



Rafters race down a course on the San Juan River at during the head-to-head competition at Saturday's Pagosa Paddle whitewater races.

SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Cases dismissed after credibility issues with officer surface

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

As of Wednesday, May 20, 33 cases had been dismissed relating to credibility issues involving former Archuleta County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) Deputy Jermal Ball that surfaced earlier this month, according to Sixth Judicial District Attorney Sean Murray.

Archuleta County Sheriff Mike Le Roux noted that Ball is no longer employed with the ACSO as of May 14, but stated he could not comment further on the situation.

"We took the appropriate action and he is no longer employed with us," Le Roux said.

"We first figured out there was an issue when, there's a case where the defense attorney issued a subpoena duces tecum for records that were held by the Durango Police Department involving Jermal Ball," Murray said. "That was the first time we heard about it, and that issued on May 4."

He noted he wasn't sure how the defense determined there was an issue there, but had obviously done an

■ See Credibility A6

PAWSD board considers revenue shortfalls

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) Board of Directors heard a first-quarter financial report and discussed potential budgetary issues at its May 14 meeting.

PAWSD Comptroller Jack Dossett presented the report, explaining that this was his first quarter of analyzing the budget and noting that, before he presented concerns, he wanted to note \$21,000 in safety reimbursements from the district's insurance company to help improve safety for staff.

He also noted that staff are aware that fuel and other utility costs are

rising, which will be reflected across all funds.

However, Dossett noted that his "real issue" for the district's water and wastewater funds is that capital investment fee (CIF) revenues are tracking behind last year's incomes, which already failed to hit the revenue targets PAWSD had set.

He explained that the district's revenues from the two funds came in at \$628,000 less than the budgeted revenues in 2025, which were \$1 million for water CIFs and \$1.25 million for wastewater CIFs.

CIF income for the water fund was approximately \$763,000 in 2025, while CIF income for the wastewater

■ See PAWSD A7

Fire restrictions announced for national forest

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

On Wednesday afternoon, San Juan National Forest fire management staff announced that lower-elevation areas of the San Juan National Forest will go into Stage 1 fire restrictions beginning at 12:01 a.m. on Friday, May 22.

"Fire restrictions will only be

implemented at lower elevations to account for variable conditions across the forest," a press release from the U.S. Forest Service explains.

Low elevation areas (referred to as Zone I in the Forest Order) are more susceptible to wildfire risk due to rapid vegetation curing and dry surface fuels, while higher elevation areas (Zone II) are still green and maintaining higher fuel moistures,

the press release explains.

The Stage 1 fire restrictions boundary is illustrated on the Forest Order maps available at www.fs.usda.gov/r02/sanjuan/alerts/stage-1-fire-prohibitions and follows major roadways and designated wilderness boundaries.

All San Juan National Forest wilderness areas are currently excluded from Stage 1 fire restrictions, it notes.

"Although Southwest Colorado experienced several rain events late this spring, vegetation is rapidly drying out due to hot, dry weather, leading to considerable wildfire conditions in much of the lower country," the press release states. "Fire danger at lower elevations (below 8,000 feet) is averaged on the San Juan National Forest, where generally, peak 'green

■ See Fire A6

Local representatives gather for community conversation about potential ballot questions

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

Dozens of constituents gathered in the Pagosa Springs High School auditorium on Wednesday, May 13, for a community conversation centered on potential ballot questions that Archuleta County voters may be asked this coming November.

The meeting was moderated by Main Street Advisory Board chair Rick Holter and featured representatives of three different local entities including the Pagosa Springs Medical Center (PSMC), Archuleta County and Archuleta School District (ASD) engaging in a panel discussion, providing information on their respective

entities' potential ballot questions.

Holter indicated that this was the first of four community conversations scheduled, clarifying that these are not debates or a "sales pitch," and that the goal is to have fact-based conversation about three decisions that voters will be making that will "shape this town and this county for years to come."

PSMC CEO and Chief Medical Officer Rhonda Webb, Archuleta County Manager Longinos Gonzalez and ASD Superintendent Rick Holt were on hand to answer questions and provide information about each entities' potential ballot question.

Webb first explained that the Upper San Juan Health Service

■ See Conversation A4



SUN photo/Clayton Chaney

Constituents are given the opportunity to ask representatives from various local taxing entities about potential upcoming ballot questions voters may see this fall during a community conversation meeting held at the Pagosa Springs High School auditorium on Wednesday, May 13.

Memorial Day service

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

A Memorial Day service will take place on Monday, May 25, to honor citizens who died defending American freedom.

The service will begin at 10 a.m. at the flagpole at Hilltop Cemetery and will be conducted by American Legion Post 108.

All are welcome at the event.

Flag Day

The Legion post is also collecting old flags to retire them on Flag Day, June 14.

Please drop any and all old flags at one of the following locations for retirement:

- Pagosa Springs Town Hall.
- Pagosa Fire Protection District Office (near Station 1).
- Terry's Ace Hardware.
- Hometown Insurance.

randi@pagosasun.com

PAWSD board hears Aspen House fee waiver presentation

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) Board of Directors agreed to reclassify the Aspen House project from commercial to residential following a presentation from Aspen House representatives and other community members asking for fee waivers at PAWSD's May 14 meeting.

Aspen House is a planned home for adults with developmental disabilities in Archuleta County that is currently in the funding and construction process.

Aspen House Executive Director Pattie Copenhaver introduced the or-

ganization's request, explaining that any fee waivers would help reduce the organization's construction costs.

She stated that the organization is currently about \$640,000 away from its final build, in addition to \$1.2 million in fee reductions and donated work secured by the organization's contractor, Tim Brown.

Brown explained that the project was started to serve people like his son and that he has seen extraordinary generosity from his subcontractors in donating work to help the project move forward.

The board also heard comments from a variety of other parents of children with special needs and people who work with them about the value

of Aspen House and the importance of the project.

Archuleta County Commissioner John Ranson also spoke about the value of the project and his belief that PAWSD needs to support the community and provide the approximately \$71,000 in fee waivers that were requested for the project.

He also noted that the county does not consider the property commercial, although PAWSD was calculating the fees for the property as commercial fees.

"All of us need to help on a project like this," Ranson said. "This shouldn't even be a debate."

He added that he was not speaking for the Board of County Commission-

ers, but that he believes he could get the board to sign a letter supporting Aspen House's request.

"This should not be a hard decision," he said. "And please don't tell me, 'Well, we can't afford this because of our modeling and our water loss and the costs that you've got out in the future.' I don't think you guys ever came to the county when you did your impact fee, which you're supposed to do. I don't want to go there."

He explained that current PAWSD board members Bill Hudson and Glenn Walsh worked with the county against PAWSD to remove a previous impact fee, prior to their time on the board.

■ See Waiver A5

Index

Opinion	A2	Public Notices	B6
Letters	A3	Education	B7
Obituaries	A4	School district outlines proposed capital improvement work	
Judy Ann Armistead			
Karl Snow			
Roy Stevens			
Services	A4	PREVIEW	2
Codie Wilson		Live Performers	18
Community	B1	Crossword	19
Life at Chimney Rock Festival to return June 6-7		Preview Calendar	27
Outdoors	B2	Classifieds	
Spring recreation begins with a focus on safety and environmental stewardship			
Sports	B4	PagosaSUN.com	
Pirates earn podium finishes			



Opinion



The Pagosa Springs SUN

©Copyright 2026
O'Rourke Media Group — Pagosa Springs, LLC
ISSN 2835-3994 (Print) ISSN 2835-4001 (Online)

(970) 264-2100
PagosaSUN.com
Physical: 457 Lewis Street
Mailing: PO Box 9, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

"HOME OF THE WORLD'S DEEPEST
HOT MINERAL SPRINGS"



SUN STAFF

Owner, CEO

Jim O'Rourke

Publisher, Advertising, Circulation

Shari Pierce, shari@pagosasun.com

Editor

Randi Pierce, editor@pagosasun.com

Reporters

Josh Pike, josh@pagosasun.com
Derek Kutzer, derek@pagosasun.com
Clayton Chaney, clayton@pagosasun.com

Classified Advertising/Front Office

classads@pagosasun.com

Head Pressroom Robert Penton

Assistant Press Operator Matt McKinnon
Mailroom William Thomas

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Annual In County - \$45

Annual Out of County - \$55

Monthly - \$10

Digital subscriptions available at PagosaSun.com

ADVERTISING DEADLINES

Display - Noon Monday

Classified - Tuesday 10 a.m.

Legal - Noon Friday • Deadlines are moved up for
holiday weeks. Please check for an ad in the paper
for specific dates and times.



COLORADO
PRESS
ASSOCIATION

PRIZE-WINNING NEWSPAPER

2017 Service to the First Award Recipient

2022 EXCELLENCE IN PHOTO & DESIGN
2022 EXCELLENCE IN ADVERTISING

2022 FIRST-PLACE AWARDS

Best Advertising Campaign
Best Data Journalism Reporting
Best Serious Column Writing
Best Cover Design
Best Page Design

Best Photo Slideshow- Gallery or Photo Essay

2022 SECOND-PLACE AWARDS

Best Advertising Campaign
Best Advertising Special Section
Best Print Ad
Best Editorial Special Section
Best Education Story
Best Investigative Story Package
Best Public Service Project
Best Page Design

PAGOSA SPRINGS, COLORADO

USPS 418-340

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

Periodical newspaper postage paid at
Pagosa Springs, Colorado 81147
Postmaster, Address Service Requested

The following
weather information
is brought to you as a
public service by



Weather data

Date	High	Low	Precipitation	
			Moisture Type	Depth
5/12	82	34	0.00	NA
5/13	80	40	0.05	NA
5/14	74	41	0.00	NA
5/15	76	32	0.00	NA
5/16	76	36	0.00	NA
5/17	67	37	0.00	NA
5/18	59	42	0.00	NA

(970) 264-1301

intermountainpropane.com

OUR VIEW

'A very high price'

"Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness come with a very high price — the lives of millions of Americans who gallantly fought for those cherished values," said John F. Baker Jr., who served in the U.S. Army and received the Medal of Honor.

As folks point out every year, Memorial Day is much more than just an unofficial kickoff to the summer season.

Memorial Day — and it's precursor, Decoration Day — has long been an opportunity to honor those who gave their lives in service to our country.

The first official Decoration Day, the precursor to Memorial Day, was established on May 5, 1868, three years after the Civil War ended, according to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

On that day, the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) set the day as a time for the nation to decorate the graves of its war dead with flowers, with it determined the day would be held on May 30.

A document from the VA further states, "It is believed the date was chosen because flowers would be in bloom all over the country."

On May 30, 1868, more than 5,000 gathered at Arlington National Cemetery.

"After speeches, children from the Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphan Home and members of the GAR made their way through the cemetery, strewing flowers on both Union and Confederate graves, reciting prayers and singing hymns," the VA document states.

The day began to be called Memorial Day over the following decades, and grew to encompass veterans who died in all wars following World War I. In 1971, Congress declared Memorial Day a national holiday.

This tradition continues to this day, and it continues with no less meaning.

As James A. Garfield (then a congressman from Ohio) said in a speech on May 30, 1868, at Arlington, "For love of country they accepted death, and thus resolved all

doubts, and made immortal their patriotism and their virtue."

Whether you agree with what's happening in our country at any given time or not, one fact is clear — men and women gave their lives for our right to express those opinions and to offer suggestions for how to be a better country.

As Medal of Honor recipient Harold A. Fritz, who served in the U.S. Army, said, "America — love it or leave it. Many have died to protect it."

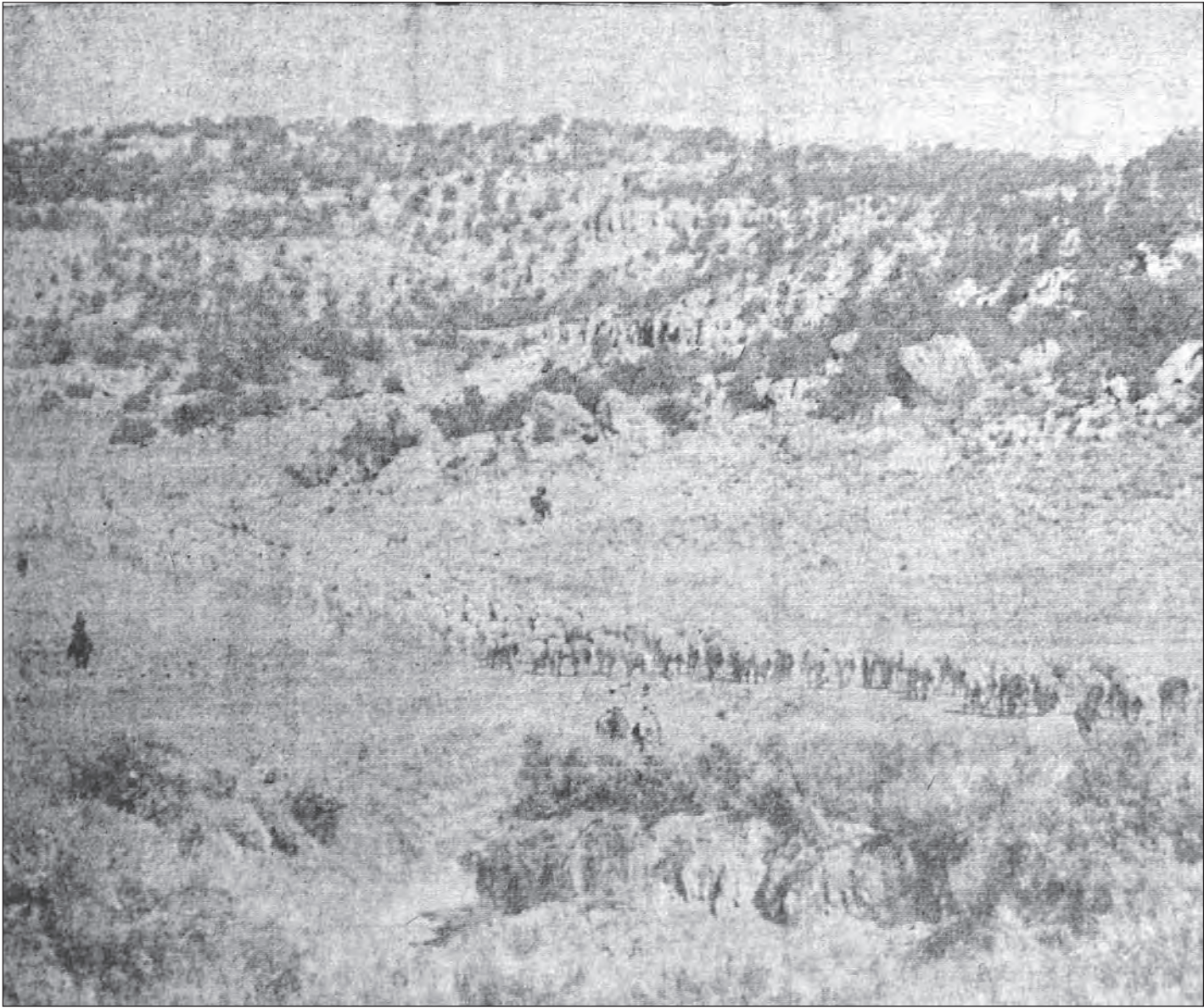
And that sacrifice should be honored.

On Monday morning at 10 a.m., veterans, their family members and other community members will gather at Hilltop Cemetery to honor those who gave their lives in service to our country, as well as those who served in our country's military who have passed away in the last year.

We hope to see you there to take part in this enduring tradition.

Randi Pierce

LOOKING BACK



From the May 28, 1970 Pagosa SUN — CATTLE AND DUST — Trail drive crews traveled in a cloud of dust in many places as the Great Western Land and Cattle Co. cattle drive crossed the Jicarilla Apache Reservation. Cattle are strung out for more than a mile along back country roads and through sagebrush flats. Six regular members of the crew, plus visiting members of crew members' families keep the cattle moving at a steady pace of about 15 miles per day.

Archuleta County Commissioners		
Warren Brown, Chair warren.brown@archuletacounty.gov • (970) 264-8304	John Ranson jranson@archuletacounty.gov • (970) 264-8307	Veronica Medina veronica.medina@archuletacounty.gov • (970) 264-8305
Pagosa Springs Town Council		
Pagosa Springs Mayor Shari Pierce spierce@pagosasprings.co.gov		
Madeline Bergon mbergon@pagosasprings.co.gov	Brooks Lindner blindner@pagosasprings.co.gov	Gary Williams gwilliams@pagosasprings.co.gov
Mat deGraaf mdegraaf@pagosasprings.co.gov	Leonard Martinez lmartinez@pagosasprings.co.gov	

LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

100 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
May 21, 1926

Dr. Mary Winter Fisher of Pagosa Springs will assist, free of charge, all applicants to the Citizens Military Training Camps necessary physical examination, etc., for admission to the camps. Reef Egger, Archuleta county chairman, will also render all assistance he can — gratis — in supplying and making out application blanks, furnishing information, etc. But see them before this county's quota is filled!

Helen M. James

Lota Dean Thomas

Kittie M. Reavis

Clark D. Speelman

Elisabeth A. Selby

Helen I. Dartt

John B. Shahan

Thomas R. Ford

Belarmino J. Martinez

Tonight at the Pagosa Springs High School auditorium, the above nine students will receive their diplomas signifying that they have completed the four year course of high school work in District No. 1. The class represents the first to graduate from the new school building in Pagosa Springs and marks a long step in the progress of education since 1910, when a class of two was the first to complete the high school course in Pagosa Springs.

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
May 25, 1951

A crew under the direction of Woodrow Dunlap, rodeo president has been busy the past few weeks at the Red Ryder Round-Up rodeo grounds enlarging the seating capacities. The available seating space last year was entirely inadequate and the new stands will do much to help the situation.

The former seating capacity was increased threefold and other arrangements are being worked on. A new feature this year, will be reserved seats and boxes. The reserved seats and boxes will go on sale about June 15 and sold on a strictly first come, first served basis. There are only ten boxes and while this is not nearly enough, more will be added when building restrictions are relaxed.

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
May 20, 1976

Saturday, May 22, at 2 p.m., is official Bicentennial time for this community. At that time a parade will form at the post office corner, and official designation will start. The area is near the parade ground of early day Fort Lewis.

Flying from the flagpole at the post office will be a flag that has flown over the United States Capitol. The flag was presented on behalf of Congressman Wayne Aspinall to Postmaster Dick DeVore in 1963 when the post office building was dedicated.

After the parade is formed, Mayor James Cloman will lead the group in the pledge of allegiance. Various service organizations, American Legion, 4-H, and other interested groups will make up the parade. Included will be the local school band. The band will then proceed to the museum for the official presentation and the opening of the museum.

Representatives of the Colorado Centennial Bicentennial Committee and the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration will be there to make official presentation of a certificate designating this as an official bicentennial community and the official bicentennial flag will also be presented.

25 years ago

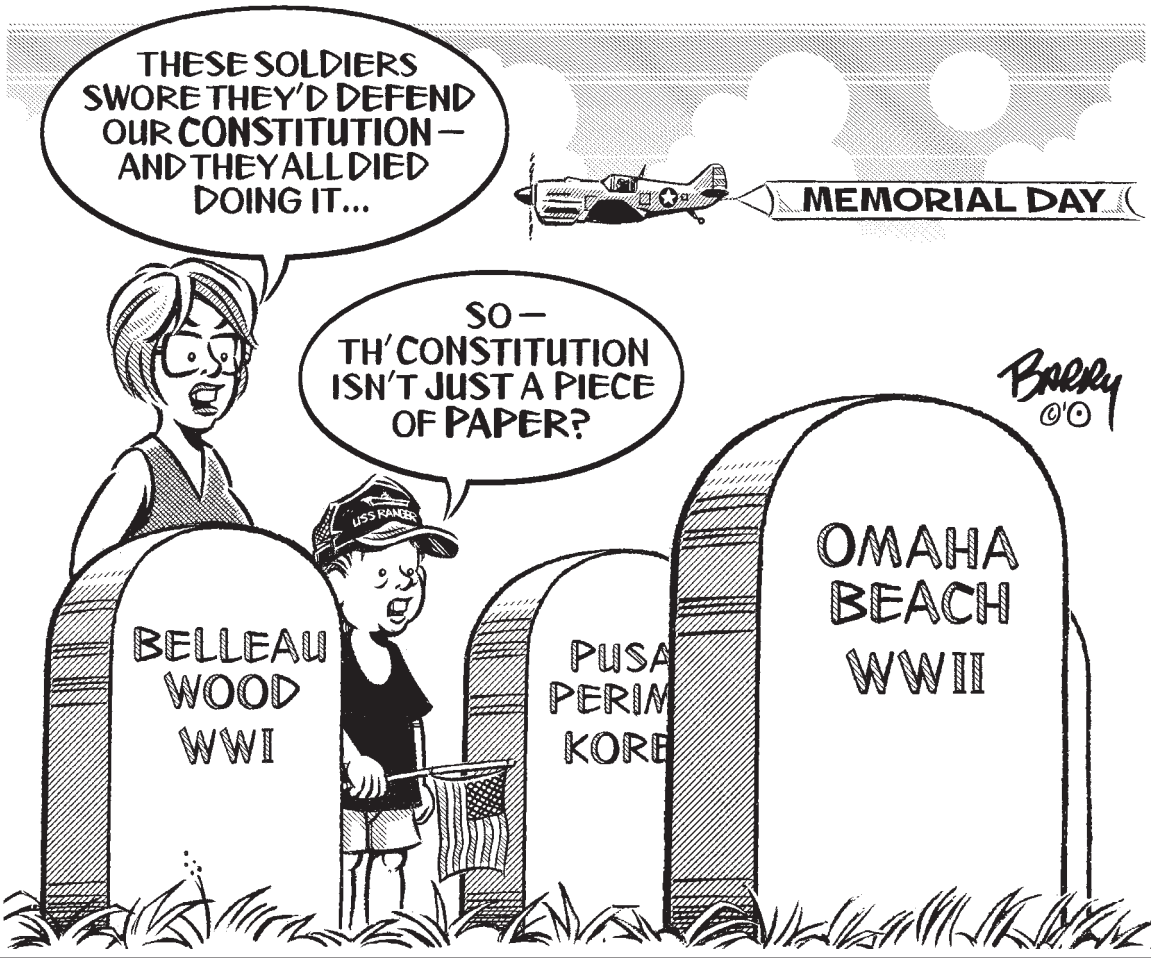
Taken from SUN files of
May 24, 2001

County commissioners here Tuesday unanimously endorsed the Community Plan adopted by the Upper San Juan Regional Planning Commission during March.

The Community Plan, which also functions as the County Master Plan, is a written attempt to describe the land-use desires of a majority of the county population. It is an advisory document written with guidance from Four Corners Planning and Design Group, a Durango land consulting firm hired by the county, and after almost 30 meetings designed to collect public input.

Presenting the Community Plan to the commissioners Tuesday were Kathy Ruth, the county planner, and Lynn Constan, chairman of the Upper San Juan Regional Planning Commission board. Constan is a former professional planner.

"This is a broad policy document which contains statements in eight categories," Constan said in her introductory remarks. "It contains no force of law. Implementation is the next step. We're (USJRPC) meeting with you (commissioners) June 27 to learn how we can work together to develop rules for implementation. The Community Plan is a planning tool. Zoning is implementation.





Judy Ann Armistead

Judy Ann Armistead was born on Feb. 12, 1941, and passed away peacefully in her sleep, leaving behind a life filled with music, nature, independence, faith and unforgettable memories.



Judy was the mother of two sons, Gary Andrew Armistead, born Feb. 17, 1960, who preceded her in death, and Michael Joseph Smith, born Feb. 17, 1965.

She was previously married to Zolton Sydney Smith, born March 6, 1940, who is also deceased.

Judy lived life on her own terms and was deeply connected to the outdoors. She loved the forests, mountains, rivers and natural beauty that surrounded her throughout much of her life. After spending years in the California mountains, she moved to Colorado in the late 1990s, where her son built her a home in Aspen Springs among the trees and quiet mountain air she loved so much.

She especially loved hot springs and spent many years working at The Springs in Pagosa Springs, where she deeply enjoyed the private mineral baths for women. She loved welcoming visitors, sharing stories and anecdotes, and helping people experience the peace and healing atmosphere that made the hot springs so special to her. To Judy, the springs were more than a place to work — they were a place of comfort, conversation and

Obituaries

connection.

Judy also loved the rock ‘n’ roll music of the late 1960s and early 1970s, and carried the spirit of that era with her throughout her life. She valued freedom, nature, music and authenticity. Dogs and cats always seemed to find a home in her life and in her heart.

She was also a longtime medical cannabis enthusiast who believed in the healing qualities of the plant and appreciated the comfort and peace it brought her over the years.

Above all, Judy was a born-again Christian who held onto her faith and belief in the Lord. Her family takes comfort in believing that she has gone home to be with the Lord and has found eternal peace.

Those who knew Judy will remember her as strong-willed, independent, warm-hearted and unapologetically herself. Her memories live on in the mountains she loved, the music she cherished, the stories she shared and the lives she touched.

Judy now rests peacefully among the forested mountains, hot springs and rivers that she cherished most, reunited in eternal peace with the Lord she believed in.

Karl Snow

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Karl Snow. He left this life May 8, 2026. He was preceded in death by both of his parents; his brothers, Kenneth and Jerry; and by his son, Jason. He is survived by his son, Richard; daughter Billie; grandsons Lynden, Otto, Woody, Denton, Dallas, Timothy and Joseph Benito; granddaughter Noble Lee; and his sister, August. A celebration of life for Karl will be

held June 6, 2026, at 11 a.m. in Aztec, N.M., at Riverside Park — 500 S. Light Plant Road, Aztec, N.M. There will be a potluck lunch immediately following the service. Please bring a dish to share and your favorite camp chair as seating is limited.

Roy Stevens

Roy Stevens, beloved father, grandfather, brother and son, passed away, at home, smiling, sharing memories and laughing on May 17, 2026, at the age of 72.

Born on Dec. 30, 1953 in Imperial Beach, Calif., Roy lived a life marked by dedication, service, and love for his family and community. He proudly served in the United States Army from February 1972 to October 1975, carrying the values of honor and commitment throughout his life.

Following his military service, Roy devoted many years to serving his community through the Pagosa Springs Fire Department. During his 10-year tenure at the department he served for 8.5 years as captain of Station 5, becoming its first captain under the leadership of Warren Grams. His steady leadership and willingness to help others left a lasting impact on those who served beside him.

He also faithfully served the Aspen Springs Metro District from 1991 to 2016 alongside Carey Brown, contributing greatly to the growth and well-being of the community he cared so



deeply about.

Above all else, Roy treasured his family. He was a loving father, proud grandfather, caring brother and devoted son whose kindness, humor, wisdom and strength will be deeply missed by all who knew him. Few things brought him more joy than celebrating his children's and grandchildren's achievements or attending a sporting event in which his grandchildren were participating.

He is survived by his children, Marshall (Ashley) Currier, Jessica Stevens, Jack (Emma) Stevens; grandchildren, Sean Gallegos, Elizabeth Currier, Victoria Currier, Deegen Hoffschneider and Aliana Hoffschneider; brothers and sisters, Judy Schultze, Nancy (Les) Shepard; former wife and friend, Teresa Norton; and many extended family members and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, Jack and Ruth (Meador) Stevens; and brothers and sisters Joyce Brown, Richard Brown, Josh Brown, Maxine (Stevens) Graves and Luthera (Brown) McNerlin.

A celebration of life will be scheduled at a later date to honor and celebrate his life.

His legacy of service, integrity and love for family will forever remain in the hearts of those who knew him.

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.

Conversation

Continued from front

District (USJHSD) board, which oversees PSMC, has not yet decided if it will put forth a ballot question, but that decision will likely be made in June.

She went on to mention that PSMC is one of six hospitals in the state that own and operate an ambulance service, doing so at a \$2.25 million loss every year.

Webb explained that the USJHSD began in 1981 and that a mill levy was first passed in 2001 that made it possible to pay emergency medical service (EMS) responders.

She noted that PSMC is asking for a mill levy increase, and if the board does decide to go to the ballot, it will be asking voters to continue to allow for “de-Brucing.”

De-Brucing, named for Douglas Bruce, who wrote and advocated for Colorado’s Taxpayer’s Bill of Rights (TABOR), refers to a voter-approved measure that allows local tax entities to keep and spend tax revenue that exceeds spending limits dictated by the TABOR.

Holter explained that there is currently a waiver for TABOR rules for the medical center, asking if the goal is to make that waiver permanent.

Webb stressed that PSMC operates on a tight margin, explaining that if it is not able to continue de-Brucing that may affect how much money it can obtain from grants, “which help us with capital projects.”

Holter also noted that the PSMC is the largest employer in the county.

The second biggest employer in the county is ASD, Holter noted before asking Holt to provide information on what the school district might be asking of voters this fall.

Holt explained that ASD started the process of evaluating its facilities and thinking about solutions in October 2024, noting that every seven years school districts are required by the state to develop a master plan.

Holt mentioned that a Master Planning Advisory Committee was formed and held multiple meetings, with anywhere from 30-50 community members attending each meeting, and helped take a close look at the district’s facilities to make a suggestion to the school board on what to do.

Holt also mentioned that it was “very much a school board decision.”

He explained that school districts in the state do not receive any sort of regular funding for capital improvement projects, and the only way to do that is to ask the community.

“We have to bond for those dollars,” he said, noting that the district could go for a certificate of participation (COP), but that the “best” way is to go for a bond.

Holt also explained that he recently presented ASD’s Building Excellent Schools Today (BEST) grant application to the state, noting that the BEST program provides roughly \$200 million in grants and that ASD is applying for \$50 million for its

project.

The total cost of ASD’s project is about \$125 million, which would replace the existing middle and elementary schools with a new campus for pre-kindergarten through eighth-grade (PK-8) to be built on a 35 acre parcel off of Vista Boulevard.

Holt noted that the PK-8 building would be about 10,000 square feet smaller than what the current elementary and middle schools have combined, but would be “far more efficient.”

Holt indicated that the district should know by May 21 if it will be awarded the grant.

Holter commented that whether or not ASD is awarded the grant is the “crucial thing at this point” that would give ASD a green light to move forward with the project and go for a bond of roughly \$75 million.

Holt described it as being fiscally responsible in the sense “that seems like the right time to go about that” if the project is essentially 40 percent off with the grant.

He also explained that ASD went to voters in 2011 on a ballot measure that was defeated 3-to-1.

Holt also provided “rounded numbers” for what the financial impact would be for residents if the district goes for a \$75 million bond.

For a \$500,000 home, the total taxes that property owners would see comes in at just under \$300 a year, or about \$25 a month, he noted.

Holt commented that when looking at the per-month impact, it feels “more obtainable,” while also noting that it is “time for the community to step up” as it has not had to contribute anything to a new middle or elementary school facility since the 1950s.

