time

Free in-person slots are available from 2 to 4 p.m. on Thursdays. Taylor helps with basic questions relating to computers, smartphones and tablets and also provides assistance in accessing the library's online resources. No appointment is needed, but please bring your device's charger and passwords with you.

English as a second language classes

Free in-person evening classes
happen on Tuesdays and Thursdays

Extension Viewpoints

at 10 a.m. at the 4-H Hall, located at the fairgrounds. You will learn about the natural history of trees around the world and those that call Colorado home. Then, you will make your very own wreath or centerpiece that you can display throughout the winter. You may also learn a thing or two about the history of wreath making in many cultures. Class size is limited and filling up quickly. Please call the Ruby Sisson Library at (970) 264-2209 to register today.

Are you looking for winter resources? We offer a variety of resources for our community. Questions? Call (970) 264-5931 or email cindi.galabota@colostate.edu.

CSU Extension in Archuleta County is housed at the Archuleta County Fairgrounds, located at 344 U.S. 84. We are open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and are typically closed from noon to 1 p.m. for lunch.

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,

Email list

Do you want to be added to our email distribution list to learn about upcoming programs and the latest resources? Email cindi.galabota@colostate.edu to be added to our list.

Or, to learn more about the many programs, resources and services offered by CSU Extension, visit <https://extension.colostate.edu>.

Leave a can, take a can

The CSU Extension office has set up a food pantry shelf at the entrance to our building. If you feel so inclined, you may leave nonperishable items on the shelf. If you are in need, feel free to stop by and take what your family can use.

CPR and first aid classes

CPR and first aid certification classes are offered every other month at the CSU Extension office, generally on the third Monday and Wednesday from 6 to 10 p.m. The cost for the classes is \$80 for combined CPR/first aid and \$55 for CPR, first aid or recertification. Call the Extension office at (970) 264-5931 to register.

Check out the online option on our website, <https://archuleta.extension.colostate.edu/>.

Website

For more information on library books, services and programs — and to reserve books, e-books, books on CD and DVDs from the comfort of your home — please visit our website at pagosalibrary.org.

NOTICE OF Planning Commission Vacancy

The Town of Pagosa Springs is seeking applications from Town residents interested in serving as a regular or alternate member of the Planning Commission. This position is appointed by the Town Council and plays an important role in reviewing development proposals and guiding the future growth of our community.

Planning Commission members serve a four-year term and generally meet on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 5:30 pm at Town Hall. Additional meetings or work sessions may be scheduled for specific planning and development topics. Interested individuals must be a Town resident.

If you are committed to community service and interested in helping shape the future of Pagosa Springs, we encourage you to apply.

For more information, member qualifications, and applications to serve, visit www.mypagosa.org or contact oodell@pagosasprings.co.gov or 970-585-8610.

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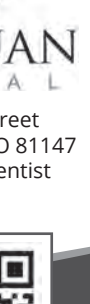
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Checking in on elderly neighbors matters more than ever this holiday season

By Ricardo Martinez
PREVIEW Columnist

As the holiday season approaches, it's important to remember that not everyone experiences this time of year with family gatherings, busy schedules or festive celebrations.

For many older adults, the winter months can bring increased feelings of loneliness, isolation or depression, especially when mobility challenges, health concerns or severe weather make it difficult to get out of the house.

Simple acts of kindness, like a quick knock on the door, a phone call or offering to pick up groceries can make a meaningful difference in the well-being of an elderly neighbor. These small gestures help ensure they are safe, warm and have the necessities they need as temperatures drop.

Checking in regularly also provides an opportunity to notice signs that someone may need additional support, whether it's help with shoveling snow, transportation to medical appointments or accessing local community services.

Over the holidays, when feelings of loneliness can intensify, these neighborly connections become even more important.

By reaching out and showing compassion, we strengthen our community and ensure that older adults feel valued and supported. A few minutes of your time could brighten

Senior News

someone's entire season.

