



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

The Lewis Street intersection is pictured on Wednesday, March 4. Lewis Street at U.S. 160 will be closed beginning at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, March 11, in order for demolition work to begin to start work on the underground utilities at the location. The closure will be in place until late May or early June, and motorists are encouraged to use 4th Street as an alternative. The 2026 construction season for the U.S. 160 reconstruction project is set to begin on Monday, March 16. For more information, see page A3.

Temperature matches record high, chance of precipitation ahead

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

Lots of sun and warmer-than-average temperatures hung around Pagosa Country over the last week as a record high temperature was matched on Sunday, March 1, at 63 degrees in Pagosa Springs.

According to a forecast made by Shawn Prochazka with Pagosa Weather, last Sunday's high matched the previous record set in 1943.

The high for today, Thursday, March 5, in Pagosa Springs is forecast to be 57 degrees with sunny skies, according to the National Weather Service (NWS). A slight chance of rain and snow showers is expected in the evening, with a chance of precipitation listed at 20 percent and a low near 21 degrees. Wind gusts as high as 20 mph are also expected.

A 30 percent chance of showers is expected for tomorrow, Friday, ■ See Record A8

School board votes for higher match in grant application

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

The Archuleta School District (ASD) Board of Education (BoE) held a special meeting on Feb. 25, at which it unanimously voted to approve a 60 percent match in funds with the district's Building Excellent Schools Today (BEST) grant application for the newly proposed pre-kindergarten through eighth-grade (PK-8) campus at the Vista Boulevard site.

Superintendent Rick Holt ex-

plained that the district had received feedback in regard to its BEST grant application, noting that early on in the process, ASD stated that the grant application required a 56 percent match.

"That amount has changed to 58 percent," Holt said, explaining that "one of the reasons our match has gone up ... is we have currently no bond debt, so we have plenty of bond capacity."

He mentioned that the district's ■ See School A8

Town looks at engaging in engineering contract for new wastewater treatment facility

To explore declaring state of emergency for sewer

By Derek Kutzer
Staff Writer

On March 3, the Pagosa Springs Town Council, which also sits as the board of the Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District (PSSGID), gave town staff direction to continue in its current relationship with Roaring Fork Engineering, while also engaging in a new separate contract to design and build a new wastewater treatment facility plant downtown.

The council also gave town staff direction to explore the possibility of declaring its sewer system "a state of emergency."

The town first hired Roaring Fork

Engineering, a Carbondale-based civil engineering firm, in 2023 to conduct a system feasibility and rate study for the community.

That work included an in-depth analysis of the PSSGID's current system operations, including the uphill wastewater conveyance system that pumps the town's wastewater 7 miles uphill to the Vista wastewater treatment plant, owned and operated by the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD), through a series of pump and lift stations.

Prior to this current system being installed, the PSSGID operated a lagoon-based wastewater treatment system, transitioning to the uphill ■ See Wastewater A6



Flood recovery work continues

Photo courtesy Town of Pagosa Springs

Southwest River Engineering works to shore up the embankment adjacent to the Pagosa Springs History Museum after the October 2025 flooding which took off several feet of the riverbank. Following work at the site, the crews were set to begin working on debris removal near the Apache Street Bridge.



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Dan Janowsky, center, coaches at the Rocky Mountain Wrestling Invitational at Pagosa Springs High School in January.

Janowsky nominated for National Coach of the Year Awards

National High School Athletic Coaches Association

It is with great pleasure that the National High School Athletic Coaches Association (NHSACA) announces the advancement of Pagosa Springs High School's Dan Janowsky as a finalist for the 2026 NHSACA national coach of the year in the sport of wrestling.

Eight finalists from across the nation will be honored during the National Coach of the Year Awards Banquet, which will take place at the NHSACA's national convention at the Hyatt Regency Hotel and Conference Center in Coralville, Iowa, on the evening of July 1.

The highlight of the banquet

will be the naming of the NHSACA national coaches of the year in 19 recognized sports categories.

Janowsky was nominated for this national honor by the Colorado High School Coaches Association.

This selection was based on longevity, service to high school athletics, honors, championship years and winning percentage.

The nominees and finalists are evaluated by experts in the field of coaching using a sport-specific rubric to assign points in each category.

The NHSACA is the oldest coaches association in the nation, formed by coaches, for coaches, and has been recognizing national coaches of the year since 1978.

Index

Opinion	A2
Letters	A3
Obituaries	A4
Denise Marie Santille	
Michael Vanover	
Outdoors	A7
Colorado Parks and Wildlife offering \$1 million in grants to reduce human-bear conflicts i local communities	
Sports	A13
No. 12 Lady Pirates enter postseason with three-game win streak	
Education	A11
Local students represent Pagosa Springs in all-state choir festivals	
Legals	A12
PREVIEW	
Live Performers	2
Crossword	8
Sudoku	10
PREVIEW Calendar	12
Classifieds	23

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Opinion



The Pagosa Springs SUN

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O'Rourke Media Group — Pagosa Springs, LLC
ISSN 2835-3994 (Print) ISSN 2835-4001 (Online)

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2/26	62	26	0.00	NA
2/27	59	23	0.00	NA
2/28	61	24	0.00	NA
3/1	63	26	0.00	NA
3/2	56	27	0.00	NA

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OUR VIEW

Jumping to incorrect conclusions

Last week, we ran an article on the front page about the fact that the Pagosa Springs Planning Commission had approved the sketch design for the planned regional workforce center — a big step forward for the years-long project.

Then we shared the story out on social media and, unfortunately, social media did its thing.

Oh, the (incorrect) conclusions people jumped to.

While some commented that they didn't care for the style and character of the proposed building, others immediately began demanding answers as to how we the taxpayers would be funding this project and questioning why we don't get to vote on it if we're paying for it.

The short answers are: you're only funding it if you want to donate toward it, and you don't get to vote on it because no local governmental entity is looking at taking out a bond or raising taxes to complete it.

This project is being driven by a local nonprofit, and it isn't new.

As one person retorted, "It took you longer to complain than it would to actually read the article."

It's a shame that people jumped to poor conclusions and so quickly bashed a project that will bring value to our community.

The regional workforce center — and Build Pagosa, the nonprofit behind it — were born out of business owners, educators and others who saw a need for opportunity and learning in our community that they felt would pay dividends both for individuals and the community as a whole, immediately and into the future.

Since, they've poured their blood, sweat and tears (probably literally) into making this become a reality, even securing a \$1 million Congressionally Directed Spending grant toward it, meaning its value has been seen from a local level up to the federal level.

They have worked with the school district to build career and technical education options already, they've held an annual dinner and auction to fundraise, and they've helped

students find good jobs right out of school and build skills they can use throughout their life regardless of their future professions, to name just a few things.

And they've done it without raising your taxes or saddling you with public debt.

We call that a win.

You can find out more at www.buildpagosa.org, or by searching for previous stories about the project and organization at www.PagosaSUN.com. You might just be pleasantly surprised at what's happening in our community.

If you choose to not tune into the news all the time, that's fine. But, when you'd like to voice your opinion or immediately jump to anger, remember that you've chosen to not be informed.

There's a lot in this world that continues to be big, heavy and incredibly divisive, but we need to remember not everything has to be. Sometimes we can just celebrate the wins and the hope for a brighter tomorrow.

Randi Pierce

LOOKING BACK



From the March 5, 1987, Pagosa SUN — END OF AN ERA — After being in the family for 80 years, Mullins Barbershop has changed hands. Following in his father William W. Mullins footsteps since 1928, illness has finally forced Earl Mullins to turn the business over to new owner David Cordray.

LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

100 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
March 5, 1926

The First National Bank of Pagosa Springs closed its doors Monday morning by orders of the board of directors and is now in the hands of Bank Examiner L.G. Kennedy and assistant, R.C. Lynn, both of Denver, who arrived in this city on Tuesday evening and are busy making a check of the institution's assets and liabilities.

All kinds of rumors are afloat as to the cause of closing the bank, but out best information is to the effect that it was so ordered because all of the stockholders had failed to meet their one hundred per cent assessment, which was ordered by the bank commissioner ninety days ago, last Saturday being the last day for payment.

We learn that there is a possibility of the bank being re-opened, as the stockholders have that privilege, even after the bank's affairs have been turned over to a receiver by the examiner, in case matters reach that state. We believe that the majority of stockholders and depositors favor the re-opening if it can be so arranged.

L.J. Goodman returned Saturday from an extended visit to St. Louis where he purchased the spring and summer stock for the Goodman store and visited with his mother, who is in ill health.

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
March 9, 1951

Up until the last few games the townspeople and students are to be commended on their conduct at the games. There has been a lot of complaint from people about booing at games and shouting insults to the players and referees.

If you go to any of the games at the tournament, please let's not have any booing like the last couple of games here.

Maybe the referees aren't the best, but they do the best they can. If you don't like the way the referees call the plays please don't boo. It not only makes the referees mad but it has an effect on the players, as well as giving the town a bad name.

If you do boo at any of the games and the cheer leaders or students ask you to be quiet, please cooperate and try to help us make a show of good sportsmanship, if nothing else. Remember, this is a town we'd like to be proud of, and we can do that by being good sports.

We hope that those who do Boo will read this and pay some attention.

So no more booing at any of the games. PLEASE!

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
March 4, 1976

The honor camp at Arboles is due to be enlarged and a much larger number of inmates will be housed there this next work season. The arrangement of various honor and work camps around the state has been brought about by the overcrowding at the state reformatory in Buena Vista.

County Clerk Felima Gardner reports that there was one big last minute rush by motorists to purchase 1976 license plates last week. The deadline for license plates was February 27 and many more than usual had let it go until the last minute this year.

The first annual Frosty Frolics winter carnival in Pagosa Springs was considered successful. It is estimated that more than 150 persons competed in various events during the two days despite the spring-like weather.

High winds and heavy snows were the cause of Wolf Creek Pass being closed to travel for several hours Tuesday. There were no slides but the winds and heavy snow made visibility almost zero and driving was very hazardous at the times the Pass was closed. 54 inches of new snow was reported.

25 years ago

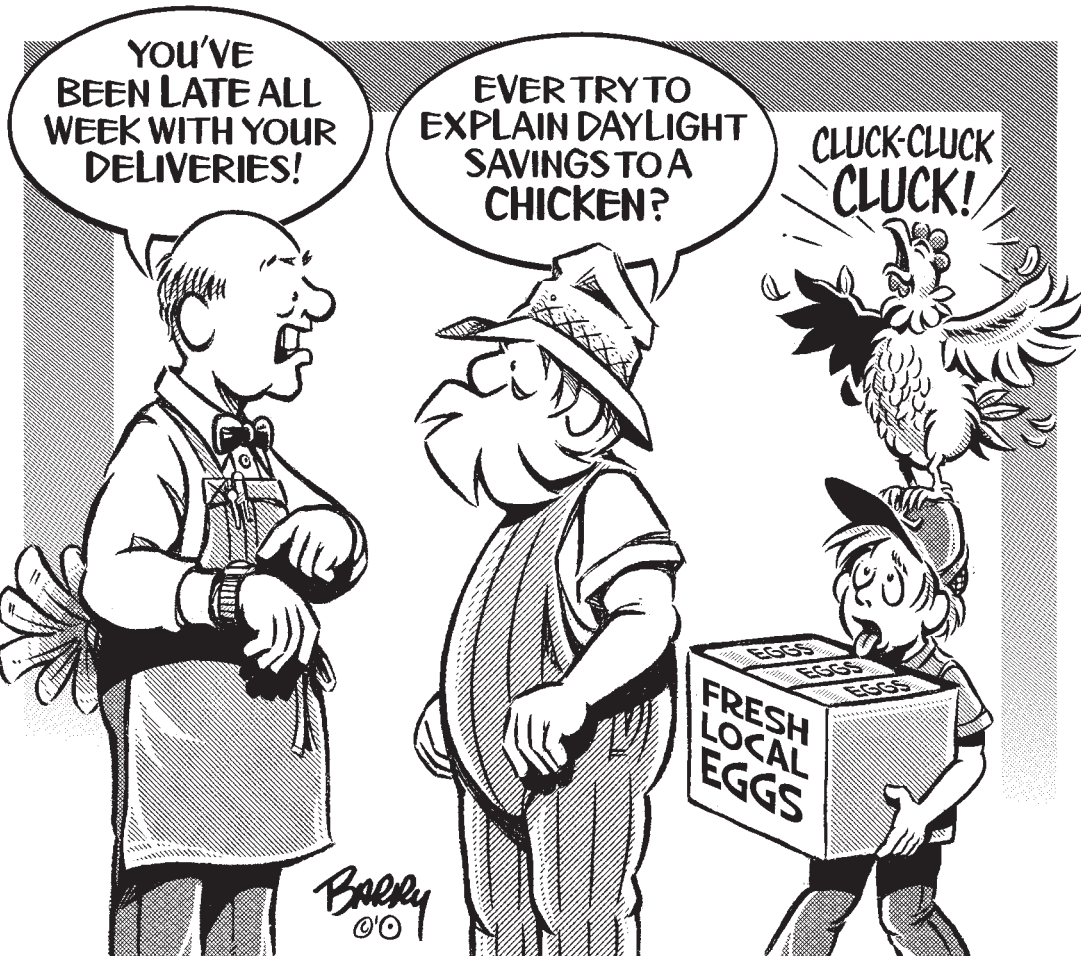
Taken from SUN files of
March 8, 2001

For the last decade, because of limited water rights, the Pagosa Springs Geothermal Heating District has limped along with the assistance of about \$40,000 in subsidies from the town.

Tuesday night, town trustees gave the district a boost, approving its first rate increase since 1994. The increase, from 45 cents per therm to 60 cents per therm, remains 45.5 percent below current natural gas rates.

Mark Garcia, geothermal administrator, said that, from the time it went online, the district had promised customers that rates would remain approximately 25-30 percent below the cost of natural gas. The approved increase remains well within that range.

Even with the added funds, it is uncertain if the district, built to handle twice the current capacity, will be able to operate without subsidies considering the cost of maintenance and legal fees.





SUN photo/Clayton Chaney
More than a dozen women from the community stand with the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners after the board proclaimed March 2026 as Women’s History Month in Archuleta County during its regular meeting on March 3. According to the proclamation, Congress officially designated March as Women’s History Month in 1987, and goes on to state, “women in Archuleta County continue to serve with distinction in government, nonprofit organizations, local businesses, first response agencies, schools, and community initiatives.”

Obituaries

Denise Marie Santille

At the age of 60, Denise Marie Santille passed away at the Pagosa Springs Medical Center after a year-and-a-half-long battle with metastatic breast cancer. She was surrounded by the love, presence and support of her family — those she cherished above all else.

Born in Elmira, N.Y., on Sept. 18, 1965, Denise was the daughter of the late Robert M. Woods and Philomena J. (Cantando) Woods.



From an early age, she carried a bright, creative spirit. She went on to attend Buffalo State College, where she honed her passion for art and design. She was an RA in her dorm, organizing and leading communal activities and bringing people together, earning the nickname “FUN” through her college years. She was described as “a cheerleader of all things good” by those who knew her in this phase of life — something that remained true until the very end. Denise’s professional journey then spanned over several decades, where she excelled in executive housekeeping positions at a variety of prestigious hotels and high-end properties, as well as a period of time managing her own business, Santille Cleaning Services. With her attention to detail, commitment to excellence and natural leadership, she was admired by both her colleagues and guests alike. Her work in the hospitality industry not only elevated the standards of service wherever she went, but it also gave her the opportunity to nurture her love of creating beautiful and welcoming spaces — traits that became a hallmark of her career. Denise’s work ethic was second to none, and she took great pride in her role, always striving to provide the highest level of service.

Denise is survived by her beloved husband of 34 years, Steven C. Santille, with whom she shared a life built on partnership, laughter and unconditional love. She leaves behind her three children: daughter Shelby Suzanne (Santille) Quezada Sosa, daughter Kaley Rose Santille and son Nicolas Lorenzo Santille; grandson Luca Lorenzo Quezada Sosa, born to Shelby and her husband, Lorenzo Quezada Sosa. Denise is also survived by her six siblings, and many nieces

and nephews, each of whom she adored deeply. Her siblings: Charles M. Woods, Patricia A. (Woods) Dryburgh, Victoria J. (Woods) Deinema, Robert J. Woods, Timothy W. Woods and Nicole L. (Woods) Mulligan.

For Denise, family was everything. And her family spanned much larger than those listed above. She also had many friends who she considered family. In her eyes, there was no such thing as a stranger, but rather friends she hadn’t met yet. She devoted her life to nurturing, protecting and uplifting each person she loved. Her warmth was limitless, her compassion steady and instinctive. She was the one who showed up, who listened without judgment, who effortlessly put the needs of others before her own. Denise had a heart shaped by kindness, generosity and unwavering positivity. Even in the most difficult moments, she found light — often through her infectious sense of humor, which brought joy and comfort to everyone around her. Creativity lived at the center of who she was. She had an artist’s soul, expressing herself through art, design and imaginative pursuits that brightened the lives of those she shared them with. Denise also had a love for adventure and beauty, most memorably expressed in her fascination with hot air ballooning. The freedom and wonder of soaring in the sky reflected her own uplifting spirit — one that inspired others to see the world with curiosity and gratitude. Denise’s legacy is one of love — deep, selfless and enduring. She built a family rooted in closeness, laughter and unwavering support. Her presence will continue to be felt in the traditions she created the joy she spread, and the countless lives she touched with her generosity and gentle strength.

Her family takes comfort in knowing that her light will continue to shine through the memories shared, the lessons taught and the love she gave so freely.

She will be missed beyond measure and remembered forever.

Michael Vanover

Michael was born in Baltimore, Md., but was reared in south Louisi-

siana. He was often identified as a “Cajun with a Strange Last Name.” He and his wife, Renee, have been together for 49 years, successfully merging their diverse south Louisiana/Colorado cultures while living in three Louisiana cities (New Orleans, Berwick, and Morgan City); Houston, Texas; and Pagosa Springs, Colo. He will be greatly missed by all who had the privilege of knowing him.

Growing up in the south Louisiana Atchafalaya swamp and coastal ecosystems, Michael became an accomplished outdoor survivalist. He had a lifelong passion for varied outdoor activities, especially fishing. Then, as with many youngsters in south Louisiana, he began working at an early age in the oil and gas industry, learning the ropes from the bottom up and setting the base for achieving a highly successful professional career.

Along the way, Michael graduated from Loyola University in New Orleans and Harvard Business Management School in Boston. His early professional years were spent with numerous ancillary service and oil field supply companies, then with Shell Oil Co., where he coordinated essential drilling supplies throughout the southern on-shore and off-shore region. He thereafter moved to Houston and became a director of Union Texas Petroleum (UTP), responsible for five domestic and international divisions and for the development of UTP’s first independent offshore drilling program. He traveled overseas extensively, setting up many international operations. During these years, he was asked to serve on a U.S. Presidential Advisory Committee to represent the oil and gas industry along side such leaders as Lee Iacocca of Chrysler and Ruben Perrier of U.S. Steel. It was an exciting career.

Michael’s international career halted after the birth of his multi-disabled son. He decided to return to



south Louisiana, a friendlier place for a challenged child. At that point, he redirected his talent to other professional and philanthropic endeavors. He established an oil field consulting company, Vanover & Asc., served as CEO of Brownell Land Co., served as director of MC Bank in Morgan City for 20 years, served as a board member of the Louisiana Land Owners Association, and a board member/four-year president of St. Mary Parish Industrial Group.

Michael’s philanthropic interests and endeavors were varied. Rotarian for 38 years serving as president in Morgan City, La., and Pagosa Springs, Colo., as well as chairing a developmental program for four years at the Rotary District Level. He was a lifelong Mason and was the driving force behind the creation of the Morgan City Shrine Club. He developed and spearheaded a unique and successful 20-year fundraising event to support the Shreveport Shriners Hospital. The Boy Scouts of America awarded him the BSA Silver Beaver Award, their highest civilian award, for his efforts to establish a canoe camp in the Atchafalaya swamp to give boys from other places an introduction to swamp ecosystem. He served as King of Hephaestus, the oldest Mardi Gras Krewe in Morgan City, in recognition of his community leadership.

He is survived by his wife, Renee Meek Vanover; two sons, Russell Vanover and Chad Vanover (Melissa); four grandchildren, Sydni Guillory (John), Seton Vanover, Cade Vanover (Jordan) and Nicholas Lear; and numerous cousins. Also survived by his stepsister, Ann Bailey, and her three children and four grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Lorraine Bernucho Brownell; stepfather, Charles Russell Brownell; father, Tommy Vanover; and his beloved maternal grandparents, Leonard and Florence Bernucho.

No services are planned at this time. If inclined, please consider a donation to one of the following: Shriners Foundation, 2900 N. Rocky Point, Tampa, FL 33607, Pagosa Springs Rotary Scholarship Foundation, PO Box 685, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, or a charity of your choosing.

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County planning commission appoints new chair and vice chair, discusses community plan update

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

During its regular meeting held on Thursday, Feb. 25, the Archuleta County Planning Commission unanimously appointed Matt Nobles as chair and Mont McAllister as vice chair.

During the meeting, County Manager Longinos Gonzalez provided a brief update on the county's community plan, during which he explained the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) approved requests for proposal (RFPs) for the update at its Feb. 3 regular meeting.

Gonzalez explained that "the only real changes" made by the BoCC in approving the RFP was to leave out a mandated "draft date" in hopes to avoid any extra charges for a tight deadline.

HomesFund increases income limits for Non-Conforming Loan Program

HomesFund is pleased to announce a 25 percent increase in the income limits for its Non-Conforming Mobile/Modular Mortgage Loan Program.

This significant adjustment will allow more individuals and families to qualify for mortgage financing for these unique/hard-to-finance properties. Households up to 100 percent of the area median income can now participate in the program.

The Non-Conforming Loan Pro-

Gonzalez also mentioned that the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) indicated that as long as the county is making progress on the project, it could go into 2027 without being penalized.

An update to the community plan is being required by the state, through Senate Bill 24-174, which requires certain jurisdictions to complete local housing needs assessments, housing action plans that include affordability and displacement mitigation strategies, and new elements of comprehensive plans that incorporate water supply and strategic growth elements, according to the Colorado Department of Local Government's website.

Gonzalez went on to mention the BoCC also adjusted the budget for the project, noting that the original request was to have \$140,000 dedicated to the project, which would include

a \$70,000 from DOLA and a \$70,000 contribution from the county.

"There's a secondary grant opportunity," Gonzalez said, explaining that would provide \$50,000 in "incentive funds," and the BoCC decided to apply half of that to the application process. "So, potentially this could be not a \$70,000 matching on our side, but \$57,000 instead, if that were to be approved."

According to the county's website, the community plan "provides a vision for the future development of Archuleta County, developed through extensive public input in 2001."

The community plan was most recently updated in 2017, and can be viewed in its entirety online at www.archuletacounty.gov/county-government/development-services/planning-department/archuleta-county-community-plan.

"The update reformat the plan into an executive summary, three sections and an appendix; clarifies Goals, Policies and Action Items; and updates maps and statistics," the website notes.

The county recently held an interactive community forum on Feb. 17, at which the community plan update was brought up, Gonzalez noted.

Another interactive community forum, being hosted by Commissioner John Ranson, is scheduled for 5 p.m. on March 25 at The Springs Resort at 323 Hot Springs Blvd.

Planning Commissioner Peter Beaudry commented that he was concerned that the RFP only requires one community meeting for the plan update.