Holter then mentioned that not all of these potential ballot questions deal with raising property taxes, as the county is looking to increase its lodging tax rate.

Gonzalez commented that the county is trying to meet the needs of the community “in a way that’s efficient and effective,” though it’s becoming more difficult to do so with the rising costs of everything.

He noted that areas such as roads, bridges and other infrastructure improvements are some of what “residents care about the most,” and the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) is looking at other methods to provide funding for those needs.

Gonzalez explained that an increase to the lodging tax would least affect local residents, “because these are paid for almost entirely by visitors.”

He also explained that the county currently has a 2 percent lodging tax, but that all of those funds have to be put back into marketing and advertising for tourism purposes.

“All those dollars have to go marketing and advertising,” he said.

New legislation allows for different lodging tax funds to be spent in other areas such as roads, public safety,

child care, housing and parks and can be raised up to 6 percent, Gonzalez explained.

Holter commented that the ballot question would ask voters to approve raising the lodging tax up to maybe 5 or 6 percent, and also ask voters to approve specifically what those additional funds will be spent on.

Gonzalez commented that, based on feedback the county has received so far, an example of what voters might be asked is to approve 80 percent of additional lodging tax funds to be spent on roads and the remaining 20 percent to go to another area, or be split evenly between multiple other areas.

He indicated that the ballot language needs to be extremely clear and transparent, “so the public can trust us” to spend tax dollars.

Holter clarified that the school district’s ballot measure will involve property taxes for homeowners.

Holt confirmed that it would be paid by homeowners or property owners, noting that about 50 to 60 percent of homes in the county are “second homes.”

Jumping back to the lodging tax discussion, Holter asked what kind of feedback the county has received from its local lodgers about the potential ballot measure.

Gonzalez commented that it’s been generally positive, though some lodgers have suggested not raising it all the way to 6 percent, but that there is an understanding that the additional funds would also benefit lodgers by allowing the county to keep up with infrastructure projects and improvements.

Holter also commented that the county has spent “a lot of money” on roads over the past few years, to which Gonzalez explained it has been able to do so by spending money out of the Road and Bridge Department’s reserve funds.

“We need to address roads and infrastructure,” Gonzalez said, noting the reserve fund has gone from having a few million dollars in it to less than \$500,000 and stating that practice is “not sustainable.”

Gonzalez commented that having 80 percent of additional lodging tax funds dedicated to roads “would greatly benefit the community.”

Turning the attention back to the PSMC, Holter asked how decisions in our nation’s capital and in Denver are affecting the hospital.

Webb explained that primary payers in most rural hospitals are Medicaid and Medicare patients, as PSMC sees less from commercial insurance.

She explained that Medicare pays 101 percent of costs, “not charges,” and then takes back 2 percent for administration fees.

“So, they pay us less than what it costs,” she said.

Webb also explained that Medicaid pays 60 percent of what it costs to do business, noting that PSMC budgeted \$1.4 million less from Medicaid this year due to cuts coming from the

Spring Discounts*



25% OFF all highlights, balayage & custom color services

10% OFF all over color and root retouch services

Offers good through May 31, 2026

*Call (970)585-7904, ask for Taylor for these specials



190 Village Dr
Unit C-6
(970)585-7904

wildflowersalonpagosa



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.

SCOTT STRATEGIC INVESTMENTS
An Independent Practice

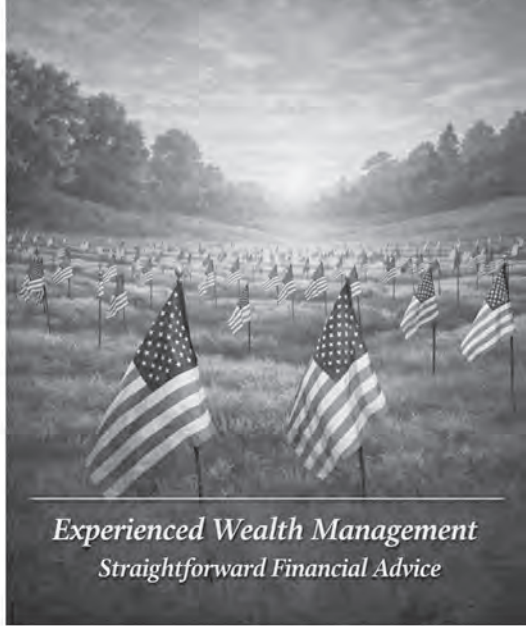
Bob Scott, CFP®, AAMS®
President

Dean Scott, CPA®
Vice President & Wealth Manager

Anthony Doctor, RICP®
Portfolio & Wealth Manager

We Remember.

With gratitude for those who gave everything.



Experienced Wealth Management
Straightforward Financial Advice

clients@scottstrategicinv.com | Phone (CO): 970-731-3070 | Phone (TX): 936-756-9870
Securities and advisory services offered through LPL Financial, a registered investment advisor. Member FINRA/SIPC.



Archuleta County
Farm Bureau presents

Water, Wildlife and Weeds

CSU Extension Building
344 Highway 84

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
OR
Stop by our office

Waiver

Continued from front

“I’m pleading with ya,” he said. “I don’t want \$71,000, I don’t want \$28,000 I’ve heard from individuals that have authority here. I’m asking to waive the whole thing.”

PAWSD board chairman Gene Tautges commented that the issue is particularly emotional, but noted that PAWSD is “personal, too,” and has fiduciary responsibilities.

Tautges then attempted to clarify the costs associated with the project, explaining that the building permit that Aspen House brought to PAWSD indicated that the project is commercial and that, if it is, it would cost about \$76,000 in fees according to PAWSD’s rules and regulations, including modeling fees, capital investment fees (CIFs), and fees for installing pipes and meters.

However, if the project is actually residential, as the county now currently classifies it, the fees would drop to about \$26,000 or \$27,000.

This would also involve changing the number of equivalent units (EUs) associated with the project, Tautges explained, with the commercial classification allowing the current 2.5 EUs while a residential classification would, by definition, allow one EU.

He explained that this change to residential would not require board action, but that any further waivers would require discussion and a decision by the board.

In response to a comment from Ranson, Tautges added that the building permit for the project, not the county’s classification of the land where the project is located, would have to change.

Ranson added that PAWSD does not have to charge, which Tautges agreed with, and that the community is “pleading” with PAWSD to assist on this project.

Tautges invited Ranson to attend a later discussion of issues with the PAWSD budget, also covered in this issue of The SUN.

Brown stated that he is unsure why

the project was classified as commercial to begin with and questioned why the district could not just forgive the fees instead of compelling Aspen House to go through the process of trying to change the building permits.

He also cited previous conflicts with PAWSD over other aspects of the project that “basically shut this project down for two years.”

Tautges stated that he appreciated Brown’s comments and that the board had the power to waive the fees, although whether doing so was the wise or correct thing to do remained uncertain.

PAWSD Programs Manager Renee Lewis also clarified in response to confusion from Aspen House representatives that the project was classified as a multi-dwelling project due to it being how other assisted living facilities in the area are classified.

Tautges also noted that the Pagosa Fire Protection District (PFPD) classifies the project as commercial and that it might be classified otherwise somewhere else.

Walsh commented that he does not see the project through an affordable housing lens, but does see it through the lens of the district’s previous favorable treatment or waiver of fees for other health care establishments in the community.

He added that he would support waiving fees for the project and that he believes that the district’s budgetary issues would not be significantly impacted by this project.

He also commented that he would hope that the district would not have to go above one EU and would also support reclassifying the project to residential if a majority of the board supported it.

PAWSD board member Alex Boehmer commented that he thought the board could “help this project out” by charging it as one residential EU.

He explained that he was nervous about PAWSD’s budget and desired to set a precedent that “we’re not a charity.”

Hudson commented that PAWSD has waived fees on a variety of other health care and public service projects in the community and that he views this project in a similar category to those.

He also noted that the project was classified as multifamily due to the number of fixtures inside and that staff did an “excellent” job of finding the lowest possible price that met the district’s rules and regulations.

The board then discussed potential approaches to reclassifying the project, with Boehmer suggesting that the district keep considering the project multifamily to keep it in line with how other districts assess it, but charge it the residential instead of multifamily rate.

Walsh then moved to charge the project as a single residential EU, noting the importance of finding a board compromise that could lead to a successful vote.

Boehmer asked if there would be negative impacts in terms of legal risk to the district for not doing water modeling.

PAWSD District Engineer Justin Ramsey explained that the PFPD and Aspen House’s own engineer determined there is enough water for fire suppression.

He added that the model is designed to ensure that PAWSD has enough water and infrastructure available once all houses in the area are built out.

Archuleta County Commissioner Veronica Medina then spoke, raising concerns that, if Aspen House is allotted one EU, it may use more water than that and have to pay increased monthly rates.

She added that she believes that the county would waive the fees if it was the county’s decision and suggested that PAWSD do so as well.

Boehmer asked if PAWSD could charge the one EU but still consider the project at 2.5 EUs and if that would be allowed in Walsh’s motion.

Tautges commented that he wished he had arranged the agenda in a dif-

ferent order so everyone could hear PAWSD’s financial report and the associated problems.

He noted that the district is in a difficult position and could potentially be in something equivalent to default if its debt service coverage ratios decrease.

PAWSD Comptroller Jack Dossett corrected Tautges, noting that the district would not be in default, but that its future capital would be more expensive.

Lewis added that this would also not impact PAWSD’s ability to get grants from the Colorado Department of Local Affairs, as Tautges speculated it would.

Walsh commented that the district’s budget issues would not be solved by fees for this project.

Tautges commented that, although the Aspen House situation would not break the district’s budget, it would “injure” it, in his opinion, and would “open up Pandora’s box.”

The board then heard more comments from supporters of Aspen House and clarifications about the motion and the state of the EUs for the property, with Walsh stating that he would want to keep his motion to count the property as one EU.

Ramsey added that considering the property as 2.5 EUs would lead to more water use allowed before additional charges, but would also lead to a 2.5 times larger water base water bill.

Tautges commented that he would agree with Walsh that keeping Aspen House at one EU would likely be ideal.

Walsh added that, if the project is regularly hitting penalty rates, they could request an additional EU of water service from PAWSD and pay increased rates in the future.

The board then voted on Walsh’s motion, with Walsh, Hudson and Boehmer voting in support and Tautges voting against, citing his concerns about the district’s financial situation.

Following the vote, the board received a comment from the audience that it did nothing to help the project compared to what it would have gotten from PAWSD if the project was reclassified as residential by the county.

Tautges replied that the decision was “discouraging” and encouraged audience members to stay to hear about the district’s financial issues.

The board closed the discussion with clarifications of a variety of other water issues related to the project and with Tautges and Lewis clarifying, in response to a question from Ranson, that PAWSD would still want the county to move forward with classifying the project as residential and informing PAWSD about this since it would impact other issues for PAWSD.

Open Houses



Whispering Pines Townhomes

Enter 1135 Park Ave & Look for the Signs

Saturday, May 23, 2026
10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

6 Different Floor Plans
Come See What is Available!

OPEN HOUSES

Saturday, May 23
from Noon to 3 pm

Imagine your days spent on the lake or relaxing on your back patio, surrounded by breathtaking mountain scenery. Welcome to this charming home nestled directly on Hatcher Lake in the Pagosa Lakes community. This beautifully maintained 2,792-square-foot residence features 4 bedrooms and 3 full bathrooms, including two primary suites—one conveniently located on the main level and the other on the upper level. Ideal for multi-generational living or simply enjoying extra space, the home offers room for everyone to spread out and relax. The main level boasts a bright sunroom for year-round enjoyment.



31 Laguna Place
\$895,000 • MLS# 833147

To tour this home go to: <https://pspixeltree.com/31-Laguna-Pl-1>



33 Fawn Court
\$875,000 • MLS# 824532

This meticulously cared for full-round log cabin, uptown near Lake Forest, spans 2,732 square feet, featuring 4 bedrooms and 3.5 bathrooms. Stunning mountain views. The open floor plan connects the great room with a cozy fireplace to a modern kitchen boasting granite countertops, high end appliances, and an island for extra prep space.

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



Barbara Swindlehurst
CIPS CRS GRI SFR CNE
REALTOR®, BROKER/ OWNER
C: 303.618.7423 • O: 970.264.6673
Barbara@MountainMeadowRealEstate.com



409 Lewis Street • MountainMeadowRealEstate.info

SPONSORED CONTENT

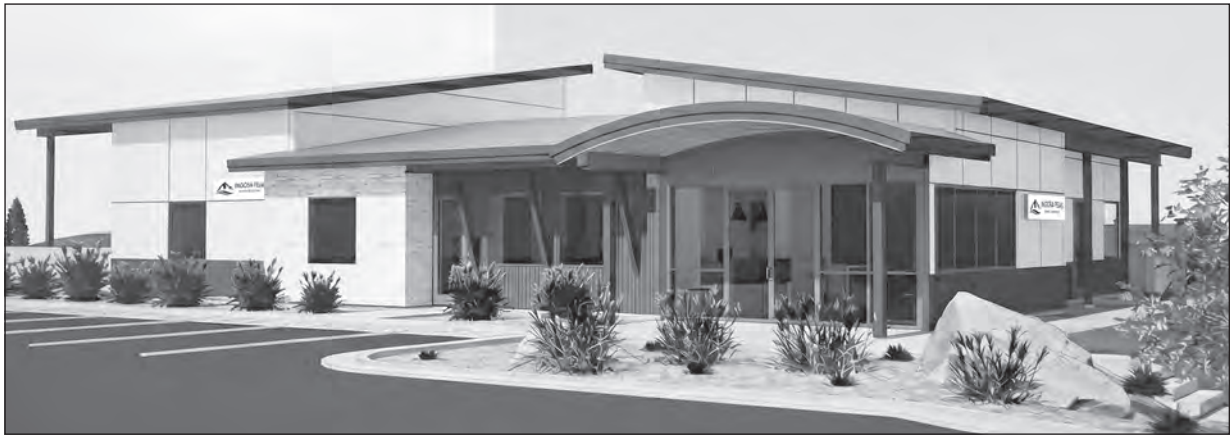


Illustration courtesy Pagosa Peak Family Dentistry

Rendering of new facility located at 2737 Cornerstone Dive.

Business Spotlight: Pagosa Peak Family Dentistry expands in new era of care

By Ella Slade

For more than 30 years, Pagosa Peak Family Dentistry has been a trusted part of the Pagosa Springs community.

Dr. Peter Roukema and his wife Christy, a dental hygienist, are proud to carry forward the legacy originally established by Dr. Thompson and continued by Dr. Campbell — now embarking on an exciting new chapter with the move to a brand-new facility at 2737 Cornerstone Drive.

The relocation marks a significant milestone — not just in size, but in vision.

The modern, state-of-the-art space was designed with patient comfort and the room to grow alongside the community. It reflects the Roukemas’ deep commitment to delivering thoughtful, relationship-based care to Pagosa Springs families for generations to come.

With Drs. Roukema and Astorga serving as the practice’s two full-time doctors, supported by a dedicated team, Pagosa Peak is better equipped than ever to serve its growing patient base — without losing the personal touch that has always set the practice apart.

Patients can expect the same fa-

miliar faces and the same warm, unhurried care they’ve come to rely on, now in a space worthy of the community they serve.

At its core, Pagosa Peak Family Dentistry remains what it has always been: a neighborhood practice run by neighbors. Whether you’re a longtime patient or new to the area, the entire Pagosa Peak team looks forward to welcoming you through the doors of their new home.

Pagosa Peak Family Dentistry is part of The Pagosa Springs SUN’s sponsored content program called Spotlight.

CELEBRATING

75 YEARS OF ARCHULETA COUNTY TRADITION

JOIN THE FAIR BOARD

HELP KEEP THE FAIR GOING

VOLUNTEER DURING FAIR WEEK

Help guide the future of the fair through leadership, planning, and community involvement. Support local youth, preserve tradition, and help shape the next generation of the fair.

ARCHULETA COUNTY FAIR

EST. 1951

Scan here to volunteer

ArchuletaCountyFair.com

ArchuletaCountyFair@gmail.com

(970) 264-8424

JULY 30 - AUGUST 2 2026

Help where your skills shine — organization, people skills, setup, events, hospitality, and more. No experience required.

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.

Mountain & Meadow Real Estate
409 Lewis Street
Pagosa Springs, CO

Shellie Hogue
REALTOR®, BROKER
C: 970.759.8109
ShellieCHogue@gmail.com
www.shelliehogue.com
Licensed since May 2011

Served 6 years on the Pagosa Springs Area Association of Realtors
President of the Association 2017-2018 • Realtors Spirit award in 2012

LPEA board election results announced

La Plata Electric Association

Results of the 2026 La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) election were announced at the cooperative's annual meeting on Wednesday, May 20. This meeting was held to not only elect and seat new directors, but also to present LPEA's 2025 annual report and accomplishments. In accordance with LPEA bylaws, one seat in each of LPEA's four districts comes up for election annually.

Detailed election results are as follows:

- District 1 (Archuleta County): Candidate Nicole Pitcher won with 1,175 votes. Candidate James Lane received 1,117 votes.
- District 2 (south and west La Plata County): Candidate Greg Barber ran and was seated unopposed.
- District 3 (city of Durango): Candidate Jennifer Jenkins won with 1,479 votes. Candidate Jodi Zuber received 677 votes.
- District 4 (north and east La Plata County): Candidate John Purser won with 1,185 votes. Candidate David Luschen received 1,117 votes.

The proposed bylaw amendment, which officially defines the date by which new members are eligible to vote, passed with 6,088 in favor and 1,479 opposed. This bylaw amendment aligns with how elections are currently managed and gives members a written reference for understanding their voter eligibility.

Of the 37,748 eligible voters in all districts, a total of 7,937 LPEA members cast votes for a 21.03 percent return rate. Of these, 3,379 (42.57 percent) were cast using LPEA's on-line voting option. Officers will be seated at the next meeting of the LPEA Board of Directors, scheduled for June 17 beginning at 9 a.m. at LPEA in Durango. Members can join virtually (or attend in person). Meeting details can be accessed at lpea.coop/board-meetings.



County contracts to repair multiple guardrails

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

During its regular meeting held on Tuesday, May 19, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) unanimously approved an agreement with Coral Construction Company to repair eight guardrails throughout the county at a cost not to exceed \$85,550. This includes repairs to four guardrails located on County Road 700, two on County Road 600 (Piedra Road) and two on County Road 119 (Light Plant Road), according to the agreement. At a work session earlier that day, Archuleta County Public Works Director Mike Torres provided information on the project, explaining that the county has done "a lot" of work with

Coral Construction in the past. "They're pretty much the only contractor in our area that does this sort of work," Torres said, explaining that the mobilization cost for companies on the Front Range would make the project more expensive. He noted the agreement price includes traffic control and material mobilization into Pagosa Springs. "It's a lot of guardrails, so they're going to have to truck all of that material in," Torres said. In response to a question from Commissioner John Ranson, Torres explained that this project was included in the budget for this year, but that it exceeds the department's budget and they will likely have to do a budget transfer line to cover the project. "We weren't anticipating a couple

of these guardrails," Torres said, explaining the county was able to get restitution payments last year for damaged guardrails. He mentioned that the county has had issues getting some information about damaged guardrails from responding agencies, or if the culprit "just drives off" and doesn't report the incident. "That is the case in some of these," he said, noting the county was able to get roughly \$20,000 in restitution. Commissioner Veronica Medina asked if the county could send a notice to law enforcement agencies asking for their assistance on these incidents. "Obviously there's nothing we can do if they hit and drive away ... but if law enforcement responds to it, that would be helpful if they would notify

us so that way we could seek restitution," Medina said, adding, "It's really important." Road and Bridge Manager Eric McRae explained that issues have been "ironed out and it should be smoother moving forward with receiving the information on crashes." McRae also noted that sometimes the county simply does not know about the incidents and it is taking about two to three months to get information on incidents from the district attorney. Commissioner Warren Brown commented, "[Archuleta County] should be listed as the property owner, if not the victim, in these crashes that come out, and we should theoretically be kept in the loop, but that doesn't always happen." clayton@pagosasun.com

Credibility

■ Continued from front investigation into the officer. In court, that defense attorney alleged issues relating to Ball making false statements while employed in Durango and relating a domestic violence diversion agreement that was not disclosed to Colorado Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST). The Durango Police Department then submitted a credibility report to Colorado POST on May 6, citing Colorado Revised Statute 16-2.5-502 — "Been convicted of any crime involving dishonesty, been charged with any felony or any crime involving dishonesty, or violated any policy of the law enforcement agency re-

garding dishonesty." According to reporting by The Denver Post, Ball was pulled over for suspected drunk driving while serving as a trainee officer with the Durango Police Department, and a subsequent internal affairs investigation resulted in a breath test that showed a blood alcohol content of 0.157 — nearly twice the legal limit. The Denver Post reports that, according to internal affairs records, the department fired Ball for lying about drinking and for having his weapon on him while drunk. Murray explained his office's tally of affected cases is 120 including active cases, cases that were dismissed and cases that are post-conviction.

He explained that when the district attorney's office receives a Brady letter — named for the 1963 U.S. Supreme Court case Brady v. Maryland that covers the right of defense to examine all evidence that may be exculpatory — indicating there may be something affecting a witness' credibility, the office generates a letter notifying defense attorneys and defendants that there's potential material relevant to their case/conviction. He added the office is reviewing all cases where Ball is involved to determine if the office feels the case is provable beyond a reasonable doubt without Ball's involvement. He indicated the cases date back

about three years, to the beginning of Ball's employment with the ACSO. Murray indicated that many of the dismissed cases involve things like driving under the influence and where the justification for the stop or the arrest was based solely on Ball's observations. Murray noted some defendants who are post-conviction have a three-year window to challenge their conviction. "We're doing everything we can to, you know, preserve the integrity of law enforcement and our criminal cases to the best of our ability with the information we have," Murray said. randi@pagosasun.com

Restrictions

■ Continued from front up' (when grasses and shrubs reach peak moisture content) occurred around May 14. This vegetation has begun a rapid drying trend. Recent precipitation was not widespread, though it did stall the drying trend in localized areas. For example, ¼ [inch] of rain fell northwest of Dolores, allowing fire managers to conduct the Salter-Carlyle Prescribed Fire on Wednesday." The minimum fine for violating campfire restrictions in Stage 1 is \$530 in Colorado. According to the press release, Stage 1 fire restrictions on the San Juan National Forest prohibit:

1. Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire (including fires fueled by charcoal or briquettes), except if it is in:
 - a. A permanent metal or concrete fire pit or grate that the U.S. Forest Service has installed and maintained at its developed recreation sites (campgrounds and picnic areas);
 - b. A device solely fueled by liquid or gas that can be turned on and off used in an area barren or cleared of all flammable materials within 3 feet of the device; or
 - c. A fully enclosed metal stove with a chimney at least 5 feet in length and a mesh screen spark arrestor with a screen opening of a one-quarter inch or less used in an area that is barren or cleared of all flammable materials

- within 10 feet of the device.
 2. Using an explosive.
 3. Smoking is prohibited, except in an enclosed vehicle, building or a developed recreation site.
 4. Welding, or operating acetylene or other torch with open flame, except if in a cleared area of at least 10 feet in diameter and a chemical pressurized fire extinguisher (with a minimum 8-ounce capacity and rating of Class 2A) is kept with the operator.
- "Temporary restrictions will remain in place until further notice and may be increased or reduced at any time due to changes in weather and fire danger," the press release states. To learn more about fire restric-

tions, fuels management and other wildfire related issues, visit the forest's fire information webpage. Fire restrictions do not prevent wildfires, the press release notes. It adds it is every forest visitor's and camper's responsibility to follow best practices, properly maintain and extinguish campfires to prevent wildfires. Fire prevention and law enforcement will be patrolling, and anyone who violates Stage 1 restrictions will be ticketed. To report a fire, call 911. For information on the San Juan National Forest, call (970) 247-4874 or visit the forest website. randi@pagosasun.com



Save the Date

RESCUE RENDEZVOUS

WHERE THE MOUNTAINS MEET OUR MISSION

A Western Gala celebrating the animals of the Humane Society of Pagosa Springs



Cocktail Hour
Silent Auction
Live Auction
Pet Talent Show



DRESS TO SHINE IN ELEVATED WESTERN ATTIRE

SATURDAY	08.29.26	5:30 PM
----------	----------	---------

FULL DETAILS COMING SOON.

PagosaHumane.org | 970-731-4771
465 Cloman Blvd., Pagosa Springs

Results Today!
Vision For Tomorrow!



Re-Elect Veronica Medina

Archuleta County Commissioner
District 3

Leadership that Shows Up!

It has been a privilege to serve as your County Commissioner, and it would be an honor to continue serving our community. I am asking for your vote in the Primary Election on June 30, 2026.

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
VeronicaMedina4Commissioner@gmail.com
970.582.0066

We are asking for your support.
Donations may be mailed to:
PO Box 3353, Pagosa Springs CO 81147

PSMC Community CPR Class

Learn CPR through the American Heart Association on May 23rd



This in-person course is designed for individuals with little or no medical training. Participants learn how to perform CPR and safely and effectively use an automated external defibrillator (AED).

Topics include:

- Signs of heart attack or stroke
- Adult, child, and infant CPR and AED use
- Choking relief for adults, children, and infants
- Drowning response and prevention
- Opioid-associated life-threatening emergencies

Cost: \$55 per person

Instruction time: ~4 hours

Space is limited!
To register or check availability use QR code or go to <https://www.pagosaprimedicalcenter.org/community/events-classes>



PAGOSA SPRINGS Medical Center | First-Class Training, Close To Home | 970.731.3700 | 95 S. Pagosa Blvd | pagosaprimedicalcenter.org



Conversation

■ **Continued from front**

the PSMC and is not in public health as that is an “entirely different field.”

She also noted PSMC was built in 2008 and has struggled financially since.

Holt noted that ASD conducted a poll and found that 54 percent of respondents were in favor of a new school and supportive of some sort of bond.

Gonzalez explained that the county has not conducted an official survey, but that multiple community forums have been hosted where constituents were asked to provide feedback on what they’d like to see additional lodging tax funds be spent on.

Gonzalez noted that the next community forum is scheduled for May 27 at 5:30 p.m. in Arboles at the TARA Community Center at 333 Milton Lane.

Holter then asked a series of “lightning questions” to each of the panelists touching upon what a “plan B” look like, and what the impact on the community would be in the next two years if the potential ballot question does go through and is approved.

Webb noted that PSMC would

become more financially stable and would be able to continue providing EMS services.

She also explained that the backup plan would be to continue to operate mostly the same, apply for grants and probably ask again the following year.

Gonzalez explained that the current 2 percent lodging tax generates roughly \$500,000 and that if the county raises it to 6 percent, that could provide a 42 percent increase to the current \$2.4 million Road and Bridge Department budget.

“A 42 percent increase means we can do a lot more for the residents,” he said.

Gonzalez also mentioned that if it does not go through, the county will continue to try and be as efficient and effective as possible, though the focus on roads would likely be grading projects instead of new paving projects.

Holt explained that if ASD receives the grant and voters approve the bond, in about three years the community will have a new PK-8 campus.

He then explained that if the bond is not approved, ASD will likely continue investing its general fund dol-

lars in repairing the current buildings, but he noted that the district is moving past “simple repairs” at this point.

Holt noted the elementary school needs a new fire system that will cost about \$250,000, while also describing the sewer infrastructure at the middle school a “complete disaster.”

The meeting ended with a public question-and-answer segment with questions about if a traffic light needed for the new school will be included in the bond, how the county prioritizes road projects, community surveys, potential community partnerships for workforce housing projects and other services the hospital could offer, such as a dialysis program.

Holt noted that right now a traffic light along with acceleration and deceleration lanes will be included in the bond.

He commented that the lack of affordable housing has affected the school district’s ability to retain employees.

Gonzalez noted that he would look into the possibility of conducting an official survey for feedback on the lodging tax ballot question, but

that there might be a cost associated with that.

Webb noted that there are likely not enough patients locally for the PSMC to run its own dialysis program.

Other questions were asked about the school district’s plans for its old facilities if a new school is built, with Holt noting that the district had to include that in its BEST grant application.

He mentioned that he’d “love” to see those buildings be repurposed for the community and could be turned into anything from a recreation center to office space for nonprofits.

Holter indicated that the next community conversation meeting is scheduled for today, Thursday, May 21, at the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association (PLPOA) Clubhouse at 5:30 p.m. and will focus on the school district.

Following meetings are also scheduled for June 1, at 5:30 p.m. at the PLPOA clubhouse focusing on PSMC and on June 10, at 5:30 p.m. in the high school auditorium with a focus on the county’s lodging tax.

clayton@pagosasun.com

PAWSD

■ **Continued from front**

fund was approximately \$859,000.

Dossett added that the district budgeted for \$30,000 more CIF income on the water side, raising it to \$1.03 million, and the same amount on the wastewater side, in 2026.

He stated that he is expecting another \$650,000 deficit to these line items in 2026 given the current progression of CIF income.

Dossett stated that the district did not budget for the affordable housing waivers it has given, amounting to approximately \$70,000.

He indicated that all these revenue shortfalls impact PAWSD’s debt service calculations for its loans. The banks granting these loans require the district to maintain certain amounts of income to ensure it can continue to pay its debts.

Dossett commented that, although there might be other concerns with increased costs, his primary concern is the impact of low income on the district’s debt service.

In response to a question from PAWSD board member Bill Hudson, Dossett explained that these debt service calculations factor in both revenues and expenses and, if the district could cut costs to match its lack of revenues, it would not have debt service issues.

PAWSD board member Glenn Walsh commented that he does not believe that affordable housing waivers for Habitat for Humanity or other organizations caused these issues or that the district would be able to solve them by eliminating these waivers.

He instead commented that the district might have to face a structural change in growth in Archuleta County, with growth potentially decelerating and no longer matching the growth assumptions that the district based the funding and associated rate structure of its most recent construction projects on.

He proposed that the board should potentially hold a special work session to discuss a new approach, although he noted he is not in favor of simply raising CIFs more among the units that are built.

Instead, Walsh proposed that the district set specific CIF revenue goals for both funds and then impose a one-year water and wastewater rate surcharge the next year to make that money up if the goal is not met.

“People need to know this is not for affordable housing,” Walsh said. “It’s to pay for your water plant and to pay for your wastewater plant, and I think folks will realize ... you just have to pay the bills.”

PAWSD board member Alex Boehmer commented that the district does not have shareholders and is not trying to make a profit

“People need to know this is not for affordable housing. It’s to pay for your water plant and to pay for your wastewater plant, and I think folks will realize ... you just have to pay the bills.”

**PAWSD board member
Glenn Walsh**

ects,” Tautges said.

Walsh commented that he does not believe that affordable housing is responsible for the crisis the district is currently looking at.

He added that he is not interested in doubling fee income if the district does experience greater growth and that he feels his approach to using surcharges to pay CIF shortfalls would provide the district with a degree of stability and dependability.