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 Archuleta Seniors Inc. (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 multiple 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 Thursday and Friday, Nov. 27 and 28, for Thanksgiving. No programs or lunch

■ See Senior on next page

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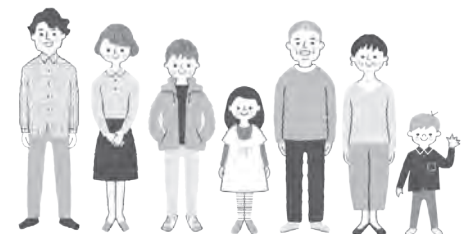


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Senior

■ continued from previous page
service will be provided those days.

Upcoming events

Put us on your schedule. We will have a tree at the Festival of Trees on Dec. 5 and 6. Also, there may be a competitive team jigsaw puzzle contest fundraiser with prizes in January — more details will follow.

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 oppor-

tunity 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 p.m.

Bridge is a four-player card game with partners sitting opposite each other around a table. It is a trick-taking card game using a standard 52-card deck. Come alone or bring a partner.

Hand and foot card game

Whether you are new to hand and foot or interested in learning, please join us most Tuesdays at 1:15 p.m. at the Senior Center.

This card game involves four rounds, with the final round reached sometime between two and three hours later. Plan to stay and meet some new friends or catch up with those you have missed.

No experience is necessary, so come willing to learn.

Emotional freedom

On the second Wednesday of the month, join the “Tappers,” who practice a self-regulation technique to relieve symptoms of anxiety, de-

pression, insomnia and more.

Come learn the technique on the second Wednesday of each month at 10 a.m. at the Senior Center. Everything you need to get started is included in this fun, engaging, supportive class taught by Judith Newman, LPC.

Mindful drawing

Mindful drawing is an easy-to-learn, relaxing and fun way to create beautiful images by drawing structured patterns. Join our friendly instructor, Roberta Strickland.

Classes are every Wednesday at 1:15 p.m. in the Senior Center. This activity is open to all ages. Help us create an intergenerational community. For those under 18 and/or with disabilities, you are welcome to join us, but we kindly ask you to please bring an adult chaperone with you.

There will be no class on Nov. 26.

Mexican train dominoes

Mexican train dominoes meets on Wednesdays at 1:15 p.m. at the Senior Center.

Ruby’s Writers Guild

The Ruby’s Writers Guild 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.

Scrapbooking and crafters club

The Pagosa Springs Scrapbooking and Crafters Club continues to hold monthly meetings the second Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Community Center, 451 Hot Springs Blvd., within the dining hall in the Senior Center.

■ See Senior on next page

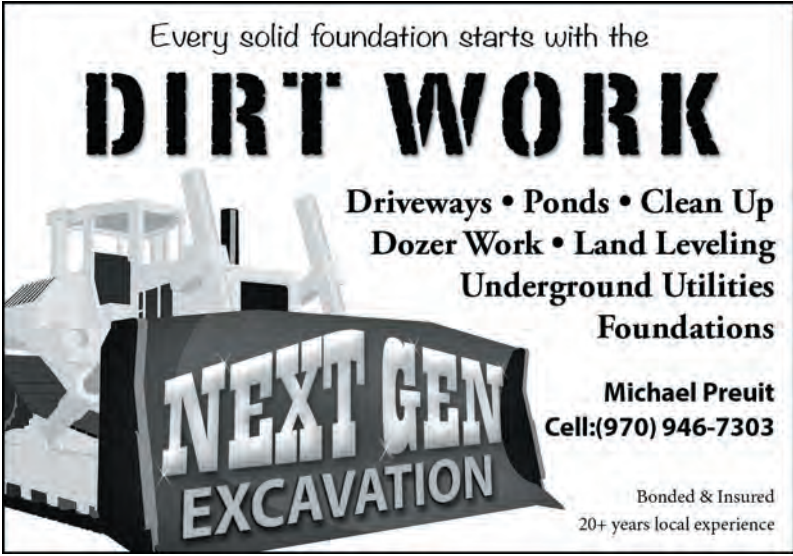
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Senior

■ continued from previous page

This creative tradition has been happening since 2005, and we invite all creative individuals to come and share ideas, connect with new and old friends, learn/share creative techniques, share supplies and indulge in a potluck lunch together. Bring your scrapbooking projects — or any crafting project that you may want to work on with the group.

Help us create an intergenerational community. Those ages 18 and older are welcome. For those youth age 17 and younger, we kindly request an adult chaperone accompany them.

