



PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147 www.PagosaSUN.com VOLUME 118 — NO. 33, THURSDAY, MAY 14, 2026

Archuleta School District announces new principals

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

Archuleta School District has announced that multiple familiar faces will be in new roles for the 2026-2027 school year.

On May 8, ASD Superintendent Rick Holt announced that current Pagosa Springs Middle School (PSMS) Principal Joshua Sanchez had been selected to be the next principal of Pagosa Springs High School (PSHS) following the retirement of Sean O'Donnell, the school's current principal.

"Joshua has deep roots in Pagosa Springs—including graduating from



Sanchez **Ash**

Pagosa [Springs] High School--and a strong background in educational leadership. Over the course of his career, he has served as a teacher, assistant principal, middle school principal, and district administrator,"

■ See Principals A8

Commissioners hear more about Colorado Wildfire Resiliency Code

By Ella Slade
Staff Writer

At its May 12 work session, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners heard about the new Colorado Wildfire Resiliency Code (CWRC) from Colorado Division of Fire and Life Safety Kim McDonald—a wildland-urban interface (WUI) professional development educator—and counterpart Aaron Goss.

McDonald also held a community

discussion centered around the CWRC in Archuleta County Monday evening.

The CWRC is a state code applying to new construction and significant exterior alterations and additions within the WUI. The code sets a mandatory minimum standard for new residential and commercial construction in mapped wildfire-risk areas and will go into effect July 1.

McDonald described it as a minimum, risk-based standard rather than

■ See Wildfire A8

Town to move forward with Fourth of July fireworks — for now

By Derek Kutzer
Staff Writer

On May 5, the Pagosa Springs Town Council discussed the possibility of having a fireworks show for this year's Fourth of July celebration, deciding to move forward with plans for fireworks unless fire danger prompts a cancellation of the show.

Tourism Director Jennifer Green was on hand to explain that the fireworks vendor would like a decision by May 16 on if the town wanted to move forward with the fireworks show.

Green explained that the high possibility of fire risk this summer is why the council needed to discuss the issue in May, so that the vendor can have "time to plan for the show" for July 4.

Should the town decide to postpone the fireworks show to a later date in order to avoid the summer fire risk, the vendor would charge a 15 percent fee, Green explained, amounting to about \$4,800.

The fee would cover the cost of the vendor moving the fireworks back out

■ See Fireworks A7

On to state

Photo courtesy Pagosa Springs High School

Thirteen Pagosa Springs High School Pirate athletes will be competing in the state track and field championships in Lakewood beginning today, Thursday, May 14. For more on state and the team, see page A14.

Fire district discusses hydrant issue resolution, updates to safety training

By Ella Slade
Staff Writer

Pagosa Fire Protection District (PFPD) Chief Robert Bertram reported significant progress on resolving the hydrant issues that were a major concern in 2025 during the PFPD's May 4 meeting.

Bertram explained the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) brought back the contractor DSR, who had previously tested the hydrants, to perform repairs.

Bertram noted that one goal was making sure all parties were communicating effectively and on the same page.

Working with PAWSD and DSR, Bertram explained the district oversaw the replacement or major repair of 37 hydrants over the past two weeks, bringing nearly all the previously out-of-service hydrants back online.

"They did invest a lot of money. All the ones that were out of service are back online now, which is great," he shared. "Even a couple that I found

that they didn't find in their report last year when they did this stuff."

Three additional hydrants are awaiting parts and one more will be fully replaced, Bertram added, though it can currently provide water, but is difficult to shut down. DSR will return to verify flows, while the district will supplement with its own targeted testing to minimize water use given current restrictions.

Overall, Bertram explained approximately 1,300 hydrants are now being managed under the improved

communication and accountability process with PAWSD, marking a full-circle shift from the responsibility and reliability concerns raised last year.

DSR will be back to do flows on the hydrants, Bertram added, meaning they will open the hydrants up to make sure they can get water out.

"If you take roughly 1,300 hydrants at about 5,000 gallons each, that's a lot of water," Bertram told the board. "So, making sure it flows out of there, we're becoming a lot more proactive in

■ See Hydrant A8

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Screenshot, photo courtesy WW Clyde

Left: An individual is seen on security footage riding a scooter through the construction zone on Tuesday, May 12. Right: Scooter tracks are left in the freshly poured concrete on U.S. 160. Anyone with information is asked to contact the Pagosa Springs Police Department.

Reconstruction damage under investigation

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

Local law enforcement are investigating damage to the U.S. 160 reconstruction project that occurred Tuesday evening, May 12.

According to Officer Brandon Bishop, the Pagosa Springs Police Department (PSPD) is investigating the matter as criminal mischief, and the level of charges is still being determined.

The damage is believe to have been done between 7 and 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday evening, May 12, Bishop noted Wednesday.

According to Project Superintendent Jason Daigneault of WW Clyde, damages are still being determined, though it could potentially be upwards of \$20,000.

Anyone with information is asked to contact dispatch at (970) 731-2160 or the PSPD at (970) 264-4151.

Opinion

The Pagosa Springs SUN

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OUR VIEW

Déjà vu all over again

Wednesday morning was a bit like — as Yogi Berra would call it — déjà vu all over again.

Shortly after 8 a.m., the phone rang. It was a member of the U.S. 160 reconstruction project team alerting us to the fact that freshly poured concrete on the construction site had been damaged.

We started to feel like it was last November all over again, when someone strolled along the freshly poured concrete sidewalk while curing blankets were still on it, doing more than \$10,000 in damage and setting the project back.

Like last November, we were invited to walk over to the construction site to see the damage. This time, someone, either deliberately or while completely oblivious to the world around them, rode a scooter through freshly poured concrete, setting the project back and increasing the budget.

We still feel this should go without saying, but, again: Don't be dumb.

Honestly.

We see no gain in causing damage and stretching the project out. And there are certainly better ways to make the front page of the newspaper.

The WW Clyde crews were a day ahead of schedule on that portion of the project when someone rode their scooter through, the project superintendent told us. Not anymore.

Now they're waiting to determine the full cost of what's now being investigated as criminal mischief, but have told us it could potentially be upwards of \$20,000 depending on the how severely the integrity of the concrete was damaged.

At least they were able to move forward with reopening a second lane of traffic despite the incident. We commend the crews for finishing the dogleg section that required taking things down to one lane in eight days instead of the projected 14 and ensuring the stretch would be back to two lanes in advance of Memorial Day.

We've also heard several stories from project team members of folks hopping the barricade and walking through the construction zone.

We're pretty sure no one is so important they should hold up road construction to cross whenever and wherever they'd like.

Like we said before, for the benefit of our community and the workers, let's not

stretch this project out any longer than necessary. Be mindful of where you're walking, follow the directions of any construction crews you're near and cross at identified pedestrian crossings.

We all want it to be completed so things can get back to normal and so we can enjoy driving through a downtown that's not subject to constant potholes and buckling (and where we have more safe pedestrian crossings).

We also need to keep in mind these construction folks are here to do a job, and they're contributing to our community while they're here. They've proven to be friendly and good community partners.

Let's also continue to be good community partners. Let's be kind to the reconstruction crews, grateful for the improvements they're making in our community, follow the signs and guidance, and support local businesses the best we can. They've weathered construction, flooding within the community, a light winter, drought and so much more.

Let's do our part to allow the project to finish on time and our businesses to be successful.

Randi Pierce

LOOKING BACK



From the May 30, 1968 Pagosa SUN — ESSAY WINNER — Laure DeVore was presented with a big rosette and a certificate entitling her to several pounds of choice beef after her essay won second place in an essay contest sponsored by the local Cowbelle organization. The presentation was made by Mrs. Joe Shahan.

LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

100 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
May 14, 1926

Several important tests are scheduled for drilling in the southwestern part of the state this summer. One of these will be on the Sunetha structure, 5 miles west of Pagosa Springs, Archuleta county. Whitney Newton and associates have leased 6,000 acres to an independent Oklahoma company under contract to begin drilling by July 1. Contract calls for 2,500-foot hole. Dakota is exposed in the vicinity and test will start about 300 feet above the bottom of the Mancos shale. It will be a Pennsylvania test.

Miss Bonnie Kern Stafford writes as follows from Ontario, Calif.: "Will you please change my paper to Cucamonga, Calif.? That is about six miles from here and I am clerking in the post office there and am moving to be nearer to my work. Did you know that I am a grandmother now? A dear little girl was born at the home of my youngest son, Edwin M. Stafford, and wife on Feb. 9th, 1926. I hope I can soon make a visit to Pagosa. This is the longest I have ever been away from there — the last time was in 1920."

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
May 18, 1951

Mrs. Lucy Turner and Peggy Wiley left for the East Saturday morning. At Kansas City Mr. and Mrs. Earnest Feazel and baby will join them and they will all attend the three day Bach Music Festival held in Bethlehem, Pa.

Jack Sayers and Morris Terrell, representatives of the Look magazine left last Saturday after spending nearly a week in the county photographing the activities of the Boys of the Year, who are visiting at the Red Ryder Ranch. They also took many pictures of Mr. Harman and his activities. They stated that they expected to do a feature article on him as well as on the two boys. Both men expressed themselves as being highly pleased with the cooperation they received from local residents and the scenery of the county. The articles will probably appear in Look magazine some time this fall. This is a widely read national magazine and is another example of the top notch publicity that Archuleta County receives thru the efforts and ability of Mr. Harman.

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
May 13, 1976

San Juan Lumber Co. has completed installation of a debarker and chipper that will eventually eliminate the teepee burner smoke except for emergencies. The enlargement of the sawmill facilities is going ahead rapidly and should be completed by the end of the summer. The debarker is operational now and will be in use soon.

Saturday, May 22 will be a big day for the community. That is the day that this will officially be designated as a bicentennial community, flags will be presented, and the San Juan Historical Society museum will open for the first time. There will be speeches, visitors, and local residents will have an opportunity to inspect the museum. It will be one of the most interesting places in the community for many.

Precipitation in town this past week totaled 1.32 inches and the moisture was welcome. The weather has now started to warm up and the growth of grass, lawns and shrubbery is noticeable. Dandelions are not doing bad either. The weather is generally pleasant but it is not on the hot side. More rain can probably be expected for the remainder of the month.

25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
May 17, 2001

The sounds of construction will hardly miss a beat on Hot Springs Boulevard this summer.

Work on Town Hall is scheduled for completion sometime around the end of May with a move-in date during the first two Weeks of June, and construction of the Community Center to begin shortly thereafter.

On May 10, members of the Pagosa Springs Community Facilities Coalition, a non-profit organization in charge of managing the center, approved June 16 as the ceremonial groundbreaking date for the proposed 20,000 square foot facility.

Bids for the first phase of the project, including site preparation and foundation work, are being advertised. Under the proposed schedule, construction will begin June 18 with a finish date projected for sometime during the 2002 construction season.

Parking availability and some of the building aesthetics still concerned members of the coalition. Under the current plans, 86 parking spaces are available between the Town Hall and the Community Center — short of what will be needed when the center becomes fully operational.

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Date	High	Low	Precipitation		NA	NA
			Moisture	Type		
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5/6	52	28	0.05	NA	NA	NA
5/7	65	21	0.00	NA	NA	NA
5/8	72	32	0.00	NA	NA	NA
5/9	72	31	0.00	NA	NA	NA
5/10	73	29	0.00	NA	NA	NA
5/11	76	33	0.00	NA	NA	NA

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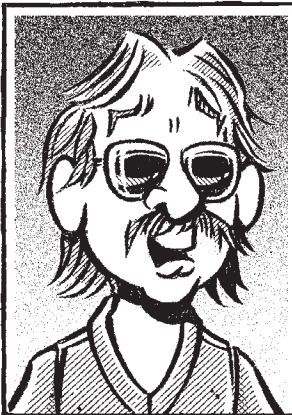
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WHO ARE ALWAYS GOSSIPING?

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PATTY PASSIVE

"I say, ignore
them!"



RON REACTIVE

"I say, confront
them!"



REV. FORGIVE

"I say, pray
for them!"



ANN ALLEARS

"I say, gimme more
dirt on them!"

Letters

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

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

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

Uranium exploration

Dear Editor:

I attended the May 5 Canjillon community meeting called by Senator Ben Ray Lujan to address the Gamma Resources' uranium exploration proposal in the Carson National Forest. Of the nearly 200 people in attendance, all spoke with one voice in opposition to the exploratory drilling on the mesa. It is known that Gamma Resources Ltd., a Canadian company, currently has a \$29M financial deficit and no production revenue. Who is this company, and why should we allow the waters of the Chama River basin to be threatened? Agricultural communities, cultural resources, and public health would be placed at risk. And as was stated at the meeting, the Chama River is "one water" that delivers to Santa Fe, Albuquerque, tribal sovereign nations, and on into Texas. Why would we even consider polluting our air and water with radioactive toxins? Heads up, everyone, we need to stop this threat in it's tracks. Please contact the Carson National Forest supervisor's office in Taos and demand that no categorical exclusion be exercised, but rather a full environmental impact statement be conducted as required by law.

Cathy Baer
Chama, N.M.

Kudos

Dear Editor:

Community Conversations series to continue May 21 with look at school funding, infrastructure

By Candace Jones and Rick Walker

Archuleta County Democrats, Archuleta County Republicans

The free Community Conversations series will continue May 21 at 5:30 p.m. at the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association (PLPOA) Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave.

Archuleta School District Superintendent Rick Holt will update residents about plans for funding a new building to house pre-kindergarten through eighth-grade classes.

By May 21, the school district ex-

Archuleta County Democratic Club to meet May 19

By Lynn R. Frederick

Archuleta County Democratic Club

The Archuleta County Democratic Club will meet on Tuesday, May 19, at 11:30 a.m. at Uncle's.

The speaker will be Barbara Clementi, the Democratic candidate for the State Board of Education for Congressional District 3.

Come to this meeting to become an informed voter.

The Archuleta County Democratic Club meets monthly. The club gives local Democrats the opportunity to meet with other Democrats and to hear speakers from the community, to meet candidates for local and national offices, and to hear about topics of timely interest.

Plan on coming by 11:30 a.m. to order lunch. Having cash will facilitate ordering. Everyone is welcome to attend. You do not need to be a registered Democratic.

For more information, contact lynnfrederick1@gmail.com.

Services

Codie Wilson

A celebration of life for Codie Wilson will be held on Monday, May 25, from 1 to 4 p.m. at the PLPOA Clubhouse. Please join us as we gather to share memories, stories and love.

Informative.

The Pagosa Springs SUN
970-264-2100

I am very impressed with the beautification efforts that have been taking place in our community. Centennial Park is getting a nice makeover. Last year, beautiful trees were planted. This year, I am seeing additional Aspen and Evergreen trees planted along the river.

The placement of the big boulders near all these trees provides a nice contrast against the green grass now that the irrigation has been installed. As these trees mature, they will only get more spectacular. The cleanup after the flood along the San Juan River looks amazing.

Moreover, whether traveling East or West on Hwy 160, I get to admire the lovely sculptures of the shepherd and sheep at Aspen Village Walking path near Walmart. It is so nice to see beautiful art surrounded by stunning nature.

The landscaping at Yamaguchi Park is also very impressive. It is aesthetically pleasing, clean and well maintained.

Kudos to all involved with the beautification efforts of the Parks and Recreation Department, as well as our new library taking shape every day.

Thank you for all you do to make Pagosa Springs beautiful and a fun place to live and visit.

Claudine Torre

Library

Dear Editor:

I've been thinking about Barbara Brattin's March piece, "Schools and Libraries are About Hope," and wanted to echo how much our Ruby Sisson Library means to this community.

For many families, the library is part of the daily rhythm of our downtown—a natural gathering place after school, within walking distance of local schools and woven into the flow between parents' jobs and extracurricular activities.

The new youth space builds on that foundation, reflecting a simple

truth: the library invests in us, and we invest in it, through connection, learning, and a shared future for our town.

I personally think the new blue exterior looks fantastic, and it's exciting to think about all the life and activity the new spaces inside will soon hold. I'm grateful to everyone who has helped get the project this far, and I hope our community will continue coming together to help bring it to life by donating to the library's building campaign.

Kelly Tuten

A new low

Dear Editor:

I'm usually not surprised at how ridiculous our Archuleta County government can act, but they've reached a new low in organizing the upcoming Independence Day parade.

The county government intends to limit the First Amendment protection of free speech by stating in the parade application, "No political floats," and "No Politics" in their print advertisement in the Sun. Although the parade is open to floats of "...community members, local businesses, non-profit organizations, and civic groups ...", will applicants need to restrain their speech or perhaps have it pre-approved by some county government functionary for participation? There have been politically-themed floats in past parades, what's different this year? Let's also consider that the county is attempting to limit free speech at a government-organized event staged on a public roadway. The county should never dictate what any citizen or group can peacefully express at a county-sponsored function. Frankly I'd like to see political statements at the parade – I also have the freedom to agree or disagree with what my neighbors think – I don't need a county official doing that for me.

And suppose some sneaky, rule-breaking participant on a float raises a "Vote For Joe," or "Sign Our Petition" placard. Will the County Sheriff or Town Police step in to arrest them? Will the county ban them from future participation? Good luck defending that lawsuit!

Finally, shame on you Pagosa Springs Sun, for accepting county government advertising that seeks to limit free speech at a government-sponsored public event.

Marc Yalom

U.S. 160 reconstruction information

Week of May 18-23

Work activity

• Lewis Street: Utility work continues at the Lewis Street intersection with a focus on water and geothermal utilities. The crews will soon be connecting lines across U.S. 160 to the south intersection at Lewis Street.

• Hot Springs Boulevard intersection: The work team is planning on closing access to Hot Springs Boulevard (the south side of the intersection to the bridge) to make utility and paving improvements in conjunction with the Town of Pagosa Springs. This closure is anticipated to take place between June 1 and June 15.

• Overlook parking lot: During the same closure of Hot Springs Boulevard, the team is planning on closing the overlook parking lot for utility updates. The closure is expected from June 1-15, and the Town of Pagosa Springs will be promoting alternative parking options in the lot near the old courthouse building off of 5th Street.

• The intersection closure at Lewis Street and U.S. 160 remains in place. Please utilize 4th, 7th and 8th streets as an alternative to access businesses along Lewis Street. With the access closure, left-turn signals have been extended at the 4th Street intersection; look for the green left-turn arrow at the northwest corner of 4th and Pagosa Street (U.S. 160).

• Pedestrian crossings: With the new traffic shift there are several locations that no longer have pedestrian barriers where the sidewalks, curb and gutter have been completed. Please pay attention when traversing the roadway and use identified crossings.

• The Lewis Street access closure will be in place until late May/early June.

• Access to North 5th Street and businesses north of the intersection is available via 4th Street.

• Why will the Lewis Street intersection take several months to complete? Where Lewis Street intersects U.S. 160 is one of the most difficult intersections the project team is working on. The underground utility work includes demolition and replacement of the geothermal, water and sewer lines from the bottom up. The Lewis Street intersection will then be built back with new ADA-accessible curb and gutter and concrete paving.

Information provided by Colorado Department of Transportation



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A vehicle crashes into a local business uptown Wednesday, May 13. According to Pagosa Springs Police Officer Brandon Bishop, two parties were reported to have minor injuries.

SUN photo/Clayton Chaney

Water conservancy talks grants, ranch management

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

The San Juan Water Conservancy District (SJWCD) Board of Directors discussed grant opportunities and studies for its reservoir project at Running Iron Ranch and options for improving fencing at the ranch at its April 20 meeting.

SJWCD president Randy Cooper opened the discussion, explaining that he spoke with the SJWCD's engineering firm, RJH Consultants, about maintaining momentum on the project and asked it to outline next steps following the district receiving feedback from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation on the project earlier this spring.

Cooper stated that RJH indicated that working on a water supply and demand study would be the next step, which the board had previously agreed with.

He added that this study would require working with the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) to understand water supply and demand in the community.

Cooper stated that RJH would assemble a proposal in the next two to three weeks and present it to the board.

In response to board member questions, Cooper also explained that the study would likely look 50 years into the future and would look at municipal, agricultural and other water needs.

The board then briefly discussed

PAWSD's plans to improve connectivity between PAWSD's Stevens Lake and Lake Hatcher reservoirs and how the study by RJH might also assist PAWSD in those efforts.

Cooper indicated that a comprehensive study might take up to a year to complete.

The board then moved on to discussing a grant opportunity from the Nature Conservancy, which SJWCD board member Charles Riehm explained is focused on drought and flood mitigation.

He added that the district might not be a precise fit for the grant, but that it has a relatively simple application, so the board should apply for it.

SJWCD board member Candace Jones suggested that a board member should call the Nature Conservancy to see if its projects would be suitable, which Riehm agreed to do.

Riehm then discussed fencing conditions at the Running Iron Ranch, explaining that he surveyed the fences with Steve Laverty, who owns an adjoining ranch, and they determined that there are three options for addressing fencing issues on the ranch.

Riehm explained that the district could shut off access from the ranch to U.S. 160 by repairing about 100 yards of fencing near the road, which would prevent cattle from going through the ranch to the highway.

He commented that the district "absolutely ought to do that."

Riehm explained that, after sur-

veying the entire fenceline around the property, it appeared that much of it would require repair, but only small sections would require replacement.

He added that this aligns with PAWSD's assessment of the fence conditions.

PAWSD is the joint owner of the property with the SJWCD, and the districts are currently in the process of drafting a settlement to litigation about PAWSD's efforts to sell the property without the SJWCD's approval.

Riehm explained that repairing the full fenceline might cost between \$2,000 and \$4,000, and repairing the section by the highway might cost \$1,500.

He added that PAWSD estimated that it would cost \$35 an hour for labor to repair the fences if the person doing the repairs brought their own tools.

Riehm added that Laverty is potentially interested in grazing cattle on the ranch in exchange for maintaining the fences, gates and other infrastructure on the property, which he commented that the board could discuss more in the future.

Following a brief discussion of leasing options, Riehm explained that he was seeking board approval for him and Cooper to move forward with getting an estimate from a local fencing repair contractor for repairs on the ranch.

Jones moved to authorize Cooper and Riehm to get an estimate and an

assessment of other maintenance priorities at the ranch and how long they could be deferred.

She added that her motion would include authorizing Riehm and Cooper to move forward with having the contractor do the fencing repairs along the highway.

SJWCD treasurer Joe Tedder noted that the district does not currently have money in its budget assigned to ranch management.

He commented that, if the cost is small, it could be managed through contingency funds, but that he would prefer to do a budget amendment and reallocate funds to management.

The board then discussed cattle leasing with Laverty further, with Jones noting that Laverty is willing to maintain the fences, but is not interested in taking on the repair project.

She added that there might be other people interested in leasing the property for grazing, as well.

Following more discussion, the board voted unanimously to accept Jones' motion.

josh@pagosasan.com

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WHISPERING PINES



Hill Top Cemetery Spring Clean-Up

May 14 – May 29, 2026

The spring cemetery clean-up is scheduled for May 14th through May 29th. Town staff will be at the cemetery raking pine needles, removing broken, spent, and faded decorations from plots, mowing, and weed-trimming.

The Town welcomes all groups or individuals who wish to help with the spring clean-up efforts. Place your cemetery trash and debris at the nearest roadside ditch for pickup. Trash bags are available at the Town's Maintenance Facility at 550 Pirate Drive.

Questions can be directed to
Public Works
at (970) 264-4151 x400.



County Fleet Department reports stable budget

By Ella Slade
Staff Writer

Archuleta County Fleet Manager Waylon Sutton delivered the semi-annual fleet update at the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners' (BoCC) May 12 work session, reporting the completion of major equipment projects and a stable budget outlook.

Sutton also shared recent staff changes, including the hiring of Travis Mueller as mechanic II and the promotion of Kevin Rodriguez to shop foreman.

He also discussed major shop projects and systematic vehicle repurposing to stretch limited replacement dollars. These projects included a full rebuild of a county water truck, with new rear suspension and water tanks, repurposing vehicles and the transition to the online BASIC program Fleet 360.

"The shop is currently in the process of rebuilding, reusing and replacing vehicles. We've done a lot of shuffling, repurposing vehicles within the county," Sutton said.

He continued, "I think with how far behind we are with some of the

replacements, doing the trickle down effect takes a little bit of work on our part to get those vehicles equipped for their new position in the county, but we're seeing the results of that."

Sutton reported five fleet accidents so far this year, including wildlife strikes and a sanding truck that slid off the road but was repairable, noting that most accidents historically involve patrol vehicles.

"Last year, we had a really good year; we didn't have quite so many [accidents], but I am seeing some numbers indicating an increase this year in our accidents," he said.

Accident reports are currently reviewed in a safety committee, but Sutton acknowledged there is no formal, countywide crash review board to classify incidents or enforce follow-up.

The department has also begun a countywide vehicle rebranding effort, Sutton shared, with new, standardized county logos installed on vehicles as they come in for service.

He noted that this is a larger, slower process than expected as the county transitions away from multiple legacy logos.

To address clutter and improve organization of large parts and components, Sutton also shared that the county has ordered a 40-foot shipping container to store large radiators and other bulky parts that currently occupy yard and shop space.

When discussing assets, Sutton reported that the fleet budget is stable for what is typically tracked over the first four to five months of the year.

"We are on schedule. We don't see anything that's going to be way over budget, or we don't see anything that's going to be way ahead under budget," he said. "We're kind of right on pace where we're at with the budget."

He noted that upcoming magnesium chloride season work on roads will push some larger expenses into the current month that are not yet reflected in the figures, but he does not expect to go significantly over or under budget overall.

Sutton also noted the inherent uncertainty in fleet finances that comes with unexpected breakdowns and accidents.

"It does take a lot to keep it going ... I struggle with the budget, just not knowing what we've got to fix and when ... so I'm always kind of wondering if we're going to have enough money, because there are just a lot of unknowns with the Fleet Department," he said.

Looking ahead, Sutton shared that his primary goals are to continue improving service quality to all county departments, invest in training for younger technicians using funds already set aside and support staff developments to build long term in-house capability.

eslade@ourkemediagroup.com

Thanks

Musical performance

We witnessed the close of another season of musical performance by our local students. How blessed we are to have Mr. Baughman, Ms. Burnett, Ms. Thomas, and all supporting administrators in our midst, to encourage our youth to embrace music. I am so thankful for their hard work and dedication.