Tautges emphasized the importance of paying the district’s bills and his concerns about potential cuts to the district’s services if there is not enough income.

Walsh noted that CIF revenues and water sales are the most unpredictable aspects of the district’s revenues.

Hudson noted that he likes Walsh’s ideas, but did not like the idea of doubling monthly rates to cover CIFs.

He added that he would like the district to “look really hard” at what to cut and to impose any CIF shortfall costs as a temporary surcharge instead of a permanent rate increase.

Hudson added that he would support holding a work session on the issue.

He also proposed that the Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District (PSSGID) could share some of its recently approved sales tax increase with PAWSD to help cover its costs.

Dossett noted that only certain projects contribute to the debt coverage ratios, with only operational expenses counting.

Hudson commented that the area is likely to experience a period of slow growth in the near future.

PAWSD District Manager Andy Connor noted that the district is already cutting operational items like seasonal workers, but that it can only cut operations so far.

Boehmer commented that, although he wants to keep rates low, he also has concerns about not building necessary infrastructure in an effort to reduce rates.

PAWSD District Engineer Justin Ramsey commented that, if the district is able to move away from making payments on Running Iron Ranch, that would also help its debt service coverage, which Hudson agreed with.

Tautges commented that both this and payments from the PSSGID on the money it owes to PAWSD are “hoped for,” but are not “given.”

“I don’t like gambling,” Tautges said.

Dossett commented that it was probably not “smart” that PAWSD made a debt service coverage budget at the floor of what the debt service coverage needed to be.

He added that, in future, the district should aim for a higher level of debt service coverage.

for them, which he commented is a misunderstanding among some in the community.

He expressed agreement with Walsh about holding a work session on the issue since there are a wide variety of approaches the district could take.

PAWSD board chairman Gene Tautges commented that the number of additions to PAWSD’s system is highly unpredictable.

He added that reducing fees is different from eliminating or forgiving them and that, while waivers for affordable housing are not currently “huge,” “they do set precedents in my opinion.”

“They do damage us in a small way ... and, in my opinion, they open up the door in the future for more proj-

for them, which he commented is a misunderstanding among some in the community.

He expressed agreement with Walsh about holding a work session on the issue since there are a wide variety of approaches the district could take.

PAWSD board chairman Gene Tautges commented that the number of additions to PAWSD’s system is highly unpredictable.

He added that reducing fees is different from eliminating or forgiving them and that, while waivers for affordable housing are not currently “huge,” “they do set precedents in my opinion.”

“They do damage us in a small way ... and, in my opinion, they open up the door in the future for more proj-

**Your source for
community news:
The Pagosa Springs SUN**

I SELL PAGOSA!

LEE RILEY

TWICE CHOSEN LOCAL REALTOR™ OF THE YEAR

970-946-3856
ISellPagosa.com
leeriley@isellpagosa.com

Jann C Pitcher Real Estate
2261 Eagle Dr., Pagosa Springs, CO 81147



Archie

Serving Pagosa Families for 37 years.

WE BUY GOLD

and sell it too.

Turn your old, broken jewelry into CASH TODAY

San Juan Trading Post

635 San Juan St. (Hwy 160) • (970) 731-PAWN (7296)

We buy gold, silver, guns, coins and more.

NOW HIRING

Under New Ownership

All About You Day Spa is hiring for the following full-time and part-time positions:

- Administrative Assistant
- Esthetician
- Massage Therapist
- Nail Tech

Email introduction and resume to: info@embodiworkmassage.com

AllAboutYouPagosa.com
(970) 731-3391
Conveniently located near City Market

RE-OPENING JUNE 1, 2026



Let Us Floor You!

— Residential & Commercial —
Check our up-to-date selection of quality wood, vinyl plank, carpet and tile.

The Tile & Carpet Store

M-F 8-4:30 • (970) 731-5282
204 Bastille Dr. (N. Pagosa Blvd, Left at Bastille Dr.)

Always fresh.
Always local.
Always intentional.
Community-Driven Coffee.



Roasted right here in Pagosa Springs.

Fresh Fill-Up Fridays 3-5 p.m.
Refill your container with freshly roasted coffee and save.

Free Local Delivery
Available on our daily Pagosa Springs routes.

Call/Text: (970) 903-4694
Order Online: pagosaroasters.com/shop
2363 Eagle Drive Unit C

2026 VOTE RANDY BETTS

FOR ARCHULETA COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 3

RESIDENT NEEDS FIRST
RESPONSIBLE SPENDING
TRUTH BY TRANSPARENCY
A BELIEVER IN SERVANT LEADERSHIP

STAY UP TO DATE
Follow Randy on Facebook & Instagram

HOLD YOUR PHONE CAMERA OVER THE QR CODE TO SCAN!



A LEADER WITH INTEGRITY

RANDY IS CHALLENGING INCUMBENT VERONICA MEDINA FOR DISTRICT 3, OFFERING PRACTICAL, COST-CONSCIOUS LEADERSHIP GROUNDED IN REAL KNOWLEDGE OF PLANNING, PERMITTING, CONSTRUCTION, AND COUNTY OPERATIONS.

RANDY NEEDS YOUR VOTE IN THE PRIMARY ELECTION IN ORDER TO ADVANCE TO THE NOVEMBER BALLOT.

MAIL BALLOTS GO OUT JUNE 8TH.
IN-PERSON VOTING - JUNE 30TH.



PRIMARY ELECTION IS TUESDAY, JUNE 30TH
YOUR VOICE MATTERS - GET OUT THE VOTE!

RANDY WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU: BETTSFORBOCC@GMAIL.COM . 970-903-7506 . RANDYBETTS.COM

PAID FOR BY RANDY BETTS CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE, 2026.



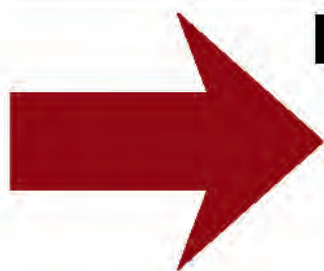
HAVE A SAFE & ENJOYABLE **MEMORIAL DAY**
WEEKEND!

Don't forget ➔

ANNIVERSARY SPECIALS RUN THRU MAY 31ST ONLY!

Inter-Mountain Propane Fueling homes, ranches, and businesses across ARCHULETA COUNTY and parts of La Plata County - Bayfield, Ignacio, Oxford, Vallecito -
Call to see if we service your area.

**NEW CUSTOMERS WHO
SWITCH OVER & NEW
CONSTRUCTION SETS, 250
GALLONS OR LARGER**



**RECEIVE A FREE TANK
SWAP & SAFETY
CHECK**
VALUED AT OVER \$200



\$145 OFF

250 - 330

GALLON TANKS

OFFER GOOD THROUGH
MAY 31, 2026

SOME RESTRICTIONS APPLY



\$175 OFF

500 & 1000

GALLON TANKS

OFFER GOOD THROUGH
MAY 31, 2026

SOME RESTRICTIONS APPLY



MONDAY TO FRIDAY

8 AM - 5 PM

AVAILABLE
ANYTIME
AFTER HOURS
AS WELL!

Call our regular line to
get service after hours:

970-264-1301



CONTACT US TODAY!



INTERMOUNTAINPROPANE.COM



Pagosa Paddle

Recreationists take to the San Juan River on a variety of water craft to compete as part of the annual Pagosa Paddle whitewater races. The annual event benefits the Friends of the Upper San Juan River.

SUN photos/Randi Pierce



PLUMBING SERVICES

Boiler-Certified Technician
Boilers & Tank-less Water Heaters
Sales, Service & Repair



Call today! **JD's Cool Water Heating**
(970) 946-3989

jdcoolwater.com • 30 years in Pagosa Springs
Colorado License PC0001348, Insured



I'm
short on
listings!

Call me to today to
sell your home!

Buying or Selling — I would love to help you!



Debbie Loewen
Employing Broker
(970) 946-3480
debbie@ownpagosa.com



448 PAGOSA STREET • OWNPA.GOSA.COM
2016 & 2018 SPIRIT AWARD, 2019 REALTOR OF THE YEAR

Life at Chimney Rock Festival to return June 6-7

Chimney Rock Interpretive Association

The Chimney Rock Interpretive Association (CRIA) is pleased to announce the return of the annual Life at Chimney Rock Festival, taking place Saturday, June 6, and Sunday, June 7, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day at Chimney Rock National Monument.

Thanks to a special waiver from the U.S. Forest Service, this year's festival will once again be fee-free, offering visitors the opportunity to experience this vibrant cultural event without paying an entrance fee.

The Life at Chimney Rock Festival provides a unique, hands-on experience for families and history enthusiasts alike. Visitors can explore the traditions and daily life of the Ancestral Puebloans through interactive demonstrations led by CRIA volunteers.

Activities include yucca pounding, coil pottery, rock art creation, weaving, corn grinding and atlatl spear

throwing. Educational demonstrations in astronomy, flint knapping, and dendrochronology will also be featured, along with opportunities to sample traditional foods such as Anasazi beans.

Festival goers can enjoy a variety of food offerings from on-site vendors. A highlight of the weekend is the Native American Market, showcasing artwork from talented artists representing the Pueblos of Acoma, Laguna, Santo Domingo and Santa Clara, as well as the Navajo, Jicarilla Apache and Southern Ute nations.

Of special interest are the cultural dance performances that will take place throughout the weekend in the amphitheater. The Roach Family Dancers of Gallup, N.M., will perform at 11 a.m. on both days, followed by the Fragua Family of the Jemez Pueblo at 2 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

In addition to festival activities, visitors will have free access to all regular monument amenities, including self-guided tours of cultural

sites, the nature trail and the Visitor Plaza. The monument will be open from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. both days.

CRIA invites the public to join in celebrating the living history of the Ancestral Puebloans at this engaging and educational event.

For more information on tours, programs, and event schedules, or to plan your visit, please go to www.ChimneyRockCo.org. Reservations are required for many of the tours.

CRIA and the San Juan National Forest of the U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, are working in partnership to preserve and develop educational opportunities about the significant archaeological, cultural, geological and biological resources at Chimney Rock National Monument.

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

PAGOSA PEAK FAMILY DENTISTRY IS MOVING!



Join Drs. Roukema and Astorga
in our
BRAND NEW, MODERN SPACE.



Welcoming New Patients!
We look forward to meeting you at Your Next Dental Visit!
CALL (970) 731-2126 TODAY

We are a state-of-the-art practice using the latest technology and advanced training to provide our patients with the highest standard of care. We provide a full range of specialty dental services under one roof!

• Complex-oral rehabilitation
• Extractions • Dentures • Implants
• Implant-supported dentures ... and more!

ACCEPTING MOST INSURANCES
pagosapeakfamilydentistry.com
228 Village Dr., Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

**INTRODUCING
MILESTAR[®]
PATAGONIA AT/PRO**



An aggressive all-terrain tire that is specifically designed to conquer any terrain during any condition for any adventure.

- MILETECH technology for added strength, impact protection, and enhanced sidewall
- THREE-PEAK MOUNTAIN SNOWFLAKE
- Can handle EXTREME TERRAIN, but provide a comfortable and quiet ride on highway

- 30-Day Ride Guarantee
- 55K Mile Limited Warranty*
- Road Hazard Program*

**Exclusions apply*

(970) 731-3335
505 Piedra Rd.
Open 7-6 Mon. - Thur.

Piedra Automotive

24-HOUR TOWING & EMERGENCY ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE

Outdoors

Spring recreation begins with a focus on safety and environmental stewardship

Colorado Parks and Wildlife

As the weather gets warmer, the outdoor community is flocking outside to explore Colorado’s vibrant landscapes. Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) encourages state park visitors and recreationists to act as stewards for the state’s land, wildlife and water by balancing outdoor recreation with mindful conservation.

Coloradans and out-of-state visitors play a crucial role in protecting the beauty of state parks, living in harmony with wildlife and making the outdoors safer to explore.

Below are guidelines from outdoor experts on how to recreate responsibly and show respect to the great outdoors.

Know before you go

Preparation is key for outdoor activities in Colorado. The unpredictable weather, limited snowpack, muddy trails, cold water temperatures, and strong currents on rivers and streams all underscore the importance of being well-informed and ready for any adventure.

- Choose your location based on the weather forecast and your activity based on your skill level and safety gear.

- Plan your visit with the Quick Guide to State Parks or the Colorado State Parks Guide.

- Camping reservations at Colorado state parks are required.

- Find park events and classes on the CPW Events Calendar.

- Stay hydrated. Bring more water than you think you (and your pet) will need.

- Bring layers of clothing for elevation and changing weather conditions.

- Avalanches occur year-round in Colorado. Check the Colorado Avalanche Information Center avalanche forecast for current conditions.

As Colorado navigates drought conditions this year, CPW will be

monitoring boating recreation options and restrictions at state parks and wildlife areas. Lower water levels can affect boating access or capacity, including potential boat ramp closures. Access for hand-launched watercrafts, like kayaks and paddleboards, is not expected to be impacted. Shoreline fishing access will not be restricted.

“Some common mistakes we see that can lead to safety risks are not wearing a life jacket on or near the water, not being prepared for the day’s weather (especially the afternoon storms we see in the Summer), and getting too close to wildlife,” said Chatfield Operations Manager Ben Vinci. “We want you to have a safe and rewarding outdoor experience at your state parks and wildlife areas, so it’s important to check the weather before you hit the trailhead, bring the right gear, and give wildlife plenty of space.”

Boating and river safety

- Wear a life jacket.
- Find a CPW life jacket loaner station to borrow a life jacket.

- Paddleboards and kayaks are considered vessels, and life jacket requirements apply.

- Heavy rain or snowmelt from nearby mountains can raise water levels quickly and without notice. Check river flows at <https://dwr.state.co.us/Tools/Stations>.

- Water flows on streams and river bottoms can be inconsistent, so be aware of rocks and unmarked hazards below the surface.

- Colorado waters are not monitored by lifeguards. You swim and boat at your own risk.

- Only boat or paddle in conditions you are comfortable and confident paddling in.

- Boat and raft with a buddy and avoid floating alone, especially during high flows.

- Bring layers of clothing for elevation and changing weather conditions, and a sound-producing device

(whistle, horn) if you need to call for help.

- Alcohol impairs judgment, balance, vision and reaction time on the water, and can increase fatigue and the dangers of cold-water immersion. A general rule to remember is that one drink on land is equivalent to three drinks on the water.

- “Clean, drain and dry” your boat, wet equipment, waders and boots.

- Use a CPW Gear and Watercraft Cleaning Station to decontaminate your gear.

“Outdoor recreation improves your heart health, but it’s important to know that being in water below 68 degrees for long periods of time can be dangerous, due to heat loss from blood circulating near the skin,” said Andrea Miller, regional chief executive officer of the Red Cross of Colorado and Wyoming. “This loss of heat can cause decreased function of a person’s heart, brain or other vital organs, increasing the risk of drowning or heart failure. Being prepared — including knowing your limitations, wearing appropriate clothing or gear and ensuring you know CPR and first aid — is the best way you can reduce the risk of a cold water emergency.”

Life jackets truly save lives, and the majority of water-related deaths occur because people do not wear them. Regardless of age or experience level, cold water can quickly create a drowning emergency. A life jacket will keep your airway clear of water, keep your head above water, and support your body should you stop swimming or become unconscious.

Stick to trails

It’s important to stick to trails and walk in the middle of them, even if wet or muddy, to avoid erosion and damage to plants.

- Use the State Park Finder to explore maps of Colorado state parks.

- Download the free COTREX app to find trailheads and closure alerts.

- Respect trail closures — they’re

closed for a reason.

- Wear sturdy footwear to stay on trails in wet and muddy conditions.

Leave it as you find it

Colorado is beautiful all on its own. Leave plants, rocks and historical items as you find them so others can experience the joy of discovery.

- Don’t pick wildflowers — they feed bees and are critical parts of ecosystems.

- Carving or hacking plants and trees may kill or disfigure them.

- Park in designated areas — undesignated parking can destroy vegetation and block outdoor first-responder vehicles in an emergency.

Trash the trash

Throw all your trash into the trash cans and help keep our outdoor spaces clean.

- Pack it in, pack it out. Whatever you bring into the outdoors, take it out with you.

- Don’t leave pet waste bags on the trail.

- Bring plastic grocery bags to carry trash when trash cans are not available or are full.

Keep wildlife wild

Spring can be a particularly sensitive time for wildlife, as many species are nesting, birthing young or emerging from hibernation.

- Leave young wildlife alone.
- 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 be. Call your local Colorado Parks and Wildlife office and ask a trained wildlife officer for guidance.

To learn more about Colorado outdoor recreation, visit cpw.state.co.us.

Registration open for June plant walk with Lake McCullough

By Jean Zirnheilt

Weminuche Audubon Society

The Weminuche Audubon Society and Audubon Rockies are excited to sponsor three summer plant walks with certified herbalist Lake McCullough.

Join us for a fun and educational ramble through the forest as we discover edible and medicinal native plants. The walks are free of charge.

The first walk on June 8 will ex-

plore early summer herbs, wildflowers and edible plants in the ponderosa pine ecozone in Martinez Canyon.

In order to provide an optimal experience for participants, there is a 15-person maximum on each walk. Please call McCullough ahead to reserve a space at (970) 398-0923.

Attendees will meet at San Jose Court in the Lake Forest subdivision at 9 a.m., and the outing will last until noon. From North Pagosa Blvd, turn

left onto Lake Forest Circle and then onto Arrowhead Drive after 1.2 miles. San Jose Court will be a short distance on the left. The walk is about 3 miles roundtrip with some moderately steep and rocky sections. Be prepared for rugged trails and unpredictable weather, and leave dogs at home.

In order to allow the greatest number of people to participate and learn about plants native to our area, this summer we are asking that attendees

only sign up for one of the walks offered this season.

In addition to the June walk, walks will be offered on July 13 and Aug. 3. These will take us into high-elevation habitat near the Wolf Creek Pass area.

McCullough’s knowledge and fun sense of humor have made these walks very popular and spaces fill quickly. We are fortunate that she shares her expertise with us. Give her a call to add your name to the June walk list.

Forest Service announces additional 2026 fee-free day on June 6

U.S. Forest Service

The U.S. Forest Service recently announced an additional 2026 recreation fee-free day on June 6 in celebration of National Trails Day, providing no-cost use of all standard amenity recreation sites on national forests and grasslands.

National Trails Day was established by the American Hiking Society in 1993 and occurs annually on the first Saturday in June. It brings together federal land managers, partners and volunteers to celebrate

trails and accomplish trail stewardship projects to ensure they are safe, well-maintained, easy-to-follow and accessible.

“We are so excited to invite Americans to visit our national forests free of charge on National Trails Day and view the beauty of our nation in person,” said Secretary of Agriculture Brooke L. Rollins. “We hope families and friends can come together and celebrate this special day and reconnect with our nation’s spirit in this positive setting and learn more about our amazing forest landscapes.”

“For National Trails Day in 2025, Forest Service trail managers, partners and volunteers hosted 80 events, including 54 stewardship projects, engaging with more than 3,100 volunteers who maintained 173 miles of trail,” said Forest Service Chief Tom Schultz. “We hope those who love Forest Service trails will join us at the trailhead on June 6, whether it’s volunteering to build new trails, pick up trash near a trailhead, participating in a nature walk, or taking advantage of the fee-free day benefits.”

The Forest Service is also encour-

aging all visitors to Take the #NationalTrailsDay Pledge and commit to leaving the trails better than you found them.

For all 2026 fee free days on National Forest System lands, visit www.fs.usda.gov/visit/passes-permits.

Established 1909.

The Pagosa Springs SUN
970-264-2100

HAVE MEDICAID?

Non-emergency medical transportation to anywhere in Colorado and border state approved cities for Medicaid insured rides to and from Medicaid providers

Pre-approval and 24-hour notice required.

You may qualify for **FREE transportation.**

Call WJP/A1 Taxi to get yourself set up.
970-731-4081

Also Durango Airport Shuttle • Taxi Service • Weddings Charter Service • Private Parties



Wilderness Journeys Pagosa, Inc
Call **970-731-4081** for scheduling
PUC # 16400, DOT# 2842985, MCT# 0021



FREE QUOTES
706-410-4997

INFO@SANJUANARBORISTS.COM
LICENSED • BONDED • INSURED

SAN JUAN ARBORISTS

TREE SERVICE PROVIDER

- Tree Trimming and Pruning
- Hazard Tree Removals
- Lot Clearing & Fire Mitigation
- Cabling and Bracing



To honor this year’s graduating seniors, **The Pagosa Springs SUN will run photos of each senior.**

If you would like to participate in the project, the sponsorships will be \$150 for an ad space that is 4.125” wide by 2.875” tall.

The pages with the graduating seniors will be published in our Thursday, May 28, 2026 edition.

If you would like to be a sponsor, please call Shari at (970) 264-2100 before Thursday, May 21.

The Pagosa Springs SUN

(970) 264-2100 • pagosasun.com
457 Lewis Street • PO Box 9
Pagosa Springs, Colorado 81147

YETI
SEWER & DRAIN SOLUTIONS

- Camera Inspections
- Sewer & Drain Cleaning

Pagosa Springs, Colorado and Surrounding Areas

@Yetidrains.com
Contact@Yetidrains.com
970-507-4414



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

As long-time locals, we operate with small-town hospitality without the “Pagosa-time mentality.” Your time is as valuable as ours, so we operate with punctuality.

Mountain Men Disaster Mitigation is here to service you and your family through providing quality in our work, and being timely and efficient.

Don’t forget to check your crawl spaces for standing water. Water mixed with the normal environments produced in a crawlspace is the perfect breeding ground for microbial growth. We also offer sump pump system installations and repairs as well as moisture barriers. Call today for a free evaluation!

Please check out our most recent blog on
‘Simple Home Checks That Prevent Major Losses.’

DISASTER RESTORATION
FLOOD MITIGATION
CRAWLSPACE INSPECTIONS/WORK

Fire Restoration
Water Extraction

Mold Remediation
Structural Drying

Smoke and Odor Removal

Lars Schneider
970-946-0238

MountainMenDM.com • mail@mountainmendam.com



Disaster Mitigation

BJ Jones
970-749-9028

NATIONALLY LICENSED



INSURED



LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED

Report: Bark beetle outbreaks expand during another warm, dry year

Colorado State Forest Service

Colorado's top forest health concern is a mountain pine beetle outbreak on the Front Range that has expanded by nearly 150 percent from 2024 to 2025, according to a Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS) report.

The report shows the continued spread of mountain pine beetles and other forest insects during the second consecutive year of above-average temperatures and below-average precipitation.

Trees in forests across Colorado are stressed following a record warm winter and low snowpack, and infestations of bark beetles and western spruce budworm are expected to intensify and expand.

"It's getting tough to be a tree in Colorado. Heat and drought are stressing our forests, turning many areas into tinderboxes and making it harder for trees to fight off bark beetles and other insects," said Matt McCombs, state forester and director of the CSFS. "We can't control the weather, but we can work together to lower the risks these outbreaks create, protect high-value trees and manage fuels."

Trees killed by drought, insects or disease can potentially alter wildfire behavior should there be ignition from lightning or other sources. Bark beetle outbreaks like the one on the Front Range are killing trees in forests that already have a high risk for

wildfire.

The 2025 Report on the Health of Colorado's Forests describes which insects and diseases are the biggest forest health issues in the state, with mountain pine beetle and emerald ash borer chief among them.

Aerial survey data from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service (USFS) and CSFS show that mountain pine beetles are spreading in ponderosa pine forests on the Front Range. These forests contain highly populated, high wildfire risk areas with many trees susceptible to this native insect. Mountain pine beetles impacted 5,544 acres of pine forests in a nine-county area of the Front Range in 2025, compared to 2,236 acres across this same area in 2024 – or a 148 percent increase.

"What we're seeing with mountain pine beetles along the Front Range isn't cause for panic, but it is a reminder to stay vigilant and get to work," McCombs said. "Using good science and strong partnerships, we can build forests and communities that are more resilient in the long run."

Emerald ash borer was discovered in six new cities and towns in 2025 — the most initial detections in a year for Colorado since it was first found in the state in 2013. This invasive insect kills all true ash species. About 15 percent of the trees in Colorado's urban forests are ash, making emerald ash borer a major threat to trees

in communities statewide.

Other key takeaways from the report

- Western spruce budworm — the most widespread forest pest in 2024 — continues to cause extensive and intense damage to Douglas-fir and low-elevation mixed-conifer forests.

- Western balsam bark beetle — the deadliest forest pest in 2024 — remains active in high-elevation spruce-fir forests.

- Douglas-fir beetle continues to kill Douglas-fir trees in parts of Pitkin, Fremont and Teller counties and most counties in central and southern Colorado.

- Roundheaded pine beetle and associated native bark beetles are expanding in ponderosa pine forests in the southwestern reaches of Colorado.

- Mountain pine beetle continues to impact lodgepole pine in Gunnison County and forests in the Mosquito Range in Chaffee and Park counties, as well as areas of southwestern Colorado.

"The 2025 Report on the Health of Colorado's Forests is timelier than ever," said Dan Gibbs, executive director of the Colorado Department of Natural Resources. "Colorado's forests are stressed after an unprecedented warm, dry winter and are prime for further spread of mountain pine beetles and other forest health issues, along with increased wildfire

risk. However, in Colorado we are taking action through the launch of the Ponderosa Mountain Pine Beetle Task Force and bringing all available resources, experts and stakeholders together to prioritize our actions to make the best science-based decisions for the future of our forests and communities."

Resources for a deeper dive into forest health

The 2025 report contains interactive maps and data for the public and land managers to see where insects are impacting forests.

To complement the report, the CSFS published three Science and Data Bytes examining the outbreak of mountain pine beetles on the Front Range, with further analyses on forest conditions, wildfire impacts and semiochemical treatments.

Each year, the forest health report provides information to the Colorado General Assembly and residents of Colorado about the health and condition of forests across the state. Information for the report comes from an annual aerial forest health survey by the USFS and CSFS, as well as field inspections, CSFS contacts with forest landowners and special surveys.

The 2025 Report on the Health of Colorado's Forests is available at <https://csfs.colostate.edu/forest-management/forest-health-report-2025/>.



970.731.3327

More Than Just Signs!

- DECALS & WINDOW GRAPHICS
- VEHICLE GRAPHICS & WRAPS
- STORE FRONTS
- PROMOTIONAL PRODUCTS
- APPAREL PRINTING
- NEON & ELECTRIC SIGN REPAIR
- MEMORIAL STONES

LOCATED AT 57 MAJESTIC DR. PAGOSA SPRINGS, CO

HUD Publisher's Notice



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

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

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

Pagosa Area Recreation Coalition to hold open house to review draft plan

By Amanda Gadomski

Pagosa Area Recreation Coalition

You're invited to join the Pagosa Area Recreation Coalition (PARC) for a community open house to review the draft PARC Plan and speak directly with the leadership team about proposed projects, priorities, and the future of outdoor recreation and conservation in our region.

This is the community's final opportunity to provide input before the plan is finalized after nearly a year of collaboration, discussion and hard work by local partners, agencies, stakeholders and volunteers.

We are in the home stretch of completing a plan that will help guide future recreation, conservation and public lands projects throughout the region while positioning PARC and

its partners to pursue future funding opportunities through the Colorado Regional Partnership Initiative and grant programs.

Community feedback remains an important part of the process, and we encourage everyone to attend, ask questions and help shape the final direction of the plan.

The draft plan and a brief feedback survey will be available at [pagosa-](https://pagosaparc.org)

pagosaparc.org.

The open house will be held in person on Tuesday, June 3, at the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave., from 2 to 7 p.m.

Stop by anytime during the event to review the plan materials, meet with the leadership team members and share your thoughts. We hope to see you there.

Colorado experiences deadliest start to a year for motorcyclists since 2017

Colorado Department of Transportation

May is Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month, and the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) reminds all road users about shared road responsibility. Between January and March of this year, 15 motorcyclists lost their lives — the deadliest start to a year for motorcyclists in Colorado since 2017.

After an unusually warm winter and a recent spike in motorcyclist fatalities, the need to protect vulnerable road users has reached a critical point. This urgency comes as we enter the 100 Deadliest Days of Summer —

a period between Memorial Day and Labor Day, when the state historically sees an upswing in traffic crashes and fatalities, especially among motorcyclists.

Helmets remain the primary countermeasure to reduce serious injury and death. Nearly half (49 percent) of all motorcyclists killed in Colorado over the last five years were not wearing a helmet.

"Earning your motorcycle endorsement and wearing safety gear are responsibilities of every rider before hitting the road," said Col. Matthew C. Packard, chief of the Colorado State Patrol. "Safety is a shared responsibility

on our roadways. Motorists and motorcyclists need to look out for one another on our roadways to ensure everyone gets home safely."

Since 2015, 58 percent of the state's total motorcycle fatalities have occurred between June and September. Last year, 148 motorcyclists were killed on Colorado roads, accounting for 21 percent of all traffic deaths. Motorcycle fatalities have increased by nearly 90 percent over the past 15 years.

"This Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month, CDOT is raising awareness about the alarming increase in motorcyclist fatalities in Colorado, particularly

with a warm winter and spring," said CDOT Executive Director Shoshana Lew. "It is imperative for all road users to exercise caution and follow the laws that protect themselves

■ See Motorcyclists B6



"Quality work, caring people."

Our Mission ~"We exist to build better roofs, better people, and a better community through relentless growth and authentic service."

Complimentary Roof Inspection — No Obligation

- Homeowners & Residences
- HOA Communities
- Commercial Properties
- Storm & Insurance Claims
- Repairs & Full Replacements
- New Construction

Why Neighbors Choose: *Mint Roofing*

Local • Licensed & Insured • Honest Estimates • No High-Pressure Sales
We show up on time & communicate clearly.

Serving Pagosa Springs for almost a decade.

Call or Text Us Today
(970) 426 - 5255
mintroofing.org • Pagosa Springs, Colorado

We built our business on Excellence & Customer Service

Give us a call and experience the difference!



We are off Piedra & Hwy. 160 next to the bank
9 Solomon Dr, Unit 1

Open Mon-Fri • 8 a.m.-noon and 1-5 p.m.

Local. Knowledgeable.
Dependable & Reliable
Independently Owned and Operated
Best in Customer Service
Proven Safety Record
Over 150 Years Combined Experience



Arrowhead Propane, Inc.
970-582-3225
arrowheadpropaneco.com

*We'd love to be your propane supplier!
Come, see us today.*



Let
Freedom
Boom!



PAGOSA SPRINGS

**FOURTH
of
JULY**

Celebration

ARCHULETA COUNTY IS SPONSORING THE PARADE
TO CELEBRATE THE 250/150 YEARS CELEBRATION.

CELEBRATION OF OUR COUNTRY & OUR STATE – NO POLITICS.