"So I'm glad that we're taking the initiative beforehand to have these community meetings," Beaudry said. clayton@pagosasun.com

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The Public Arts Committee is seeking professional artists or artist teams to design and install a new public artwork at Centennial Park. This highly visible installation will serve as a sculptural screen to soften existing EV charging stations and utilities while celebrating Pagosa Springs' identity as a Geothermal Campus. Artists are encouraged to create a site-responsive work incorporating Town-provided geothermal heating panels and reflecting the community's rich geothermal heritage.

The project budget is up to \$20,000, and the submission deadline for Round 1 is April 2, at 5:00 PM (MT). To apply, visit <https://mypagosa.org/2026-call-for-artists>

For questions, email: agadomski@pagosasprings.co.gov

USDA Rural Development Home Repair Loan and Grant Program available

U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development Colorado

For many rural homeowners on a fixed income, a leaking roof or a failing furnace is more than an inconvenience; it can be life altering.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development Home Repair Program can help with these situations and provide a critical lifeline for homeowners through low-interest loans and grants to modernize homes, and remove health and safety hazards.

The program is specifically tailored for those who own and occupy a single-family home in an eligible rural area.

Applicants must have a "very low" household income, generally defined as below 50 percent of the area's median income and be unable to

obtain affordable credit elsewhere. Homeowners age 62 or older are eligible for the grant portion of the program, provided they cannot afford to repay a loan.

Program terms for financial assistance:

- Loans: Homeowners can borrow up to \$40,000 for repairs, improvements or modernization. These loans feature a fixed 1 percent interest rate with a 20-year repayment term.
- Grants: Seniors can receive up to \$10,000 specifically to remove health and safety hazards or to improve accessibility (such as adding wheelchair ramps or walk-in tubs).
- Combined funding: Eligible seniors may combine a loan and grant for a total of up to \$50,000 in assistance.

The impact of this program is visible across the country. In Colorado,

Rural Development funding recently helped homeowners to replace a leaking roof, install a new furnace, upgrade windows and replace a failing sewer/septic system.

To find out more information on this program, contact the USDA Rural Development Housing Program team in Colorado at codirinquries@usda.gov or by phone at (719) 414-6039 or (970) 399-8199.

USDA Rural Development invests in rural America with programs to promote rural prosperity. These programs expand access to high-speed internet, electricity and infrastructure, and support economic growth, health care, education, housing and other community essentials.

Discover more investment details and historical data in the Rural Data Gateway and learn more about the agency at www.rd.usda.gov/co.

Troopers warn drivers to avoid illegal and unsafe passing

Colorado State Patrol

Along with tailgating, excessive speeding and running red lights, drivers who fail to legally pass create a hazard for themselves and other roadway users. Whether overtaking another vehicle in a marked no-passing zone or failing to leave a proper distance between vehicles, serious crashes can and do occur from unsafe passing.

Over the last five years, Colorado State troopers have averaged investigating 23 crashes each year resulting from unsafe passing that caused injuries or death. However, in 2025, troopers saw a slight bump up and investigated 26.

"When a driver allows frustration or impatience to determine their actions, troopers frequently see an uptick in aggressive and dangerous maneuvers," stated Chief Matthew C. Packard of the Colorado State Patrol. "Weaving in and out of traffic or taking a chance to pass when it is

clearly marked not to do that is mind-blowing. What could possibly be that important to roll the dice with your life? And, chances are, you will take an innocent person with you if you collide with another vehicle."

While there are many behaviors that indicate aggressive driving or a road rage situation, some examples of improper passing include:

- Overtaking a no-passing zone.

- Passing on a blind curve.
- Cutting off another vehicle after passing.
- Passing when oncoming traffic is too close.

Looking at five years of Colorado State Patrol crash data on unsafe passing, the most deadly and dangerous (injury-causing) crashes occur between noon and 6 p.m., with the peak hour being 3 p.m.

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RANDY BETTS

Commissioners approve letters of support for community projects

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

During its regular meeting held on Tuesday, March 3, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) unanimously approved multiple letters of support for two different entities.

One letter is supporting Pagosa Springs Medical Center (PSMC) in its request for a \$200,000 matching grant to renovate the old San Juan Rangers building located downtown at 302 San Juan St to serve as an additional emergency medical services (EMS) facility.

The other letter is in support of A Safe Place in Pagosa for a building development grant to complete construction of Aspen House, which “will provide safe, stable housing combined with meaningful supportive services for some of our county’s most vulnerable residents,” the agenda item states.

Both letters of support were included in the meeting’s consent agenda, and were discussed earlier in

the day during a work session.

PSMC

During the work session, PSMC CEO and Chief Medical Officer Dr. Rhonda Webb provided some information on the background of the medical center’s EMS program.

“We are one of very few hospitals in the state that own and operate EMS,” Webb said, explaining that the EMS program started in the early 1980s.

“We are very proud of our EMS providers,” she added.

Webb also explained that PSMC has been working with the Town of Pagosa Springs and the San Juan Rangers, “and the town is allowing us to use the San Juan Ranger building, after we remodel it, to have a downtown EMS station.”

Webb noted that having a downtown location will cut response times “significantly” in the downtown area and down U.S. 84.

Webb noted that PSMC is applying for a grant through the Colorado

Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) to help cover the cost to remodel the building.

“We’re very excited,” Webb added, noting that PSMC is fundraising for the project and still waiting for a total cost to come in for the renovations.

“That’s wonderful to have that downtown,” Commissioner Veronica Medina said.

In response to a question from Commissioner Warren Brown, Webb indicated that the downtown EMS location could cut response times by up to 15 minutes in some situations.

Aspen House

Aspen House and Aspen Services Executive Director Pattie Copenhaver provided information to the BoCC in regard to the organization’s plans and progress in getting a long-term home built for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the community to live in.

“We’re fundraising and getting close to our goal,” Copenhaver said, explaining that over the past 60 days,

it has received more than \$255,000 in private donations.

Copenhaver mentioned that the project is going on 10 years of being in the making, “and we’re really getting close.”

“And the reason we’re getting close is because our building community has come together and gotten us over \$1 million in deductions in the cost to build,” she added.

According to the letter of support, through the project’s general contractor and a “coalition of local building partners,” more than \$1 million has been donated in land and materials, “significantly reducing overall construction costs.”

Copenhaver explained that with 75 percent of the project’s funding now secured, the organization will now be able to apply for a building development grant through DOLA to assist with gap funding.

“So, we are truly excited,” she said.

“We’re really at that point where we’re gonna see this become a reality.”

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Colorado Safe Futures Fund grants aim to increase community safety

Colorado Safe Futures Fund

The Colorado Safe Futures Fund (CSFF) announced \$770,000 in inaugural grants to 18 Colorado organizations working to prevent firearm-related injuries and deaths — a leading cause of preventable harm statewide.

Firearms are the third leading cause of injury-related death among Colorado adults and the leading cause of death for youth ages 1-17, making firearm harm one of Colorado’s most urgent public health challenges.

Data shows:

- Firearms are the leading cause of death associated with suicide, community violence, domestic violence, and targeted and mass shootings (Trailhead Institute).

- In 2024, Colorado recorded 958 firearm deaths statewide across all ages; 710 (74 percent) were suicides (Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment Firearm Data Dashboard).

- Suicide remains a leading cause of death among young people state-

wide, with one in five teens reporting access to a loaded firearm; firearm access is a major cause of suicide risk due to their lethality (Colorado School of Public Health).

- In 2024, there were 72 domestic violence fatalities in Colorado; 75 percent involved firearms (Colorado Domestic Violence Fatality Review Board).

In response to these alarming trends, in 2023 the Rose Community Foundation and the Colorado Health Foundation launched the CSFF, a statewide philanthropic partnership dedicated to powering community-led initiatives to prevent firearm harm.

Formally launched in November 2024 with investment from 11 foundations and broad partner support, the partnership centered its grant-making goals around strengthening community safety statewide and providing actionable data, resources and capacity to drive meaningful change.

“The Colorado Safe Futures Fund supports public health approaches to preventing firearm injuries and

deaths,” said Rose Community Foundation President and CEO Lindy Eichenbaum Lent. “Investing in trusted local nonprofit organizations that deeply understand and reflect their communities can help prevent tragedies and strengthen well-being while simultaneously respecting the rights of those who choose to responsibly own firearms.”

The 18 grantees span Colorado and represent rural, urban and suburban communities leading locally driven approaches to prevent suicide, partner violence, mass shootings, community violence, and accidental firearm injuries and deaths. Initial grants support practical, evidence-based public health strategies that aim to make Colorado communities safer and more resilient.

CSFF partners include the Colorado Health Foundation, Caring for Colorado Foundation, Colorado Access Foundation, The Colorado Trust, The Denver Foundation, Johnson Family Foundation, Kaiser Permanente, Rocky Mountain Health Foundation, Rocky Mountain Health

Plans, Rose Community Foundation and the Craig Scheckman Family Foundation.

Firearm harm touches every community, regardless of race, gender, geography, age or socioeconomic. A collaborative approach to this complex and widespread issue allows for community-centered, locally informed strategies to promote safer futures for all Coloradans.

CSFF 2025 grantees and initiatives in the area include:

- Rise Above Violence (Archuleta County) to support Rise Above Violence’s Firearms Relinquishment Program through system coordination and policy improvement, ultimately improving victim safety and offender accountability.

- Spark the Change Colorado (Southwest Colorado) to expand suicide prevention, postvention and firearm safety initiatives through existing programs to reduce the rate of firearm violence of all types.

To learn more about CSFF or donate, visit www.cosafuturesfund.org.

Wastewater

■ Continued from front

conveyance system in 2015.

A Roaring Fork memo states, “This system relies on two high-horsepower pump stations operating continuously to serve the District’s needs.”

The study also included “the short and long-term challenges and financial commitments for ongoing treatment costs to PAWSD,” the memo states.

During this analysis phase, it became apparent that addressing the category 4 and 5 problems in the collection pipe system “was necessary to protect the lift stations and major pump stations for failure and overflow violations,” the memo states.

It adds, “The collection system was inundated with McCabe Creek and San Juan River water and caused lift station overflow and failure events, which needed to be addressed immediately.”

The town has since concentrated much of its financial and physical efforts to fixing these category 4 and 5 problems with the aging sewer pipe system.

However, a string of pump and lift station failures and the October 2025 flooding have left Public Works Department staff jumping back and forth from one emergency situation to another to keep the system in operation.

Public Works Director Karl Johnson, talking about the original decision to switch to the uphill conveyance system back in 2015, said that “these decisions were based on a lack of money and how can we get it built with the least amount of money possible.”

He added, “So, those decisions now are pretty catastrophic.”

Johnson explained that most of the electrical circuits for the pumps and the pumps themselves have all been replaced since they were first installed and most of the replacements have also had to be replaced.

Council member Gary Williams stated, “I think we are in an emergency. I think we should declare an emergency, and I believe we have public relations people that can help us communicate about the emergency.”

He added, “The system has failed catastrophically, and now here we are. I think we should just admit it and declare an emergency.”

He added that he has only been on the council for a few years, and he was not part of the group who made the decision to pump the town’s wastewater uphill, “but it seems like

it’s only gotten worse in the last four years.”

He asked, “Do we just keep replacing pumps? Or is there something else we can do?”

Maggie McHugh, representing Roaring Fork Engineering, noted that an emergency declaration could help fast-track the “permitting process” to get the ball rolling on a new downtown treatment facility that would eventually replace the uphill conveyance system.

However, she also explained that, no matter what, it would take a few years and that, in the meantime, the town would likely still need to rely on its current uphill system.

Town Manager David Harris said, “We do know that we’ve gone through many pumps in this system ... and the bottom line is that we are having that discussion internally” about switching to a different system that doesn’t pump uphill.

Harris explained that staff is “running into challenges with replacement pumps” and the overall task of maintaining the current system, but the town would need to continue to use the current system until it could stand up some sort of temporary “package plant” while it constructs a new permanent facility downtown.

Roaring Fork has identified four major project goals for the downtown treatment facility:

- Design a wastewater treatment facility which can serve the entire town population, including the ability for future expansion for either acceptance of a larger service area or PAWSD sewage.

- The wastewater treatment facility should be a community-centric facility, which includes the ability for students and community members, to interact with the site safely and learn more about wastewater treatment and operations.

- The building should be LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified, integrate into the natural landscape (green roof), include renewable energy when possible and be designed by a local architect who understands the community’s infrastructure.

- The treatment processes should be progressive, forward-thinking and regulatory resilient, energy-efficient, and long-term sustainable for a small community to operate. This shall include the ability to treat wastewater to nonpotable reuse standards for localized irrigation on properties nearby.

The Roaring Fork Engineering memo also states that it has brought

together “a team of Colorado Western Slope local firms to help design and permit the new facility for the town.”

It states, “This team has worked together before on major plant projects and is well suited to design to the Town’s goals. Furthermore, our four-member team can operate independently, while in sync, maximizing schedule and resources to meet the town’s schedule,” it states.

According to the memo, the team includes the following members: Roaring Fork Engineering from Carbondale, Western Water Solutions from Glenwood Springs, Browns Hill Engineering from Littleton and Big Horn Mechanical from Grand Junction.

Mayor Shari Pierce asked the council to give town staff some direction on if it should keep its current contract with Roaring Fork Engineering, while also engaging in a new contract to design and build a new wastewater treatment facility, or if the town should just modify the existing contract to add the plans for a new facility.

Council member Leonard Martinez suggested that he would prefer to “keep that [existing] contract in place with its focus” on fixing the category 4 and 5 pipe problems.

For clarification, Pierce said, “So, we’d be keeping the existing contract for the 4s and 5s and a separate contract for the new treatment plant,” with Martinez and the others agreeing.

She then asked the council if it wanted to explore “the suggestion of declaring an emergency.”

“Do we want staff to look into that to see what that would look like?” she asked.

Council member Mat deGraaf noted that he wanted to look into the emergency declaration, explaining that, from his understanding, it costs “\$30,000 a month to rent one bypass pump, and we currently have four, so \$120,000 a month, making it a financial emergency, if nothing else.”

The rest of the council agreed that it wants to look into the emergency declaration.

Williams then asked McHugh if she had “any experience with towns declaring emergencies for sewer failures,” with McHugh answering, “Not really.”

“Usually, it’s more natural disaster emergencies, but I would imagine that it would have a lot of the same implications. If something is failing and not working,” she said.

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Outdoors

Colorado Parks and Wildlife offering \$1 million in grants to reduce human-bear conflicts in local communities

Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) recently opened a new round of grant funding to provide local Colorado communities with resources to reduce human-bear conflicts through the Human-Bear Conflict Reduction Community Grant Program.

The application deadline is May 29. “Living successfully and safely alongside our wildlife is an important part of who we are in Colorado. These grants will help prevent potentially dangerous conflicts between bears and humans, ensuring we all can enjoy Colorado’s high quality of life, especially in our high country. These investments are an important tool to keep us and wildlife safe and prevent property damage,” said Gov. Jared Polis.

This year, CPW is offering \$1 million of grant funding for projects that reduce conflicts with bears in local communities.

This grant program strives to foster solutions to human-bear conflict that can be replicated in other parts of the state and bolster those efforts in all communities in Colorado. The funding will be distributed through a competitive grant process this spring.

Local governments, nongovernmental organizations, homeowners’

associations, community groups, businesses, tribes, universities and individuals are all eligible to receive funding. Applicants can apply for grants between \$50,000 and \$500,000.

“Reducing human-bear conflict requires a collective effort, and this grant program serves as a catalyst for that work,” said CPW Grant Manager Travis Long. “We are seeing a real shift in how communities are minimizing bear interactions, using these funds to implement practical, high-impact projects that result in substantial strides for public safety and wildlife conservation alike.”

This grant provides funding to communities that want to reduce conflicts with bears but lack the needed resources. The program also helps to spark the conversation around conflict reduction and brings stakeholders together to come up with solutions.

Eligible projects

The Human-Bear Conflict Reduction Community Grant Program aims to reduce conflicts between local communities and black bears.

Characteristics of projects that help meet this goal include:

- Reducing the availability of attractants to black bears in communities experiencing human-bear conflict or disincentivizing black bears from

entering areas of high conflict.

- Have local community support or detailed plans to build local support.
- Are cost-effective investments that have the potential to last beyond the funding time frame (such as bear-proof trash cans).
- Utilize proven techniques for preventing conflict or explore an innovation with a promise to prevent conflict.

How to apply

Applications are available on CPW’s website and are due by May 29 at 5 p.m.

For more information or application assistance, please contact CPW Grant Manager Travis Long at travis.long@state.co.us.

Successful grant recipients will be announced later this year.

Visit <https://bit.ly/4rLecxn> to view the 2025 grant recipients and see what projects were selected during the competitive grant process.

Bear activity in Colorado

Wildlife managers estimate that Colorado has between 17,000 and 20,000 bears, and the population is stable and growing.

From 2019-2025, CPW received more than 32,212 reported sightings and conflicts with bears.

Of the 5,299 reports CPW received

in 2025, 2,448 resulted in property damage to a shed, garage, home, vehicle, fence, etc.

More than 57 percent were linked to trash cans and dumpsters as an attractant, which is a target area CPW looks to address when awarding grants. Other constant sources of conflict include bird feeders, livestock, bears accessing open garages and other human-originated items that are left unsecured.

Human-bear conflicts can lead to property damage and increased demands on CPW and local government personnel’s time and effort to respond to them. Expanding existing conflict reduction efforts or developing new approaches will help reduce impacts on bear populations and community resources, improving public safety.

Bears with access to trash and garbage that contains food can become conditioned to consuming that food, meaning they could return and enter homes, garages or vehicles to find more. This can lead to property damage and bears becoming aggressive, putting themselves and humans in danger. Consuming garbage can also negatively impact a bear’s health.

Learn more about CPW’s other grant programs at cpw.state.co.us/grant-programs.

CPW publishes final Beaver Conservation and Management Strategy

Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) has published its final Beaver Conservation and Management Strategy, establishing a comprehensive framework to guide conservation, restoration and management of beaver and beaver-influenced wetlands across Colorado.

Across the historical range of the beaver in North America, including Colorado, a growing wildlife conservation movement is focused on restoring

the species and the ecosystem benefits it provides to formerly occupied habitats.

As Colorado’s state wildlife agency, CPW has managed beaver populations for decades. In recent years, however, agency staff, stakeholders and members of the public have expressed interest in a more proactive and coordinated approach to beaver conservation and management.

The strategy’s purpose is to increase and sustain the presence of beaver and beaver-influenced wetlands in suit-

able habitats, supporting the health of Colorado’s streams and wetlands and the wide range of wildlife species that depend on them.

The beaver strategy provides a framework for greater leadership, coordination and resources to support conservation and management efforts statewide.

Key topics addressed in the strategy include:

- Population and habitat status and monitoring.
- Beaver harvest management.

- Beaver restoration opportunities.
- Living with beaver: nonlethal conflict resolution.

• Translocation policy and protocol. Development of the strategy included focus groups, written public comments and technical advising from partners and stakeholders.

CPW looks forward to continued engagement and partnerships as implementation of the Beaver Strategy moves forward.

Learn more at <https://cpw.state.co.us/species/beaver>.

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Lawsuit against LPEA moves to 21st Judicial District

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The lawsuit between La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) and a group of eight LPEA customers over LPEA's separation from Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association is now in the hands of 21st Judicial District Chief Judge Brian Flynn.

Flynn was assigned to the case on Feb. 11 after 6th Judicial District Chief Judge Kim Shropshire recused the judicial district's judges from the case at the end of January.

The case, filed in September 2025 by LPEA members who reside in Durango, Ignacio and Bayfield, alleges LPEA should have taken the separation from Tri-State to a vote of LPEA's membership.

LPEA is seeking to have the suit dismissed, suggesting the plaintiffs misunderstand the organization's bylaws.

The complaint against LPEA alleges, "Upon information and belief, as a member of Tri-State, LPEA owns approximately \$71 million in Tri-State patronage capital as of year-end 2024; this patronage capital

represents LPEA's ownership interest in Tri-State and is therefore an asset of LPEA."

The complaint then notes that on or about March 26, 2025, the LPEA Board of Directors adopted a resolution calling for LPEA's withdrawal from its membership and contract with Tri-State, with a withdrawal date of April 1, 2026.

It adds, "Pursuant to Tri-State's Rate Schedule No. 281, as a withdrawing member, LPEA had two options: 'a withdrawing member may either: (i) continue receiving patronage capital payments as Tri-State may from time to time distribute to all of its members; or (ii) take a discounted lump sum payment of its patronage capital balance as of the Designated Withdrawal Date as a credit to the Final Payment Amount.'"

It notes the exit charge is payable by LPEA and its members to Tri-State.

"According to Resolution 2025-04, the Board opted to take a discounted lump-sum payment of its patronage capital, which upon information and belief, amounts to a reduction in LPEA's patronage capital value from approximately \$76 million to

approximately \$47 million," the complaint alleges.

The plaintiffs then state in the lawsuit that, per LPEA's bylaws, "LPEA may not sell or otherwise dispose of LPEA assets, which sale exceeds ten percent (10%) of the value of all assets of the cooperative unless authorized by a vote of LPEA's Members."

It alleges that the total value of LPEA's assets at year-end 2024 was approximately \$288 million, and LPEA's acceptance of a lump-sum payment of its Tri State patronage capital represents a disposition of more than 10% of its total assets.

The plaintiffs, according to the complaint, ask the court's interpretation of the bylaws and request a "declaration of the rights, status, or legal relationships of the parties under the Bylaws" on the matter.

The suit also alleges breach of contract.

LPEA's attorneys filed a motion to dismiss in October 2025, with the 18-page motion alleging the plaintiffs' "incorrect reading" of the bylaws.

"While Plaintiffs claim that LPEA members are entitled to vote on a 'dis-

position' of more than 10% of LPEA's assets, that interpretation ignores the plain language of Article IX, which only entitles LPEA members to vote on a 'sale' of more than 10% of LPEA's assets," it states. "Moreover, to read Article IX in the way that Plaintiffs suggest would render the use of the word 'sale' wholly superfluous. Thus, because Plaintiffs are only entitled to a vote if LPEA engages in a 'sale,' and because Plaintiffs do not allege that LPEA's election to receive its patronage capital as a single discounted lump sum payment constituted a 'sale,' both of Plaintiffs' claims fail."

The motion also alleges that the amount of the patronage capital value being more than 10 percent of LPEA's assets "ignores economic reality and is implausible," and that LPEA's choice to receive a discounted lump sum payment did not constitute a sale or disposition of LPEA's assets.

On the topic of breach of contract, the motion to dismiss states in part, "Plaintiffs' interpretation of Article IX fails to abide by black letter principles of contract interpretation."

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Record

■ Continued from front

March 6, with a high of 44 degrees and otherwise partly sunny skies. The low is forecast at 15 degrees with partly cloudy skies at night.

Sun and warm temperatures will return over the weekend with the high forecast at 53 degrees on Saturday, March 7. The low is forecast at 19 degrees with mostly clear skies in the evening.

On Sunday, March 8, the high is forecast at 61 degrees with sunny skies and the low is forecast at 23 degrees with clear skies in the evening.

Sunny and breezy conditions are expected along Wolf Creek Pass today, Thursday, March 5, with the high forecast at 35 degrees and wind gusts of 40 mph possible. Chances for snow in the Wolf Creek area will start tonight with a 40 percent chance of snow showers expected and a low of 17 degrees forecasted.

Friday, March 6, looks to be the most likely time for snow accumulation along the pass, with a 60 percent chance of snow showers predicted and a high of 21 degrees forecasted. New snow accumulations of 1-2 inches is possible, according to the NWS. Chances of snow showers will

decrease to 20 percent in the evening, with a low of 14 degrees forecasted.

A slight chance of snow showers is predicted for Saturday morning, March 7, with a high forecast of 31 degrees and otherwise sunny skies. The low is forecast at 19 degrees with mostly clear skies in the evening.