If you would like to be added to the mailing list, please send your request to copenhavercreative@gmail.com and you will receive notification each month of the upcoming meeting, along with handy tips and tricks for scrapbooking and more.

Share lunch Monday through Friday

Join local elders, their friends, family and community at the Silver Fox's Den in person for delicious meals Mondays through Fridays at the Community Center between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Grab 'N' Go pickup via our convenient portico is also available all week.

To reserve your meal for the day, please make your reservation via text or phone call to (970) 264-2167 by 9 a.m. weekdays. Please say whether it is dine-in or Grab 'N' Go.

Our dining hall is open to all ages and welcomes you all with kindness and warmth. We provide hot/cold meals for anyone in the community interested in a nutritious and delicious meal. For those 60 or older we request a suggested donation of \$6, but no one will be turned away. There is a \$10.50 charge for guests under the age of 60.

Meals include a main course, side dish, fruit/dessert, garden salad plus beverage.

Community Cafe menu

Call before 9 a.m. Please note that occasionally the menu must be changed on short notice.

Thursday, Nov. 20 — BBQ pork ribs, creamed corn, apple crisp, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Friday, Nov. 21 — Egyptian pomegranate molasses chicken, roasted potatoes, garden salad, fruit, baklava and milk.

Monday, Nov. 24 — Beef stew with root vegetables, mashed potatoes, garden salad, fruit, vanilla yogurt and milk.

Tuesday, Nov. 25 — Pork tortilla soup with tortilla strips and cotija cheese, garden salad, fruit, peanut butter bars, and milk.

Wednesday, Nov. 26 — Turkey breast with cranberry sauce, stuffing, sweet potatoes, garden salad, poached pears, pecan pie and milk.

Thursday, Nov. 27 — Closed for Thanksgiving. Enjoy the holiday.

Friday, Nov. 21 — Closed for Thanksgiving.

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 en-

rolling 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.

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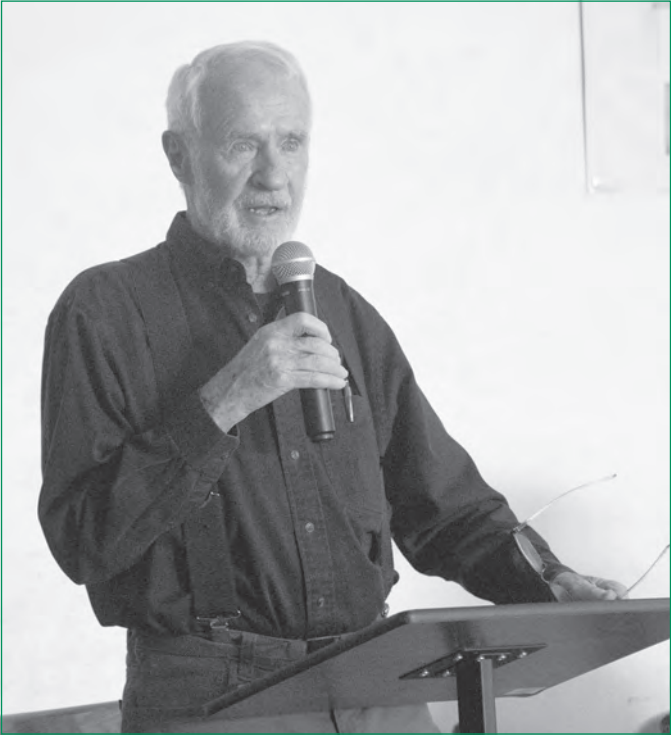
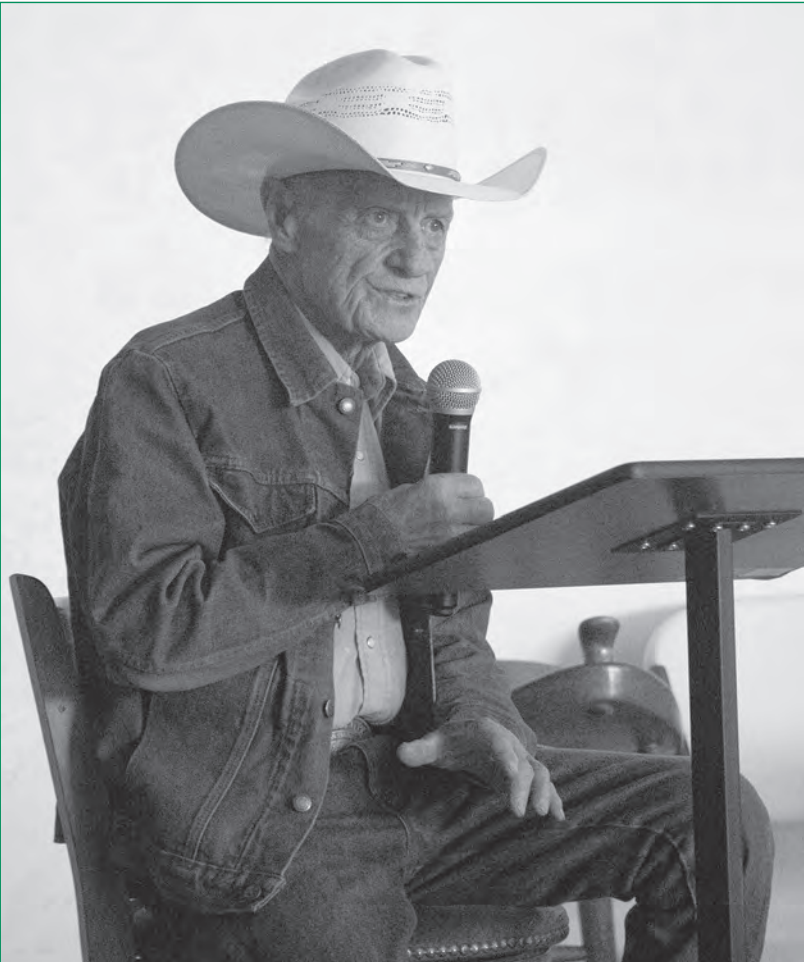
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PAGOSA SCENE . . .