FLOATS THEMES SHOULD BE PATRIOTIC –
250/150 CELEBRATION

★ PLEASE VISIT [WWW.ARCHULETACOUNTY.GOV](https://www.archuletacounty.gov)
TO SIGN UP TODAY.

★ **PARADE PARTICIPANT INFORMATION** ★



CHECK-IN LOCATION:
HIGH SCHOOL



TIME:
7:30 AM – 9:30 AM



STAGING AREA:
RESERVOIR HILL

PARADE ★ FIREWORKS ★ FAMILY FUN & MORE!

Sports

TRACK



SUN photos/Chad Richardson
Pirates compete at the 3A state track and field meet in Lakewood on Thursday, May 14. Top: Jeremiah Jones heads toward a ninth-place finish in the prelims of the 110-meter hurdles before taking seventh in the finals. Bottom left: Colton Lucero takes first in the 100-meter dash prelims before taking third in the finals. Bottom right: Creede Dozier takes to the air for a jump in the triple jump. Dozier logged a personal best and finished sixth.

Pirates earn podium finishes at state meet

By Jack Sellner
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate track and field team competed at the Colorado 3A State Track and Field Championships in Lakewood last week, with Pirate athletes placing in 10 events.

The meet was held at Jefferson County Stadium with events starting on Thursday, May 14, and ending on

Saturday, May 16.

The Pirate boys' team placed seventh overall out of 39 teams with 38 points, and the Lady Pirates team placed 23rd out of 32 teams with seven points.

Colton Lucero placed first in the boys' 100-meter dash preliminaries with a time of 10.88 seconds and placed third in the finals with a time of 10.90 seconds.

Lucero also placed 14th in the

boys' 200-meter dash preliminaries with a time of 22.59 seconds, but did not make the finals.

Rylan Ash placed sixth in the boys' 3,200-meter run as one of only two freshmen in the race with a time of

10, minutes, 1.46 seconds.

Jeremiah Jones placed ninth in the boys' 110-meter hurdles preliminaries with a time of 15.68 seconds and placed seventh in the finals with a

■ See Track B5

DECKS GARAGES STEEL BUILDINGS

Lifetime Decks
Wood & Trex Decks

Call: (970)398-4308 (office)
(970)946-3666 (cell)

50 years in business
5-star rating on Angie's List
Insured
Local references

WHISPERING PINES

ASCENT

PLUMBING & HEATING

EXCITING NEWS!!

Apex Plumbing and Heating has officially rebranded to ASCENT PLUMBING & HEATING LLC!

New construction | Water | Heater | Boilers
Service Calls | Leaky Toilets

📞 970-946-4011 ✉ office@ascentplumbing.net 🌐 ascentplumbing.net

CALL TODAY!

Clarks Custom Landscaping

Full Service Landscaping | Flagstone | Pavers
Patios & Walkways | Design | Irrigation

970-508-0658
www.clarkscustomlandscaping.com
clarkscustomlandscape@gmail.com
licensed & insured

www.BodyworkByKevin.com

Therapeutic Massage and Therapy to help you

Feel Better | Move Better | Live Better

Sports recovery • Pain reduction
Performance improvement

“Any city, any state any country that was the best massage I have ever had!” — Sara S.

Now open in my new location Schedule online today

(970) 585-6415
2325 Eagle Drive Suite B #3
in the new Black Diamond Dental Building
Over 25 years experience

Updated Mountain Retreat on Riverfront Property

- ~ 1 Bedroom, 1 Bath
- ~ Furnished and Move-In Ready
- ~ Brand-New Rear Deck
- ~ Brand-New Metal Roof
- ~ Fresh Paint
- ~ New Kitchen Appliances
- ~ Durable Laminate Flooring
- ~ Updated Lighting
- ~ Upgraded Bathroom Fixtures

\$189,000
6 Okie Lane, South Fork Colorado
HOA dues \$600/ year, includes water
Taxes \$251/year
MLS#: 239495

Aundrea Lillard
ABR, SRS, RENE, AHWD, PSA
LILLARD REALTY GROUP, LLC
Realtor® | Broker Owner
C. 706-622-0799
O. 719-657-5044

New equipment arriving! Just in time for your spring projects!

Coming in 2026!
Stand On Skid Steer
Telehandler
Trench Roller
Track Skid Steers
Carpet Cleaners

New fleet is arriving,
shiny and grand,
the perfect tools,
right in your hand.

See our full line
of equipment on
pinevalleyrental.com

391 Bastille Drive • (970) 731-4410

DECKS GARAGES STEEL BUILDINGS

Lifetime Decks
Wood & Trex Decks

Call: (970)398-4308 (office)
(970)946-3666 (cell)

50 years in business
5-star rating on Angie's List
Insured
Local references

WHISPERING PINES

BASEBALL



Photo courtesy Jon Wells

The Pirate baseball team poses for a photo in Cortez during Saturday's playoff action. The team defeated Brush in the first round to win its first playoff game in 20 years.

Pirates log first playoff win in 20 years

By Jack Sellner
Staff Writer

Despite its season coming to an end last weekend, the Pagosa Springs High School Pirate baseball team won its first playoff game in 20 years and achieved the goals set at the beginning of the year.

The Pirates finished the regular season 13-10 and were given the No. 19 seed in the 3A state playoffs. They traveled to Cortez Saturday, May 16, for the Cortez regional.

Their first matchup of the regional came against the No. 14 seed Brush Beetdiggers. The Pirates upset the Beetdiggers, winning 5-4 in eight innings.

"It was possibly our best game of the season," said coach Jon Wells. "We let up a couple runs early in the game in the first two innings, I think three of them [were] unearned by errors and stuff like that, but our team really locked in."

After two innings, the Pirates found themselves down 4-0, but held the Beetdiggers scoreless over the next six innings and slowly clawed their way back for the win.

The Pirates scored a run in the third, two in the fourth and a run in the sixth to tie the game up.

After a scoreless seventh by both teams, the Pirates pushed a run across in the top of the eighth and shut the Beetdiggers down once again for the 5-4 win.

Taylor Wells threw a complete game, giving up four runs (one earned) on 10 hits in eight innings. He also struck out five and walked only one batter.

Hudson Davis and Noah Bellina each had three hits. Davis went 3-for-4 with two RBIs and Bellina went 3-for-4 with two runs.

Sebastian Gonzalez had a hit and an RBI, Zach Pouyer had a hit and a run, and Jonathan Moncada had a hit and two runs. Taylor Wells didn't finish with a hit, but had an RBI.

"We had some timely hits," said Jon Wells. "We hit pretty well that game, but we had some situations where we had base runners on with

two outs and our hitters were able to find holes and get base hits and score those runs."

Jon Wells also emphasized that the Pirates ran the bases really well in the game. The game-tying run came when the runner on third stole home while a runner on first caused the pitcher to step off. The game-winning run in the eighth came on a sacrifice fly.

The win set up a rematch with the No. 3 seed, Montezuma-Cortez.

"After that Cortez loss as we were kind of breaking down the game and looking over and seeing Cortez taking pictures with the regional championship plaque, I told them that's where I want to be next year."

Coach Jon Wells

The Panthers had already beat the Pirates 11-1 and 15-1 during the regular season.

Unfortunately for the Pirates, the postseason matchup was not much different. The Pirates lost 13-0 in a game that lasted only five innings.

"We put so much energy and effort and everything else into that first game, I think our boys were just kind of zonked after that," said Jon Wells. "Our pitching, we had some walks and some base hits early in the game that put us behind, and we just couldn't catch up."

The Panthers scored three in the first, five in the second, four in the third and one more in the fourth. The Pirates finished with just two hits and committed three errors.

Braylon Landry and Gonzalez

each had a hit.

Kaeden Iguchi started on the mound and gave up eight runs (three earned) on three hits in one and two-thirds innings. He also walked five.

Landry came in and threw the final two and one-thirds innings in relief. He gave up five runs (zero earned) on four hits while walking one and striking out one.

Despite the season coming to an end at the hands of the Panthers, the team overachieved in what was thought to be a rebuilding year, emphasized Wells.

"[I'm] really proud of the boys [and] the hard work and attitude and everything that they put into this season. The brotherhood that they created really showed through just in the overall success of the program this year," said Jon Wells.

He also mentioned how important this year's senior class was to the success of the team.

Pouyer, Iguchi and Dylan Dempster all played their final game in a Pirates uniform on Saturday.

They all exemplified what it means to be a Pirate with their hard work and attitudes, noted Jon Wells. He also mentioned that they all brought into the team atmosphere.

Even though the three seniors will be missed, Jon Wells stated he is excited for next year as the core of the team is returning for another year and there is some impressive freshmen talent that will be added.

The team, along with Jon Wells, has high goals for next year after the success of this year, the coach indicated, and they know that if they want to achieve their goals, the work starts now.

"After that Cortez loss as we were kind of breaking down the game and looking over and seeing Cortez taking pictures with the regional championship plaque, I told them that's where I want to be next year," said Jon Wells. "This year was a huge step for the program [and] a season that the boys should be so proud of, but that's our goal next year."

jsellner@orourkemediagroup.com

Track

■ Continued from B4
time of 15.72 seconds.

The boys' 4x100-meter relay team of Lucero, Mazur, Johnny Baker and Creede Dozier placed fifth in preliminaries with a time of 43.03 seconds and placed ninth in the finals with a time of 44.66 seconds.

Jones placed third in the boys' high jump with a jump of 6 feet, 5 inches, and Dozier placed eighth with a jump of 6-3.

Dozier placed 10th in the boys' long jump with a jump of 20-4.5.

Dozier placed fifth in the boys' triple jump with a jump of 43-5, and Jones placed sixth with a jump of 42-10.25. Both Jones and Dozier had personal best jumps.

Emile Schneider placed fifth in the boys' discus with a throw of 147-04, a season best.

The girls' 4x100-meter relay team of Nina Wood, Molly Washburn, Ahrianna Martinez and Lexi Campbell placed 15th in the preliminaries with a time of 52.01 seconds, but did not make the finals.

Campbell placed 18th in the girls' triple jump with a jump of 32-5.5.

Liana Vega placed 18th in the girls' shot put with a throw of 26-9.5.

Malorie Morton placed third in the girls' discus with a throw of 119-9, a personal best, and Vega placed 16th with a throw of 92-8.

Assistant coach Curtis Nehring

highlights in an email to The SUN that Morton improved from entering as the seventh seed.

"I've been looking forward to this season for a while because of the leadership and the work ethic of the individuals on this team," wrote coach Connie O'Donnell in an email to the SUN. "The team faced some

"The team faced some injuries throughout the year, but they continued to improve, support one another, and stay committed. I was proud of the way they represented our program with effort and character."

Coach Connie O'Donnell

injuries throughout the year, but they continued to improve, support one another, and stay committed. I was proud of the way they represented our program with effort and character."

O'Donnell also emphasizes the

importance of the seniors on this year's team.

They helped make track a "cool sport" and encouraged more young kids to participate, which, in turn, helped grow the program, noted O'Donnell.

This year there were 79 kids on the team when the season ended.

"They brought leadership, experience, and consistency every day, and they helped set the standard for work ethic and accountability," wrote O'Donnell. "Beyond what they contributed on the track or the field, they were role models for the younger athletes. Losing a group like this is never easy because they leave a lasting impact, but we're grateful for everything they gave to the program."

This year was O'Donnell's final year as the head coach of the Pagosa Springs track and field team, but she notes she is still excited to see what the future holds for the Pirates.

"I'm excited to watch the track team continue to grow and improve," she wrote. "I'm looking forward to many records to be broken in the future."

jsellner@orourkemediagroup.com

Community.

The Pagosa Springs SUN
970-264-2100



A1Taxi Service

970-585-4903

8am-8pm Sunday-Thursday
8am-10pm Friday and Saturday
or by appointment!

Reliability
Matters!

Fully licensed and insured!
Smoke-free vehicles!
Local discount system- just ask!

Courtesy
Counts!



PUC 16400, MCT 0021, DOT 2842985

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Early Deadlines

for the issue of May 28

Display Advertising:

Noon, Friday, May 22

Legal Advertising, Articles and Letters:

Noon, Thursday, May 21

Classified Advertising:

Tuesday, May 26, 10 a.m.

Call your ad rep today
to place your advertisement!
970-264-2100

The Pagosa Springs SUN will be closed
Monday, May 25, in observance of Memorial Day

The Pagosa Springs **SUN**



Dr. Justin Nylund and staff

The team of Black Diamond Dental is excited to serve our Community.

NEW
PATIENT
SPECIAL

Cleaning
exam,
x rays, &
whitening

\$199

*Excludes scaling and root planning
periodontal disease, Boost whitening trays.
Expires June 20, 2026

All new patients who come into
the office have the choice of free
whitening trays or a donation to one
of the following:

Aspen House • Habitat for Humanity
Pagosa Valor Academy
Our Savior Lutheran School
Wolf Creek Ski Team

“

I had my first appointment with Dr. Nylund at Black Diamond Dental today. Dr Nylund and his staff are so kind and gentle! There is no judgment, just genuine kindness and caring! My whole family will be going there for all our dental needs!

- Melissa G

They were so freaking nice I have not been to the dentist in a while and they did not shame me for it they just made an action plan and were so helpful highly recommend.

- Samantha L

Took my 9 year old son to Black Diamond Dental after having a poor experience elsewhere. Every single person who works there was very personable and great with kids. My son even mentioned how nice everyone was and how he doesn't want to go to any other dentist. The atmosphere is perfect. Very clean, bright, all smiles.

We finally found a dentist for our whole family.

- Haley T

2363 Eagle Dr Unit A, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

970-398-2398

www.blackdiamonddentalofpagosasprings.com



Warning: Fraudulent court appearance text messages targeting Colorado residents

Colorado Judicial Branch

Colorado residents are being warned about fraudulent text messages circulating statewide that falsely claim recipients must appear in district court for a traffic violation.

Anyone who receives one of these texts should delete it immediately and avoid clicking any links.

How to spot the fake text

The name of the court is wrong. Any message referencing a generic “District Court of the State of Colorado” is not legitimate.

No location, date, or time is listed. A notice without this information is not a real court order.

Court staff information is incorrect, with names that do not match the local court’s public records.

The case number is inconsistent

with Colorado’s case number system. Common case numbers appearing in the texts include CO-DC-2026-TR.

The URL is not from Colorado’s official court system. Any link directing you elsewhere, especially one containing “DMV” in the address, is fraudulent. Do not click it.

How courts actually notify you

Legitimate court appearance notices arrive by mail, in person, by counsel or by initial summons issued directly by a law enforcement officer at the time of a traffic stop.

The court will send text message reminders for court appearances, including one the day before the scheduled appearance.

All valid notices include a case number, the specific judicial district,

judge and clerk information, courthouse address, and scheduled date and time.

To verify whether you have a pending court matter, visit www.coloradojudicial.gov and use the docket search function or call the clerk of court in your local judicial district. Colorado has 23 judicial districts, and contact information for all of them is listed on the official judicial branch website.

What to do

Delete the message.

Do not click any links, call any numbers listed in the text, or provide personal or financial information.

If you have already clicked a link or shared personal information, contact your bank immediately and consider placing a fraud alert on your credit file.

Motorcyclists

■ Continued from B3 and others.’

Driver and motorcycle safety tips from CDOT

To enhance safety on our roads, car and truck drivers need to use caution around motorcycles.

Drivers and motorcyclists should keep these tips in mind to reduce crashes:

- Observe all traffic laws and always obey the speed limit.
- Always drive and ride sober. Even one drink can affect you.
- Avoid distractions that take your eyes off the road, such as phones.
- Yield to motorcyclists, especially while turning at intersections.

- Wear high-visibility personal protective gear and DOT-compliant motorcycle helmets. Learn how to identify a safe, DOT-compliant helmet on the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration’s (NHTSA’s) motorcycle safety page.
- Remember, lane filtering is legal in Colorado as of 2024.

Weld and Pueblo counties have the highest percentage of fatalities involving unhelmeted riders. Riders aged 40 to 59 have the highest rate of non-helmet use in fatal motorcycle crashes.

According to the NHTSA, speed and alcohol are significant contributing factors in motorcycle crashes. In 2025, over 26 percent of motorcycle fatalities in Colorado involved im-

pairment.

The negative impact of alcohol and drugs — including certain prescribed medications — on judgment, coordination and alertness is well documented, posing significant risks to motorcycle riders.

In 2011, there were 78 fatalities, 79 in 2012, 87 in 2013, 94 in 2014, 105 in 2015, 125 in 2016, 103 in 2017, 103 in 2018, 103 in 2019, 140 in 2020, 137 in 2021, 149 in 2022, 135 in 2023, 165 in 2024 and 148 in 2025. Data was collected from the CDOT Fatal Crash Dashboard.

Shop the classifieds

Public Notices

COMBINED NOTICE PUBLICATION CRS §38-38-103 FORECLOSURE SALE NO. 2026-002

To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with regard to the following described Deed of Trust: On March 18, 2026, the undersigned Public Trustee caused the Notice of Election and Demand relating to the Deed of Trust described below to be recorded in the County of Archuleta records. Original Grantor(s) Crystal L Berkebile And Ruben Trevizo Original Beneficiary(ies) MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC. AS NOMINEE FOR ACADEMY MORTGAGE CORPORATION, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS Current Holder of Evidence of Debt COLORADO HOUSING AND FINANCE AUTHORITY Date of Deed of Trust May 01, 2019 County of Recording Archuleta Recording Date of Deed of Trust May 02, 2019 Recording Information (Reception No. and/or Book/ Page No.) 21902411 Original Principal Amount \$201,286.00 Outstanding Principal Balance \$176,483.25 Pursuant to CRS §38-38-101(4)(i), you are hereby notified that the covenants of the deed of trust have been violated as follows: Failure to pay principal and interest when due together with all other payments provided for in the evidence of debt secured by the deed of trust and other violations thereof.

THE LIEN FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN. LOT 5, BLOCK 21, ASPEN SPRINGS SUBDIVISION NO. 4, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF FILED AUGUST 30, 1971, AS RECEPTION NO. 74785, IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK AND RECORDER, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO. APN #: 569311319005 Purported common address: 1165 Beauler Ln, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCUMBERED BY THE LIEN OF THE DEED OF TRUST.

NOTICE OF SALE The current holder of the Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, described herein, has filed Notice of Election and Demand for sale as provided by law and in said Deed of Trust. THEREFORE, Notice is Hereby Given that I will at public auction, at 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, 07/16/2026, at the Archuleta County Treasurer’s Office at 305 Village Drive, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property and all interest of the said Grantor(s), Grantor(s)’ heirs and assigns therein, for the purpose of paying the indebtedness provided in said Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, plus attorneys’ fees, the expenses of sale and other items allowed by law, and will issue to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.

First Publication 5/21/2026 Last Publication 6/18/2026 Name of Publication Pagosa Springs Sun 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; DATE: 03/18/2026 Elsa P. White, Public Trustee in and for the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado By: Elsa P. White, Public Trustee The name, address, business telephone number and bar registration number of the attorney(s) representing the legal holder of the indebtedness is: Lynn M. Janeway #15592 Janeway Law Firm, P.C. 9540 Maroon Circle, Suite 320, Englewood, CO 80112 (855) 263 9295 Attorney File # 26 037031 The Attorney above is acting as a debt collector and is attempting to collect a debt. Any information provided

may be used for that purpose. ©Public Trustees’ Association of Colorado Revised 1/2015 Published May 21, 29, June 4, 11, and 18, 2026, in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (295577)

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 date 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: 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: 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

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: 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

Where to report this scam

- Federal Trade Commission: reportfraud.ftc.gov.
- FBI Internet Crime Complaint Center: www.ic3.gov.
- Colorado Attorney General, Stop Fraud Colorado: stopfraudcolorado.gov.

If you are concerned about a real court matter, contact your local court directly through www.coloradojudicial.gov.



At the Beehive it feels like family.



Welcome Home!

Here, your loved ones will have 24 hour assisted living care with private bedrooms and bathrooms and much more.

- Delicious dietitian approved meals prepared by our private chef
- Housekeeping, laundry services, activities, salon, and meaningful connections
- Beautiful views to take in from our large patios and walkways

For more information, please give us a call at 970-585-4116. We are located at 662 Park Avenue.



NOTICE OF PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET
Pagosa Peak Open School

Notice is hereby given that a proposed budget has been submitted to the Pagosa Peak Open School School Board on May 20, 2026, for the 2026-2027 fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and has been posted on the school’s website where it will be available for public inspection at www.pagosapeakopenschool.org. Such proposed budget will be considered for adoption at the regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education of said District on June 3, 2026, at 5:00 pm. A Google Meeting link sent out through the Sunshine List and will be in the BoardDocs at least 24 hours prior to the June 10, 2026 meeting.

Any person paying school taxes in said District may at any time prior to the final adoption of the budget file or register his or her objections thereto.

PPOS SCHOOL BOARD
May 20, 2026
Archuleta School District 50 Jt.
Jesse White, PPOS Board President

Published May 21, 2026 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (303001)



NOTICE OF PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET
Archuleta School District 50 Jt.

Notice is hereby given that a proposed budget has been submitted to the Board of Education of the Archuleta School District 50 Jt. on May 20, 2026, for the 2026-2027 fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and has been filed in the Administration Office of the School District where it will be available for public inspection. It also is available for review on the District’s website www.mypagosaschools.com, under Departments-Finance-2026-2027 Proposed Budget. Such proposed budget will be considered for adoption at the regularly scheduled meeting FOR the Board of Education of said District on June 3, 2026, at 6:00 pm. A YouTube meeting link will be posted on the District’s website www.mypagosaschools.com and on BoardDocs at least 24 hours prior to the June 3, 2026 meeting.

Any person paying school taxes in said District may at any time prior to the final adoption of the budget file or register his or her objections thereto.

BOARD OF EDUCATION
May 20, 2026
Archuleta School District 50 Jt.
Eric Burt, Finance Director

Published May 21, 2026 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. (302918)



ICON DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, INC.

ASPHALT PAVING and SEAL-COATING

Driveways, Parking Lots, Subdivisions
Local References, High Quality, Competitive Rates
30+ Years Experience
Call or text: 602-448-4936

PUBLIC NOTICES:

YOUR RIGHT TO KNOW

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

Legal advertising

Deadline: Friday noon*

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

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

Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association, the current holder of a lien recorded on July 22, 2024 at Rec. No. 22402869, in the records of the Clerk and Recorder of the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado. The judicial foreclosure is based on a default under the Declaration of Restrictions Pagosa, recorded on June 24, 1970 at Reception No. 73297 in the records of the Clerk and Recorder of the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado. The Declaration and notices, as recorded, establish a lien for the benefit of Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association, **WHICH LIEN BEING FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN ON THE SUBJECT PROPERTY AND IMPROVEMENTS.** You may have an interest in the real property being affected, or have certain rights or suffer certain liabilities or loss of your interest in the subject property as a result of said foreclosure. You may have the right to redeem the real property or you may have the right to cure a default under the instrument being foreclosed. Any Notice of Intent to Cure must be filed no later than fifteen (15) calendar days prior to the date of the foreclosure sale. **A notice of intent to cure filed pursuant to section 38-38-104 shall be filed with the officer at least fifteen (15) calendar days prior to the first scheduled sale date or any date to which the sale is continued. If the sale date is continued to a later date, the deadline to file a notice of intent to cure by those parties entitled to cure may also be extended.**

A notice of intent to redeem filed pursuant to 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 1300 Broadway, 10th Floor Denver, Colorado 80203 (800) 222-4444 www.coloradattorneygeneral.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 6th day of March 2026. Sheriff of Archuleta County, Colorado By: /s/ Mike LeRoux Sheriff Mike Le Roux

ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF: ORTEN CAVANAGH HOLMES & HUNT, LLC 1445 Market Street, Suite 350 Denver, CO 80202 Statutes attached: §§38-37-108, 38-38-103, 38-38-104, 38-38-301, 38-38-304, 38-38-305, 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)

Education



School district outlines proposed capital improvement work

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

As part of his capital improvements update for the Archuleta School District (ASD) Board of Education on May 6, Chief of Operations Jason Taylor outlined more than \$450,000 in proposed capital improvements to district facilities during the 2026-2027 school year.

Taylor indicated he was not seeking approval for the expenditures at the meeting, but outlining what will be proposed within the district's upcoming budget.

Taylor noted that the projects were rated by required projects, safety projects, projects that are preventative costs, etc.

Taylor also acknowledged there are a lot of questions about the future of the district's facilities, but that his goal is to not spend taxpayer funding "unnecessarily" on buildings they district hopes to no longer use in the coming years.

One item Taylor presented that he noted will be paid for separately from reserves that does not currently have a price tag is a new fire alarm system at Pagosa Springs Elementary School (PSES).

Taylor called the current fire alarm a "ticking time bomb," explaining to the board the system is 15 to 20 years past its lifespan and some components are original to the school.

"This spring, we learned that the display on the main panel is no longer functioning correctly," Taylor's report notes. "The office has a duplicate panel which mirrors what should be seen on the main panel, but if it goes out, the entire system would be out of compliance."

If any component goes down, Taylor told the board, school staff has to do a manual fire watch on a 15-minute basis.

"At the same time, the pull stations and smoke detectors are beginning to

malfunction," the report states. "Because of the 'addressing' used with this system, these components cannot be interchanged and, as mentioned before, new parts are not available. As a result, if minor components of this fire alarm system go out, the portion of the school monitored by that component would need to go on fire watch. During a fire watch, a staff member would have to document every 15 minutes that there is not a fire in that area. If the main panel goes out, the entire school would go under fire watch. In essence, we would need to devote an entire [full-time equivalent] to walking around the building documenting the fire watch."

Taylor noted the system might make it three to four years until the district is able to build and move into a new building, but it probably won't.

He added new parts can no longer be purchased to repair it, and currently parts have to be found on eBay at a huge markup.

Taylor outlined a new system would likely be installed in June 2027, with the hope the existing system works until then.

"We do have money in reserves to be able to pay for it," he said.

He estimated the cost could fall in the \$200,000 range.

Superintendent Rick Holt suggested to the board the risk is too high to not replace the system and pointed out the building will still be used by the community in the future.

Other work across the district facilities totals just under \$450,000, according to Taylor's report.

Included in that is a backup generator for PSES, Taylor noted.

He told the board the middle and high school have generators.

"Recently, [La Plata Electric Association] announced that they would potentially be using 'Public Safety Power Shutoffs' (PSPS) to reduce wildfire danger," Taylor's report explains.

"They have let us know that we need to be prepared for the possibility of multi day [sic] power outages any time conditions are hot, dry, and windy."

Taylor noted the need to protect the fire alarm, emergency lighting, network, food storage and emergency communication systems.

Taylor indicated that, while the school recently made it through an hours-long power outage, it couldn't have made it through the entire school day.

"My goal is to make sure that our buildings could safely finish school for that day, regardless of what time the power goes out. I would also want to be able to protect our food stores in the event of a long term outage," Taylor explains in the report.

The generators, he noted, could be used at a new school building.

Other capital improvement work involving PSES includes a required asbestos management plan, half of the LED light conversions and continued work on the heating/piping in classrooms,

Work slated for Pagosa Springs Middle School includes the asbestos management plan, half of the LED light conversions, fence repair along Lewis Street that was previously approved but not completed and a new garage door for the bike shed.

Work proposed for Pagosa Springs High School includes the asbestos management plan, wheelchair access items, Honeywell controller replacement, an inspection of the auditorium rigging, prairie dog abatement, fixing of a glycol leak in the school's snowmelt system, vape detectors, replacement of the auditorium curtain, a freezer condensing unit, mini splits for the vo-tech building, seals on glycol pumps and work to take care of leaks in the vo-tech building roof.

Work planned for the Maintenance and Transportation Building

includes light conversions to LED, a life replacement and parking lot repair.

Other work within the district includes finishing the baseball concession stand, wildfire mitigation at the district's Vista Boulevard property and a river pump for field irrigation.

Taylor noted the LED light conversions are necessary due to fluorescent lightbulbs no longer available for purchase, but that it will be an energy savings for the district.

On the baseball concession stand, Taylor explained to the board that, while the building was at one time slated for demolition, after the cost for the demolition was known, the decision was made to restore it instead.

He indicated much of the work has been done, and the current \$2,500 project will drywall areas that were not previously finished to bring the building into compliance with the fire code.

On the wildfire mitigation, Taylor indicated the district is working with the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association (PLPOA), which received a grant to pay for 50 percent of its work on green space.

He indicated the PLPOA reached out to the school district to see if it would like to be included in the grant and, after the grant is applied, the district's share is \$7,000.

Taylor noted the river pump was included in last year's capital budget but was put on hold due to the October 2025 flooding.

The board and staff also discussed that funding for the projects is coming from different funds, with some coming from reserves, with Holt explaining that is "primarily because there's a lot of pressure on our general fund budget currently with funding not coming in from the state, declining enrollment, and so we are not seeing the typical increase in funding."

randi@pagosasun.com

Every solid foundation starts with the

DIRT WORK

Driveways • Ponds • Clean Up
Dozer Work • Land Leveling
Underground Utilities
Foundations

Michael Preuit
Cell:(970) 946-7303

Bonded & Insured
20+ years local experience

East Side Market
Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays 9:00 - 3:00
Locally Made Handcrafted Products
Pottery and Jewelry - Metal Art
Gems/Minerals - Woodworks - Tie Dye clothing
Fresh Seasonings & Jerky - Baked Goods
Blown Glass Art - Guatemalan Imports

Pagosa Adventure
Baillon Rides
Rafting and Tube Rentals

Visit our Food Court
Lonchera Don Jose - Authentic Mexican Food
El Cumbias - Snow cones, Drinks, Snacks
Grilled Chicken Pagosa - Grilled, Fried, and More
Tasty On Wheels - Burgers & Fries
LIVE MUSIC EVERY SATURDAY 11-2

Downtown
225 E. Pagosa St.
HWY 160

East Side Market Food Court
225 E. Pagosa Street
www.esmpagosa.com

Exciting new sandwiches and personal pizzas!

New Lunch — MENU —

City Hall CAFE & GRILLE

TRY SOME OF OUR DELICIOUS

Prime Steaks
Seafood • Pastas • Subs
Wraps & Salads
Full Bar & Extensive Wine List
Homemade Key Lime Pie

Open Tue-Sat 11 am-9 pm

Call Today to Reserve Our Private Gondola
970.398.2409

2151 Eagle Drive | cityhallcafe.co | 970.398.2409

Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs awards \$25,000 in scholarships to local graduates

By Meg Wempe
Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs

The Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs is proud to announce the recipients of its 2026 Rotary Scholarships, awarding a total of \$25,000 to three outstanding local graduates pursuing higher education.

This year's scholarship recipients are:

- Leah Blackman, who plans to attend Colorado State University and major in biomedical science with a concentration in anatomy and physiology.
- Alexis "Lexi" Campbell, who will attend either University of Colorado-Colorado Springs or Fort Lewis College to pursue a degree in business marketing.
- Dylan Dempster, who will attend Rochester Institute of Technology and major in environmental sciences.