For Sunday, March 8, the high is forecast at 40 degrees with sunny skies and the low is forecast at 25 degrees with clear skies in the evening.

Snowpack

According to the Natural Resource Conservation Services (NRCS), as of March 4, the San Miguel, Dolores, Animas and San Juan river basins were measured to be at 57 percent of its 30-year median snowpack.

This is down from the Feb. 25 report of 64 percent for the 30-year median snowpack.

The statewide snowpack as of March 4 was at 61 percent. This is down from the Feb. 25 report of 63 percent.

As of noon Wednesday, March 4, Wolf Creek Pass, at 10,930 feet, had a snow water equivalent of 14.4 inches. This is down slightly from last week's report on Feb. 25 that indicated a

snow water equivalent of 14.7 inches.

Snowpack levels are monitored by measuring snow water equivalents that gauge how much water is held within a snowfield and are significant predictors of springtime runoff.

For the second week in a row, the Wolf Creek summit has the highest current snow water equivalent in the San Miguel, Dolores, Animas and San Juan River basins, and the Upper Rio Grande basin, as of press time Wednesday.

Dan Gibbs, executive director of the Colorado Department of Natural Resources, spoke about the low statewide snowpack at Wednesday's Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission meeting and what that could mean in the state moving forward.

He acknowledge the snowpack is at about 61 percent of average statewide, adding, "It's very challenging, to say the least."

Gibbs indicated that February and March tend to be Colorado's snowiest months, but acknowledged only about 4 inches is expected in areas of the high country next week and there's a lot to make up for.

"If things don't turn around, it's going to be very challenging for us, to

say the least," he said. "And, it's gonna trickle to our forest health challenges and potential wildfire activity that we're going to see in Colorado."

He further added it is not making the ongoing Colorado River negotiations any easier.

Drought

Drought conditions in Archuleta County improved over the last week, with the U.S. Drought Monitor's (USDM's) most recent map showing 100 percent of the county in an "abnormally dry" stage and 47.89 percent of the county, mostly the northern half, in a "moderate drought" stage.

The USDM's most recent drought condition map was released on Thursday, Feb. 26.

According to the USDM's map released on Feb. 19, 100 percent of the county was in an "abnormally dry" stage and with 47.89 percent of the county (the northern half) in a "moderate drought" stage. The far northwestern portion of the county (2.17 percent) was in a "severe drought" stage.

The most recent USDM map indicates that there is no longer any percentage of the county in a "severe drought" stage.

School

■ Continued from front

median household income is also holding up ASD's bond capacity, along with not having any bond elections in the last 10 years.

He clarified that currently BEST could contribute up to 42 percent of the project cost with ASD providing a 58 percent match.

Holt noted that the total cost for the PK-8 campus is being estimated at just under \$123 million.

He went on to explain that the district received advice from BEST's state representative that school districts will sometimes offer to collect more "than the minimum from their community to make their application more appealing."

Holt suggested the district could ask the community in its bond election to contribute a 60 percent match, instead of the minimum 58 percent requirement.

"The hope is that that makes us more attractive," he said. "That's the advice we're getting."

He then explained that a 58 percent match for the new school project would mean an approximately \$71.34 million contribution from the community, with BEST contributing roughly \$51.66 million, or 42 percent of the total project cost.

Holt explained that if the district were to increase its match by 2 percent, up to a 60 percent match, "We would then be asking the community to contribute 73.8 million dollars."

He noted that for every 2 percent increase, that roughly translates to an additional \$2.5 million.

Holt indicated that if this is something the district were to pursue, he felt the BoE should vote on it.

He asked the board, "Should we be offering in our BEST grant, more than the minimum?" and if so, by how much?

BoE member Amanda Schick asked about what the actual cost to families would be from taxes broken down by a monthly or yearly number.

"I think those are the numbers that are important to digest for families," she said.

BoE member David Iverson noted that the district conducted its poll in the summer of 2025 using \$70 million for the amount proposed as the community's contribution.

Holt indicated that for a home with a \$500,000 evaluation, a \$70 million bond would translate to about \$283 in taxes per year.

Iverson noted that each potential match increase of 2.5 percent would add another \$7 per year.

Holt mentioned there is likely a "top" price the community is willing to pay, noting that the more the district puts forward with matching funds, it may start to take away from its ability to complete other projects needed within the district.

Holt commented that these are all "very rough numbers" being discussed.

BoE president Bob Lynch commented that it was "just kind of advice" the district received about potentially increasing its match in its BEST grant application, and that they are not required to go up higher than 58 percent.

BoE member Butch Mackey commented that going for a higher percentage match now, and it being a successful grant application, "is probably more cost effective than waiting a year."

Mackey also indicated that he'd be open to the district going for a match even higher than 60 percent.

Iverson commented that a 60 percent match would bring the ask from

BEST under \$50 million, noting that "maybe makes it a little more attractive."

Holt also noted that BEST awarded two grants over \$50 million last year, though one award did not get funded as the local election did not pass.

"The state does allocate that much money," Holt added, commenting on the likelihood of BEST awarding that big of a grant.

He mentioned that compared to last year's BEST grant applications, ASD will have the highest percent contribution already at 58 percent.

Mackey commented that a 60 or 62 percent match would be helpful in making ASD's application more likely to be awarded.

"Whatever we can do to show our intent, our seriousness," he added.

Iverson noted that a 6 to 8 percent inflation rate each year should be expected, which the district has been factoring into the project.

Mackey mentioned that, locally in the past few years, "it's probably been worse than that for construction."

Holt commented that "round numbers" are easy to talk about, noting that ASD has been saying that BEST would provide about \$50 million of the total project cost.

"I do agree that the round number's probably easier to sell," BoE

member Tim Taylor added.

Lynch commented that proposing a 60 percent match "feels like a strong application."

Holt indicated that he feels a 60 percent match would not be stressing to the community and that "not taking too big of a bite of the apple" in order to get other projects done "seems wise."

Schick motioned to approve submitting the BEST grant application with a proposed 60 percent match from the community, which was unanimously approved.

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Sports

BASKETBALL

No. 12 Lady Pirates enter postseason with three-game win streak

By Jack Sellner
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs Lady Pirate basketball team will head into the playoffs on a three-game win streak after beating Bayfield to close out the regular season.

The Lady Pirates traveled to Bayfield for their final game before the playoffs and defeated the Wolverines 49-12 on Saturday, Feb. 28.

The Lady Pirates went up 11-3 after the first quarter and 25-5 at half. They continued their play into the second half, outscoring the Wolverines 24-7 over the final 16 minutes for the 37-point win.

“Our game at Bayfield was a great way to close out the regular season,” wrote coach Sarah Osborn in an email to The SUN. “To finish the

regular season with one more win in league put us tied for second in league with Alamosa which was a goal of ours.”

Kaila Limebrook led the team with 11 points in the game. Adelyn Hittle followed with 10 points, Amber Snarr and Ximena Garcia each had seven, Bella Adkisson had four, Lexi Campbell and Ahrianna Martinez each added three points, and Aliana Hoffschneider and Liana Vega each added two points to round out the scoring.

Garcia led the team with seven rebounds, Limebrook and Hittle each had six, Snarr finished with five, and Adkisson had four. Vega, Campbell and Maddie DeClark each had two. Hoffschneider and Martinez each ended with one.

As a team, the Lady Pirates hauled

in 36 total rebounds, assisted on 12 of their 19 made field goals, finished with 23 steals and turned the ball over eight times.

“It meant a lot to the girls to compete to the very end and finish the season the right way,” wrote Osborn. “That gives us some momentum going into the playoffs.”

The Lady Pirates finished the season with a 13-9 record and are the No. 12 seed in the 32-team 4A state playoffs.

They will head to Sterling for the Sterling regional this weekend.

Their first opponent will be Skyview on Friday, March 6, with tip-off set for 5:30 p.m.

Skyview is the No. 21 seed and finished the season with a 13-10 record.

No. 13 Sterling will also take on No.

20 Coal Ridge Friday, with winners of the two games facing off in the Sweet 16 round on Saturday, March 7.

Osborn emphasized that the key to winning is to focus on the little things such as defensive effort, rebounding and taking good shots.

The girls have been focusing on scouting details, tightening up defensive pressure and making sure they are sharp in late-game situations as well, notes Osborn.

“If we can stay disciplined, communicate defensively, and keep playing as a team, we’ll give ourselves a strong chance in the playoffs,” she wrote.

Also representing the Intermountain League in the playoffs are No. 8 Alamosa and No. 24 Montezuma-Cortez.

jsellner@orourkemediagroup.com

Pirates enter postseason as No. 26 seed, to face No. 7 Eaton

By Jack Sellner
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate basketball team dropped its final regular-season game, but are heading into the playoffs ready to swing their sword, indicated coach Brandon Forster.

The Pirates traveled to Bayfield on Saturday, Feb. 28, for their final regular-season game before the start of the state playoffs. The boys fell prey to the Wolverines 46-44.

The Pirates started slow, going down 9-3 after the first quarter of the game. Heading into halftime, the deficit had grown to 10 points.

“That was a tough loss because they’re our rivals,” Forster said. “We had 12 turnovers in the first half. Just

felt like there was a lid on the rim. Couldn’t get anything to fall.”

Coming out of halftime, the Pirates outscored the Wolverines 15-11 in the third quarter to cut the deficit to six, but the comeback effort was cut short in the fourth quarter despite outscoring the Wolverines 15-11 once again.

The Pirates had a chance at a last second shot, but didn’t make it.

Forster noted that the second-half comeback effort was big and the Pirates need to carry that momentum into the playoffs this weekend.

Duke Ketchum led the team with 18 points in the game. Jeremiah Jones had 10 points, Creede Dozier finished with seven, Jerry Dean added five, and Ty Richey and Bode Hubbard each added two points.

Richey led the team in rebounds with nine, Ketchum added eight, Dean and Dozier each had four, and Jayton Ross, Jones and Hubbard all finished with one each.

As a team, the Pirates shot 46 percent from the field, 45 percent from the 3-point line and 29 percent from the free-throw line.

They grabbed 28 total rebounds as a team, assisted on 11 of their 17 made field goals, finished with four steals and turned the ball over 18 times.

The Pirates finished with an 11-11 record on the season and are the No. 26 seed in the 32-team 4A state playoffs.

They will be heading to Eaton for the first round of the playoffs.

Eaton finished the season 18-5

and is the No. 7 seed in the tournament.

The game will be on Friday, March 6, with tip-off set for 5 p.m.

Forster’s three keys to victory on Friday are to defend the paint, to take care of the basketball and to get out in transition and not let Eaton slow the game down.

“We feel like we got a good draw,” said Forster. “And the good thing for us is we’re going in with nothing to lose. They’re excited to have an opportunity to go out and prove how good we are.”

Eaton will also host the matchup between No. 10 University and No. 23 The Academy, with the winners of the two games set to face off Saturday, March 7, in the Sweet 16 round of action.

Also representing the Intermountain League, Montezuma-Cortez earned the No. 2 seed.

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Photo courtesy Pagosa Springs Middle School

The Pagosa Springs Middle School cross-country team poses for a team photo during the fall 2025 season.

Reflecting on hard work: Middle school cross-country season recapped, more runners wanted

By Hannah Hemenger
Pagosa Springs Middle School

In the fall of 2025, the Pagosa Springs Middle School (PSMS) cross-country team battled through sun, mud, rain and cold for a hard-fought season and many wins.

These students put in the hard work and dedication to themselves, their sport and their team, and they made huge strides over the season.

Some highlights of the season include co-captain Miles Dempster (eighth grade) taking first place in the McGinn Memorial Invitational (home meet with a time of 11 minutes, 22:05 seconds), the Montezuma-Cortez Invitational (10:21:00) and the Bayfield Invitational (12:07:52), and second place in the Eric Wolff Invitational (11:17:60).

Co-captain Olivia Diffey (eighth grade) also had a phenomenal season, receiving sixth place at the Bayfield Invitational (14:46:14) and the Montezuma-Cortez Invitational meets (12:10:00), leading the charge for the girls’ teams.

Eli Becker Sweeden and Micah Tyler (also eighth-graders) placed high in several meets, including our home meet, where they got sixth (11:47:83) and seventh place (11:48:18). Becker Sweeden placed fourth in the Montezuma-Cortez Invitational (10:35:00), and eighth place at the Bayfield meet (12:33:23). Tyler also placed in the Montezuma-Cortez

meet in seventh place (11:05:00).

Jacob Freeman (eighth grade) took first in the B Group Boys race at the Mancos meet (19:07:29) despite the challenges presented by the weather and a muddy course.

Many of our cross-country athletes chose to compete in the state meet in Denver to represent themselves and Pagosa Springs Middle School.

Dempster was the Pirates’ top-placing boy, placing 18th in the finals with a time of 13:32:00, and Diffey was the highest-placing girl at 98th place with a time of 17:25:00. Each race had more than 170 competitors in each bracket.

Overall on the season, the middle school boys’ team took home three first-place awards, a second place, a third place and an eighth place award.

The middle school girls’ team brought home a second place, a third place, two fourth places, a fifth place and an eighth place.

Thank you to Kimberly Taylor, Merci Williams, Jerri Moeller, Kaci Moeller, Ainsley Bracken, Skylar Leiker, Diffey, Zeigh Thomas, Davyn Leiker, Tyler, Wells Witting, Eli Hanto, Freeman, Becker Sweeden, and Dempster for an incredible season.

Coach Ross Wagle, who was an athlete throughout his educational experience and beyond, gave great advice and pushed the athletes to their peak performances.

He has enjoyed coaching at PSMS this year, watching these hard-working athletes grow in toughness, resilience, and to see them bond as a team.

He looks forward to another season of coaching the cross-country team next year. Seeing the team persevere and win and the growth of new members like Thomas, Taylor, Kaci Moeller, Jerri Moeller and Bracken has been inspiring to witness.

This was coach Hannah Hemenger’s first cross-country season, and she enjoyed working with this team immensely and seeing everyone push themselves and learn a lot about who they are in the process.

She feels grateful to the team and Ross for teaching her about this sport, and for letting her be a part of the cross-country family.

We hope to see many of you next season, competing in the middle school and high school levels. The 2026-2027 vice captain will be Merci Williams, a dedicated athlete who showed up for her team in every way, and had incredible races this year.

We would love to see more students join us in August, and we really need more male runners to join, so please reach out to Ross at rwagle@pagosa.k12.co.us or to Hemenger at hhemenger@pagosa.k12.co.us with any questions, or if you want to be a part our wonderful cross-country family for the next season.



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TRACK

Pirates set sights on state ahead of season opener

By Jack Sellner
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School track and field team is making its return this weekend for the 2026 season, and the athletes have their sights set on representing the Pirates at the state championship meet.

This season the team is starting with a record number of athletes, according to coach Connie O'Donnell, as 90 athletes came out for track and field at the beginning of the season.

One of the strengths of the team is its senior leadership, noted O'Donnell. This year there are 17 seniors and 16 juniors.

The seniors this year are Johnny Baker, Lexi Campbell, Jerry Dean, Charity Domingo, Colton Lucero and Amber Snarr in sprints; Lincoln Butler and Aidan Vega in throws; Campbell, Dean, Milo Deitemeyer, Creede Dozier, Jeremiah Jones and Truman Vasek in jumps; Eden Conner and Jones in hurdles; and Eli Nehring in distance races.

In total, there are 36 returning athletes for the team, 13 of which are girls and 23 of which are boys.

Of the 36 returners, 10 are return-

ing state qualifiers and one is a re-turning state champion.

Dozier is very capable of defending his 3A state title in the long jump, notes O'Donnell in an email to The SUN.

Dozier is also a school record holder in the long jump. Lucero is a school record holder in both the 100-meter and 200-meter dashes.

There are 41 freshmen on this year's team, as well, according to the coach. Additionally, after only four freshman girls went out last year, several more have joined the team in their sophomore year.

"We potentially have the ability to have state qualifiers in almost every event and that is very exciting to think about," O'Donnell wrote. "We have strengths in most events but I would say especially in the short sprints, jumps and relays for boys since those are our returning state qualifiers. The girls have strengths in the same events with the addition of a female thrower who qualified for state last year."

O'Donnell emphasized that she has high hopes for the freshmen as well as the other new athletes and feels that more school records will be

broken this year.

There is always room for improvement, though, she notes.

"Every weekend you are not only racing and competing against others, you always have your personal time or mark to beat," wrote O'Donnell. "I do think that we will be able to score more points in the distance races and hopefully be able to field a [4x400-meter relay] and [4x800-meter relay] that we didn't have last year."

The team's assistant coaches are also a huge part of the reason the team has so many athletes that continue to have success. Tim Taylor is the distance coach, Sabra Miller is the jumps coach, Nik Paniagua is the hurdles and sprints coach, and Chris Nehring is the throwing coach.

"Our athletes have created a positive culture where people feel welcome and part of the team," wrote O'Donnell. "I'm very proud of that."

The Pirates will open their season at the Durango Dust Off meet on Saturday, March 7, at 9 a.m.

Schedule

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

All meets will start at 9 a.m. unless otherwise stated.

After their meet in Durango, the Pirates will travel to Bayfield for the Bayfield Invite 1 on Friday, March 13.

They will then be back at Bayfield for the Bayfield Invite 2 on March 28.

The next meet will be at Ignacio High School. The Abel Velasquez meet will be on April 4.

They'll then travel to Cortez for the Bob Archibeque meet on April 10 and the Thunder Storm Invite at Pueblo West High School the following day.

The Pirates will be back in Durango for the Ron Keller Invitational on April 18, with a start time of 10 a.m.

Next, the Pirates will travel to Alamosa for the Alamosa Intermountain League Meet on April 24, and then the following day they'll compete in the Mancos Blue Jay Invitational at Mancos High School.

The Pirates will host their first and only meet of the year, the Terry Alley Invitational, on May 2.

Their final meet before the state championship meet will be the Friday Night Lights at Pueblo West on May 8, with a start time of 1 p.m.

jsellner@ourourkemediagroup.com

BASEBALL

Pirates eye rebuilding, success in upcoming season

By Jack Sellner
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate baseball team is poised for a rebuilding season behind first-year coach Jon Wells after losing five seniors from last year's squad.

"Over half of our starting lineup graduated," Wells said. "We're young and kind of eager to be successful together, but it will be a little bit of a rebuilding year."

Right now, the varsity roster is made up of three seniors, two juniors and four sophomores. There are also three players who are still playing basketball and will join the team when their season is over. There will also be a group of swing players who play on junior varsity and varsity, according to Wells.

Wells emphasized that at this point in the season the roster is fluid and certainly subject to change.

Despite having a small, young team, Wells explained he feels that the team's biggest strength is the way that they come together and support each other.

"I mean this is a fantastic group of boys," he said. "They love playing baseball. They love supporting each other. They've got great camaraderie. You know, I think there's strengths on the field for sure, but I think that's gonna be the biggest driver of our success this year."

The Pirates began offseason workouts in January and their official practices started on Feb. 23. The team

wasn't able to practice on the field due to snow until Monday, March 2. Still, Wells noted he feels that with this year's mild winter the team will be able to get plenty of time on the field early in the season.

Practice so far has had a focus on strengthening the foundation of the team by hammering fundamentals, noted Wells.

"Attitude, respect and hard work," are Wells' three expectations for the players throughout the season both in games and at practice.

The team is small, so every player will play multiple positions in the field, hit and pitch this season, Wells added.

The Pirates new pitching coach, Thomas Rooke, was an All-American collegiate pitcher at Kansas State University. Wells suggested he is hopeful that his coaching will develop more arms for the team because they only have one returning pitcher from last season.

Sophomore Taylor Wells is the team's only returning pitcher from last season and one of the three players Jon Wells feels can make an immediate impact on the team this year. Senior Zach Pouyer and junior Sebastian Gonzalez are the other two players the coach mentioned.

"Zach is gonna be kind of our senior," said Jon Wells. "He's extremely talented, he plays baseball at a very high level, so you know he's definitely one to keep an eye on. Bash is gonna be probably one of our leading hitters. We've got several kids that I think

are gonna be impact players; those three would probably be the biggest."

Ahead of the start of the season this weekend, the Pirates have set goals for the team, according to the coach.

This year is a rebuilding year, but they still want to strive to make the playoffs as a team. With the youth of the team, the coach suggested he feels like in two years the team can possibly be competing for state championships as well.

The Pirates will start their season off with a tournament at Aztec High School in New Mexico.

Opening day will be on Thursday, March 5, against Dolores at noon. The Pirates' second game will be the following day against Aztec beginning at 9 a.m., and their final game will be Saturday, March 7, against Kirtland Central beginning at 3 p.m.

The Kirtland-Central Broncos are 1-1 on the season.

Schedule

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

After their opening weekend tournament, the Pirates will play a doubleheader at Cedaredge High School on Friday, March 13, starting at 2 p.m. The following day, the Pirates will play another doubleheader at North Fork High School starting at 11 a.m.

Then the Pirates will have a home stretch.

They'll start with a double header against Dolores on Thursday, March 19, starting at 3 p.m.

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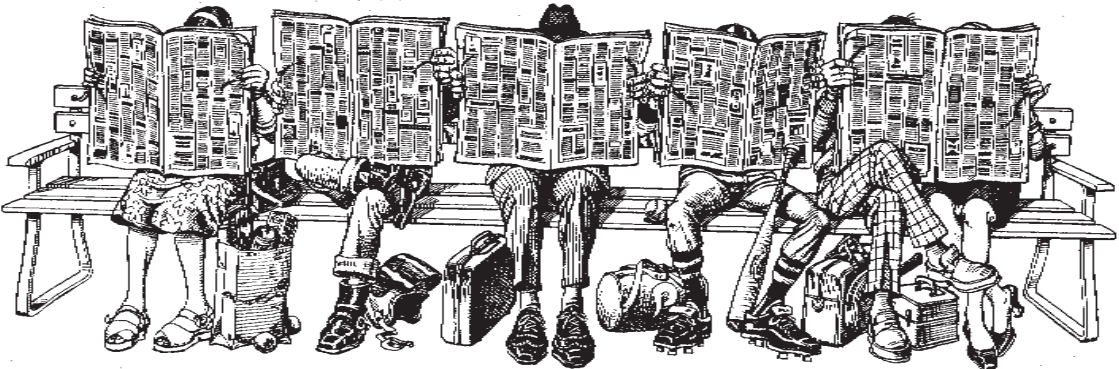
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Education



Photo courtesy Archuleta School District

Valor Voices students Connor Thomas, Avonlea Thomas, and Hudson Mazur represent Pagosa Springs in the Colorado All State Choir Feb. 7, Colorado's highest-level choir for high school students.

Local students represent Pagosa Springs in all-state choir festivals

By Katrina Thomas
Archuleta School District

February was a peak month for Pagosa music students.

The highlights began with five students representing Pagosa Springs at the Colorado all-state choir festivals during the first two weeks.

Pagosa Valor Academy students Hudson Mazur, Avonlea Thomas and Connor Thomas earned spots in the Colorado High School All State Choir with their auditions in October 2025.

After learning of their acceptance in November 2025, they set to work to learn the advanced repertoire for the Colorado All State Choir Festival in Denver Feb. 5-7.

After passing their second audition to prove their music is memorized, they spend two days with expert clinicians.

The festival culminated in a sold-out concert at the Buell Theater on Feb. 7.

At the concert, Mazur and Connor Thomas performed in the Colorado All State Mixed Choir under the direction of Emmy-winning and Grammy-nominated composer and conductor Jake Runestad while Avonlea Thomas performed in the Colorado All State Treble Choir under nationally-renowned director Dr. Lynda Hasseler.