Emrys Tyler

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Opportunities in beautiful Pagosa Springs!



1001 Soaring Eagle Court
\$850,000

MLS #822945

2 Bed, 2 Bath, 2,073 sq foot house on 36.44 acres. Navajo River Ranch has 2 private entrances into the forest. This home has wonderful views of the San Juan Mountain Range and great decks. 2 tributaries come together to form a seasonal creek called Oil Well Creek on the property.

To tour this home go to:
<https://tinyurl.com/1001SoaringEagleCourt>



1119 Hills Circle
\$499,000

MLS #833746

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

To tour this home go to:
<https://pspixeltree.com/1119-Hills-Cir>



1231 Ranchland Drive
\$290,000

MLS #829827

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



X Eagle Drive
\$225,000

MLS #833969

This is a beautiful 1.05 acre property located in between uptown and downtown on the frontage road of Highway 160. The water is installed, the sidewalk is in and the electric is within 100' of the lot. The lot is level and ready to build on. This is a great property!

To tour Eagle Drive go to:
<https://pspixeltree.com/X-Eagle-Dr>



109 Carol's Curves
\$198,000

MLS #824583

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

To tour this home go to:
<https://pspixeltree.com/109-Carols-Curves>



42 Sundown Circle
\$50,000

MLS #833836

Level building lot, only 200' of dirt road. The power and water are less than a 100' from the lot. This property is 5 minutes from downtown and 5 minutes from uptown, how awesome is that! This is an easy build lot, close to all of the amenities.



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Business

County’s March unemployment rate drops to 3.2 percent

By **Randi Pierce**
Staff Writer

Archuleta County’s unemployment rate dropped to 3.2 percent in March, according to a May 6 report from the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment (CDLE).

That figure is down from 4.2 percent in February.

Archuleta County’s rate of 3.2 percent this March compares to 4.2 percent in March 2025.

Archuleta County’s labor force totaled 6,603 in March, according to the report, with 212 unemployed. That compares to a February labor force of 6,400 and 266 unemployed.

Colorado’s seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained unchanged at 3.9 percent in March.

According to the survey of households, the number of unemployed individuals decreased by 100 to 127,100 from February to March.

“Colorado’s labor force decreased by 10,600 in March to 3,227,900,” states a press release from the CDLE.

It notes the share of Coloradans participating in the labor force was 66.3 percent in March, three-tenths of a percentage point lower than in February.

The press release notes this marks the lowest labor force participation rate since August 2020.

“The U.S. labor force participation rate decreased one-tenth of a percentage point to 61.9 percent in March,” it states.

The national unemployment rate decreased by one-tenth of a percentage point to 4.3 percent from February to March, it notes.

Costilla County again had the highest unemployment rate in the state in March at 6.9 percent, followed by Huerfano County at 6.4 percent.

The lowest unemployment rate in the state for March was Cheyenne County at 2.0 percent.

Regionally, the data shows La Plata County with a 3.3 percent unemployment rate in March, San Juan County at 3.9 percent, Mineral County at 3.7 percent, Rio Grande County at 4.1 percent and Conejos County at 3.5 percent.

Job loss, growth

Employers in Colorado gained 1,400 nonfarm payroll jobs from February to March for a total of 2,954,600 jobs, according to the survey of business establishments. Private-sector

payroll jobs increased by 1,300, while government increased by 100.

The release also notes, “February estimates were revised down to 2,953,200, and the over the month change from January to February was a decrease of 7,500 jobs rather than the originally estimated decrease of 7,200 (monthly revisions are based on additional responses from businesses and government agencies since the last published estimates).”

Nonfarm payroll jobs estimates are based on a survey of business establishments and government agencies, and are intended to measure the number of jobs, not the number of people employed.

The private-industry sectors with significant over-the-month job gains in March were:

- Educational and health services by about 2,200 jobs.
- Leisure and hospitality by about 1,800.

There were no private industry sectors with significant over-the-month job losses.

Since March 2025, nonfarm payroll jobs have decreased by 8,800, with the private sector decreasing by 5,700 and government losing 3,100

jobs.

The largest private-sector job gains were:

- Educational and health services by about 16,000 jobs.
- Construction by about 1,700.
- During that same period, payroll jobs declined in:
 - Financial activities by about 4,500 jobs.
 - Trade, transportation and utilities by about 4,300.
 - Professional and business services by about 3,900.
 - Information by about 3,900.
 - Manufacturing by about 3,700.
 - Other services by about 1,500.
 - Mining and logging by about 1,000.

“Colorado’s rate of job growth over the past year is -0.3 percent, below the U.S. rate of 0.2 percent,” the report notes.

It further notes that, over the year, the average workweek for all Colorado employees on private nonfarm payrolls decreased from 33.5 to 33.4 hours, while average hourly earnings grew from \$39.32 to \$39.82, \$2.44 more than the national average hourly earnings of \$37.38.

randi@pagosasun.com

Hanging flower baskets still on sale, Car Show set for June 12-13

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

Two community favorites for the Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce are coming soon: the annual hanging basket sale and the upcoming Car Show.

The hanging basket sale is going on now. Order before it is too late.

We have sold out of the 16-inch

hanging baskets already, but we still have 12-inch baskets available to order.

We are anticipating the flowers to arrive the week of Memorial Day.

You can call, come by or go online to order your hanging baskets. These baskets are a great way to greet our many visitors and each other with a smile of flowers every day. You can go to pagosachamber.com to purchase online; just click on the picture of

flowers on our home page.

Looking ahead, anticipation is also building for the annual Car Show, one of the area’s most popular summer events.

The show typically brings together classic cars, custom builds and vintage vehicles, drawing both local spectators and visitors who enjoy the chance to see polished automobiles on display.

Registration is live for registering

your car through carshowpro.com; you can get to that link through our website, pagosachamber.com.

We will have our pinup girl contest on Friday, cornhole hole tournament throughout the weekend, and we also have a model car show. Don’t miss out.

The Car Show will be June 12-13 in Yamaguchi Park.

From blooming baskets to gleaming chrome, Pagosa Springs is set for a lively season ahead.

March sales tax collections down 1.01 percent

By **Clayton Chaney**
Staff Writer

According to data released by Archuleta County Finance Director Chad Eaton on May 6, sales tax collections in Archuleta County for March were reported to be down 1.01 percent compared to figures from March 2025.

Eaton’s report notes that the 1.01 percent decrease translates to a total of \$15,560.32 less received this March compared to March 2025.

For this March, Eaton notes that the Town of Pagosa Springs and Archuleta County received a total of \$1,389,383.49 from the sales tax, with

\$694,822.22 going to the county and \$694,561.27 going to the town.

January saw a decrease of 10.64 percent (\$149,587.01) in sales tax collections, while numbers for February reflected a 1.17 percent increase (\$16,020.75). According to data in Eaton’s press release, the year-to-date comparison through the first three months of 2026 show a 3.22 percent decrease, or \$138,857.32 less received compared to figures from January through March 2025.

Eaton also notes that three months (January, February and March) of retail marijuana sales tax have been received, with \$1,702.12 going to the county and \$7,111.85 going to the town.

Categories that were up in comparison to month-to-month comparison according to Eaton’s data include:

- Retail Trade at 1.65 percent, or \$13,409.65.
- Information at 6.95 percent, or \$1,995.54.
- Finance and Insurance at 61.16 percent, or \$928.11.
- Professional, Scientific and Technical Services at 52.06 percent, or \$7,584.18.
- Other Services (except Public Administration) at 13.48 percent, or \$2,933.31.
- Miscellaneous at 2.9 percent, or \$6,373.43.

Categories that were down in the month-to-month comparison include:

- Construction at 52.42 percent, or \$21,601.40.
- Manufacturing at 17.12 percent, or \$10,537.64.
- Real Estate, Rental and Leasing at 22.68 percent, or \$7,242.84.
- Accommodation and Food Services at 3 percent, or \$9,492.66.

clayton@pagosasun.com

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SATURDAY, MAY 16TH
11AM–1PM
HUMANE SOCIETY OF PAGOSA SPRINGS ANIMAL SHELTER
465 CLOMAN BLVD

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BORDETELLA \$10
DA2PP \$10
RABIES \$10

CAT VACCINES
RABIES \$10
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TIME: 7:30 AM – 9:30 AM

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Local reporting that matters.



The Blotter

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

Archuleta County Sheriff’s Office
April 28 — Controlled substance-manufacturing-Schedule 1/2, driving under restraint, drug paraphernalia-possess, possession of a controlled substance, U.S. 160.

April 28 — Dog at large, vicious dog without injury, Navajo Trail Drive.

April 29 — Alcohol-open container/drink in vehicle, careless driving, driving under restraint, driving under the influence of drugs (marijuana), obstructing governmental operations, stop lamps-vehicle not equipped, no location listed.

April 28 — Cruelty to animals-neglect/mistreatment, Badger Road.
April 29 — Abandonment of motor vehicle, U.S. 84.

April 29 — Theft-\$750 to \$2,000 from banking type institution, Ute Drive.

April 29 — Information only, Buck Drive.

April 29 — Information only, Sandstone Court.

April 30 — Information only, Escobar Avenue.

April 30 — Criminal mischief M, domestic violence, harassment-fol-lows in public place DV, U.S. 160.

May 1 — Theft-\$2,000 to \$20,000-other (includes gas), County Road 700.

May 1 — Child abuse, domestic violence, harassment-repeated communications invade DV, Osprey Court.

May 1 — Information only, County Road 700.

May 2 — Domestic violence, harassment-strikes/shoves/kicks, Coyote Park Road.

May 4 — Information only, no location listed.

May 5 — Nuisance/animal running at large, no location listed.

May 5 — Trespass warning, East U.S. 160.

May 5 — Warrant arrest, no location listed.

May 5 — Warrant arrest, no location listed.

May 5 — Driving after revocation prohibited (HTO), no insurance-owner, no location listed.

May 6 — Second-degree assault-aggravated family-strangulation, second-degree kidnapping-adult, domestic violence, false imprisonment-force, harassment-strikes/shoves/kicks, Bobwhite Drive.

May 6 — Information only, no location listed.

May 7 — Purchase on credit to defraud, Hurt Lane.

May 7 — Information only, Circle Drive.

May 7 — Trespass warning, Bonanza Avenue.

May 7 — Trespass warning, Ironwood Drive.

May 8 — Driving under the influence of alcohol, speeding 20-24 over limit, no location listed.

May 8 — Information only, no location listed.

May 8 — Sexual assault-no consent, North Dawning Court.

May 9 — Littering, Peace Place.
Pagosa Springs Police Department

April 28 — Disorderly conduct/unreasonable noise, owner/custodian allowed animal to run at large, East Pagosa Street.

April 28 — Harassment, Hot Springs Boulevard.

April 28 — Trespass warning, Country Center Drive.

April 28 — Trespass warning, Country Center Drive.

April 28 — Trespass warning, Country Center Drive.

April 29 — Agency assist, East Pagosa Street.

April 29 — Menacing-misdemeanor, U.S. 160.

April 30 — Fraud, Apache Street.

May 1 — Theft M, Country Center Drive.

May 2 — Criminal tampering, Country Center Drive.

May 3 — Criminal mischief, South 9th Street.

May 3 — Theft, Aspen Village Drive.

May 4 — Criminal trespass, East Pagosa Street.

May 4 — Trespass warning, Country Center Drive.

May 4 — Theft/intend to deprive person, Eagle Drive.

May 4 — Criminal trespass, Hot Springs Boulevard.

May 5 — Information only, Lewis Street.

May 5 — Marijuana prohibited under age of 21/less than 12 ounces, South 8th Street.

May 6 — Assault, criminal mischief, San Juan Street.

May 7 — Careless driving, East Pagosa Street.

May 7 — Reckless driving, Harman

Park Drive.

May 7 — Violation of protection order-criminal, South 9th Street/Piedra Street.

May 8 — Fraud, Hot Springs Boulevard.

May 8 — Information only, South 9th Street.

May 8 — Violation of protection order-criminal, South 9th Street.

May 9 — Weapon-prohibited use-drunk with gun, driving under the influence of alcohol, Village Drive.

May 10 — Death investigation, South 8th Street.

May 10 — Information only, San Juan Street.

May 10 —Driving after revocation prohibited (HTO), South 8th Street.

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

Archuleta County Court: Judge Anthony D. Edwards

April 22 — Andrew A. Albright, failure to display proof of insurance, careless driving, registration-fictitious plate, fines and costs —\$969.50.

April 22 — Perla B. Salinas, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs — \$210.50.

April 22 — Joziah S. Montoya, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs — \$210.50.

April 22 — Dawn E. Lemon, careless driving, fines and costs — \$238.50.

April 23 — Dwayne Kellerman Hand, driving ability impaired-with prior, 15 days jail, 36 hours community service, two years probation, fines and costs — \$796.50.

April 23 — Dwayne K. Hand, driving under the influence, 15 days jail, 36 hours community service, two years probation, fines and costs — 796.50.

April 23 — Gregory Allen Bellew, driving under the influence-with priors, 365 days jail suspended imposition, 80 days jail, 48 hours community service, 36 months probation, fines and costs — \$3,224.50.

April 23 — Justin Scott Williams, obstructing a peace officer, 12 months probation, fines and costs — \$903.50.

April 24 — Genesis M. Cassador, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs — \$233.50.

April 24 — Christian David Hernandez Beltran, tail lamps/reflectors, fines and costs — \$81.

April 24 — Chris L. Anderson, child safety belt/seat, fines and costs — \$135.

April 24 — Tessa A. Hanley, seat belt not used, fines and costs — \$98.50.

April 24 — Julia A. Hollingworth, lane usage violation, fines and costs — \$172.50.

April 24 — Jack Wolanin, obedience to official traffic control device, fines and costs — \$170.

April 24 — Israel Vakoff, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs — \$233.50.

April 24 — Sara E. Shiveley, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs — \$233.50.

April 24 — Sarah Althea Potoczny, registration-unregistered vehicle, fines and costs — \$161.50.

April 24 — Pablo Ochoa, registration-unregistered vehicle, fines and costs — \$161.50.

April 24 — Beau Hunter Morgan, license plates-expired, fines and costs — \$155.50.

April 24 — Jenna Marie Khakoo, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$225.

April 24 — Kelby D. Enjady, improper pass-sign/markers, fines and costs — \$172.50.

April 24 — Ryan Neal Ellerd, registration-unregistered vehicle, fines and costs — \$126.50.

April 24 — Jeffery Carl Randall Jr., failure to stop/yield right of way, fines and costs — \$105.

April 24 — Stephanie Jane Bassin, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$190.

April 24 — Drake A. Jeffers, speeding 1-4 over, fines and costs — \$27.50.

April 24 — Gisel Moncada, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$190.

April 28 — Nicholas R. Smoke, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs — \$210.50.

April 30 — Henry Archuleta, driving under restraint, fines and costs — \$142.50.

May 6 — Bridgette I. Bartek, alcohol-open container/drink in vehicle, fines and costs — \$93.50.

May 6 — Ivan A. Harrison, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs — \$210.50.

May 6 — Dustin M. Caldwell, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs — \$210.50.

May 8 — Landon J. Espinosa, nuisance exhibition-motor vehicle exhaust, fines and costs — \$137.50.

May 8 — Christian A. Bright, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$225.

May 8 — William Y. Kucarov, obedience to official traffic control device, fines and costs — \$170.

May 8 — Tiona Helen Wadsworth, license plates-expired, fines and costs — \$155.50.

May 8 — Benny Anthony Torbet, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$225.

May 8 — Calvin D. Sandoval, registration-unregistered vehicle, fines and costs — \$161.50.

May 8 — Ramon A. Martinez, speeding 20-24 over limit, fines and costs — \$314.50.

May 8 — Juanito L. Martinez, speeding 20-24 over limit, fines and costs — \$314.50.

May 8 — Makayla Janae Hubbard, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$225.

May 8 — Kayla M. Grinsell, speeding 20-24 over limit, fines and costs — \$314.50.

May 8 — James Thomas Fields, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$225.

May 8 — Whitedove Candalaria, speeding 20-24 over limit, driver's license-driving without, fines and costs — \$360.50.

May 8 — Charles Jacob Levi Billazzo, driving under restraint, fines and costs — \$177.50.

May 8 — Zachary A. Badgett, pedestrian-disregard traffic signal, fines and costs — \$172.50.

6th Judicial District Court: Judge Justin P. Fay

May 8 — Robert Scott Kendrick Jr.,

assault 2-cause serious bodily injury, five years Department of Corrections, fines and costs — \$2,456.50.

May 8 — Silver Arenas, driving under the influence-with 3+ priors, 36 months probation, 48 hours community service, 90 days jail, fines and costs — \$2,850.50.



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2026

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an evening with Randy Betts

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PAID FOR BY RANDY BETTS CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE, 2026.

State honors Colorado foster families, including Pagosa Springs couple

Colorado Department of Human Services

To highlight the need for more foster parents in Colorado, this National Foster Care Month the Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS) honored five foster families at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science on May 2.

Many of these families support teens, as well as those with behavioral or mental health needs.

“We have a great need for foster families of all types, especially those who can open their hearts to teens, sibling groups, and youth with behavioral and mental health needs,” said Joe Homlar, director of the Division of Child Welfare at CDHS. “When caring individuals step up, they can provide a safe, stable and loving home that is critical to reducing the impact of trauma and helping children work toward reunification with their families when possible. This kind of dedication changes lives.”

Every day in Colorado, an average of eight children and youth enter foster care. As of April 3, there were 3,590 children and youth in foster care living in a family-like setting, and of those, 2,567 are with certified kinship and foster families.

Foster care gives children a safe, stable and caring home while their parents work to overcome challenges that affect their ability to care for them.

The five families being recognized this year are:

- Jeff Bland Sandra Macias from Commerce City.

Bland and Macias started fostering in 2022, focusing on teenagers because they recognized their critical need for a stable, loving home. They currently care for three teenage girls in a supportive, trauma-informed

environment that encourages the teens to be active in family life, develop independence and learn self-advocacy. Macias is bilingual in Spanish, which is vital for supporting Spanish-speaking youth. She helps maintain cultural connections and celebrate educational success: They helped two young women graduate high school, and a third will graduate this year.

- Amber and Alicia Johnson from Grand Junction

Amber and Alicia Johnson, along with their 15-year-old daughter Taylen, created a diverse family in a safe and loving home, including a 6-year-old boy, his 11-month-old sister and a 19-year-old youth in transition. Driven to give children the security they deserve, they approach every challenge with a “how can we?” mindset, finding creative solutions. Their approach has led to success and the 6-year-old is now excelling as a top learner in school, and they championed their youth in transition who graduated and found a job. They advise prospective foster parents to “take the leap” to experience the profound reward of watching a child grow and feel safe through patience and kindness.

- Annie and Max Nicely from Pagosa Springs.

Annie and Max Nicely, along with their children and adopted granddaughter Aspen, are deeply dedicated to providing a stable and loving environment for all children. They currently care for two teen boys, prioritizing consistent safety and unwavering support — a mission Annie Nicely, with a degree in human services, holds dear. The family runs a custom hot rod shop, and their busy, large household focuses on teaching life skills and offering apprentice-

ships, holistically preparing teens for successful futures.

- Bobby and Brianna Ryan from Frisco.

Bobby and Brianna Ryan run a vibrant, committed household in Frisco, which currently includes their six biological children and an infant in foster care. Since becoming certified in 2020 to serve a critical community need, they have opened their home to 12 children in foster care. As a competitive, athletic and musical family, they actively participate in their bilingual church, and Brianna Ryan’s fluency in Spanish helps them connect with Spanish-speaking children and biological parents, fostering compassionate relationships. Although fostering is challenging, they state that making a positive, long-term impact on a child’s life is worth the emotional journey.

- Wendy Screen from Aurora.

Screen, a proud veteran, became a foster parent in 2012 and now holds a therapeutic-level certification. Inspired by her own experience of being fostered and adopted, Screen specializes in caring for “tougher kids” with high needs. She uses her military background to provide the necessary structure, guidance and supervision these young people need in a committed, loving environment. Screen fosters a true sense of family, maintaining lifelong connections with the youth in her care, and prepares them for adulthood through practical life skills while also supporting reunification. She emphasizes that “changing one life is worth it.”

“We know Coloradans are interested in learning more about foster care, and these families’ stories show the profound, life-changing impact a temporary safe home provides,” said CDHS Deputy Executive Director of

Community Partnerships Minna Castillo. “The need is urgent, especially for teens and children with higher needs. We hope these inspiring examples will move Coloradans from interest to action.”

When parents need additional support to provide safety and care for their children, county human and social service agencies work to meet those needs. They focus on keeping families together. In instances where that is not possible, caseworkers first look for kin — adults who have an established, trusted relationship with the child — to step in. When there is no kinship possibility, foster families provide safety, stability and care.

“Foster care is an essential foundation that strengthens Colorado families and communities,” said Thom Miller, director of the Office of Children, Aging and Community Services at CDHS. “It provides a crucial period of safety and stability for children and youth, allowing their birth families the space to work toward a successful reunion. To meet the unique needs of all our youth—especially teens and those requiring specialized support—we urgently need diverse, dedicated families across all backgrounds to step up.”

Being a foster parent, while challenging, can be extremely rewarding. In Colorado, foster parents must be at least 21 years old and can be:

- Single, married or in a committed relationship.
- All races and ethnicities.
- Homeowners or renters.
- An experienced parent or a first-time parent.

To learn more about becoming a foster parent, go to CO4kids.org. To meet children and teens currently waiting to be adopted, visit coheart-gallery.org.

Fireworks

■ Continued from front

of the town and bringing them back at another date, she explained.

“If we choose not to have a show on the Fourth, then we will need to have another show this year, or we basically lose 30 percent of the budget, which is a total of \$32,000,” she explained.

The cost would be about \$9,600 (30 percent of \$32,000) should the council decide not to have any shows in 2026 after indicating to the vendor to move forward with planning a show, she explained.

Something similar happened “about five years ago,” she said, when the town “preemptively canceled the show on the Fourth,” moving it to the

Halloween Hootenanny celebration in October.

Mayor Shari Pierce indicated that she thought it was too early to cancel the show and wanted “to keep it as a go, for now.”

Council member Brooks Lindner expressed agreement, saying, “I’d be in favor of not canceling and keeping the option to have the show at some other time in the year if we end up having to cancel Fourth of July.”

He added, “I feel like it’s really early to cancel. I know we’re all expecting drought at this point, but I feel like we were in this same boat last year and we were talking about canceling and then we got tons of rain and had Fourth of July and it

was great.”

Council member Mat deGraaf said that “the optics of this can be tricky,” with “our local water providers already in drought restrictions,” but agreed that it was too early to think about canceling.

Pierce added that since the town uses a vendor, “we can do a show way safer” than other places “that try to put on their own shows.”

Council member Leonard Martinez suggested that the town should look at continuing “mitigating the risks given the conditions.”

The council would need to decide by “about a month out” if it wants to postpone the fireworks display, Green explained, adding that she

would reach out to the vendor to get an exact date on the deadline to postpone.

The town’s fireworks show vendor comes from Idaho, she explained, adding that “one year we canceled and they were not able to get reimbursed on the lodging they had booked.”

She added that “we just want to make sure” that the town has plenty of time “to give notification” of a postponement, “accordingly,” to the vendor.

Council member Gary Williams noted that he thought “the vendor has been very good in the past and puts on a good show every time.”

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State announces new \$2.9 million for community youth crime prevention

State of Colorado

The Colorado Division of Criminal Justice, through the Office of Adult and Juvenile Justice Assistance, has opened applications for the new Deflection and Community Investment Grants, a statewide initiative designed to redirect youth away from the justice system and toward supportive, community-based services.

“Colorado is making our streets and communities safer. Through data-driven investments in proven community-based efforts to support youth and prevent crime, we can and are making Colorado safer. Crime has significantly dropped across the board in recent years, and these funds will build on that work by connecting kids with support to prevent crime, which is good for kids, the state and our communities,” said Gov. Jared

Polis.

Established by House Bill 25-1146, the competitive grant program will fund organizations that provide trauma-informed health, development and intervention services for youth at the earliest possible point of justice system involvement.

The program operates as a pilot through June 30, 2028, with a focus on prevention, early intervention and long-term positive outcomes for young people across Colorado.

Approximately \$2.9 million per fiscal year will be made available, contingent upon legislative appropriation. Individual awards will range from \$200,000 to \$1 million over the course of the grant period. Up to 10 percent of annual funding is designated specifically for Native American youth programs, ensuring targeted investment in historically

underserved communities.

“This investment reflects Colorado’s commitment to meeting young people where they are and connecting them with meaningful opportunities for growth, stability and success,” said Matthew M. Lunn, director of the Colorado Division of Criminal Justice. “By supporting community-driven solutions, we can reduce justice system involvement and strengthen outcomes for youth and families.”

Eligible applicants include non-profit organizations, federally recognized tribes, tribal and Urban Indian organizations, and certain Native-led private entities. Collaborative and regional applications are encouraged, allowing multiple organizations to jointly deliver services and expand their reach.

Application timeline

Application period: May 4 through June 1.

- Review and selection: June.
- Award notifications: By June 30.
- Project start date: July 1.

For more information, visit the Deflection and Community Investment Grant Program website: <https://dcj.colorado.gov/oajja/deflection-community-investment-grant-program>.

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lpea.coop/annual-meeting

Principals

■ Continued from front

Holt wrote in a letter to the school district community.

“I am so excited to be a part of the Pagosa Springs High School Community,” Sanchez shared via the letter. “I know firsthand the strength of this community and the potential within these students and am excited to build a tradition of excellence based on what this town and the high school instilled in me, the value of hard work, responsibility, and helping others. I am proud to now serve the students of this community who will shape its future. Go Pirates!”

According to Holt’s letter, the district conducted a comprehensive hiring process.

It explains finalists participated in

traditional interview panels with staff, parents and administrators; instructional rounds; a community meet-and-greet and question-and-answer session; and scenario-based leadership exercises focused on real-world challenges related to finance, human resources and school leadership.