The three recipients were selected from more than a dozen applications submitted by exceptional local students.

The Rotary Club congratulates these scholarship winners and applauds their dedication, leadership, and commitment to their future goals and creating lasting change in the world.

The club also extends its congratula-



Leah Blackman



Alexis "Lexi" Campbell



Dylan Dempster

tions to the entire Pagosa Springs High School class of 2026 and wishes all graduates success and fulfillment in the years ahead.

Since 1983, the Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs has awarded more than \$609,000 in scholarships to 207 local high school graduates, helping students pursue college, trade school and professional training opportunities. These scholarships are made possible through the generous support of the Pagosa Springs community and local businesses that continue to support Rotary fundraising efforts year after year.

The club's signature fundraiser, the Jewels and Jeans Barn Dance, will return on Oct. 24. Community members are encouraged to save the date and join Rotary in supporting the next generation of local leaders, professionals and changemakers.

The Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs was chartered in 1979 and currently includes 62 active members dedicated to living the Rotary motto, "Service Above Self." The club meets every Thursday at noon.

Learn more about the club's projects, scholarships and membership opportunities at pagosaspringsrotary.org.

Ben Fox heads Wings Early Childhood Center

By Donna Mosher
Wings Early Childhood Center

Hey, Pagosa Springs. Meet Ben Fox, the new executive director of Wings Early Childhood Center.

Fox joined Wings last fall when the much-loved Sienna Hunter left to care for her three sons. He brings more than a decade of leadership experience in child- and family-serving organizations and a deep-rooted passion for building sustainable, community-based resources for children.

In eight months, Fox has expanded the Wings teaching staff, supporting teachers to earn advanced program certifications. The school is implementing a nationally accredited curriculum and growing the nature-based learning environment. The children enjoy an enhanced fresh food program of nourishing breakfasts and lunches prepared by an experienced cook and kitchen manager in the school's on-site kitchen.

"One of my many goals is to develop Wings into a regional model in the Four Corners for our nature-based early childcare program," Fox said. "In an effective preschool environment, every child, their families and our community work together to

achieve the best possible outcomes."

Wings Early Childhood Center has five classrooms serving children from ages infant to 5 years old. It provides the only licensed infant and toddler care center in Pagosa Springs. Some 75 percent of families served receive tuition assistance, enabling parents to participate in the work force while trusting that their children are receiving safe, enriching care.

Before coming to Wings, Fox worked in child and adult protection and supported Pagosa's foster parents. He later started an evidence-based care coordination program to support youth and families with complex needs, helping children avoid youth detention or long-term mental health hospitalization.

Fox holds a bachelor's degree in psychology and a master's degree in social work from Metropolitan State University of Denver. He is a former Appalachian Trail thru-hiker, having hiked the entire Appalachian Trail continuously from Georgia to Maine.

Fox and his wife, Julie, have lived in Pagosa Springs for eight years. Their 3-year-old son attends Wings. They are avid supporters of the Thingamajig Theatre Company, new members of the Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs, and active with several other nature and family-related organizations.

When he's not at work, you might find Fox on a hike in Turkey Springs, playing with his family in the hippy dip, or roasting and drinking coffee.

Clip 'n Save 10%

•Off of 750 ml and 175 ml bottles•

WINES & LIQUORS

Non-Sale Items Only • Coupon not valid for beer purchases

264-2749

Next to River Center - Hwy. 160
East Pagosa Springs
Mon.-Sat. Open 9 a.m. - Midnight
Sun. Open 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.

SILVER DOLLAR LIQUORS



Professional Directory

Attorney

Daniel L. Fiedler
Attorney at Law

Estate Planning • Wills • Trusts
Probate • Elder Law

970-507-8528
190 Talisman Drive, Suite D-6
next to Restoration Church, behind City Market

Mortgages

TOP LENDER IN THE COUNTRY

Why work with big banks when we can provide you and your buyers with more options, faster closings, and better service?

- Local Loan Officer with a National Expertise
- We Shop So You or Your Buyer Doesn't Have To
- Experts at Mortgages, Because It's All We Do
- Constant Availability 7 Days a Week
- All Loan Programs Including Expanded Options
- Same Day Pre-Approvals

Carrie Blue
Sr. Loan Officer | NMLS # 177666
cblue@trustedrate.com
(949) 683-4646 Call & Text

EXCELLENT COMMUNICATION
GOOGLE & YELP REVIEWS
THOUSANDS OF HOME LOANS FUNDED

Join our Professional Directory.

\$35 per week, 4 week minimum
with no changes to ad.

Call today!
(970) 264-2100

Storage & Office

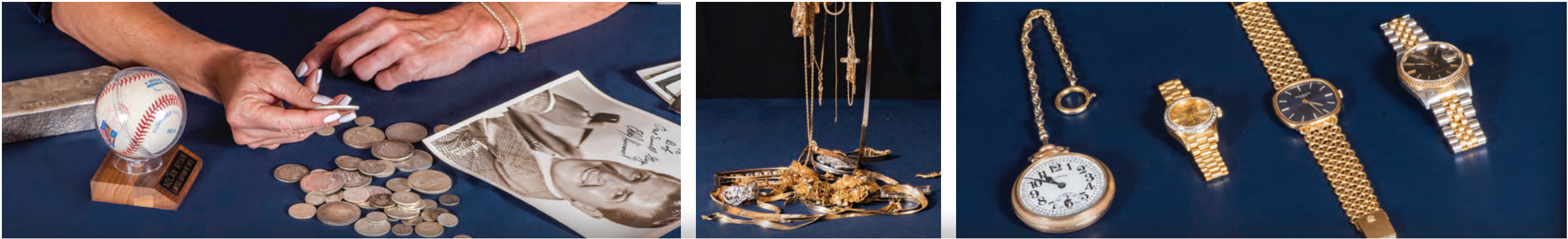
Pagosa Springs Mini Storage

14th St. at 15th Place
behind Home Expo Center

Prices start at \$25⁰⁰

Sizes available: 5'x5', 5'x10', 10'x10', 10'x15', 10'x20', and 10'x30'

For rental information call
Chris (970) 749-2867



Garcia & Co.
JEWELERS

SELL YOUR VALUABLES
TO THE NATION'S LEADING ESTATE BUYERS

We buy gold, silver, diamonds, coins & more!

3 DAYS ONLY

MAY 26 - 28

Tuesday - Wednesday 10am - 6pm | Thursday 10am - 5pm

4540 E Main St., Farmington, NM 87402

Call for directions: (505) 326-7353



WHAT WE BUY



Fine Jewelry

- Any Age & Any Style
- Gold, Silver and Platinum Jewelry
- Broken or Damaged Jewelry
- Designer Jewelry



Diamonds

- Loose & Mounted
- Damaged
- Any Size, Color, Style Natural Diamonds



Scrap Gold & Silver

- Gold, Silver & Platinum
- Dental Gold
- Old Mountings
- Class Rings & Fraternal Pins



Coins & Currency

- Gold & Silver Coins
- Bullion & Bars
- Old Paper Money
- Coin Collections



Watches

- Wristwatches & Pocket Watches
(Rolex**, Breitling, Patek, Omega, Elgin, Waltham, Illinois, Hamilton, etc.)
- Any Condition



Sterling Silver

- No Need to Polish. No Silver Plate.
- Flatware & Serving Pieces
- Jewelry (Turquoise, Southwestern, etc.)
- Candlesticks & Candelabras



Rarities

- Military Memorabilia
(Uniforms, Daggers, Swords, etc.)
- Pre-1950 Advertising & Toys
- Old Photos & Autographs (Tintypes, etc.)



Fine Art & Luxury Goods

- We Do Not Buy China or Glassware.
- Original Art By Known Artists
- Designer Handbags (Chanel, Fendi, Gucci, Hermès, Louis Vuitton, Prada, etc.)
- Pens (Montblanc, Montegrappa, etc.)

RECEIVE A 20% BONUS
When you trade for store credit*

Receive immediate payment! No appointment necessary.



Ready to Sell?
SCAN QR CODE HERE
for full buying event details.

Over 2,000 5-Star Reviews!

"We were quickly greeted upon our arrival and Jonny did a nice job of appraising our items. Even though we had quite a few pieces, he thoroughly reviewed the items and provided a fair offer. He answered all of our questions and was patient as we asked about the process. Overall, a pleasant and successful visit." - Alan F.



NATIONAL RARITIES
TRUSTED ESTATE BUYERS

Call (888) 787-1112 or visit NationalRarities.com
for any item-related questions.

*A free evaluation will be provided, but there is no obligation to purchase your items. Exclusions Apply. **We are not an authorized Rolex dealer nor are we affiliated or endorsed by Rolex, Rolex USA, or any of its subsidiaries.

preview

ARTS & LIFE

19th Hole Concerts

5:30 to 7:30 p.m. • Thursdays in June • Pagosa Springs Golf Club



Photo courtesy Community Foundation Serving Southwest Colorado



Photo courtesy Community Foundation Serving Southwest Colorado
The Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado is proud to announce the return of the 19th Hole Concerts — now in its 11th year — every Thursday evening in June at the Pagosa Springs Golf Club.

Live Performers

- Thursday**
Coyote Moon Lounge: San Juan Mountain Boys, 6 p.m.
The Pagosa Bar: Karaoke, 8 p.m.
- Friday**
Coyote Moon Lounge: Escape The Badlands, 6 p.m.
Meltdown on Main: Maxwell Miller, 5 p.m.
- Saturday**
Coyote Moon Lounge: Soul Fire, 7 p.m.
East Side Market: Emily Tholberg, 11 a.m.
- Sunday**
Coyote Moon Lounge: The Life Jackets, 6 p.m.
- Monday**
Coyote Moon Lounge: Rock ‘n’ Rebels, 5 p.m.

The PREVIEW is a publication of

The Pagosa Springs
SUN

©Copyright 2026
O'Rourke Media Group — Pagosa Springs, LLC
ISSN 2835-3994 (Print) • ISSN 2835-4001 (Online)



Owner, CEO
Jim O'Rourke
Publisher, Advertising, Circulation
Shari Pierce, shari@pagosasun.com
Editor
Randi Pierce, editor@pagosasun.com
Reporters
Josh Pike, josh@pagosasun.com
Derek Kutzer, derek@pagosasun.com
Clayton Chaney, clayton@pagosasun.com
Classified Advertising/Front Office
classads@pagosasun.com
Head Pressroom Robert Penton
Assistant Press Operator Matt McKinnon
Mailroom William Thomas

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Annual In County - \$45
Annual Out of County - \$55
Monthly - \$10
Digital subscriptions available at PagosaSun.com

ADVERTISING DEADLINES
Display - Noon Monday
Classified - Tuesday 10 a.m.
Legal - Noon Friday • Deadlines are moved up for holiday weeks. Please check for an ad in the paper for specific dates and times.

(970) 264-2100
PagosaSUN.com
Physical: 457 Lewis Street
Mailing: PO Box 9, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

WE ARE OPEN FOR LUNCH AND DINNER
FAMILY-OWNED RESTAURANT AND BAR OFFERING POLISH AMERICAN CUISINE
FALL/WINTER HOURS:
MONDAY: 11 AM - 10PM
TUESDAY: CLOSED
WEDNESDAY: CLOSED
THURSDAY: 11AM - 10PM
FRIDAY: 11AM - 11PM
SATURDAY: 11AM - 11PM
SUNDAY: 11AM - 10PM
📍 120 Piedra Rd, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 📞 970.582.2011

LIVE MUSIC
DANCING
OPEN MIC
KARAOKE

EVERY THURSDAY
\$1 off adult beverages
8 p.m.- 12 a.m.

PAGOSA BAR
460 Pagosa Street

PAGOSA'S ORIGINAL GRILLED CHEESE SPOT

MELTDOWN ON MAIN

OPEN
Friday, Saturday, & Sundays
COME HUNGRY. STAY AWHILE. ENJOY THE GOOD LIFE!

LIVE MUSIC EVERY FRIDAY AT 5
★ THIS WEEK ★
JAZZ CROONER
MAXWELL MILLER

PARK IN TOWN PARK
ACCESS US FROM THE ALLEY
Easy parking. Easy access. Great food. Good people.

PET FRIENDLY
We love our four-legged friends!

257 PAGOSA ST

Exciting new sandwiches and personal pizzas!

New Lunch — MENU —

City Hall CAFE & GRILLE

TRY SOME OF OUR DELICIOUS

Prime Steaks
Seafood • Pastas • Subs
Wraps & Salads
Full Bar & Extensive Wine List
Homemade Key Lime Pie

Eat In or Take Out
Open Tue-Sat 11 am-9 pm

Call Today to Reserve Our Private Gondola
970.398.2409

2151 Eagle Drive | cityhallcafe.co | 970.398.2409

Tee up for good: 19th Hole concerts will return in June

By Rachel Rosenthal

Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado

There's no better reason to get outside this summer than live music and local impact.

The Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado is proud to announce the return of the 19th Hole Concerts — now in its 11th year — every Thursday evening in June at the Pagosa Springs Golf Club.

Grab your lawn chair, bring a friend and contribute \$10 to a great cause. Every dollar of your cover charge goes directly to organizations doing meaningful work right here in Archuleta County. Corporate sponsors cover all event expenses, meaning 100 percent of proceeds are pooled and distributed equally among the four featured nonprofits. Last year, that added up to \$2,500 for each organization.

"The Archuleta Committee is proud to support local nonprofits through the 19th Hole Concerts grant," said Marcy Mitchell, chair of the Archuleta Committee, which organizes the concerts. "Thanks to so many community members attending our concerts each June, we have raised a total of \$85,000 for local nonprofits over the years."

This year's lineup of recipients support a wide range of programs that help our community thrive — from the earliest weeks of life to the health of the river running through it all:

- Aspire Medical Services and Education offers free prenatal care and parent-child education for families with children ages 0-3. Demand for its programming has grown significantly as more local families seek

connection and support in our rural community. Your ticket purchase will go toward supporting this vital resource for local families.

- The Pagosa Community Initiative (PCI) runs trauma-informed, out-of-school programs for youth — including summer camps that provide safe, enriching and therapeutic experiences for kids who need them most. Concert proceeds will expand scholarship access so that no child is turned away due to cost.

- The Upper San Juan Watershed

Enhancement Partnership (WEP) works on the ground to restore and protect the Upper San Juan River Basin. After historic flooding along the San Juan River in October 2025 highlighted the corridor's vulnerability, the need for long-term watershed resilience has never been clearer. Funding will support planning, partnerships and community engagement to advance its work.

- Wings Early Childhood Center (Archuleta County Education Center)

■ See Concerts on next page

Every solid foundation starts with the

DIRT WORK

Driveways • Ponds • Clean Up
Dozer Work • Land Leveling
Underground Utilities
Foundations

Michael Preuit
Cell: (970) 946-7303

Bonded & Insured
20+ years local experience

NEXT GEN EXCAVATION

Always fresh.
Always local.
Always intentional.
Community-Driven Coffee.



Roasted right here in Pagosa Springs.
Fresh Fill-Up Fridays 3-5 p.m.
Refill your container with
freshly roasted coffee and save.

Free Local Delivery
Available on our daily Pagosa Springs routes.

Call/Text: (970) 903-4694
Order Online: pagosaroasters.com/shop
2363 Eagle Drive Unit C




ACE HOMETOWN DAYS

LIMITED TIME OFFERS. WHILE SUPPLIES LAST.

Additional terms may apply.

SALE \$16.99 SAVE INSTANTLY \$4 ACE REWARDS EXCLUSIVE

\$12.99

Traeger® Reserve Hardwood Pellets, 20 Lb.
8015887
REG. \$19.99

WHEN FLAVOR MATTERS RESERVE

4 Days Only. While Supplies Last.

MINI SIZE FREE

with a purchase of \$40 or more†

WD-40® Spray, 2.75 Oz.
8098324

4 Days Only. Limit 1 Per Customer. While Supplies Last.

20% OFF

men's & women's

Apparel

all brands, new stock

SALE

\$49

REG. \$99.00

TRIMMER OR BLOWER

Your Choice.
Battery & Charger Included.

CRAFTSMAN

7054387

7054355

4 Days Only. Limit 1 Per Customer. While Supplies Last.

ONE MILLION FLAG GIVEAWAY

HONORING AMERICAN VETERANS

VISIT YOUR LOCAL ACE AND RECEIVE A FREE FLAG

ON SATURDAY, MAY 23,
TO HELP HONOR VETERANS.
WHILE SUPPLIES LAST.

ACE Hardware **VFW**

While "EXIT" flag to customers at each participating store. While quantities last. Flag to giving away one million flags to customers and VFW Post nationwide. Limit one per customer. Online only. No purchase necessary.

MORE SALES

in store and online

Prices are as marked. All sales final on discounted items, cash and carry, no returns on sale items, discounts do not apply to sale items, sale prices may not be combined with other discounts. Delivery and set up or installation not included. Some other exclusions may apply. Limited to stock on hand.

See our ads on TerrysACE.com
Shop www.acehardware.com for free in store pickup

525 Navajo Trail Drive • 731-4022
Mon-Fri 7:30-6 • Sat 8-5 • Sun 9-4

Artemis fever? Join Sunday’s moongaze

By Dena Laterza
Pagosa Sidewalk Astronomers

Our April moongaze was rained out, so we rescheduled for May.

People all over the world were filled with excitement as NASA sent astronauts back to explore the moon for the first time since 1972. Crowds flocked to witness the launch of the first crewed spacecraft to the moon in more than 50 years.

The mission had extensive media coverage, including behind-the-scenes looks at the astronauts and the technology. If you want to experience something similar to what the astronauts saw, come to our “Artemis Fever” Moongaze and view the moon through our high-magnification telescope.

We will be at South Pagosa Park on 8th Street at 8:15 p.m. on Sunday, May 24. We will try to answer any questions you have about the Artemis program.

Back to the historic mission: The spacecraft performed a flyby, observing roughly 20 percent of the far side of the moon for the first time with the unaided eye.

The journey left them awestruck. In the live coverage, they kept describing the experience as awe-inspiring, beautiful and, above all, impossible to fully describe with words.

Those of us back on Earth got to follow along with the breathtaking photos they sent back, but it’s an experience and perspective that very few people in the world can truly share.

Concerts

■ continued from previous page
serves children from 6 weeks to 5 years old — and is the only licensed infant care provider within 50 miles of Pagosa Springs. With capacity for up to 75 children, Wings is a cornerstone of working family life in this region. Concert proceeds will help sustain their infant and toddler programs.

All concerts will run from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Pagosa Springs Golf Club. Here’s the lineup for this June:

- June 4: Wings Early Childhood Center and Bob Hemenger — Dixie-land, jazz, blues, soul and pop.
- June 11: Upper San Juan WEP and Jackson Mountain Ramblers — country, folk and pop.
- June 18: PCI and Outlaw Firm — country, blues, folk-rock and Tex-Americana.
- June 25: Aspire Medical Services and Education and Bo DePeña — Americana and country.

Come for the music. Stay for the community. Leave knowing your \$10 did something good.

The crew captured images of the moon under various lighting conditions, saw an “Earthset” and a stunning view of the moon eclipsing the sun. This historic, diverse team includes the first woman, person of color and non-U.S. citizen to travel to deep space. Artemis II made history by traveling the farthest distance from Earth that any humans have ever gone.

But, a flyby was not the only mission for the scientists. They were testing new technologies and operations such as the ability to protect against high-radiation events and testing the spacecraft’s manual piloting capability.

All crewed missions to space end with the high-stakes re-entry into Earth’s atmosphere. The capsule must survive temperatures of more than 5,000 degrees.

NASA astronauts Reid Wiseman, Victor Glover and Christina Koch, and Canadian Space Agency astronaut Jeremy Hansen splashed down at 8:07 p.m. EDT on April 10 off the coast of San Diego, completing a nearly 10-day journey that took them 252,756 miles from home.

Public engagement remained high throughout the mission, from launch to the successful return of the crew.

The overall vision for Artemis and NASA aims not only to return humans to the moon within two years, but also to build a permanent lunar base and eventually go to Mars.

We definitely have the “fever” and can’t wait until the Artemis III mission scheduled for 2027.

And if the 19th Hole Concerts spark something in you — a desire to make a deeper mark — there’s another opportunity to get involved in supporting local nonprofits this year.

The Archuleta Committee is launching Pagosa’s 100+ Women Who Care, and you’re invited to be part of it from the very beginning.

The model is simple and powerful: a group of women committed to collective giving, pooling their contributions to make an immediate and meaningful impact on local charities and nonprofits. Together, what might feel like a modest individual gift becomes something transformative. An informational meet and greet will take place on Aug. 17 from 3 to 4 p.m. at Coyote Moon.

To support the inaugural giving circle event, a \$100 donation secures your seat at the table — and your voice in the process. You’ll have the opportunity to nominate a nonprofit and vote on Oct. 30 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Coyote Moon. Learn more at swcommunityfoundation.org.

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF ARCHULETA COUNTY TRADITION

JOIN THE FAIR BOARD

HELP KEEP THE FAIR GOING

VOLUNTEER DURING FAIR WEEK

Help guide the future of the fair through leadership, planning, and community involvement. Support local youth, preserve tradition, and help shape the next generation of the fair.



ArchuletaCountyFair.com
ArchuletaCountyFair@gmail.com
(970) 264-8424

Scan here to volunteer



JULY 30 – AUGUST 2 2026

Help where your skills shine — organization, people skills, setup, events, hospitality, and more. No experience required.



Archuleta County Farm Bureau presents

Water, Wildlife and Weeds

CSU Extension Building
344 Highway 84
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
OR
Stop by our office

Your local news source since 1909.
The Pagosa Springs SUN

San Juan Stargazers to hear from Tom Hanchett of Apollo Mission Control

By Joan Mieritz
San Juan Stargazers

On Thursday, June 4, we are having the monthly meeting of the San Juan Stargazers, and we are having a very special speaker: Tom Hanchett, who lives in Pagosa Springs and was part of Apollo Mission Control Houston covering all the launches of Apollo seven through 17.

I don't think we can even imagine how exciting that must have been to be there for the launches, the various unique missions, the problems and complications, and the experiences of all the Apollo astronauts, whom he personally knew and spoke with

during the mission.

Hanchett lived the history of our NASA Space Program, knowing every astronaut and being present for each exciting moment.

Hanchett is one of the most remarkable men I have ever met. He is interesting and filled with wisdom and compassion.

On June 4 we will have an amazing opportunity. I want to invite everyone in Pagosa Springs and especially every student who has thought about outer space to come to hear the stories he will tell.

He has recently been to a reunion of the Apollo missions and all the employees were encouraged to go

home and speak to students to get them excited about the future.

Hanchett not only has amazing stories to tell, but he has a unique attitude toward work. I would love for all our Pagosa students to have exposure to the way he looks at life and how that was expressed in his own work and career.

You can come around 6 p.m. if you want to visit or have any astronomy questions. Hanchett will begin around 7 p.m., talk for about an hour and then answer questions.

It is an amazing opportunity that I hope you will take advantage of. We will also be celebrating his 89th birthday.

Pagosa Peak Strings' spring performance set for May 24

By Payton McIntyre
Pagosa Peak Strings

Join us on May 24 as the Pagosa Peak Strings take the stage at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts for their spring performance, featuring orchestral pieces that highlight the ensemble's growing talent and hard work.

This unique collaboration brings

together students from Pagosa Peak Open School; Pagosa Springs elementary, middle and high schools; as well as members of the local home-school community.

Pagosa Peak Open School has graciously hosted the after-school orchestra on Wednesdays and Fridays, and now it's the ensemble's turn to give back. All proceeds from this performance will go directly to

the school.

Come celebrate the end of the school year and support these dedicated young musicians as they share their passion for music.

Tickets will be available at the door for \$10. The doors will open at 1:30 p.m., with the show beginning at 2 p.m.

WHIPS to hold monthly luncheon May 26

By Nancy Ford
Women Helping in Pagosa Springs

WHIPS, Women Helping in Pagosa Springs, will have their next luncheon on Tuesday, May 26, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the tent at the art park on Lewis St.

There are heaters in the tent, but bring a sweatshirt.

The cost is \$20, and all women are welcome. It will be catered by Patrick Hurley with choices, but we must have you RSVP to (970) 946-1895 by Sunday evening, May 24. You must pay if you don't show.



I'm
short on
listings!

Call me to today to
sell your home!

Buying or Selling — I would love to help you!



Debbie Loewen
Employing Broker
(970) 946-3480
debbie@ownpagosa.com



448 PAGOSA STREET • OWNPAGOSA.COM
2016 & 2018 SPIRIT AWARD, 2019 REALTOR OF THE YEAR

Clarks Custom Landscaping



Full Service Landscaping | Flagstone | Pavers
Patios & Walkways | Design | Irrigation

970-508-0658

www.clarkscustomlandscaping.com
clarkscustomlandscape@gmail.com

licensed & insured

Open Houses



Whispering Pines Townhomes

Enter 1135 Park Ave & Look for the Signs

Saturday, May 23, 2026

10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

6 Different Floor Plans

Come See What is Available!

PSMC Community CPR Class

Learn CPR through the American Heart Association on May 23rd



This in-person course is designed for individuals with little or no medical training. Participants learn how to perform CPR and safely and effectively use an automated external defibrillator (AED).

Topics include:

- Signs of heart attack or stroke
- Adult, child, and infant CPR and AED use
- Choking relief for adults, children, and infants
- Drowning response and prevention
- Opioid-associated life-threatening emergencies

Cost: \$55 per person

Instruction time: ~4 hours

Space is limited!

To register or check availability use QR code or go to <https://www.pagosaprimedicalcenter.org/community/events-classes>



PAGOSA SPRINGS
Medical Center

First-Class Training, Close To Home

970.731.3700 | 95 S. Pagosa Blvd | [pagosaprimedicalcenter.org](https://www.pagosaprimedicalcenter.org)



Summer season beginning at Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts as artists arrive

Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts

The summer season has officially begun at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts as performers, directors, musicians, designers and collaborating artists arrived Sunday, May 17, to begin rehearsals for Thingamajig Theatre Company's 2026 summer repertory season.

Artists have traveled to Pagosa Springs from places as far away as New York City and neighboring Telluride, joining one of the strongest groups of locally based performers and creatives the company has ever assembled.

The season reflects a growing blend of nationally based professional artists and the expanding depth of talent emerging throughout Southwest Colorado.

"This season feels especially exciting because we're seeing the emergence of so much talent that has quietly been part of this community for years," said Producing Artistic Director Tim Moore. "Many longtime local artists are finally reaching a point in life where they have a little more time to return to creative work after careers, raising families and everything else life demands. When you combine that with new artists moving into the area and returning performers coming back home to Pagosa, it's creating an incredibly rich artistic community here in Southwest Colorado."

The season will open May 29 with "Come From Away," the internationally celebrated musical based on the true story of 7,000 airline passengers stranded in the small town of Gander, Newfoundland, following the events of Sept. 11, 2001.

Filled with heart, humor and an unforgettable folk-inspired score, the production celebrates kindness, resilience and the extraordinary connections formed during moments of crisis.

The production marks one of the first three professional productions of "Come From Away" ever produced



Photos courtesy Thingamajig Theatre Company

Longtime audience favorites and recently engaged couple Trevor Brown and Samantha Luck are returning to the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts for Thingamajig Theatre Company's 2026 summer repertory season.

in Colorado.

The cast features local resident Darcy DeGuise as Beulah, one of the show's most beloved characters. The production will also feature a live professional band supported by recent Pagosa-area transplant Payton McIntyre, who has quickly become a major force in the regional arts community through her rapidly growing youth strings program and community music outreach.

Following "Come From Away," the repertory season will continue with Stephen Sondheim's groundbreaking musical "Company" opening June 12, followed by the classic "Fiddler on the Roof" opening June 26.

The theater's annual youth production, Disney's "The Jungle Book KIDS!," will open July 11 and features local young performers working alongside the professional company throughout the summer.

Additional summer highlights include the annual Broadway Gala fundraiser on July 28 and a full repertory schedule running through Aug. 29, with all three mainstage productions rotating throughout the summer season.

Tickets and full performance schedules are available through pagosacenter.org or by calling (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

OPEN
S
M
A
Y
1
5
T
H

East Side Market

Fraturdays, Saturdays, and Sundays 9:00 - 3:00

Locally Made Handcrafted Products

Pottery and Jewelry - Metal Art
Gems/Minerals - Woodworks - Tie Dye clothing
Fresh Seasonings & Jerky - Baked Goods
Blown Glass Art - Guatemalan Imports

Pagosa Adventure Ballion Rides
Rafting and Tube Rentals

Visit our Food Court

Lonchera Don Jose - Authentic Mexican Food
El Cumbias - Snow cones, Drinks, Snacks
Grilled Chicken Pagosa - Grilled, Fried, and More
Tasty On Wheels - Burgers & Fries

LIVE MUSIC EVERY SATURDAY 11-2

Downtown
225 E. Pagosa St.
HWY 160

225 E. Pagosa Street
www.esmpagosa.com

OPEN
S
M
A
Y
1
5
T
H

Your local news source since 1909.

The Pagosa Springs SUN

Let Freedom Boom!

PAGOSA SPRINGS

FOURTH of JULY

Celebration

ARCHULETA COUNTY IS SPONSORING THE PARADE TO CELEBRATE THE 250/150 YEARS CELEBRATION.

CELEBRATION OF OUR COUNTRY & OUR STATE – NO POLITICS.

FLOATS THEMES SHOULD BE PATRIOTIC – 250/150 CELEBRATION

★ PLEASE VISIT WWW.ARCHULETACOUNTY.GOV TO SIGN UP TODAY.

★ PARADE PARTICIPANT INFORMATION ★

CHECK-IN LOCATION:
HIGH SCHOOL

TIME:
7:30 AM – 9:30 AM

STAGING AREA:
RESERVOIR HILL

PARADE ★ FIREWORKS ★ FAMILY FUN & MORE!



Travers Vasek

Pianist Travers Vasek to showcase talent in senior recital

By Venita Burch
Special to The PREVIEW

Travers Vasek, a talented local pianist, will present his senior recital on Sunday, May 31, at 3 p.m. in the Pagosa Springs High School auditorium.

Vasek’s program will feature a demanding selection of classical works:

- Bach: “Prelude and Fugue.”
- Beethoven: “Moonlight Sonata.”
- Beethoven: “Sonata Pathétique.”
- Chopin: “Waltz.”
- Liszt: “Liebestraum.”

Since moving to Pagosa Springs two years ago, Vasek has studied piano under the instruction of Dan and Venita Burch. In that time, he

has made a strong impression on the local music scene, serving as the pianist for the high school choir under Leo Baughman and performing for Bob Hemenger’s Americana Project Class.

Those who have worked with him praise his exceptional musical abilities. Vasek is known for his remarkable capacity to memorize pieces quickly and for his dazzling technical skill.