The Colorado All State Choir is the distinguished choir for 11th- and 12th-grade students, with an audition process that is well-known as one of the most rigorous in the country.

"Our students worked hard and preparation was well rewarded at our All State experience," stated Valor Voices Choir Director Kathleen Martinez. "Over 4,000 students auditioned and only 580 total were accepted, so our kids were in the top 15 percent of the state. Our students were so blessed to study under Dr. Eugene Rogers and Dr. Lynda Hasseler for three days and have the opportunity to perform on the stage of the Buell Theater."

Pagosa Springs Middle School (PSMS) is also proud to congratulate eighth-graders Karlie Rose and Wells Witting for their participation in the Colorado Middle All State Choir (CMASC) Feb. 12 and 13.

Both students undertook the challenging middle school audition for the state-level choir in October 2025.

In November 2025, both were accepted into the prestigious choirs made up of seventh- and eighth-grade students.

Out of the 1,653 students who auditioned across the state, only 545



Photo courtesy Archuleta School District

Pagosa Springs Middle School Students Wells Witting and Karlie Rose take top honors in the Colorado Middle All State Choir Feb. 13.

students were accepted and placed into one of the three CMASC choirs.

On Feb. 13, the CMASC Festival peaked with a concert at the Bellco Theatre.

Rose performed with the CMASC Mescolare Choir under the directorship of Mary Biddlecombe, a senior lecturer in music education and choral studies at the Blair School of Music at Vanderbilt University.

Following the Mescolare Choir, Witting performed with the CMASC Cambiato Choir under sought-after vocal clinician Mr. Joel Duarte, the director of choral studies at the prestigious Booker T. Washington High School for Performing and Visual Arts in Dallas ISD.

"Making it through the audition process for an all-state choir is the choral equivalent of qualifying for a state-level sports competition," said PSMS Choir Director Katrina Thomas. "Then the process of preparing for the festival is quite rigorous. The experience overall is often labeled 'indescribable' by our students and families. It is a huge honor and an incredible opportunity that we are so thrilled our students get to participate in."

"All State was probably the most fun I had all year," stated Rose. "This was the first time I have been in a choir where everyone has earned their way to be there. Every single person I met at All State was so kind and accepting of the people around them. Our director, Mrs. Biddlecombe, was very kind and patient. She helped us with our dynamics and pronunciation."

"It was the most energy I've ever felt in one room," Witting added.

"I truly cannot say enough wonderful things about the Colorado Middle All-State Choir. Watching my child be part of something this spe-

cial was such a proud and emotional experience for our whole family," wrote parent Jennifer Rose in an email. "From the very beginning, the audition process was rigorous and incredibly competitive. When my daughter received her acceptance in December, we knew this was something truly prestigious. Being selected among roughly 600 of Colorado's top 7th and 8th grade singers is an honor that speaks volumes about the level of talent and dedication involved."

"The two-day event at the Colorado Convention Center and Bellco Theatre was nothing short of magical. The rehearsals were fast-paced and intense, and students were absolutely expected to come prepared. Yet Mrs. Katrina [Thomas] and Mary Biddlecombe (director for Karlie's group) were inspiring, professional, and clearly invested in bringing out the very best in every young adult there. The growth I saw in just two days was remarkable."

"The final concert? Goosebumps. Truly. The sound of hundreds of young voices blending together with that level of precision and passion was breathtaking. You could feel the emotion in the room. It was powerful, polished, and deeply moving — a memory of a lifetime not just for the students, but for all of the families in the audience."

"These talented young singers came from all over Colorado, yet they connected instantly through music. The sense of community was beautiful to witness."

"We are so thankful that Karlie had the opportunity to be part of something so meaningful, and magical."

February choral festivities continued with the Choral Festival in Pagosa on Feb. 20 with guest conductor Dr. McNeill and the 50-member Colorado Christian University Choir (see details in Feb. 19 and 26 editions of

The SUN).

February also saw Pagosa students highlighted in two elite regional events.

PSMS and Pagosa Springs High School band students participated in Fort Lewis Honor Band in Durango.

At the end of the month, eight students from PSHS and Pagosa Valor Academy were honored at the Western Slope Honor Choir in Gunnison (see separate article in next week's SUN).



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Colorado recognized among leaders in new 50-state study on the future of high school

Colorado Department of Education

Colorado leads the way in preparing students for life after high school graduation, according to a study of high school policies in every state released recently by the XQ Institute, a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization focused on rethinking high school.

Colorado's high schools have adopted five of 10 policy actions — and have two more underway — that make U.S. high schools more rigorous, engaging and career-focused, according to the report, “The Future Is High School: A Strategy for State Leaders to Accelerate Learning, Work, and American Renewal.”

The state's schools are reimagining the education-to-career pipeline, serving as a critical bridge between learning and work, the report states. Additionally, state leaders have expanded high-quality work-based learning and youth apprenticeship opportunities, supported local innovation, and taken steps to modernize how student learning is measured — helping ensure students graduate

with the durable skills needed to succeed in a rapidly changing economy.

“Colorado's economy is growing and evolving, and our high schools are evolving with it,” said Gov. Jared Polis. “By strengthening career-connected learning, modernizing how we measure success and investing in pathways that link students directly to opportunity, we're helping young people graduate with real-world experience and durable skills. When students can see a clear path from the classroom to a career, they're more engaged, more prepared, and better positioned to build their Colorado future.”

Colorado also is highlighted for its strong commitment to data transparency and postsecondary outcomes.

Through the Pathways to Prosperity report — available at cdhe.colorado.gov/pathways-to-prosperity — policymakers, educators and the public can see whether high school graduates are enrolling in postsecondary education, entering the workforce or both — providing a clearer picture of how well high

schools are preparing students for life after graduation.

The Pathways to Prosperity report shows in part that Archuleta School District (ASD) had higher postsecondary enrollment in 2021 — the most recent year available — than the state average, with 49.9 percent enrollment for the state and 51.5 percent for ASD.

It also shows ASD had better persistence in the continuing higher education, with 77.1 percent of Colorado graduates enrolling in a second year of higher education, compared to 92.6 percent of ASD graduates.

The report further shows ASD had more students attempting dual and concurrent enrollment than the state averages in 2021, as well as more participation in career and technical education programs.

“Colorado's strength is not just in the policies we pass, but in how those policies show up in classrooms, schools and communities,” said Commissioner of Education Dr. Susana Córdova. “Across the state, educators and local leaders are translating state

priorities into real opportunities for students — whether through work-based learning, apprenticeships, or clearer pathways after graduation. That on-the-ground implementation is what ultimately changes students' lives, and this report affirms the importance of staying focused on both vision and execution.”

The report, which will be released every two years, underscores the need for strong implementation to ensure that educators, schools, and communities have the support needed to turn innovative policy into real impact.

“States have more opportunity, responsibility and authority over public education than at any time in recent memory, and Colorado is showing the entire country what's possible when leaders focus on high school,” said Russlynn Ali, CEO of XQ Institute and managing director of the Education Fund at Emerson Collective. “With 355,000 job openings to fill each year, Colorado isn't waiting around to unlock new opportunities for students — because they've realized that high school is the future of everything.”

The XQ Institute report is available at policyactions.xqinstitute.org.

Colorado Department of Education seeks nominations for 2027 Teacher of the Year

Colorado Department of Education

The Colorado Department of Education invites community members to recognize exceptional teachers by nominating a Colorado educator for the state's 2027 Teacher of the Year.

The Teacher of the Year program recognizes educators who demonstrate excellence in teaching and positively impact their students, communities and schools.

The nomination process is open to anyone in Colorado, and nominators can submit more than one teacher for this award.

Once the nomination window closes on March 20, nominees will be invited to begin the 2027 Teacher of the Year application process. The application will be open on March 2 and close on April 13, and the department will again host virtual office hours to support applicants.

The department will announce its 2027 Teacher of the Year semifinalists on May 22, finalists in early September, and the winner will be announced in the fall.

Eligible nominees must be public school teachers working in state-accredited K-12 schools and plan to continue teaching throughout the

2027-2028 school year.

“Colorado's teachers make an extraordinary difference in classrooms and communities every day,” said Education Commissioner Dr. Susana Córdova.

“Being selected as Colorado's Teacher of the Year has been a tremendous honor,” said 2026 Teacher of the Year Stephen Paulson. “The experience has challenged and uplifted me in meaningful ways, and I encourage educators to take part in the process and celebrate the difference they make in their students' lives and in their communities.”

“We are proud to partner in the Colorado Teacher of the Year program and lift up the extraordinary commitment of educators across our state,” said Boettcher Foundation Vice President of Grants and Programs Tiffany Anderson. “Teachers have a profound impact on students and communities, and this program is an important way to honor that work. We encourage Coloradans to nominate a teacher who has made a meaningful difference.”

To learn more or submit a nomination, go to the Colorado Teacher of the Year webpage, ed.cde.state.co.us/cdeawards/teacheroftheyear.

Organizations invited to host summer meal program sites

Colorado Department of Education

Colorado's Summer Meals Program is seeking sponsors, sites and state partners to help ensure children and teens have access to healthy meals during the summer break.

In 2025, sponsors served more than 2 million meals at 616 sites through this program funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and administered by the Colorado Department of Education's (CDE's) School Nutrition Unit.

For the summer of 2026, eligible families can also receive support through the Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) Program.

“No child should face a summer without reliable access to healthy food,” said Colorado Education Commissioner Dr. Susana Córdova. “These programs help close the nutrition gap when school is out, and they depend on strong partnerships with local organizations to reach kids in every corner of Colorado. We're inviting community partners across the state to be part of that support for children and teens.”

The CDE and Hunger Free Colo-

rado are working to expand summer meal access. They invite community organizations, including camps, government agencies, colleges and nonprofits to join as Summer Meals Program sites.

Organizations can learn more on CDE's Become a Sponsor webpage, ed.cde.state.co.us/nutrition/become-a-sponsor.

According to data from the Colorado KidsCount Survey, nearly 30 percent of Colorado households with children experienced financial hardship.

“Consistent access to nutritious food is foundational to kids' health and ability to learn and grow,” said Graciela Guillen, Hunger Free Colorado applied policy and economic justice coordinator. “Summer is often the hungriest time for kids — when families lose access to school meals and grocery budgets skyrocket. With federal cuts to SNAP putting additional strain on family budgets, Healthy School Meals for All, Summer EBT and the Summer Meals Program play a vital role in ensuring Colorado's kids have reliable access to nutritious food year-round.”

About the Summer Meals Program:

- Meals are free to all kids and teens 18 years and younger. In rural locations, some meals may be taken home to eat.
- Parents do not need to apply to the program for their children to get free summer meals.
- Organizations that can administer the Summer Meals Program include schools, nonprofit organizations, government entities, camps, universities and community- and faith-based organizations.
- Parents and youth can find summer meal sites by visiting www.kids-foodfinder.org.
- Meals served follow USDA nutrition guidelines.

About the Summer EBT Program:

- Eligible families with school-aged children could receive \$40 per month per child during the summer months.
- Funds to purchase groceries are placed on EBT cards.
- The program is led by the Colorado Department of Human Services with support from the CDE.

To learn more about Hunger Free Colorado, visit HungerFreeColorado.org. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

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Public Notices

Applications for appointment as director of San Juan Water Conservancy District are being accepted by Archuleta County District Court. Volunteer directors are court appointed, required to have resided within the SJWCD for one year, and be the owner of real property within the District. Send a resume and letter of intent to Archuleta County District Court, P.O. Box 148, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. Email or send a copy to SJWCD, P.O. Box 2462, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. www.sjwcd.org
Published March 5, 2026, in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (291584)

DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULET A COUNTY, COLORADO
COURT Address: 109 Harman Park Drive
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Tel.: 970.264.8160
Plaintiff: **Peregrine Property Owners Association, Inc. v. Defendants: James R Vines, et al.**
Case No.: 2025CV30009 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 R Vines; Sharon L Stockton; Loretta Gilbreath, surviving joint tenant with right of survivorship of Norman L. Gilbreath, deceased; Shawn Cornelius; Kimberly Eileen Vaughan Cornelius; Cedric Reese; Amy Reese; Gloria C Burton; Barbara Overbey; Peter E Delacot; Cecilia Delacot; Judith Hahn; Robert A Hahn; Pearl D Means; Norman Sampson; Patricia Sampson; Donna Maschmeyer; Robert W Maschmeyer; Kevin L Kirk; Heather C Kirk; Michael H Valencia; Rebecca T Valencia; Sally Manley, surviving joint tenant with right of survivorship of Rick Manley a/k/a Richard Lee Manley, deceased; Thomas Uhl; Sandra Lee Uhl; Richard W Garrison; Angel V Garrison; Connie M Sinerros; James G Mook; Tammie Ray; Velma C Hickman; Vikki Morris; Toni M Hurt; Alonzo Hurt; Mary A Wilk; Fangle E Jones, 111; Diana L Jones; Phillip Apple; Vickie M Apple; D Virgil Willett, Jr.; D V Willett, Jr.; Mark Lee Johnson; Stephanie Sue Johnson; Mary B Lloyd, surviving joint tenant with right of survivorship of P B Lloyd, deceased; Joyce A Bolyard; Golden V Shook; Lena F Shook; Ginger Bowman; Gordon J Benesh; La Rue Shoshen; Judith A Nottrott; Sue E Montoya; Joyce L Taylor; Jeffrey Lynn Bobbitt
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 secured by the Declaration: Peregrine Property Owners Association, Inc. Obligations Secured: The Declaration provides that it secures the payment of the Debt and obligations there-in 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 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 9:00 o'clock A.M., on **Wednesday April 8th, 2026, Sale Number 2025-07** 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 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: 2/5/2026
Last Publication: 3/5/2026
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
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.
THE LIEN BEING FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.
IF YOU BELIEVE THAT A LENDER OR SERVICER HAS VIOLATED THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A SIN-

GLE 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 this 29 day of January, 2026.
By /s/ Mike Le Roux
Mike Le Roux, Sheriff
Archuleta County, Colorado
EXHIBIT "A"
Peregrine Townhouses Matter Amount
JAMES R VINES (C#179910542) A 154,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7851-7852 in Building Number(s) 26, Unpaid Assessments: \$1,842.93
Cost: \$239.04
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$3,081.97
SHARON L STOCKTON (C#179910682) A 51,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7851-7852 in Building Number(s) 26, Unpaid Assessments: \$1,300.11
Cost: \$239.04
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$2,539.15
LORETTA E. GILBREATH, SURVIVING JOINT TENANT WITH RIGHT OF SURVIVORSHIP OF NORMAN L. GILBREATH, DECEASED (C#429902745) A 210,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7853-7854 in Building Number(s) 27, Unpaid Assessments: \$5,863.20
Cost: \$239.04
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$7,102.24
SHAWN CORNELIUS and KIMBERLY EILEEN VAUGHAN CORNELIUS (C#170000731) A 105,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7861-7862 in Building Number(s) 31, Unpaid Assessments: \$1,505.52
Cost: \$239.04
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$2,744.56
CEDRIC REESE and AMY REESE (C#170000954) A 69,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7863-7864 in Building Number(s) 32, Unpaid Assessments: \$1,459.01
Cost: \$239.04
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$2,698.05
GLORIA C. BURTON (C#170404107) A 77,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7863-7864 in Building Number(s) 32, Unpaid Assessments: \$4,682.97
Cost: \$239.04
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$5,932.01
PETER E. DELACOT and CECILIA DELACOT (C#170511913) A 105,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7867-7868 in Building Number(s) 34, Unpaid Assessments: \$1,338.50
Cost: \$239.04
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$2,577.54
JUDITH HAHN and ROBERT A HAHN (C#171206121) A 126,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7869-7870 in Building Number(s) 35, Unpaid Assessments: \$1,978.15
Cost: \$239.04
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$3,217.19
PEARL D. MEANS (C#420001620) A 105,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7869-7870 in Building Number(s) 35, Unpaid Assessments: \$1,883.06
Cost: \$239.04
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$3,122.10
NORMAN SAMPSON and PATRICIA SAMPSON (C#170004642) A 105,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7871-7872 in Building Number(s) 36, Unpaid Assessments: \$2,522.02
Cost: \$239.04
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$3,761.06
DONNA MASCHMEYER and ROBERT W. MASCHMEYER (C#170005532) A 84,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7871-7872 in Building Number(s) 36, Unpaid Assessments: \$1,535.08
Cost: \$239.04
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$2,774.12
KEVIN L. KIRK and HEATHER C. KIRK (C#170500680) A 231,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7873-7874 in Building Number(s) 37, Unpaid Assessments: \$5,905.51
Cost: \$239.04
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$7,144.55
MICHEAL H. VALENCIA and REBECCA T. VALENCIA (C#170506091) A 154,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7875-7876 in Building Number(s) 38, Unpaid Assessments: \$1,818.76
Cost: \$239.04
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$3,057.80
SALLY MANLEY, SURVIVING JOINT TENANT WITH RIGHT OF SURVIVORSHIP OF RICK MANLEY AKIA RICHARD LEE MANLEY, DECEASED (C#17007882) A 77,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7877-7878 in Building Number(s) 39, Unpaid Assessments: \$1,514.82
Cost: \$239.04
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$2,753.86
THOMAS UHL and SANDRA LEE UHL (C#171106552) A 234,500 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7877-7878 in Building Number(s) 39, Unpaid Assessments: \$4,094.60
Cost: \$239.04
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$5,333.64
RICHARD W. GARRISON and ANGELA S. GARRISON (C#170313209) A 300,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7879-7880 in Building Number(s) 40, Unpaid Assessments: \$11,927.50
Cost: \$239.04
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$13,166.54
CONNIE M. SISNEROS (C#170010672) A 1,05,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7881-7882 in Building Number(s) 41, Unpaid Assessments: \$1,840.27
Cost: \$239.04
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$3,079.31
JAMES G. MOOK and TAMMIE RAY (C#170011779) A 105,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7881-7882 in Building Number(s) 41, Unpaid Assessments: \$764.64
Cost: \$239.04
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$2,304.91
TONI M. HURT and ALONZO HURT (C#420005100) A 77,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7883-7884 in Building Number(s) 42, Unpaid Assessments: \$2,346.00
Cost: \$239.04
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Total: \$3,585.04
MARY A. WILK (C#170014997) A 126,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7885-7886 in Building Number(s) 43, Unpaid Assessments: \$2,562.21

■ Continued on A13

Continued from A12

Cost: \$239.04
 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
 Total: \$3,801.25

FANGIE E JONES III and DIANA L JONES (#C19902573) A 49,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7837-7838 in Building Number(s) 19,
 Unpaid Assessments: \$2,649.43
 Cost: \$239.04
 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
 Total: \$3,888.47

PHILIP APPLE and VICKIE APPLE (#C170017123) A 49,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7811 and 7812 in Building Number(s) Q,
 Unpaid Assessments: \$2,204.24
 Cost: \$239.04
 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
 Total: \$3,443.28

D VIRGIL WILLETT, JR. (#C179710264) A 84,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7821-7822 in Building Number(s) 11,
 Unpaid Assessments: \$3,708.04
 Cost: \$239.04
 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
 Total: \$4,947.08

D. V. WILLETT, JR. (#C179806898) A 84,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7829-7830 in Building Number(s) 15,
 Unpaid Assessments: \$3,708.04
 Cost: \$239.04
 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
 Total: \$4,947.08

MARK LEE JOHNSON and STEPHANIE SUE JOHNSON (#C179909643) A 126,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7851-7852 in Building Number(s) 26,
 Unpaid Assessments: \$5,561.82
 Cost: \$239.04
 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
 Total: \$6,800.86

MARY B LLOYD, SURVIVING JOINT TENANT WITH RIGHT OF SURVIVORSHIP OF P. B. LLOYD, DECEASED (#C179065909) A 154,000 / 35,486,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7807-7810 in Building Number(s) 4 and 5,
 Unpaid Assessments: \$5,582.50
 Cost: \$239.04
 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
 Total: \$6,821.54

JOYCE A BOLYARD (#C179706361) A 84,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7811-7812 in Number(s) 6,
 Unpaid Assessments: \$2,442.58
 Building Cost: \$239.04
 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
 Total: \$3,681.62

GOLDEN V SHOOK and LENA F SHOOK (#C171006778) A 84,000 / 35,486,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7817-7820 in Building Number(s) 9 & 10,
 Unpaid Assessments: \$3,178.21
 Cost: \$239.04
 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
 Total: \$4,417.25

GINGER BOWMAN (#C170403349) A 154,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7829-7830 in Building Number(s) 15,
 Unpaid Assessments: \$4,477.86
 Cost: \$239.04
 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
 Total: \$5,716.90

GORDON J BENESH and LA RUE BENESH (#C170705842) A 91,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7825-7836 in Building Number(s) 18,
 Unpaid Assessments: \$3,355.24
 Cost: \$239.04
 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
 Total: \$4,594.28

JUDITH A NOTTROTT and SUE E MONTOYA (#C42000010) A 146,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7861-7862 in Building Number(s) 31,
 Unpaid Assessments: \$3,537.12
 Cost: \$239.04
 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
 Total: \$4,776.16

JOYCE L TAYLOR and JEFFREY LYNN BOBBIT and MARY E BOBBITT (#C170406821) A 90,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7869-7870 in Building Number(s) 35,
 Unpaid Assessments: \$3,693.38
 Cost: \$239.04
 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
 Total: \$4,932.42

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 February 5, 12, 19, 26 and March 5, 2026, in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*, (288069)

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

Defendants:
 Joy Nichole Goodie, et al.
 Case No.: 2025CV300310
COMBINED NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE OF TIMESHARE INTEREST

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 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.
 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): Joy Nichole Goodie, Ondria Leary, George Leary Jr, George Leary III, Robert McGowan, Trustee of the McGowan Revocable Trust, dated July 16, 1999; Magdalene E McGowan, Trustee of the McGowan Revocable Trust, dated July 16, 1999; Timothy Lanier, Jill Lanier, Brittan Rojas, Martin Rojas, John Nazar Jemelian, Trustee of the John Nazar Jemelian Family Trust of 2001, U/T/I A dated October 28, 2001; Rose Jemelian, Trustee of the John Nazar Family Trust of 2001; U/T/I A dated October 28, 2001; Debora A Crane; James Bradley Shepherd; Terry Lee Haury; Crystal Phillips; Shawn Kirkland; Gladys Cook; Bobby Dunn Jr; Rebecca Dunn; Patricia Ann Hall AKA Patricia A Heller; Victor D Sandoval; Tabitha G Sandoval; Doug Hooten; Judy V Hooten; Cori Lehman; Joe Shadid; Martha Shadid; Christine Howe; Paul Graite Jr; Joyce L Forte; Jean Simmons; Sheri L Burnham; Michael D Kelley; Stella M Kelley; Barbara C Riddle; Alva E Riddle; Avery Lee Conley II; Marcia Lynne Conley; Manuel U Montoya)
 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 there in 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 2:00 o'clock P.M., on **Wednesday, April 8th, 2026** **Sale Number 2025-11** in the Office of the Archuleta County Sheriff, Civil Division, 85 Harman Park Drive, Pagosa Springs, Colorado, 8114 7 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 judg-

ment amount entered herein, and will deliver to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.
 First Publication: 02/05/2026
 Last Publication: 03/05/2026
 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 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 this 29 day of January, 2026.
 By: /s/ Mike Le Roux
 Mike Le Roux, Sheriff
 Archuleta County, Colorado

EXHIBIT "A"
Teal Landing Condominiums
Matter
Amount
JOY NICHOLE GOODIE and ONDRIA LEARY and GEORGE LEARY JR. and GEORGE LEARY III (#C170107742) A 308,000 / 60,310,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1111, 1112, 1113, 1114, 1115, 1116, 1121, 1124, 1125 and 1126 in Building Number(s) 11,
 Unpaid Assessments: \$8,761.94
 Cost: \$254.54
 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
 Total: \$10,016.48