“Participants noted Joshua’s strengths in building relationships, maintaining a student-centered approach, and thinking systematically about school operations and support,” Holt’s letter states.

Then, on May 12, the district announced PSMS Assistant Principal Janae Ash had been selection to take the helm at PSMS next school year.

“Janae has served Archuleta

School District for 19 years, including many years as a 4th and 5th grade teacher, and is currently in her second year as assistant principal at Pagosa Springs Middle School,” a letter from Holt explains.

“I am greatly humbled and honored to be selected as the next principal of Pagosa Springs Middle School. I feel fortunate to not only be a product of this school and district as a student, but also to have started my teaching career here in 2006,” Ash said via the letter. “I am excited to continue building on the strong culture and positive momentum already in place at PSMS, while working alongside our remarkable staff to create the best possible experience for all students.”

Holt explains in the May 12 letter, “Under typical circumstances, we would immediately begin a search process for the next principal. However, after consulting with the PSMS team, we determined that selecting Janae as the next principal was the best path forward for the school community. Janae is a proven, thoughtful leader who has already made a significant impact at PSMS. She has built positive relationships across the school community, holds high expectations for student outcomes, and has proven her ability to implement plans that strengthen academic programs and support student success. I am confident she will continue to move PSMS forward in this new role.”

Wildfire

■ Continued from front

a blanket “Front Range only” rule that is not retroactive for existing homes.

In his presentation to the BoCC, McDonald explained that the CWRC focuses on “home hardening and defensible space,” including Class A roofs, ember-resistant vents, non-combustible gutters and a zero- to 5-foot non-combustible zone around structures, with additional vegetation management out to 100 feet.

McDonald went on to explain that the CWRC is designed to safeguard life and property by mitigating the risk of wildfires spreading to and from structures.

Research in McDonald’s presentation indicates that WUI codes are highly effective in lowering recovery costs and reducing risk, especially given that more than 4,000 homes and other structures in Colorado have been destroyed by wildfires since 2010.

In a legislative push to address the growing risk of destructive fires, McDonald reported, Colorado established the CWRC through Senate Bill 23-166. The bill, signed into law by the governor on May 12, 2023, mandates that local governing bodies with jurisdiction over WUI areas must adopt the new statewide minimum standards by April 1.

The BoCC adopted the code on March 17.

The code does not cover interior remodels, small sheds and minor outbuildings; routine maintenance or painting; and single homes on parcels greater than 35 acres with no commercial use, unless additional structures or a business are added.

While the code sets a statewide

minimum, the presentation explains that local jurisdictions retain discretion over implementation and enforcement.

“The biggest aspect of this is only for new construction, both residential and commercial, and it’s depending on the location within the maps of how it’s going to be addressed,” McDonald said.

Local governments retain broad discretion over enforcement and how strictly to apply the rules, noted Goss and McDonald, but the code is designed to slow fire spread, protect firefighters and improve community survival rates, particularly in high-risk zones identified on the state’s wildfire intensity (WE) map.

“I hate to use the word mandate, because I don’t think it’s appropriate, but it is a required code, [and] it really does serve a purpose in our state,” McDonald said. “This model code is for the state of Colorado, so it covers from the plains to the mountains. It covers all aspects ... It’s not going to work in Nevada, it’s not going to work in Oregon, but it is very effective for what we have here in the state.”

In their presentation, McDonald and Goss shared that the WUI is defined and mapped statewide using fire-intensity data, like fuels, topography and critical fire weather, to show crossover between homes and infrastructure with hazardous vegetation.

“The majority of homeowners believe that firefighters are going to be at their house during a wildfire. The reality is only about 10 percent of homes see firefighters actively around that home, and those are the homes that

they are going to have the best chance at saving,” Goss said.

He continued, explaining that the state code board decided to look at fire intensity as the base layer for defining the WUI for the state, and went to the Colorado State Forest Service for data.

“They essentially did a smoothing exercise and created a hexagonal pattern ... to basically average the risk across defined areas and say, ‘This is where we’re seeing that specific risk,’” he said.

The presentation highlights the new mapped WUI areas based on Fire Intensity Classification, with low (yellow), moderate (orange) or high (red) determining the level of required protection.

These three intensity levels are grouped into two code classifications, with class 1 applying to low-hazard areas and class 2 applying to moderate- and high-hazard areas.

The presenters noted that the Insurance Institute for Business and Home Safety estimates that about 90 percent of structure fires are ignited by embers that can travel upwards of 3 miles ahead of a fire front.

“So, even if a home is not directly adjacent to hazardous fuels, we’re still really concerned about those millions of embers that get cast to land and get into all those little pockets around decks and those firewood piles. Even stuff like outdoor patio furniture with cushions can be receptive beds for these embers,” McDonald said. “So, the yellow area is designed to help guard against a lot of those embers and flashing fuel fires, like the grasses that we saw with the Marshall Fire, and lessen the risk of those homes ignited there.”

The presentation discusses the two primary requirements on which the CWRC relies.

Structure hardening, with class 1 requirements specifying Class A roofing and noncombustible gutters. Class 2 includes these, plus additional mandates for noncombustible or ignition-resistant materials for exterior walls, decking, eaves, windows and doors.

The second site management, or defensible space, involves establishing three ignition zones around a structure. The Immediate Zone (zero to 5 feet) requires the use of noncombustible, hard surfaces such as rock or concrete. For Class 2 areas, the requirements extend to the Intermediate Zone (5 to 30 feet) and Expanded Zone (30 to 100 feet), focusing on shrub and tree spacing to minimize fire intensity.

“Let’s set our resources up for as much success as possible. Let’s give them a chance to actually fight ... The goal of this is, let’s put forward a code that has minimum standards, maximum flexibility for the communities,” Goss said.

The wildfire resiliency code is fundamentally a science-based effort to slow fire spread and keep neighborhoods intact, shared McDonald, adding that combining structure hardening like materials and design with proper vegetation management around homes can improve a community’s chances of surviving a wildfire by an estimated 40 to 60 percent.

“A lot of families never come back after a fire,” he said. “So, we can prevent just individual homes, prevent complete developments from going away.”
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Hydrant

■ Continued from front

doing some of our testing when these new projects come up. So, I’m pretty comfortable with not actually having all the numbers on there, even though it’d be nice to be able to look at it. But, realistically, what we need to know is, are we gonna get water out of it or not?”

Whether the hydrants flow at 1,000 or 2,000 gallons a minute doesn’t change how the engines are hooked up, he explained.

“The good news is we now have better communication with the water provider so we can report hydrant issues quickly and get clear feedback when they’re fixed,” Bertram added.

The airport hydrants have also been flow tested, Bertram told the board, prompting a reevaluation of whether some of the long-standing demands for additional water infrastructure there are still necessary.

“We’re actually getting some pretty decent fire flows out of those hydrants, so I’ve got a meeting with the county manager on Friday, and we’re going to start those conversations and look

into stuff at the airport,” he said. “Fortunately, I think some of the stuff we’ve been fighting for for a while probably doesn’t need to be, so I’m evaluating whether we have sufficient water.”

Board member James Martin shared a concern about liability, noting that because those structures were occupied, the insurance company will have the ability to dismiss the issue and avoid responsibility.

“I think what’s more important from the county standpoint, you guys do get an understanding between the two of you that until you sign off on a structure out there, that they shouldn’t be allowing occupants,” he said.

Bertram noted the goal is to ensure that no airport structures are occupied before the fire district signs off, which would reduce liability concerns for both the county and property owners while aligning water-supply expectations with updated field data.

Civilian safety

In his report, Bertram also shared

new national data showing that structure fires and civilian injuries are down, but civilian fire deaths are up sharply.

“There’s a big change in culture coming in the fire service right now,” he said. “For many years, we’ve really gone very safety conscious in everything we’re doing, even into our live burns, where it’s not even realistic when we’re going in there, and they’re figuring out that that’s really become detrimental to the fire service.”

Bertram explained less-demanding training burns and simulations can leave firefighters unprepared for truly harsh conditions. As a result, some firefighters back out of structures earlier or hesitate to push in for searches under tough conditions.

In response to this shift, Bertram continued, the district is reshaping its training to be more realistic and demanding. It will emphasize rapid turnout, aggressive search and rescue under difficult conditions and clear time standards for getting inside structures, with the goal of protect-

ing civilians while still managing firefighter risk and legal liability.

The PFPD is overhauling its training program in response to rising civilian fire deaths across the country, Bertram noted, and is also moving away from overly controlled scenarios toward more realistic drills that mirror actual fire conditions.

The training will shift from “extreme caution first” toward a more balanced approach that still values firefighter safety but puts greater weight on rapid rescue and decisive operations when lives may be at risk, Bertram shared.

“We’re working to start setting some of those time matrices and really see how it is, just making sure that we’re doing our part,” he said. “It ultimately comes down to not being complacent, being ready when we get that call, not going out there thinking, ‘Oh, this is another false alarm.’ Be ready for the worst case when we get there and you’ll be good. You’ll keep moving forward with it.”
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Outdoors

Colorado Parks and Wildlife releases Gray Wolf Annual Report

Colorado Parks and Wildlife

On May 7, Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) issued its Gray Wolf Annual Report for biological year 2025-2026 from April 1, 2025, to March 31, 2026, and provided an update on the gray wolf restoration program to the Parks and Wildlife Commission.

This report satisfies reporting requirements as specified in CRS 33-2-105.7 (4); the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Nonesential, Experimental Rule 10(j); and the Colorado Wolf Restoration and Management Plan.

This year's annual report is the third produced by CPW and includes updates on:

- Monitoring and biological management of Colorado's gray wolf population.
- Conflict minimization and depredation compensation.
- Ongoing research being conducted by CPW and collaborators.
- Interagency collaboration and outreach.

"This year's annual report highlights CPW's continued efforts to refine and improve our wolf program on all levels ranging from monitoring, to conflict minimization and compensation, and public engagement," said Laura Clellan, director of CPW. "While there is still important work to be done, the report presents a comprehensive picture of the expertise, continued dedication and expanding capacity of our staff as we work with stakeholders to manage wolf restoration in Colorado."

Biological management and monitoring

CPW biologists have identified a minimum population count of 32 gray wolves. Of the 32 wolves identified in Colorado, 24 are members of established packs (10 adults and 14 pups), with the remaining eight representing dispersing adult wolves.

The report also outlines the 10 mortalities experienced amongst adult gray wolves in Colorado, three

of which are still under investigation by the USFWS or CPW.

"Pup recruitment into the wolf population this year was very high, which is a sign of wolves' ability to find one another, pair, reproduce and make a go of it in Colorado," said Wolf Conservation Program Manager Eric Odell. "While we do not know what the future will hold, this is an encouraging sign of the biological success of our program and displays a positive trend in our wolf population size."

This year's report includes detailed information about pack composition for each of the four established packs in Colorado, including minimum winter adult and pup counts, collared wolf ID numbers, and minimum convex polygons of pack territories.

"As packs are established and territories developed, we are able to gain and share more insight into Colorado's gray wolf population," said Dr. Brenna Cassidy, wolf monitoring and data coordinator. "There will always be wolves who are not part of packs, and in the future they are likely to be uncollared wolves. As the population expands, CPW will aim to maintain two GPS collars in each established pack to help track pack activity and territory as outlined in the Colorado Wolf Restoration and Management Plan."

Conflict minimization and depredation compensation

Throughout the 2025-2026 biological year, CPW's wildlife damage specialists worked closely in collaboration with the agency's wolf conflict coordinator — as well as the agency's dedicated field staff and partnering organizations such as the Colorado Department of Agriculture (CDA) — to provide viable, reasonable and effective options for conflict minimization.

During this reporting period CPW conducted multiple depredation investigation trainings, including

two multiday workshops in the fall of 2025; a comprehensive range rider training in April 2025; and training covering predator hazing methods, including the use of drones.

In addition to these trainings, CPW participated in more than 20 outreach events spanning livestock producers to the general public and introducing audiences to nonlethal tools, efforts and strategies.

CPW has also made continued investments in deploying conflict minimization resources and expanding its stockpile for upcoming conflict seasons.

As outlined in this year's annual report, CPW conducted 78 additional site assessments (bringing the total site assessments conducted in Colorado to more than 280), conducted 12 different night watch events and deployed 61 scare devices and more than 13 miles of fladry across 15 locations.

At the end of the 2025-2026 biological year, CPW had an inventory of approximately 45 miles of fladry and more than 500 scare devices. CPW will continue to accumulate additional conflict minimization resources in the coming years.

In addition to the deployment of "hard tools" (such as fladry and scare devices), contracted range riders were deployed during the reporting period. These riders focused on providing support in northwest Colorado, where they assisted 34 different producers during the 2025 conflict season.

"Our conflict minimization program has grown significantly over the early stages of wolf restoration," said Ray Aberle, deputy assistant director of CPW's Lands Unit. "There is no one-size fits all solution to wolf-livestock conflict. Through the expertise of our staff, ongoing training and expanding hard tool resources, CPW continues to provide timely investigations and strategic response to depredations and wolf localization near working lands."

CPW continues to provide fair market compensation to producers

Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission approves \$52 firearms safety course record fee

Colorado Parks and Wildlife

On May 7, the Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) Commission approved a \$52 firearms training and safety course record fee as part of the implementation of Senate Bill 25-003, which establishes new requirements for the purchase of specified semiautomatic firearms in Colorado.

The fee will support the administration of CPW's Firearms Safety Program and is required by statute to reflect the actual costs of operating and maintaining the program's record system. Individuals who apply to the firearms safety program will pay the fee once every five years.

"This fee allows CPW to responsibly implement the requirements of state law while ensuring the program is self-sustaining over time," said CPW Firearms Safety Program Manager Dan Coil. "Our focus is on providing a clear, consistent process for customers while meeting the responsibilities outlined in this new law."

Senate Bill 25-003, signed into law in April 2025, requires individuals to apply for an eligibility card through their sheriff's office and complete a

firearms safety course before purchasing specified semiautomatic firearms, beginning Aug. 1, 2026.

The law assigns CPW responsibility for administering the safety training component of the program.

Under the new process:

- Individuals must apply through their county sheriff's office to receive a Firearms Safety Course Eligibility Card.
- Applicants who already hold a valid hunter education certification will complete a basic course, while those without hunter education will complete an extended course over two separate days.
- CPW will maintain a secure record system documenting course eligibility and completion.
- The \$52 fee aligns closely with similar state-administered firearm-related fees, including the current cost of a concealed handgun permit, and is designed to ensure consistency and cost recovery across programs.
- Initial funding for the program was provided through a \$1.5 million transfer from the Parks and Outdoor Recreation Cash Fund. Revenue generated through the fee will be used to repay that funding, with interest, by

July 1, 2030, as required by law.

CPW has engaged with a range of stakeholders during program development, including county sheriffs, firearms instructors, licensed firearm dealers and members of the public, to inform implementation and identify key considerations.

"We appreciate the input we've received from partners across the state," said Coil. "That feedback has been critical in helping us understand the questions people have heading into the implementation on Aug. 1."

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impacted by wolf depredation. This includes claims pertaining to direct losses as well as indirect claims as outlined in the approved Colorado Wolf Restoration and Management Plan.

Ongoing research

CPW currently has several research projects related to wolves in Colorado in pilot or testing stages.

Projects cover a range of disciplines and topics such as ungulate responses to wolf recovery, wolf-livestock interactions and social science/human dimension studies.

Staff goals are to refine these projects over the coming years to develop and deploy rigorous long-term research efforts.

Through these ongoing research efforts CPW has collaborated with partners at Colorado State University, Colorado State University Extension, the U.S. Geological Survey Colorado Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, the U.S. Department of Agriculture-Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA-APHIS) National Wildlife Research Center, and livestock producers.

Interagency collaboration and outreach

During the reporting period, CPW entered into memorandums of understanding (MOUs) with the CDA regarding collaboration on reducing livestock-predator conflict and USDA-APHIS on nonlethal efforts and investigations of suspected depredations.

CPW continues to support public awareness and understanding of the wolf reintroduction work through multiple avenues, including facilitation of in-person and virtual programs, publishing of a monthly email newsletter and active engagement with Colorado's media.

Additional information about the Gray Wolf Annual Report for biological year 2025-2026 can be found on the Colorado Outdoors Blog.

The full report is available through CPW's website.

Additional details about the Firearms Safety Program, including application steps and course requirements, will be made available ahead of the Aug. 1 implementation date.

For more information, visit CPW's Firearms Safety Program webpage: cpw.state.co.us/specified-semiautomatic-firearms.

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Photos courtesy Katrina Thomas and Connor Thomas

Archuleta School District music students show off their skills and hard work during a pair of concerts on May 7 and 8.

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SUN photo/Shari Pierce
Post-flooding work continues in the San Juan River near Centennial Park on Friday, May 8. Work included crushing large travertine boulders for bank stabilization.

Weminuche Audubon to present on birding by ear

By Jean Zirnheld
Weminuche Audubon Society

Learning to identify birds by their songs and calls will be the topic of the next Weminuche Audubon Chapter meeting on Wednesday, May 20, at 6:30 p.m.

Keith Bruno, Audubon Rockies community naturalist and Weminuche board member, will lead us in this exercise of seeing with our ears. With mating season getting in full

swing and the arrival of our summer birds, the air is filled with birdsong. Some birds we haven't heard for several months.

Distinguishing a bird by its unique sound is a fun challenge. Bruno will provide tips for picking apart the song we hear and aligning it with the bird singing it. Learn about the technology available to teach yourself this skill.

Birding by ear to identify bird species is an important skill used by vol-

unteers in our Forest Bird Monitoring Project, set to start soon. Identifying birds by their songs is used to count birds that are difficult to see hidden in the canopy or the brush in the forest. Learning their songs will also add to your enjoyment of the birds at your home and is great brain exercise.

The public is invited to join us for our meeting on May 20 at the Community United Methodist Church on Lewis Street.

We will gather at 6 p.m. for social-

izing, and the meeting will start at 6:30 p.m.. Please enter through the side door off the parking lot or let us know to open the main door for handicap entry.

In appreciation for our meeting space, we welcome donations of nonperishable food and cash for the church food bank.

Prior to the meeting, a link to join on Zoom will be posted on the events tab of our website for those unable to join in person.



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Spring wildlife reminder: Young animals need space, not rescue

Colorado Parks and Wildlife

The public can support wildlife families by respecting natural behaviors and allowing animal mothers to do what they do best — care for their young in the wild.

Spring can be a particularly sensitive time for wildlife, as many species are nesting, birthing young or emerging from hibernation. Colorado wildlife such as bears, deer, elk, pronghorn, moose, rabbits, foxes, skunks, raccoons, bats and birds will become more visible in backyards, open spaces and on trails.

Although it may feel like human nature to care for baby wildlife, Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) wants to remind the public that wildlife aren't pets, and touching or feeding them can be dangerous and cause unintended harm. CPW wildlife experts advise the community to respect wildlife by leaving young animals alone so they can grow and thrive in the wild.

Every year, CPW and local parks receive an increase in office visits and calls from people who report they "rescued" young wildlife. Many people wrongly believe they are "helping" young animals by picking them up, bringing them to a CPW office or taking them home to feed them. People routinely orphan young wildlife by essentially kidnapping them from their natural environment.

Colorado is home to big-game species, including elk, mule deer, moose and bighorn sheep. Human disturbance can cause stress for wild

animals and reduce females' chances of successfully raising offspring.

How can humans help young wildlife?

- Do not feed or approach young wildlife.
- Enjoy wildlife from a safe distance.
- Be mindful of bears on trails and around your home to help reduce human-bear conflicts.
- Keep dogs leashed on trails to prevent them from chasing wildlife.
- If you see wildlife that appears sick or injured, leave it alone. Call your local CPW office and ask a trained wildlife officer for guidance.

"It's critical to understand that humans are poor substitutes for a wild animal's natural parents," said District Wildlife Manager Drew Vrbenec. "In almost every case, picking up baby wildlife is the wrong thing to do. When you incorrectly handle young wildlife, you can transfer your scent to the animal. Our smell can cause a mother to fail to recognize her own baby, leading to true abandonment of healthy offspring. If you find young wildlife, enjoy a quick glimpse, leave the animal where it is, keep pets out of the area, and don't hover so close that the parents are afraid to return to the area."

CPW also urges the public not to feed wildlife on trails, in backyards or on decks. Under Colorado law, feeding wildlife is illegal because it poses a risk to wildlife health and safety. Those in violation are subject to fines and, even worse, can cause

the animal to become sick and die.

In addition to humans harming wildlife, wildlife can also pose physical dangers to humans. Animals such as elk, moose and birds can become aggressive to defend their young. Other dangers of interacting with wildlife include exposure to rabies, salmonella, fleas, ticks and other parasites, bacteria or viruses that may be present in or on the animal.

Likewise, humans can inadvertently expose wildlife to diseases carried by people.

What should you do if you see a baby bird out of a nest?

- If a nestling baby bird (eyes closed and featherless) has fallen from a nest that you can easily see and safely reach, it is OK to put the bird back into the nest, but you

should wear gloves and a mask to prevent the transmission of diseases between you and the bird.

- If you find a fledgling bird (eyes open, feathered, can hop around but cannot fly) on the ground, do not pick up the bird. The parents will continue to care for it on the ground, and it will soon be able to fly. Keep cats inside to prevent them from killing birds.

- Be careful when handling or observing young birds, as the mother may become aggressive if she feels her young are threatened.

- If you find a sick or dead bird, do not touch it.

- Not sure what to do? Call your local CPW office and ask a trained wildlife officer for guidance.

To learn more about living with wildlife in Colorado, visit cpw.state.co.us/living-wildlife.



District Court, Archuleta County, Colorado
Court Address: 109 Harman Park Dr., Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, 970-264-8160

David G. Mandy Investment Trust, Plaintiff
v.
National Recreational Properties of Pagosa Springs, LLC, a delinquent Colorado limited liability company; April Bergman, in her capacity as the Public Trustee of Archuleta County, Colorado; Elsa White, in her capacity as Treasurer of Archuleta County; and all unknown person who may claim an interest in the subject matter of this action, Defendants.

Case Number: 2025CV30073 Division 3

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO
TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT(S):
(1) National Recreational Properties of Pagosa Springs, LLC;
(2) All Unknown Person Who May Claim Any Interest in the Subject Matter of this Action
You are hereby summoned and required to appear and defend against the claims of the complaint filed with the court in this action, by filing with the clerk of this court an answer or other response. You are required to file your answer or other response within 35 days after the service of this summons upon you. Service of this summons shall be complete on the day of the last publication. A copy of the complaint may be obtained from the clerk of the court.

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

This is an action to quiet title of the parties, along with other relief, related in and to the real property situate in Archuleta County, Colorado, to wit: LOTS 259 and 260, CHRIS MOUNTAIN VILLAGE AT PAGOSA UNIT TWO, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF FILED FOR RECORD IN THE REAL PROPERTY RECORDS OF ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO ON JUNE 4, 1973 AT RECEPTION NO. 77868.

Dated: April 27, 2026

Published in the Pagosa Springs Sun

First Publication: _____

Last Publication: _____

s/ Jeffrey B. Cullers

Attorney for Plaintiff

Publication: The Pagosa Springs Sun

[Publication dates]

Published May 7, 14, 21, 28 and June 4, 2026, in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (300900)

District Court, Archuleta County, Colorado
Court Address: 109 Harman Park Dr., Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, 970-264-8160

David G. Mandy Investment Trust, Plaintiff

v.
National Recreational Properties of Pagosa Springs, LLC, a delinquent Colorado limited liability company; April Bergman, in her capacity as the Public Trustee of Archuleta County, Colorado; Elsa White, in her capacity as Treasurer of Archuleta County; and all unknown person who may claim an interest in the subject matter of this action, Defendants.

Case Number: 2025CV30075 Division 3

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO
TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT(S):
(1) National Recreational Properties of Pagosa Springs, LLC;

(2) All Unknown Person Who May Claim Any Interest in the Subject Matter of this Action
You are hereby summoned and required to appear and defend against the claims of the complaint filed with the court in this action, by filing with the clerk of this court an answer or other response. You are required to file your answer or other response within 35 days after the service of this summons upon you. Service of this summons shall be complete on the day of the last publication. A copy of the complaint may be obtained from the clerk of the court.

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

This is an action to quiet title of the parties, along with other relief, related in and to the real property situate in Archuleta County, Colorado, to wit: LOTS 201 and 202, CHRIS MOUNTAIN VILLAGE AT PAGOSA UNIT TWO, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF FILED FOR RECORD IN THE REAL PROPERTY RECORDS OF ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO ON JUNE 4, 1973 AT RECEPTION NO. 77868.

Dated: April 27, 2026

Published in the Pagosa Springs Sun

First Publication: _____

Last Publication: _____

s/ Jeffrey B. Cullers

Attorney for Plaintiff

Publication: The Pagosa Springs Sun

[Publication dates]

Published May 7, 14, 21, 28 and June 4, 2026, in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (300901)

District Court, Archuleta County, Colorado
Court Address: 109 Harman Park Dr., Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, 970-264-8160

David G. Mandy Investment Trust, Plaintiff

v.
National Recreational Properties of Pagosa Springs, LLC, a delinquent Colorado limited liability company; April Bergman, in her capacity as the Public Trustee of Archuleta County, Colorado; Elsa White, in her capacity as Treasurer of Archuleta County; and all unknown person who may claim an interest in the subject matter of this action, Defendants.

Case Number: 2025CV30074 Division 3

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO
TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT(S):
(1) National Recreational Properties of Pagosa Springs, LLC;

(2) All Unknown Person Who May Claim Any Interest in the Subject Matter of this Action
You are hereby summoned and required to appear and defend against the claims of the complaint filed with the court in this action, by filing with the clerk of this court an answer or other response. You are required to file your answer or other response within 35 days after the service of this summons upon you. Service of this summons shall be complete on the day of the last publication. A copy of the complaint may be obtained from the clerk of the court.