“His fingers just fly on the keys,” observers often note, and he consistently captivates audiences with both his playing and his stage presence.

Beyond his performance achievements, Vasek has earned impressive academic and musical recognition.

He will attend Colorado State University this fall on nearly a full-ride scholarship. He has also received multiple scholarship offers from other colleges and universities.

His long-term ambition is to continue his studies at a prestigious conservatory such as The Juilliard School or the Curtis Institute of Music.

Community members are encouraged to attend the May 31 recital to celebrate this gifted young musician as he marks the end of his high school career and prepares for the next chapter in his musical journey.

For more information, contact Rocky Mountain Music or the Pagosa Springs High School Music Department.

Clip 'n Save 10%



•Off of 750 ml and 175 ml bottles•

WINES & LIQUORS

Non-Sale Items Only • Coupon not valid for beer purchases

264-2749
Next to River Center - Hwy. 160
East Pagosa Springs
Mon.-Sat. Open 9 a.m. - Midnight
Sun. Open 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.

SILVER DOLLAR LIQUORS

NOTICE OF TOWN COUNCIL VACANCY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 2.8 of the Pagosa Springs Town Charter, that as of April 6, 2026, there is one vacancy on the Pagosa Springs Town Council. The council seat is an at large seat. During a public meeting to be held on June 16th, 2026 at 5:00 pm, at Town Hall 551 Hot Springs Blvd, the Council will consider the appointment of one new Council Member to fill the vacancy.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that any elector of the Town of Pagosa Springs interested in serving on the Town Council may submit a completed application, found on the town website, with the Administrative Assistant, Traci Bishop, at Town Hall 551 Hot Springs Blvd or PO Box 1859 Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, on or before June 10, 2026.

For town boundaries, eligibility, or more info call 970-264-4151 or visit www.pagosasprings.co.gov

OPEN HOUSES

Saturday, May 23
from Noon to 3 pm

Imagine your days spent on the lake or relaxing on your back patio, surrounded by breathtaking mountain scenery. Welcome to this charming home nestled directly on Hatcher Lake in the Pagosa Lakes community. This beautifully maintained 2,792-square-foot residence features 4 bedrooms and 3 full bathrooms, including two primary suites—one conveniently located on the main level and the other on the upper level. Ideal for multi-generational living or simply enjoying extra space, the home offers room for everyone to spread out and relax. The main level boasts a bright sunroom for year-round enjoyment.

To tour this home go to: <https://pspixeltree.com/31-Laguna-PI-1>



31 Laguna Place
\$895,000 • MLS# 833147



33 Fawn Court
\$875,000 • MLS# 824532

This meticulously cared for full-round log cabin, uptown near Lake Forest, spans 2,732 square feet, featuring 4 bedrooms and 3.5 bathrooms. Stunning mountain views. The open floor plan connects the great room with a cozy fireplace to a modern kitchen boasting granite countertops, high end appliances, and an island for extra prep space.

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



Barbara Swindlehurst
CIPS CRS GRI SFR CNE
REALTOR®, BROKER/ OWNER
C: 303.618.7423 • O: 970.264.6673
Barbara@MountainMeadowRealEstate.com



409 Lewis Street • MountainMeadowRealEstate.info

Youth prevention initiative builds media literacy and leadership skills among local students

Healthy Archuleta

A group of local high school and middle school students recently completed participation in a youth tobacco prevention initiative focused on media literacy, vaping awareness and youth leadership through a partnership between Healthy Archuleta, Pagosa Springs schools and the Archuleta County Public Health Department.

During this past academic year, students participated in interactive workshops exploring how tobacco and vaping companies target youth through social media, flavors, influencer culture, product design and online advertising. Rather than relying solely on traditional lectures, the program encouraged students to critically examine how marketing and peer influence shape decision-making among young people.

Middle school students participated in a six-week media literacy curriculum focused on influencer marketing, healthy habits and vaping culture, while high school students engaged in a design-thinking process examining the social pressures and community factors contributing to youth vaping.

Students also developed anti-

vaping campaign materials and prevention posters that were publicly displayed during the Archuleta Food Summit, where they engaged community members in conversations about vaping prevention, social media influence and healthy decision-making.

Program facilitators shared that many students were surprised to learn how intentionally vaping products are marketed toward younger audiences through colors, flavors, product design and online algorithms. Students also expressed frustration about the role social media and influencer culture play in normalizing nicotine use among youth.

Healthy Archuleta implemented the initiative using a youth-adult partnership model that included a young adult staff member, youth intern, youth engagement consultant, and support from public health and school partners.

Weekly sessions emphasized relationship-building, creativity, dialogue and critical thinking while creating welcoming spaces for youth participation and campaign input.

Healthy Archuleta hopes to continue expanding youth tobacco prevention efforts through additional

school partnerships, peer-led leadership opportunities, parent education and expanded youth engagement programming focused on media literacy, forming healthy habits and healthy decision-making.

During the first year of this work, youth consistently identified the need for safe and welcoming “third spaces” outside of school and home where they could gather, build relationships and participate in positive community activities.

Through the current Archuleta Community Food Hub project, Healthy Archuleta will work alongside youth and community members to help design the food hub as a community-centered space that supports youth connection, belonging, leadership and prevention-focused programming in Archuleta County.

For more information about the food hub project and opportunities to get involved, visit our website, www.foodcoalition4archuleta.org/community-food-hub.html.

For more information on youth prevention efforts, visit www.foodcoalition4archuleta.org/youth-prevention.html or email fsfearchuleta@gmail.com to learn more about our work supporting youth, health and food systems in our community.



Trinity Anglican Church

*Christ came not to call the worthy,
but to call sinners to repentance.*

Come and celebrate the love of God.

Holy Communion, Sundays @ 10am
Evening Prayer and Bible Study, Wednesdays @ 5pm

246 Harman Park Dr. • trinityanglicanchurch.org

HAVE MEDICAID?

You may qualify for FREE transportation.

Call WJP/A1 Taxi to get yourself set up.

970-731-4081

Non-emergency medical transportation to anywhere in Colorado and border state approved cities for Medicaid insured rides to and from Medicaid providers

Pre-approval and 24-hour notice required.

Also Durango Airport Shuttle • Taxi Service • Weddings Charter Service • Private Parties



Wilderness Journeys Pagosa, Inc

Call 970-731-4081 for scheduling

PUC # 16400, DOT# 2842985, MCT# 0021

2026

VOTE RANDY BETTS

FOR ARCHULETA COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 3

A LEADER WITH INTEGRITY

RANDY IS CHALLENGING INCUMBENT VERONICA MEDINA FOR DISTRICT 3, OFFERING PRACTICAL, COST-CONSCIOUS LEADERSHIP GROUNDED IN REAL KNOWLEDGE OF PLANNING, PERMITTING, CONSTRUCTION, AND COUNTY OPERATIONS.

RANDY NEEDS YOUR VOTE IN THE PRIMARY ELECTION IN ORDER TO ADVANCE TO THE NOVEMBER BALLOT.

MAIL BALLOTS GO OUT JUNE 8TH.

IN-PERSON VOTING - JUNE 30TH.



PRIMARY ELECTION IS TUESDAY, JUNE 30TH

YOUR VOICE MATTERS - GET OUT THE VOTE!

RESIDENT NEEDS FIRST

RESPONSIBLE SPENDING

TRUTH BY TRANSPARENCY

A BELIEVER IN SERVANT LEADERSHIP

STAY UP TO DATE

Follow Randy on Facebook & Instagram

HOLD YOUR PHONE CAMERA OVER THE QR CODE TO SCAN!



RANDY WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU: BETTSFORBOCC@GMAIL.COM . 970-903-7506 . RANDYBETTS.COM

PAID FOR BY RANDY BETTS CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE, 2026.

From isolation to inclusion: How Healthy Archuleta is rewriting the narrative on mental health

Healthy Archuleta

On a quiet evening in a local community garden, the clink of trowels and the murmur of shared recipes might not seem like medical interventions. But, for the residents of Archuleta County, these moments are the front lines of a revolutionary shift in mental and behavioral health care.

Healthy Archuleta, a nonprofit traditionally known for its work in food security, is increasingly bridging the gap between nutrition and mental wellness.

Its latest initiatives are echoing a global call to action recently highlighted by the World Health Organization (WHO): the move from institutional isolation to community-based inclusion.

A global model in a rural setting

The WHO argues that “community-based mental health care” is the gold standard for modern society. Its research indicates that when people receive care within their own social environments rather than in isolated hospital settings recovery is faster and more sustainable.

In Archuleta County, where the nearest major psychiatric centers are hours away over mountain passes, this community-driven approach isn’t just a preference; it’s a necessity.

Healthy Archuleta is operational-

izing this by fostering “social belonging” as a primary health outcome.

“Health isn’t just about what’s on your plate; it’s about who is at your table,” states the organization.

By creating Community Learning and Leadership Circles (CLLCs), Healthy Archuleta is creating a support network that combats the isolation often found in rural life.

Breaking barriers: language and literacy

One of the steepest hurdles in behavioral health is the stigma associated with seeking help, a barrier often magnified by language gaps.

Healthy Archuleta has tackled this head-on. Its Bilingual Navigator program trains community members to help Spanish-speaking households navigate the complex health care landscape.

This April, the organization hosted Dr. Jose Canaca, a specialist in cultural psychiatry, to lead sessions on mental health literacy and cultural competency. The goal is to ensure that when a resident finally reaches out for help, they are met with a provider who understands their heritage and their heart.

A network of care

Healthy Archuleta’s work is supported by the Archuleta Rural Health Network, a coalition of local providers and residents. This network works

to ensure that primary care and mental health are no longer treated as separate entities.

By integrating these services, it is following the WHO’s recommendation to treat mental health as a fundamental human right that belongs in the community, not just the clinic.

As Archuleta County continues to grow, Healthy Archuleta is ensuring that its residents don’t just live here; they thrive here.

Through the simple acts of gardening, sharing meals and training navigators, the organization is proving that the most powerful medicine for the mind is often the community itself.

If you or a loved one needs more formal support, resources are available.

Call or text the 988 Lifeline. It is free, confidential and available 24/7

To learn more about local mental health resources or to get involved with Healthy Archuleta, visit www.foodcoalition4archuleta.org.

Spring Discounts*



25% OFF all highlights, balayage & custom color services

10% OFF all over color and root retouch services

Offers good through May 31, 2026

*Call (970)585-7904, ask for Taylor for these specials



190 Village Dr
Unit C-6

(970)585-7904

[wildflowersalonpagosa](https://www.wildflowersalonpagosa.com)

NOW HIRING

Under New Ownership

All About You Day Spa is hiring for the following full-time and part-time positions:

- Administrative Assistant
- Esthetician
- Massage Therapist
- Nail Tech



Email introduction and resume to:
info@embodiworkmassage.com

AllAboutYouPagosa.com
(970) 731-3391

Conveniently located near City Market

RE-OPENING JUNE 1, 2026

A1 Taxi Service

970-585-4903

8am-8pm Sunday-Thursday
8am-10pm Friday and Saturday
or by appointment!

Reliability
Matters!

Fully licensed and insured!
Smoke-free vehicles!
Local discount system- just ask!

Courtesy
Counts!



PUC 16400, MCT 0021, DOT 2842985

Subscribe to The SUN

*Results Today!
Vision for
Tomorrow!*



Re-Elect Veronica Medina

Archuleta County Commissioner
District 3

Leadership that Shows Up!

It has been a privilege to serve as your County Commissioner, and it would be an honor to continue serving our community. I am asking for your vote in the Primary Election on June 30, 2026.

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
VeronicaMedina4Commissioner@gmail.com
970.582.0066

We are asking for your support.
Donations may be mailed to:
PO Box 3353, Pagosa Springs CO 81147

Life is like a country song

By **Betty Slade**
PREVIEW Columnist

Chris Stapleton sings, “I met God at rock bottom when I had nothing left. He didn’t give up on me. He turned my shame into a story and my pain into belief.”

Yes, life is like a country song. Lyrics come from a life lived on its own terms. Redemption comes on God’s terms.

“The true story of every person in the world is not the story you see, the external story. The true story of each person is the journey of his or her heart.” — John Eldredge, “The Sacred Romance.”

We all have our story. We all have our song. Jelly Roll spoke at the Grammys. After winning Best Contemporary Country award, he shocked the glamorous crowd with his unashamed heart speech: “There were days that I was broken. I thought the darkest things. I believe God has the power to change my life. To tell y’all right now, Jesus is for everybody. Jesus, I’m listening, Lord.”

We will brush against the sins of the world, but we do not have to drink the dregs of it. Jesus drank them for us. Yes, I have fallen into sin and it was like gall in my throat. Sin feels good for a season, but it comes with the vileness of what it really is. Everything becomes ugly. We hate ourselves for being there. We are ashamed and feel the guilt. We believe we have thrown our

SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center announces events

By **Shayla McClure**
SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center

Save the date for the following activities at the SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center:

- May 31, 11 a.m.: Presentation with Scott Maki, shaman master. Sacred Himalayan sound bowl meditation and potluck at the SpiritFire Center at Xanadu retreat. A \$25 donation will be collected.

- June 7, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.: Medicine wheel sacred journey with Shayla White Eagle. Learn how to build your own medicine wheel sacred space. A \$50 donation will be collected. Save your spot by contacting (970) 510-0309.

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 pagosacommunitynewthought@gmail.com or texting/calling (970) 510-0309.

Artist’s Lane

lives away and we will count for nothing.

And then God reaches down and pulls us up, out of love, and gives us a new song. David writes these lyrics: “He also brought me up out of a horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my steps. He has put a new song in my mouth—Praise to our God” (Psalms 40: 2, 3 NKJV).

Jesus’ wine is sweet, but must be experienced with a humble heart. Stout, proud hearts expect to receive entitlement. It doesn’t work that way. Surrendered hearts are brought to their knees in thanksgiving for God’s grace upon their lives. This is God’s terms.

Today, my faith in Jesus continues to grow. I can trust Him to hold me honest and keep me close to Him for my last days on this earth. If I do something stupid, God will, if necessary, tether me to the Tree of Life. I’m counting on God’s grace to keep me strong and in His way until He takes me home.

When we have been touched by God, we can’t go back. More is required of us than of others. I paraphrase Jesus’ words, “I have asked more of you, because you can’t be pleased with anything less.” It is so true. I want more and more

of His touch and the fragrance of His Spirit, no matter how it hurts at the time.

T. Graham Brown, American country music singer and songwriter, led a life of destruction, but finally turned around. He tried to fight his addiction by himself. Out of desperation he asked God for help. “An’ now, on my knees, I’m turning to You, Father. Could you help me turn the wine back into water?”

This country song was released Aug. 25, 1998, and is one of his classics. He paid a big price for his life of destruction to write these lyrics. Hitting rock bottom is sometimes necessary.

Thom Owens says, “Wine Into Water is one of Brown’s very best albums, not only because it finds him coming to terms with his own personal demons, but because it is so well-crafted.”

I have lived my story. I’ve song my song. In my downfall, Jesus didn’t turn away from me. He came through the rustle of the pine trees outside my window. He came to me through prophecy, and people who cared. He came to me with promises for more years to live. I have borrowed a line from Jelly Roll’s version of “If Tomorrow Never Comes”; he sings, “If tomorrow never comes, Lord I know I find me home.”

Final brushstroke: Oh, Sweet Jesus, you won’t turn anyone away. Rock bottom is a hard place to fall. He’ll be there to pick you up.

Send your comment to bettyslade.author@gmail.com.

Views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN.



Design a SIGN
Est. 2000
970.731.3327

More Than Just Signs!

- DECALS & WINDOW GRAPHICS
- VEHICLE GRAPHICS & WRAPS
- STORE FRONTS
- PROMOTIONAL PRODUCTS
- APPAREL PRINTING
- NEON & ELECTRIC SIGN REPAIR
- MEMORIAL STONES

LOCATED AT 57 MAJESTIC DR. PAGOSA SPRINGS, CO

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.

Subscribe to The SUN
PagosaSUN.com



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

As long-time locals, we operate with small-town hospitality without the “Pagosa-time mentality.” Your time is as valuable as ours, so we operate with punctuality.

Mountain Men Disaster Mitigation is here to service you and your family through providing quality in our work, and being timely and efficient.

Don’t forget to check your crawl spaces for standing water. Water mixed with the normal environments produced in a crawlspace is the perfect breeding ground for microbial growth. We also offer sump pump system installations and repairs as well as moisture barriers. Call today for a free evaluation!

Please check out our most recent blog on ‘Simple Home Checks That Prevent Major Losses.’

DISASTER RESTORATION
FLOOD MITIGATION
CRAWLSPACE INSPECTIONS/ WORK

Fire Restoration Mold Remediation Smoke and Odor Removal
Water Extraction Structural Drying

Lars Schneider
970-946-0238
BJ Jones
970-749-9028
MountainMenDM.com • mail@mountainmendem.com



NATIONALLY LICENSED  **INSURED**  **LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED**

Teen Dialogue Accelerator looking for participants

By Judy Brennan
PREVIEW Columnist

With national conversations growing more polarized and communication becoming increasingly difficult, meaningful dialogue has never mattered more. One way to make a difference is by starting right here in our own community.

Last fall, the Ruby Sisson Library was selected as one of only 10 recipients of the Teen Dialogue Accelerator grant, an initiative led by Cortico in partnership with PBS "FRONTLINE" and the MIT Center for Constructive Communication. The program introduces a fresh approach to civic learning, youth leadership and community connection.

We began where it matters most — with our teens, the voices shaping our future. So far, we've hosted three youth-led conversations where local teens explore civic issues that directly impact their lives. Topics have included artificial intelligence, the future of careers, stress, democracy and climate change. Their insights will contribute to a national effort helping libraries and media organizations better understand youth perspectives in a rapidly changing world.

The goal of this project is to create a welcoming space where teens can discuss issues that affect them, in small-group settings, guided by a trained youth fellow. Each conversation is recorded, reviewed and shared

Library News

by the youth fellow and library staff as part of the national initiative.

To date, we've met with local teens from Pagosa Springs High School, San Juan Mountain School and local library patrons. We are eager to welcome more youth, so please contact us soon. The project runs through the end of June, so there's still time to get involved.

Please contact Judy@pagosalibrary.org or (970) 264-2209.

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 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

■ See Library on next page

I SELL PAGOSA!

LEE RILEY

TWICE CHOSEN LOCAL REALTOR™ OF THE YEAR

Serving
Pagosa
Families for
37 years.

970-946-3856
ISellPagosa.com
leeriley@isellpagosa.com

Jann C Pitcher Real Estate
2261 Eagle Dr., Pagosa Springs, CO 81147



Dr. Justin Nylund and staff

The team of Black Diamond Dental is excited to serve our Community.

Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship to hold Action Sunday activity

Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

A recent UU World magazine, put out quarterly by the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA), was dedicated to the Meet the Moment movement in UU circles.

What is being called a framework, Meet the Moment is an "effort calling Unitarian Universalist to pay close attention to the world around us, make meaning of what we're seeing, and take grounded, courageous action shaped by our deepest values," said executive editor Kristen Cox Roby.

With that call, we at the Pagosa UU Fellowship answer it by our fourth Sunday we named Action Sunday as one way to live out our values.

This coming Sunday, May 24, we plan to meet outdoors near the up-town rec center to engage with this mission. (If the weather is less than ideal, we will meet at the fellowship.)

Our focus has been on postcard writing and finding creative ways to share small acts of kindness in our community and the world. So, how about painting rocks? We will have rocks, paint and brushes ready for your design or slogan as we get ready

for pride month in June. It is a simple and creative act that is easy for any age to do. Join us at 10:30 a.m. Sunday morning as we "Make Friends, Grow in Spirit and Do Good," and gather together in active hope.

The UU Fellowship space is available for adjacent groups to meet in what we call our Community Hub, such as the Tara Meditation Group, held Sundays at the fellowship and online from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Check out the website, PagosaUU.org, for more information about the Meditation group and to be notified of upcoming programs.

Other groups that meet are:

- Weekly Qigong practice: Mondays at 1 p.m.

- Wise and Wakeful Circle: second and fourth Saturdays at 10 a.m.

Both of these groups are drop-in and all are welcome.

As a way to practice rest and counter the cultural norms, the UU Fellowship takes all fifth Sundays as a day of intentional rest. There will be no services Sunday, May 31.

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

NEW
PATIENT
SPECIAL



Cleaning
exam,
x rays, &
whitening

\$199

*Excludes scaling and root planning
periodontal disease, Boost whitening trays.
Expires June 20, 2026

All new patients who come into
the office have the choice of free
whitening trays or a donation to one
of the following:

Aspen House · Habitat for Humanity
Pagosa Valor Academy
Our Savior Lutheran School
Wolf Creek Ski Team

“

I had my first appointment with Dr. Nylund at Black Diamond Dental today. Dr. Nylund and his staff are so kind and gentle! There is no judgment, just genuine kindness and caring! My whole family will be going there for all our dental needs!

- Melissa G

They were so freaking nice I have not been to the dentist in a while and they did not shame me for it they just made an action plan and were so helpful highly recommend.

- Samantha L

Took my 9 year old son to Black Diamond Dental after having a poor experience elsewhere. Every single person who works there was very personable and great with kids. My son even mentioned how nice everyone was and how he doesn't want to go to any other dentist. The atmosphere is perfect. Very clean, bright, all smiles.

We finally found a dentist for our whole family.

- Haley T

2363 Eagle Dr Unit A, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

970-398-2398

www.blackdiamonddentalofpagosasprings.com



Library

■ continued from previous page

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 six 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.

Register now for Summer Reading Program

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](https://www.pagosalibrary.org/summer) for more details.

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 days at no cost to you.

Passes come with a backpack filled with nature guides, binoculars and fun activities. Reserve yours

today.

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](https://www.pagosalibrary.org), for location changes throughout the construction. If no other location is mentioned, the activity will stay at your library.

Activities calendars

Pick up monthly calendars at the library or check the website, www.pagosalibrary.org/events-calendar, so you don’t miss any of the free programs, events and activities available to you and your family.

Writers Guild

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

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

Tech Time

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

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 in the children’s collection

• From Canadian author Benjamin Flouw, “The Golden Glow” is a colorful picture book that follows a curious fox that embarks on a nature quest to find a rare, undescribed golden plant, and encounters woodland friends and learns about flora along the way.

• “You’re My Little Grog” by Grace Baranowski is an adorable board book to share with your littlest “Star Wars” fan. With chunky pages for little hands and die-cut shapes of characters from “The Mandalorian,” children will love the cute illustrations of Grog, Ahsoka Tano, Luke Skywalker, Bo-Katan and Din Djarin.

• “I’m So Happy You’re Here: A

Celebration of Library Joy” is written by fierce library advocate Mychal Threats, who has risen as a social media influencer sharing compelling short video stories about the power of libraries from his own experience as a librarian. Threats’ debut picture book is a heartwarming reminder that everyone is welcome at the library, a place filled with activities, games and countless stories.

New nonfiction

• In “Kate!: The Courage, Grace, and Power of the Woman Who Will Be Queen,” master biographer Christopher Andersen chronicles Kate Middleton’s life, beginning with her humble roots, her off-again, on-again love story with William that catapulted her to global fame, and the 2011 “Wedding of the Century” that was watched by a global television audience of nearly 2 billion people.

• “Decorative Art of the Southwestern Indians” by Dorothy Sides is the newest addition to our Chimney Rock collection. Sides is a noted artist and collector, and has gathered together and redrawn in black and white nearly 300 examples of the finest authentic Southwestern Indian decoration that she has seen in a lifetime of study.

• “Painting the Secrets of the Forest With Watercolors” by Jennifer Lefevre guides readers into the whimsical world of watercolor painting, revealing how to capture the quiet beauty, mystery and texture of the forest— its plants, flowers, mosses and creatures— through luminous, nature-inspired art.

New fiction books

■ See Library on next page

ASPHALT



ICON DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, INC.

ASPHALT PAVING and SEAL-COATING
Driveways, Parking Lots, Subdivisions
Local References, High Quality, Competitive Rates
30+ Years Experience
Call or text: 602-448-4936

Let Us Floor You!

— Residential & Commercial —
Check our up-to-date selection of quality wood, vinyl plank, carpet and tile.

The Tile & Carpet Store

M-F 8-4:30 • (970) 731-5282
204 Bastille Dr. (N. Pagosa Blvd, Left at Bastille Dr.)

INTRODUCING MILESTAR PATAGONIA AT/PRO



An aggressive all-terrain tire that is specifically designed to conquer any terrain during any condition for any adventure.

- MILETECH technology for added strength, impact protection, and enhanced sidewall
- THREE-PEAK MOUNTAIN SNOWFLAKE
- Can handle EXTREME TERRAIN, but provide a comfortable and quiet ride on highway

- 30-Day Ride Guarantee
 - 55K Mile Limited Warranty*
 - Road Hazard Program*
- *Exclusions apply*

(970) 731-3335
505 Piedra Rd.
Open 7-6 Mon. - Thur.

Piedra Automotive
24-HOUR TOWING & EMERGENCY ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE

Weed management: timing of treatment

By Ethan Proud and
Mark Giampietro
PREVIEW Columnists

As weed management professionals, one of the biggest mistakes we see people make is incorrectly timed management.

Controlling weeds is already an uphill battle, so ensuring you are doing the right things at the right time is paramount to success.

Proper identification of the target plant is the first step in any weed management plan. Once you have an ID, you can start to fill in crucial blanks about its biology, particularly its reproductive and growth cycles. Knowing this information will get you headed in the right direction for management timing.

For plants that only reproduce by seed, like most annuals, biennials and simple perennials, effective management methods need to be implemented before the plants disperse seed for the next generation. Better yet, do it before they even form flowerheads to reduce the chances of viable seed being left behind to germinate. There will, of course, be seeds left in the soil seed bank from previous years that may germinate for several growing seasons. However, once the reproductive cycle of the target plant is continuously interrupted, the seed bank will deplete itself in time.

The time of year a target species emerges and when they form seeds are key pieces of information that indicate when management practices should begin.

Winter annuals are some of the first

Extension Viewpoints

plants to emerge in springtime and usually go to seed by early summer. They would need to be managed far sooner than later-emerging species that may only just be breaking ground while winter annuals are seeding out. Though it may seem obvious, one needs to know when a plant will be around to do anything about stopping its spread.

In some cases, there are even more specific timing windows to be aware of.

For example, the herbicide-resistant annual weed kochia needs to be targeted while they are young seedlings and are more susceptible to the effects of herbicides. While kochia can still be pulled or mowed before it sets seed, herbicides lose their effectiveness long before the plant forms flowers. Biennial species, which spend their first year as a rosette then bolt and flower their second year, are more easily controlled their first year in the rosette stage. Though management is still effective in the second year, it's better to nip them in bud, so to speak.

Things get trickier with the complex perennial species that can reproduce by rhizomes that spread underground through the soil. These plants don't necessarily rely on seeds to reproduce, though new populations are formed by various means of seed dispersal. Established plants send out creeping roots

that form new sprouts above ground, creating dense patches and monocultures. These root systems overwinter, then plants resprout in the springtime and continue their spread. Mechanical removal methods are often futile on these deep-rooted plants, meaning herbicides or biological controls are

■ See Viewpoints on next page

WINDOW COVERINGS

Always deep discounts

Cathy Justus W.F.C.P.

Window Fashions Certified Professional

FREE CORDLESS OPTION on select Graber products

FREE installation with purchase

blinds • shades • verticals • draperies • valances
bedspreads • bed skirts • pillows • cushions • & more

Helping Pagosans and beyond to make
their house a home since 1986.

264-4462



PAGOSA PEAK FAMILY DENTISTRY IS MOVING!



Join Drs. Roukema and Astorga
in our
BRAND NEW, MODERN SPACE.



PAGOSA PEAK
FAMILY DENTISTRY

Welcoming New Patients!

We look forward to meeting you at Your Next Dental Visit!

CALL (970) 731-2126 TODAY

We are a state-of-the-art practice using the latest technology and advanced training to provide our patients with the highest standard of care. We provide a full range of specialty dental services under one roof!

• Complex-oral rehabilitation
• Extractions • Dentures • Implants
• Implant-supported dentures ... and more!

Library

■ continued from previous page

• Told with Sally Hepworth's twists, humor, charm and heart, "Mad Mabel" is novel that weaves past and present together — through the power of justice and redemption, and all the way to its stunning conclusion.

• "Ruby Falls" by Gin Phillips is equal parts twisting mystery and historical fiction set in 1928 Chattanooga when a man disappears down a hole in the ground and discovers a 150-foot waterfall in the middle of a mountain that he later names after his wife: Ruby Falls.

• "The Llano County Mermaid Club" is written by University of New Mexico Press author Kathleen M. Rodgers and is set in the desert town Sandhill, N.M. The community pool and the nearby Santa Rosa Blue Hole are the closest a group of friends can get to their dream of mermaids and seeing the ocean.

New to us: classics worth rereading

• "The Call of the Wild" by Jack London inspired our summer reading theme, "Read Wild!" As the community read title, we'll have 100 copies of the book for summer reading participants

to keep. This classic book symbolizes the westward struggle and pioneering spirit that settled the American West, a suiting read for America 250/Colorado 150.

• "The Seven Dials Mystery" by Agatha Christie is a classic detective story where a practical joke goes chillingly, murderously wrong. This book is now being adapted into a Netflix original series, and the audiobook is read by the star of the series, Mia McKenna-Bruce.

New DVDs

• "Camera" follows a young boy who cannot speak as he moves to a struggling fishing town with his widowed mom. Bullied by his peers, Oscar finds his artistic voice with the help of an eccentric repairman and a film camera.

• "The Ragin' 13" follows Walter Imahara, a Japanese American internment survivor who co-founded a Cajun weightlifting dynasty, bridging cultures, winning nationally and witnessing the loss of close friend David Berger in the 1972 Munich Olympics.

• In "Murder Before Evensong" empathetic Canon Daniel Clement is pulled into a murder investigation in 1980s England. This movie is based on the novels by the Rev. Richard Coles.

ACCEPTING MOST INSURANCES

pagosapeakfamilydentistry.com

228 Village Dr., Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

Viewpoints

■ continued from previous page
the best bet.

Herbicide applications on these species should be done initially when the plants are flowering. Before this point, the upward flow of the nutrients from the roots will push out the herbicide, killing the top portion of the plants but leaving the roots intact. When the plants are flowering, the circulatory flow is such that it will allow the herbicides to be absorbed into the roots, killing the root system more effectively.

A better time to treat these perennials, though, especially a well-established stubborn patch, is in the fall. They will begin to send nutrients into their root systems to overwinter as the first frost approaches. Applying herbicides in this window will result in the plants absorbing the herbicide into their roots, dealing a deadly blow. Population densities are often drastically reduced the following year after a fall herbicide application.

The more you know about the target plant, the more obvious the timing of the treatment will be and the better the management results will be.