ROBERT G MCGOWAN and MAGDALENE E MCGOWAN, TRUSTEES OF THE MCGOWAN REVOCABLE TRUST, DATED JULY 16, 1999 (#C170049480) A 84,000 / 60,310,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1111, 1112, 1113, 1114, 1115, 1116, 1121, 1124, 1125 and 1126 in Building Number(s) 11,
 Unpaid Assessments: \$8,761.94
 Cost: \$254.54
 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
 Total: \$10,016.48

DEBORA A CRANE (#C170103980) A 84,000 / 60,310,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1111, 1112, 1113, 1114, 1115, 1116, 1121, 1124, 1125 and 1126 in Building Number(s) 11,
 Unpaid Assessments: \$8,761.94
 Cost: \$254.54
 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
 Total: \$10,016.48

TIMOTHY LANIER and JILL LANIER and BRITT AN ROJAS and MARTIN ROJAS (#C170100263) A 154,000 / 60,310,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1111, 1112, 1113, 1114, 1115, 1116, 1121, 1124, 1125, and 1126 in Building Number(s) 11,
 Unpaid Assessments: \$3,405.13
 Cost: \$254.54
 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
 Total: \$4,659.67

JOHN NAZAR JEMELIAN and ROSE JEMELIAN, TRUSTEES OF THE JOHN NAZAR JEMELIAN FAMILY TRUST OF 2001, VITIA DATED OCTOBER 28, 2001 (#C170103768) A 105,000 / 60,310,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1111, 1112, 1113, 1114, 1115, 1116, 1121, 1124, 1125, and 1126 in Building Number(s) 11,
 Unpaid Assessments: \$2,191.62
 Cost: \$254.54
 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
 Total: \$3,446.16

DEBORA A CRANE (#C170103980) A 84,000 / 60,310,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1111, 1112, 1113, 1114, 1115, 1116, 1121, 1124, 1125, and 1126 in Building Number(s) 11,
 Unpaid Assessments: \$2,095.80
 Cost: \$254.54
 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
 Total: \$3,350.34

JAMES BRADLEY SHEPHERD (#C170107072) A 105,000 / 60,310,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1111, 1112, 1113, 1114, 1115, 1116, 1121, 1124, 1125, and 1126 in Building Number(s) 11,
 Unpaid Assessments: \$1,199.00
 Cost: \$254.54
 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
 Total: \$2,453.54

TERRY LEE HAURY (#C170107643) A 87,000 / 60,310,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1111, 1112, 1113, 1114, 1115, 1116, 1121, 1124, 1125, and 1126 in Building Number(s) 11,
 Unpaid Assessments: \$1,322.48
 Cost: \$254.54
 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
 Total: \$2,577.02

CRYSTAL PHILLIPS and SHAWN KIRKLAND (#C170106740) A 105,000 / 60,310,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1211, 1212, 1213, 1214, 1215, 1216, 1221, 1224, 1225 and 1226 in Building Number(s) 12,
 Unpaid Assessments: \$5,742.23
 Cost: \$254.54
 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
 Total: \$6,996.77

PATRICIA ANN HALL AKA PATRICIA A HELLER (#C170112698) A 56,000 / 60,310,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1211, 1212, 1213, 1214, 1215, 1216, 1221, 1224, 1225 and 1226 in Building Number(s) 12,
 Unpaid Assessments: \$2,580.83
 Cost: \$254.54
 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
 Total: \$3,835.37

VICTOR D SANDOVAL and TABITHA G SANDOVAL (#C170111298) A 72,000 / 60,310,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1211, 1212, 1213, 1214, 1215, 1216, 1221, 1224, 1225, and 1226 in Building Number(s) 12,
 Unpaid Assessments: \$1,405.02
 Cost: \$254.54
 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
 Total: \$2,659.56

DOUG HOOTEN and JUDY V HOOTEN (#C170114748) A 84,000 / 60,310,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1111, 1112, 1213, 1214, 1215, 1216, 1221, 1224, 1225, and 1226 in Building Number(s) 12,
 Unpaid Assessments: \$1,704.74
 Cost: \$254.54
 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
 Total: \$2,959.28

CORI LEHMAN (#C4252301490) A 190,000 / 60,310,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1211, 1212, 1213, 1214, 1215, 1216, 1221, 1224, 1225, and 1226 in Building Number(s) 12,
 Unpaid Assessments: \$2,439.88
 Cost: \$254.54
 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
 Total: \$3,694.42

JOE SHADID and MARTHA SHADID (#C170202857) A 154,000 / 63,185,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1311, 1312, 1313, 1314, 1315, 1316, 1321, 1322, 1323, 1325 and 1326 in Building Number(s) 13,
 Unpaid Assessments: \$7,097.65
 Cost: \$254.54
 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
 Total: \$8,352.19

CHRISTINE HOWE (#C170121800) A 126,000 / 63,185,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1311, 1312, 1313, 1314, 1315, 1316, 1321, 1322, 1323, 1325, and 1326 in Building Number(s) 13,
 Unpaid Assessments: \$1,705.63
 Cost: \$254.54
 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
 Total: \$2,960.17

PAUL GRAITGE JR and JOYCE L FORTE (#C170121974) A 126,000 / 63,185,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1311, 1312, 1313, 1314, 1315, 1316, 1321, 1322, 1323, 1325, and 1326 in Building Number(s) 13,
 Unpaid Assessments: \$1,705.63
 Cost: \$254.54
 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
 Total: \$2,960.17

Unpaid Assessments: \$916.60
 Cost: \$254.54
 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
 Total: \$2,171.18

JEAN SIMMONS (#C170122154) A 84,000 / 63,185,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1311, 1312, 1313, 1314, 1315, 1316, 1321, 1322, 1323, 1325, and 1326 in Building Number(s) 13,
 Unpaid Assessments: \$738.79
 Cost: \$254.54
 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
 Total: \$2,038.33

SHERI L BURNHAM (#C170123087) A 154,000 / 63,185,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1311, 1312, 1313, 1314, 1315, 1316, 1321, 1322, 1323, 1325, and 1326 in Building Number(s) 13,
 Unpaid Assessments: \$3,515.71
 Cost: \$254.54
 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
 Total: \$4,770.25

RONALD D KELLEY and STELLA M KELLEY (#C170203434) A 105,000 / 63,185,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1311, 1312, 1313, 1314, 1315, 1316, 1321, 1322, 1323, 1325, and 1326 in Building Number(s) 13,
 Unpaid Assessments: \$1,561.21
 Cost: \$254.54
 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
 Total: \$2,815.75

BARBARA C RIDDLE and ALVA E RIDDLE (#C170907477) A 154,000 / 63,185,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1311, 1312, 1313, 1314, 1315, 1316, 1321, 1322, 1323, 1325, and 1326 in Building Number(s) 13,
 Unpaid Assessments: \$2,608.2
 Cost: \$254.54
 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
 Total: \$3,862.76

AVERY LEE CONLEY II and MARCIA LYNN CONLEY (#C1701600752) A 105,000 / 63,185,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1311, 1312, 1313, 1314, 1315, 1316, 1321, 1322, 1323, 1325, and 1326 in Building Number(s) 13,
 Unpaid Assessments: \$2,398
 Cost: \$254.54
 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
 Total: \$3,652.74

MANUEL U MONTOYA (#C171302045) A 145,000 / 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: \$1,275.39
 Cost: \$254.54
 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
 Total: \$2,529.93

MANUEL U MONTOYA (#C171502685) A 105,000 / 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: \$1,275.39
 Cost: \$254.54
 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
 Total: \$2,529.93

In **Teal Landing Condominium**, All as tenants in common with the other undivided interest owners of said buildings as depicted on the Plat recorded in Reception Numbers 20102922, 20105650, 20106879, 20203146, 20204764, 20304272, 20209496, and subject to Declaration of Reception Number 20007580, and all subsequent supplemental Plats or Declaration thereto, all in the Office of the County Clerk and Recorder in and for Archuleta County, Colorado.
 Published February 5, 12, 19, 26 and March 5, 2026, in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*, (288067)

DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO
 Court Address: 109 Harman Park Drive
 Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
 Tel.: 970.264.8160
 Case No.: 2025CV30027
 Plaintiff:
 Peregrine Property Owners Association, Inc.

Defendants:
 Kelly Brady, 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 Interval 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 **October 14, 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): KERRY BRADY, ROBERT W HERTEL JR, TRUSTEE OF THE ROBERT W HERTEL JR AND DEBORAH A HERTEL REVOCABLE TRUST; DEBORAH A HERTEL, TRUSTEES OF THE ROBERT W HERTEL JR AND DEBORAH A HERTEL REVOCABLE TRUST; JEAN G WICKER; JAMES E WICKER; DON W VICKROY; MARITA M VICKROY; SAMUEL DAVID KILLINGER; MARY CATHERINE STUTTS; RON MOLINA; JANELL MOLINA; HARRY A CRISSEMAN; MAE LOUISE CRISSEMAN; CARL A THORNTON; L JERILYN THORNTON; MINTA L WILSON; THOMAS O WILSON JR; CHERYL A HARRIS)
 Evidence of Debt: Declaration of Protective Covenants and Interval 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 secured by the Declaration: Peregrine Property Owners Association, Inc.
 Obligations Secured: The Declaration provides that it secures the payment of the Debt and obligations there in 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 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 10:00 o'clock A.M., on **Wednesday, April 8th, 2026** **Sale Number 2025-08** 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 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: 2/5/2026
 Last Publication: 3/5/2026
 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.
 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.
 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.

EXHIBIT "A"
Peregrine Townhouses
Matter
Amount
KELLY BRADY (#C179607254) A 154,000 / 35,486,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7807-7810 in Building Number(s) 4 & 5,
 Unpaid Assessments: \$3,225.78
 Costs: \$313.15
 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
 Total: \$4,538.93

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preview

ARTS & LIFE

‘Bakersfield Mist’

Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts



Photo courtesy Justin Treptow, Thingamajig Theatre Company

March 5, 2026

‘Bakersfield Mist’ continuing run at Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts

By **Tim Moore**
Thingamajig Theatre Company

“Bakersfield Mist” will continue its successful run at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts with performances Saturday, March 7, at 7 p.m. and Sunday, March 8, at 3 p.m., with the production running through March 14.

The intimate two-person play has been warmly received by audiences throughout its run, with patrons praising the performances as “funny, moving and incredibly real.”

Many theatergoers have noted how the story sparks conversation long after the performance ends, making it one of the season’s most talked-about productions.

Inspired by a true story and written by Stephen Sachs,

“Bakersfield Mist” follows Maude, an unemployed bartender who believes she may have purchased a priceless Jackson Pollock painting at a thrift store. When an art expert arrives to evaluate the work, their meeting becomes a lively and emotional debate about art, class and the nature of value itself.

Presented in the intimate setting of the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, the production highlights strong performances and sharp dialogue that balance humor with heartfelt moments, allowing audiences to experience the story up close.

All performances take place at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. Tickets are available at pagosacenter.org or by calling (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Pagosa Peak Genealogical Society meeting set for March 7

By **Keena Carstensen**
Pagosa Peak Genealogical Society

The Pagosa Peak Genealogical Society (PPGS) will hold its regular monthly meeting this Saturday, March 7.

We will meet from 10 a.m. to noon at the Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St., in the fellowship hall.

There will be a short business

meeting followed by a program.

The March 7 meeting will be “Research Notes Updated for 2026 – A Game Changer for Family History Brick Walls.”

This YouTube video is presented by Connie Knox. She is a lifelong media professional and experienced genealogist. She is the founder and owner of Genealogy TV LLC, where she combines her broadcasting expertise and passion for family history

education.

The video is available at <https://bit.ly/4l7y0J9>.

The genealogical society meets on the first Saturday of each month. It hosts guest speakers on a wide range of topics relating to genealogy and history, including the rich history of our area.

For more information, contact Keena Carstensen at keena@therace@gmail.com.

Live Performers

- Thursday**
Coyote Moon Lounge: Open Mic with Eric Wade, 6:30 p.m.
The Pagosa Bar: Karaoke, 8 p.m.
- Friday**
Coyote Moon Lounge: The Neighbors, 7 p.m.
- Saturday**
Coyote Moon Lounge: Retro Cats, 6 p.m.
- Sunday**
Coyote Moon Lounge: Blue Grass Cadillac, 5 p.m.
- Monday**
Coyote Moon Lounge: High Altitude Blues, 5 p.m.

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The PREVIEW is a publication of

The Pagosa Springs

SUN

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O'Rourke Media Group — Pagosa Springs, LLC
ISSN 2835-3994 (Print) • ISSN 2835-4001 (Online)

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The project budget is up to \$20,000, and the submission deadline for Round 1 is April 2, at 5:00 PM (MT). To apply, visit <https://mypagosa.org/2026-call-for-artists>

For questions, email:
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San Juan Stargazers to meet March 5

By Joan Mieritz
San Juan Stargazers

Today, Thursday, March 5, the San Juan Stargazers will hold their regular monthly educational meeting.

The meeting will start at 6 p.m. with our social hour for snacks and visiting.

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

At 7 p.m. we will begin our educational program, which this month will be a presentation from a new Great Courses series called "Great Heroes and Discoveries of Astronomy" with Dr. Emily Levesque.

Levesque is a graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and an award-winning associate professor at the University of Washington.

We will be continuing our study of "Harvard Heroines Show Us the Stars."

It was surprising how much interest and curiosity the Harvard Heroines brought out when we saw the first part of the presentation. They did such impressive work.

Join the Stargazers

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

the National Astronomical League of which you automatically become a member. To join both groups and get an excellent astronomy magazine, annual membership is only \$25 per individual or family.

You can join the club at any of our meetings or on our website. Check out our continuously changing website, sanjuanstargazers.org, with new information and spectacular photos.

We can be your connection to our extraordinary universe.

Future meetings

We will be again meeting the first Thursday of each month with an educational program.

In June, Tom Hanchett will present points of interest from the celebrations from past space adventures he is attending as part of the Apollo mission team.

It will be great celebrating our past in space before our country begins more live space programs.

Centerpoint Church announces 'Rebuilding Liberty' class

Centerpoint Church

Just in time to start celebrating the 250th birthday of our country, Centerpoint Church is offering a two-day class entitled "Rebuilding Liberty."

This free class will be held at Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive.

The first class will be Sunday, March 8, and the second will be the following Sunday, March 15.

Both classes will begin at 4 p.m. and end at 6 p.m.

The video class is presented by Rick Green from Patriot Academy. If you have been a part of Green's "Biblical Citizenship" class or his "Constitution Alive" class, you will want to be there.

But, even if you haven't, you will enjoy Green's lively presentation.

Kick this year's celebration of our nation's birthday off and join us for this fast-paced, historical-centered learning experience.

For more details, contact (970) 883-2363.

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Photo courtesy David Lenderman

Photographers can learn more about improving the sharpness of images at the March Pagosa Springs Photography Club meeting, set for March 11.

March 11 Pagosa Springs Photography Club meeting to focus on sharper images

By Andy Butler
Pagosa Springs Photography Club

At the March 11 meeting of the Pagosa Springs Photography Club, club member David Lenderman will present a practical talk on a frequently requested topic: how to consistently get sharper images.

The meeting will be held at the Community United Methodist Church, located at 434 Lewis St. Feel free to arrive anytime after 6 p.m. to socialize; the program will begin at 6:30 p.m. Photography club meetings are open to the public.

This presentation goes beyond simple camera settings. Lenderman will walk through real-world techniques for improving sharpness in the field, including camera settings, focus methods, camera stability, dealing with environmental issues, lens considerations and common mistakes that quietly rob images of detail.

The emphasis will be on shooting techniques, but Lenderman will also touch on editing tips to increase sharpness and image quality. The techniques taught will apply whether you shoot landscapes, wildlife, travel or everyday subjects.

Prior to the technical program, Lenderman will share a three- to four-minute music-synced slideshow featuring a collection of his favorite

wildlife and nature photos. If you enjoy images of birds, flowers, coral reefs and other wildlife, you will not be disappointed.

Photographers of all experience levels are encouraged to attend. You'll leave with clear, actionable tips to help your photos look crisper, cleaner and more professional.

Club members may bring up to five recent images to share and discuss with the group following Lenderman's presentation.

This meeting will also be available on Zoom. Club members will receive the Zoom link via email. If you're not on the list, you can request it by emailing abutler@mac.com.

March Virtual Shutter Challenge

The March challenge is "Color." Let color lead the eye. Chase bold primaries or whispering pastels. Explore harmony, clash, saturation and restraint. Let a single hue dominate the frame, or let colors argue at the edges. Photograph emotion, mood, and meaning through color alone.

Any photographer is welcome to participate in the challenge by sharing up to three photos as comments on the post about this topic on the club's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/PagosaPhotoClub.

And, don't forget to like and com-
■ See Photography on next page



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March 12 Growers and Producers Forum to focus on starting a vegetable garden

Healthy Archuleta

As winter begins to loosen its grip and seed catalogs start appearing on kitchen tables across Archuleta County, Healthy Archuleta invites community members to gather for the next Growers and Producers Forum on Thursday, March 12.

The meeting will take place from 4 to 5:30 p.m. at the Community United Methodist Church on Lewis Street and will focus on one timely and practical topic: how to start a vegetable garden.

Designed for both first-time gardeners and seasoned growers, this session will feature a panel of local producers who understand what it takes to grow food successfully in our high-country climate.

They will walk participants through the essential first steps of launching a garden project, including how to

select and prepare a site, build healthy soil, and decide between in-ground planting and raised beds.

The conversation will also cover what to plant and when, along with watering and fertilizing practices, composting garden trimmings, and incorporating perennial fruits, herbs, and vegetables for long-term productivity.

Gardening at elevation comes with challenges, including a short growing season and fluctuating temperatures. Yet, with thoughtful planning and a few practical guidelines, it can be both achievable and deeply rewarding.

Homegrown vegetables nourish not only our families, but also our local environment. Growing food in healthy soil reduces reliance on outside resources, strengthens sustainability and reconnects us to the land that sustains us.

As spring approaches, this is the season to begin preparing, shovels ready, wheelbarrows nearby and seeds selected with intention.

Healthy Archuleta's Growers and Producers Forum exists to support exactly this kind of community learning. Through education and the sharing of local expertise, the forum helps strengthen Archuleta County's local food system one garden at a time.

The meeting is free and open to the public, with options to attend in person or via Zoom. Those wishing to join virtually may request the Zoom link by emailing fsfearchuleta@gmail.com.

To learn more about the Growers and Producers Forum or to explore other upcoming events, including the 2026 Archuleta Food Summit, visit www.foodcoalition4archuleta.org/events--happenings.html.

Photography

■ continued from previous page
ment on the work of others.

Join for photography adventures

Would you like to improve your photography? Consider joining the

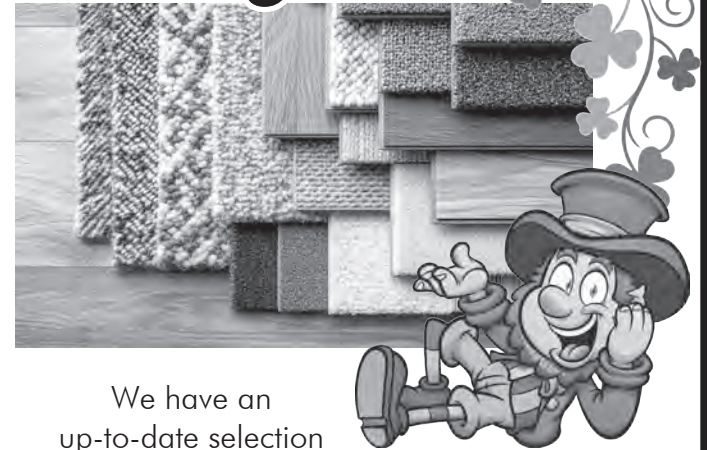
Pagosa Springs Photography Club.

The club offers a great chance to connect with others who also love photography. The club has both learning sessions and fun outings to help photographers of all skill levels grow.

Membership is just \$25 a year (\$35

for families). You can download a membership form from our website, <https://pagosaspringsphotoclub.org/about/>, and send it in with your payment (the form has all the details), or you can bring it to a club meeting.

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Interested in starting a cottage food business? Let Healthy Archuleta know

Healthy Archuleta

Have you ever imagined turning your homemade baked goods, jams, spice blends or other shelf-stable favorites into a small business?

Thanks to Colorado's Cottage Food Act, individuals can legally prepare and sell certain foods from their home kitchens, opening the door to entrepreneurship, supplemental income and local food innovation right here in Archuleta County.

Healthy Archuleta is exploring the next round of Cottage Food Certification Training sessions in partnership with the Colorado State University (CSU) Extension agent serving Archuleta County.

This certification is required for

anyone who wants to sell cottage foods in Colorado and provides essential guidance on food safety, labeling requirements and state regulations. It's an important first step for anyone ready to move from idea to action.

Before scheduling the next training, we want to better understand community interest. Whether you're hoping to launch a new cottage food business, expand an existing home-based product, learn more about Colorado's regulations or complete the required food safety certification, we invite you to share your interest with us.

Your responses will help us gauge local demand, identify preferred language (English or Spanish), under-

stand prior certification status, and coordinate scheduling with CSU Extension to best serve our community.

If you're a home baker, gardener, small-scale producer or simply exploring what's possible, this could be your first step toward bringing a local food product to life. Complete the interest form at <https://bit.ly/406hJu7>.

We'll gather responses and follow up with next steps and training details.

For more information, please contact Healthy Archuleta at fsfearchuleta@gmail.com. And while you're exploring local food opportunities, don't forget to register for the 2026 Archuleta Food Summit on April 18 at www.foodcoalition4archuleta.org/archuleta-food-summit.html.

End of Life Education to hear about emergency medical services

By Joan Mieritz
End of Life Education

Do you know what happens when you call 911?

On Thursday, March 19, and again on April 16, members of the emergency medical team who respond to such calls will be meeting with people in Pagosa Springs interested in finding out more about what can happen.

On those two days, End of Life Education will be meeting at 1 p.m. We will all be working together to create a program of education about emergency medical services.

It is very helpful if you know what services can be offered and if you know what to expect if you call. This is the time do-not-resuscitate forms need to be available.

We will meet in the Community United Methodist Church fellowship hall at 434 Lewis St. There is a nice parking lot with a side door that en-

ters the kitchen and then the meeting room. The front doors to the church are locked.

If someone wants to bring a treat to share, that would be great. Coffee, about 10 different teas, hot chocolate and other hot drinks will be available. We will visit informally for about 10 minutes until everyone is comfortable.

The program being presented by the emergency medical people should last about an hour. When they are done, we will spend about 30 additional minutes planning what other

programs we should have this year with End of Life Education.

End-of-life education is difficult, but just as we planned other events in our lives, this time of life can be better the more we know and the more we plan.

End of Life Education will meet with the Archuleta County coroner on April 30 at the same time and location.

I hope that you will be at these programs to make your life better. Working together can make life better, too.

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Photo courtesy Pagosa Community Initiative

The Pagosa Community Initiative will hold Second Chance Prom — its biggest annual fundraiser — on May 16.

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*“Awake, thou that sleepest,
and arise from the dead,
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Pagosa Community Initiative’s annual Second Chance Prom fundraiser set for May 17

By Carrie Blue-White
Pagosa Community Initiative

Get ready to dust off your dancing shoes and step into a glamorous Night in Hollywood at Pagosa Community Initiative’s (PCI) Second Chance Prom 2026, the organization’s largest and most beloved annual fundraiser.