WESTERN HERITAGE DAY

PREVIEW photos/Randi Pierce

Scene ... hearing stories of Pagosa Country’s past at Saturday’s Western Heritage Day at the Archuleta County Fairgrounds. The event focused on passing on living history, heritage, tradition and more, and featured live music by the Leonards.



Kid-crafted holiday decor ideas

Special to The PREVIEW

Getting children in on the fun of decorating for the holiday season makes this time of year that much more special. Children who make their own ornaments and other items can proudly display them all season long.

There are plenty of handmade holiday crafts to keep little fingers occupied. Here are some ideas to spark imagination and hours of creative fun.

Easy snow globes

A visit to the store will uncover various items that can be turned into snow globes.

Look for a plastic cookie jar-like container with a lid that screws on tightly; otherwise, choose glass mason jars. Use a general ratio of 1 cup of water, 3 teaspoons of glycerine or

an oil like baby oil or mineral oil, and a few teaspoons of glitter.

Glue a plastic Christmas tree or snowman figurine to the underside of the lid of the jar with a rubberized adhesive or another glue that will hold up to wet conditions. When dry, replace the lid, invert the jar and watch the snow fall.

Salt dough ornaments

Salt dough is a modeling dough made from 2 cups of all-purpose flour, 1 cup of salt and about 3/4 cup of water. Mix the ingredients together and knead until the dough is smooth and easy to work with. Add more flour if it's too sticky; more water if it's too dry.

Kids can use cookie cutters to cut shapes from the rolled-out dough or sculpt freehand. Remember to poke a hole through the top of the ornament to thread through string or ribbon later on.

While the dough can be dried out by air in about a week, a faster method is to bake in an oven at 250 degrees F for 1 1/2 to two hours, or until the dough is dry and hard. Kids can then paint the dried creations.

Paper gingerbread figures

Children may delight in making life-sized gingerbread girls and boys they can decorate and then hang up on the wall.

A roll of brown postal paper will work, as will other embellishments like markers, paints, crayons or ribbon.

Kids take turns being traced while lying down on a piece of rolled-out paper. Then the general shape is cut out and decorated. Children can raise their arms, bend their legs, or vary their positions to give life to the gingerbread figures.