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

This is an action to quiet title of the parties, along with other relief, related in and to the real property situate in Archuleta County, Colorado, to wit: LOTS 244 and 245, CHRIS MOUNTAIN VILLAGE AT PAGOSA UNIT TWO, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF FILED FOR RECORD IN THE REAL PROPERTY RECORDS OF ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO ON JUNE 4, 1973 AT RECEPTION NO. 77868.

Dated: April 27, 2026

Published in the Pagosa Springs Sun

First Publication: _____

Last Publication: _____

s/ Jeffrey B. Cullers

Attorney for Plaintiff

Publication: The Pagosa Springs Sun

[Publication dates]

Published May 7, 14, 21, 28 and June 4, 2026, in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (300904)

District Court, Archuleta County, Colorado
Court Address: 109 Harman Park Dr., Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, 970-264-8160

David G. Mandy Investment Trust, Plaintiff

v.
National Recreational Properties of Pagosa Springs, LLC, a delinquent Colorado limited liability company; April Bergman, in her capacity as the Public Trustee of Archuleta County, Colorado; Elsa White, in her capacity as Treasurer of Archuleta County; and all unknown person who may claim an interest in the subject matter of this action, Defendants.

Case Number: 2025CV30071 Division 3

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO
TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT(S):
(1) National Recreational Properties of Pagosa Springs, LLC;

(2) All Unknown Person Who May Claim Any Interest in the Subject Matter of this Action
You are hereby summoned and required to appear and defend against the claims of the complaint filed with the court in this action, by filing with the clerk of this court an answer or other response. You are required to file your answer or other response within 35 days after the service of this summons upon you. Service of this summons shall be complete on the day of the last publication. A copy of the complaint may be obtained from the clerk of the court.

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

This is an action to quiet title of the parties, along with other relief, related in and to the real property situate in Archuleta County, Colorado, to wit: LOTS 205 and 206, CHRIS MOUNTAIN VILLAGE AT PAGOSA UNIT TWO, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF FILED FOR RECORD IN THE REAL PROPERTY RECORDS OF ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO ON JUNE 4, 1973 AT RECEPTION NO. 77868.

Dated: April 27, 2026

Published in the Pagosa Springs Sun

First Publication: _____

Last Publication: _____

s/ Jeffrey B. Cullers

Attorney for Plaintiff

Publication: The Pagosa Springs Sun

[Publication dates]

Published May 7, 14, 21, 28 and June 4, 2026, in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (300914)

DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO
Court Address: 109 Harman Park Drive
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Tel.: 970.264.8160
Plaintiff:

Teal Landing Vacation Owners Association, Inc.

v.

Defendants:

Charles H Miel, et al.

Case No.: 2025CV30088

Attorney for Plaintiff:

Christopher B. Conley (51651)

Eck, Conley & Richardson, PLLC

700 South 21st Street, Fort Smith, AR 72901

Tel. 479.242.5906

Email: ir@ecrlegal.com

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

TO THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO
TO THE FOLLOWING DEFENDANT(S) : DOLORES FAY MATZAT, MIA G JACKSON, WILLIAM T REYNOLDS, EVELYN F REYNOLDS, JAMES E CHATFIELD, THELMA E CHATFIELD, M. MARGARET MCMAINS, HOWARD MCMAINS, CARLA C HALL, MORRIS H RYAN, ANNA L RYAN, MICHAEL D POINTS, EDIE F POINTS, VALERIE MAE HALL, EDWIN LEROY BROWN, SYLVIA T WEBB, DONNA PALMER, MARY MARGARET CROW, CHARLES D RALLS, MARTHA L WEG, VANESSA SHEREE ALVAREZ, JOHN L SUMMERS, MILTON D BRACY, MARY PAULINE BRACY, PATRICK MARK CLOPTON, AMY RUTH CLOPTON, VICTORIA JENSEN, STANFORD L JENSEN, JOE A GOMEZ, LOUJANN GOMEZ, MARIA CARROLL, JAMES CARROLL

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

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

This is an *in rem* action of judicial foreclosure on your timeshare interest(s) located at Teal Landing Condominiums for failure to pay assessments to Teal Landing Vacation Owners Association, Inc.
Published in the *Pagosa Springs Sun*
First Publication: April 23, 2026
Last Publication: May 21, 2026
s/ Christopher B. Conley
Christopher B. Conley
Published April 23, 30 and May 7, 14, 21, 2026 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (298663)

DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, STATE OF COLORADO

CIVIL ACTION NO. 2025CV030032 DIVISION NO. 3
INITIAL COMBINED NOTICE OF SHERIFFS' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND RIGHT TO CURE AND REDEEM

Plaintiff, Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association v.

Defendants, ANGELA N. GERASOPOULUS et al
Regarding: Condominium Unit 26F, in Condominium Building No. 28, Supplement No. 1 to the Pinon Condominiums, according to the Condominium Map filed for record May 29, 1981, at Reception No. 104685, and as defined and described in Condominium Declaration for Pinon Condominiums recorded March 30, 1981, in Book 178 Page 830, and Supplemental Condominium Declaration No. 1 recorded May 29, 1981 in Book 186, Page 457, and Amended Declaration recorded January 20, 1984, in Book 207, Page 180. LESS AND EXCEPT that portion of the common area known as Valley View Road, as shown on the Replat of Supplement No 1 Pinon Condominiums Map filed January 7, 1982, at Reception No. 108953, all in the office of the Clerk and Recorder, Archuleta County, Colorado

Also known as: 40 Valley View Dr., #3150, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS, Please take notice:

You and each of you are hereby notified that a Sheriff's Sale of the referenced property is to be conducted by the Civil Division of the Sheriff's Office of Archuleta County, Colorado at 9 a.m., on the 24th day of June 2026, at 85 Harman Park Dr., Pagosa Springs CO 81147; phone number 970-264-8430. At which sale, the above-described real property and improvements thereon will be sold to the highest bidder. Plaintiff makes no warranty relating to title, possession, or quiet enjoyment in and to said real property in connection

with this sale.

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

Further, for the purpose of paying off, curing default or redemption, as provided by statute, intent must be directed to or conducted at the above address of the Civil Division of the Sheriff's Department of Archuleta County, Colorado.
PLEASE NOTE THAT THE LIEN BEING FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN ON THE SUBJECT PROPERTY.

First Publication: 4/30/2026

Last Publication: 5/28/2026

Published In: Pagosa Sun

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO CURE AND RIGHT TO REDEEM

RE: Sheriff's Sale of Real Property pursuant to Order and Decree of Foreclosure and C.R.S. 38-38.

101 et seq.

This is to advise you that a Sheriff sale proceeding has been commenced through the office of the undersigned Sheriff pursuant to a Court Order and Decree dated January 9, 2026, and C.R.S. 38-38-101 et seq., by Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association, the current holder of a lien recorded on July 22, 2024 at Rec. No. 22402989, in the records of the Clerk and Recorder of the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado. The judicial foreclosure is based on a default under the Declaration of Restrictions Pagosa, recorded on June 24, 1970 at Reception No. 73297 in the records of the Clerk and Recorder of the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado. The Declaration and notices, as recorded, establish a lien for the benefit of Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association, WHICH LIEN BEING FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN ON THE SUBJECT PROPERTY AND IMPROVEMENTS.

You may have an interest in the real property being affected, or have certain rights or suffer certain liabilities or loss of your interest in the subject property as a result of said foreclosure. You may have the right to redeem the real property or you may have the right to cure a default under the instrument being foreclosed. Any Notice of Intent to Cure must be filed no later than fifteen (15) calendar days prior to the date of the foreclosure sale.

A notice of intent to cure filed pursuant to section 38-38-104 shall be filed with the clerk at least fifteen (15) calendar days prior to the first scheduled sale date or any date to which the sale is continued. If the sale date is continued to a later date, the deadline to file a notice of intent to cure by those parties entitled to cure may also be extended.

A notice of intent to redeem filed pursuant to sections 38-38-302 shall be filed with the officer no later than eight (8) business days after the sale.

In this regard, you may desire and are advised to consult with your own private attorney.

IF THE BORROWER BELIEVES THAT A LENDER OR SERVICER HAS VIOLATED THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT IN SECTION 38-38-103.1 OR THE PROHIBITION ON DUAL TRACKING IN SECTION 38-38-103.2, THE BORROWER MAY FILE A COMPLAINT WITH THE COLORADO ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE FEDERAL CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU (CFPB), OR BOTH. THE FILING OF A COMPLAINT WILL NOT STOP THE FORECLOSURE PROCESS.

Colorado Attorney General
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Denver, Colorado 80203
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www.coloradoattorneygeneral.gov
Federal Consumer Financial Protection Bureau
P.O. Box 4503
Iowa City, Iowa 52244
(855) 411-2372
www.consumerfinance.gov

Further you are advised that the parties liable thereon, the owner of the property described above, or those with an interest in the subject property, may take appropriate and timely action under Colorado statutes, certain sections of which are attached hereto.

In order to be entitled to take advantage of any rights provided for under Colorado law, you must strictly comply and adhere to the provisions of the law. Further, you are advised that the attached Colorado statutes merely set forth the applicable portions of Colorado statutory law relating to curative and redemption rights, therefore, you should read and review all the applicable statutes and laws in order to determine the requisite procedures and provisions which control your rights in the subject property.

DATED in Colorado this 8th day of March 2026.

Sheriff of Archuleta County, Colorado
By: /s/ Mike LeRoux
Sheriff Mike LeRoux

ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF:
ORTEN CAVANAGH HOLMES & HUNT, LLC
1445 Market Street, Suite 350
Denver, CO 80202
Statutes attached: §§38-37-108, 38-38-103, 38-38-104, 38-38-301, 38-38-304, 38-38-305, 38-38-305.5 and 38-38-306, C.R.S., as amended.
Published April 30, May 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2026, in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (299936)

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Public Notices

Legal Notice of Public Hearing for: 1st St. Lift Station, Lift Station Overflow Vaults, and Category 4 and 5 Sanitary Sewer Pipe Replacement –Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District, Pagosa Springs, Colorado.

The meeting will take place Wednesday June 17th, 2026 at 5:30 pm. The location will be at 451 Hot Springs Blvd. at the Ross Aragon Community Center – South Conference Room. To join remotely, please use the following link: meet.google.com/leiw-rhvs-ube

The meeting will discuss the Project Needs Assessment (PNA) that is a report detailing the project as proposed, including project necessity, alternatives, and components. The PNA also describes how the project is being funded. The reports are being submitted to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) to qualify Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District for a State Revolving Fund Loan. Copies of the PNA and EA (if applicable) are available for public review prior to the Public Hearing at the following location: mypagosa.org/1st-st-lift-station-lift-station-overflow-vaults-and-category-4-and-5-sanitary-sewer-pipe-replacement

Any questions prior to the public hearing can be directed to Karl Johnson, Sanitation Capital Projects, 970-264-4151 x262 or email at kjohnson@pagosasprings.co.gov. Public comments will also be accepted at the public hearing.
Published May 14, 2026, in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (301916)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION FOR TREASURER'S DEED
2026-001
R015797

To all current occupants, owners, parties of interest, and to all others listed on the mailing list on file at the Treasurer's Office:

You are hereby notified that on March 25, 2026, the Treasurer of Archuleta County, Colorado, sold a tax lien on the following property at public sale to DEBRA W CORKISH ("PROPERTY OWNER").

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Subdivision: ASPEN SPRINGS SUB 6 Lot: 78 AS 6 Sec: 16 Twn: 34U Rng: 3W

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 163 ALLISON PLACE, PAGOSA SPRINGS, CO, 81147

A Certificate of purchase was issued to the COP HOLDER for unpaid property taxes for the year 2021-2024. The property was assessed in the name of JAMES PARKER ("PROPERTY OWNER").

On March 25, 2026, DEBRA W CORKISH ("LAWFUL HOLDER"), the current certificate holder, filed an Application for a Public Auction of a Certificate of Option for Treasurer's Deed (COO), under C.R.S. 39-11.5-101.

NOTICE: The property will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder at 10 am on Wednesday, September 2, 2026. The sale will include the real estate and all interests held by the Lawful Holder, along with applicable fees, costs, and legal charges.

First Publication: 4/30/2026

Last Publication: 5/14/2026

Published in: PAGOSA SPRINGS SLIN

You may track the Public Auction date on the Treasurer's website:

The property may be redeemed at any time before the actual public auction.
Dated: March 31, 2026
/s/ELSA P. WHITE

ELSA P. WHITE, TREASURER of Archuleta County, Colorado
Published April 30, May 7, and 14, 2026, in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (296623)

PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXPAYER REMEDIES

NAME AND ADDRESS OF CONTACT:
Sherri Boyce - Hinsdale County Assessor
TELEPHONE NUMBER: 970-944-2225 ext. 140

From June 15 to June 30,

Vesicular stomatitis virus confirmed in Montezuma County equine

Colorado Department of Agriculture

The Colorado State Veterinarian's Office has confirmed a detection of vesicular stomatitis virus (VSV) in a horse in Montezuma County, with two additional horses showing clinical signs.

The case was confirmed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA's) National Veterinary Services Laboratories on May 7, and the premises with the infected horse has been placed under quarantine. The virus was most likely spread by biting insects, such as flies or midges.

"Equine and livestock owners should monitor their animals for blisters and report any suspected cases to their veterinarian, who will then coordinate with our office for testing and follow-up," said Dr. Maggie Baldwin, Colorado state veterinarian. "Having an index case in Colorado also may impact interstate and international movement of equine and livestock. Please contact your veterinarian to ensure you meet the most up-to-date movement requirements."

The Colorado Department of Agriculture is working closely with the USDA, the Colorado State University Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment to respond to this detection and protect the health of both people and animals.

The Montezuma County premises is being monitored and will remain under state quarantine until at least 14 days from the onset of lesions in the last affected animal on the premises.

While the current risk to Colorado's equine and livestock population is low, the state veterinarian is advising owners to be on the lookout for any signs of the disease.

One way owners can protect their animals from the virus is by using insect control programs and avoid-

ing contact with animals from other farms. Any new horses or livestock should be quarantined before being introduced to the herd.

Owners who notice any signs of disease should separate sick animals and report it immediately to their veterinarian. Owners should wear proper protective equipment such as gloves any time they are working with sick animals, and should wash and disinfect their hands and boots after contact.

While it is rare, VSV can be transmitted to people and can cause a flu-like illness and rarely blister-like sores. Currently, there are no human cases, and the risk to the general public is very low.

More information about VSV can be found at ag.colorado.gov/VSV.

Tips for livestock owners

- Strict fly control is an important factor to inhibit the transmission of the disease.

- Avoid transferring feeding equipment, cleaning tools or health care equipment from other herds.

- When moving livestock interstate, Colorado veterinarians and livestock owners should contact the animal health officials in the destination state to ensure all import requirements are met.

- Colorado fairs, livestock exhibitions and rodeos may institute new entry requirements based on the extent and severity of the current VSV outbreak. Certificates of veterinary inspection (CVIs or health certificates) issued within two to five days prior to an event can be beneficial in reducing risks.

Important information for veterinarians

- Any vesicular disease of livestock is reportable to the State Veterinarian's Office in Colorado. To report, call (303) 869-9130. After hours, the

voice message will indicate which staff veterinarian is on call. The team will provide guidance to veterinarians on appropriate sample collection and submission. Please see the updated Veterinarian Submission Guidance document on our website.

- All suspected VSV in non-equine cases (cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, camels) must be investigated by state or federal animal health officials.

Information for shows and fairs

The Colorado State Veterinarian's Office recommends that livestock event organizers consider extra precautionary measures for both participants and the event venue to minimize the risk of transmission of VSV.

See the Guidelines for Fairs, Shows, Exhibitions for more information.

About VSV

This viral disease primarily affects horses and cattle, and occasionally swine, sheep, goats, llamas and alpacas.

The disease can be transmitted by insects such as black flies, sand flies and biting midges, or through direct contact with infected animals or contaminated objects.

The incubation period ranges from two to eight days. Clinical signs include blister-like sores on the mouths and feet of infected animals and appear similar to foot and mouth disease. Often excessive salivation is the first sign of disease, along with a reluctance to eat or drink. Lameness and weight loss may follow. There are no USDA-approved vaccines for VSV.

Some species of wildlife (e.g., deer and elk) may be susceptible to VSV. If you encounter a sick or deceased wild animal or have other wildlife-related questions, please contact your local Colorado Parks and Wildlife Office.

Colorado-Wyoming partnership awarded \$45 million in federal funding for ASCEND Engine

State of Colorado

On May 7, Gov. Jared Polis and the Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT) celebrated the U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF) funding awarded to the Colorado-Wyoming Advanced Sensing and Computation for Environmental Decision-making (ASCEND) Engine, up to \$45 million over three years.

This funding will develop technologies to respond to wildfires, drought and extreme weather hazards.

This important investment builds on years of collaboration between Colorado and Wyoming to develop technologies to address urgent regional and national challenges.

"Our Colorado and Wyoming partnership turns world-class research into real-world solutions, and this award boosts that work. This funding will help better protect communities from wildfires, drought, and extreme weather while driving innovation, creating good-paying jobs, and strengthening Colorado's economy," Polis said.

"The ASCEND Engine continues to demonstrate how scientific and technological innovation addresses our nation's most pressing challenges, all the while enabling every region to hone its competitive advantage and grow its economy," said Erwin Gianchandani, NSF assistant director for technology, innovation and partnerships. "The work advanced by the NSF Engine in Colorado and Wyoming is unlocking new technologies, creating new jobs, and powering America to a more prosperous, more secure and more resilient future."

First launched through a joint Colorado-Wyoming effort and selected through a highly competitive NSF process, the ASCEND Engine develops and deploys technologies that address shared regional challenges.

With this funding, Innosphere — a Fort Collins, Colorado-based technology and science accelerator — will lead the ASCEND Engine through three flagship programs over the next three years:

- ARID (Asset Resilience through Intelligent Digital Twins): Accelerates solutions to protect power and water systems from increasing wildfire risk;
- SHIELD (Soil Health Innovation, Evaluation and Demonstration): Establishes a first-of-its-kind network of field test sites to advance next-generation agricultural measurement technologies; and
- Extreme Weather Prediction

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(launching in 2027): Will develop high-resolution weather forecasting applied to critical economic challenges such as hail and wildfire smoke.

These programs will bring together advanced sensing, computation and real-world deployment to turn breakthrough science into actionable solutions. A summary of the Strategic Plan is available for more detailed information at <https://innosphere.org/strategic-plan>.

"The ASCEND Engine is spearheading the development and commercialization of new technologies that will help Colorado find innovative solutions in areas like wildfire preparedness and response, soil health and quality, and extreme weather hazards," said Eve Lieberman, OEDIT executive director, on May 7. "This work will benefit our communities and our economy, driving economic development and job creation. We're thrilled to celebrate the federal funding announced today."

Recognizing the opportunity to

drive economic development, create jobs, and attract additional federal and private investment, the Colorado Economic Development Commission earmarked \$2 million to support the ASCEND Engine's successful NSF selection and related Colorado-based initiatives. Most recently, this funding helped launch Innosphere's Earth and Space Systems Accelerator to support startups working in advanced sensing and computation.

Additionally, an Opportunity Now grant to Innosphere, an award-winning 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, is supporting structured internships and apprenticeship programs launched through the ASCEND Engine to cultivate a new generation of advanced industry workers specially equipped to meet the demands of these emerging sectors.

The ASCEND Engine has also received financial support from the Colorado Higher Education Competitive Research Authority to support embedded data science expertise within Colorado-based research teams.

HUD Publisher's Notice



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

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

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Early Deadlines

for the issue of May 28

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Legal Advertising, Articles and Letters:
Noon, Thursday, May 21

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Tuesday, May 26, 10 a.m.

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The Pagosa Springs SUN will be closed
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The Pagosa Springs **SUN**



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Sports



TRACK

Pirates qualify 13 for state meet

By Jack Sellner
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate track and field team finished up its regular season Friday, May 8, in Pueblo, with 13 athletes advancing to the state meet in Lakewood this week.

The team wrapped up the season at the Friday Night Lights meet in Pueblo West on Friday.

Coach Connie O'Donnell only took 17 athletes to the meet.

"Friday Night Lights was a great meet," wrote O'Donnell in an email to The SUN. "There were about 30 schools there and many great performances. We work hard to put together a workout program that helps us to peak at the end of the year and it looks like things are really working out for us. It seemed like everyone was getting personal records in their events at this meet."

Colton Lucero, who missed most of the season with a hamstring injury, qualified for state in both the 100-meter dash and 200-meter dash.

The meet was just his third of the season, notes O'Donnell.

"I'm really proud of how hard he worked to rehab his hamstring and of how patient he was with his recovery," wrote O'Donnell. "I know that there are some athletes that he is looking forward to competing against at the state meet."

The boys' 4x100-meter relay broke a 21-year-old school record at the meet as well, finishing with a time of 42.78 seconds.

The boys' 4x200-meter relay team just missed qualifying for the state meet.

Lucero placed second in the boys' 100 with a time of 10.90 seconds. Johnny Baker placed 32nd with a time of 11.79 seconds, and Alex Pacheco placed 42nd with a time of 11.98

seconds.

Lucero placed eighth in the boys' 200-meter dash with a time of 22.59 seconds, Baker placed 14th with a time of 23.44 seconds, and Hudson Mazur placed 16th with a time of 23.73 seconds.

Rylan Ash placed sixth in the boys' 800-meter run with a time of two minutes, 5.49 seconds.

Ash also placed second in the boys' 1,600-meter run, logging a time of 4:37.80.

Jeremiah Jones placed sixth in the boys' 110-meter hurdles with a time of 16.82 seconds.

Jones placed ninth in the boys' 300-meter hurdles with a time of 43.40 seconds.

The Pirate boys' 4x100-meter relay team placed second with a time of 42.78 seconds.

The Pirate boys' 4x200-meter relay team placed fifth with a time of 1:32.14.

Creede Dozier won the boys' high jump with a jump of 6 feet, 4 inches, Jones placed second with a jump of 6-2 and Gage Sams placed 14th with a jump of 5-6.

Dozier also won the boy's long jump with a jump of 21-11.75. Mazur placed eighth with a jump of 20-2. Jeremiah Dean placed 22nd with a jump of 18-4.5.

Dozier placed third in the boys' triple jump with a jump of 41-9, Jones placed ninth with a jump of 39-6.5, and Milo Deitemeyer placed 11th with a jump of 39-1.25.

Emile Schneider placed third in the boys' discus with a throw of 137-7, and Aidan Vega placed 13th with a throw of 116-4.

Schneider placed 11th in the boys' shot put with a throw of 40-1.5, and Vega placed 18th with a throw of

38-6.5.

On the girls' side, Abigail Foss placed 16th in the girls' 100 with a time of 13.77 seconds. Molly Washburn placed 20th with a time of 13.83 seconds. Ahrianna Martinez placed 22nd with a time of 13.86 seconds.

Nina Wood placed sixth in the girls' 200 with a time of 27.32 seconds, Lexi Campbell placed eighth with a time of 27.57 seconds, and Foss placed 12th with a time of 27.92 seconds.

Lily DeClark placed 20th in the girls' 800-meter run with a time of 2:43.04.

DeClark placed 15th in the girls' 1,600-meter run with a time of 5:59.18.

The Lady Pirate 4x100 relay team placed seventh with a time of 51.85 seconds.

The Lady Pirate 4x200 relay team placed seventh with a time of 1:49.73.

Wood placed 19th in the girls' long jump with a jump of 14-5.5.

Malorie Morton placed second in the girls' discus with a throw of 115-1, and Liana Vega placed seventh with a throw of 100-6.

Morton also placed fourth in the girls' shot put with a throw of 32-4.

On to state

The Pirates are sending 13 athletes to the state championship meet in Lakewood this week.

The meet is being held over three days, starting today, Thursday, May 14, and finishing up on Saturday, May 16.

Lucero is headed to state in three events. He is seeded third in the boys' 100, 15th in the boys' 200 and is a part of the boys' 4x100 relay team.

Ash is headed to Lakewood for the boys' 3,200-meter run. He is seeded

12th in the event.

Jones is headed to state for three events. He is seeded 14th in the boys' 110-meter hurdles, third in the boys' high jump and 13th in the boys' triple jump.

Dozier is headed to state for four events. He is seeded 10th in the boys' high jump, ninth in the boys' long jump, sixth in the boys' triple jump and is a member of the boys' 4x100 relay team.

This is the third year in a row that Dozier has qualified for four events. This year he is the defending state champion in the boys long jump, notes O'Donnell.

Schneider is headed to state for the boys' discus and is seeded 10th in the event.

The boys' 4x100 relay team — featuring Lucero, Dozier, Johnny Baker and Hudson Mazur — is headed to state as well and is seeded second in the event.

On the girls' side, Lexi Campbell is headed to state for two events. She is seeded 12th in the girls' triple jump and is a member of the girls' 4x100 relay team.

Liana Vega is headed to state in two events. She is seeded 12th in the girls' shot put and 18th in the girls' discus.

Morton is headed to state in the girls' discus as well and is seeded seventh in the event.

The girls' 4x100 relay team — featuring Wood, Martinez, Campbell and Washburn — is headed to state and is seeded 18th in the event.

"I'm hoping that we break some more school records this weekend," wrote O'Donnell. "I think that we have a good chance of getting multiple athletes on the podium."

jsellner@ourourkemediagroup.com

BASEBALL

No. 19 Pirates to face Brush in opening round of playoffs

By Jack Sellner
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate baseball team will kick off the 3A state playoffs Saturday, May 16, in Cortez, where they will face Brush.

The action for 3A Region 3, hosted by No. 3 seed Montezuma-Cortez Panthers, also features the No. 14 Brush Beetdiggers, No. 30 Berthoud Spartans and the No. 19 Pirates.

The Pirates were originally the No. 20 seed when the brackets were released, but were then moved to No. 19.

"[I] just let them know how proud I was," said coach Jon Wells. "We still got work to do, but, I mean, their season has been a great success."

The Pirates will face the Beetdiggers in the first round of regionals on Saturday and, if they win, they'll face the winner of Montezuma-Cortez and Berthoud.

The Pirates are 13-10 on the season heading into regional action, while Brush is 13-10.

Montezuma Cortez holds a 18-5 record and Berthoud is 9-14.