Scheduled for May 16 at 7 p.m. at the Ross Aragon Community Center (451 Hot Springs Blvd.), this sparkling evening promises fun, connection and a powerful boost for the families who call Archuleta County home.

PCI stands as Archuleta County’s trusted family resource center, delivering vital services that strengthen our community from the ground up.

From free after-school programs and summer camp scholarships to essential therapy, youth initiatives and family support projects, PCI creates a vibrant, inclusive safety net for students, parents and neighbors in need.

The organization’s impact was recently recognized when PCI earned the Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce’s 2025 Non-Profit of the Year award — a distinction that fills

us with profound pride and humility as we continue our mission.

“Prom is more than a night of celebration,” shared Carrie Blue-White, PCI’s board chair and the pioneer of Second Chance Prom. “It’s a community effort that funds vital initiatives — from youth programs to therapy services and family support projects. We rely on local energy and generosity to make it possible.”

This isn’t just an event — it’s a heartfelt celebration of community resilience and generosity where every donation and ticket sale directly fuels PCI’s life-changing work across our county.

That’s why we’re calling on you, our neighbors and local business owners, to get involved today:

- Donate silent auction items: Baskets, experiences, gift cards or unique services from your business will create buzz and raise crucial funds. Your contribution helps keep programs free for those who need them most.
- Buy tickets, reserve tables or vote for your favorite royalty couple: Gather friends, family or colleagues for an unforgettable night. Secure

■ See Prom on next page



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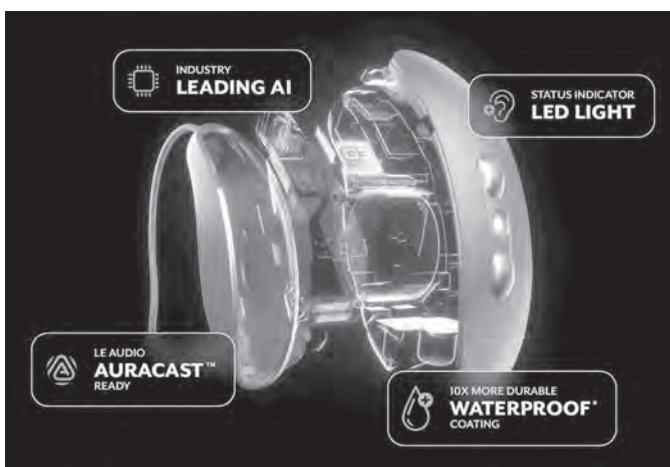
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Gennette Erickson
Owner,
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Easter Season Services

Following are the Ash Wednesday, Lent, Holy Week and Easter services that were submitted to The PREVIEW. Events may be submitted to editor@pagosasun.com.

Friday, March 6

Stations of the Cross. 5 p.m., Trinity Anglican Church, 246 Harman Park Drive.

Stations of the Cross. 7 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd.

Wednesday, March 11

Stations of the Cross. 4 p.m., Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, 455 Lewis St. With rosary.

Friday, March 13

Stations of the Cross. 5 p.m., Trinity Anglican Church, 246 Harman Park Drive.

Stations of the Cross. 7 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd.

Wednesday, March 18

Stations of the Cross. 4 p.m., Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, 455 Lewis St. With rosary.

Friday, March 20

Stations of the Cross. 5 p.m., Trinity Anglican Church, 246 Harman Park Drive.

Stations of the Cross. 7 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd.

Wednesday, March 25

Stations of the Cross. 4 p.m., Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, 455 Lewis St. With rosary.

Prom

■ continued from previous page
your spot now at www.givebutter.com/PCIprom2026 and be part of the magic. You do not have to attend the event to vote for your favorite couple. Each dollar they raise in their name helps them get closer to winning the crown.

Whether you're volunteering your time and ideas at upcoming planning meetings, sponsoring the evening or simply attending, your support

Friday, March 27

Stations of the Cross. 5 p.m., Trinity Anglican Church, 246 Harman Park Drive.

Stations of the Cross. 7 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd.

Sunday, March 29

Palm Sunday Church Service. 9 a.m., Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1879 Majestic Drive.

Thursday, April 2

Holy Thursday Mass. 7 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd.

Friday, April 3

Good Friday Pilgrimage. 2 p.m., starting location to be announced.

Stations of the Cross. 4:30 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd.

Good Friday Service. 5:30 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd.

Saturday, April 4

Blessing of the Easter Baskets. Noon, Pope John Paul II Catholic Church, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd.

Easter Vigil. 8 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd.

Sunday, April 5

Easter Sunday Mass. 9 a.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd.

Easter Sunday Mass. 11:15 a.m., Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, 455 Lewis St.

makes PCI's mission thrive. Past participants rave about the shared purpose and real impact — now it's your turn to shine.

Contact Carrie Blue-White at carrie.blue@gmail.com or Rebecca Tenpenny at director@pagosacommunityinitiative.org or (970) 585-6461 to donate, volunteer or learn more.

Let's make Second Chance Prom 2026 our best yet. Together, we're building a brighter Pagosa.

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Be nomadic
- 5 Gyro holders
- 10 Arsenal stash
- 14 Thor's father
- 15 Concerning, old-style
- 16 Skin swelling
- 17 Pie à la ____
- 18 Capitol building
- 20 Evictor's phrase, "Vacate the ____"
- 22 Briefly halted
- 23 Edmonton athlete
- 24 Things often cut
- 25 Roadside stop
- 27 Gave a ring
- 29 Build up
- 30 Relief from symptoms
- 34 Canine cry
- 35 Sweeten the deal

- 36 ____ de Janiero
- 37 Filled with stories
- 40 Series opener?
- 42 Curtis of hair care
- 43 Belittle
- 44 Carbonated
- 47 Put to the test
- 49 "Mad Men" character Don
- 50 Film legend Marlene
- 53 Temperance
- 55 In ____ land (spacy)
- 56 Revered one
- 57 Not a soul
- 58 Lay ____ the line
- 59 Till compartment
- 60 Lacking slack
- 61 Brings home

DOWN

- 1 Boisterous play
- 2 Glade target
- 3 VCR insert

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17					18					19				
20				21					22					
			23					24						
25	26					27	28							
29						30						31	32	33
34					35							36		
37			38	39						40	41			
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44	45	46						47	48					
49							50						51	52
53						54					55			
56					57						58			
59					60						61			

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- 4 They may be bitter
- 5 Out of fashion
- 6 Translated orally
- 7 Pekoe and oolong
- 8 Crumb carrier
- 9 "Get moving!"
- 10 Is plentiful
- 11 Awaken
- 12 Frugal fellow
- 13 Olympic racers
- 19 Rabbits' relatives
- 21 Society's woes
- 24 Successful passes on the gridiron
- 25 Hawke of "Stranger Things"
- 26 Mideast land
- 28 Studly fellow
- 31 Brighten
- 32 Lubricates
- 33 Stem swelling
- 35 Broad-minded

- 38 Wedding settings
- 39 Steer away
- 40 "Hurry up and ____"
- 41 First co-ed college
- 44 Own up to
- 45 Wear away

- 46 Dangerous household gas
- 48 Soprano Fleming
- 50 Singer Celine
- 51 What a stunt will prevent
- 52 ____ Christian Andersen
- 54 Hammer slantingly

Answers to Previous Crossword:

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



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Photo courtesy St. Patrick's Episcopal Church

St. Patrick's Band of Bagpipers are will again be a featured piece of next Saturday's iteration of "The World's Shortest Saint Patrick's Day Parade" at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church.

St. Patrick's Day parade to step off March 14

By Anthony Aldwell
St. Patrick's Episcopal Church

The Pagosa Springs tradition of orchestrating "The World's Shortest Saint Patrick's Day Parade" continues next Saturday, March 14, at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church.

All Pagosa residents and visitors are welcome to attend this annual rite of spring, with a variety of activities from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Parking will be easy in the adjacent lots at either the front lot at the medical center or at the Pope John Paul II Catholic Church. The parade itself will

step off at 11:15 a.m. Attendees are encouraged to participate in the parade as children are invited to join St. Patrick on her float and canine lovers can march in the parade with their leashed dogs.

Immediately after the parade, free chili dogs will be served to all comers and Irish coffee will be for sale. The Irish bagpipers have their instruments tuned.

So, dig out your emerald green outfits and come early so that you don't miss the fleeting but fabulous moments of Pagosa's "World's Shortest Saint Patrick's Day Parade" next Saturday.



Photo courtesy St. Patrick's Episcopal Church

Pagosa Springs' dogs and owners love marching in the St. Patrick Day Parade. This year, there will be treats for all at "The World's Shortest Saint Patrick's Day Parade" on Saturday, March 14, at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church.

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Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship to hold Going Deeper Sharing Circle on March 8

Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Unitarian Universalists (UUs) have been longtime advocates for civil rights as meaning-making people in this life that is often fraught with heartache and injustice in our world. Living out our values requires action, and we are guided and inspired by those who have come before us.

One aspect of action is to know when to rest and refuel our minds, our bodies and our spirits.

We do this by holding space for reflection and listening in community as we build resilience and faith in all that we, as individuals, hold sacred.

The second Sunday of each month we host the Going Deeper Sharing Circle from 10:30 a.m. to noon.

This month, on March 8, we will finish the theme of a muscular hope, using resources from the “On Being” podcast.

Inspiration will come from Ross Gay, a poet, essayist, teacher and passionate community gardener. He lives in Bloomington, Ind., where he’s a professor of English at Indiana

University.

Krista Tippet, host of “On Being,” says of Gay, “He brings us another way of wisdom, to the conviction that we have to know what we love and what delights us. And that we have to tend to that as fiercely as to what is broken and what we’re called to make better, what we’re called to make more just.”

This small-group gathering is a place to deepen an inner awareness and participate in community sharing as we practice deep listening and connection. This is an open, safe circle of engaging in your own life’s journey and spiritual growth.

Stay tuned for future programming next month, using a variety of resources to “Make Friends, Grow in Spirit and Do Good.”

Visit our website, PagosaUU.org, where you will find information about upcoming services and programs.

We offer space for ongoing programs and events at the UU Community Hub, such as the Tara Meditation Group held Sundays from 4:30 to 6

p.m. and Qigong practice on Monday afternoons at 1 p.m. The Wise and Wakeful Circle, hosted by Elaine Harding and Sam Johnson, will meet the second Saturday, March 14, at 10 a.m. All are welcome for mindfulness practice connecting with others to build community.

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

Spiritual Experiences Group of Pagosa Springs to meet March 8

By Laurah Brock Young

Spiritual Experiences Group of Pagosa Springs

Would you like to bring more wisdom, serenity, love and freedom into your life?

Sometimes our world is so topsy-turvy that we wonder how to keep our balance. How can we maintain a spiritual viewpoint amid all these thoughts and experiences?

HU is an ancient mantra for a modern world. Singing or chanting this sacred sound can help us expand our awareness, heal a broken heart, help us experience divine love, and bring peace and calm. I have experienced these at various times by singing HU with an open heart.

“If you want to lift yourself to a higher state of consciousness—so that the political issues, the family issues, the social issues of the day do not throw you out of balance, so that you can find a happier, more contented life while you’re living here—sing HU, the most beautiful

prayer.” — Harold Klemp, “HU, the Most Beautiful Prayer.”

Join the Spiritual Experiences Group of Pagosa Springs on Sunday, March 8, at 1 p.m. for our event: “Raise Your Spiritual Vibrations! Sing HU—an Ancient Mantra and Sacred Sound.”

Experience the HU song and enjoy a discussion afterward.

No prior experience is needed, just curiosity and an open heart.

We will meet at the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave.

This free event is sponsored by Eckankar. Eckankar is a spiritual resource for people of all faiths and beliefs. It is an individual, creative practice to experience our unique relationship with the Divine.

Join the Spiritual Experiences Group of Pagosa Springs Meetup at www.meetup.com/pagosa-springs-spiritual-experiences-group/.

To learn more about Eckankar, visit www.eckankar.org or <https://eckankar-colorado.org/>.

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SUDOKU

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

Level: Advanced

Fun By The Numbers

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

Here’s How It Works:

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

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

ANSWER:

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Not everyone's game, but a win for all

By Betty Slade
PREVIEW Columnist

Hockey — it's not everyone's game. But it was everyone's win. The win was for the country. An exciting hockey game brought unity. People experienced the joy of the win and, for one split moment, the country forgot why they were mad.

We wanted to enjoy the excitement of these young men who poured their lives into a game, for their sport, for their family, God and country. Smiles. Unity. Even the loss of two teeth added to the battle that had been fought on the ice with blood, sweat and tears.

Forty-six years ago the Americans won their first gold medal in men's hockey, by the team known as the "Miracle on Ice" group. They won in Lake Placid, N.Y., in 1980. Later, a few silver medals were awarded, but not the gold until 2026.

Time marched on since the last gold. Life has a way of mounting up time, forgetting the wins or even the losses. This win could have been another of our country's miracles on ice. Not everyone saw it that way.

I understood what division does to people. Our family needed a miracle to thaw out the ice between two members — myself and my brother — both in our 80s. It's not too late, but definitely too short to regain all we have lost.

It's been 30 years since a rift happened between us, and we hadn't talked. I contended that our family was different. This didn't happen to us. But, it did. I thought back to when my heart ached at first. Then the ache went away, and it felt normal. We just didn't talk.

I understood the dynamics of my family. They never apologized. They just showed up and acted as if everything was fine. That was OK with me. I just wanted my relationship back with my brother like it used to be.

I said to Al, "If Jay came to my door, I would just hug him. I love him. I've missed him so much over all these years."

SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center announces upcoming events

By Shayla McClure
SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center

On Sunday, March 8, at 11:11 a.m., the SpiritFire Inspiration Living Center will hold "The Blessing of Your FireHorse Empowerment" with Shayla Azriel at Xanadu.

There will also be a blessing and drumming circle. A \$10 donation will be collected.

Upcoming activities

Save the date for the following activity at the SpiritFire Inspirational



I went to her funeral anyway, hurt because it was my mother, too. He didn't understand. My children and I stood at my mother's graveside. I thanked my brother for being such a good son to our mother the last years of her life.

Letters I sent went into the trash. My mother passed away and I didn't hear about it until one of my children said, "Jay called. Grandma died. He doesn't want you there."

I went to her funeral anyway, hurt because it was my mother, too. He didn't understand. My children and I stood at my mother's graveside. I thanked my brother for being such a good son to our mother the last years of her life. He'd take her for Sunday rides. He took good care of her.

He thought I came to get something. I told him, "Jay, you don't know my heart. I don't want anything. You should have it all for being such a good son." He didn't respond. We went back to the way it was: silence,

loss, division.

My brother was not interested in burying the hatchet. He had been injured by his own perceptions or whatever he thought I had done to him. I had no idea what he was thinking. I didn't know how to fix it. I prayed for it to be fixed. I didn't know his heart and he didn't know mine. And no one cared enough to have a hard conversation.

I traced every step that happened between us. Al said at the time, "He wants to be mad. Anything you would have done would have made him mad."

I was being Betty. I am sure there were things I did and said that would have gotten under his skin. I couldn't help being me. But, we were family. Family doesn't act this way.

Over the years, I asked my Sweet Al why my brother was still so mad. Al said, "I don't think he knows why he's mad. It's just how he wants it."

I don't believe he knows how much we have lost — time enjoyed being together. Being there for each other. And, more importantly, how we laughed so easily together.

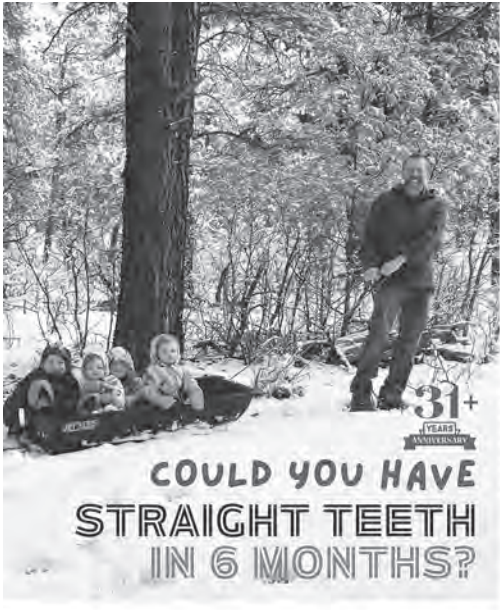
Recently, out of the blue, my brother reached out to friend me on Facebook. I was stunned. I immediately friended him with small talk. He answered.

What happened? How does someone finally put down their anger? Does a person just get tired of being mad? Or is the reason not that important anymore?

As for the hockey game, I didn't want anyone's anger to take away from the young men who fought for the gold and won for our country. As for my brother, we are still family. I know it took a lot to reach beyond the wall of injury and put down the hurt.

Final brushstroke: Nothing is so important that it causes a rift because of thoughtlessness, perception or whatever we choose to hold on to. We either win together or lose together.

Send in your comment to betty-slade.author@gmail.com.



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Preview Calendar

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

Thursday, March 5

Ruby's Writers Guild. 8:45-10:45 a.m., Senior Center. Ruby's Writers Guild welcomes writers who are looking for opportunities, support and camaraderie with other writers. Members provide support, resources and guidance for each other.

Tai Chi Chih. 1:30-2:30 p.m., Senior Center.

Tech Time. 2-4 p.m., Sisson Library. Taylor will answer basic questions related to computers, smartphones, tablets, etc., and provide assistance with accessing any of the library's online resources. Bring your device charger and passwords.

English as a Second Language. 4-6 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.

San Juan Outdoor Club. 6 p.m., PLPOA Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. There will be a short potluck snack social beginning at 6 p.m. At 6:30 p.m., there will be a presentation on how LPEA will source power beginning April 1.

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

Friday, March 6

Good News Club. 1:15-3:15 p.m., Pagosa Springs Elementary

School. A weekly club for kids in kindergarten through the fourth grade where the Bible is taught with songs, stories, object lessons, games and more. To register, visit <https://cef-colorado-431831.churchcenter.com/people/forms/1006150>.

Paws to Read. 2-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Read to Maple, the therapy dog who loves stories.

Pagosa Springs Knights of Columbus Lenten Fish Fry. 4:30-6:30 p.m., John Paul II Catholic Church, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd. Both dine-in and drive-through dining will be available. The cost of the meal is \$15 and is a fundraiser for the Pagosa Springs Knights of Columbus.

Saturday, March 7

Archuleta County Democrat Caucus. 9 a.m., virtual. Check-in will begin at 8:30 a.m. For more information and to register, visit www.archuletaadems.org.

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. Register and learn more at www.griefshare.org.

Pagosa Peak Genealogical Society. 10 a.m.-noon, Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. There will be a short meeting followed by a program.

LEGO Play. 11 a.m.-noon, Sisson Library. For kids 6-11 years old. Bring your own or use the library's LEGOs to free build. Contact the library at (970) 264-2209 for further information.

Troop 807 Fundraiser Dinner. 5:30-7 p.m., Community United Methodist Church. RSVP to Jennifer Walterscheid at (970) 986-0387.

Thingamajig Theatre Company Presents 'Bakersfield Mist.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, 2313 Eagle Drive. For tickets and more information, visit pagosacenter.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Sunday, March 8

Thingamajig Theatre Company Presents 'Bakersfield Mist.' 3 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, 2313 Eagle Drive. For tickets and more information, visit pagosacenter.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

'Rebuilding Liberty' Class. 4-6 p.m., Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. Offered to start celebrating America's 250th birthday. For more details, contact (970) 883-2363.

Monday, March 9

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.

English as a Second Language. 10 a.m.-noon, St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Your library offers English as a second language classes. These classes

■ See Calendar on next page



Sunday, March 8 at 6pm

Everyone is invited to an evening of worship and prayer for our community. This is a time when we encourage the body of Christ in Pagosa to come together to seek the Lord's presence, respond to His voice and His leading.



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Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

are free. Call (970) 264-2209 or email for more information.

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.

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.

Tuesday, March 10

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.

Ruby's Book Club. 2-3 p.m., Archuleta County Transit Center, 83 Harman Park Drive. Join to discuss "Educated" by Tara Westover.

English as a Second Language. 3-5 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.

Men's Fellowship. 6 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd.

Wednesday, March 11

Kids Kare. 9:30-11:30 a.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. A weekly club for 3- to 5-year-olds where the Bible is taught with songs, stories, object lessons, games and more.

Family Storytime. 10-11 a.m., Sisson Library. Join us for an educational hour of reading, singing and free play while building early literacy skills together. For all ages. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

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

Mindful Drawing. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

Mexican Train Dominoes. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

Legal Clinic. 2-3:40 p.m., Sisson Library. Meet with a volunteer civil

attorney via 20-minute phone appointments. Registration opens March 2 and space is limited. Registration is required. Call (970) 264-2209. Space is limited.

Elementary Tutoring. 3:30-4:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs Elementary School, 141 S. 10th St. For grades 1-3. Elementary school children are tutored in reading and math. Registration required. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information. A Sisson Library program.

Junior Youth Challenge. 3:30-4:45 p.m., Pagosa Springs Middle School music room. A weekly club for kids in fifth and sixth grade where the Bible is taught with songs, stories, object lessons, games and more. To register, visit <https://cef-colorado-431831.churchcenter.com/people/forms/1006150>.

Pagosa Springs Photography Club. 6 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. The program will begin at 6:30 p.m. David Lenderman will present on how to consistently get sharper images.

Order of the Eastern Star Peace and Harmony Chapter #158. 7 p.m., Masonic Lodge, 277 Lewis St. Call Donna at (970) 946-8201 for more information.

Thursday, March 12

Ruby's Writers Guild. 8:45-10:45 a.m., Senior Center. Ruby's Writers Guild welcomes writers who are looking for opportunities, support and camaraderie with other writers. Members provide support, resources and guidance for each other.

Tai Chi Chih. 1:30-2:30 p.m., Senior Center.

Tech Time. 2-4 p.m., Sisson Library. Taylor will answer basic questions related to computers, smartphones, tablets, etc., and provide assistance with accessing any of the library's online resources. Bring your device charger and passwords.

Healthy Archuleta Growers and Producers Forum. 4-5:30, Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. The topic will be how to start a vegetable garden.

English as a Second Language. 4-6 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.

Online Author Talk. 5 p.m., virtual. "Book Portals and Journeys of Literary Magic" with Kate Quinn, author of "The Alice Network" and "The Rose Code." Go to the library's website, www.pagosalibrary.org, to watch nationally renowned authors giving hour-long presentations live via Zoom or view the recording later.

Personal Financial Budgeting Workshop. 5:30-7 p.m., Pagosa Community Initiative, 550 B Hot Springs

Boulevard. For more information or to register, contact Randy at (970) 585-6253.

Friday, March 13

Good News Club. 1:15-3:15 p.m.,

■ See Calendar on page 16

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PAGOSA SCENE . . .

ANNUAL LENTEN FISH FRY

Photos courtesy Gene Tautges

Scene ... kicking off the Pagosa Springs Knights of Columbus' annual Lenten Fish Fry. The fry will continue on Friday from 4:30 6:30 p.m., John Paul II Catholic Church. Both dine-in and drive-through dining will be available. The cost of the meal is \$15 and is a fundraiser for the group.



Bird of the Week



Photo courtesy Charles Martinez

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

In our area, this is a relatively uncommon winter duck whose numbers increase during spring migration. Most lesser scaup spend the winter farther south than other diving ducks, with the largest numbers wintering somewhere in states bordering the Gulf of Mexico.

These ducks primarily eat aquatic invertebrates including insects, clams and snails along with some plants and seeds. They dive for their food and may stick their bills into muddy bottoms, opening and closing them to trap food while swimming forward.