What parents can do to control kids' screen time

Special to The PREVIEW

Modern parenting poses unique challenges that parents from previous generations did not need to confront. Among the more challenging hurdles parents must clear involves managing kids' screen time, which is no small task given the prevalence of devices in the modern world.

Excessive screen time can lead to a host of negative outcomes for youngsters.

A 2023 study published in the journal *Cureus* that examined the effects of excessive screen time on children reported a host of negative outcomes affecting kids' physical and mental health, as well as their development.

Authors of the study noted such outcomes include:

- Diminished language development that can reduce the quantity and quality of interactions between children and caregivers.
- Lower academic performance in later years.
- Obesity.
- Sleep disturbances.
- Depression.
- Anxiety.

The authors of the study noted the effects of screens are not entirely negative, particularly when parents ensure kids' screen time is not excessive. Screens can enhance education and learning and thus have a positive impact on cognitive development.

There's much to gain from proper screen use, and parents can try the following strategies to govern kids' screen time so they are not vulnerable to any of the negative outcomes associated with excessive screen use:

- Set screen time guidelines. The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) offers age-based guidelines concerning screen time, noting that children 2 and younger should be very limited in their use of media and screen time.
- The AAP recommends children between the ages of 2 and 5 be limited to no more than one hour per day of high-quality programs. Children between the ages of 6 and 10 should be limited to 1.5 hours per day, while kids older than 10 should be limited to no more than two hours per day of recreational screen time. Parents can utilize these guidelines to limit excessive screen use.
- Encourage more traditional play time. The Mayo Clinic recommends

parents encourage unplugged, unstructured play time. The American Psychological Association notes that a vast body of research has found that play that isn't organized or directed by adults or older peers is necessary for kids' physical, emotional, mental and social development. Parents can emphasize and encourage more traditional play time that does not involve devices with screens.

Keep screens out of bedrooms. The Mayo Clinic notes the significance of keeping devices out of bedrooms, where usage can be difficult to monitor, particularly when kids go to bed at night. Parents can make it a rule to charge devices overnight and outside of bedrooms in an effort to ensure kids aren't looking at screens after bedtime.

Screens can foster cognitive development, but it's important that parents make every effort to limit the amount of time kids use screens each day.



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Song of Solomon waits to be understood

By Betty Slade
PREVIEW Columnist

I was invited to teach an online Bible study. I jumped at the chance. “Of course. What is the subject you want me to share? Teaching the Bible is my most favorite thing to do.” “Share whatever the Lord is showing you, and tell us what is on your heart.”

He is showing me simply how to be in an intimate relationship with Jesus. I’ve been on this spiritual journey for 65 years. I will meet him at the end of my days and, as David pens, “As for me, I will see Your face in righteousness; I shall be satisfied when I awake in Your likeness” (Psalm 17:15 NKJV).

To seek Jesus is my heart’s desire. I’ve been all over the place, teaching topics, books in the Bible and how Christians are to behave in the organized church. The key subject that goes begging is a relationship with Jesus. And, the most intimate book in the Old Testament about Jesus comes from God’s heart and is the Song of Solomon.

The devil has perverted the language and message and has told people, Christian people, this is an erotic book; stay away from it. It’s too hard to understand. Song of Solomon waits to be understood. Who will unlock these pages in a simple way? I told the Bible study leader, “I can and will.”

The book of John in the New Testament is known as the Holy of Holies of the gospels. Song of Solomon, tucked away in the poetic section, is the Holy of Holies of the Old Testament. The New Testament answers the Old Testament. And the Old explains the New.

Song of Solomon is an allegory of the little Shulamite, the bride of Solomon. The story has many levels. It represents the bride of Jesus, the church, and Israel, the wife of God. The Shulamite is the prophetic image of the church.

The Passion Translation frames the words in Song of Solomon 8:2, “I long to bring you to my innermost chamber—this holy sanctuary you have formed in me. O that I might carry you within me.” The members of the church, not the church building, are that sanctuary, the temple and the holy of holies. The kingdom of heaven is within us.

Artist’s Lane

In this crazy world with so many unanswered questions, I sense a hunger, more than ever, to know God. Today is different than when I first wrote a book in 1992 about Song of Solomon.