There are a plethora of resources available for plant identification from online apps like iNaturalist to old-school field ID books to help you properly identify your target plant. The Archuleta County Weed and Pest website has fact sheets on the noxious weeds found in our county, which have helpful identification tips and management strategies.

If ever in doubt, contact local experts at Colorado State University (CSU) Extension or the Archuleta County Weed and Pest Department to help you. We are a free educational

resource and are here to help you become better stewards of your land.

Yellow alyssum

After two back-to-back dry winters, yellow alyssum, also known as pale madwort, has emerged in mass.

This plant belongs to the mustard family and is an annual, meaning that it germinates, flowers, produces seeds and dies in a single growing season.

Due to our March warming spell, it emerged early and has taken advantage of the dormancy period of our native plants. It is considered a weak invader, and cultural controls such as rotational grazing, replanting with natives and minimizing soil disturbance can reduce its foothold or prevent its invasion. During dry years it is more prevalent as its early emergence allows it to capitalize on what little moisture was in the soil.

Yellow alyssum can be managed with herbicides early in the year from the rosette to flower stage, but once the round seed heads start to form below the uppermost blooms, mechanical control is a better option.

Mowing at the full flower stage can prevent seed production, but once seeds are formed it is best to hand-pull and bag plants to reduce the soil seed bank the next year.

When the plants become brittle and the seed heads start sticking to your socks, it may be easier to grab a painters pole and a roller and pick up the seeds that way.

If our monsoons shape up nicely this year, our native species will rebound and be able to crowd out the spaces where we are seeing yellow alyssum this spring. Overseeding can also help in degraded areas— if

we get enough moisture to trigger germination.

Archuleta County Weed and Pest is your local resource for managing noxious weed populations and controlling other pests.

Bioblitz

Save the date for Archuleta County's first annual Bioblitz: June 20 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Join us for a day exploring 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 in this ecosystem.

No prior experience is necessary, just bring your curiosity and enthusiasm for nature.

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

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

Volunteer for the Archuleta County Fair

Be a part of preserving the rich heritage and timeless tradition of the Archuleta County Fair and help plan the 75th anniversary Fair in 2026.

You'll contribute to an annual tradition that brings our community together, supports local agriculture and creates lasting memories for generations to come.

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

www.BodyworkByKevin.com

**Therapeutic Massage
and Therapy to help you
Feel Better | Move Better | Live Better**



Sports recovery • Pain reduction
Performance improvement

“Any city, any state any country that was the best massage I have ever had!” — Sara S.



**Now open in my new location
Schedule online today**

(970) 585-6415
2325 Eagle Drive Suite B #3
in the new Black Diamond Dental Building
Over 25 years experience

DECKS GARAGES STEEL BUILDINGS



Lifetime Decks
Wood & Trex Decks

Call: (970)398-4308 (office)
(970)946-3666 (cell)

50 years in business
5-star rating on Angie's List
Insured
Local references

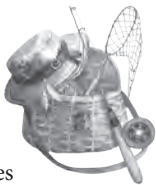


WHISPERING PINES



Updated Mountain Retreat on Riverfront Property

- ~ 1 Bedroom, 1 Bath
- ~ Furnished and Move-In Ready
- ~ Brand-New Rear Deck
- ~ Brand-New Metal Roof
- ~ Fresh Paint
- ~ New Kitchen Appliances
- ~ Durable Laminate Flooring
- ~ Updated Lighting
- ~ Upgraded Bathroom Fixtures



\$189,000

6 Okie Lane, South Fork Colorado
HOA dues \$600/ year, includes water
Taxes \$251/year
MLS#: 239495

Aundrea Lillard
ABR, SRS, RENE, AHWD, PSA
LILLARD REALTY GROUP, LLC
Realtor® | Broker Owner
C. 706-622-0799
O. 719-657-5044



BeeHive®
H O M E S
— of Pagosa Springs

At the BeeHive it feels like family.

Welcome Home!

Here, your loved ones will have 24 hour assisted living care with private bedrooms and bathrooms and much more.

- Delicious dietitian approved meals prepared by our private chef
- Housekeeping, laundry services, activities, salon, and meaningful connections
- Beautiful views to take in from our large patios and walkways

For more information, please give us a call at 970-585-4116.
We are located at 662 Park Avenue.



Decoding symbols of graduation

Special to The PREVIEW

After many years of time spent toiling classrooms and study halls, many students welcome graduation. Graduating high school or college is a major milestone.

It is associated with many symbols that have endured for some time. As graduates prepare to receive their diplomas or degrees, they might be curious to know what's behind some notable symbols of graduation ceremonies:

- **Gown:** The gown is a customary garment worn on graduation day. The Georgia Institute of Technology says gowns historically were heavy robes worn by medieval scholars for warmth in the largely unheated universities. Today, graduates don gowns not for warmth (as most graduation ceremonies take place in the spring and summer), but to symbolize the level of degree being conferred.

- **Cap:** A cap, also known as a mortarboard, often goes hand-in-hand with a graduation gown. Historians surmise the flat, square shape represents a mason's mortarboard to symbolize hard work. Others say it may be the shape of a book to signify academic achievement.

- **Tassel:** The turning of the tassel is a relatively modern tradition. The tassel, which is attached to the mortarboard, initially was an ornament but has since evolved into a traditional element. The Honor Society says the practice of mov-

ing the tassel from one side of the cap to the other symbolizes completion of this important academic milestone. Typically, graduates move the tassel from the right to the left. The right side represents the student being a candidate, while the left means he or she is now a graduate. While some sources date the tradition to the early 1900s, the current tradition has been traced to the 1960s and 1970s.

- **Cords and stoles:** Graduates may adorn their graduation garb with other elements. Cords are twisted ropes that often represent high grade point averages or participation in honor societies. Stoles are satin scarves that often denote participation in specific organizations or a student's cultural heritage, according to the University of Colorado Boulder.

- **Diploma:** A diploma is a legal document. Historically, diplomas were written on thin sheepskin and rolled into tubes. Students may receive a prop diploma on graduation day or empty diploma folio. Later on the actual document will be mailed or made available for pickup.

- **Rings:** Some graduates have opted to purchase class rings. Students will often wear the ring with the school name facing them while still a student. Upon graduation, the ring will be turned so the name faces outward, presenting the completed coursework to the world.

- **Commencement speech:** The word "commencement" means "be-

ginning," which is fitting for a graduation ceremony. Instead of marking the end of something, commencement is for students who are about to start a new chapter.

Graduation rituals and symbols have endured through the ages, and are likely something students and their families will encounter as they prepare for the ceremony to come.

RENT A CAR

PAGOSA AUTO RENTS

- Local
- Nights and Weekends
- Delivery Available!

\$70
PER DAY

Visit pagosaautorents.com

(970) 585-9181



WANT TO SLEEP BETTER? EXERCISE LIKE THIS

"Exercise has proven to be one of the best 'sleep tonics' a person can have.

If insomnia is having its way with you, perhaps today's excerpt can help.

Investigators studied 23 sedentary adults, mostly women aged 55 years and older, who had a hard time falling asleep or staying asleep and also reported impaired daytime functioning.

The participants were randomly placed in one of two groups. One group exercised for two 20-minute sessions four times a week and the other did a 30-40 minute workout four times a week.

This went on in both groups for 16 weeks, with participants exercising to 75% of their maximum heart rate on at least two activities, such as riding a stationary bicycle, walking, or exercising on a treadmill.

In a control group, participants didn't exert themselves physically but only mentally, taking part in recreational or educational activities, such as attending a cooking class or listening to a museum lecture. This group met for about 45 minutes, three to five times a weeks, also for 16 weeks.

Researchers say the participants who exercised reported that their sleep quality improved, raising their diagnosis from poor to good sleeper. They also reported fewer depressive symptoms, more vitality, and less sleepiness in the daytime.

Lead author Kathryn Reid, PhD, of the Department of Neurobiology and Physiology at Northwestern University, says drug-free treatment is best for insomnia because it eliminates the potential of sleep medications interacting with other drugs a person might be taking.

Source: "Exercise Helps You Sleep." By Bill Hendrick. <http://www.webmd.com/>

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

"Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might..." Ecclesiastes 9:10

A public service from your Adventist friends & neighbors at Pagosa Springs Seventh Day Adventist Church.

Disclaimer: This and all our Nature's Remedies are for health information purposes only. The Seventh Day Adventist Church is not responsible for results.



Seventh-day Adventist® Church

A PROTESTANT DENOMINATION

40 Oren Road • 970-731-1005

COULD YOU HAVE STRAIGHT TEETH IN 6 MONTHS?

PagosaSmiles
Dentistry and FASTBRACES

NEW PATIENTS & EMERGENCIES WELCOME

970.731.3627

During & After Fastbraces

\$500 OFF FASTBRACES May 31, 2026

ACCEPTING UNITED CONCORDIA ELITE PLUS PLAN DENTAL INSURANCE FROM THE JICARILLA APACHE NATION

www.PagosaSmiles.com

DR. JORDAN RUTHERFORD

"I had an excellent experience at Pagosa Smiles with Fastbraces!" - Brandon Friday

Location: 51 David Dr, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

SPECIAL OFFER \$249

EXAM, X-RAYS & CLEANING

(does not include debridements or scaling) Expires 5/31/2026

NEW PATIENTS & EMERGENCIES WELCOME!

NO INSURANCE? CASH DISCOUNTS!

We do just about everything from:

- + Crowns + Fillings
- + Root Canals
- + Implants
- + Fastbraces

Before / After Crown

31+ YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

PAGOSA SCENE . . .

FOURTH ANNUAL SECOND CHANCE PROM

Photos courtesy Payton Shahan

Scene ... dancing the night away at the Pagosa Community Initiative's fourth annual Second Chance Prom fundraiser on May 16. The annual event was themed to a night in Hollywood.



I is finished

John 19:30

The Vine and the Branches

15 “I am the true Vine, and my Father is the gardener. ² He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he trims clean so that it will be even more fruitful. ³ You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. ⁴ Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

⁵ “I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into

the fire and burned. ⁷ If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. ⁸ This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

⁹ “As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. ¹⁰ If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father’s commands and remain in his love. ¹¹ I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. ¹² My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. ¹³ Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command. ¹⁵ I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business.

Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. ¹⁶ “You did not choose me, but I chose you to go and bear fruit — fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. ¹⁷ This is my command: Love each other.

The World Hates the Disciples

¹⁸ “If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first. ¹⁹ If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you. ²⁰ Remember the words I spoke to you: ‘No servant is greater than his master.’^a If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also. If they obeyed my teaching,

they will obey yours also. ²¹ They will treat you this way because of my name, for they do not know the One who sent me. ²² If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not be guilty of sin. Now, however, they have no excuse for their sin. ²³ He who hates me hates my Father as well. ²⁴ If I had not done among them what no one else did, they would not be guilty of sin. But now they have seen these miracles, and yet they have hated both me and my Father. ²⁵ But this is to fulfill what is written in their Law: ‘They hated me without reason.’^b

²⁶ “When the Counselor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, he will testify about me; ²⁷ but you also must testify, for you have been with me from the beginning.

Bird of the Week



Photo courtesy Keith Bruno

This week’s Bird of the Week, compliments of the Weminuche Audubon Society and Audubon Rockies, is the green heron.

Several fortunate people have been able to see this rare visitor to our area hiding in the shadows of the Riverwalk wetlands recently. The photo reveals someone else with eyes on this beautiful bird. This heron’s breeding territory is primarily found in the eastern half of the United States, and winter finds them in the extreme southern coastal areas of the United States, through Mexico and Central America and in northern South America.

One of the smallest members of the heron family, in good light this short, stocky bird shows iridescent colors of deep green on its back and crown, and chestnut colors on the neck and breast. Sometimes its crown feathers are raised into a short crest, and its thick neck is often retracted into the body.

In most seasons this is a secretive, solitary bird found at the edges of wooded, quiet streams, shaded riverbanks and shallow wetlands, where it blends into the dense vegetation. Its harsh calls are distinctive and difficult to describe.

Hunting at all times of day and night, the green heron eats mostly small fish but also takes crayfish, insects, frogs and small rodents that cross its path. Known to some as symbols of patience and quiet strength, most often they forage by standing still or stalking slowly. They often pose horizontally in a crouched position, ready to employ lightning-fast strikes with a long dagger-like bill to capture prey.

They are also known to hunt by watching from a branch over water and lunging forward while holding on with their feet, even hanging upside down to nab a fish. When prey is spotted out of reach they may dive or jump into deeper water, but the fishing style that sets these herons apart from others is their use of tools as bait to lure fish into striking range. They have been observed dropping a variety of objects — including bread, popcorn, fish pellets, feathers, twigs and plastic — onto the water for fish to investigate. They have even been documented digging up earthworms and using them for bait.

These resourceful birds are still fairly common, but are listed by Partners in Flight as “Common Birds in Steep Decline” due to concerning long-term population declines.

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

Thank you
for supporting
our advertisers!

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Prefix with European
- 5 Italian fashion center
- 10 Waveless
- 14 Light gas
- 15 Hole-_____
- 16 Melville work
- 17 Coaxes with flattery
- 19 Trawler gear
- 20 Edison contemporary
- 21 Coastal wetland
- 23 Entertainer
- 25 1985 John Malkovich movie
- 26 Just-born babies
- 28 Urban fleet member
- 31 Investor's concern
- 34 1 of 13 in a deck
- 36 Within easy reach
- 37 Daughter of Asher
- 40 Pre-med course: Abbr.
- 41 "Dust of Snow" poet
- 43 Rigby and Roosevelt
- 45 I hate: Latin
- 46 Really enjoyed, once
- 49 Like James Bond
- 51 "CHiPs" star Erik
- 55 Continues forward
- 58 Certain locks
- 59 Remini of "The King of Queens"
- 60 Bigger
- 62 Suffix with exist
- 63 Equine gaits
- 64 Lead-in for boy or girl
- 65 Atomic physicist
- 66 Kind of guitar
- 67 One of the Lennons

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17					18						19			
20						21				22				
23					24			25						
				26				27				28	29	30
31	32	33								34	35			
36					37			38	39		40			
41				42			43			44				
45				46	47	48								
			49	50				51				52	53	54
55	56						57			58				
59						60				61				
62						63					64			
65						66					67			

Copyright 2026 by The Puzzle Syndicate

DOWN

- 1 Photo-sharing app, slangily
- 2 Not as timeworn
- 3 Biblical verb with "thou"
- 4 Quick jokes
- 5 Cambridge coll.
- 6 So to speak
- 7 Big hit by The Kinks
- 8 Short sock
- 9 Get cozy
- 10 Funnyman O'Brien
- 11 Diluted espresso
- 12 Quite a few
- 13 Rock concert pit
- 18 Stun gun
- 22 Predicament
- 24 Steps up to the mark
- 27 "____ Grows in Brooklyn"
- 29 Sixth Jewish month
- 30 "All ____ are off!"
- 31 Details, briefly
- 32 Eggheady sort
- 33 Irish prime minister
- 35 Expansive views
- 38 Put off
- 39 Coop group
- 42 Start of a Christmas poem
- 44 Legal eagles, briefly
- 47 Doings
- 48 Club Med, for one
- 50 Theater worker
- 52 Winged
- 53 Atlanta-based airline
- 54 C.S. Lewis lion
- 55 Ancient Roman commoner
- 56 City north of Carson City
- 57 Nebraska native
- 61 Internet security protocol (abbr.)

Answers to Previous Crossword:

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

Preview Calendar

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

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.

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.

End of Life Education. 1 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St.

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

guchi 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 Na-

■ See Calendar on next page

Airport Shuttle & Taxi Service

PUC 55878

Food & Grocery Delivery • Doctor's Visits

Serving Durango to South Fork and metro Pagosa

The friendly service

PAGOSA CAB

Call today to schedule! (970) 398-0123

Why pay more?

Local reporting that matters.

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.

New equipment arriving! Just in time for your spring projects!

Coming in 2026!
Stand On Skid Steer
Telehandler
Trench Roller
Track Skid Steers
Carpet Cleaners

See our full line
of equipment on
pinevalleyrental.com



New fleet is arriving,
shiny and grand,
the perfect tools,
right in your hand.



391 Bastille Drive • (970) 731-4410



Mountain & Meadow Real Estate
409 Lewis Street
Pagosa Springs, CO



Shellie Hogue
REALTOR®, BROKER
C: 970.759.8109
ShellieCHogue@gmail.com
www.shelliehogue.com
Licensed since May 2011

Served 6 years on the Pagosa Springs Area Association of Realtors
President of the Association 2017-2018 • Realtors Spirit award in 2012

Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

tional 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.

Sunday, May 24

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.

Pagosa Peaks Strings Spring Performance. 2 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for Arts, 2313 Eagle Drive. Tickets will be available at the door for \$10. The doors will open at 1:30 p.m.

‘Artemis Fever’ Moongaze. 8:15 p.m., South Pagosa Park. View the moon through the Pagosa Sidewalk Astronomers’ high-magnification telescope.

Monday, May 25

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.

Memorial Day Ceremony. 10 a.m., Hilltop Cemetery. Assemble around the flagpole at 9:45 a.m.

Tuesday, May 26

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. All are welcome.

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

Great House Tour. 10:30 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.

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.

Teen Advisory Board. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. Be a voice at your library. Build leadership skills, mentor others and plan programs that interest you. 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.

Wednesday, May 27

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

■ See Calendar on next page

HUD Publisher’s Notice



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

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

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

SUDOKU

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

Level: Beginner

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!

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

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**
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 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.

Thursday, May 28

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.

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.

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.

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, smart-phones, 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.

Teen 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 14-17.

Friday, May 29

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.

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 30

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.

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.

Full Moon Program and Early Tour. 5:45 p.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. Combine the Full Moon Program with an early, guided tour of the Mesa Village Trail to create a four-hour event. The cost is \$30. For more information and tickets, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777.

Full Moon Program. 7:45 p.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. A three-hour event culminating in a unique experience of viewing the moonrise from atop Chimney Rock Mesa. Prior to that, a presentation will highlight the Ancestral Puebloan ties to astronomy and the Chacoan culture. The cost is \$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.

Sunday, May 31

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.

We built our business on Excellence & Customer Service

Give us a call and experience the difference!



We are off Piedra & Hwy. 160 next to the bank
9 Solomon Dr, Unit 1

Open Mon-Fri • 8 a.m.-noon and 1-5 p.m.

Local. Knowledgeable.
Dependable & Reliable
Independently Owned and Operated
Best in Customer Service
Proven Safety Record
Over 150 Years Combined Experience



Arrowhead Propane, Inc.
970-582-3225
arrowheadpropaneco.com

*We'd love to be your propane supplier!
Come, see us today.*

PHOTO FINISH WORD SEARCH

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

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

Veterans Crisis Line
free, confidential support to veterans in crisis,
as well as their family and friends 24/7/365.
(800) 273-8255 or text 838255

Sell it
in the classifieds

Cars • Bikes • Houses • Land • Saddles • Hay • Goats
Horses • Boats • Tools • Furniture • You name it!

The Pagosa Springs SUN
To place your classified ad, call
(970) 264-2100

WORDS

APERTURE
BOKEH
COMPOSITION
CONTRAST
DARKROOM
DEPTH
EXPOSURE
FLASH
FOCAL
HISTOGRAM
ISO
LANDSCAPE
LENS
MACRO
NEGATIVE
PORTRAIT
REFLECTOR
RESOLUTION
SATURATION
SENSOR
SHUTTER
TRIPOD
VIEWFINDER
VIGNETTE

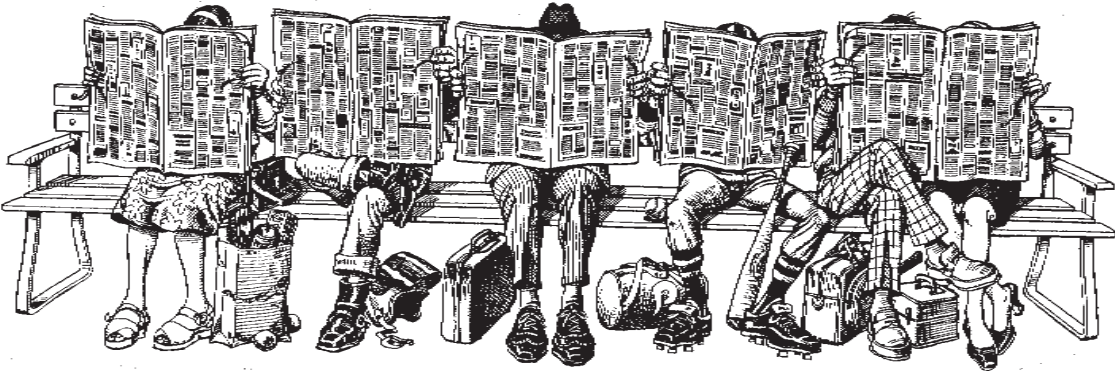
Thank
you for
supporting
our
advertisers!

Advertising
makes it possible
for us to
bring you
the latest
community news.

When you see an
advertiser,
please thank
them!

The Pagosa Springs
SUN

Thursday wouldn't be
Thursday without ...



The Pagosa Springs SUN

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa ☐ Check enclosed
Account number _____
Expiration date _____ CVV _____
Signature _____

☐ In County \$45 yearly
includes digital access at PagosaSUN.com
☐ Out of county \$55 yearly
includes digital access at PagosaSUN.com

The Pagosa Springs Sun
PO Box 9
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

Remembering our heroes this Memorial Day

By Ricardo Martinez
PREVIEW Columnist

As Memorial Day approaches, seniors across our community are reminded of the deep meaning behind this important national holiday. Memorial Day is more than the unofficial start of summer; it is a time to honor and remember the brave men and women who gave their lives in service to our country.

For many older adults, the holiday carries personal significance, as they may remember loved ones, friends or fellow service members who made the ultimate sacrifice. Seniors often have firsthand memories of wartime experiences, home front sacrifices and the resilience that helped shape our nation's history.

Taking time to attend local ceremonies, place flowers on grave sites or simply reflecting on those who served helps preserve the spirit of gratitude and patriotism for future generations.

Memorial Day can also be an opportunity for seniors to connect with family, friends and their community. Sharing stories and memories with younger generations helps keep history alive while strengthening family bonds and community pride.

Many senior centers and community organizations encourage participation in remembrance events, social gatherings and volunteer activities that honor veterans and military families. These moments of reflection not only pay tribute to those who served, but also remind seniors of the importance of unity, service and compassion.

Memorial Day serves as a powerful reminder that freedom comes at a cost, and remembering those sacrifices is a responsibility shared by every generation.

Holiday closure

Archuleta Seniors Inc. (ASI) will be closed Monday, 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-regulation technique to relieve symptoms of anxiety, depression, insomnia and more.

Everything you need to get started is included in this fun, engaging, supportive class taught by Judith Newman, LPC.

Mindful drawing

Mindful drawing is an easy-to-learn, relaxing and fun way to create beautiful images by drawing

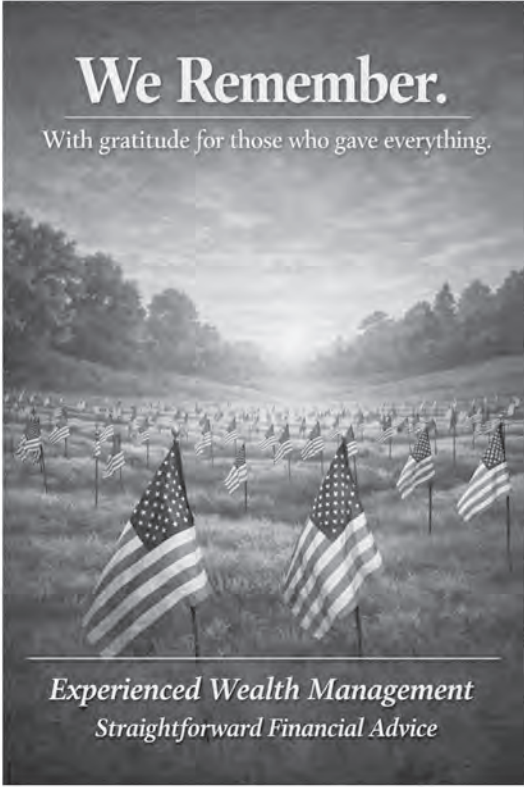
■ See Senior on next page



Bob Scott, CFP®, AAMS®
President

Dean Scott, CPFA®
Vice President & Wealth Manager

Anthony Doctor, RICP®
Portfolio & Wealth Manager



clients@scottstrategicinv.com | Phone (CO): 970-731-3070 | Phone (TX): 936-756-9870

Securities and advisory services offered through LPL Financial, a registered investment advisor. Member FINRA/SIPC.

Thank you for reading The SUN

ASCENT

PLUMBING & HEATING

EXCITING NEWS!!

Apex Plumbing and Heating has officially rebranded to **ASCENT PLUMBING & HEATING LLC!**

New construction | Water | Heater | Boilers
Service Calls | Leaky Toilets

📞 970-946-4011 📧 office@ascentplumbing.net 🌐 ascentplumbing.net

CALL TODAY!

Senior

■ continued from previous page

structured patterns. Join our friendly instructor, Roberta Strickland.

Classes are every Wednesday from 1:30 to 3 p.m. in the Senior Center.

This activity is open to all ages. Help us create an intergenerational community. For those under 18 and/or with disabilities, you are welcome to join us, but we kindly ask you to please bring an adult chaperone with you.

Mexican train dominoes

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

Ruby’s Writers Guild

The Ruby’s Writers Guild meets on Thursdays from 8:45 to 10:30 a.m. The guild is an informal group that meets to support writers of all genres and experiences. It supports writers through friendly critique, resources, discussion, and literary and cultural activities. Bring your secret idea drafts or completed manuscripts. Come join the group.

Tai chi chih

Tai chi classes are held at Yamaguchi Park from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. on Thursdays.

Tai chi chih is not a martial art, but rather a tool for self-healing. Softness, flow and effortlessness are the guiding principles in this meditative practice. The 19 movements and one pose are designed to stimulate, circulate and balance the vital energy that is inherent in all of us.

Bingo

Join us for bingo on Friday, May 22, at 1:30 p.m.

Participation is free, and all we ask is you bring yourself and a friend for an hour of joyful fellowship. We will provide prizes for all winners, and snacks will also be provided.

No RSVP is required; just show up. All ages are welcome, but we ask those 18 and younger to come with an adult chaperone. Seats are first come, first served.

Scrapbooking and crafters club

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

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

Help us create an intergenerational community. Those ages 18 and older are welcome. For those

youth age 17 and younger, we kindly request an adult chaperone accompany them.

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

Share lunch Monday through Friday

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

To reserve your meal for the day, please make your reservation via text or phone call to (970) 264-2167 by 8:45 a.m. weekdays. Please say whether it is dine-in or Grab ‘N’ Go.

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

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

Community Cafe menu

Call or text (970) 264-2167 before 8:45 a.m. Please note that occasionally the menu must be changed on short notice.

Thursday, 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.

Monday, May 25 — Closed for Memorial Day.

Tuesday, May 26 — Salmon burger with dill sauce, steak fries, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Wednesday, May 27 — BBQ pork ribs, creamed corn, carrots, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Thursday, May 28 — Fettuccine Tuscan with spinach Parmesan sauce, sauteed mushrooms and cauliflower, garlic bread, garden salad, fruit, and milk.

Friday, May 29 — Beef fajitas with peppers and onions, guacamole, sour cream, garden salad, fruit, and milk.

Your source
for community
news.

The Pagosa Springs SUN
970-264-2100

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.pssseniors.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.

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

Early Deadlines

for the issue of May 28

Display Advertising:
Noon, Friday, May 22

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

Classified Advertising:
Tuesday, May 26, 10 a.m.

Call your ad rep today
to place your advertisement!
970-264-2100

The Pagosa Springs SUN will be closed
Monday, May 25, in observance of Memorial Day

The Pagosa SpringsSUN

'Get in this truck, now'

By James R. Van Liere
Special to The PREVIEW

In the spring of 1957, after being discharged from active duty in the Army, I took a job as a rodman for the United States Geological Survey (USGS).

As a rodman, it was my job to assist a field engineer in checking the accuracy of topographical maps by going to the map site and physically verifying the elevations of various locations as previously determined from aerial photography. We also verified the locations of section corners, buildings, well sites, fence lines, railroad lines, transmission lines, et cetera. All of this was accomplished through the use of a plane table and alidade.

Before proceeding, a short description of how topographical maps were made is probably in order, at least in the day I was working for the USGS.

First, a little education. I am sure everyone has seen white plastic crosses along various highways and roads throughout their travels. These crosses consist of two white strips of plastic about a foot wide and 6 feet long perpendicular to each other. Their location is precisely located and their elevation established from a previously known elevation that had been

Writer's Circle

accurately set. Once these crosses have been set over a determined area, aerial photographs are taken. Then these photos are placed side-by-side and, through the use of photogrammetry, can be viewed in three dimensions.

The alidade is an instrument similar to an engineer's transit that is mounted on a flat blade about 3 inches wide and about a foot long. With the alidade set on the plane table over the map, and the map oriented correctly with respect to north, the alidade is be sighted toward various items on the ground to verify that item's location on the map.

Inside the telescope of the alidade are lines — a vertical hairline and three horizontal hairlines. With the telescope perfectly level, a rod graduated in feet and tenths of feet is sighted with the center horizontal crosshair in the telescope. With the rod placed on a previously established elevation point, such as a USGS brass cap, a reading on the rod is taken with the center horizontal crosshair.

If the reading is 8.4 feet and the known elevation of the brass cap is 100.0 feet, then the height of the center crosshair is 108.4 feet. This number is referred to as the HI, or height of the instrument.

Now that the height of the instrument is established, the rod can be moved to various locations and new sightings can be taken. Of course, the HI cannot be changed between sightings. Thus, if the rod is placed at a small rise of the ground and a sighting is taken with a reading on the rod of 3.2 feet, and this reading is subtracted from the HI of 108.4 feet, then the elevation of the ground is 105.2 feet.

The map, printed on Mylar with a yellow background and the contours and items listed above printed in red, is placed on the plane table, and taken out in the field for verification of various items, such elevations, contours, location of houses, bridges, wells, et cetera.

While working on the Golden Quadrangle one day, Jack, the current engineer I was working with, sent me out into a large field to locate and take an elevation shot.

The field was located on the south side of Highway 93 between Golden and Boulder near the old Rocky Flats ■ See Circle on next page

SPONSORED CONTENT



Illustration courtesy Pagosa Peak Family Dentistry

Rendering of new facility located at 2737 Cornerstone Drive.

Business Spotlight: Pagosa Peak Family Dentistry expands in new era of care

By Ella Slade

For more than 30 years, Pagosa Peak Family Dentistry has been a trusted part of the Pagosa Springs community.

Dr. Peter Roukema and his wife Christy, a dental hygienist, are proud to carry forward the legacy originally established by Dr. Thompson and continued by Dr. Campbell — now embarking on an exciting new chapter with the move to a brand-new facility at 2737 Cornerstone Drive.