In preparation for the playoffs, the team has been practicing all week with the idea that this week's prac-

tices could be the final practices of the season, emphasized Wells.

On Monday, May 11, the team worked on fielding, the coach indicated, the following day the Pirates really focused on hitting and on Wednesday the boys were set to practice baserunning and situational baseball.

Wells mentioned that he brought back a Pirates' alumni from last year's team to pitch to them at Tuesday's practice. The boys got to see some really good pitching in their live at bats because of it, noted Wells.

Thursday will be some more hit-

ting practice and some light workouts.

"We unfortunately missed [the] playoffs last year, literally by one spot," said Wells. "So, we're just happy to be back in it. And I feel as though [in] any given game, we can beat anybody."

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Education



Safe2Tell reports rise 19 percent in April as students continue speaking up about safety, mental health concerns

Colorado Attorney General's Office

A student struggling with self-harm and depression received support after a Safe2Tell report prompted a welfare check and intervention from school officials and parents.

In another report, school officials investigated and addressed harmful online behavior after a student anonymously reported a peer was using a social media account to catfish classmates into sending explicit photos.

These are just two examples of the 3,099 reports submitted to Colorado's Safe2Tell program in April, a 19 percent increase over March and another indication that students and community members continue to speak up when they see safety concerns or peers in crisis.

Key findings from April include:

- The most frequently reported concerns were school safety (18.8 percent), bullying (16.9 percent), mental health (15.5 percent) and substance use (11.9 percent).
- Duplicate reports accounted for 10.3 percent of submissions, reflecting a healthy reporting culture in which multiple individuals raised the

same concern.

- False reports remained historically low at 1.8 percent.

During the 2025-26 school year, Safe2Tell has received 25,502 reports. "More than 3,000 reports in April show that students and community members are continuing to speak up when they see warning signs or safety concerns," said Attorney General Phil Weiser. "This month's reports prompted mental health interventions, school investigations, disciplinary action, and collaboration with parents and caregivers, underscoring how anonymous reporting can help Colorado schools and families respond before situations escalate."

In one April report, a student was identified as struggling with relationship issues, self-harming behaviors, and depression. Law enforcement completed a welfare check, and the school notified the student's parents. The family is now working with the school social worker on a safety plan and has been connected with additional resources.

Another report described a student using a social media account to catfish peers into sending explicit

photos. School teams investigated, spoke with those involved, and confirmed the behavior occurred. The student's parents were notified, and disciplinary action was taken.

"Safe2Tell continues to see sustained reporting activity at historic levels," said Safe2Tell Director Stacey Scardino. "All of Safe2Tell's top 10 reporting months have occurred since spring 2024, and nearly half happened during this school year alone. That trend shows growing awareness of the program and increasing trust from students and communities across Colorado."

A full breakdown of this month's data is available in the Safe2Tell April 2026 Monthly Report at coag.gov/app/uploads/2026/05/S2T-April-Report-2026.pdf. Definitions for each reporting category can be found in the Safe2Tell Report Categorization Guide at safe2tell.org/app/uploads/2025/02/Monthly-Report-Categories-English-2025.pdf.

About Safe2Tell

Safe2Tell is Colorado's anonymous reporting system for concerns about the safety and well-being of students. Safe2Tell is not an emer-

gency response unit or a mental health counseling provider.

Instead, it serves as an information pathway for distributing anonymous reports to local law enforcement and school officials, as required by state law.

How to submit a report

Reports can be submitted 24 hours a day, seven days a week by calling (877) 542-SAFE (7233), visiting [Safe2Tell.org](https://safe2tell.org), texting "S2TCO" to 738477 or using the Safe2Tell mobile app available in the Apple App Store and Google Play.

Locals

Jessi Gurule

Jessi Gurule, of Pagosa Springs, Colo., is a candidate for graduation at Chadron State College with a Bachelor of Arts.

Chadron State College's Spring Commencement on Saturday honored 29 Associate of General Studies degree recipients, 52 candidates for master's degrees, 188 candidates for bachelor's degrees, and one specialist degree candidate. The combined ceremony begins at 10 a.m. in the Chicoine Center.

Gracie Horras

Gracie Horras, of Pagosa Springs, has been named to Southern New Hampshire University's Spring 2026 President's List. The spring terms run from January to May.

Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum GPA of 3.700 and above for the reporting term are named to the President's List. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits over each 16-week term or paired eight-week terms grouped in fall, winter/spring and summer.

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Registration open for upcoming town recreation programs

By **Matt Zaborowski**
Town of Pagosa Springs

Residents in Pagosa Springs are encouraged to take advantage of upcoming recreation opportunities through our local parks and recreation programs.

For program schedules, registration information and upcoming community activities, residents are encouraged to check the community and youth recreation calendars on the Town of Pagosa Springs Parks and Recreation website at pagosasprings.co.gov/parksandrec.

Early registration is encouraged

for all programs as space may be limited.

If you have any questions or would like to sign up, please contact the Rec Department at rec@pagosasprings.co.gov or call (970) 264-4152

Adult and coed softball registration open

Registration for adult and coed softball leagues is currently open through June 8.

The softball league season will run from June 15 through Aug. 6.

Community members interested in participating can contact the Parks and Recreation Department or stop

by the Ross Aragon Community Center to sign up.

Fall youth program registration to open June 1

Registration for fall youth recreation programs opens June 1.

This season's youth offerings include soccer, basketball, arts and crafts, and youth fitness programs designed to keep children active, creative and engaged throughout the fall months.

Programs will be available for a variety of age groups and skill levels, providing opportunities for youth to stay active, build confidence and have fun.

Distracted driving an issue for all ages of drivers

Colorado State Patrol

With the rise and adoption of technology made available by smartphones and built-in dashboard computers, there are many ways people can get distracted behind the wheel.

Whether the technology is designed for safety or for our convenience, one thing is certain: the use of technology continues to increase for motorists.

"With each new generation of vehicle, we have made distracted driving way too easy," stated Col. Matthew C. Packard, chief of the Colorado State Patrol (CSP). "There is a public perception that teens are the 'guiltiest' when it comes to distracted driving behaviors involving technology; however, by looking at trends of

crashes the Patrol has investigated over the last few years, troopers know that the problem isn't just one generation — it's everyone."

Looking at CSP citation data over a five-year period (2021-2025), drivers in their 20s, 30s and 40s have the highest rates of hands-free violations.

Whether it's the stressors of managing busy lives with work, growing families and social commitments, or just the increased adoption of technology with each generation, a large percentage of drivers struggle to remove technology distractions.

Seconds matter

"Being a distracted driver crosses generational lines," explained Packard. "Our newest drivers appear to be the most knowledgeable about the Hands-Free law and the most compli-

ant. But these drivers are at risk for temptation as they gain experience. So, set a good example."

Drivers can use their phones' "Do Not Disturb" feature or place their phones physically out of reach in the glove box. There are also hands-free devices.

In addition, drivers should set their navigation and music preferences before the trip begins while eliminating drinking, eating or smoking behind the wheel.

CSP is focused on curbing dangerous, avoidable driving behaviors during Distracted Driving Awareness Month and the 100 Deadliest Days of Summer by sharing data and tips to encourage all Colorado drivers to focus on one task: driving.

Colorado's Hands Free law went into effect on Jan. 1, 2025.

YOUR CO-OP YOUR VOTE

It's not too late! Vote in advance by May 19, or in-person at the Annual Meeting on May 20.

Learn more:
lpea.coop/elections

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You are not alone. Text 988 for help.

Fire Season Preparedness Starts with Staying Informed

As our region moves into fire season and dry season, residents are encouraged to prepare now for possible wildfire conditions, evacuations, and power outages.

A simple first step is signing up for both Town and County alerts. The Town of Pagosa Springs has a new CivicPlus alert system, and residents must resubscribe to continue receiving Town updates, including public meetings, Town emergencies, snow routes, inclement weather, road closures, and other Town notices.

Residents should also sign up for Archuleta County's Nixle alerts, which provide emergency alerts and public safety notifications, including wildfire and evacuation information. Signing up for both systems helps ensure you receive timely updates from the right agency.

To sign up for Town alerts, visit pagosasprings.co.gov and go to the Alerts & Notifications page, or text PagosaSprings to 38276.

To sign up for County alerts, visit local.nixle.com/register.

Residents are also encouraged to make an evacuation plan, prepare a "go bag" or 72-hour kit, keep backup batteries and chargers on hand, and ensure they have key documents, non-perishable food, water, medications, flashlights, a battery-powered AM/FM radio, and pet supplies ready. Preparing these items in advance helps ensure you can evacuate quickly and safely if needed.

Wildfire Resiliency Code Takes Effect July 1

The Town of Pagosa Springs will implement new building requirements under the Colorado Wildfire Resiliency Code (CWRC) beginning July 1, 2026. The updated standards are designed to reduce wildfire risk and improve the safety of homes and structures in the community.

The code applies to new construction, additions over 500 square feet, and certain exterior upgrades such as roof or siding replacements. Key requirements include fire-rated roofing, ignition-resistant exterior materials, ember-resistant venting, and protected eaves and soffits.

Additional measures may include noncombustible gutters, tempered glass windows, and solid-core doors.

Residents and contractors are encouraged to review the new requirements and check their property's wildfire risk. For more information, contact the Town's Building Division at 970-585-8466.

For more information on all of the above and more, visit pagosasprings.co.gov.

Upcoming Meetings

Town Council Regular Meeting Tuesday, May 19, 2026, at 5 p.m. Town Hall Council Chambers: 551 Hot Springs Blvd.

Town Council Regular Meeting Tuesday, June 2, 2026, at 5 p.m. Town Hall Council Chambers: 551 Hot Springs Blvd.

Public Hearing: Sewer Infrastructure Project Wednesday, June 17, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. Ross Aragon Community Center, South Conference Room: 451 Hot Springs Blvd.

pagosasprings.co.gov
View the town's monthly e-newsletter online at **pagosasprings.co.gov/newsletter**

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ARTS & LIFE



May 14, 2026



Photo courtesy Pagosa Springs High School

The Americana Project class from Pagosa Springs High School will be performing a free concert in the Tenynson Sculpture Park and Gardens on Thursday, May 21, at 6 p.m. Bring your chairs, blankets, etc. In case of inclement weather, the concert will be held in the high school auditorium.

Second Chance Prom: Community needed now more than ever to support Pagosa Community Initiative

By Carrie Blue-White
Pagosa Community Initiative

With just days until the Pagosa Community Initiative’s (PCI’s) fourth annual Second Chance Prom on May 16 at 7 p.m., the clock is ticking for our community to rally behind a critical \$45,000 fundraising goal.

As more families need help, PCI — Archuleta County’s trusted family resource center — urgently needs your support to sustain free after-school programs, mental health therapy, summer camp scholarships, parent education and emergency family aid.

This Hollywood-themed extravaganza at the Ross Aragon Community Center (451 Hot Springs Blvd.) invites everyone

21 and older to dust off their finest attire for a night of dancing, celebration and giving back.

“Prom isn’t just a party — it’s the lifeline funding our youth initiatives and family support in a time of cutbacks,” said PCI board chair Carrie Blue-White. “Local generosity is our safety net now more than ever.”

Crown the evening’s stars by voting for prom queen and king among these beloved local couples: Kevin and Sunshine Blue, Kim and Allen Domingo, Kevin and Julia Wood, Carli and Adam Luhrs, and Kari and Scott Burkett.

Voting and silent auction bidding doesn’t require a ticket and can be done now at www.givebutter.com/PCIProm2026.

■ See Prom on next page

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: Jackson Mountain Ramblers, 6 p.m.

Saturday
Coyote Moon Lounge: Rock ‘n’ Rebels, 7 p.m.

Sunday
Coyote Moon Lounge: Chris Cody Meacham, 5 p.m.

Monday
Coyote Moon Lounge: Taryn, 5 p.m.



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Friends and Neighbors in Need to hold fundraiser for family advocacy initiative

Friends and Neighbors in Need

When one thinks of Jesus, a first image might be of a man who is smiling, carrying a small lamb on his shoulders. For those coming from a shepherd tradition, it's obviously an image of pride. And, of course, another image is of a man who gave everything for us, on a cross.

A sculpture titled "Homeless Jesus" by Timothy P. Schmalz in San Antonio Texas, not on any major crossroads nor advertised in any of the many visitor brochures, is a complete surprise to anyone who stumbles across it.

It depicts Jesus as a person sleeping under a blanket on a park bench.

Friends and Neighbors in Need (FaNiN) is a new nonprofit in our community addressing the emergency needs of our most vulnerable.

The faith-based communities of the Community United Methodist Church, St. Patrick's Episcopal Church and the Pagosa Catholic Community are stepping into this space.

In that context, the words on the "Homeless Jesus" plaque: "In truth I tell you, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me" Matthew 25:40, draw one to sit on the bench and without effort, begin to wonder, "Who is Under that blanket?"

The St. Vincent de Paul Society has been looking under the blanket for over 200 years, and in doing so provide guidance to us. We receive a weekly thought for contemplation, and in this week, the question is not "Would you like to help?" but rather "Would you like to meet Jesus?"

FaNiN, with its newest initiative of family advocacy, would be honored to provide an introduction.

FaNiN has looked under the blanket and have found a new need, beyond emergency services. Advocacy by no means is easy, but even the smallest effort makes a difference.

The group supporting family advocacy will be providing brunch for the purpose of raising funds for family advocacy starting at 10 a.m., after the 9 a.m. Mass on Sunday, May 17, at the Pope John Paul II Catholic Church Narthex at 353 S. Pagosa Blvd. Brunch will also be available at the Narthex

Prom

■ continued from previous page

Our silent auction features unique local items up for bids online. Whether you attend or not, every ticket, vote, donation or bid directly fuels PCI's life-changing work.

Secure your spot, donate or jump into the auction at www.givebutter.com/PCIProm2026.

Contact Executive Director Rebecca Tenpenny at director@pagosacom-munityinitiative.org or (970) 585-6461 to volunteer, sponsor or learn more.

Time is running out; let's light up Pagosa and secure \$45,000 for our families.

from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., after the 11:15 a.m. Mass.

One might think of this as "help," but your effort is enabling this group to look under the blanket. And, while you may not be ready for frontline advocacy, you are in fact making a difference.

Come by to enjoy some great food and know you are enabling advocacy and being introduced.



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Photo courtesy Seeds of Learning

The identities of the contestants in Seeds of Learning’s is new community fundraiser, Hometown Voices and Nashville Stories, have been revealed. The event is set to take the stage on Aug. 24 at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts.

Seeds of Learning to debut new fundraiser: Hometown Voices and Nashville Stories

Seeds of Learning

Seeds of Learning is excited to announce an all-new community fundraiser, Hometown Voices and Nashville Stories, coming to the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts on Aug. 24.

After years of community support for Dancing with the Pagosa Stars, this new event promises to be an unforgettable evening of entertainment, storytelling and hometown talent.

Seeds of Learning is excited to officially reveal the hometown contestants participating in this year’s Hometown Voices and Nashville Stories competition: Shellie Dolan, Dawn Siggett, Stetson Atkinson, Cia Cherryholmes, Leela Simpson, Darcy DeGuise, Annita Bens and Wim Bens.

The local contestants, ranging from soloists to duets, will perform live on stage while competing for both Judges’ Choice and People’s Choice awards, with community votes and feedback from the Nashville songwriter judges helping to determine the winners. The combination of hometown talent and Nashville storytelling will create a one-of-a-kind evening for Pagosa Springs.

The event will also feature performances and behind-the-scenes stories from acclaimed Nashville Hall of Fame and award-winning singer/songwriters Jeffrey Steele, Wendell Mobley, Danny Myrick and Megan Linville.

Collectively, these artists have written chart-topping songs recorded by some of country music’s biggest names, including Tim McGraw, Kenny Chesney, Rascal Flatts, Jason Aldean and Montgomery Gentry.

Proceeds from Hometown Voices and Nashville Stories will directly support Seeds of Learning’s high-quality, NAEYC-accredited early learning program and its mission to provide exceptional early childhood education opportunities for local children and families.

Community members are encouraged to save the date for Pagosa Springs’ newest “can’t-miss” event.

For additional details regarding tickets, voting, sponsorship opportunities and more, visit growingseeds.org/hvns.

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May 21st, 2026

DINNER: 5pm catered by Cruzin’ Vittles
ENTERTAINMENT: 5pm by Bobbi and Mike Leonard
MEETING: 6pm

- ◆ Introduction by Ray Lattin, President of Archuleta County Farm Bureau
- ◆ Presentation by Craig Dollar, Colorado Water Commissioner Division 7
- ◆ Presentation by Tim Haarmann, Upper San Juan Water Enhancement Partnership
- ◆ Presentation by Nickoli Kallman, Colorado Parks and Wildlife
- ◆ With possibility of guest speakers

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:
Carlyle Currier, President of Colorado Farm Bureau
20 years on Inter Basin Compact

RSVP by May 20th to
[Cindi Galabota: cindi.galabota@coloradostate.edu](mailto:cindi.galabota@coloradostate.edu)
OR
Stop by our office

Community Band to present annual spring concert Saturday

By Michelle Chapman
Pagosa Springs Instrumental Music Society

The Pagosa Springs Instrumental Music Society (PSIMS) Community Band is happy to entertain you with our annual spring concert.

Join us in the Pagosa Springs High School auditorium on Saturday, May 16, at 7 p.m. for a celebration of American, and especially Colorado, composers in honor of our long history as a country and a state.

Our program was selected by our indomitable conductors, Leo Baughman and Malinda Burnett. Though they have been putting on musicals and concerts with the high school and middle school for the last two months, they are up for one more with us.

Pagosa Springs is blessed with musical talent. Be sure to come and appreciate us.

Our Colorado composers are Kirk Vogel and Lorrie Baum.

Vogel taught band, choir and jazz band in Palisade, Bayfield and now in Greeley, Colo. He was inducted into the Colorado Music Educators Hall of Fame in 2020. We are performing his compositions “In My Garden” and “Sonoran Sunrise.”

Baum is a trombonist who received her music training and degrees from University of Colorado — Boulder and Northern Colorado University. She has taught band and orchestra in Denver Public Schools for more than 30 years, composing beautiful music for us along the way. We will play her “La Mariposa” dance tune.

Healthy Archuleta working to expand community health workers workforce, strengthen rural care

Healthy Archuleta

In rural communities, access to health care can sometimes depend on more than hospitals or clinics. Trusted community members often play a vital role in helping people navigate services, access resources and connect with the care they need.

These individuals are known as community health workers (CHWs).

CHWs are trained members of the community who help bridge the gap between health care providers and residents. They may assist people with understanding health information, connecting to services, accessing insurance coverage or navigating complex health care systems.

In Archuleta County, Healthy Archuleta has been working with regional partners to help expand the CHW workforce as part of efforts to

We selected W. Francis McBeth, hailing from Ropesville, Texas, to celebrate our neighbors to the south-east.

He earned his music education degree from Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene, Texas, and then went on to conduct for the Arkansas State Band (where future President Bill Clinton played alto sax) and Arkansas Symphony Orchestra. He passed away in 2012 at the age of 78. We will perform his piece “Air and Dance.” I must say, as a newer clarinet player, this one is a workout. Perhaps we should clear the decks for a dance floor.

Our program is rounded out with compositions from Aron Copeland, Percy Aldridge Granger, Jerry Brubaker and Samuel R. Hazo, all from back east, but they are darn good.

PSIMS is a 501(c)(3) organization with the mission to bring music into the lives of the people of Pagosa Springs.

Our motto is “Music for Life.” Our members are your neighbors who still love to play music. Maybe you hear them practicing on the wind? We welcome high school and brave middle school band students to join us. You can meet them at the concert.

Music enriches the lives of the audience as well as the performers. We support music education in the community by welcoming all brave souls who have an instrument they “used” to play or the desire to pick up a new one.

If you don’t have an instrument, contact us at pagoaspringsIMS@gmail.com and we may be able to

hook you up with one to get started with.

Our performances are always free, and we love to provide them for you. We gratefully accept donations at our concerts, through Colorado Gives Day (look up PSIMS) and through annual sponsorships.

Donations go toward operating expenses, music purchases, scholarships for our high school graduates continuing in music and strengthening music education in Pagosa Springs. This year we are awarding two \$1,000 scholarships to local students and we supported the high school music department with a \$1,000 grant for instrument maintenance and support.

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Photo courtesy Rise Above Violence
Pagosa Springs High School students go on a peer-led awareness walk on May 7. Students walked together in solidarity to show support for mental health awareness.

Youth Rise ambassadors lead way in mental health awareness at Pagosa Springs High School

By Kristen Albers
Rise Above Violence

In an effort to promote understanding, compassion and open conversations surrounding mental health, Youth Rise ambassadors at the high school are taking action during the month of May, which is Mental Health Awareness Month, through a series of peer-led initiatives designed to support and uplift their classmates, including raising awareness about how experiences like domestic violence and sexual assault can impact mental health.

Thursday, May 7, was dedicated to destigmatizing mental illness and celebrating the resilience of those living with mental health conditions. The activities aimed at reminding students that mental health matters and that no one has to struggle alone.

Among the most visible events was a peer-led awareness walk where students walked together in solidarity to show support for mental health awareness.

Organizers reported the event created a sense of unity and gave students an opportunity to connect with one another in a positive and encouraging environment while emphasizing the proven link between physical activity and psychological well-being, especially those coping with trauma.

One Youth Rise member stated,

“Mental health awareness is important because it reminds us that there’s more to it than just physical health. We need to take care of ourselves, and that means emotionally and mentally, too. We want students to know they are supported and that it’s OK to talk about mental health.”

Students and staff participated in a “Wear Green Day,” encouraging everyone across campus to dress in green — the nationally recognized color for mental health awareness. The commons filled with green shirts, ribbons and stickers as students demonstrated their support for classmates, peers and loved ones facing mental health challenges, including those impacted by violence or abuse.

In addition to the awareness events, Youth Rise members distributed goodie bags containing mental health resources and interactive wellness activities. The bags included stress-relief tools; positive affirmation cards; journals; mindfulness exercises; and activities designed to build resilience, regulate emotions, reduce stress, encourage self-care and improve overall well-being.

Youth Rise organizers hope the events will inspire students to continue checking in on one another and seeking help when needed.

By combining education, outreach

■ **See Awareness on next page**



Hill Top Cemetery Spring Clean-Up

May 14 – May 29, 2026

The spring cemetery clean-up is scheduled for May 14th through May 29th. Town staff will be at the cemetery raking pine needles, removing broken, spent, and faded decorations from plots, mowing, and weed-trimming.

The Town welcomes all groups or individuals who wish to help with the spring clean-up efforts. Place your cemetery trash and debris at the nearest roadside ditch for pickup. Trash bags are available at the Town’s Maintenance Facility at 550 Pirate Drive.



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Archuleta County Commissioner
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Together, we can continue working toward a stronger future for our county. Thank you for your support!

☆Paid for by Gilbert & Travis Romero☆



If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out
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Don't miss Archuleta County's inaugural Bioblitz

By Cindi Galabota
PREVIEW Columnist

Are you looking for a fun day of hands-on exploration in nature? Do you want to discover the incredible biodiversity found right here in Pagosa Country? Would you like to work directly with community experts to learn about our local ecosystem?

If you said yes to any of these questions, then the inaugural Archuleta County Bioblitz on June 20 is just for you.

A bioblitz is a fun and relaxed community science event where experts, community members and volunteers work together to document and record the biodiversity of an area.

This year, participants will explore the natural areas along the San Juan Riverwalk and Reservoir Hill while collecting valuable ecological information. This is a fantastic opportunity to connect with nature and appreciate the vibrant life that thrives right here in Archuleta County.

Awareness

■ continued from previous page
and peer support, the group aims to make mental health conversations more normal and accessible throughout the school community, while also creating space for conversations about

Extension Viewpoints

This project allows participants to connect directly with the ecosystem while contributing valuable data for scientific research. The information collected helps scientists track changes in biodiversity, monitor trends in local habitats, and identify newly arrived or rare species. Your contributions will provide critical insights into the health and diversity of this natural area.

Our Bioblitz is a family-friendly event and no experience is necessary. Participants must be 10 years or older, and youth under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

While this is not a strenuous project, volunteers should be prepared for

walking on uneven terrain, through high grass, past thorny plants and in possibly muddy conditions.

The cost is \$25 per adult and \$10 per student/child and includes dinner, a T-shirt and a fun day of learning. Register by June 5 to receive a T-shirt.

To learn more and to register, visit <https://secure.rec1.com/CO/pagosa-springs-co/catalog?filter=c2VhcmNoPTQyNjMyMzY=> or email Cindi Galabota at cindi.galabota@colostate.edu.

Learn to can dandelion jelly

Learn all the latest food safety preservation practices on May 15 at 5:30 p.m. at the CSU Extension office. The cost is \$25 per person/date for one jar of jelly. Call (970) 264-5931 to register today.

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To learn more, contact Tonya Steadmon at tsteadmon@archuleta-county.gov or (970) 264-5931.

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Colorado Proud Recipe of the Month: Mexican Red Chile Beef Stew

Colorado Department of Agriculture

As we welcome the vibrant energy of May, the Colorado Proud recipe of the month turns its spotlight to a dish that is as rich in history as it is in flavor: Mexican Red Chile Beef Stew.

While often known by its traditional name, Chile Colorado, this dish finds a perfect home in the Centennial State, where our world-class beef and legendary chiles create a culinary match made in high-altitude heaven.

Colorado’s agricultural identity is rooted deep in the ranching industry. When you choose Colorado beef for this month’s stew, you aren’t just buying an ingredient, you’re supporting a legacy. Colorado is a powerhouse in the American cattle industry, consistently ranking as one of the top states for beef production in the U.S. In 2026, our state continues to support an inventory of over 2.5 million head of cattle.

The beef industry is the largest sector of Colorado’s agricultural economy, contributing billions of dollars annually and supporting thousands of rural jobs. Beef is Colorado’s largest agricultural export and the largest export overall.

From the grasslands of the Eastern Plains to the high-mountain pastures, Colorado’s diverse geography

allows for various raising methods — from grain-fed to grass-finished — all resulting in the premium marbling and flavor required for a slow-simmering stew.