When I taught this book in women’s Bible studies, some of the women had a hard time accepting these scriptures. The teaching was not received. Some of them had been abused sexually and it was too painful to understand God’s pure love and motives in this song. They couldn’t see the love of God behind their pain.

Thirty-three years later, there are those who are more inclined to study and unlock the depths of this subject, and understand the spiritual journey they are on — letting their hearts be drawn into an even more sacred romance with Him.

Song of Songs is the centerpiece of God’s love in the Old Testament. The New Testament answers this love letter between King Solomon and His bride, the Shulamite. In 17 metaphors, the song depicts the life, death and resurrection of Jesus — the face of God.

The hunger in people’s hearts today is wanting to know God and knowing themselves. These are uncertain times, and the Song of Solomon seems to have become more relevant today. In a changing world, it will be difficult to navigate our lives without knowing Jesus in a new way.

Final brushstroke: When asked what the Lord was showing me and what was on my heart, I immediately said, “What I think about all the time is this intimate relationship with Jesus. If your students will accept it, I will teach Song of Solomon.”

After one meeting, the Bible study proved to be successful and they look forward to the next several months delving into Song of Solomon, which waits to be understood.

Send your comments to betty-slade.author@gmail.com.

Views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN.

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Noon, Thursday, November 20

The Pagosa Springs SUN office will be closed
Thursday, November 27, and Friday, November 28
in observance of Thanksgiving

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SNOWBLOWERS. Tract Atlas, 24 inch, 4HP, \$350. Craftsman MTD -Pro, 28 inch, 9HP, electric/pull start, \$600. Airen's 1128, 28 inch, 9HP, electric/pull start, \$600. All serviced, run, operate. Take all, \$1,100. (970)382-1285.

PERSONALS

FREE. CONFIDENTIAL. HELP. 24-hour domestic violence and sexual assault helpline. (970) 264-9075.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONCERNED ABOUT ANOTHER'S DRINKING? Pagosa Springs Al-anon Family Group meets Tuesdays 6-7p.m., Pagosa Bible Church. Questions? Call/text (303)815-8569. www.al-anon.org.

PAGOSA AA: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 5:30 Men's Tuesday 5:30 Ladies Friday 11:30a.m. Saturday and Sunday 10a.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 12 noon. Zoom Sunday 10a.m. Zoom Thursday noon women only: Zoom ID 858319763 password 754234. 315 N. 2nd Street, County Road 200 (2 miles off Hwy. 160). Call Kathi (970)946-1482, or central office (888)333-9649.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHOP AND DIEN LOCAL in Durango November 28-30. Enter to win a local gift card through the Holly Jolly Gift Card Drawing. The more you spend, the more chances you will have to win. \$3,000 in prizes will be given away. One lucky winner will earn a \$1,000 gift card. All details are available at www.singingwithsanta.org/gift-card-drawing.

THERE IS A SOLUTION GROUP of Alcoholics Anonymous meets Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, 5:30- 6:30p.m, Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. Questions? Richard: (970)903-1456. Diamond: (970)264-1073. Ann: (303)918-8137. Charlotte: (970)903-9690. More resources: www.aa.org, www.aa-westerncolorado.com, (970)245-9649, (888)333-9649 (24 hours).

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HELP WANTED

NEWSPAPER REPORTER — We are searching for a talented reporter to fill a full-time position in Pagosa Springs, Colorado, at The Pagosa Springs SUN. Our journalists are driven to find stories that matter to our community and are dedicated to fairness, accuracy, and ethics. The successful candidate for this position is someone who knows how to cover hard news but also loves to write about people and their passions. They know that a good interview is often a good conversation and know when to ask the tough questions, but also when to listen. The ideal candidate has exceptional writing skills and is willing to put in the extra effort and research to deliver an engaging story. Preferred qualifications for this position include: Degree or diploma in journalism, or a related field; At least 1-3 years of experience as a reporter with experience covering hard news and feature stories or experience at a college newspaper; The ability to meet tight deadlines and report the news as it happens; Superior language, writing and editing skills; Strong photography skills; Able to work a variety of schedules, including evenings, nights and weekends; Excellent critical thinking and problem-solving skills; Ability to work in a fast-paced environment; A valid driver's license and a reliable vehicle; Willingness to live in or near Pagosa Springs, Colorado. If this sounds like the perfect position for you, we would love to hear from you! To apply, please send your resume, letter of interest and relevant samples of your work to Chad Richardson, Vice President of News, crichardson@oururkemediagroup.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.