Lesser scaup mainly breed in the prairie pothole region of the United States and Canada, where they nest in late May through June. They are late fall migrants that stay on their breeding grounds until late October or November when the water starts freezing over. Outside the breeding season, they are social ducks that can be found on all types of water bodies.

During their time here, these ducks have been found on the river, on wetland ponds and on large lakes like Echo Reservoir and those in Pagosa Lakes. At a distance, these male "oreo ducks" are seen as black on both ends and white in the middle. Closer views reveal fine black and white barring on the back, a bluish bill and yellow eye, and, in good light, an iridescent green or purple sheen on the head. Females are colored a rich brown and have a darker head and large white patch at the base of the bill.

There is a similar-looking greater scaup, but it is mainly a coastal bird unlikely to be seen here. Locally, the bigger ID challenge is differentiating between the lesser scaup and the ring-necked duck that closely resembles it.

With warmer winters, more lesser scaup are overwintering on the Great Lakes, where introduced zebra mussels provide abundant food and outcompete native mussels. Ships have spread this small, freshwater bivalve shellfish from native waters in the Caspian and Black seas to the Great Lakes, and from there boats have transported them all the way to the west coast. These invaders pose a major threat to aquatic infrastructure and ecosystems. Boaters are urged to be vigilant in cleaning vessels to slow their spread.

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



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Dr. Nylund has been practicing the last 17 years in Southern Colorado and Northern New Mexico. He graduated from the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio and completed an Advanced Education in General Dentistry Residency in Colorado. He has completed the postdoctoral training at the Kois Center where he has learned a risk based approach to reduce dental problems. He mentors other dentists for Practical Clinical Courses in UT. He and his family have called Pagosa Springs home for several years. He looks forward to taking care of you and your loved ones.

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Preview Calendar

■ **continued from page 13**
Pagosa Springs Elementary School. A weekly club for kids in kindergarten through the fourth grade where the Bible is taught with songs, stories, object lessons, games and more. To register, visit <https://cef-colorado-431831.churchcenter.com/people/forms/1006150>.

Pagosa Springs Knights of Columbus Lenten Fish Fry. 4:30-6:30 p.m., John Paul II Catholic Church, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd. Both dine-in and drive-through dining will be available. The cost of the meal is \$15 and is a fundraiser for the Pagosa Springs Knights of Columbus.

Thingamajig Theatre Company Presents ‘Bakersfield Mist.’ 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, 2313 Eagle Drive. For tickets and more information, visit pagosacenter.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Saturday, March 14

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. Register and learn more at www.griefshare.org.

Pagosa Springs Scrapbook and Crafters Club. 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Senior Center dining room. Bring your creative and scrapbooking projects and share time with other crafters. Bring a dish to share for the potluck lunch.

St. Patrick’s Day Festival. 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., St. Patrick’s Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. “The World’s Shortest Saint Patrick’s Day Parade” will step off at 11:15 a.m.

Knitters Circle. 1-3 p.m., Natural Grocers back room, 775 San Juan St. Any type and experience level of needleworker is welcome.

Thingamajig Theatre Company Presents ‘Bakersfield Mist.’ 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, 2313 Eagle Drive. For tickets and more information, visit pagosacenter.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Sunday, March 15

‘Rebuilding Liberty’ Class. 4-6 p.m., Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. Offered to start celebrating America’s 250th birthday. For more details, contact (970) 883-2363.

Monday, March 16

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.

English as a Second Language. 10 a.m.-noon, 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.

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.

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.

Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County: Mondays in March. 5:30 p.m., Pagosa Community Initiative art studios, 550 B Hot Springs Blvd. Learn more about the application process, required documentation, income guidelines, key deadlines and more. For more information or to RSVP for child care, contact Habitat Archuleta at (970) 264-6960 or email volunteer@habitatarchuleta.org.

Tuesday, March 17

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. 3-5 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.

Tween Baddie Buddies Book Club. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. Join to adventure into the world of books. For ages 11-14. Snacks will be provided.

Men’s Fellowship. 6 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd.

Wednesday, March 18

Kids Kare. 9:30-11:30 a.m., Pagosa

Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. A weekly club for 3- to 5-year-olds where the Bible is taught with songs, stories, object lessons, games and more.

Family Storytime. 10-11 a.m., Sisson Library. Join us for an educational hour of reading, singing and free play while building early literacy skills together. For all ages. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

Therapy Dog Visit. 11 a.m.-noon, Sisson Library. For all ages. Take a moment to visit with certified therapy dog Mia.

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

Mindful Drawing. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

Mexican Train Dominoes. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

Elementary Tutoring. 3:30-4:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs Elementary School, 141 S. 10th St. For grades 1-3. Elementary school children are tutored in reading and math. Registration required. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information. A Sisson Library program.

Junior Youth Challenge. 3:30-4:45 p.m., Pagosa Springs Middle School music room. A weekly club for kids in fifth and sixth grade where the Bible is taught with songs, stories, object lessons, games and more. To register, visit <https://cef-colorado-431831.churchcenter.com/people/forms/1006150>.

Pagosa Springs High School Booster Club. 5:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School.

Thursday, March 19

Ruby’s Writers Guild. 8:45-10:45 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.

End of Life Education. 1 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St.

Tai Chi Chih. 1:30-2:30 p.m., Senior Center.

Tech Time. 2-4 p.m., Sisson Library. Taylor will answer basic questions related to computers, smartphones, tablets, etc., and provide assistance with accessing any of the library’s online resources. Bring your device charger and passwords.

English as a Second Language. 4-6 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.

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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Schools and libraries are about hope

By Barbara Brattin
PREVIEW Columnist

In my 35 years as a public librarian I can say with confidence that I have never heard anyone complain about funding a public library. Not the people who use a library, not the people who don't.

Even in Telluride, where it was common to hear the library building jokingly called the Taj Mahal, alluding to a 20,000-square-foot building built for 2,000 people, I would hear the same people claim with pride that it was their vote that broke the tie to build a new library. (The library ballot question won by two votes.)

In 2007, a county in rural Oregon voted to close down their library when timber revenue plummeted. Yet several years later the library district was reformed and refunded.

That's because libraries, like schools, symbolize hope. Is there any more democratic institution? No matter what your circumstances, no matter whether you struggled in school or dropped out entirely, whether you came from money or barely got by, you can learn anything and become anything with a free library card. That's hope. That's promise. That's freedom.

Sociologist Eric Klinenberg studied neighborhoods in Chicago and New York City with high rates of survival during crises like blackouts or floods, and found that, where there was a cohesion created by social institutions, there was much greater resilience.

"Investing in social infrastructure—physical places like libraries, parks, and community centers," says Klinenberg in his 2019 bestseller, "Palaces for the People," "is crucial for combating inequality, polarization, and social isolation."

Klinenberg's study verifies what we all know: Investment in the public good is an investment worth making.

Investment in your Ruby Sisson Library is an investment worth making. As we prepare to open a newly expanded library building in August, we need your investment. Investment in a makerspace where teens will learn the technology they need to compete in a tech-driven job market. Investment in a children's garden where children will learn to grow their own food and care for the earth. Investment in a community room where we can all come together to learn from each other.

Investment in the library is investment in the future of Pagosa Springs. Won't you join our capital campaign and build a future we can all believe in?

Contact Katie Dobbins at (970) 264-2102 or Barb Brattin at (970) 264-9360 to get started.

Thank you.

Construction update

Insulation and drywall will continue for the next several weeks. You'll see more exterior activity as winter transitions to spring.

Library News

The building should be ready sometime in August, and our grand opening is tentatively set for Labor Day weekend.

Follow us on Facebook for periodic pictures of progress.

Collecting for local food banks

If you have an extra can or two of food you can share, or some dried food in sturdy packaging, please bring it to the library. Our local agencies will pick up and distribute the food to where it's needed.

Tax forms and booklets available

Pick up Colorado tax forms and booklets, as well as federal 1040 and 1040A forms and instructions.

GED by appointment only

As we gear up for the grand opening of our new library space, we're taking a break from regular GED hours. If you are working toward your general education degree or a high school equivalency exam, or if you could use a tutoring session to help you with your educational goals, give the library a call at (970) 264-2209 and we'll connect you with our instructor.

Colorado Parks Passes for checkout

It may seem like the wrong time of year to visit Colorado state parks, but with our mild winter, why not get outside and enjoy the parks' off-season?

The Ruby Sisson Library has free Colorado Parks passes for checkout that include a backpack with nature guides, binoculars and fun activities. Reserve yours today.

New Tumblemath for kids

Ask AI if good readers are good at math, and here's the answer you get: "Yes, good readers are often good at math because reading skills like comprehension, vocabulary, and logical reasoning are crucial for understanding word problems, mathematical language, and complex concepts, with strong early reading ability being a key predictor of later math success. Both subjects rely on creating mental images, using context, and persevering through challenges, and brain areas used for reading are also involved in math tasks like multiplication, showing a deep connection."

That's the idea behind the library's brand new online offering for kids, Tumblemath. Kids can learn math concepts through fun picture books that tell the story of why math works.

Concepts range from basic addition all the way through geometry for

older readers. You can find Tumblemath in our digital library on the alphabetical list or in the homework section.

Meet us out in the community

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■ See Library on page 19



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When it comes to protecting, managing, and regaining overall health, Vitamin D has proven to be most effective. The naturally occurring, sun-derived Vitamin D provides proactive defense against most common lifestyle diseases. Its relation to diabetes and bone-health is discussed in the research excerpt provided below.

Vitamin D has hormonal action on various tissues and organs and its functions have been intensively reassessed with the discovery of the vitamin D receptor in most cells of the human body.

The effects of vitamin D on bone metabolism are the best established. Besides increasing the circulating levels of calcium and phosphorus and promoting the mineralization process, this vitamin controls osteoblast and osteoclast function/differentiation and promotes bone formation, possibly by mechanisms to combat parathyroid hormone hypersecretion.

These effects are evident in most intervention studies, especially in those that have evaluated the effects of vitamin doses equal to or higher than 800 IU/day on bone mineral density and that include calcium. Individual characteristics influence the response to the vitamin, such as the presence of obesity, which can increase the vitamin D demand, and the type of polymorphism of the vitamin D receptor.

However, the use of megadoses of vitamin D with large intervals between administrations should be avoided, as they impair bone health. Vitamin D seems to contribute to obesity and type 2 diabetes control by several mechanisms, including the regulation of adipogenesis during adipocyte differentiation, the stimulation of insulin synthesis and protection of pancreatic β -cells, and reducing insulin resistance in muscles. This vitamin may also contribute indirectly to combat these diseases through its action on bone tissue and the immune system, which liberates mediators that influence body weight gain and the inflammatory state.

Source: "Vitamin D: Link between Osteoporosis, Obesity, and Diabetes?" By Flávia Galvão Cândido and Josefina Bressan. International Journal of Molecular Science. doi:10.3390/ijms15046569

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

"For I will restore health unto thee, and I will heal thee of thy wounds, saith the Lord;" Jeremiah 30:17 first part

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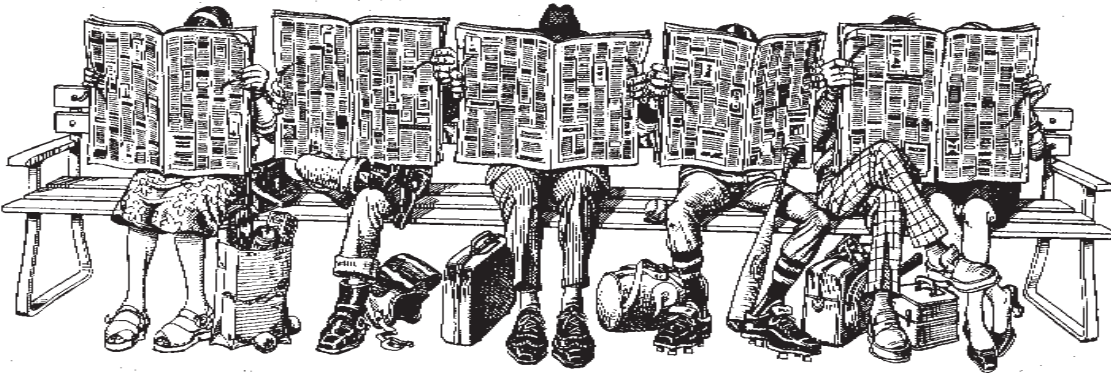
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Library

■ continued from page 17

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, 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 or check the website, <https://www.pagosalibrary.org/events-calendar>, 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 March with new authors.

On March 12 at 5 p.m., join for "Book Portals and Journeys of Literary Magic" with Kate Quinn, New York Times bestselling author of "The Alice Network" and "The Rose Code."

On March 24 at noon will be "America's Failed Response to the Opioid Crisis" with author Shoshana Walter and special guest host Barbara Kingsolver.

Watch live on Zoom or via a recording later this month.

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

Conversational Spanish

The Conversational Spanish group continues on Mondays 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, friendly group setting. No minimum skill level is needed.

Ruby's Book Club

Ruby's Book Club is held the second Tuesday of each month, alternating between fiction and nonfiction titles.

Our March title is "Educated," a bestselling 2018 memoir by Tara Westover about her journey from a survivalist family in rural Idaho, where she received no formal education, to earning a Ph.D. from Cambridge University.

Anyone is welcome to attend.

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

Family storytime

Wednesdays from 10 to 11 a.m., join a free educational hour of reading, singing and free play to build early literacy skills.

Elementary school tutoring

Free after-school tutoring for first through third grades takes place on Wednesdays from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Registration is required because of limited space, so call your library now

at (970) 264-2209 to enroll your child.

This invaluable tutoring involves one-on-one and small-group help for math, literacy, writing and spelling.

Note that because of construction at the library these sessions will take place at the elementary school.

Writers Guild

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

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

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 classes happen on Mondays from 10 a.m. to noon, Tuesdays from 3 to 5 p.m. and Thursdays, from 4 to 6 p.m. for students of all levels at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Street. Please help us pass the word about these classes.

New books collections brimming with interesting titles

For a full list of new titles and to reserve your copy, go to www.pagosalibrary.org and choose New Items under the Quicklinks menu.

New nonfiction

- "What Walks This Way: Discovering the Wildlife Around Us Through Their Tracks and Signs" by Sharman Apt Russell.

- "The Journey of Desire: Searching for the Life You've Always Dreamed Of" by John Eldridge.

- "Continental Reckoning: The American West in the Gate of Expansion" by Elliott West. (Finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in history.)

- "Dollars and Dominion: US Bankers and the Making of a Superpower" by Mary Bridges.

New fiction

- "The Land in Winter" by Andrew Miller, winner of the Booker Prize in 2025.

- Robert B. Parker's "Big Shot." Policeman Jesse Stone becomes the main suspect in an investigation into the death of a nemesis.

- "The Promise" by Damon Galgut. The story of three siblings in a changing South Africa.

New audiobook westerns

- "Wind Walker" by prolific western writer Terry C. Johnston, book nine in The Titus Bass Series.

- "The Missing" by Thomas

Eidson. A novel of the American West, about a young woman raising her two daughters in "an isolated and lawless wilderness."

- "Rowdy," book one in the Wild and Mean, Sharp and Keen series from Chris Mullen, follows 13-year-old Rowdy as he journeys alone from his home on the Mississippi toward Lincoln, N.M.

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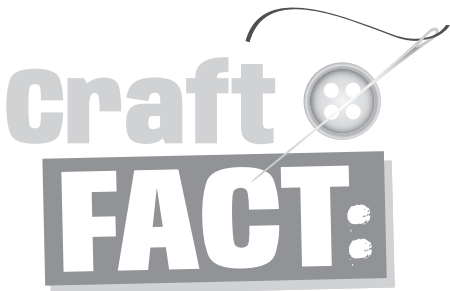
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This craft involving yarn gets its name from a French term meaning “small hook.”

Answer: Crochet

Math Blocks

Fill in the missing blocks with numbers between 0-20.
The numbers in each row add up to the totals on the right.
The numbers in each column add up to the totals on the bottom.

	3		9
19		20	57
	15	14	45
37	36	38	

16	15	14
19	18	17
4	3	2

Solution

Get Scrambled

Unscramble the words to determine the phrase.

BBYA LBKNATE

Answer: Baby blanket

THIS DAY IN HISTORY



1766: Antonio de Ulloa, the first Spanish governor of Louisiana, arrives in New Orleans.

1953: Joseph Stalin dies in Moscow.

2021: Pope Francis begins an historical visit to Iraq during the COVID-19 pandemic.

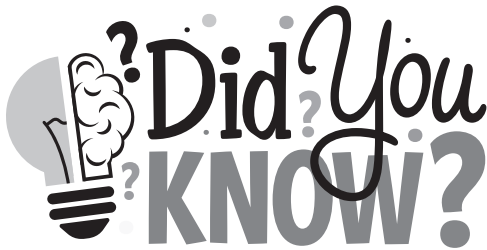


CHAIN

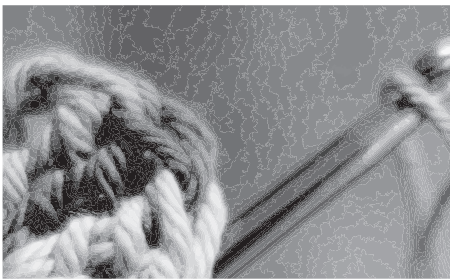
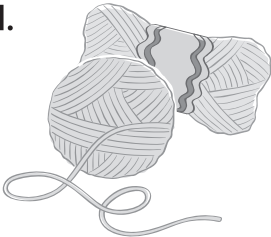
the starting stitches of crochet



English: Blanket
Spanish: Manta
Italian: Coperta
French: Couverture
German: Decke



In crochet, the thickness of the yarn should coordinate to the gauge of the crochet hook being used.



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

Answer: Crochet project

Daylight saving time and its impact on seniors

By Ricardo Martinez
PREVIEW Columnist

Daylight saving time can be more than just a minor inconvenience for seniors; it can significantly disrupt sleep patterns, routines and overall well-being.

As clocks move forward or backward, even a one-hour shift can interfere with the body's internal clock, leading to fatigue, irritability, difficulty concentrating and an increased risk of falls.

For older adults who already manage chronic health conditions, medication schedules or memory challenges, the time change can create confusion and temporary setbacks. Studies have also shown that changes in sleep patterns may contribute to heightened anxiety or feelings of depression, particularly for seniors who live alone.

Fortunately, there are simple strategies that can help ease the transition. Seniors can begin adjusting their sleep schedule by 10 to 15 minutes a few days before the time changes to allow their bodies to adapt gradually. Maintaining consistent meal times, staying hydrated and getting exposure to natural daylight can also help reset the body's rhythm.

Family members and caregivers can assist by reviewing medication times, setting clear clocks and checking in more frequently during the adjustment period.

With a little preparation and support, seniors can minimize the effects of daylight saving time and maintain their health, safety and daily routines.

Senior Conversations

The very popular Senior Conversations with local Bill Salmansohn takes place on Mondays from 1:15 to 2:15 p.m. at the 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

Senior News

designed to help build balance in the body through functional exercises that aim to improve mobility and flexibility.

Participants will have the opportunity to enjoy a variety of techniques that can help enhance overall movement efficiency.

Though not necessary, a mat is recommended for this class.

The program is instructed by local ballet dance instructor Dee Pitchon, who will provide modifications to ensure the safety and effectiveness of the exercises.

Mahjong

Mahjong is a 19th century Chinese tile-based game that is commonly played with four players. Each player receives 13 tiles with a goal to make matching sets and pairs (like poker). To win, a player must form four sets and one pair.

Come to the Senior Center to 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 Thursday of the month from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m., join the "Tappers," who practice a self-regulation technique to relieve symptoms of anxiety, depression, insomnia and more.

Everything you need to get started is included in this fun, engaging, supportive class taught by Judith Newman, LPC.

Mindful drawing

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

Classes are every Wednesday at 1:15 p.m. in the Senior Center.

This activity is open to all ages.

Help us create an intergenerational community. For those under 18 and/or with disabilities, you are welcome to join us, but we kindly ask you to please bring an adult chaperone with you.

Mexican train dominoes

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

Ruby's Writers Guild

The Ruby's Writers Guild now meets on Thursdays from 8:45 to 10:30 a.m. The Guild is an informal group that meets to support writers of all genres and experiences. It supports writers through friendly critique, resources, discussion, and literary and cultural activities. Bring your secret idea drafts or completed manuscripts. Come join the group.

Tai chi chih

Tai chi classes are on Thursdays from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. in the Senior Center.

Tai chi chih is not a martial art, but rather a tool for self-healing. Softness, flow and effortlessness are the guiding principles in this meditative practice. The 19 movements and one pose are designed to stimulate, circulate and balance the vital energy that is inherent in all of us.

Bingo

Join us for bingo on Fridays, March 13 and 27 at 1:30 p.m.

Participation is free, and all we ask is you bring yourself and a friend for an hour of joyful fellowship. We will provide prizes for all winners, and snacks will also be provided.

No RSVP is required; just show up.

All ages are welcome, but we ask those 18 and younger to come with an adult chaperone. Seats are first come, first served.

Scrapbooking and crafters club

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

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

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

If you would like to be added to the mailing list, please send your request to copenhavercreative@gmail.com and you will receive notification

■ See Senior on next page



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Tax preparation: don't forget loved ones with dementia

By Jim Herlihy
Alzheimer's Association

While we are busy preparing our 2025 taxes, those families that include a loved one living with a diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease or another form of dementia should also be making plans to ensure the financial security of their family member.

One in nine Americans age 65 and older — including 91,000 Coloradans — are among the 7.4 million people across the United States living with Alzheimer's disease.

While those individuals and their families face daunting care chal-

lenges, financial planning expert Jim Callahan believes that the financial side of the equation is too often overlooked.

"Putting financial and legal plans in place early allows the person with the diagnosis to express their wishes for future care and other critical decisions," said Callahan, senior advisor in a wealth management group and a member of the board of the Alzheimer's Association of Colorado. "It also allows time to work through the complex issues involved in long-term care."

Planning steps outlined by both Callahan and the Alzheimer's Association include the following.

Immediate financial and legal considerations

- Establish legal protections: Create or update a will, living trust, durable power of attorney for finances, and health care directive (living will).
- Designate agents: Appoint trusted individuals (agents) to make financial and medical decisions when you no longer can.
- Organize records: Compile all financial documents, including bank accounts, investments, property deeds, mortgage papers, insurance policies and tax returns.

■ See Alzheimer's on next page

Senior

■ continued from previous page

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 Community Cafe, also known as 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 8:45 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 or text (970) 264-2167 before 8:45 a.m. Please note that occasionally the menu must be changed on short notice.

Thursday, March 5 — Chicken piccata over linguine, broccoli, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Friday, March 6 — French dip on hoagie roll with au jus, cheesy cauliflower, garden salad, fruit, milk.

Monday, March 9 — Greek spanakopita pie, squash medley, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Tuesday, March 10 — Codfish florentine, sweet potatoes, dinner roll, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Wednesday, March 11 — Beef spaghetti, garlic bread, green beans, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Thursday, March 12 — Chicken potpie, butternut squash, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Friday, March 13 — Sliced ham with cherry sauce, scalloped potatoes, dinner roll, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Meals on Wheels

We deliver fresh Meals on Wheels five days a week (and provide frozen Meals on Wheels for weekends) to homebound Archuleta County residents. The meals are delivered by our wonderful volunteers. Call or text us at (970) 264-2167 for how to sign up for the program.

Text reservations

Don't forget that we offer a convenient texting service for you to communicate with us. Text us at (970) 264-2167. When texting, please include your name, phone number and the days you want a meal. If you are canceling a reservation, please include your name, phone number and the days you want to cancel.

Mountain Express Transit senior paratransit services

Seniors over the age of 60 can be verified to receive services through discounted paratransit services, free bus rides and pick up at your home to bring you to the Senior Center for lunch. To become eligible, there is a form to complete.