Visit ColoradoProud.com for more recipes.

Mexican Red Chile Beef Stew

Shared by Cooking Con Claudia
Yield: 8-10 servings
Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 2 hours

Ingredients

- 3 pounds chuck roast
- 4 teaspoons salt
- 1 tablespoon black pepper
- 4 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 10 dried red chile pods
- 1/4 onion, diced
- 3 garlic cloves
- 1 tablespoon beef bouillon
- 2 teaspoons ground cumin
- 2 1/2 teaspoons oregano
- 4 cups water
- 2 bay leaves
- Cooked rice, for serving
- Make it Colorado:

- Colorado does beef really well.

Finding local beef can be really easy. Head over to ColoradoProud.com to search for a producer or store near you.

- Colorado has lots of onion

growers.

- Garlic is usually harvested in Colorado in July/August.

Directions

Prepare the beef: Cut the chuck roast into bite-sized cubes. Season with salt and pepper, then coat with flour.

Brown the meat: In a large pot or Dutch oven, sear the beef in batches until browned on all sides.

Prepare chiles: Remove stems and seeds from the chile pods. Toast them lightly in a pan, then soak in hot water until softened.

Blend sauce: Blend the softened chiles with onion, garlic, beef bouillon, cumin, oregano and some of the soaking water (or fresh water) until smooth.

Simmer: Pour the sauce over the browned beef. Add the 4 cups of water and bay leaves.

Cook: Cover and simmer on low heat for about 2 hours or until the beef is fork-tender.

Finish: Skim any excess oil from the top before serving.

Serve with rice, beans, or in burritos.

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End of Life Education to again hear about natural funerals

By Joan Mieritz
End of Life Education

End of Life Education is winding down for the spring, but making plans for September.

On Thursday, May 21, we are having a speaker who we’ve had in the past, but because new techniques are being developed in the area of natural funerals, she has a lot to share.

It will be at 1 p.m. at the Community United Methodist Church on Lewis Street. Enter from the parking lot.

Last year, Karis Meskimen presented the new ideas of green burials, natural burials, human composting and water cremation.

Many of the newest ideas were developed in other states and then were first presented in Denver and/or suburbs.

Meskimen did a great job of sharing new methods of handling bodies that are much better for the environment and more useful than past methods. I know that when she spoke last year many people were interested in learning more, especially about water cremation.

We hope to see you at these events for an important learning experience and something that you will find to be most helpful.

We almost always realize that we are more capable and stronger than we ever thought we were. We will be learning a great deal at each of these programs and will become better, stronger and more complete people.

A recent talk by an assistant coroner, Danny Gonzalas, was one of the best we’ve had. He indicated he feels that there is so much on this topic that needs better education. He has been at many homes doing his job and has seen what relatives and friends are doing at such a difficult time to handle what all needs to be done.

In the fall we are going to come up with a system for the entire county to use so that people can do a better job for their loved one. We will start End of Life programs with Gonzalas’ help at the end of September and have the most productive time we’ve had.

I hope to see many people who want the same quality for the end of their lives as they have lived their entire lives.

We did not have the number of people I hoped for at the presentation for studying the Colorado end-of-life options. If you have questions, please call (303) 995-2888 and leave a message with your name, phone number and questions. Someone will contact you to help.

PSMC Welcomes



Emily Barber, FNP-C

PSMC is proud to announce that Emily Barber, FNP-C is joining the Primary Care Family Medicine clinic team and is accepting appointments.

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Healthy Archuleta working to help strengthen connection and well-being in Archuleta County

Healthy Archuleta

It starts quietly. A walk along the San Juan River, where the water moves steadily over rocks. A moment in a backyard, turning over soil that is just beginning to warm.

In Archuleta County, mental health isn't always found in a clinical setting; sometimes, it is something you step into, a rhythm of life that offers a pause, a breath and a connection to the ground beneath our feet.

As Mental Health Awareness Month unfolds this May, the conversation in our community is shifting. While clinical care remains a vital pillar, organizations like Healthy Archuleta are highlighting that true well-being is woven into the very fabric of our daily lives, our relationships and our environment.

In a rural community, the path to wellness often faces unique hurdles. Mental and behavioral health support depends on more than clinical care alone. Residents frequently navigate barriers such as limited provider availability and workforce shortages, geographic isolation and transportation challenges, stigma that can make it difficult to reach out for help, and affordability and insurance gaps.

To combat these, Healthy Ar-

chuleta is working alongside local partners to build a system rooted in strengthening connection, access and community well-being.

Our strategy, a community-based approach, focuses on meeting people where they are, whether that's in school, at home or in the garden. By collaborating with health care providers, schools and public health agencies, we are creating a warm handoff culture where no one has to navigate the system alone.

Some of the ways we are serving in the community mental health space include youth resilience through building leadership and media literacy skills in young people; navigation by using community health workers to guide families to the right care; workforce growth through developing local talent for behavioral health roles; and cultural responsiveness through expanding bilingual care and inclusive practices.

If you or a loved one needs more formal support, resources are available.

For immediate support, call or text the 988 Lifeline. It is free, confidential, and available 24/7, or visit food-coalition4archuleta.org to explore local mental health efforts.

If you are interested in helping

our community grow stronger, we invite you to get involved. A resilient support system is built by the people who live here.

Contact Healthy Archuleta to learn more about volunteer opportunities by visiting our website or emailing us at fsfearchuleta@gmail.com.

This week, the invitation to the residents of Archuleta County is simple: Go outside. Walk along the San Juan River, if you can. Step into your yard. Touch the ground. Not with a goal in mind, but with a willingness to notice. Notice the sounds. Notice the air. Notice what shifts, even slightly, when you give yourself that time.

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Spiritual Experiences Group of Pagosa Springs to meet May 17

By Laurah Brock Young

Spiritual Experiences Group of Pagosa Springs

In many spiritual traditions, sound plays an important part in uplifting the individual.

HU is an ancient mantra, a sacred name for God. It has been used for thousands of years as a prayer and sacred chant to attune oneself to the presence of God. Millions of people around the world have experienced the joy of HU. HU is a key to open your heart to God's loving presence in your life.

No prior experience is needed—just an open heart and a willingness to explore.

Anyone can sing HU, regardless of age or religion. It is a simple technique that can be used as part of your daily spiritual practice. It has the power to uplift you spiritually for inner peace, healing and insight.

It is a gift to you, and for anyone looking to experience more divine love in life.

Join the Spiritual Experiences Group of Pagosa Springs on Sunday, May 17, at 1 p.m for our event: "Sing HU for Inner Peace and Wisdom—An Ancient Mantra for a Modern World."

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

This is for spiritual seekers at any stage of their journey.

This free event is sponsored by Eckankar. Eckankar teaches simple creative exercises that unlock deep inner reserves of truth you have attained over lifetimes. You will come to know there is so much more to life than what we see.

To learn more about Eckankar and singing HU visit www.hearhu.org, www.eckankar.org or www.eckankar-colorado.org.

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Whose voice am I listening to?

By Betty Slade
PREVIEW Columnist

One of the students who attends our Zoom Bible study asked, “Is it a sin to doubt?”

I hesitated to answer her with a bold, “Yes.” I have sensed a deep yearning and thirst for God in all of the students and in no way do I want to mislead them or cause them to feel judged.

A.W. Tozer says it this way: “Thirsty hearts are those whose longings have been awakened by the touch of God within them.”

As I thought about the student’s question, doubt came into my own heart. When does doubt become sin? Whose voice am I listening to? Am I hearing from God?

Whether we are touched by God or not, everyone doubts. It’s a normal human reaction. Who am I doubting? God or myself? Who am I listening to? God or myself? Each one of us who has been touched by God is on a journey of learning to trust Him, trust his words and trust His love for us.

When we doubt God’s voice, we doubt God’s love for us and question His words. We mistrust, act in doubt, and it becomes sin. A classic

SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center announces upcoming events

By Shayla McClure
SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center

On May 17, the SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center will hold Vietnam Veterans Giveback Day.

There will be a service at 11 a.m. with refreshments after, followed by treatments for veterans.

Veterans, sign up for your free treatments by contacting (970) 510-0309.

Upcoming event

Save the date for the following activity at the SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center:

- May 16, 6 p.m.: Saturday New Moon Super Taurus Moon Drumming Circle with Shayla Azriel at Xanadu. Bring drums, rattles, etc. A \$10 donation will be collected.
- June 27: Medicine Wheel Playshop with Shayla White Eagle.

The center also offers educational classes and workshops.

About us

SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center events are held at Xanadu private retreat. Obtain information by joining us, emailing pagosacom-munitynewthought@gmail.com or texting/calling (970) 510-0309.



example is when the serpent said to the woman, “Has God said?” We know what happened. God’s words were questioned, acted on, and Adam and Eve’s doubt caused them to fall into sin.

When we listen to our own voice, we have cause to doubt ourselves. Rightly so, because we will believe in how we feel and our world around us. Doubt includes mistrust, skepticism and uncertainty. When these emotions creep into our minds, we may believe them and listen to our own voice as if we are our worst enemy. We will speak curses on ourselves.

I framed the answer around a teaching I heard from Watchman Nee in 1970. Nee’s teaching is based on Paul’s words to the Thessalonians — a person is a three-part being: spirit, soul and body. “Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Thessalonians 5:23, NKJV).

Nee writes in “The Spiritual Man” that the spirit (God-consciousness) is the innermost part for communion with God, the soul (self-consciousness) is the seat of personality (mind, emotion, will) and the body (world-consciousness) interacts with the physical world.

The Lord wants us to rise up and hear His voice, commune with

Him. It is a place where we refuse our emotions, worries and fears. We stop listening to the voice of our self-consciousness and surrender to His voice. According to Paul, he urges the believers to “Rise up from your coffin and the Anointed One will shine his light into you” (See Ephesians 5:13-15).

King Solomon came to the Shulamite. She heard his voice. “Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away” (Song of Solomon 2:10, NKJV). He urged her to come out of her wall and skip on the mountains with him.

King Jesus does the same for us. According to Hebrews 11:6 (NKJV), “But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.”

Doubt is against God and against us. It comes from the darkness in us. By calling it for what it is, and turning to God who is a rewarder to those who diligently seek Him, we are opening ourselves up to God’s voice and God-consciousness in us.

The devil will use doubt to cause us to sin. We must always be reminded that we have an enemy within and without who will try to mute the voice of God.

Final brushstroke: It is a lifetime journey, living by faith and refusing to believe anything that opposes God and His love for us. The question is not “is doubt sin?” but “whose voice are we listening to?”

Readers’ comment: Send your comment to bettyslade.author@gmail.com.

Views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN.

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Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship to hear from visiting minister

Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

This coming Sunday, May 17, the Pagosa Unitarian Universalist (UU) Fellowship will meet at 10:30 a.m. for a sermon titled "A Unitarian Universalist Odyssey Through Hell" given by a visiting UU minister, the Rev. Michael Brown.

As a lay-led fellowship, we are grateful when professional leadership visits.

Brown will share some of his personal journey as a child in an evangelical church and reflections on whether or not Hell really exists. Does the widespread belief in Hell have any effect on our society, our cultural norms and political struggles? This is a question worth exploring, especially as we consider Christian nationalism and other conservative movements.

Brown is a UU minister with more than 30 years of UU ministerial service and six additional years as a lay leader. He is minister emeritus of the Universalist Unitarian Church of Peoria, Ill., a historic Universalist Church.

Brown received the Dr. Martin

Luther King Jr. Commemorative Distinguished Service Leadership Award while in Peoria. He also served First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Diego as minister-in-residence in 2021.

He and his partner, Diane, live in Santa Fe, N.M. We welcome them both to our community and invite all those interested in hearing more about this liberal faith community to join us. We celebrate diversity and foster a spiritual home for those wishing to "Make Friends, Grow in Spirit and Do Good."

Our website, PagosaUU.org, holds information about upcoming services and programs.

The UU Community Hub offers space for a variety of opportunities for spiritual growth and connection. The Tara Meditation Group is held most Sundays from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Email the fellowship to be added to the list and receive information and notices about this meditation practice.

Qigong practice is held at 1 p.m. on Monday afternoons and all are welcome.

The Wise and Wakeful Circle,

hosted by Elaine Harding and Sam Johnson, meets the second and fourth Saturdays at 10 a.m.

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

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The Pagosa Springs SUN

Get ready for summer reading

By Taylor Worsham
PREVIEW Columnist

When I think of summer’s cherished opportunities for long, sunny days, golden afternoons on my bicycle, and getting out to explore the high country, I always also think about how much I absolutely love summer reading.

I treasure the extra time I squeeze in between the pages of a good book during these months, made even sweeter by the promised incentives I’d earn after a certain amount of time spent reading. I have so many fond memories as a kid of my local library’s annual challenges and passing the time doing fun (and free) activities.

Now, as a librarian, I look forward to facilitating these experiences for our young community members and their families each summer.

At their core, library summer reading programs help prevent summer learning loss while inspiring a lifelong love of reading in children and teens across our communities. Through engaging, independent activities, hands-on programs and exciting prizes, we make learning both accessible and fun.

This year our summer reading program theme is “Read Wild!” and it is inspired by our natural mountain environment and Jack London’s novel “Call of the Wild.” This classic book symbolizes the westward struggle and pioneering spirit that settled the American West.

In homage to America’s 250th anniversary and Colorado’s 150th, we’ll be doing a community read of this book — giving away free copies of the book and facilitating discussions.

Our collective reading goal for Pagosa Springs is 250,000 minutes, and we’ll be offering rewards for participants for every two hours read along the way.

Between June 1 and Aug. 30, summer readers can track their reading on the Beanstack app, complete bingo activity challenges, and attend free events at the library and across the community.

With our ongoing construction project and reduced programming space, we’ll be hosting some events at places like Yamaguchi Park, Chimney Rock National Monument and more. These field trips are for all ages, and any entry admission will be covered by the library.

We’ll have a whole lineup of “Read Wild!” themed events in addition to our standing offerings for children, teens, and adults.

You can visit pagosalibrary.org/ summer for more details.

Construction update

At the end of this month, we’ll see the landscaping transformation begin in earnest, although I’m sure you’ve already noticed the exterior site work on the parking lot. After project completion, parking access

Library News

will return to the 8th Street entry.

With the new outdoor experience you will notice the children’s garden patio, a picnic area for all, and a reading garden with comfortable seating and event space.

June marks a big transition as we switch from the old side to the new side. We’ll transfer service to the new section while the old section gets a facelift. In late August, the two portions will be combined into one big, beautiful building. Our grand opening is tentatively set for Labor Day weekend.

Follow us on Facebook for periodic pictures of progress.

Adopt-a-Tree Program

We have 26 new trees planned for our outdoor community garden, and you could put your name on one of them in exchange for a \$500 donation. Individuals, families, clubs, businesses and organizations are welcome to participate.

Interested? Here’s how to get started: Write a check to Ruby Sisson Library or donate online at <https://www.pagosalibrary.org>. Fill out a donation form telling us what you want your garden stake to say in 6 words or less. Forms are available on our website or in paper form at the library.

Thanks for helping us create a beautiful new outdoor space in our community.

Friends of the Library book donation opportunity

The Friends of the Library are accepting donations of gently used books in the library parking lot on Saturday, May 16, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Donations will be included Friends annual sale, which will be held July 16-18 at the Community United Methodist Church.

Thank you to our Friends for hosting this opportunity because the library cannot accept book donations during construction.

Collecting for local food banks

Are you heading out for the summer? Are you moving away? 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 where it’s needed.

Citizenship classes

Join our test prep classes for the U.S. citizenship test on Tuesdays

and Thursdays from 2 to 4 p.m. at St. Patrick’s Episcopal Church on South Pagosa Boulevard.

Colorado Parks Passes for checkout

The weather is perfect to get outside. Colorado state parks require a paid pass to enter, but you can borrow one from the library for a few

■ See Library on next page

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■ continued from previous page

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Meet us out in the community

Now that we have much less space for our operations and no meeting rooms during construction, several of our regular activities and special events are happening in other locations.

Please check the listings in this column and on your library's website, pagosalibrary.org, for location changes throughout the construction. If no other location is mentioned, the activity will stay at your library.

Online author talks

Join us live or catch the presentation later. Reserve your spot at libraryc.org/pagosalibrary.

On Thursday, May 14, at noon, join in conversation with Ruchika Sikri and Dr. Patrick Porter to chat about their book, "Brain Fitness Blueprint," in which they present a 30-day action plan to supercharge your brain and achieve peak performance.

At noon on Tuesday, May 19, at noon, join for "Reshape Your Beliefs and Unlock Your True Potential" with author Nir Eyal.

Conversational Spanish

Our popular 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.

Writers Guild

Thursdays from 9 to 11 a.m., Ruby's Writers Guild welcomes writers looking for support, guidance, re-

sources 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.

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 "Search the Catalog" at the top of the screen.

Don't forget, if there is a waiting list for the book, it may be available now as an e-book or e-audiobook on CloudLibrary or Libby.

New nonfiction for young readers to commemorate America's 250

- "The History of the American Revolution: A History Book for New Readers" by Emma Carlson Berne is colorfully illustrated, taking readers on a journey through the events to revolution, the war itself and the birth of a new nation.

- "The Constitution Decoded: A Guide to the Document That Shapes Our Nation" by Kate Kennedy explains the original document with a direct translation of the text, dissecting every word, phrase and idea. Then it connects the document to major historical figures and events using full-color illustrations and examples of how the document works in practice.

- "Your Freedom, Your Power: A

Kid's Guide to the First Amendment" by Allison Matulli is a nonpartisan, unbiased look at the First Amendment and how it informs our daily lives. This book clearly explains the fundamentals of American politics to middle grade readers.

New and notable adult fiction

■ See Library on next page



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- Melissa G

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- Samantha L

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Health benefits of pickleball

Special to The PREVIEW

Pickleball has exploded in popularity in recent years. Devoted players may not realize it, but pickleball was created in 1965 as a backyard pastime by three dads: Joel Pritchard, Barney McCallum and Bill Bell.

The Sports and Fitness Industry Association says around 19.8 million people played pickleball in 2024. It's also the fastest-growing sport in the United States for the fourth consecutive year.

While pickleball can be fun and is generally considered to be less intense than tennis, the sport's staying power also can be attributed to the significant health benefits it offers. The combination of social interaction, cognitive impact and aerobic exercise make pickleball a particularly beneficial activity.

Here is a look at the many health benefits of pickleball:

- Helps heart health: The Journal

of Functional Morphology and Kinesiology has found that middle-aged and older adults who played pickleball one hour per day, three days a week for six weeks saw significant improvements in blood pressure, cholesterol levels and cardiorespiratory fitness.

- Burns calories: Players can burn between 400 and 600 calories per hour playing pickleball, states the National Institutes of Health. Research shows that playing doubles pickleball results in 36 percent more calories burned than taking a leisurely walk. Also, pickleball doubles often match or exceed the calorie burn of tennis doubles because rallies tend to be longer with less down time.

- Lowers stress levels: The more people play, the better they feel from a mental perspective. The NIH reports a 2025 study of more than 1,700 players found that playing three or more times a week was

linked to significantly higher mental well-being scores. This exercise can trigger endorphin release and lower cortisol levels.

- Boosts the brain: Pickleball stimulates cognitive function because the game features fast-paced strategy and requires thinking on your feet. Plus, the fast pace often induces a "flow state," which is a mental zone where players are so focused they lose track of time, which helps to reduce anxiety.

- Combats loneliness: Pickleball is a social sport, with new centers and leagues popping up each year. That makes it easy for players to make new friends through the sport.

- Promotes physical agility: Pickleball can be a tool for maintaining independence through physical agility. Baptist Health states pickleball can help improve balance and stability in seniors. Because pickleball is a weight-bearing sport, it also helps strengthen bones and muscles.

Library

■ continued from previous page

- Trent Preszler's "Evergreen: The Trees That Shaped America" is a sweeping natural history of the humble trees that built nations, sparked wars and became the world's most cherished holiday tradition.

- Jeffrey Marlow writes in "The Dark Frontier: Unlocking the Secrets of the Deep Sea" about how this last frontier is critically important and central to the future of life on this planet.

- "Those Who Walked Before: How Ice Age Footprints in New Mexico Retell the Stories of the First Americans" by Matthew Bennett shares his experience as a biologist turned resource-program manager in White Sands National Park.

New cookbooks

- "The Beauty Chef" by Carla Oates includes more than 150 recipes that are gluten-free and mostly dairy-free recipes will feed both your skin and your gut.

- "Cook Out: Recipes and Tips for the Great Outdoors" by Rashad Frazier includes 60 recipes and practical tips for cooking outside.

- Taste of Home presents "What Can I Bring? Vol. 2: 300 Plus Recipes for Potlucks Bake Sales and Gatherings."

New fiction books

- In "The Original: A Novel," author Priya Parmar writes about 1930s Hollywood through the lens of Katharine Hepburn as she leaves home at 21 to pursue an acting career.

- "The Unforgettable Mailman" by April Howells is a heartwarming story about intergenerational friendship and the power of human connection, perfect for fans of Fredrik Backman and Virginia Evans' "The Correspondent."

- "Yesteryear" by Caro Claire Burke is a sensational debut novel that follows Natalie Heller Mills, who is a social media celebrity, a wife and mother who sells her fantasy pioneer lifestyle of sourdough and farm-fresh eggs to her millions of followers. She suddenly wakes up cold, dirty and hungry in the year 1805 and must uncover the nature — hoax, reality show, test from God — of her terrifying new existence.

New DVDs

- "Nuremberg" (2026): The Allies,

led by the unyielding chief prosecutor, Robert H. Jackson, have the task of ensuring high-ranking Nazi officials answer for the Holocaust in the trial of the century.

- "The Housemaid" (2026): What begins as a dream job for Millie quickly unravels into something far more dangerous — a seductive game of secrets, scandal and power.

- "Hamnet" (2026): A powerful story of love and loss that inspired the creation of Shakespeare's timeless masterpiece, "Hamlet."

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Tips to trace your own history while celebrating America's

Special to The PREVIEW

Millions of Americans will spend some time in 2026 commemorating 250 years of United States history. The U.S. turns 250 in July 2026, and the summer figures to be an especially celebratory time across the 50 states.

As Americans engage with their nation's history, they might be compelled to learn more about their personal history as well.

Genealogy has become a popular pastime in the 21st century, and the National Archives offers these tips to anyone looking to do some digging into their personal history as they celebrate 250 years of the United States:

- **Start with yourself.** The National Archives recommends starting with the person you know best: yourself. Your own personal details can serve as a starting point as you work toward more unknown facets of your family history. After you note all of your own details, learn and document all you can about your parents, and then do the same in relation to your grandparents.

- **Emphasize four vital components.** The National Archive notes that names, dates, places and relationships are the tools of the family researcher. That's because these nuggets of information have long been used to identify people in public records.

- **Peruse any existing family ar-**

chives. Many families have kept their own archives over the years, even if that record-keeping was not widely known within a family. A relative might have kept various types of documents that help to paint a picture of your genealogy. Ask around in the family to see if anyone has kept records, which might include newspaper clippings, birth and death certificates, military certificates, marriage licenses, letters, diaries, photographs/photo books, and scrapbooks.

- **Let others know.** Inform family members near and far that you're working on a genealogy project. A relative might have beaten you to it, and that person could have lots of valuable information and documents to share. Others might be able to point you toward a relative who has become the unofficial family historian. In addition, cousins and aunts and uncles might have records from their own immediate families, which can help you as you conduct your own research.

- **Access government records.** The U.S. federal census dates all the way back to 1790, which makes it a potentially excellent source of information for your project. State and county archives also can be wonderful resources that keep records of births, deaths, marriages and other notable events that can help people trace their family histories. Even local libraries might have records of your family, especially if

your family has been settled in the same area for a significant amount of time.

- American history might be the focal point in the United States in 2026, but that renewed emphasis on history also makes 2026 a great time to study your own family's part in helping the nation make it to its 250th birthday.

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Fire Season Preparedness Starts with Staying Informed

As our region moves into fire season and dry season, residents are encouraged to prepare now for possible wildfire conditions, evacuations, and power outages.

A simple first step is signing up for both Town and County alerts. The Town of Pagosa Springs has a new CivicPlus alert system, and residents must resubscribe to continue receiving Town updates, including public meetings, Town emergencies, snow routes, inclement weather, road closures, and other Town notices.

Residents should also sign up for Archuleta County's Nixle alerts, which provide emergency alerts and public safety notifications, including wildfire and evacuation information. Signing up for both systems helps ensure you receive timely updates from the right agency.

To sign up for Town alerts, visit pagosasprings.co.gov and go to the Alerts & Notifications page, or text PagosaSprings to 38276.

To sign up for County alerts, visit local.nixle.com/register.

Residents are also encouraged to make an evacuation plan, prepare a "go bag" or 72-hour kit, keep backup batteries and chargers on hand, and ensure they have key documents, non-perishable food, water, medications, flashlights, a battery-powered AM/FM radio, and pet supplies ready. Preparing these items in advance helps ensure you can evacuate quickly and safely if needed.

Wildfire Resiliency Code Takes Effect July 1

The Town of Pagosa Springs will implement new building requirements under the Colorado Wildfire Resiliency Code (CWRC) beginning July 1, 2026. The updated standards are designed to reduce wildfire risk and improve the safety of homes and structures in the community.

The code applies to new construction, additions over 500 square feet, and certain exterior upgrades such as roof or siding replacements. Key requirements include fire-rated roofing, ignition-resistant exterior materials, ember-resistant venting, and protected eaves and soffits.

Additional measures may include noncombustible gutters, tempered glass windows, and solid-core doors.

Residents and contractors are encouraged to review the new requirements and check their property's wildfire risk. For more information, contact the Town's Building Division at 970-585-8466.

For more information on all of the above and more, visit pagosasprings.co.gov.

Upcoming Meetings

Town Council Regular Meeting Tuesday, May 19, 2026, at 5 p.m. Town Hall Council Chambers: 551 Hot Springs Blvd.

Town Council Regular Meeting Tuesday, June 2, 2026, at 5 p.m. Town Hall Council Chambers: 551 Hot Springs Blvd.