The relocation marks a significant milestone — not just in size, but in vision.

The modern, state-of-the-art space was designed with patient comfort and the room to grow alongside the community. It reflects the Roukemas' deep commitment to delivering thoughtful, relationship-based care to Pagosa Springs families for generations to come.

With Drs. Roukema and Astorga serving as the practice's two full-time doctors, supported by a dedicated team, Pagosa Peak is better equipped than ever to serve its growing patient base — without losing the personal touch that has always set the practice apart.

Patients can expect the same

familiar faces and the same warm, unhurried care they've come to rely on, now in a space worthy of the community they serve.

At its core, Pagosa Peak Family Dentistry remains what it has always been: a neighborhood practice run by neighbors. Whether you're a longtime patient or new to the area, the entire Pagosa Peak team looks forward to welcoming you through the doors of their new home.

Pagosa Peak Family Dentistry is part of The Pagosa Springs SUN's sponsored content program called Spotlight.

PLUMBING SERVICES

Boiler-Certified Technician

Boilers & Tank-less Water Heaters

Sales, Service & Repair

Call today! **JD's Cool Water Heating**
(970) 946-3989



jdcoolwater.com • 30 years in Pagosa Springs
Colorado License PC0001348, Insured



FREE QUOTES
706-410-4997

INFO@SANJUANARBORISTS.COM
LICENSED • BONDED • INSURED

SAN JUAN ARBORISTS

TREE SERVICE PROVIDER

- Tree Trimming and Pruning
- Hazard Tree Removals
- Lot Clearing & Fire Mitigation
- Cabling and Bracing



Mint Roofing

"Quality work, caring people."

Our Mission - "We exist to build better roofs, better people, and a better community through relentless growth and authentic service."

Complimentary Roof Inspection — No Obligation

- Homeowners & Residences
- Storm & Insurance Claims
- HOA Communities
- Repairs & Full Replacements
- Commercial Properties
- New Construction

Why Neighbors Choose: Mint Roofing

Local • Licensed & Insured • Honest Estimates • No High-Pressure Sales
We show up on time & communicate clearly.

Serving Pagosa Springs for almost a decade.

Call or Text Us Today
(970) 426 - 5255

mintroofing.org • Pagosa Springs, Colorado

Circle

■ continued from previous page
Plant where nuclear bomb parts were made.

I had just located the section corner when out of nowhere an old rancher drove up in his fancy Cadillac. He was not very friendly and told me to get off of his property before I could explain what I was doing there.

“And if you don’t,” he said, “Ole Betsy here will take charge” as he patted a Winchester 30-30 leaning against the front passenger seat.

I immediately took his advice, hopped a barbed wire fence, and returned to Jack, who had set up along the highway and asked what the problem was.

Of course, I told him that guy threatened to shoot me if I didn’t get off his property. So, we waited a few minutes to be sure the old rancher had left and was out of sight and then I quickly hopped the fence again, ran out to the section corner, and Jack got his shot.

The next day we headed up to the top of South Table Mountain just outside Golden. As we drove to the top, I noticed a quarry to my right and thought nothing of it.

Once we reached top, Jack drove about a hundred yards from the rim of the quarry to set up the plane table and alidade. While Jack was setting up, he asked me to walk over to the edge of the quarry where a small triangular section of the rim of the quarry protruded out about 15 or 20 feet from the rim. I walked to the very point of the section and stood about 3 feet from the

edge, which I felt was close enough for a contour shot.

As I stood there waiting for Jack to take a reading, I could look down into a very large hole. Right after Jack got his shot and waved me off, a pickup truck appeared out of nowhere. A man dressed as construction worker, hardhat, flannel shirt, jeans and worn leather boots, jumped out of the truck, and yelled “Get in this truck, now.”

Of course, I had no clue as to what was going on, but perhaps my recent military training (being yelled at) kicked in, so I threw the rod in the back of the pickup and hopped into the passenger seat. As we were driving toward Jack, the guy picked up a microphone from the dashboard and said, “All clear, fire away.”

The next thing I knew I heard this tremendous explosion behind us and rocks and dirt starting falling around us. When I looked back, all I could see was a large cloud of dust, and that protrusion I was standing on was gone. I mean completely gone.

As the driver dropped me off where Jack was standing all he said was, “Kid, you came within five seconds of being blown to hell; if I hadn’t taken one last look at the point before telling my powder monkey to push the plunger, you wouldn’t be here now.”

With that, I grabbed the rod and he jumped back in his truck and drove away. And all Jack had to say was, “That sure messes up my contour map.”

As I look back on the event today, I’m very thankful that that gentleman

was the cautious type. I suppose I could have argued with him because I had no idea who he was or what his intentions were. Certainly, the anxiety in his voice was a subconscious warning in my mind that I should probably do what he says.

Obviously, I had no medical reason or religious beliefs not to obey this man, especially because there must have been some unseen or unknown danger of which I was not aware.

Which makes me wonder why some people today feel that getting a COVID or flu shot, or for that matter, any kind of a shot, flies in their best interest? We may not know the reason or have the knowledge behind the request, but we must accept the request (or order in the military, do it or else), relying on the fact that it is probably for our own good. (As one old World War II army sergeant remarked in basic training: if we say duck, don’t stand there like a dummy and ask why; you had better duck, or you might end up dead.) Of course, a valid medical reason would preclude getting a shot, but I am not sure about a religious reason.

With a resurgence of polio, a polio shot for children becomes very important. I am very familiar with polio because my grandfather got polio at the age of 29 and was on crutches for the rest of his life, for 43 years. Believe me, polio is not something you want

you want to mess around with.

This column may include both fiction and nonfiction, and views

expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN. Submissions can be sent to editor@pagosasun.com.



YETI
SEWER & DRAIN
SOLUTIONS

- Camera Inspections
- Sewer & Drain Cleaning

Pagosa Springs, Colorado
and Surrounding Areas

@Yetidrains.com
Contact@Yetidrains.com
970-507-4414



Class of 2026

To honor this year’s graduating seniors,
The Pagosa Springs SUN will run
photos of each senior.

If you would like to participate in the project,
the sponsorships will be \$150 for an ad space
that is 4.125” wide by 2.875” tall.

The pages with the graduating seniors will be published
in our Thursday, May 28, 2026 edition.

If you would like to be a sponsor,
please call Shari at (970) 264-2100
before Thursday, May 21.

The Pagosa Springs SUN
(970) 264-2100 • pagosasun.com
457 Lewis Street • PO Box 9
Pagosa Springs, Colorado 81147



**VETERANS & MILITARY
EARN 25% MORE
LOYALTY POINTS
SHOPPING THEIR
FAVORITE BRANDS**

**PSCS
PRESENTS
MEMORIAL DAY CONCERT**

**DONT FORGET TO BUY
CLONES OR SEEDS!**

**WE LOVE TO SPONSOR
OUR COMMUNITY!
VISIT WITH US
@ YAMAGUCHI PARK
MAY 23RD 5-9PM
& LEARN ABOUT
HOSPITALITY DAZE**

**agosa
herapeutics**

(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.

MISCELLANEOUS



Mater is an 8-year-old male Bulldog mix ready for a new home! Mater is a goofy guy that LOVES toys. He always has a toy in his mouth. Great personality and full of love. Call the Humane Society at (970) 731-4771.



Burrows is an 11-month-old female. She is very calm and enjoys the quiet. She is still learning to trust. She needs a patience adopter willing to give her the love she needs. Call the Humane Society at (970) 731-4771.

GREAT MASSAGE PRICES
All Messages include a Soak!



**OVERLOOK
HOT SPRNGS
SPA**

Downtown Pagosa 264-4040

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.

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.

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.

GETTING A WATER WELL DRILLED? "You get what you Expect when you're willing to Inspect. Connect to critical information with a pre -well consultation and get peace of mind from a post in -well video Inspection. Most pre -consultations with post -well video inspections: \$1900. Joel Hellwege, "The Connector, LLC. Licensed, Colorado Well Driller #1333. SW CO: TheHoleyConnector.com Int'l: Web/Tube: WaterWellConnections.com. (970)946-8500.

PAGOSA AA: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 5:30 Men's Tuesday 5:30 Ladies Friday 11:30a.m. Saturday and Sunday 10a.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 12 noon. Zoom Sunday 10a.m. Zoom Thursday noon women only: Zoom ID 858319763 password 754234. 315 N. 2nd Street, County Road 200 (.2 miles off Hwy. 160). Call Kathi (970)946-1482, or central office (888)333-9649.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.).

PERSONALS

FREE. CONFIDENTIAL. HELP. 24-hour domestic violence and sexual assault helpline. (970) 264-9075.

SERVICES

ASPEN SPRINGS HANDYMAN SERVICES: Brett at (970)570-9403. Home Maintenance / Repair. Gardens /Greenhouses. Landscape Management. Spring cleaning. I'll even clean your garage. 1st hour \$100 then \$35 thereafter each day. 2 hours equals \$135, 6 hours equals \$275.

ASPENDLOW LANDSCAPING/ YARD MAINTENANCE/ YARD CLEANUP. Mowing, trimming, raking and tree trimming. Tractor available for planting and landscaping. (970)946-2061.

CUSTOM PICTURE FRAMING. Reasonable prices. Linda Lerno, (970)731-0658 or (970)507-0176.

DRIVEWAY SEALING — 7 -year product. Prep, pressure wash, crack seal and touch up. Free estimates, local and trusted. **INTEGRATED Home Services, LLC.** Call /text, (970)731-3558.

HANDY HELPERS. We help make your home beautiful both inside and out. Landscaping, remodeling, painting/staining, decking and everything in between. Give us a call today for a free estimate, (970)403-9159.

I CAN HELP. Organize, run errands, shop, declutter, personal assistant, companion. I'm your lady. Mature, reliable. \$25 an hour. (719)581-0311.

KITCHEN DEEP CLEANS now offered by Pagosa Sparkles. Group of high standard cleaners. Window cleaning also available. Text/ call KIM. (970)946-6446.

KRITTER GITTERS, SKUNK AND BAT Busters. We specialize in capturing and removing unwanted rodents and varmints. We don't trap pigs. 50 years experience, lifetime resident. Dan Snow (719)849-8873.

LOCAL MOVING SERVICES. Reasonable and reliable. (970)946-2061.

NEED HELP DECLUTTERING OR ORGANIZING? Help moving in, moving out, whatever's on your list. Marlene, (719)850-3055.

PAGOSA WINTER SPECIALS. All sizes available, plus we deliver cargo containers. Buy, rent, rent to own. Pagosa Springs Storage, (970)731-0007.

REGULATE YOUR NERVOUS SYSTEM, de-stress, find calm with healing yoga. Private session. Your space or mine. From \$59. Becca. (719)581-0311.

SERVICES

**Additions
Remodeling
Maintenance**
High Meadows Properties, LLC
Call today (970) 403-2263

Blueprints
Have your plans drawn now.
Don't wait!
Be ready to start your house,
barn, garage or deck on time.
Call Rick
946-1737

**REMODELING
NEW ADDITIONS
COMMERCIAL**

BWD
(970) 731-9700

**Kitchen Deep Cleaning
Now Offered!**
Pagosa SPARKLES
Detail Oriented, Trustworthy
& Reliable Cleaners
For All Your Housekeeping
& Window Cleaning Needs
Text/call Kim (970) 946-6446

**The Water
Runner**

Certified Bulk Potable Water Delivery
Cistern Deep Cleaning
You call, we haul! (970) 731-5022
Since 1999 Chadd Carnley, owner

PLUMBING
Semi-retired plumber
30+ years experience
15+ years in Pagosa
Reasonable rates • Local references
Michael • 480-685-6191
I return all calls!

REMODELS, RENOVATIONS AND HOME REPAIRS. We offer improvements for bathrooms, kitchens, floors, tile, siding, decks and framing. No job too small. Call (970)844-0554.

SERVICES

**New Construction
Remodeling • Houses
Garages • Barns • Decks**
Insured & references
Plans drawn & submitted

Call Rick
(970) 946-1737

**Just
DECKS!**
• Large or small
• Redwood, cedar, Trex or treated lumber
• Custom rails & stairs
• Hidden fasteners available
• Design & estimates free
• 30 years experience
Now scheduling!
Call Glenn (970) 903-1250

**Landscaping
& Tractor Work**
• Landscaping - all phases
• Planting trees, shrubs, etc.
• Drainage problems solved
• Driveways maintained
• Construction, decks, patios, sheds, more
Westward Inc.
Call (405) 306-9496
Pagosa Springs contractor

#1 in Painting
Interior & exterior
Staining & more
35 years in Pagosa Springs
Call Gary
(970) 398-9223

The Awning Source LLC
Retractable Awnings
Solar Screens
Local Company
(505) 539-6021

RICHARD DECLARK ELECTRICAL is available for all your electrical services from remodels to new construction. I have been in Pagosa for 15 years, no job too small or too large. (970)903-1456.

PagosaSUN.com

(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.

SERVICES

SERVICES

SERVICES

SERVICES

HELP WANTED

Exterior & Interior Painting
Exterior Staining
Dock Staining
Drywall Texture
Drywall Repair
Roof Repairs
Fire Mitigation
Gravel Driveways

STAINING & PAINTING LLC

House Power Washing
Epoxy Garage Floor Coatings

Patrick 970-946-9571
Dominic 432-847-6451

ONE SIXTY CONCRETE WORKS

Licensed • Insured • Residential • Commercial
Serving 160 Corridor from Walsenburg, Pagosa Springs & Durango

No Job Too Big
No Job Too Small



- Patios
- Driveways
- Stairs
- Retaining Walls
- Decorative Concrete
- Flatwork

Lino
(970) 749-2373

Check out our Quality Works One Sixty Concrete Works on 



DECK SPECIALIST

Decking floor replaced
Total deck rebuilds
Handrails
Stairs

Call Mike today
(970) 507-0379

35+ years experience
references



ROSE

PROPERTY SOLUTIONS

JUNK REMOVAL | PRESSURE WASHING | PROPERTY CLEANOUTS

970-398-6552



INTERMOUNTAIN HANDYMAN

Todd Mykleby • 806-789-0288

General Repairs
Senior Home Modifications
Yard Cleanup
Minor Electric
Interior & Exterior Painting

Minor Plumbing
Power Washing
Deck Repair & Maintenance
Fence Repair
Furniture Assembly/Repair

Email us at classads@pagosasun.com
to submit your classified. PagosaSUN.com

Ask about our
Storage Unit
Specials!

ALL SIZE UNITS AVAILABLE

RENT
TO
OWN



Cargo Containers
RENT • RENT TO OWN • BUY
We deliver!



970-731-0007
PagosaSpringsStorage.com

Feel the warmth



Wood & Gas
Burning
Fireplaces
& Stoves
Vermont Casting
Majestic Hearth
Isokern • FMI
Enviro Pellet
Stoves

Custom installation & finish work

Chase caps
Snow splitters

Pagosa Peak
Custom Fireplaces

1065 W. Hwy. 160
Pagosa Springs, Colo

office and showroom:
(970) 264-2006
www.pagosafireplaces.com



Foundation work • Back fill compacting
Pipe laying • Driveway prep
Sewer repair install
Concrete removal and install • Etc.
Call/Text Bill (970)880-0071

CUSTOM HOMES



(970) 731-9700

RIVERSTONE CARPET CLEANING. 25 cents/sq. ft. and \$3 per stair. No hidden charges. Owner/operator 20 years experience. Professional, trustworthy and punctual. 100% eco-friendly. Call Mike at (970)403-9222. Credit cards accepted with no fee. Hallways and closets always free.

ROOF RESCREWING, CHIMNEY CLEANING, roof repairs, dryer vent cleaning, valley repairs. Arlie's Chimney Sweep. (970)731-2543.

TREE & CLEAR LLC. Tree removal, pruning mitigation, and lawn care. Certified and insured. Call (720)666-5761.

WE HAUL. WE WILL haul off anything but your marijuana or your mother-in-law. No job too big or too small. We also move buildings. We don't haul pigs. Dan Snow (719)849-8873.

WEST CO. CONSTRUCTION AND SERVICES. Services include but not limited to: siding, roofing, decks, fencing, windows, interior/ exterior renovation, custom mill work. Call (970)698-1362 to make your next idea a reality.

WINDOW CLEANING —RESIDENTIAL Bonded and insured. 25 yrs. experience REFLECTIONS Window Cleaning. (480)892-1999 -FREE estimates.

HELP WANTED

BEEHIVE HOMES is hiring a dependable cook to prepare our chef's pre-arranged menu Tuesday -Friday from 7:00a.m. -3:00p.m. \$17 -\$19 per hour with the opportunity for increase. Send resume to staffpsbeehive@gmail.com or apply in person.

BRUIN WASTE MANAGEMENT dba Elite Recycling & Disposal is accepting resumes for an Office Manager position. Bachelor's degree in Business Management or as it relates to the position, or an equivalent of three years minimum in management experience is preferred. Ability to effectively manage the day-to-day functions of the position, including managing assigned personnel and projects. Bilingual in Spanish is a plus. Full description can be obtained at www.bruinwaste.com. Send resumes to: creams@bruinwaste.com.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES. Front office administrative assistant or chair side procedural assistant positions available for immediate hire. Will train if necessary for these valuable positions. Flexible hours, full time or part time available. Great pay with room for advancement. Please send your resume today to pdimplants@yahoo.com.

CDL DRIVER /YARD ASSOCIATE. Ponderosa Lumber is hiring a CDL Driver / Yard Associate. This is a full-time position. Duties include deliveries, loading /unloading trucks, and helping customers. Requires the ability to drive a stick shift and have a Class B endorsement. We offer paid time off, medical, dental, vision, prescription, 401(k) and Profit Sharing. Please apply at Ponderosa Lumber 2435 Eagle Dr. (970)731-4111.

COLORADO DREAM HOMES is expanding our crew. Hiring framing, concrete and general laborers. Paid holidays, end of the year bonuses, paid time off. 8 a.m. -5 p.m. schedule, year round work. Send resumes to coloradodreamhomesinc@gmail.com or swing by our office at 2283 Eagle Drive to fill out an application. Pay DOE. \$20+ per hour.

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. Submit your resume and letter of interest to shari@pagosasun.com. 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.

JONES MECHANICAL. EXPERIENCE PREFERRED but will train right person. Excellent opportunity to learn the HVAC trade. (970)731-3046.

(970) 264-2100

Classifieds

(970) 264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Thursday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., Friday 8 a.m. - noon

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HELP WANTED**HELP WANTED****HELP WANTED****HELP WANTED****HELP WANTED****We are looking for reliable, motivated additions to our team!****CASHIER
FURNITURE DEPT**

- Starting at \$18/hr DOE, 32-40 hr/week
- Starting at \$20/hr DOE, 32-40 hr/week

Apply in person.
Applications
available on
www.terrysace.com

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

DO YOU LOVE AIRPLANES and are attention detailed? Black Hawk Aviation needs a full /part time person. Must be 18+ and have a driver's license. Send resume to d.marquardt@blackhawkaviation or stop by 61 Aviation Ct.

FARRAGO FOOD TRUCK is getting closer to opening ... to join our summer crew email your info to farragofoodtruck@gmail.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.

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.

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.

ELITE RECYCLING & DISPOSAL

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.

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.

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)585-4508.

MOUNTAIN MAMA MASSAGE is looking for dependable LMTs to join our team. Part -time and back -up therapists needed. Utilize your healing gifts. TOP PAY \$55/ hour plus tips. Email racheldevloo@gmail.com.

Terry's Colorado Home Supply and Ace Hardware

is accepting applications for an
accounting clerk.

Full time, 8 to 5, Monday-Friday

Job duties include all Accounts Receivable/Accounts Payable; accounting background is desirable. Proficient computer skills and excellent people skills are a must. The ideal candidate is detail oriented, dependable, and eager to learn.

Start at \$20-\$22 per hour, DOE.

Full-time benefits package included.

Apply in person Monday-Friday. Applications on www.terrysace.com



Terry's ACE
525 Navajo Trail Dr.

OWNERS, THERE IS A LONG TERM RENTAL SHORTAGE IN PAGOSA SPRINGS. We have a waiting list for approved tenants. Need all types of rentals. Call us today for lowest commission and highest customer service. All you have to do is wait for your rent check to come in. We do the rest! Rocky Mountain Realty & Rentals (970)507-1192.

PAGOSA LAKES PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION is accepting applications for the Comptroller position. The Comptroller serves as the Department Manager for the Administration and Accounting Department. The Comptroller is responsible for finance, accounting, and human resources functions for the association and perform professional accounting and administrative work. Candidates must have bachelor's degree in accounting, finance, business administration or related field and a minimum of three years of experience. This is a full -time position with great benefits. The salary range is \$60,000 - \$95,000. Interested candidates must submit a cover letter and resume to PLPOA, 230 Port Ave.

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.

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.

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

AUTOS

RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

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.

REQUEST FULL -TIME CAREGIVER. Hi, my name is Michael Shields. I am 47 and a spinal cord injury survivor. Looking for caregiver available 7 days a week. Background in medical: RNA, CNA or prior caregiving. Includes getting dressed, undressed, lifted into wheelchair, position back in bed, light cooking, feeding, grooming, toiletry, etc. Looking for somebody flexible, compassionate and RELIABLE. 965 Cloud Cap Ave., Pagosa Springs, Colorado, 81147. Jesus drastically changed my life and if this sounds like an answer to prayer and a paid position you would be interested in, please contact me at (623)606-1986 for more info.

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.

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

2015 HARLEY DAVIDSON XG 750 Sportster Second Owner, shipped from Hawaii w/ Gov. Mild cosmetic damage from dealership. Cash, Cashier Check or Zelle for payment. Mileage: 6,061. Text: (970)398-5269.

DRY FIREWOOD- PINE. Pick up \$255 a cord. Delivery available. Call for prices. Bayfield. Gabe (970)403-2784.

FIREWOOD SALE. The Dump Truck special is back. Get a HUGE load split and delivered for \$500. Pine mix. Only while supplies last. Contact Dan with FIRE&ICE at (970)582-0006.

SELL OR TRADE YOUR GUNS. We buy for cash or trade it. No hassle. Licensed, bonded, insured. San Juan Trading Post, 635 San Juan St. (970)731-PAWN (7296).

SELLERS BEWARE: Scams involving buyers trying to deceive sellers have have taken place in our community. Do not accept checks, money orders or other payment methods for more than the payment price where you are asked to pay the overpayment to the buyer or another person. Consult with your financial institution to be sure the payment method is not fake before you allow the item to be picked up.

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.

AKC LAB PUPPIES for sale. Yellows and blacks. \$1500. (970)749-4288.

GOLDENDOODLES PUPPIES www.Doubledoodles.com. (575)235-8739.

LITTLE YORKIE BOY PUPPY. First shots, housebroken, calm and loving, \$700. (970)501-0477.

RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

2006 MOTORCYCLE. Suzuki DR200s. Mi: 4643, new battery and rear tire. Price includes male /female riding gear. \$2000. (970)731-9489.

2014 POLARIS RZR XP 1000 2 pax. 4300 miles, 4 extra tires /rims, Alumina single axle trailer with ramps. Extra tie down cleats , 2 MCs /2 ATV /RZR. Must sell together. \$15,000 for both. Text (702)371-0672.

YARD SALES

COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE.Twincreek Subdivision, May 23, 2026, 8a.m.-1p.m.

ESTATE SALE. Saturday, May 23 -Sunday, May 24 from 9a.m. -3p.m. Furniture, collectibles, tools. Do you collect chickens? So many chicken collectibles. 47 Antelope Dr. in Pagosa. Photos at www.nesestatesales.com.

GARAGE SALE. 181 S. 7th Street. Saturday, 9a.m.-2p.m.

MOVING SALE. 279 Capitan Circle, Friday, May 22 and Saturday, May 23, 8a.m. -1p.m. No early birds. Vintage items, heavy duty steel workshop cabinets, work benches, tools, barn quilts, household decor items, kitchen items, dishes, wine glasses, lots of miscellaneous, clothing, Restoration Hardware leather sofa.

YARD SALE — Multi family. Friday and Saturday 8a.m. to 3p.m. Craft and home supplies; big selection of glass marbles; shop stuff; lightly used rototiller; tools; 1224 CR 335. 9 miles south on Highway 84 to County Road 335; go 1.25 miles west on 335.

YARD SALE. Saturday, May 23, 9a.m. -4p.m. No early birds. Large plumbing inventory, pennies on the dollar. Nice car dolly, small Datsun trailer, tools, furniture, porch rockers, yard tools, wire fencing, miscellaneous household. 555 Paciente Drive. First left off Meadows Drive, look for red buildings.

COMMERCIAL FOR RENT

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 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.

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.

3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, fenced yard, 1 -car garage, on Lake Hatcher, close to national forest. \$2600 monthly. Call (970)946-4906.

DOWNTOWN PAGOSA RENTAL. One bedroom. \$1350. Walking distance to hot springs and shops and restaurants in old downtown. Available now. (720)470-2653.

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.

FOR RENT ON PAGOSA LAKE: 2 bedroom, 2 bath, furnished upstairs unit. \$1425 per month plus deposit and utilities. No pets and no smoking. Long -term lease. (303)929-8860.

LONG TERM RENTALS AVAILABLE. Call Team Pagosa (970)731-8599, 117 Navajo Trail Dr., pagosaspringsrealty.com.

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.

PAGOSA LAKE VIEWS 2 bedroom in four plex, 800 sq. ft., available immediately, \$1525. 3 bedroom, 1200 sq. ft. \$1595. Covered deck, washer /dryer, 5 minute walk to lake, most utilities paid. PLPOA Rec Center available with long -term lease. Call John (303)881-1407 or Lee (970)946-3856.

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.

(970) 264-2100

Classifieds

(970) 264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Thursday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., Friday 8 a.m. - noon

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

"We owned a condominium in the Pagosa Springs area which was a rental property. For many years the firm provided property management services for us and we always found them to be very professional and responsive. If you are in need of a competent, professional property management firm or realtor, we would strongly recommend them."

Michael Gamba



www.RMREALTYANDRENTALS.COM

Rocky Mountain
REALTY & RENTALS
970.731.5515

Info@rmrealtyandrentals.com

117 Navajo Trail Dr. Ste E, Pagosa Springs

Largest Local Property Management Co.



150+ SW Colorado
Property Owners Served
19+ Years. Mortgage &
Real Estate Exp
FULL LT TENANT SCREENING
NATIONWIDE ADVERTISING
ON CALL 24 HR 7 DAYS



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.

OWN IT. Live, work, play. 17 cabins, 33 RV spaces, 10 single level rooms motel, 4 apartments, leased 1200 square feet retail building, 4.29 acres. City sewer, 2 wells. Wen Saunders (970)903-0038. Keller Williams Realty Southwest Associates.

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.

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.

AFFORDABLE OPTIONS. Manufactured: 2 bedrooms, 2 baths - \$100s. On and off grid cabins:

1-plus acres with water and septic - \$100s. Wen Saunders (970)903-0038. Keller Williams Realty Southwest Associates.

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.

ISELL PAGOSA. Serving Pagosa Springs for 37 years. Contact Lee Riley, 970-946-3856, leeriley@isellpagosa.com, ISellPagosa.com. Jann C Pitcher Real Estate, 2261 Eagle Dr., Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. Twice chosen local REALTOR of the Year.

ONE BEDROOM, TWO BATH barndominium 80 acres 40 shares irrigation. Call Deborah Archuleta (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.

HOMES FOR SALE

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.

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.

OPEN HOUSES

OPEN HOUSE this Friday, May 22, 11a.m.-2:00p.m. 62 W. Golf Pl. 3 bedroom /2 bath /1288 sq. ft. Private backyard. Listed by Sherpa Real Estate. Refreshments provided.

TRIPLE OPEN HOUSE in Arboles Saturday 10a.m.-1p.m. Three houses on Deer Park, near Navajo Lake, full time living or rental.

LAND/ BUILDING SITES

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.

LAND/ BUILDING SITES

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.

NATIONAL FOREST ACCESS: 3.63 wooded acres, city water (Monterosa) (\$200s). 1/4 acre backs golf course (Caddy) (\$40s). RV mountain views parcels: 1.43 acres, (Alcazar) \$51,950, 2.5 acres (Waynes) \$29,995, 1 acre (Rockpoint) \$32,400, 1 acre, barn (Hurt) \$55,000. Wen Saunders (970)903-0038. Keller Williams Realty Southwest Associates.

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.

SELLER FINANCE! 1/4 acre, city water / sewer, electric: (Paradise), (Lake) \$30s, (Paradise) \$40s. Sandlewood \$19,995. Off grid 2.37 acres \$49,995. On grid 2 acres \$54,995. Interested in selling land or home? Call Wen Saunders (970)903-0038. Keller Williams Realty Southwest Associates.

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.

LAND/ BUILDING SITES

STEPS AWAY FROM SHOPPING. 5 acres with mountain views. \$250,000. Call Deborah Archuleta (970)903-2817, Deb@ArchuletaProperties.com.

MOUNTAIN VIEWS, MEADOWS. Unique high elevation and complete privacy. 5.6 acres bordering national forest, (970)769-3588 blancoretreat@gmail.com. \$450K.

WOLF CREEK SKI AREA CONVENIENCE.

SOUTH FORK, COLORADO: Invest now. Available water, sewer, electric, views, on paved roads: 1/3 acre golf course lot (Green-side) \$40s, 2.28 acres, mountain views (Vista de Verde) (\$100s). Wen Saunders (970)903-0038. Keller Williams Realty Southwest Associates.

Email us at
classads@pagosasun.com
to submit your classified.
PagosaSUN.com



All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, or national origin, or an intention, to make such preference, limitation or discrimination." This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.



HAVE A SAFE & ENJOYABLE
MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND!



Don't forget →

ANNIVERSARY SPECIALS RUN THRU MAY 31ST ONLY!

Inter-Mountain Propane Fueling homes, ranches, and businesses across ARCHULETA COUNTY and parts of La Plata County - Bayfield, Ignacio, Oxford, Vallecito -
Call to see if we service your area.

NEW CUSTOMERS WHO
SWITCH OVER & NEW
CONSTRUCTION SETS, 250
GALLONS OR LARGER



RECEIVE A FREE TANK
SWAP & SAFETY
CHECK
VALUED AT OVER \$200



\$145 OFF

250 - 330

GALLON TANKS

OFFER GOOD THROUGH
MAY 31, 2026

SOME RESTRICTIONS APPLY



\$175 OFF

500 & 1000

GALLON TANKS

OFFER GOOD THROUGH
MAY 31, 2026

SOME RESTRICTIONS APPLY

MONDAY TO FRIDAY

8 AM - 5 PM

AVAILABLE
ANYTIME
AFTER HOURS
AS WELL!

Call our regular line to
get service after hours:

970-264-1301



CONTACT US TODAY!



INTERMOUNTAINPROPANE.COM