Older adults needing a ride to a local food pantry can contact the Mountain Express Transit (MET) to schedule a ride with its paratransit service.

Call the Archuleta County MET at (970) 264-2250 for information.

Medicare assistance by appointment

For anyone who needs help enrolling and navigating Medicare plans, the San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging helps with parts A, B and D. They can also help you with fraud concerns and troubleshooting any billing issues you may be having. By appointment only. Please call the Medicare line at (970) 403-6759 for an appointment and where to meet.

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Pagosa therapeutics

Alzheimer's

■ continued from previous page

- Prevent fraud: Set up bank account alerts, monitor credit reports or freeze credit to prevent scams, which often target those with cognitive decline.

Funding long-term care

- Review insurance: Evaluate Medicare, supplemental policies and long-term care insurance policies to determine what covers in-home care or facility care.
- Evaluate assets: Determine income sources, including pensions, Social Security and savings.
- Explore public benefits: Research Medicaid eligibility for long-term care, and, if applicable, Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) benefits.
- Consult specialists: Engage elder law attorneys and financial planners who specialize in dementia care to help navigate complex, high-cost, long-term care planning.

Managing daily finances

- Streamline accounts: Simplify finances by consolidating bank accounts.
- Automate payments: Set up automatic bill pay for housing, utilities and insurance to ensure they are paid on time.
- Protect assets: Consider limiting access to large amounts of cash or credit lines to prevent impulsive, dangerous or scam-related spending.

The cost of care

While the majority of Americans with dementia are cared for at home, the Alzheimer's Association reminds families that the cost of professional care can be significant. Estimates for professional care in 2024 were:

- In-home care: \$34 per hour or \$1,360 per week.
- Adult day services: \$100 per day.
- Assisted living: \$5,900 per month or \$70,800 per year.
- Nursing home: \$305 to \$350 per day or \$111,000 to \$127,000 per year.

For more information on financial planning, visit: Plan for Your Financial Future at www.alz.org/help-support/i-have-alz/plan-for-your-future/financial_planning or alz.org, or call the Alzheimer's Association free 24/7 Helpline at (800) 272-3900.

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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.

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? Diamond: (970)264-1073. Charlotte: (970)903-9690. More resources: www.aa.org, www.aa-westerncolorado.com, (970)245-9649, (888)333-9649 (24 hrs.).

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Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HELP WANTED

\$25 /hr -plus STARTING. Experience preferred. Will train. Are you energetic and friendly? Join our team and learn to become a highly valued dental assistant at San Juan Dental. Resume in person or email info@pagosa.dentist.

BE THE WELCOME. Hiring Barista and Register Position. Root House Coffee + Shop in downtown Pagosa Springs is hiring an experienced barista or someone eager to learn the craft of exceptional coffee, along with a front of house register team member to greet and serve our guests. A genuine love of hospitality, kindness, and attention to detail are essential as we create a welcoming experience for every person who walks through our doors. Part-time and full-time positions available. Pay with tips averages over \$20 per hour. Send your resume today to howdy@roothouseco.com.

BOOTJACK RANCH IS SEEKING a dedicated and trustworthy Housekeeper to join our growing team. Attention to detail and the ability to work collaboratively are essential. The ideal candidate possesses strong communication and organizational skills and is eager to learn the unique standards of our operation. Compensation is based on experience. To apply, please email your contact information, resume and availability to ranchbootjack@gmail.com.

BOOTJACK RANCH IS SEEKING a skilled and reliable Landscaper to join our team. The ideal candidate is available for a full-time position, takes pride in their work, and can handle a variety of landscaping and property maintenance tasks throughout the year. Core responsibilities include general landscaping work, fencing, irrigation and snow removal. Please email your contact information and resume to ranchbootjack@gmail.com

CALLING ALL BAKERS. Come Create With Us. Root House Coffee + Shop in downtown Pagosa Springs is seeking a talented baker to join our warm, welcoming team. Bring your creativity to a space known for community connection, great coffee, fresh baked goods, and a thoughtfully curated retail shop. With tips, pay is over \$20 per hour. Enjoy morning shifts that leave your afternoons free, employee discounts on retail, and breaks with a stroll along the San Juan River just steps away. If you're passionate about baking and being part of something special in our small town, we'd love to hear from you. Send resume to howdy@roothouseco.com

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES. Front office administrative assistant or chair side procedural assistant positions available for immediate hire. Will train if necessary for these valuable positions. Flexible hours, full time or part time available. Great pay with room for advancement. Please send your resume today to pdimplants@yahoo.com.

CDL DRIVER /YARD ASSOCIATE. Ponderosa Lumber is hiring a CDL Driver / Yard Associate. This is a full-time position. Duties include deliveries, loading /unloading trucks, and helping customers. Requires the ability to drive a stick shift and have a Class B endorsement. We offer paid time off, medical, dental, vision, prescription, 401(k) and Profit Sharing. Please apply at Ponderosa Lumber 2435 Eagle Dr. (970)731-4111.

HELP WANTED

IN-HOUSE BOOKKEEPER

24 -30 hours per week, \$22 - \$25 per hour DOE.

Qualities needed to support our organization:

- Detail-oriented and reliable
- Maintain accurate financial records, accounts payable and receivable
- Ensure sound accounting practices and support the financial health of our mission-driven nonprofit organization
- Proficiency with QuickBooks online and solid knowledge of general accounting practices are required.

Please see our website, pagosahumane.org, for detailed job description prior to applying.

Apply on the website or send your resume and a cover letter to hsjobs@pagosahumane.org.



COLORADO DREAM HOMES is expanding our crew. Hiring framing, concrete and general laborers. Paid holidays, end of the year bonuses, paid time off. 8 a.m. -5 p.m. schedule, year round work. Send resumes to coloradodreamhomesinc@gmail.com or swing by our office at 2283 Eagle Drive to fill out an application. Pay DOE. \$20+ per hour.

COLORADO DREAM HOMES is hiring General Laborers for full time work! Responsibilities include clean up, job site deliveries, crew assist. Clean driving record, experience hauling trailers preferred. Pay starts at \$19 per hour, \$20 after 30 day evaluation. PTO, Paid Holidays, end of the year bonuses and opportunity to train into other skilled positions. Swing by our office at 2283 Eagle Dr., to fill out an application or send resumes to coloradodreamhomesinc@gmail.com.

COLORADO ROCK & DIRT EXCAVATION is seeking a qualified Heavy Equipment Mechanic to diagnose, repair and maintain diesel engines and related equipment. Applicant to provide their own tools. We offer competitive compensation and a comprehensive benefits package, including 401K and paid time off (PTO). Interested candidates are invited to submit their resume to coloradorock08@gmail.com or contact (970)264-3478 for additional information.

CONSTRUCTION OFFICE MANAGER (Part-Time) Established custom home builder seeking experienced office administrator. 3 –4 days /week (24 –32 hrs). Construction administration, scheduling, invoicing, and project coordination using Buildertrend. Accounts payable, accounts receivable, and monthly reporting using QuickBooks. Competitive hourly pay with growth opportunity to full-time. Submit resume and brief cover letter to: info@livingspacedesignandconstruction.com.

DENTAL ASSISTANT wanted. We will train you. We work hard and make a great living serving our patients. We are blessed to have weekends and holidays off, beautiful facility, modern equipment, excellent pay, 401k, Get the satisfaction of helping people. E-mail resume to office@pagosasmiles.com.

HELP WANTED



EARLY INTERVENTION SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST, Occupational Therapist and /or EI Evaluator, La Plata, San Juan, and /or Archuleta counties. Community Connections, Inc. is seeking to employ full-time and part-time licensed Speech Language Pathologists and Occupational Therapists to provide services for children birth to 3 in Early Intervention, and/or to participate as part of an EI evaluation team. Services are provided in homes and community settings in-person and at times via telehealth. EI promotes a coaching model (empowering parents and teachers to implement strategies between visits). Qualified applicants must delight in working with young children and enjoy being part of a collaborative team supporting families. Ability to provide services in Spanish is ideal but not required. Intimate knowledge of Indigenous or Hispanic cultures also ideal but not required. Pay rates start at \$37.84 - \$43.25 per hour depending on experience. Full job description and application information is available at <https://www.communityconnectionsco.org/careers>.

GOODMAN'S DEPARTMENT STORE is looking for a sales associate, Saturdays required. Sales associates must be friendly and self-motivated. Ask about our benefits and employee discounts. Come pick up an application at 402 Pagosa Street.

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

OFFICE ASSOCIATE/
SALES ASSISTANT

(HYBRID ROLE)

Full-time, Monday to Friday
\$20-\$25/hour, depending on experience

Are you an organized, proactive multitasker who loves keeping operations running smoothly while supporting a fast-paced sales team? We're looking for a dynamic office associate/sales assistant to fill an important role at The Pagosa Springs SUN.

WHAT YOU'LL DO:**Office associate**

- Oversee day-to-day front office operations and maintain a productive work environment
- Customer service — answering phones and taking care of walk-in customers
- Oversee distribution of the weekly newspapers
- Assist editorial staff, proofreading

Account management

- Assist the sales team with supporting and servicing local advertisers with scheduling ads, creative/design, collections and other responsibilities as needed
- Help generate leads and appointments for the sales team

What we're looking for

- Strong organization and communication skills
- A problem-solver with a positive can-do attitude
- Ability to balance multiple tasks and deadlines
- Strong grammar, spelling and typing skills
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office/Google Workspace
- Experience in administration or sales support is a plus (but not required if you learn quickly)

Why you'll love working with us

- Collaborative supportive team
- Opportunities for growth and skill development
- A role where your work truly makes a difference
- Competitive salary + benefits

**Send your email or letter of interest directly to
CEO Jim O'Rourke at jorourke@orourkemediagroup.com**

The Pagosa Springs SUN
an O'Rourke Media Group company

FUNDRAISING & EVENTS MANAGER

Play a key role in advancing our mission through donor engagement, fundraising events, and community outreach.

This position helps lead fundraising and community events, develops direct mail appeals and other marketing efforts, participates in media outreach including radio interviews, and coordinates the work of marketing staff, social media specialists, volunteers, and vendors.

Full time, exempt, local position with hybrid remote schedule. \$50,000–\$60,000 per year, DOE, with bonus potential.

Please see our website pagosahumane.org for detailed job descriptions prior to applying.

Apply on the website or send your resume and a cover letter to hsjobs@pagosahumane.org.



(970) 264-2100

Classifieds

(970) 264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Thursday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., Friday 8 a.m. - noon

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

FOR SALE



Walmart is transforming stores across the country, and ours is next!

Walmart Pagosa Springs Supercenter

In-person hiring event
Friday, March 6 & Saturday, March 7
Walk ins welcome from 10am-2pm

Full Time Stocking and Part Time Remodel Associate positions available.

Begin the application process at
www.walmart.com/careers

PAGOSA ROOTER IS HIRING a full -time technician. Duties include driving a remote control camera into wastewater lines to inspect condition. Willing to train, pay depends on qualifications. For more information, call (970)946-3692.

ROOF LABORER NEEDED with some construction experience. Will train. \$20-\$25/ hour to start. (970)749-0830.

SEEKING PART -TIME HELP for winter season snow shoveling /snowplowing. Experience preferred. Call Eric, (970)946-2061.

TANGLES! SALON has an opening for a hairstylist, nail tech, or aesthetician. Also would be open to sharing space with another business. (970)903-0928.

THE HUMANE SOCIETY SHELTER animals need you. Do you dream of a career working with animals who need you? The Humane Society of Pagosa Springs has an opening for a full-time Animal Care Specialist. Must love to work with animals AND people, spend time outdoors in all kinds of weather, and get a lot of exercise throughout the day. Previous dog and cat handling experience is a plus. A positive attitude is a must. PTO, additional sick time, and great shelter and thrift store discounts as benefits. Hourly rate \$16.50 - 17.00 DOE. Apply for the Animal Care Specialist role online <https://pagosahumane.org/> or stop in the Shelter and complete an application. Come join our team caring for the homeless pets of Pagosa Springs.

SELLERS BEWARE: Scams involving buyers trying to deceive sellers have have taken place in our community. Do not accept checks, money orders or other payment methods for more than the payment price where you are asked to pay the overpayment to the buyer or another person. Consult with your financial institution to be sure the payment method is not fake before you allow the item to be picked up.

RECREATIONAL VEHICLES
1994 JEEP YJ WRANGLER, 123,000 miles. Runs great, body good to fair. Give it a good home. Text (970)306-3470.

YARD SALES
COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE supporting the Porpoises Swim Team. Saturday, March 7 from 9a.m.-1p.m. at the PLPOA Clubhouse. 230 Port Ave.

COMMERCIAL FOR RENT
BEAUTIFUL, COLORADO RUSTIC DECOR BUILDING for rent. This large space has six separate spaces divided with barnwood and metal trim. Located in the River Center. Next to Summit Ski Shop. Parking in both front and back of office. Visionary Internet is available. Call (970)946-1981.

COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS FOR LEASE. 1501 W. Hwy 160 #1 and #2. (970)398-5290.

LARGE COMMERCIAL -INDUSTRIAL LOTS in Cloman Park- 1.12 and 1.27 acre lots zoned industrial. Ideal for contractors, storage, etc. Utilities located in the street. Tenant to verify end use with Archuleta County. Call Team Pagosa (970)731-8599.

PAGOSA VALLEY PROPERTIES: Offering "Aspen Plaza ProSuites" These are Professional Office Suites available for Long Term rental from 135 SF to 205 SF, priced from \$465-\$669/ month. Also, Large Conference/ Event Room Available. Call (970)889-2022 for more information.

PROFESSIONAL PRIVATE OFFICE for rent \$565/mo. 13' 4" x 15' 11" Includes water, sewer, heat, Wi-Fi, trash service, common area & snow removal. Contact Angelene at Hometown Insurance with questions or to schedule a showing. Call (970)264-4321 or email angelene@hippsllc.com.

PROFESSIONAL SUITES: 63, 112, 158,186 sq. ft. shared reception, break room, and washer /dryer. Utilities included. Prime location. Just remodeled. (701)263-2410.

TWO UNITS IN UPTOWN. 419 and 1,333 sq. ft. —available now. \$1,075 and \$2,300- Utilities included. Best use for office space or retail. Call Gina, (970)880-0910, for more info.

WAREHOUSE, 1300 SQ. FT., 54'1 x24'w, 17' high ceiling, 12 x14 automatic garage door, radiant floor heat, high bay lighting, bathroom, paved parking lot. Great location. 140seminole@gmail.com.

AUTOS

2017 CHEVROLET TAHOE LT PREMIUM. One owner, garaged, extra clean, 105,000 miles, \$28,000. Call (970)749-4012 or (970)749-4016.

GUARANTEED CREDIT APPROVAL! 4X4 Auto Sales, 21698 Hwy. 160 West, Durango. (970)385-7940.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

SMALL CRANE BUSINESS FOR SALE. National Crane truck, business, client list, and all attachments come with business. Inquire at (970)903-2381.

FOR SALE

8' ALUMINUM JON BOAT with tolling motor, \$475; solid pine bunk beds extra trundle bed with mattresses, \$175; Friday and Saturday March 6 and March 7 only on Hwy 84. Call (512)736-6688 for appointment.

DRY FIREWOOD- PINE. Pick up \$255 a cord. Delivery available. Call for prices. Bayfield. Gabe (970)403-2784.

FIREWOOD SALE. The Dump Truck special is back. Get a HUGE load split and delivered for \$500. Pine mix. Only while supplies last. Contact Dan with FIRE&ICE at (970)582-0006.

SELL OR TRADE YOUR GUNS. We buy for cash or trade it. No hassle. Licensed, bonded, insured. San Juan Trading Post, 635 San Juan St. (970)731-PAWN (7296).

Now Hiring.

Archuleta County is hiring for multiple positions.

Benefits package, paid time off, 401K match.

Apply today.

970-264-8379 • archuletacounty.org

Apply Now

Individually strong, collectively mighty. Join us and become a part of the bigger picture.

ARCHULETA COUNTY COLORADO
EST 1885

JAND J ENTERPRISES is looking for friendly and enthusiastic people who are eager to help customers navigate the wide world of cannabis. We offer paid sick leave, product sampling, employee discounts, sales bonuses and comprehensive on-site training! Must be 21 years of age. A Marijuana Enforcement Division badge is required to start work. E-mail your resume to employment@jandjinc.net or check us out on Indeed.com.

JONES MECHANICAL. EXPERIENCE PREFERRED but will train right person. Excellent opportunity to learn the HVAC trade. (970)731-3046.

MOUNTAIN SPIRITS IS SEEKING customer service associates. Must be available nights and weekends. We offer accrued vacation/ personal time, performance -based bonuses twice a year, and employee discounts. Please apply in person.

NORTH PAGOSA MARATHON is hiring a full-time cashier nights and weekends. Competitive wages. Please apply in person at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

OWNERS, THERE IS A LONG TERM RENTAL SHORTAGE IN PAGOSA SPRINGS. We have a waiting list for approved tenants. Need all types of rentals. Call us today for lowest commission and highest customer service. All you have to do is wait for your rent check to come in. We do the rest! Rocky Mountain Realty & Rentals (970)507-1192.

PAGOSA LAKES IS HIRING an Administrative Assistant to join our team. This position supports a wide range of administrative functions including building and planning applications, permitting, scheduling, communications, general office support, selling fishing and boating passes, and assisting with Board meeting minutes. This is a full-time position with benefits. The role will grow throughout the year with consistent training and increased responsibility. Initial training will be within the Department of Community Standards, followed by additional duties that are currently handled by the office Receptionist. Direct industry experience is not required. We are looking for someone who is a quick learner, self-motivated, comfortable with computers and software, strong in customer service, calm under pressure, and career-driven. Email resume to jenp@plpoa.com or drop off at 230 Port Ave.

PAGOSA LIQUOR IS HIRING a full-time cashier. Please come and apply in person at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

(970) 264-2100

Classifieds

(970) 264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Thursday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., Friday 8 a.m. - noon

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

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HOMES FOR SALE

"We owned a condominium in the Pagosa Springs area which was a rental property. For many years the firm provided property management services for us and we always found them to be very professional and responsive. If you are in need of a competent, professional property management firm or realtor, we would strongly recommend them. ~ Michael Gamba



www.RMREALTYANDRENTALS.COM



Info@rmrealtyandrentals.com
117 Navajo Trail Dr. Ste E, Pagosa Springs

Largest Local Property Management Co.



150+ SW Colorado
Property Owners Served
19+ Years. Mortgage &
Real Estate Exp
FULL LT TENANT SCREENING
NATIONWIDE ADVERTISING
ON CALL 24 HR 7 DAYS



VACATION RENTALS

OWNERS, WE ARE BOOKED UP AND NEED MORE VACATION RENTAL PROPERTIES! Call us today for lowest commission and highest customer service. All you have to do is wait for your rent check to come in. We do the rest! Rocky Mountain Realty & Rentals (970)507-1192.

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

DOWNTOWN UNITS FOR RENT. New 3 bedroom, 2 bath unit. Granite countertops, all appliances and utilities included. Porch and patio. \$2000/ month. (318)347-6100.

EXCELLENT DOWNTOWN LOCATION, 1 bedroom /1 bath, 1,138 sq. ft., loft and separate building. See photos and complete description on Zillow.com 220 Hermosa St. (970)507-0791.

FURNISHED 3 BEDROOM 2.5 BATH TOWNHOME across from Lake Pagosa. Visit teampagosa.com or call (970)731-8599 to set up a viewing. 1 pet allowed. Currently occupied. Available March 15, 2026. \$2,095 /month.

GREAT VIEWS OF CHIMNEY ROCK NATIONAL MONUMENT. Any large mobile home with all hookups for long-term lease. \$780 per month plus utilities, (970)883-2600.

LONG TERM RENTALS AVAILABLE. Call Team Pagosa (970)731-8599, 117 Navajo Trail Dr., pagosaspringsrealty.com.

LOVELY NEWLY REMODELED 3 bedroom 2 bath 2 car garage home on wooded lot. \$3300 /month Call Team Pagosa, (970)731-8599, or visit the website teampagosa.com.

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

NEWLY REMODELED 2 BEDROOM in four plex, Pagosa Lake views, covered deck, 800 sq. ft., W/D, dishwasher, 5 minute walk to lake, most utilities paid, \$1,450. Call John (720)960-4910.

NICE UNFURNISHED 2 BEDROOM, 2 bath condo in uptown Pagosa Springs. \$1800 per month. Call Team Pagosa, (970)731-8599, or view the unit at teampagosa.com.

ON BEAUTIFUL PAGOSA LAKE: 2 bedroom, 2 bath, furnished upstairs unit. No garage. \$1,600 per month, plus utilities and deposit. No pets and no smoking. Available February 5. Long term lease. (817)565-7656.

SHERPA REAL ESTATE is now managing long-term rentals. Clear communication from a name you already trust. Ready to rent your home? Call now to get started (970)444-2570. Visit our website <https://www.sherparealestate.com/rentals> or stop by one of our two locations.

THREE BEDROOM, 1 1/4 BATH, two car garage-Rent \$2,000 plus utilities. First and last month's rent, \$1,000 deposit. Located 374 S. 8th Street. Available March 1st. Call Yvonne at (970)946-4019 or Erlinda at (970)946-6702.

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

SPACIOUS 3 BEDROOM APARTMENT in downtown with beautiful views. Rent \$1348. Large floor plan, affordable living through tax credit program. Income and eligibility requirements apply. Hickory Ridge Apartments, hickoryridge@pagosacreek.com.

TIRED OF RENTING? Are you ready to own a home and pay a mortgage you can actually afford? Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County is seeking applicants to partner to build in 2027. Join us for an informational meeting about our application process on Monday, March 16th , 23rd, or 30th at 5:30p.m. at Pagosa Community Initiative's art studios at 550B Hot Springs Blvd. Contact volunteer@habitatarchuleta.org or (970)264-6960 with any questions.

UNFURNISHED 2 BEDROOM 2 bath and loft area condo across the street from Lake Pagosa. Available around January 10th. \$1900 /month. Call Team Pagosa (970)731-8599. Photos coming soon.

UNFURNISHED 3 BEDROOM 2 BATH MOBILE. Available March 10, 2026. Visit teampagosa.com or call (970)731-8599 to set up a viewing. Currently occupied. No pets please. \$1800 /month.

COMMERCIAL

SHOP/WAREHOUSE SPACE for rent. Clean with bathroom. 1050 sq. ft. \$1,300. Cloman Park. (720)470-2653.

OPEN HOUSES

OPEN HOUSE. 147 Apple Ct., Friday, March 6, 11a.m.-2p.m. 2 bedroom 2 bath. New construction. Alisha Wagner, Pagosa Valley Properties, (970)317-5140.

LAND/ BUILDING SITES

MOUNTAIN VIEWS, MEADOWS. Unique high elevation and complete privacy. 5.6 acres bordering national forest, (970)769-3588 blancoretreat@gmail.com. \$450K.



All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, or national origin, or an intention, to make such preference, limitation or discrimination." This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

Place your classified ad online!

Go to: PagosaSUN.com >> Shop Local

>> Place Your Classified Ad

All classified line ads appear on PagosaSUN.com Regular categories deadline: Tues., 10 a.m.

Holidays will have alternate deadlines.

Email us at classads@pagosasun.com to submit your classified.

PagosaSUN.com



PROUDLY LOCAL

CONTACT US TODAY!



**MONDAY TO
FRIDAY**

8 AM - 5 PM



AVAILABLE ANYTIME AFTER HOURS AS WELL!

Call our regular line to get
service after hours:

970-264-1301

 intermountainpropane.com