Public Hearing: Sewer Infrastructure Project Wednesday, June 17, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. Ross Aragon Community Center, South Conference Room: 451 Hot Springs Blvd.

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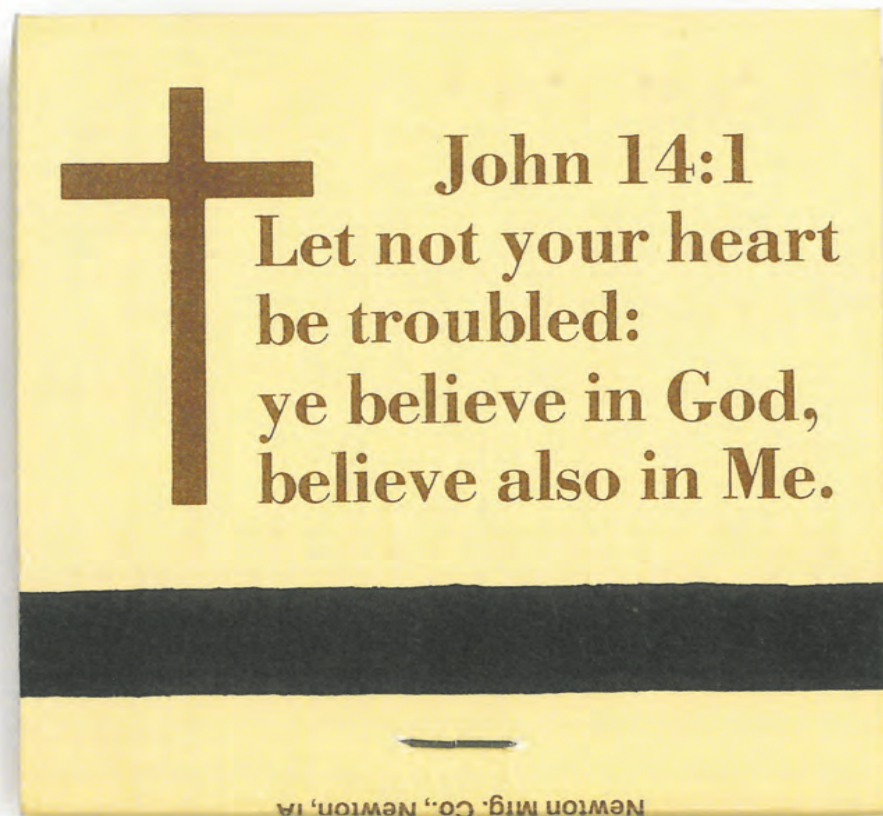
PAGOSA SCENE . . .

SUPERMOM 5K

Photos courtesy Aspire Medical Services and Education

Scene ... celebrating moms, community and family fun at Aspire Medical Services and Education’s Supermom 5K on Saturday, May 2. The annual event supports Aspire’s prenatal, parenting and other services.





It is finished

John 19:30

14 “LET NOT YOUR heart be troubled. You are trusting God, now trust in me. ²⁻³ There are many homes up there where my Father lives, and I am going to prepare them for your coming. When everything is ready, then I will come and get you, so that you can always be with me where I am. If this weren’t so, I would tell you plainly. ⁴ And you know where I am going and how to get there.”

⁵ “No, we don’t,” Thomas said. “We haven’t any idea where you are going, so how can we know the way?”

⁶ Jesus told him, “I am the Way—yes, and the Truth and the Life. No one can get to the Father except by means of me. ⁷ If you had known who I am, then you would have known who my Father is. From now on you know him—and have seen him!”

⁸ Philip said, “Sir, show us the Father and we will be satisfied.”

⁹ Jesus replied, “Don’t you even yet know who I am, Philip, even after all this time I have been

with you? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father! So why are you asking to see him? ¹⁰ Don’t you believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I say are not my own but are from my Father who lives in me. And he does his work through me. ¹¹ Just believe it—that I am in the Father and the Father is in me. Or else believe it because of the mighty miracles you have seen me do.

¹²⁻¹³ “In solemn truth I tell you, anyone believing in me shall do the same miracles I have done, and even greater ones, because I am going to be with the Father. You can ask him for *anything*, using my name, and I will do it, for this will bring praise to the Father because of what I, the Son, will do for you. ¹⁴ Yes, ask *anything*, using my name, and I will do it!

¹⁵⁻¹⁶ “If you love me, obey me; and I will ask the Father and he will give you another Comforter, and he will never leave you. ¹⁷ He is the Holy Spirit, the Spirit who leads into all truth. The world at large cannot receive him, for it isn’t looking for him and doesn’t

recognize him. But you do, for he lives with you now and some day shall be in you. ¹⁸ No, I will not abandon you or leave you as orphans in the storm—I will come to you. ¹⁹ In just a little while I will be gone from the world, but I will still be present with you. For I will live again—and you will too. ²⁰ When I come back to life again, you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹ The one who obeys me is the one who loves me; and because he loves me, my Father will love him; and I will too, and I will reveal myself to him.”

²² Judas (not Judas Iscariot, but his other disciple with that name) said to him, “Sir, why are you going to reveal yourself only to us disciples and not to the world at large?”

²³ Jesus replied, “Because I will only reveal myself to those who love me and obey me. The Father will love them too, and we will come to them and live with them.

²⁴ Anyone who doesn’t obey me doesn’t love me. And remember, I am not making up this answer to your question! It is the answer

given by the Father who sent me.

²⁵ “I am telling you these things now while I am still with you. ²⁶ But when the Father sends the Comforter^[a] instead of me^[b]—and by the Comforter I mean the Holy Spirit—he will teach you much, as well as remind you of everything I myself have told you.

²⁷ “I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart! And the peace I give isn’t fragile like the peace the world gives. So don’t be troubled or afraid.^[c] ²⁸ Remember what I told you—I am going away, but I will come back to you again. If you really love me, you will be very happy for me, for now I can go to the Father, who is greater than I am. ²⁹ I have told you these things before they happen so that when they do, you will believe [in me].^[c]”

³⁰ “I don’t have much more time to talk to you, for the evil prince of this world approaches. He has no power over me, ³¹ but I will freely do what the Father requires of me so that the world will know that I love the Father. Come, let’s be going.

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 killdeer.

Across much of North America, this bird is a common sight during some or all of the year. Extending south from about the middle latitude of the United States and along the Pacific coast, it is a year-round resident. Some travel to the northern U.S. and Canada to nest in the summer, leap-frogging over the year-round areas and traveling to Mexico and Central America for the winter.

Killdeer are classified as shorebirds, but are often found living far from water. Preferring vegetation less than 1 inch tall, they are common to lawns, golf courses, athletic fields and even parking lots. At least part of their success as shorebirds stems from adapting to human-modified habitats and being willing to nest around people.

This robin-sized bird is brown above and white below. Like others in the plover family, it has a round head, large eyes and a short bill, but two black breast bands instead of one sets it apart.

Killdeer feed primarily on invertebrates, including aquatic insect larvae, but will also opportunistically hunt frogs and eat seeds in agricultural fields. Their common foraging style is to run a short spurt and then stop abruptly to look around for prey they may have stirred up. Their big voices carry the frequent kill-deer call for which they are named, often the first indication that one is around.

Deception and camouflage are tactics that this ground-nesting bird relies on to successfully raise young. A killdeer’s nest is little more than a scrape in the ground on or around rocks and gravel where its speckled eggs blend in. Sometimes the parent adds pebbles, but no lining protects the eggs. The killdeer is the master of the “broken wing display” feigning injury by dragging its wings while struggling across the ground and somehow staying one step ahead of potential danger. After leading a predator a safe distance away from the nest, the killdeer’s wings are miraculously healed and it flies away.

If you witness this display, watch your feet and stay clear of the area, where eggs or cute chicks may be hiding and are too easily stepped on.

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

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The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Legal rights org.
- 5 Whole bunch
- 9 Kitchenware
- 13 ___ Mawr, Pa.
- 14 Starch source
- 15 Concerning
- 17 Salon services
- 19 Pisa landmark
- 20 Shortening of a word
- 21 South Wales port
- 23 Assisting in crime
- 25 Like some wines
- 26 Pillow filler
- 29 Portend
- 31 In an unconvincing way
- 33 People from Tehran
- 36 Fictional Scarlett
- 37 Paid promos
- 38 Speck in the ocean
- 39 Commonly accepted as such
- 41 Smartphone feature
- 42 High school grade
- 44 Smooth (out)
- 45 Ostrich-like bird
- 47 Looney Tunes fare
- 49 Montpelier's state
- 51 Former German state
- 55 "Piece of cake", e.g.
- 56 Overly eager
- 58 Hosiery thread
- 59 Holiday carol
- 60 Defense acronym
- 61 "Moonstruck" star
- 62 Reason for an R rating
- 63 Unappetizing fare

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DOWN

- 1 Rocket interceptors: Abbr.
- 2 Loco, when repeated
- 3 NFL Hall of Famer Swann
- 4 Like some legislatures
- 5 Flabbergast
- 6 "___ elaborate?"
- 7 "Right you ___!"
- 8 F.B.I. documents
- 9 Area of Argentina
- 10 Poetic adverb
- 11 Purveyor of periodicals
- 12 Vile smile
- 16 Cafeteria implementation
- 18 Corn core
- 22 Caitlin Clark's org.
- 24 Chewing gum brand
- 26 Failure
- 27 Honolulu's home

- 28 Unskillful
- 30 Letting go
- 32 Unpunctual guest
- 34 Roman emperor
- 35 "South Park" boy
- 37 Turning aside
- 40 "Terrible" ruler
- 41 Singing group
- 43 Clincher
- 45 Worse than bad
- 46 Battlefield doc
- 48 Filbert, e.g.
- 50 Burrowing animal
- 52 Notary's tool
- 53 Enthusiastic about
- 54 Perched upon
- 57 Cattle call?

Answers to Previous Crossword:

A	H	E	M		E	T	A	L		M	A	D	A	M
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Preview Calendar

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

Thursday, May 14

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.

Online Author Talk. Noon, virtual. "Ancient Wisdom and Modern Technologies for Peak Brain Performance" with Dr. Patrick K. Porter and Ruchika Sikri. Go to the library's website, www.pagosalibrary.org, to watch live via Zoom or view the recording later.

Tai Chi Chih. 1:30-2:30 p.m., Yamaguchi Park. An Archuleta Senior Center program.

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.

Citizenship Class. 2-4 p.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. This Sisson Library program helps immigrants and people preparing for citizenship with classes, training materials, tutoring, informational resources and ways to connect to the community.

Tween Paint Your Own Flower Pot. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. Join for a relaxing afternoon of painting a terra-cotta flower pot to take home and keep. For ages 11-14.

Friday, May 15

Great House Tour. 10:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This family-friendly tour goes to the top of the mesa ridge for a 360-degree panoramic view of the landscape and a close-up of the two pinnacles with stops along the way to learn about ancient Puebloan structures. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Learn to Can Dandelion Jelly. 5:30 p.m., CSU Extension building, 344 U.S. 84. Learn up-to-date canning recommendations, food safety preservation practices, high-

altitude adjustments and more. The cost is \$25 per person for one jar of jelly. Call (970) 264-5931 to register.

Saturday, May 16

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour. 8 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour explores both the natural and cultural history of the area through geologic time and incorporates the anthropology and archaeology of the Puebloan people. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Birding at Chimney Rock Tour. 8 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour is presented in partnership with the local chapter of the Audubon Society and affords a wonderful opportunity to observe and learn about birds that are native to the area. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

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.

Great House Tour. 10:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This family-friendly tour goes to the top of the mesa ridge for a 360-degree panoramic view of the landscape and a close-up of the two pinnacles with stops along the way to learn about ancient Puebloan structures. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Sarah Platt Decker Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. 10:30 a.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. The program will be the inauguration of officers, and a light lunch will be provided. For more information, call Sherryl Egy, (970) 507-0646.

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.

Pagosa Community Initiative's Second Chance Prom. 7 p.m., Ross Aragon Community Center, 451 Hot Springs Blvd. Tickets are available at <https://givebutter.com/c/PCIProm2026> or www.pagosacomunityinitiative.org.

Pagosa Springs Community Band Annual Spring Concert. 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium.

■ See Calendar on next page

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1001 Soaring Eagle Court
\$850,000

MLS #822945

2 Bed, 2 Bath, 2,073 sq foot house on 36.44 acres. Navajo River Ranch has 2 private entrances into the forest. This home has wonderful views of the San Juan Mountain Range and great decks. 2 tributaries come together to form a seasonal creek called Oil Well Creek on the property.

To tour this home go to:
<https://tinyurl.com/1001SoaringEagleCourt>

1119 Hills Circle
\$499,000

MLS #833746

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

To tour this home go to:
<https://pspixeltree.com/1119-Hills-Cir>

1231 Ranchland Drive
\$290,000

MLS #829827

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

X Eagle Drive
\$225,000

MLS #833969

This is a beautiful 1.05 acre property located in between uptown and downtown on the frontage road of Highway 160. The water is installed, the sidewalk is in and the electric is within 100' of the lot. The lot is level and ready to build on. This is a great property!

To tour Eagle Drive go to:
<https://pspixeltree.com/X-Eagle-Dr>

109 Carol's Curves
\$198,000

MLS #824583

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

To tour this home go to:
<https://pspixeltree.com/109-Carols-Curves>

42 Sundown Circle
\$50,000

MLS #833836

Level building lot, only 200' of dirt road. The power and water are less than a 100' from the lot. This property is 5 minutes from downtown and 5 minutes from uptown, how awesome is that! This is an easy build lot, close to all of the amenities.

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President of the Association 2017-2018 • Realtors Spirit award in 2012

Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page
Sunday, May 17

Great House Tour. 10:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This family-friendly tour goes to the top of the mesa ridge for a 360-degree panoramic view of the landscape and a close-up of the two pinnacles with stops along the way to learn about ancient Puebloan structures. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Monday, May 18

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.

Great House Tour. 10:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This family-friendly tour goes to the top of the mesa ridge for a 360-degree panoramic view of the landscape and a close-up of the two pinnacles with stops along the way to learn about ancient Puebloan structures. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

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, May 19

A Day in the Life of the Ancients Tour. 9:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. A family-oriented tour along the accessible Mesa Village Trail to visit an ancient agricultural village and learn about daily life 1,000 years ago. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

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.

Veterans for Veterans of Archuleta County. 10 a.m., Pagosa Bible

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

Great House Tour. 10:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This family-friendly tour goes to the top of the mesa ridge for a 360-degree panoramic view of the landscape and a close-up of the two pinnacles with stops along the way to learn about ancient Puebloan structures. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Archuleta County Democratic Club. 11:30 a.m., Uncle’s Bar and Social Club.

Online Author Talk. Noon, virtual. “Reshape Your Beliefs and Unlock Your True Potential” with Nir Eyal, author of “Beyond Belief.” Go to the library’s website, www.pagosalibrary.org, to watch live via Zoom or view the recording later.

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

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

Citizenship Class. 2-4 p.m., St. Patrick’s Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. This Sisson Library program helps immigrants and people preparing for citizenship with classes, training materials, tutoring, informational resources and ways to connect to the community.

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

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour. 5 p.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour explores both the natural and cultural history of the area through geologic time and incorporates the anthropology and archaeology of the Puebloan people. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Chimney Rock Interpretive Association Lecture: ‘Southwestern Native Rock Art.’ 6-7:30 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. David Bouquet will explore the diverse forms of rock art, from some of the world’s oldest examples to Puebloan sites across the American Southwest, and will share images.

Wednesday, May 20

A Day in the Life of the Ancients Tour. 9:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. A family-oriented tour along the accessible Mesa Village Trail to visit an ancient agricultural village and learn about daily life 1,000 years ago. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Family Storytime. 10-11 a.m., Sisson Library. Join 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.

Great House Tour. 10:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This family-friendly tour goes to the top of the mesa ridge for a 360-degree panoramic view of the landscape and a close-up of the two pinnacles

■ See Calendar on next page

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

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

SUDOKU

	5	3				4		
	1		4				6	9
			6	7				
8		9			1			2
1					7	9		
				3	6			
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Level: Intermediate

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!

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

ANSWER:

**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!

Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page** with stops along the way to learn about ancient Puebloan structures. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

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.

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

Mindful Drawing. 1:30 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.

Pagosa Springs High School Booster Club. 5:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School.

Weminuche Audubon Society. 6 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Meet at 6 p.m. to socialize before the meeting begins at 6:30 p.m. Learn about birding by ear. Visit www.weminucheaudubon.org for a Zoom link.

Thursday, May 21

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.

'Fissuring Out the Past' Ice Caves Loop Geology Hike. 9 a.m. The hike is free, but sign-up is required at SJMA.org.

A Day in the Life of the Ancients Tour. 9:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. A family-oriented tour along the accessible Mesa Village Trail to visit an ancient agricultural village and learn about daily life 1,000 years ago. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

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End of Life Education. 1 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St.

Tai Chi Chih. 1:30-2:30 p.m., Yamaguchi Park. An Archuleta Senior Center program.

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.

Citizenship Class. 2-4 p.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. This Sisson Library program helps immigrants and people preparing for citizenship with classes, training materials, tutoring, informational resources and ways to connect to the community.

Super Mario Bingo. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. Play bingo with the characters from the newest "Super Mario" movie. Winners will receive a prize and every participant will receive a small keepsake. For children in grades 1-5.

Community Conversations. 5:30 p.m., PLPOA Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. The conversation will focus on school facilities.

Americana Project Class Concert. 6 p.m., Tennyson Sculpture Park and Gardens. Bring your chairs and blankets. In case of inclement weather, the concert will be held in the high school auditorium.

Friday, May 22

Baby Storytime. 10-11 a.m., Sisson Library. Join for stories, songs and giggles. Stay and play after storytime. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

Great House Tour. 10:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This family-friendly tour goes to the top of the mesa ridge for a 360-degree panoramic view of the landscape and a close-up of the two pinnacles with stops along the way to learn about ancient Puebloan structures. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Saturday, May 23

Chimney Rock Through the Ages Tour. 8 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour explores both the natural and cultural history of the area through geologic time and incorporates the anthropology and archaeology of the Puebloan people. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

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.

Great House Tour. 10:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This family-friendly tour goes to the top of the mesa ridge for a 360-degree panoramic view of the landscape and a close-up of the two pinnacles with stops along the way to learn about ancient Puebloan structures.

Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

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

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"Why is that when kids do it, it's play, but when we do it, it's exercise?"

Running, skipping, swinging and jumping are what kids do all day and it's fun. Who says you have to stop once you grow up?

Today's excerpt will have you bouncing up and down just like you did as a kid- literally. The lymphatic system is the metabolic garbage can of the body. It rids you of toxins such as dead and cancerous cells, nitrogenous wastes, infectious viruses, heavy metals, and other assorted junk cast off by the cells.

The movement performed in rebounding provides the stimulus for a free-flowing system

that drains away these potential poisons. Unlike the arterial system, the lymphatic system does not have its own pump. It has no heart muscle to move the fluid around through its lymph vessels.

There are just three ways to activate the flow of lymph away from the tissues it serves and back into the main pulmonary circulation. Lymphatic flow requires muscular contraction from exercise and movement, gravitational pressure, and internal massage to the valves of lymph ducts. Rebounding supplies all three methods of removing waste products from the cells and from the body.

James White, Ph.D., director of research and rehabilitation in the physical education department at the University of California at San Diego (UCSD), has explained how jumping for health offers a true physical strengthening effect to the muscles. "Rebounding allows the muscles to go through the full range of motion at equal force. It helps people learn to shift their weight properly and to be aware of body positions and balance," says White.

An advocate of rebounding for athletic conditioning, White uses the rebounder in his rehabilitation program at UCSD. "When you jump, jog, and twist on this [jumping] device, you can exercise for hours without getting tired. It's great practice for skiing, it improves your tennis stroke, and it's a good way to burn off calories and lose weight," says White.

Source: "Rebounding: Good for the Lymph System." By Dave Scrivens. <https://www.wellbeingjournal.com>

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

"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." *Philippians 4:13*

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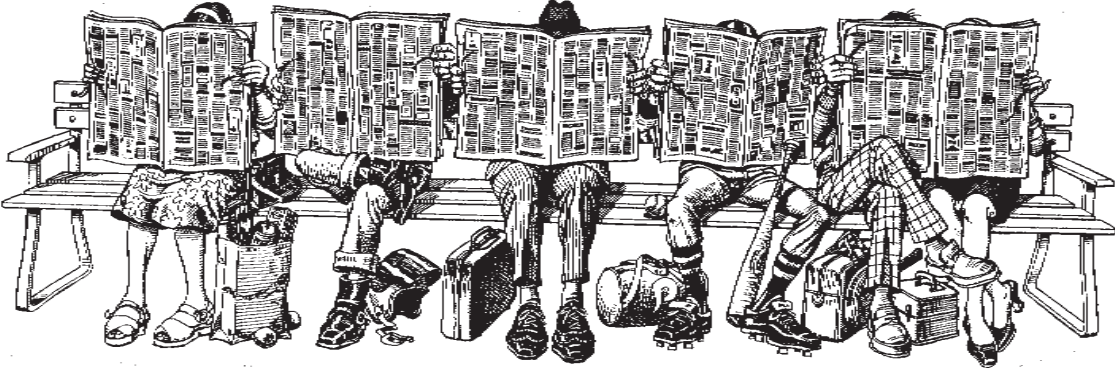
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Finding peace: simple ways seniors can manage stress

By Ricardo Martinez
PREVIEW Columnist

Stress can affect people of all ages, but for seniors it may be brought on by health concerns, financial pressures, caregiving responsibilities, or feelings of loneliness and isolation.

Finding healthy ways to manage stress can make everyday life feel more balanced and enjoyable.

Simple habits such as taking a short walk, getting enough sleep, eating nutritious meals, staying socially connected and participating in enjoyable hobbies can greatly improve emotional well-being.

Seniors are also encouraged to ask for help when needed and to stay involved in their community, as strong social connections are one of the best ways to reduce stress and improve overall quality of life.

Archuleta Seniors Inc. (ASI) offers many opportunities to help older adults stay active, engaged and supported. From nutritious congregate meals, and Meals on Wheels services to exercise classes, games, educational programs and social activities, the Archuleta Senior Center provides a welcoming place where friendships can grow and stress can be eased.

Staff and volunteers are dedicated to creating an age-friendly environment where seniors feel valued, connected and encouraged to maintain their independence.

For many local seniors, the center serves not only as a resource for services, but also as a place of comfort, laughter and community support that helps make life a little easier every day.

Holiday closure

ASI will be closed May 25 for Memorial Day. No meals or services will be provided that day.

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 Archuleta Senior Center.

Please note that ASI will be closed May 25. Senior Conversations will be held on Friday, May 29, that week.

Salmonsohn brings to the conversations a variety of topics designed to stimulate discussions within a safe and comfortable environment as we explore our well-being and shared experiences.

This is a unique opportunity to connect with others in the Archuleta community, fostering sharing and friendships.

Snacks will be provided.

Afterward, hosted by Robin Williams, stay for a get-together created for those who wish to continue the conversation. This opportunity is

Senior News

typically from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m., following Senior Conversations. The group occasionally reconvenes as an informal gathering at various local restaurants.

Stretching and mobility weekly class

Community members are invited to attend free weekly classes every Tuesday from 10 to 11 a.m. at the Senior Center at 451 Hot Springs Blvd., in the back of the Ross Aragon Community Center.

The stretching and mobility classes for adults age 55 or better are designed to help build balance in the body through functional exercises that aim to improve mobility and flexibility.

Participants will have the opportunity to enjoy a variety of techniques that can help enhance overall movement efficiency.

Though not necessary, a mat is recommended for this class.

The program is instructed by local ballet dance instructor Dee Pitchon, who will provide modifications to ensure the safety and effectiveness of the exercises.

American mahjong

American mahjong is played using a set of tiles and the current year score card. Play includes groups of three or four players and follows a pattern of division exchange and display of tiles.

Bring your card and come to play or watch and learn from 1:15 to 3:45 p.m. Tuesdays at the Senior Center.

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-regu-

■ See Senior next page



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The Pagosa Springs **SUN**

Senior

■ continued from previous page
salad, fruit and milk.

Friday, May 15 — Greek chicken pita, tzatziki sauce, red onion, tomato, cucumbers, spanakopita, lemon orzo, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Monday, May 18 — Pork tenderloin with blackberry sauce, potato medley, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Tuesday, May 19 — Vegetable curry over rice, naan bread, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Wednesday, May 20 — Chicken with garlic mushroom sauce, broccoli, dinner roll, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Thursday, May 21 — Beef meatloaf, mashed potatoes, peas and pearl onions, garden salad, fruit, and milk.

Friday, May 22 — Green chili chorizo quiche, black beans, biscuit, 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.

Board vacancies

The ASI Board of Directors has positions open. Terms are three years with an option to renew for an additional term.

Potential candidates should be at least 21 years of age or older and must have a passion for adult and aging services.

Please stop by our offices at 451 Hot Springs Blvd. to pick up an application or call (970) 264-2167 for more information.

Support the Senior Center

New, starting in 2026, small donations can be deducted without itemizing your tax return. It is the Permanent Universal Charitable Deduction.

Here's what this means: For tax years beginning after Dec. 31, 2025, those who do not itemize can deduct up to \$1,000 for individual tax filing and \$2,000 for married couples filing jointly.

The goal of this provision is to recognize and encourage charitable giving across all income levels, potentially boosting donations from middle-income households who may not itemize their deductions. This change has the potential to significantly impact charitable giving patterns by incentivizing a broader base of donors.

You may mail your donation to ASI, P.O. Box 3444, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, or please visit our website: www.psseniors.org/ (donation button).

Donation checks can be written to: Archuleta Seniors Inc.

Another way to donate: Are you 70.5 years old or better? Do you have an IRA from which you need to take a distribution? Did you know you can make charitable donations directly from your IRA without paying taxes on the distribution, up to \$100,000 per year? The donation from the account would be payable to ASI and sent to P.O. Box 344, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. This gift option is called the IRA charitable rollover or qualified charitable distribution.