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HELP WANTED HELP WANTED HELP WANTED HELP WANTED HELP WANTED

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.

OWNERS, THERE IS A LONG TERM RENTAL SHORTAGE IN PAGOSA SPRINGS. We have a waiting list for approved tenants. Need all types of rentals. Call us today for lowest commission and highest customer service. All you have to do is wait for your rent check to come in. We do the rest! Rocky Mountain Realty & Rentals (970)507-1192.

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.

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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@gmail.com.

EXPERIENCED HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR: 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.



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ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

O'Rourke Media Group is recruiting for an Advertising Account Executive. We're seeking a proven sales professional that has a demonstrated track record of driving growth and new business development. Great opportunity for an experienced media sales rep, recent college grad or those looking to make a career change from outside of the media business. We offer an excellent compensation plan ranging from \$50K to \$100K+, great support and training, a fun work environment and lots of autonomy.

OMG is a family-owned, diversified media company that was formed in 2018. Originally just a holding company that owned a few newspapers, O'Rourke Media Group (OMG) has established itself as an industry-leading, digital media company comprising a cutting edge digital agency and an impressive group of award-winning, hyper-local print newspapers and niche magazines. OMG now operates in eight states, 36 markets with over 50 publications and hyper-local websites. For more company information, please go to our website at www.orourkemediagroup.com.

POSITION OVERVIEW

The Advertising Account Executive is responsible for managing client relationships, developing advertising strategies, and ensuring client satisfaction. This role requires a blend of sales, marketing, and communication skills.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Client Management:

- Act as the primary point of contact for assigned clients.
- Build and maintain strong, long-lasting client relationships.
- Understand clients' business objectives and advertising needs.

Strategy Development:

- Collaborate with internal teams to develop effective advertising campaigns.
- Present campaign proposals to clients and negotiate terms.
- Monitor campaign performance and adjust strategies as needed.

Sales and Business Development:

- Identify and pursue new business opportunities.
- Prepare and deliver sales presentations.
- Engage in networking activities.
- Meet and exceed sales targets.

Reporting and Analysis:

- Provide regular reports on campaign progress and results.
- Analyze data to identify trends and insights.
- Present findings to clients and internal teams.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelor's degree in Marketing, Advertising, Business Administration, or a related field.
- Proven experience in sales or account management, preferably in the advertising industry.
- Strong communication, negotiation, and presentation skills.
- Ability to build and maintain client relationships.
- Excellent analytical and problem-solving abilities.

SKILLS

- Client Relationship Management
- Sales and Business Development
- Strategic Planning
- Communication and Presentation
- Data Analysis

Interested candidates should apply directly with an email message and resume to Jim O'Rourke at jorourke@orourkemediagroup.com. Feel free to provide Linked In credentials as well.

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Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HELP WANTED

HOT TUB SERVICE TECH. \$20 per hour start pay. Full or Part Time. Must have vehicle. Will train.
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MECHANIC WANTED, DULCE at Repair Remedy. \$22 per hour to start. One month, \$25. Jacob, (970)585-4508.

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SNOWBLOWERS. Tract Atlas, 24 inch, 4HP, \$350. Craftsman MTD -Pro, 28 inch, 9HP, electric /pull start, \$600. Airens 1128, 28 inch, 9HP, electric /pull start, \$600. All serviced, run, operate. Take all, \$1,100. (970)382-1285.

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COMMERCIAL FOR RENT

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RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

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LOVELY NEWLY REMODELED 3 bedroom 2 bath 2 car garage home on wooded lot. Available around November 20th. \$3500 / month Call Team Pagosa, (970)731-8599, or visit the website teampagosa.com.

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RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

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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. \$2,150 /month. Available October 10th. Call Team Pagosa, (970)731-8599, or visit teampagosa.com to take a look.

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