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How sleep benefits mind and body, and how you can get more of it

Special to The PREVIEW

Waking up after a good night’s sleep can prepare people to take on a new day and all the challenges it has to offer. On the opposite end of the spectrum, a poor night’s sleep can contribute to physical and mental fatigue, and even have an adverse effect on the immune system, making people more vulnerable to illness. Perhaps that’s one reason why the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS) contends sleep is as important to a person’s survival as food and water.

Anyone who has had a good night’s rest and a bad night’s sleep need not be reminded how differently their minds and bodies felt after each night. But, they might not realize why their minds and bodies felt much better after a good night’s rest than the night when they battled insomnia.

According to the NINDS, sleep plays a vital role in brain function, including affecting how nerve cells communicate with one another.

The NINDS also notes that recent research suggests a particularly important task is performed while a person is asleep, as it’s during rest when toxins that build up in the brain while you’re

awake are removed.

That could be one reason why the health-related effects of chronic lack of sleep are so profound. Such effects include an increased risk for a number of health problems, including high blood pressure, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, depression and obesity. If left untreated, each of those conditions can adversely affect quality of life and may even contribute to a reduction in life expectancy.

So, now that some of the more notable effects of consistent and sufficient sleep have been noted, how can anyone go about ensuring a better night’s rest?

The NINDS recommends people looking to get better sleep take the following advice to heart:

- Establish a consistent sleep schedule by going to bed and waking up at the same time each day.
- Avoid a sedentary lifestyle. Make a concerted effort to exercise for at least 30 minutes most days of the week, but avoid doing so within a few hours of bedtime. Advice regarding when to exercise to ensure a good night’s rest is mixed. The National Sleep Foundation (NSF) notes that research indicates some people considered “night owls” sleep well after exercising at night, while

“early birds” may struggle to fall asleep if they work out too close to bedtime. In addition, the NSF notes that research has found moderate-intensity exercise does not have a detrimental effect on sleep so long as a workout concludes at least 90 minutes before bedtime.

- Relax before bed. This tip is connected to the rule of thumb regarding exercising too closely to bedtime. Just like ramping up right before bed may adversely affect sleep, winding down with a warm bath, cuddling up with a good book or engaging in another relaxing routine may set the body up to fall asleep when a head hits the pillow.

- Avoid caffeine and nicotine late in the day and alcoholic drinks before bed. Even if a nightcap helps you fall asleep more quickly, alcohol may lead to interruptions in sleep shortly after it begins. And once awake, falling back asleep can be difficult.

- Create a sound sleep environment. A good sleeping environment has no bright lights and loud sounds, is kept at a comfortable temperature, and is device-free.

- Don’t lie in bed awake. If sleep proves elusive after your head hits the pillow, try engaging in a relaxing routine, like reading a book or listening to calming music, until you feel tired.

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If you would like to be a sponsor,
please call Shari at (970) 264-2100
before Thursday, May 21.

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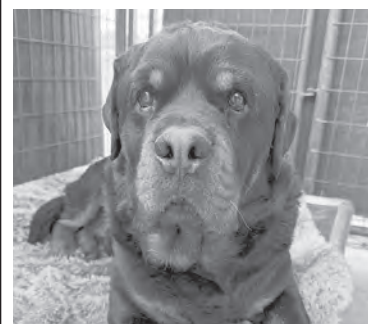
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

ARCHULETA COUNTY Big Spring Clean Event. When: May 1st–May 31st. What: One free truck or trailer load (up to one ton) at the county landfill during regular business hours. Vouchers are available starting May 1 and are limited to one per address within Archuleta County. Please bring a valid Driver's License to pick yours up at any of these locations in Pagosa Springs: Public Works Office: 1122 US 84. Town Hall: 551 Hot Springs Blvd. PLPOA Clubhouse: 230 Port Ave. Important Note: This voucher covers general loads but cannot be used for: Appliances and electronics. Hazardous household waste. Tires, vehicles and batteries. Furniture and mattresses. Feel free to reach out with any questions: (970)264-8300.

CONCERNED ABOUT ANOTHER'S DRINKING? Pagosa Springs Al-anon Family Group meets Tuesdays 6-7p.m., Pagosa Bible Church. Questions? Call/text (303)815-8569. www.al-anon.org.

DMV2GO: Returning to Archuleta County for Driver's License Services. Archuleta County – The Colorado Department of Revenue (CDOR) Division of Motor Vehicles' DMV2GO services will return to Archuleta County, **BY APPOINTMENT ONLY**, on **June 2 and 3, 2026**. DMV2GO's services include: first time Colorado driver's licenses, out-of-state transfers, renewals for driver's licenses, permits and identification cards; issuing new licenses, permits, and IDs; motor vehicle records; along with reinstatements and Colorado Roads and Community Safety Act Services. Appointments are available both days, 11a.m. to 4p.m., in fifteen-minute intervals. Please visit archuletacounty.gov to book via the Sign-Up Genius link. Appointments for seniors, veterans, and the disabled are available 9 to 11a.m. and can be scheduled by calling the County Administration Office at **970-264-8309**. 2026 DMV2GO services will be held in the Archuleta County Department of Human Services Conference Room – 550 Hot Springs Blvd. Suite A, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. Please visit <https://dmv.colorado.gov/> documents for a list of state-required documents to bring to your appointment. DMV2GO does not offer driver testing. If a driving test is needed, you must have this done before the scheduled appointment.

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.

PAGOSA SPRINGS CARD SHOW. June 20th and 21st. Benefits Pagosa Pirates. Sports Cards, Pokémon, OnePiece, Memorabilia. Vendors Wanted, Call Diamond (970)264-1073.

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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CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE.

The Pagosa Springs SUN is seeking a reliable and friendly customer service representative to join our team and work with some of the friendliest people in Pagosa Springs. This position is required to work at our office at 457 Lewis Street, Pagosa Springs. Hours:

8a.m. to 4p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8a.m. to noon on Friday. Job Responsibilities: • Account Management: Support the advertising department with account management activity that's associated with customers running ads in The SUN, PREVIEW, special publications and on our digital platforms. • Administrative: Insertion order processing and payment processing for advertising and subscriptions. • Service: Provide personable, friendly customer service answering phones and interacting in person with customers that visit the office. • Communication: Serve as a point of contact for internal and external communications. Answer phones, respond to emails and direct inquiries to the appropriate team members. • Project assistance: Assist with special projects and initiatives as needed. Requirements: • 3-5 years of experience working in an office. • Excellent attention to detail and accuracy in data entry. • Strong organizational and time management skills to meet deadlines. • Excellent communication skills on the phone and through all communication channels. • High level of proficiency in Google applications. • Compensation range/benefits: • \$18-20 /hour depending on experience level. • Eligible for medical, dental and vision benefits on the 1st of the month after 30 days of employment. • Eligible to enroll in the company's 401(k) retirement savings on the 1st of the month after 90 days. • 16 days of PTO plus 4-5 paid holidays. • Opportunity for advancement and career growth within the company. About the company: O'Rourke Media Group is a family-owned, diversified media company that was formed in 2018. Originally just a holding company that owned a few newspapers, O'Rourke Media Group (OMG) has established itself as an industry-leading, digital media company comprising a cutting edge digital agency and an impressive group of award-winning, hyper-local print newspapers and niche magazines. OMG now operates in nine states, 45 markets with 64 publications and hyper-local websites.

HELP WANTED



ELITE RECYCLING AND DISPOSAL, a division of Bruin Waste Management, LLC is a rapidly growing organization with services expanding the Western Slope of Colorado.

We currently have a **Class B CDL Driver Trash Recycle Route Driver** position open. Pay based on experience and includes a sign-on bonus of \$500 payable after 6 months of accident-free employment.

We offer a competitive benefits package including a matching 401k Plan with opportunities to earn safety bonuses. Must be able to pass a pre-employment drug test.

We are committed to first-class service, where safety and people are our top priority!

Applications can be picked up at 250 Industrial Circle in Pagosa Springs, Colorado or call our office at (970)731-2012 or email ctanner@elite-recycling.com to request one.

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.

FULL -TIME GROUNDS KEEPER /MAINTENANCE Healing Waters Resort and Spa. Hours will include evening and weekend hours, along with a mandatory early-morning pool cleaning rotation. Looking for someone who is handy with tools — or has the willingness to learn; who doesn't mind sweeping, raking, and shoveling; and who is self-motivated. If this is you we'd love to talk! Download application thru the Employment Link at www.pshotsprings.com, stop by 140 Hot Springs Blvd, or email resume to sales@pshotsprings.com, Attention Maintenance Position. Employees and immediate family soak for FREE. Apply today.

HELP WANTED

HILLSIDE INN IS LOOKING for housekeepers. Housekeeper responsibilities include (but not limited to): performing a variety of cleaning activities (bathrooms, rooms, hallways), make beds, ensure all rooms are cared for and inspected according to standards, etc. Depending on the amount of rooms, shifts are usually from 8a.m. - about 1p.m. or 2p.m. Must be able to work on weekends and holidays. Email Natalie your resume to hillsideinnpagosa@gmail.com or stop by the hotel to pick up an application.

JONES MECHANICAL. EXPERIENCE PREFERRED but will train right person. Excellent opportunity to learn the HVAC trade. (970)731-3046.

KITCHEN ASSISTANT. Full or part time position available. Hours 8a.m. to 3p.m., Monday-Friday. Paid Time Off and a health stipend and holiday pay after 90 days. Pick up an application in person at the Pagosa Springs Senior Center, 451 Hot Springs Blvd, 1p.m.-3 p.m. weekdays. Or send your resume to cynthia@psseniors.org.

LANDSCAPE LABORERS WANTED. Must have own transportation. Call or text for an application. Good pay for good help. (970)946-2277.

LIKE GUNS OR GUITARS? Come sell them for us. The San Juan Trading Post is looking for a sales person. Computer literacy and ability to lift 45 lbs. is required. Starting at \$17/hour, full or part-time. Stop by in person at 635 San Juan St.

LINE COOK POSITION OPEN. The Keyah Grande Guest House is hiring a part-time line cook (\$20 /hour) for our new fine dining restaurant. Experience preferred. Email your resume and references to theguesthouse@keyahgrande.com.

LOOKING FOR PART -TIME TECHNICIAN. 15-20 hours per week. General maintenance, work orders, unit turns, grounds keeping and seasonal tasks. Great fit for someone with handyman experience looking for steady part-time hours. Email background and resume to hickoryridge@pagosacreek.com.

MECHANIC WANTED. Up to \$40 per hour to start. Dulce. Rescue Remedy, (970)585-4580.

HELP WANTED

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.

NOW HIRING:Part-time restaurant staff at Keyah Grande. Beyond the Gates at The Keyah Grande Guest House is seeking dependable and friendly team members to join our restaurant staff. Part-time position available Friday and Saturday evenings, and Sunday mornings. Duties include guest service, maintaining a clean and welcoming environment, assisting with restaurant operations, and providing an exceptional dining experience. Pay: \$14.42 /hour plus tips. To apply, please send your resume to theguesthouse@keyahgrande.com.

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 LIQUOR IS HIRING a full-time cashier. Please come and apply in person at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

Pagosa Therapeutics and The Green House are looking for friendly and enthusiastic people who are eager to help customers navigate the wide world of cannabis. We offer sales bonuses, product sampling, employee discounts, paid sick leave, and comprehensive on-site training. Must be 21 years of age. A Marijuana Enforcement Division badge is required, when hired. E-mail your resume to employment@jandjinc.net or check us out on Indeed.com.

Pagosa Therapeutics and The Green House are looking for friendly and enthusiastic people who are eager to help customers navigate the wide world of cannabis. We offer sales bonuses, product sampling, employee discounts, paid sick leave, and comprehensive on-site training. Must be 21 years of age. A Marijuana Enforcement Division badge is required, when hired. E-mail your resume to employment@jandjinc.net or check us out on Indeed.com.

PART-TIME AND FULL-TIME Front Desk — Friendly, dependable team member wanted to help create a consistently warm, welcoming guest experience. Shifts vary between 8a.m.–10p.m.; must be available for a mix of shifts, including evenings/weekends/holidays. Apply:www.pshotsprings.com | sales@pshotsprings.com Or in person: Healing Waters Resort & Spa, 140 Hot Springs Blvd.

PINE VALLEY RENTAL is looking for a motivated and versatile mechanic shop hand to join our fast-paced team full time. Job duties include engine repair, machine maintenance, servicing machines daily, keeping workspaces tidy, and reporting fuel, hours, cleaning, etc. to clerks. Some customer support is required, which entails assisting with loading and unloading machines, troubleshooting, and guiding customers with machine functions. Communication skills are essential. Prior mechanic experience and familiarity with operating shop equipment is ideal. Candidates must have a friendly and helpful demeanor, while staying professional. Working hours are 8a.m.-5p.m. Monday through Friday. Weekends off. Starting wage is \$20 /hour. 401K benefits are available after one year of employment. One week paid vacation is also available after one year of employment. If you have a knack for mechanics and enjoy helping people, we want to hear from you. Apply at 391 Bastille Drive.

PONDEROSA LUMBER IS SEEKING a person for a cashier position. We offer competitive wages based on experience and a benefits package that includes holiday pay, paid time off, 401(k) and medical/dental for full-time employees. Please apply in person at 2435 Eagle Dr. in Pagosa Springs.

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.

(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

FOR SALE

COMMERCIAL FOR RENT

Jicarilla Service Unit

Come join our team of dedicated medical professionals working to meet the health care needs of American Indians and Alaska Natives

"We're an equal opportunity employer. All applicants will be considered for employment."

Seeking Motivated Team Members to fill the following positions:



The Jicarilla Service Unit is located in the beautiful northwest region of New Mexico on the Jicarilla Apache Reservation in Dulce, NM 55 miles south of Pagosa Springs, Colorado and 30 miles west of Chama, New Mexico

Seeking Motivated Team Members to fill the following positions:

• Infection Preventionist (RN)	• Certified Medical Assistants
• Physician	• Community Health Dental Hygienist
• Pharmacist	• Supervisory Health System Specialist (PRC)
• Optometrist	
• Pediatric Dentist	
• Pharmacy Technician	

- Competitive federal salaries and benefits
- Loan repayment programs (Indian Health Service and National Health Service Corps Site)
- USPHS Commissioned Officers are eligible for Special Duty Pay and Retention Pay (Select Positions and Job Categories)
- Recruitment and retention incentives for well-qualified employees
- Weekday schedule (Monday - Friday) 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM
- No holiday or weekend coverage, no on-call, closed for all federal holidays

To learn more or if you have additional questions, please contact:

Sharon Grinsell, Administrative Assistant
PH: 575-759-7263 sharon.grinsell@ihs.gov

Apply today at USAJOBS.gov



RECEPTIONIST NEEDED AT PAWSD. Responsible for providing account support to the public and customers. Responsibilities include responding to emergency and non-emergency customer needs, entering data, filing, processing mail and notifying the proper authorities during alarms. Controls access to the District office and directs visitors to staff members. Answering telephones, taking payments for accounts. High school diploma plus 1 year clerical and customer service experience. Computer skills and sitting for long periods of time, map reading skills, basic math and multi-tasking skills are a must for this job. Hours M-F 8-5. Apply online at PAWSD website.

RELIABLE, HONEST AND CAPABLE HANDYMAN needed for property management company. Call Team Pagosa, (970)731-8599, or send info to pam@teampagosa.com.

ROOF LABORER NEEDED with some construction experience. Will train. \$20-\$25/ hour to start. (970)749-0830.

SEEKING A LICENSED PTA to assist with patient care under a Physical Therapist's supervision. Responsibilities include guiding exercises, monitoring progress, documenting treatments. Requirements: Accredited PTA degree, current state license, strong communication skills, team player. We offer: Competitive pay, flexible schedule, and a supportive team environment. Apply today at FYZICAL Therapy and Balance Centers, (970)507-8668.

STONE RABBIT SANCTUARY looking for housekeeper, outside work, fence repair and build. (970)264-2592. County Road 551.

STONE RABBIT SANCTUARY looking for someone to farm 50 acres. We have irrigation. (970)264-2592.

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.

PFAFF HIGH -SPEED SEWING MACHINE for leather chaps, upholstery. Model H4LMN, \$500. (970)946-3685.

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).

SELLERS BEWARE: Scams involving buyers trying to deceive sellers 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.

SINGER 29.4 BOOT PATCHER (2) \$400 each. (970)946-3685.

PETS

ADOPT FROM THE Humane Society. Stop by or call (970)731-4771. You'll be amazed at what we have to offer, www.PagosaHumane.org.

AKC FRENCH BULLDOG PUPPIES. DOB March 13, 2026 Ready May 8. OFA health tested parents, chipped, wormed, shots, lifetime support. \$3,500. DuneViewFrenchies.com. (719)640-6404.

LITTLE YORKIE BOY PUPPY. First shots, housebroken, calm and loving, \$700. (970)501-0477.

1.1 ACRE COUNTRY LIVING. Warehouse plus mobile home, \$2,000 per month plus utilities. 1,243 sq. ft. warehouse, former studio /shop. 624 sq. ft. mobile home, new interior paint and floors. Creek-bordered, pasture on one side, more space to breathe. Conveniently close to the 160, 17 minutes from downtown. Available June 1. 1 year lease. Live, create or store. Contact now. (970)946-2728.

COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS FOR LEASE. 1501 W. Hwy 160 #1 and #2. (970)398-5290.

DOWNTOWN OFFICE Upstairs, \$400/ month including utilities, Internet and shared kitchen. No smokers. No pets. (970)946-2728.

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.

OFFICE SPACE FOR LEASE: 2,700 square feet with excellent Highway 160 exposure. Features multiple offices with flexible configuration options, two bathrooms, and a kitchenette. **Lease Rate:** \$4,800 per month, plus utilities. Chris Liverett, Sherpa Real Estate, (970)903-0481.

OFFICE SPACE upstairs with reception area and private bathroom. All utilities included except electric. Fiber internet also included. Centrally located. (970)946-8687.

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.

RESTAURANT FOR LEASE, available immediately. For information, call (970)903-2817.

WAREHOUSES /WORKSHOPS available to rent. Cloman Park new build 1100 sq. ft. \$1,300. Has bathrooms and loft space Contact: (720)470-2653.

VACATION RENTALS

OWNERS, WE ARE BOOKED UP AND NEED MORE VACATION RENTAL PROPERTIES! Call us today for lowest commission and highest customer service. All you have to do is wait for your rent check to come in. We do the rest! Rocky Mountain Realty & Rentals (970)507-1192.

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

2 BEDROOM /1 BATH TOWNHOUSE for rent end of June near City Market. Pets OK with deposit and \$50 /month pet rent. Full washer /dryer. \$1750 /month. Text Val, (970)585-6568.

3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH HOME for rent. Fenced backyard, 2 car garage, covered back deck, small pet negotiable. \$2,650 per month. For more info call (970)946-1570.

DOWNTOWN PAGOSA SPRINGS APARTMENT for rent. Modern 2 bedroom, Energy Star efficient, brand new build, private deck, available now. No smokers, no pets. (720)470-2653.

AUTOS

2010 SUBARU FORESTER XT.New dealer engine, new turbo, struts, tires, battery, etc., etc. Too many things to name. Sacrifice, \$6,500. (970)946-1700.

'79 CHEVY STEP VAN — Model PV, 350, good body, rebuilt engine, low mileage, hasn't been started recently. \$5,500. (970)317-8332.

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

BOAT — 16 FT. ALUMICRAFT trailered with 6HP Mercury outboard motor and trolling motor, \$2,000. LADDER — 24 ft. Werner aluminum extension ladder, \$100. (970)731-5303.

DRY FIREWOOD- PINE. Pick up \$255 a cord. Delivery available. Call for prices. Bayfield. Gabe (970)403-2784.

RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

22' TRAVEL TRAILER, very good condition. \$15,500. Call (970)507-0372 or (970)398-1933.

YARD SALES

FLEA MARKET. Saturday, May. 16, 8a.m. to noon at 230 Port Ave (PLPOA Clubhouse), inside and outside multifamily sale. NO EARLY CALLER.

OVERFLOWING GARAGE SALE. Something for everyone. Household goods, multiple outdoor furniture sets, grill, bed sets, TVs, lamps, rugs, garage miscellaneous, skis and ski boots of all sizes, bikes, art and much, much more. Out Hwy. 84, follow the signs to Loma Linda, 423 San Juan Drive. 8a.m. sharp. Friday: full price, Saturday: half price. Cash only. Sale By: C.K Estate Sales.

PagosaSUN.com

We are looking for reliable, motivated additions to our team!



CASHIER - Starting at \$18/hr DOE, 32-40 hr/week

FURNITURE DEPT - Starting at \$20/hr DOE, 32-40 hr/week

Weekends and holidays required. Benefits include discounts, paid time off, sick pay, profit sharing and more!



Terry's ACE HARDWARE
525 Navajo Trail Dr., PS, CO 81147

Apply in person.
Applications available on www.terrysace.com

Email us at classads@pagosasun.com to submit your classified.

(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

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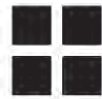
HOMES FOR SALE

"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



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150+ SW Colorado
Property Owners Served
19+ Years. Mortgage &
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FULL LT TENANT SCREENING
NATIONWIDE ADVERTISING
ON CALL 24 HR 7 DAYS



RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

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.

LONG TERM RENTALS AVAILABLE. Call Team Pagosa (970)731-8599, 117 Navajo Trail Dr., pagosaspringsrealty.com.

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 or Lee (970)946-3856.

ON PAGOSA LAKE: Two units for rent. Both are 2 bedroom, 2 bath units. One is a furnished upstairs unit and does not include a garage. Rent: \$1525 per month plus deposit and utilities, available now. The other is an unfurnished downstairs unit including a garage. Rent: \$1425 per month plus deposit and utilities, available June 15th. Pets and smoking are not allowed. Long term lease. Call (817)565-7656 for details.

ONE BEDROOM WITH LOFT, short ways out of town, wood stove, efficient ETS heating unit, large deck, private fenced yard. \$1500 per month, first month, security deposit and half of last month. (970)731-2010.

SEASONAL RV SPOT (up to 42') available on 4 acre quiet, private property. Includes all hookups plus wifi. Tenant responsible for trash disposal. \$750 /month (with \$100 month credit option for helping owner with yard maintenance). Certain pets welcome (upon approval) with pet deposit. References required. Call (602)579-1928.

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.

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.

COMMERCIAL

5700 SQ. FT. BUILDING on .6 acre, high traffic area. \$1,250,000. Call Deborah Archuleta (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.

ALL FENCED MULTI USE 2.25 acres just off of Highway 151. \$325,000. Call Deborah Archuleta (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.

JUST OFF HIGHWAY 151. 10 acres, three phase electric, large steel framed building with concrete floor. \$640,000. Call Deborah Archuleta (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.

MULTI USE 3.7 ACRES in heart of Arboles steps from Navajo Lake State Park. \$400,000. Call Deborah Archuleta (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.

MULTI USE 4 ACRES just off of Highway 151. \$180,000. Call Deborah Archuleta (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.

PRIME LOCATION. Gas station, restaurant, liquor store, convenience store, long -term lodging, so much to see to this business. \$1,350,000. Call Deborah Archuleta (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.

PagosaSUN.com

HOMES FOR SALE

REAL ESTATE SERVICES

Buying or Selling?



Call Marcie Lewis
(970) 759-8672



MarcieLewis.com

80 ACRES with 40 shares irrigation. Hay barn, 6000 sq. ft. Barndominium, indoor riding arena, one bedroom, two baths, garage workshop many more extras. Call Deborah Archuleta, (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.

GREAT VIEWS FROM THE DECK and living room. Two bedroom, two bath, two car garage, sheds, overlooking Navajo Lake State Park, no HOA. \$295,000. Call Deborah Archuleta, (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.

ONE BEDROOM, TWO BATH barndominium 80 acres 40 shares irrigation. Call Deborah Archuleta, (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.

SECLUDED OFF-GRID peaceful cabin. One bedroom, one bath, three car garage, 18 acres and 8.5 shares of irrigation. \$445,000. Call Deborah Archuleta, (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.

UNBELIEVABLE VIEWS. Two bedroom, one bath cabin and 1 acre. \$325,000. Call Deborah Archuleta, (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.

HOMES FOR SALE

WELL BUILT, EXCELLENT VIEWS. 3393 sq. ft., three-bedroom, two bath, additional living space, office, two car garage, detached two car workshop. \$825,000. Call Deborah Archuleta, (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.

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.

3.7 ACRES minutes from Navajo Lake State Park. Water tap available. \$400,000. Call Deborah Archuleta, (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.

ALL FENCED. 2.25 acres. \$325,000. Call Deborah Archuleta, (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.

BEAUTIFUL LAKE VIEW HALF ACRE, no HOA, \$60,000. Call Deborah Archuleta, (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.

BEAUTIFUL MOUNTAIN VIEWS ready for you to build your dream home on this 3 acres with utilities, also fenced. Call Deborah Archuleta, (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.

EXCEPTIONAL DOWNTOWN BUILDING LOTS and development potential. River, huge divide views, location. Nothing like it. Call (970)398-9136, or builder7@fastmail.com.

FOR SALE BY OWNER: Harman Park 1.5 plus acres with highway frontage, \$325K; Aspen Springs 1.5 plus acres with highway frontage, \$65K; West Golf with sewer and water taps paid and installed, \$70K. All OBO. Holly (970)946-0037.

LAND/ BUILDING SITES

POSSIBILITIES ARE ENDLESS. 4 acres with year around creek running through it. \$180,000. Call Deborah Archuleta, (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.

QUIET 4 ACRES with river access, no HOA. \$145,000. Call Deborah Archuleta, (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.

SECLUDED 5 ACRES. \$79,000. Call Deborah Archuleta, (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.

SO PEACEFUL 1 ACRE overlooking large ranch, ready to build with all utilities and many extras. Dream property. \$228,000. Call Deborah Archuleta, (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.

STEPS AWAY FROM SHOPPING. 5 acres with mountain views. \$250,000. Call Deborah Archuleta, (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.



All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, or national origin, or an intention, to make such preference, limitation or discrimination."

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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CHECK**
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MAY 31, 2026
SOME RESTRICTIONS APPLY

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